

**Mr. L. Abbott,  
6a Wellingborough Road  
Irthlingborough  
Northants.  
NN9 5RF**

**16 July 2008**

**Dear Mr Abbott,**

**First, very many congratulations on receipt of the Silver Wolf this year. It is an honour that signifies many year of profound and unselfish dedication to the wellbeing of scouting, and is an honour not granted to many of us.**

**Your news about the upgrading of the derelict shoe factory by the Leader Team is inspiring. In 1925 our Founder was fishing with King George V at Balmoral. At some point the King asked how it felt to have invented such a wonderful organisation to which B-P answered that it was not him that had invented anything but the imagination of the readers of Scouting For Boys that had led to scouting's foundation. It may have taken the imagination of one person to have the idea but it took the application and hard work of thousands of others to convert that idea into a realisation and that was why scouting was not an organisation but a voluntary *movement*.**

**From it's inception scouting has inspired people to give their all to making it a living, sentient, forward thinking movement. The hard work and inspiration of your team, when they converted a disused building into a living and worthwhile building, has proved that point once again. To have a base for the use, help and inspiration for all the young in your area is one way to ensure that the idea and ethos of scouting not only survives but will thrive in Irthlingborough for many years into the future. For that many young people will have cause to thank the current team for their foresight and hard work – work that will largely go unrecognised I fear, for that is human nature.**

**Yours sincerely**

**The Lord Baden-Powell**