

THE PASSING YEARS

Milestones in the progress of Scouting

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Scout
Information
Centre

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1907	July August	Experimental Camp, Brownsea Island.
1908	January April August	'Scouting for Boys' Part One published. First issue of 'The Scout'. First official Scout Camp, Humshaugh (22/08-04/09).
1909	May August September	Scout Headquarters opened at 116 Victoria Street, London. B.-P.'s camp on Training Ship 'Mercury'. The Crystal Palace Rally (11,000 Scouts attended).
1910	April September October	First appeal for financial help. First Annual Census (UK) 100,298 Scouts, 7,688 Scouters. Formation of Sea Scouts Branch.
1911	June July	Boy Scouts on duty at Coronation of King George V. 26,000 Scouts reviewed by King at Windsor.
1912	January August October	Royal Charter of Incorporation. First Scout Disaster - nine drowned off Leysdown. B.-P. married to Miss Olave Soames.
1913	May July	Duke of Connaught appointed first President. 18,000 Scouts at Birmingham Exhibition and Rally.
1914	January May August	Experimental scheme for 'Wolf Cubs' or 'Young Scouts'. First National Good Turn - Scouts Day of Work for the blind. Scouts enrol for War Service.
1915	September	British Scout Hut opened at Etaples.
1916	May September December	Scout Jack Cornwell posthumously awarded Victoria Cross. Cornwell Badge instituted. The Wolf Cub Handbook published. Roland House opened. Wolf Cub Display at Caxton Hall, London.
1917	March May June	First Commissioners' Conference, held at Matlock. First scheme for 'Senior Scouts' introduced. Opening of new HQ at 25 Buckingham Palace Rd., London.
1918	August	Senior Scout Section renamed Rover Scouts.
1919	July	Gilwell Park opened. First Training Course at Gilwell.

1920	July	First International Scout Conference and World Jamboree, Olympia, London.
	August	B.-P. acclaimed Chief Scout of the World.
1921	September	Two Scouts selected for Shackleton's Expedition to the Antarctic. First Gilwell Reunion.
1922	June	Publication of 'Rovering to Success'. World Scout Membership: 1,019,205.
	October	65,000 Scouts and Cubs attended Posse of Welcome to Prince of Wales, Alexandra Palace.
1924	September	2nd World Jamboree, Denmark. First Scout Musical Festival held at the Royal College of Music. Special tests for disabled Scouts introduced.
1926	April	First Rover Moot, Royal Albert Hall, London.
	August	Opening of International Chalet, Kandersteg, Switzerland.
1927	January	First Roland House Pantomime.
1928	January	Introduction of Group system.
	July	21st Anniversary Reunion of Brownsea campers.
1929	July	Coming of Age World Jamboree, Arrowe Park, Birkenhead, attended by 30,000 Scouts from 71 countries.
	December	Deep Sea Scout Branch formed.
1931	July	World Scout Membership: 2,039,349.
1932	October	First London 'Gang Show'.
1933	August	Fourth World Jamboree, Godollo, Hungary.
1934	April	First National Scout Service, St. George's Chapel, Windsor.
1935	April	First of series of five Scout Training Courses around the UK.
	July	World Rover Moot, Sweden.
1936	January	Special Tests Branch became Handicapped Scouts Branch.
	April	First production of 'Boy Scout', Royal Albert Hall, London.
1937	May	Scouts on duty at Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. Fifth World Jamboree, Holland.
	July	RRS 'Discovery' transferred to Boy Scouts Association.
	October	The Gang Show in Royal Command Performance.
	November	
1938	April	The Boy Scout Fund launched at Mansion House - £263,000 raised.
1939	June	First Scouts' Soap Box Derby staged at Brooklands Race Track. Third World Rover Moot, Scotland.
	July	World Scout Membership: 3,305,149.
	November	Admiralty request for Scouts to volunteer for Convoy signaller duties. Other war duties undertaken.

