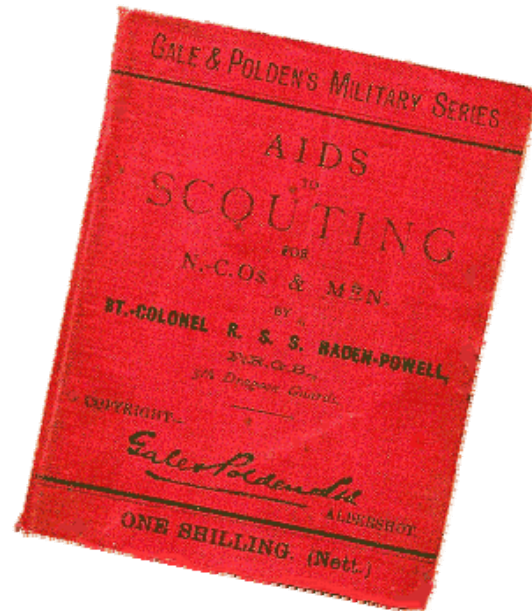

1903

While on leave in England, Baden-Powell found some boys in the woods playing at scouting with the book 'Aids to Scouting', (The book he had written for the Army)



1907

Baden-Powell ran an experimental camp for 20 boys on Brownsea Island, off the south coast of England

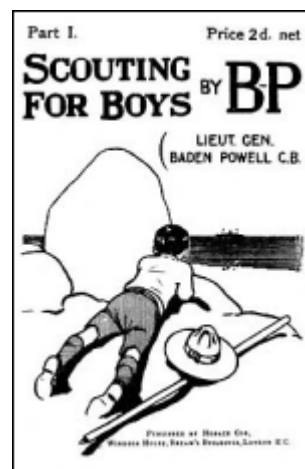
[Brownsea Camp](#)
Follow links



After the camp, patrols of 'Girl Scouts' began around England in following their brothers in the new adventure
Olave inquired about training as a nurse in London but was told to find somewhere near home

1908

Baden-Powell wrote 'Scouting For Boys'. First published in fortnightly editions



Written by Miss Commander of 1st Birmingham Company
Soon after the Scout Movement had begun, a small troop of girls appeared in Harborne. Their members (about half a dozen) were from all over Birmingham, and their captain was a girl about 15.

I was thrilled to think that girls were being Scouts too. I gathered together a few of my school friends (I was then at the King Edward VI Grammar School), and formed a second patrol called the Ravens. We often met the other patrol, and had combined hikes, but we were quite separate.

Our uniform was a navy skirt, dark-green blouse, black tie and shoulder-knots, khaki hat and linen haversack; we always carried poles. We met every Saturday in a little wood at the edge of the golf links. There we cooked our lunch, and usually climbed a tree to eat it, and evolved a pulley system for getting the food up into the tree. We had a cache, where we kept our stores; but this was found by a tramp, and rifled. We played First Aid games, in which we had to find the patient, treat her, and carry her home on an improvised stretcher over barbed wire, streams, etc. We also loved stalking games, especially if they involved jumping over streams. I remember a breakfast hike one Sunday, when one of the Scouts fell in, and we took off nearly all her clothes and wrung them and put them on a bush to dry! We taught ourselves all that we had to know for the Scout tests, and we tested ourselves, and bought our second-and first-class badges from the Scout shop.

It was in 1909, that we went to our first rally in Warby Woods, and the Chief Scout was there. There were about 1,000 boys, and 13 girls from three patrols - two from Harborne and one from Edgbaston. The Chief seemed surprised to see us, but he shook hands with our leaders and welcomed us, and we were very proud of this notice.

It was about 1910 when we decided we should have a captain, and the elder sister of one of the patrol leaders agreed to take on this office. We very reluctantly changed from being Scouts to Guides, and as we were the only Scouts who stayed on as Guides we became the 1st Harborne (and later the 1st Birmingham) company. It seemed rather a comedown to be flowers instead of animals, and the ideal of womanliness had no appeal for us at that age.

We changed from 'Ravens' to 'Scarlet Pimpernels,' and at first we had a dreadful uniform - still navy skirts and green blouses, but red berets, red ties, and scarlet pimpernels embroidered all over our pockets.

War broke out in 1914 while we were in camp and we knew nothing about it until we were on our way home. Two men saw us on a lorry, with all our equipment, and evidently imagined we were on our way to the Front, for one man remarked to the other - 'A lot of use they'll be out there!'

Scotland's first 'Girl Scouting' was in Glasgow

Girl Peace Scouts were formed in New Zealand. Miss Keith was appointed to be Scout Mistress and began to write a book for them. This was instigated by Major Cossgrove for his daughter Muriel.

[New Zealand](#)

1909

Baden-Powell called for Boy Scouts to attend a rally at the Crystal Palace London. (September 4th) A number of girls attended; they said they were 'Girl Scouts' B-P said 'No!'



Someone from Tasmania, Australia, was in contact with Major Cossgrove in view of forming a group for girls in Hobart

Written by a 'Girl Scout' who attended the Crystal Palace Rally

"There were thrills, many, that day! Who can forget the competitions, the rain that spoilt the fire lighting, the displays in the vast arena, the Scouts seated round the sloping track, the order to 'fall in' and march into the Palace (how troops took stock of one another!), the marshalling of those eleven thousand Scouts, the cheers from the eleven thousand throats that would not be hushed, the hats on staves, the message from King Edward read by the Chief Scout, and then

the march past . . . But what has this to do with the Guides? Why, three of us were there,. Yes, the Pinkney's Green Scouts, led by the tallest, marched past in their allotted places, with the two girls selected to represent the Girls Emergency Corps as a special privilege bringing up the rear. The girls seemed to get a special cheer as they passed the saluting base. There were a few other girls there, quite an imposing number in one corps alone."

Written by Miss Behrens

"Our company started in 1909 and we wore navy-blue trimmed with red braid. The girls wore sailor suits, and I wore a blouse and skirt with a stiff linen collar and red tie. When on parade we were generally mistaken for the Salvation Army! Of course we had all sorts of filth thrown at us, and I was generally invited to go to the bathroom immediately I reached home and have a clean up.

When the girls got at loggerheads with each other we made them put on boxing gloves and settle their differences in cold blood. This really was very effective and stopped tale bearing, etc.

I remember, just at the outbreak of the war (when we wore red crosses on white haversacks~, parading through the slums to the landing-stage, and the dear old shawl women remarked: They are off to the war, God bless 'em'.

In those early days the girls had a great respect for the Colours. Should a girl talk when the Colours were carried she had to make a public apology to the whole company."

Rev.W T Money in Greenwich was running a group of boys on the lines of Scouting and saw the need for the girls. He found a group of girls known as 'The Nightingales' who camped, learned first aid and nursing so started a girls group too.

It was noted some 6,000 girls had registered as Scouts. Later to be recognised as Baden-Powell Girl Guides. (1910)

'Girl Scouts' were forming in Canada and New Zealand

Canada