



# About Scouting & Baden-Powell

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## What is Scouting?

Scouting is an international movement which now has over 25 million members in over 200 Countries. It was founded by Lord Baden-Powell in 1907 following an experimental camp on Brownsea Island (see also below). The UK Scout Association offers equal opportunities to all young people in the community no matter what their social, religious or ethnic background may be. It has a positive policy of integration and welcomes children and young people who have disabilities.

The Aim of the Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

Scouting has a simple and positive Promise made by all its Members. This gives a distinctive ethos to the practices of the Movement and acts as a bond with Scouts in other countries.

You can find out lots more about UK Scouting on the national website [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk). Scouting in the UK is as popular as ever and there are nearly 500,000 members in UK Scouting. Demand for places is high and we maintain waiting lists when sections are full in case places become available in the future.

## 3rd Woodthorpe

Our Group is supported through the Central Nottinghamshire Scout District and the Nottinghamshire Scout County organisation. We regularly join other Scout Groups in District and County various activities. Members in 3W have opportunities to extend their Scouting experiences at national and international Scouting events.

The management of 3W is undertaken by a team of warranted (uniformed) leaders and by an Executive Committee. The Group Scout Leader (GSL) heads the team of leaders and helpers and ensures that the development of the young people is co-ordinated as they move through Scouting.

The Executive Committee, led by its 'Chair', has an important role in supporting the activities of the sections and ensuring that our resources are safeguarded and maintained. To find out more about joining the Leadership Team or the Executive Committee please contact the GSL or Chair.

*3W is a registered charity (number 507206).*

## About Lord Baden-Powell (B.P.)



### *Baden-Powell's story*

Lord Robert Baden-Powell of Gilwell (1857-1941) was a decorated soldier, talented artist, actor and free-thinker. Best known during his military career for his spirited defence of the small South African township of Mafeking during the Boer War, he was soon to be propelled to extraordinary fame as the Founder of Scouting.

He had been impressed during the siege at how boys had used their initiative under pressure to make themselves useful and capitalize on limited resources. Already thinking of developing a training programme for young people in Britain, he was urged by friends to re-write his handbook for soldiers 'Aids to Scouting for NCO's and Men' for this younger audience.

In 1907 he held an experimental camp on Brownsea Island, Poole, Dorset, to try out his ideas. He brought together 20 boys, some from public schools and some from working class homes, and took them camping under his leadership. The whole world now knows the results of that camp.

Scouting for Boys was published in 1908 in six fortnightly parts at 4d a copy. Sales of the book were enormous and boys soon formed themselves into Scout Patrols. What had been intended as a training aid for existing organisations became the handbook of a new and, ultimately, worldwide Movement. Scouting for Boys has since been translated into many different languages and dialects.

Baden Powell's great understanding of young people obviously touched a fundamental chord both in this country and others. In September 1908, Baden Powell set up an office to deal with enquiries pouring in about the Movement.

Some 28 million young people worldwide now take part in the adventure of Scouting and in 2007 the Movement celebrates its centenary.