1940	September	Roland House bombed.
	November	Gilwell Park requisitioned by War Office, closed to Scouting.
1941	January	Death of Baden-Powell (January 8). B.-P. Memorial Service, Westminster Abbey. Air Scout Branch formed.
	March	Lord Somers elected Chief Scout of the British Empire.
	April	Commission set up to consider Post War developments.
1942	March	Duke of Gloucester appointed President following the death of the Duke of Connaught.
	April	B.-P. Memorial Fund launched.
	July	First National Air Scout Camp.
	December	National Air Scout Exhibition, London.
1944	March	First party of Scouts' International Relief Service Workers to Greece. Sea Scout Exhibition, London.
	April	Day of Work raised £33,000 for the Scouts' International Relief Service.
	May	Death of Lord Somers. Scouts' International Relief Service Team left for Normandy.
	July	Gilwell Park returned to the Movement.
	September December	
1945	April	Lord Rowallan elected Chief Scout of the British Commonwealth and Empire.
	September	Publication of 'The Road Ahead' - the recommendations of the Post War Commission.
1946	October	Senior Scout Section officially started. New plan for Rover Scouts introduced.
1947	April	Memorial tablet to B.-P. unveiled in Westminster Abbey by the Duke of Gloucester.
	July	Original manuscript of 'Scouting for Boys' comes to light and is purchased. Sixth World Jamboree, France.
	August	World Scout Membership: 4,404,927.
1948	June	Inauguration of B.-P. Guild of Old Scouts.
	October	First National Conference, Filey.
1949	April	First 'Bob-a-Job' Week.
	August	First International Camp for Handicapped Scouts, Holland. Fourth World Rover Moot, Norway.
1950	August	Loss of whaler, 'Wangle III' and entire crew of ten Sea Scouts (1st Mortlake). Gang Shows and Soap Box Derbys resumed.
1951	August	Seventh World Jamboree, Austria.
1952	April	The beret, as an alternative headdress, introduced for Senior and Rover Scouts.
	July	First World Scouters' Indaba, Gilwell. World Scout Membership: 5,561,993.
1953	June	Scouts on duty at Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II.
	July	Fifth World Rover Moot, Switzerland.

1954	September	Beret becomes permitted for Boy Scouts.
1955	July	RRS 'Discovery' handed over to Admiralty. First Gliding Course for Scouts, Lasham. Eighth World Jamboree, Canada, attended by 1,000 UK Scouts. World Membership: 6,360,762.
1956	February April September	Formation of International Scout Club. New Rules for Rover Scouts published. First Commissioners' Conference for 20 years, Skegness.
1957	February June August November	Centenary of the birth of B.-P.. Thanksgiving Service at Westminster Abbey. B.-P. Memorial Fund public appeal launched at Mansion House. National 'Collective Good Turn Week'. Centenary Jubilee World Jamboree, Indaba and Moot, Sutton Coldfield, opened by the Duke of Gloucester (August 1); visited by The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh (August 3). GPO issue special commemorative stamps. The Gang Show again in Royal Variety Performance. World Scout Membership: 7,589,183.
1958	July October	Third International Camp for Handicapped, Gilwell Park, visited by Princess Alexandra. First Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA).
1959	July September	Tenth World Jamboree, Philippines. Sir Charles Maclean appointed Chief Scout of the Commonwealth.
1960	August	National Sea Scouts' Jubilee Camp. Third World Scouters' Indaba, Netherlands. World Scout Membership: 8,876,707.
1961	July November December	Baden-Powell House opened by The Queen. Soap Box Derby grows up, now National Scoutcar Races. Long trousers become alternative wear for Senior and Rover Scouts. Seventh World Rover Moot, Australia.
1962	June	Air Scout Branch comes of age. World Scout Membership: 9,366,962.
1963	August	11th World Jamboree, Greece.
1964	January October November	First Meeting of Chief Scout's Advance Party. British Scouts' first visit to Japan. The Gang Show in the Royal Variety Performance for the third time. World Scout Membership: 10,035,540.
1965	May	First National Scout Band Championships.

