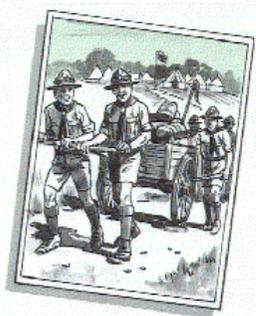


the country, boys were forming themselves into Scout Troops and asking adults to lead them.



B. –P. was still an officer in the Regular Army. He received hundreds of letters from boys telling him of their adventures and he had to open a small office. Before the **end of 1908**, boys had started Scouting in **Ireland, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa.**

In 1909, 11,000 Scouts (and seven girls) from all parts of the country got together for **a rally at the Crystal Palace in London.** 6,000 other girls had already registered as “Girl Scouts”, and B. –P. thought the girls needed a special scheme of their own. **His sister Agnes** agreed to help and the **“Girl Guide”** movement was started.

King Edward VII, who had attended the rally, **summoned B. – P. to Balmoral Castle in October, 1909**, and made him a **Knight** for his outstanding service as a soldier, and for giving the country Scouting. The king agreed that boys who passed special tests should be called **King’s Scouts.**

The First Wolf Cubs

B. –P. was pleased, but surprised, to find that scouting was appealing to boys outside the commonwealth. **By 1910, Scouting had started in 16 countries** and was still spreading quickly. B. –P. felt he should retire early from the Army and give all his time to Scouting. A lot of younger boys wanted to be Scouts, but it was difficult for them to do the things described for older boys in Scouting for Boys. B. –P. realised that boys between the ages of 8 and 11 needed a scheme especially for themselves. He found just the right background in **The Jungle Books by Rudyard Kipling**, in which there are stories about Mowgli the man cub, growing up in the jungle with wolves, obeying

HOW SCOUTING BEGAN

Baden-Powell – As a Boy

The man who started Scouting was named **Robert Baden-Powell.** He was born in London on **February 22nd, 1857.** When Robert was three years old his father died. The family did not have much money, and Robert’s mother encouraged her **ten children** to find and make their own amusements. Robert could **draw well (with both hands),** and often entertained the family with his imitations of wild life.

Although Robert was quite a small boy, he was for his age. He had a **freckled face and red hair.** At school he did not do very well at his lessons and **he was not a great sportsman.** He was very good at rifle shooting and acting, and his sense of humour made him popular with his school friends.

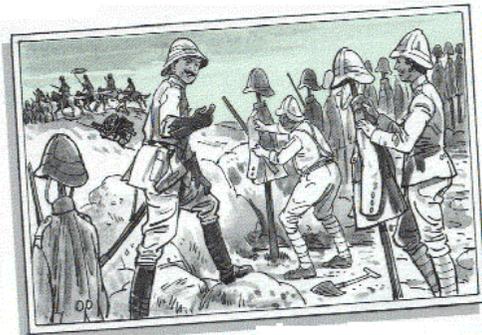


Sometimes Robert wanted to be alone, and then he would go to **“The Copse”** a patch of woodland near the school. There he studied, **stalked and tracked animals and birds.** He discovered some of wonders of nature for himself. The Copse was out-of-bounds and often Robert had to hide from teachers.

In the holidays Robert went exploring with his older brothers. The boys bought boats cheaply, repaired them themselves and cruised off the English coasts. Once they even sailed across to **Norway.** Sometimes they went **canoeing on rivers,** and sometimes they hiked through the countryside carrying their kit on their backs and sleeping in barns or under the stars.

Baden-Powell – The soldier

Robert did not know what he wanted to do when he left school. Without telling his family, he took and **Open Competition Examination** to join the **Army**. To everyone's surprise, he passed so high up the list that he was excused the usual officers' training. At the **age of 19** he was made a **sub-lieutenant** in the **13th Hussar** and went to **India**. Travel had always appealed to him and in the next **30 years** he saw the world in the Army.



