

# History of Australian and World Scouting Introduction



## An Account of the History of Australian and World Scouting

While it is time to look to the future, to move forward as a movement, you might be interested to know where Scouting has come from. What can we learn from the rich history of our Movement?

For over a century, Scouting has been developing young people around the world using its unique methods. Read on to get a glimpse of the history of Scouting, and how our founder captured the imagination of boys to form their own patrols in the early 20th Century and began this World Movement.

Take what you like from this. Dip into parts of the last 110+ years you might be interested in, or read the whole lot!. Some Scouts might be interested, others not at all. This is compiled to help anyone interested piecing together a picture of how this movement grew and evolved. You can use it for the Intro to Scouting or Intro to Section, or it might help a Scout with a Special Interest Area project or an adult leader with their Wood Badge project.

This version of our history pulls together information from a variety of reliable sources. It was developed from articles provided mainly by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), The Scout Association (UK), The Scout Association of Australia, Mr Neil Westaway (former Chief Commissioner of Australia), the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, and Eduard Vallory's fascinating book that explains the largest movement on the planet, "World Scouting: Educating for Global Citizenship" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).

This history starts off at the very beginnings of the Scout Movement, and then follows the initial growth of World Scouting, eventually focussing mainly on the downs and ups of Australian Scouting. Enjoy!



# History of Australian and World Scouting In the Beginning



## In The Beginning

Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell (B-P) was born in London on 22nd February 1857. He went on to devote his life to his country, in two very different, yet very related ways. Firstly, as a soldier fighting for his country, and then later, as the man who saw potential in boys working in small teams to learn and develop, and make a positive contribution to the community. Ultimately, he dedicated his life as the Chief Scout of the World, having been the inspiration for Scouting's birth in the UK. In today's language, he is a "Messenger of Peace"! Interestingly, the name Stephenson came from his Godfather, who was the son of the pioneer of the railways and steam engines, George Stephenson.



As a child and adolescent, B-P was eager to learn skills that he thought would help him in later life. With his five brothers, B-P was always off on new adventures, playing and learning something new; camping, hiking, sailing, map and compass skills, cooking, and so on. He started developing abilities like "scouting" and woodcraft. All of this was to set B-P up very well for the journey his life would take him on.

In an examination for the Army, B-P gained second place and received an instant officer's commission. He completed three years of service in India, Afghanistan, and South Africa, then three more years in Malta. At 40, he took charge of the 5th Dragon Guards in Africa, with which B-P trained his command in the art of scouting. He even presented those who reached minimum standards with a cloth badge – just like we do today! It featured a symbol based on the north point of the compass, very much like today's World Scout Emblem.

This led B-P to the most famous of all his wartime experiences, the defence of the town of Mafeking, located in what is now northern South Africa (the town has had a few different names over the years: Mafeking, Mafikeng, Maheking). It was 1899 and the British were fighting the Boers in southern Africa. The momentous task of defending the township ensured B-P became a hero, particularly in the eyes of English boys. During the 217-day siege, he learned how well boys responded to a challenge by giving them important and responsible jobs to do, like running messages and keeping watch.

The Mafeking Cadets, aged 12 – 15, worked in small teams with a leader, and developed their scouting skills. This was the genesis for the Scout

Method. If you ever find yourself in the old town of Maheking, South Africa, go and visit the Mafikeng Museum and read in detail about the Siege of Mafeking.

During this time, B-P wrote his book *Aids To Scouting for NCOs and Men* which was read far wider than just the military audience he intended it to be.

B-P returned to England in 1903 and discovered that *Aids To Scouting* was being used by youth clubs and even school teachers! The Boys Brigade took an interest and asked B-P to review their own program with a view to creating a new program that developed boys in good citizenship.

To achieve this, B-P decided to write a new version of *Aids To Scouting* but for an adolescent audience instead of a military one. To refine his ideas, B-P held an experimental camp on Brownsea Island in England, beginning on August 1st, 1907, which ran for 9 days (10 in some reports). This most famous of all Scout Camps is generally considered "Day One" of the history of the World Scout Movement. Each year we celebrate World Scout Day on 1st August, and the year 2007 saw global celebrations of the 100th anniversary of this historic beginning. A re-enactment experimental camp was held at the same location, and an enormous World Scout Jamboree was hosted by The Scout Association, UK.