1966	January	'Wolf Cubs' Golden Jubilee Year commenced.
	February	Scout & Guide Founders Day Service part of Westminster Abbey's 900th Anniversary Celebrations.
	June	Publication of the Chief Scout's Advance Party Report.
	October	Introduction of the new Promise and Law. World Scout Membership: 10,462,385.
1967	May	The Boy Scouts Association renamed The Scout Association. Equipment Department moves to Lancing, West Sussex.
	June	12th World Jamboree, USA.
	August	Changes in uniform.
	October	Implementation of new training schemes for Cub Scouts, Scouts and Venture Scouts. Duke of Edinburgh visits Baden-Powell House.
1968	January	Prince Andrew joins Cub Scouts.
	March	Three National Scout Activity Centres announced - Lasham, Longridge and Whernside. First Fleur-de-Lys Ball.
	April	Prince Philip, accompanied by Prince Andrew, takes salute at Windsor Parade.
	May	First Scout and Guide National 'Folk Fest'.
	June	First National Scout and Venture Scout Kart Championships. First National Scout Cycle Cross meeting.
November	World Scout Membership: 11,981,737.	
1969	April	Introduction of 'minimum standards' relating to Group strength and progress in training.
	May	National Family Camp, Gilwell Park.
1970	March	Bob-a-Job Week Scheme renamed 'Scout Job Week' in anticipation of currency decimalisation.
	April	Queen's Guides, celebrating the Girl Guide Movement's Diamond Jubilee Year join the annual Queen's Scout Parade at Windsor Castle for the first time.
	September	World Scout Membership: 12,035,452.
1971	January	New World Membership Badge introduced to wear by British Scouts. 'The Scouter', the Movement's national magazine renamed 'Scouting'. World Chief Guide, Olave, Lady Baden-Powell, attends premiere of Scout film, 'These are Scouts', in London.
	February	B.-P. Scout Guild rejoins The Scout Association. Lord Maclean announces retirement as Chief Scout of The Scout Association effective September).
	April	480 British Scouts attended 13th World Jamboree in Japan.
	June	Scouts and Guides fill 6,000 seat Royal Albert Hall, London for Folk Fest 5, folk music concert.
	August	
	December	
1972	April	Duke of Kent reviews 500 Venture Scouts who have gained the Queen's Scout Award, in a new style ceremony at Windsor Castle on St. George's Day.
	July	Sir William Gladstone Bt, DL, MA, appointed Chief Scout of the UK and Overseas Branches.
	October	The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh attended the 40th Anniversary year production of Ralph Reader's Gang Show. World Scout Membership: 13,110,259.

1973	September	More than 30 European Scout Public Relations Officers attended a Conference on Scouting's public relations, Baden-Powell House.
1974	April	The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, takes the salute from 650 Venture Scouts who have gained the Queen's Scout Award.
	August	The Committee of the Council, The Scout Association's ruling body, appoints Working Group to consider how to maintain and improve adult support for Scouting's 600,000 Members in the UK.
	October	Ralph Reader presents final London Gang Show for two weeks at Gaumont State Theatre, Kilburn, London. Ralph, aged 71, has decided to retire from writing and producing the annual London Gang Show. The Scout Association's National Headquarters moves from Buckingham Palace Road, Victoria to temporary accommodation at Baden-Powell House, London SW7. A new purpose-built extension to B.-P. House is due to be completed in 1976.
	December	
1975	January	The Scout Association launch a new Corporate Identity symbol - 'Scouts' - incorporating the fleur-de-lys badge in place of the 'o' in the word 'Scouts'. HRH The Duke of Kent appointed President.
	February	Scouts present cheque for £91,363 to RNLI for new lifeboat to be named 'The Scout'.
	May	17,700 Scouts from 93 countries attend the 14th World Scout Jamboree (Nordjamb '75), Lillehammer, Norway.
	July	HRH The Duke of Kent visits B.-P. House.
	September	UK Scout Membership: 596,934 (1975 Census).
	October	
1976	January	Cub Scouts' Diamond Jubilee commences.
	March	New Adult Support proposals including the Scout Fellowship to embrace existing support groups.
	July	Highest ever UK Membership - 608,610. Olave, Lady Baden-Powell, visits new Headquarters at B.-P. House. Girls allowed to join Venture Scouts.
	September	The Queen opens new Headquarters at B.-P. House.
	November December	Scout and Guide joint Jubilee badge on sale to support Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal.
1977	January	Lifeboat 'The Scout' leaves builders at Poole and sails to Hartlepool.
	June	Olave, Lady Baden-Powell, World Chief Guide and wife of the Founder of Scout and Guide Movements, dies on June 25, aged 88. Her ashes are later taken for burial next to B.-P. at Nyeri. The Queen names RNLI lifeboat 'The Scout' at Hartlepool.
	July	Another increase in Scout Membership - 627,569.
	November	Lord Rowallan dies, November 30.