He was a brilliant soldier and was promoted quickly. His men liked him because he did so much to make their lives interesting. He trained his men with **competitions and games** and taught them how to track and to live in wild country.

In **1899 Colonel Baden-Powell** was sent to **South Africa** because a war threatened between the Dutch settlers (the Boers) and the British settlers. The supply centre for the British was **Mafeking**, a small town that had no natural defences and **only two guns**. War was declared and Baden-Powell with **1,000 men** were besieged in Mafeking by **9,000 Boers**. He thought up all sorts of schemes that made the Boers think that the town was very heavily defended. When reinforcements and help came, the siege of Mafeking had lasted for seven months. Baden-Powell was a **national hero in England**.

In 1900, when he was **43 years old**, Baden-Powell became the **youngest-ever Major General** in the British Army. Three years later he was promoted to Inspector-general of Cavalry, the highest post in the cavalry.

Baden-Powell and the first Scout Camp

Baden-Powell had written a booklet called **“Aids to Scouting”** about his methods of Army training. It was published in England during the siege of Mafeking. When he returned home from South Africa, Baden-Powell was surprised to find that a lot of boys had bought the booklet and had got together in small groups to practise Scouting. They called themselves **boy Scouts**.



Baden-Powell (or **B. -P.** as he became known) decided to re-write the book for boys. **In 1907** he was ready to try out his ideas of Scouting with boys. He wanted a place where he would not be interrupted by newspapermen, who were always interested in what the hero of Mafeking was doing.

Some friends owned **Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, Dorset**, which provided an ideal location. At the **end of July 1907**, B. -P. and some other helpers **took 21 boys** and his **nephew** to camp for **a week** on the Island. Some of the boys were sons of B. -P.'s friends, and other came from **Bournemouth and Poole boys' Brigade Companies**.

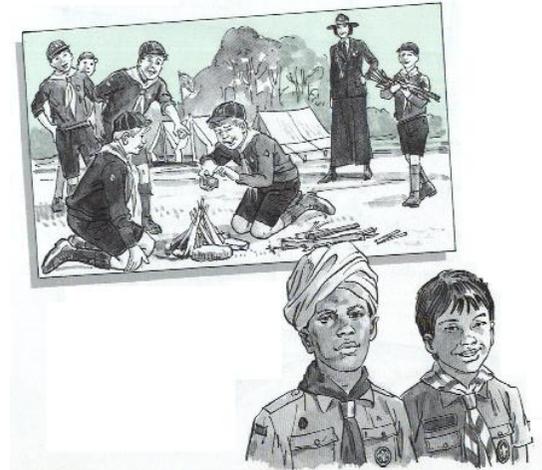
What an exciting time those boys had! They had never known anything like it before, because in those days no one went camping for their holidays! They **swam, signalled, tracked, cooked, hiked and played games**. Every evening they sat round a campfire and listened as B. -P. told them about his adventures in many parts of the world. The camp was a great success.

Scouting Begins to Grow

After the Brownsea Island camp, B. -P. finished writing **Scouting for Boys** and in **1908 it was published in eight fortnightly parts**, each costing 1p. B. -P. had expected that Scouting for Boys would be used by youth organisations, which were already in existence.

However, all over Akela the wise old wolf and learning the law of the jungle from Baloo the bear, Bagheera the black panther, Kaa the snake, Chil the kite and Raksha the mother wolf. The **Wolf Cub** Section of the Scouts was started in **1916**.

Although Wolf Cubs are now called Cub Scouts, and the Cub Scouts of today do different things from the first Wolf Cubs, the first jungle story is still told to new Cubs, and within the Pack the adult Leaders (**Scouters**) are called the jungle animals. The Cub Scout Leader is always called **Akela**, and the assistant Cub Scout Leaders take their names from the other animals from the story.



**1st TIDWORTH
CUB SCOUT PACK**

INFORMATION ABOUT



**LORD
ROBERT STEPHENSON
SMYTHE
BADEN-POWELL**