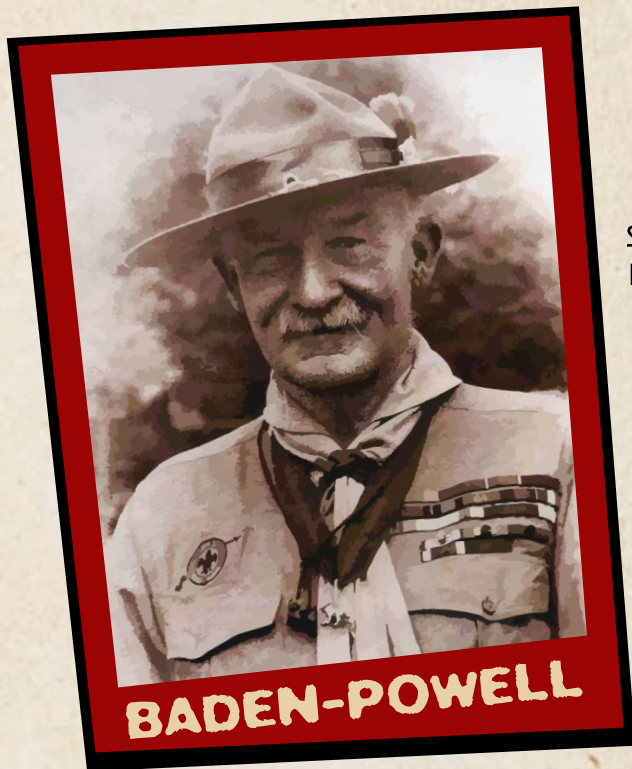


# History Of Scouting



Scouting was founded by Robert Baden Powell (known as BP), a commander in the British Army in Africa at the end of the 19th century. Based on what he learned from the tribes there, he wrote a handbook for young people called "Scouting for Boys" which was published in 1908.

Before he finished writing "Scouting for Boys", BP tried out some of his ideas at a camp on Brownsea Island

off the coast of southern England in August 1907. The camp consisted of four Patrols, with twenty Scouts in total, and is recognised as the official start of Scouting. He didn't plan to start a movement - but the idea caught on very quickly.

A year later, there were more than 60,000 Scouts in England. By 2007, on Scouting's 100th Birthday, there were 30 million Scouts in 160 countries around the world. Things had come a long way from the very first camp on Brownsea Island!

Scouting began in Ireland in 1908. Early Irish Troops formed what became the Scout Association of Ireland (SAI).

In 1927, Fr. Tom Farrell formed the Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland (CBSI). Through the years both associations worked closely together; sharing ideas and jointly attending International Jamborees.

In 1965, the Federation of Irish Scout Associations was formed which allowed both to be recognised by the World Organisation of the Scout Movement.

In 1988, both associations began talks about forming a new association for the young people of Ireland. They created Scouting Ireland in January 2004.

The journey of Scouting in Ireland continues...