The 22 boys (some reports say 20) at that original camp came from a variety of backgrounds; all equals in one place, learning together. This was part of B-P's experiment, to see if boys from different backgrounds could get along. The group cooked their own food, played games, learned skills, and listened to B-P's stories.

*Scouting for Boys: A Handbook for Instruction in Good Citizenship* was published in early 1908, when B-P was 51. Although many regarded this first edition as a poorly organised and poorly edited piece of work, it was the right thing at the right time. From this first edition, a movement was begun, a movement that would transform the lives of millions around the planet. Copies of the book (sold in fortnightly parts) flew off the shelf and in no time at all, boys around England were forming self-organised patrols to try out B-P's methods. The book was only designed to be a manual for existing organisations like the Boys Brigade and YMCA, but in reality, it became the handbook for a new, global movement of young people: The Boy Scout Movement.

By September of 1908, B-P needed to set up a small office to answer the ever-increasing number of large bags of mail that came in regarding this new game called "Scouting".

# History of Australian and World Scouting In the Beginning



In the second year of publishing, 60,000 copies of more refined editions of *Scouting For Boys* were sold. In addition, *The Scout* magazine was published weekly, with a circulation of an impressive 110,000! Hunt through these early editions to find the early “rules” or “values” of Scouting, the “Scout Law”, which a scout accepted when he made the “Scout Oath”.

Initially, informal scouting patrols spread through the British Commonwealth (they were well established in Australia by the end of 1908), but soon enough, Scouting crossed borders, and languages, to all parts of the world. In 1909, a Scout rally was organised in London. 11,000 self-identified “Scouts” turned up, much to B-P’s surprise: “When I got there, my wig, there were a lot of them”, he wrote in 1937. Three months later, in December 1909, the Boy Scouts Association was created, with 108,000 members.

B-P retired from the Army in 1910, after he was knighted, but also after he was advised by the King of England that his services to the country would be far more valuably placed with a full time focus on the fledgling Boy Scout Movement, than as a soldier. This now gave him the freedom to travel to all parts of the world, to encourage the growth of Scouting.

When a large group of girls insisted that they be called Girl Scouts, B-P knew that girls could benefit from a similar program. With his sister Agnes, B-P began the Girl Guide Movement in 1910. His wife, Olave, became the World Chief Guide and, with Agnes, took on the responsibility of growing and developing world Guiding. It reached around the world at a similar pace as the Boy Scout movement. Globally, the Guide Movement is today brought together by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).

It is worth noting that B-P’s earlier writings suggested that girls could be Scouts just like their male brothers, however it is believed that he was pressured into the idea that girls shouldn’t be doing the “masculine activities” that boys do, and therefore decided to set up a different program for girls. (Interestingly, a few thousand girls had registered into the Boy Scouts Association in 1909 and 1910).



Up to this point, Scouting’s methods had been aimed squarely at the adolescent age group. They had been so successful that there had been calls to develop a similar activity for a younger age group. So, in 1916 a new program was developed, called the Wolf Cub Section, for boys aged 8 – 11. The *Wolf Cub’s Handbook* was published, and Rudyard Kipling’s *The Jungle Book* gave inspiration for stories, values, and activities for the section. There were 10,000 members of this section by the end of that year.

Similarly, there was a call to develop a program for young men older than Scouts. *Rules for Rover Scouts* was published in 1918, and *Rovering To Success* in 1922. The Rover Scout section, initially for those over 15, had begun. 1st Chatswood Rovers were invested as the first Rover Scouts in Australia, in 1919.



# History of Australian and World Scouting Thriving Between The Wars



## Thriving Between The Wars

World War I could have seen the end of Scouting. However, it rebounded quickly, and B-P knew that youth of the world had a role to play as international peace agents. He wrote about this in his 1919 book for adult scout educators, *Aids to Scoutmastership*. B-P now began to emphasise Scouting as a worldwide democratic movement of young people, rather than a UK controlled program.

