Brownsea Island was chosen for the camp because it was off the beaten track and was difficult to get to - this was due to BP being a very public figure. If the Press had got to know his plans, it would have been difficult for reporters to stay away so that the experimental camp could be given a fair trial out of the public gaze. In May of 1907, while on Holiday in Ireland, BP met Mr and Mrs Charles van Raalte and they invited him to visit them at their country home on Brownsea Island. As a boy, BP had sailed in Poole Harbor with his brothers and knew the Island. BP became convinced that Brownsea Island would be the ideal location for the camp, isolated but not too far away from civilization to get provisions to. A letter to Charles van Raalte asking for permission to use the island produced an immediate response. Of course he could come.

Collectors' Corner: Scout jewelry

BSA Eagle Scout rings  UK tie bar  Cuff links  Tie bars  1969 NJ necklace

1950's Explorer  Korea necklace  1973NJ  W.B. watch  World Bureau necklace  1987WJ

On August 1, all active and former scouts are requested to wear their scout scarves in public to make the "spirit of scouting" visible. www.facebook.com/Scout.Scarf.Day
The Swiss Guide and Scout Movement (SGSM), in the three official languages of Switzerland (Pfadbewegung Schweiz (PBS), Mouvement Scout de Suisse (MSds), Movimento Scouting Svizzero (MSS), Movimento Battasendas Svizra (MBS)), is the national Scouting and Guiding association of Switzerland. Scouting was founded in Switzerland in 1912 and has 45,000 members in 600 local groups as of 2010. The Swiss Guide and Scout Movement is mixed at all levels. The young age of Swiss leaders is a tradition. Even members of the district or national committees are rarely older than 30. The result is more freedom at the unit level, no discrimination, and a very important experience in leadership for young people.

The mandatory parts of the Swiss uniform are the shirt, the neckerchief, any kind of good hiking boots, a fire lighter and a Swiss army knife. Optional parts are belt, Scout jeans, hat, dagger, etc. A youth receives his/her neckerchief and vulgo (Scout name) from his unit leader in an initiation ceremony.

The Swiss Guide and Scout Movement is a member of Jugend und Sport ("Youth and Sports"), a governmental institution affiliated with the Federal Department of Defense, Civil Protection and Sports, which promotes sports among youth. Camps for youth in the 5-20 age range are subsidized by J+S, and also receive some basic material (wool blankets, denim square units, ropes, spades, etc.) from J+S for these occasions. J+S is also deeply involved in leader training, because unit leaders are basically special youth sport trainers.

Spot something familiar?

James Hetfield and fellow musicians of Metallica may not have had time to spot this rather familiar flag flying above the crowd during their recent concert at the Glastonbury Festival 2014 in southeast England. Do you recognize the flag?