

The Adventure of Scouting



Welcome to the worldwide movement of Scouting

Congratulations! You have taken the first step along the Scouting Trail.

Scouting is about working and living together with your friends in Scouting. With the other members of your Patrol you will undertake many adventures in the outdoors

'Bí Ullamh' - 'Be prepared' is the Scout motto and this handbook is designed to prepare you for the experience of Scouting. There are many skills to master from

simple knots to cooking a meal for yourself and your Patrol. The longest journey starts with the first step. As you progress through Scouting you will experience many adventures, each requiring the use of your Scouting skills. Read this handbook from cover to cover or drop in and out as you need - it contains all the information you require to enjoy your Scouting.



People who are Scouts are likely to be

- Able to solve problems creatively and effectively
- Capable of being constructive and productive members of a team
- Able to take care of themselves and others
- Able to cope with emergencies
- Aware of and have a deep affinity with the environment and the need to conserve it
- Responsible and capable of assuming leadership with ease
- Able to live and survive in the open
- Capable of undertaking challenging and adventurous activities



The World Scout Badge

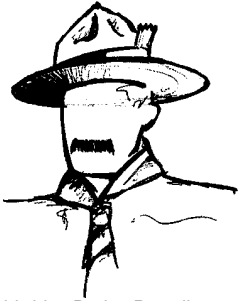


The Scout Badge has been worn by over 250 million Scouts since the movement was founded and is today still used by 28 million Scouts worldwide. Baden Powell, the founder of Scouting stated "our Badge, we took from the 'North point' used on maps. North - it shows the true way". The two five pointed stars stand for truth and knowledge and the rope tied around the basic motif symbolises unity and brotherhood.

The colour of the badge is white on a royal purple background - white represents purity and the royal purple denotes leadership.

Scouting - an idea

Scouting began from an idea conceived by Robert Baden Powell (known as B-P). Baden Powell was an army commander during the Boer War at the end of the 19th century. While in the army he wrote a handbook called 'Aids to Scouting' in which he outlined a way that soldiers could be trained. So successful was the book and



methods used that he turned his thoughts to a similar handbook which could be used by youth organisations. In researching

his idea Baden Powell spent a lot of time investigating the practices of the Native American Indians, the Zulu Tribes of Africa and the adventures of Cú Chulainn and the Red Branch Knights in Ireland. He was particularly interested in the process of young people becoming warriors in their tribes. A young person in the Zulu Tribe was painted white and sent off into the jungle with nothing more than a spear and a shield and had to live there until the white paint wore off -



usually a month. In that time the young person had to survive in the wilds, build a shelter and hunt animals.

By examining these rites and trials of each tribe he began to discover the wonders of nature and the skills that were

necessary to survive in the wilderness. Using this as the base he created the concept of Scouting for young people which includes - adventures in the out of doors, working with friends in small groups, learning by doing, service to others, woodcraft and nature and a Promise and Law.



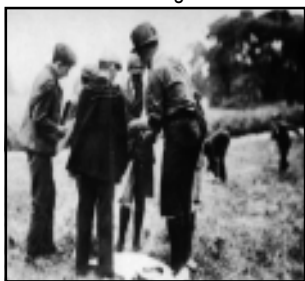
The Story of Scouting

Scouting began with a camp in August 1907 on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, England. The camp was part of an experiment to try out the ideas that would appear in B-P's new handbook for young people entitled 'Scouting for Boys' which was to be published in fortnightly parts in January 1908.

20 boys attended the 10 day camp and were formed into four Patrols - Bulls, Curlews, Ravens and Wolves.

Each Patrol took part in a range of Scouting activities which included camping, observation, woodcraft, chivalry, saving life, boating and games. Memorable items of the programme included wide games, making twists and breads using their coats as mixing boards, and 'whale hunting' in Poole harbour using a log as a whale and trying to harpoon it from a small boat. At night there would be campfires where Baden Powell related stories and yarns of his adventures around the world.

The Patrol System, that unique feature of Scouting, was firmly established and proven on the camp. The experiment was a great success and although the first great adventure of Scouting was coming to a close, an even bigger adventure was to begin.

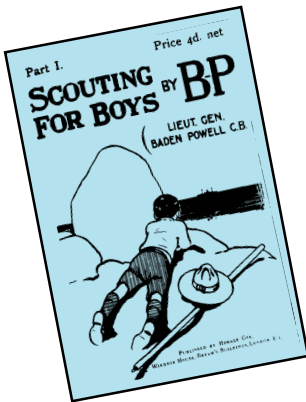


Brownsea Island camp 1907 (pictured from a model on display in Poole Museum).

'Scouting for Boys' was published in January 1908 in fortnightly parts at four-pence a copy. As each issue came onto the newstands it was snatched up by young people eager to try out the game of Scouting. Before long Patrols of young people started to form all over the country. By the end of 1909 there were some 60,000 young people registered as Scouts. A year later there were 100,000.