By 1920, *Scouting For Boys* had been published in 26 countries beyond the British Empire. It was the fourth best-selling book of the 20th Century! Now that the Boy Scout Movement had become truly global, B-P organised the first International Scout Jamboree to be held at Olympia, London, in 1920. It was a most successful gathering (8,000 Scouts from 34 countries), and at its end Baden-Powell was declared Chief Scout of the World (only B-P has ever held that title). The first world conference of Scouting countries also agreed to set up the Boy Scouts International Bureau in London that year. One million members worldwide were registered.

Nine years later, B-P took the title of Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, at the 3rd World Jamboree. Gilwell Park is the name of the International Training Centre for Scout Leaders in Epping Forest, near London, which was acquired by the Boy Scout Association using a £7,000 donation by William de Bois Maclaren. Today you will find the headquarters of The Scout Association (UK) there. Look up the history of the UK's Gilwell Park to find out about the link between William Maclaren, the Maclaren tartan, Gilwell Hall, and the Wood Badge Training Scheme. If you're an adult in Scouting, maybe you're a member of the 1st Gilwell Scout Troop and are wearing some Maclaren Tartan right now! Until the late 1960s, this was the worldwide reference point for the approved training curriculum for Scoutmasters.

In Australia, Scouting was initially organised into branches of The Boy Scouts Association of the United Kingdom, based on each Australian state. Thus, each state branch was directly responsible to Imperial Headquarters in London. In 1922, Australia formed an Australian Federal Council, consisting of nominees of its Australian state branches, to coordinate Scouting at a national level, and appoint an Australian Commissioner. The Australian Federal Council became a branch of The Boy Scouts Association of the United Kingdom and the Australian Commissioner was appointed by the Imperial Headquarters in London.

It was between the World Wars that Scouting really flourished as a global movement, even though there was tension amongst and within European countries, disagreements about the secular nature of Scouting around the globe, and The Great Depression. The voluntary and democratic nature of Scouting meant that in some countries, Scouting was outright banned. (This didn't stop some underground Scouting units from forming though!) Nevertheless, total membership hit 2 million in the early 1930's, and 3.5 million just before the outbreak of World War 2. Numerous World Conferences were held, truly bringing countries together and formalising an international Scout body.

Australia ran its very first national Jamboree in Frankston, Victoria, in 1934-35. It is well known that this event was attended by the World Chief Scout himself. A plaque that can be seen at the location known today as "Frankston Jamboree Park" reads:

FRANKSTON JAMBOREE PARK COMMEMORATES THE 1935 AUSTRALIAN JAMBOREE HELD BETWEEN DECEMBER 27, 1934 AND JANUARY 13, 1935. THIS EVENT WAS AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SCOUT JAMBOREE AND THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF SCOUTS HELD OUTSIDE EUROPE. THIS RESERVE AND THE AREA TO THE EAST FORMED THE JAMBOREE'S MAIN CAMPFIRE HOLLOW. ON SUNDAY 30 DECEMBER 1934, AN ESTIMATED 40,000 SCOUTS AND VISITORS ATTENDED A DEVOTIONAL CAMPFIRE HELD AT THIS LOCATION.

That was a long Jamboree!

Eventually, Lord Baden-Powell began to suffer from ill-health, and moved into semi-retirement in Nyeri, Kenya in 1937. Africa meant a lot to B-P. After all, he had spent significant years of his life there, and it is here that you will find his grave alongside his wife. He passed away on January 8th, 1941.

Before he became too ill, the Chief Scout of the World wanted his Scouts to know how much happiness he felt as their leader, and that they too could lead a happy and meaningful life. He wrote a farewell speech, to be published after his death. This message to all Scouts was found among his papers after he died. Read it here: <https://scout.org/node/19215>

Coordination of Scouting at a World level came to a halt at the outbreak of World War II. With the loss of its founder at the height of the War, along with massive social upheaval and the distractions of the rebuilding of nations, all predictions suggested that Scouting would start to lose momentum and begin to wind down. But again, it surprised everyone, and continued to grow.