1978	April	The Queen reviews nearly 900 Venture Scouts at Windsor Parade.
	June	£134,000 donated by Scouts and Guides to Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal.
	July	Scouts in Royal Tournament, Earls Court for first time with Midlands Massed Scout Bands and Field Gun display by 4th Seven Kings Sea Scouts.
		Another increase in UK Scout Membership - 636,148.
	November	Scouts assist elderly to retune new radio wavelengths in answer to request from BBC.
	December	Announced that 15th World Jamboree in Iran postponed.
1979	January	Cub Scouts launch 'Cub Country' to aid community projects in Nepal in International Year of the Child.
	May	Scouts cook world's largest sausage (2 miles) at Great Children's Party, Hyde Park, London.
	July	1,500 strong UK World Jamboree Contingent attend International Scout Camps in Canada, Sweden, Switzerland and USA (in lieu of Iran).
		World Scout Conference held in Birmingham. Attended by 500 representatives from 81 countries. Sir William Gladstone elected Chairman of World Scout Committee.
	August	Gilwell Park celebrates 60th Anniversary.
	October	Earl Mountbatten, Commodore of Sea Scouts killed. Annual Census shows increase to 638,078. World Scout Membership now 15 million (World Scout Bureau Estimate).
1980	March	National Air Activities Centre, Lasham closed.
	May	Announced that total of £165,000 was collected for 'Cub Country' project in 1979.
	July	UK Scout Membership - 641,281.
1981	February	Memorial stone to the Founder and Olave unveiled at Westminster Abbey.
	March	'Scouting and Unemployment' scheme introduced.
	April	The Queens reviews Queen's Scouts at St. George's Day Parade, Windsor.
	July	500 Venture Scouts as torchbearers at Royal Fireworks, Hyde Park. Scouts on duty on Royal Wedding route.
	September	Major General Michael J.H. Walsh CB, DSO appointed Chief Scout Designate.