Baden Powell at the Brownsea Camp 1907



Scouting was formed by young people creating Patrols as a result of reading 'Scouting for Boys'. Soon after, neighbouring Patrols came together to play the game of Scouting. Adults were asked to help organise some of the activities and before long Troops of Boy Scouts started to appear. The first countries outside of Britain to



Baden Powell beside his tent on Brownsea Camp 1907

he became lost in a thick fog. Out of the fog came a small boy who brought him back to his hotel. On his arrival he thanked the boy and offered him a reward for his services. The young boy refused, saying that he was a Scout and was doing his good deed for the day, and off he went into the fog again. The next day W.D. Boyce investigated Scouting and brought the idea back to America, forming the Boy Scouts of America.



Baden Powell at the Brownsea Camp 1907

establish Scouting were those countries that formed the British Empire. Scouting started in Australia, Ireland, Malta, New Zealand and South Africa towards the end of 1908 and in 1909 in Canada, Chile, India and the USA. There is a story told that the founder of American Scouting, W.D. Boyce, was walking through London when



Scout Gatherings

The year 1909 was a remarkable year for Scouting. The first great rally was held at the Crystal Palace in London, and was attended by 11,000 Scouts. Some girls were present wearing Scout hats and carrying staves and insisting they were Girl Scouts. At first girls were allowed to register as Scouts but after a period of time, the Girl Guides came into existence.



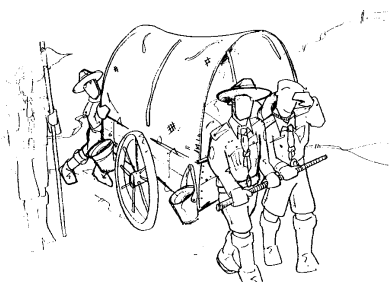
This picture shows perhaps the first girl scout, taking up the position of Patrol Leader at the 1909 rally

A 3 year old Scout, perhaps a child of a Scout Leader, at the salute base in 1909



In 1920 the first World Jamboree was held. 8,000 Scouts from 34 countries attended.

Since then, the World Jamboree has been held every 4 years. It is the highlight of any Scout's life to attend such an event. During the Third World Jamboree in Arrowe Park in Birkenhead, each Scout contributed a penny to a collection to buy B-P a wedding present. From the money collected they presented B-P with a Rolls Royce car and a specially designed Rolls Royce caravan.



Scouting in Ireland



'B.P.Scouts' had come to Ireland within a year or two of the 1907 launching of the movement in Britain. By 1910 several troops were in existence, most of them wearing a uniform of khaki shorts and shirt and the broad rimmed B-P hat. At this time Ireland was part of the United Kingdom. The early Troops were very much attached to the British establishment and Protestant Churches in Ireland. After the Free State was formed many people sought the formation of a truly Irish Scouting Organisation for young people.



In 1925 in Greystones, Co. Wicklow, Fr. Ernest Farrell went into action running a boys organisaion based on camping and hiking and other activities of a Scouting nature. Later, in 1927, with the assistance of his brother Fr. Tom Farrell, and official approval of the Catholic Church, the Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland was formed.



Fr. Tom Farrell

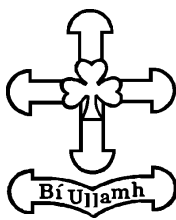
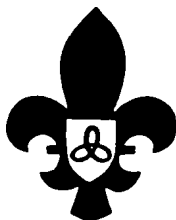


Log book of a Patrol Hike in the 1950's

Throughout the years both Scout Associations have worked closely together, exchanging programme material and attending many International Jamborees. In 1965 the Federation of Irish Scout Associations was formed which allowed international recognition of both Associations by the World Organisaion of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

Scouting Ireland

In 1998, serious talks commenced to seek the establishment of a new Association to be called Scouting Ireland which would comprise the two Scout Associations for the betterment of all young people in Ireland. Both agreed to form a new Association and Scouting Ireland was formed in January 2004.



World Jamboree Badges







Baden Powell was a keen painter and illustrator and his work is displayed throughout his handbooks. This work is entitled 'Scouts of the World'.

A Scout's Anthem - 'A Rich And Rare Land'

She is a rich and rare land,
Oh she's a fresh and fair land;
She is a dear and rare land,
this native land of mine.

Oh, she's a fresh and fair land,
Oh, she's a true and rare land;
Yes she's a rare and fair land,
this native land of mine.

No men than her's are braver,
Her women's hearts ne'er waver;
I'd freely die to save her,
and deem my lot divine.

Thomas Davis (1814-1845)

Thomas Davis was an Irish writer and politician who was the chief organizer and poet of the Young Ireland Movement. While at Trinity College, Dublin, he developed an idea of uniting all creeds and classes in a vigorous national movement.

She's not a dull nor cold land,
No, she's a warm and bold land;
She is a true and old land,
this native land of mine.

Could beauty ever guard her,
and virtue still reward her;
No foe would cross her border
Nor friend within it pine.