# History of Australian and World Scouting

## Modern Scouting



### Modern Scouting

In 1946, a new section was created in the UK. It was to be known as Senior Scouts and gave the opportunity for older adolescents to continue their Scouting journey in a program that was separate from younger boys. Other countries followed this idea, including Australia.

Eventually, in 1953, the Australian Federal Council of The Boy Scouts Association became a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) in its own right. And by 1958, Australian Scouting no longer reported to the Imperial Headquarters in England, rather it operated as a federated model. It was now called the Australian Boy Scouts Association (ABSA).

The worldwide headquarters of Scouting, formally known as the Boy Scouts International Bureau (BSIB), and now known as the World Scout Bureau (WSB), was moved from London to Ottawa, Canada in 1959. In 1968 it moved again, to Geneva, Switzerland. It was relocated once more in 2014, to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where it is today.



In the decades after the Second World War, Scouting started to evolve its role in communities. The program was adapted in each country to meet the needs of young people in that country. The focus became much more about issues in society. For developing countries, it was issues such as child health, literacy levels, agriculture, and so on. In more developed countries it was about drug abuse, skills development, conservation, peace, etc. But the growth of Scouting didn't slow, by the mid 1960's worldwide membership had moved beyond 10 million. As communism started to fall away in the 1990s, Scouting started to rise in the countries where it had previously been banned.

In 1967, The Australian Boy Scouts Association was incorporated by Royal Charter. Each of the Australian state branches, which still existed from the days of reporting directly to England, now became branches of The Australian Boy Scouts Association. It remains this way today.

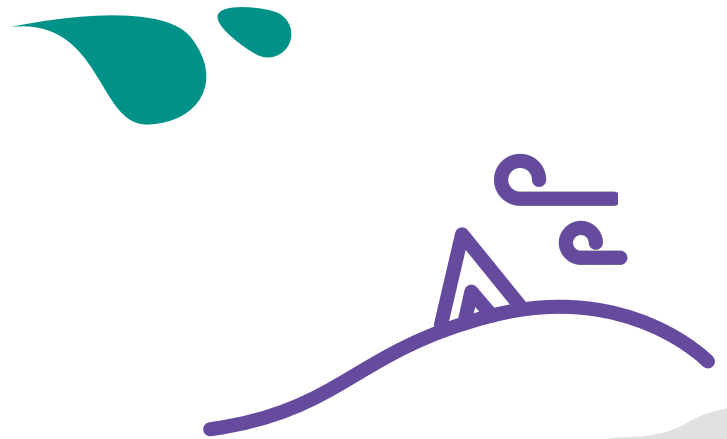
Australia hit its peak membership in the 1960s when around 200,000 people were registered members. Since then, although Scouting has recruited nearly 20,000 new members each year, it has lost a little more than that at the same time, resulting in a steady overall decline until the late 2000's.

A major review of the entire movement in Australia was conducted in the late 1960s which resulted in many recommendations published in a document called *Design For Tomorrow* in 1970. The Association debated and agreed on several recommendations. In 1971, the Australian Boy Scouts Association changed its name to The Scout Association of Australia. It also recommended changing the Senior Scout section into the Venturer Scout section, and a new program developed. National training courses were held to convert Senior Scout Leaders into Venturer Scout Leaders. After a Victorian trial in 1971, Venturer Scouts was launched nationally in 1973, at the 3rd Australian Venture in Queensland. In 1975, girls were admitted into the Venturer Scout and Rover Scout sections.

Although not the first time this had occurred, in 1972 new Scout Promises and Scout Laws were introduced, with Cub Scouts given a shortened version of both.

Olave Baden-Powell passed away on 25th June 1977.

In Australia, the National Rover Council (NRC) was formed in 1979 and has become the body at the national level of the Association that oversees the Rover Scout program, events, training, and other matters relating to the Rover Scout age section. The Chairperson is a member of the National Team of Scouts Australia which helps ensure that there is a youth voice heard in the various national decision-making bodies. The NRC represents the interests of each of the Branch Rover Councils and aims to develop and support the advancement of the Rover Scout program and operations of Rover Scout government and youth involvement in decision making in Australian Scouting.