1982	January	Speaker's Reception for 75 famous former Scouts and present day Scout representatives at House of Commons to launch The Year of the Scout, marking 75th Anniversary of Brownsea Island Camp.
	February	Sir William Gladstone retires and Major General Michael Walsh becomes Chief Scout.
	March	Scouts Commemorative Stamp (26p) issued as part of special Youth Movement issue.
	April	The Queen, at review of Queen's Scouts at Windsor, received a special bouquet of roses.
	May	Death of Ralph Reader CBE on May 13. 250,000 Cub Scouts take part in 'National Cub Scout Tea Making Fortnight' (May 31 - June 12). The Queen unveiled a plaque at Hawkthirst Adventure Camp during visit to inaugurate the Kielder Water Scheme. Lord Maclean attends B.-P. House 21st Anniversary reception.
	July	1,500 Scouts from many countries at Extoree '82, an international camp for handicapped and able-bodied Members, Gilwell Park.
	August	Beavers introduced for 6-8 year old boys.
	October	
1983	April	Queen Mother reviews over 1,000 Queen's Scouts at Windsor.
	July	15,000 Scouts from 100 countries including 1,350 from the UK attend 15th World Jamboree near Calgary, Canada.
	September	UK Scout Membership 626,937. Beaver Membership 12,300 in addition.
1984	April	Duke of Kent reviews 1,200 Queen's Scouts at Windsor. Cardinal Basil Hume, Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, preaches at National Scout Service.
	July/ August September	Venture Scout Units visits Kenya and Sri Lanka in UNICEF Decade of Clean Water National Project. Reduction in younger age ranges in national population affects UK Scout Membership - now 605,649 plus 25,955 Beavers. New Scout Training Programme and Progress Award Scheme announced.
1985	January	Venture Scout Relay Team carries Friendship torch from Baden-Powell House to Southampton en route to kindle a Friendship Flame during Mafeking (now Mafikeng) Centenary Celebrations.
	February	Premiere of 'Scouts!' film.
	March	Princess Anne addresses WAGGGS & WOSM reps.
	April	The Queen reviews 1,000 Queen's Scouts at Windsor. New Scout Training Programme launched.
	July/Aug September	200 Venture Scouts in Clean Water projects in Sri Lanka. UK Membership - 586,601. Beavers - 40,281.
1986	January	'Rainbow Year', Cub Scouts 70th Anniversary.
	March	1,300 Venture Scouts on Viking Venture, Denmark.
	April	Beavers become Members of The Association and renamed Beaver Scouts.
	May	Duke of Kent reviews 1,000 Queen's Scouts at Windsor. Woodland Scout Camp open at National Garden Festival, Stoke-on-Trent.
	July	Duke of Kent reopens 'B.-P. Story' exhibition to celebrate Baden-Powell House 25th Anniversary.

1987	March	New Scottish National HQ opened at Fordell Firs.
	April	The Queen reviews Queen's Scouts at Windsor.
	June	500 Venture Scouts assist with the organisation of the St. John Ambulance Centenary Party in Hyde Park, London. Also, at same event, 250 Scouts from Greater London North East enter the record books by cooking the world's longest sausage (9 miles).
	July	17th General Assembly of the International Fellowship of Former Scouts and Guides held at University of Warwick attended by 700 Members from 33 countries.
	August	Service held on Brownsea Island (August 2) to mark the 80th Anniversary of the first experimental camp, attended by Colonel Brian Evans-Lombe OBE who took part in the original camp. HRH The Duke of Kent attends Birmingham Gang Show. Over 800 UK Scouts attend the 16th World Jamboree in Australia. The contingent included Ranger Guides for the first time.
	December	
1988	January	Venture Scout Section begins 21st Anniversary year. Sherpa '88 appeal is launched in aid of the Sherpa people.
	February	HRH The Duke of Kent visits Gilwell Park.
	April	Maj. Gen. Michael Walsh CB DSO DL retires as Chief Scout.
	May	Mr W. Garth Morrison DL takes over as Chief Scout (6/5).
	October	Venture Scout Section celebrates 21st birthday with 'Everest' climbs in major cities throughout the UK. Leicester Square event is attended by Sir Edmund Hillary and members of his team.
1989	March	London Venture, international camping weekend for 1,500 Swedish Senior Scouts and 3,500 British Venture Scouts at Crystal Palace. King Carl XVI Gustav of Sweden led the overseas visitors. A highlight of the weekend was a musical evening at the Royal Albert Hall. The first commercial sponsorship of a Scout Proficiency Badge. The Scout Athlete Badge is sponsored for three years carrying the 'Matchstick' sportswear brandname.
	April	The results of the Uniform Consultation Survey. The main change was the decision to abolish headgear for all Sections.
	June	10,000 young people from over 40 countries attended the Discovery '89 Camps at five sites in the UK.
	July	The 32nd International Jamboree-on-the-Air. A new amateur radio demonstration station, callsign GB2GP was opened at Gilwell Park.
	October	The Scout Leadership Training Programme received an official commendation from the Department of Employment in its National Training Awards Scheme.
	December	
1990	January	'Scouts Go For A Million' Campaign launched which eventually raised £141,998.67 for Barnardo's.
	February	Decision in principle to allow girls into the younger Sections of the Movement.
	May	Launch of 'Promise Appeal' to raise £10 million.
	June	'Green Charter' Competition launched to raise awareness in environmental projects.

1991	January	Cub Scouts 75th Anniversary/50th Ann. of Air Scouting.
	February	Launch of new Cub Scout Programme.
	April	HRH The Queen Mother reviews Queen's Scouts at Windsor.
	July	Royal Charter changes agreed - girls are allowed to be invested in the younger Sections of the Movement. 170 children from the Chernobyl area arrive in the UK for a holiday, hosted by British Scouts and Guides.
	August	17th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea, which a contingent of over 1,400 UK Scouts attended.
1991	November	2,000 Cub Scouts take part in a 'Grand Howl' in Westminster, and Thanksgiving Service in Central Hall, to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Cub Scouting.
1992	February	'Promise Appeal' is launched, the first national fundraising appeal in aid of the Association since 1938. 1992 designated as 'Promise Year'.
	April	The Queen reviews Queen's Scouts at Windsor.
	October	National Woggle Day to raise funds for Promise Appeal.
	December	GSL/Commissioner Training scheme wins National Training Award from the Department of Employment. Promise Appeal raised about £2.5 million.
1993	April	HRH The Duke of Kent reviews Queen's Scouts at Windsor.
	September	Founders' daughter started the £2m redevelopment programme at Gilwell Park to expand training facilities and restore and preserve the White House.
1993	November	Scout and Cub Scout Law revised slightly as a consequence of the decision to admit girls to all Sections.
1994	January	Colonel Brian Evans-Lombe, the only surviving member of the original camp at Brownsea Island dies, aged 100.
	April	HRH The Duchess of Kent reviews Queen's Scouts at Windsor. Gilwell Reunion celebrates 75 years of Gilwell Park.
	September	European Venture takes 6,000 Venture Scouts to Europe.
	July	White House reopened.
	November	
1995	April	HRH The Duke of Edinburgh reviews the Queen's Scouts at Windsor
	June	Her Majesty The Queen officially reopens the White House and refurbished Training Centre at Gilwell Park. 3,000 Scouts and Guides leave Crystal Palace for the 18th World Scout Jamboree in the Netherlands.
	July	700 Scouts stage 'In the Spotlight' a fast moving showcase of musical and creative ability at the Royal Albert Hall.
	October	
1996	March	George Purdy appointed as the new Chief Scout.
	September	Cub Scouts start 80 days of special events, including a nationwide challenge to travel round the world in 80 days, to commemorate 80 years of Cub Scouting.
	July	Committee of the Council confirmed is long-term vision of a fully co-educational Scouting Movement.
1996	October	Scout Association Web Site launched. £2 million scheme to refurbish Baden-Powell House Hostel.

1997	February	Scout Association Equal Opportunities Policy announced. HM The Queen Reviews Queen's Scouts at Windsor.
	April	
	June	HRH Duke of Kent re-opens the renovated Baden-Powell House International Scout and Conference Centre after a £2 million refurbishment.
	September	Scouts were called on to help clear floral tributes from the Royal Palaces in London following the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.
1998	February	'Voice for Young People' policy introduced to put young people under the age of 25 on national committees.
	February	First National Child Protection Co-Ordinator appointed to promote the Association's Child Protection Policy and its implementation.
	February	Decision taken to make a bid at the World Scout Conference in 1999 to host the centennial World Scout Jamboree in 2007 in the UK.