# History of Australian and World Scouting

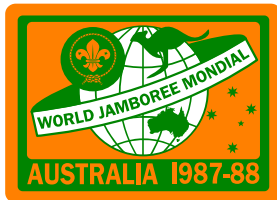
## Modern Scouting



In 1981, World Scouting was awarded the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education, a real symbol of Scouting's impact on young people as messengers of peace, globally.

Equal opportunities for boys and girls became increasingly an issue for Australian society in the 1980s, and Equal Opportunity Commissioners began to be appointed by state and territory governments. After it became apparent that Scout Troops were starting to unofficially register girls, and with the Victorian Branch twice being called before the Commission, the pressure was on for the Association to reconsider its policy as a boys'-only association up until Venturer age. In May 1988, the national decision was taken to admit girls into all age sections of Scouting.

1988 was also significant in that it was the year of Australia's Bicentenary celebrations. Scouting was able to mark both the beginning, and end, of these nationwide celebrations. In



January, Australian Scouting went about "bringing the world together" when it hosted the 16th World Scout Jamboree at Cataract Park, NSW. At the end of the year, Bicentenary celebrations were closed by Prime Minister Bob Hawke at the 15th Australian Scout Jamboree at Woodhouse, South Australia.

In 1989, Australian Scouting adopted a new Scout Promise. Recognising the evolving diversity of faiths with which Australians connected, the word "God" was replaced with "my God". Additionally, the words "of Australia" were added after the phrase "... duty to the Queen". Some other minor word changes were made to help the flow of the Promise. The Scout Law was also simplified that year.

Another significant year in the history of Australian Scouting occurred in 1990. During the '80s there had been much debate around the nation for an "under 8s" section. Other countries had started 'Beaver Colonies' to cater to this age group over the past decade. After various trials in different parts of the country, Joey Scouts were introduced on July 1, 1990, for boys and girls aged 6 and 7.

Australia hosted the 8th World Moot in January 1991, at Gilwell Park in Victoria. This was a significant event because it was the first World Moot to be held since the concept was re-instated. The previous one was held in 1961 (also in Australia), and it took Australia's lobbying at the 1985 World Scout Conference to have World Moots reinstated.

In the 1990s, the population of Scouting around Asian countries rose quickly as most countries incorporated Scouting into their school curriculums.

Indonesia, on its own, accounts for about 30% of the total worldwide Scout membership as every child and adolescent at school is a member!

A new opportunity presented itself in the 1990s when it became obvious that adult training for Scout Leaders could contribute to industry recognised qualifications. The Scouts Australia Institute of Training (SAIT) was established as an Enterprise Registered Training Organisation (No. 5443) in August 1996. Its primary purpose is to enable members of Scouts Australia, who have completed the relevant components of or Adult Training & Development, the ability to seek, through a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process, externally accredited qualifications. This opportunity was further extended to Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts who had completed relevant parts of the youth program. Members can gain vocational education and training (VET) outcomes including Units of Competency, Skill Sets and Qualifications. These VET outcomes are issued in accordance with the Australian Qualifications Framework and SAIT complies with the current Standards for Registered Training Organisations.



# History of Australian and World Scouting New Century, New Looks



## New Century, New Looks

In 1997, The Scout Association of Australia adopted a new logo and publicly became known as Scouts Australia. All material was to use the gumleaf logo and name by the year 2000. Scouts Australia remained a federation of a national association and eight branches. Each branch is led by a Branch Chief Commissioner and is responsible for the operations of a nationally agreed upon youth program, adult training, policies, and rules.



In mid-2004, Australian Scouting looked to modernise its public image, as well as reduce the overall cost of membership, by introducing a new uniform style and colour. Although this was the third new uniform style since the 1980s, it was by far the most significant change to date, principally because of the colour change from the more traditional green, to a dark blue. Members were split about their feelings towards this change, which also prescribed no particular pant or skirt, and no specified hat. Youth members' shirts included a shoulder colour representing their section, also a new feature.

In response to World Scout Conference resolutions during the 1980s and 1990s on the topic of young people's participation in the decision making of National Scout Organisations, Scouts Australia established a National Youth Council (NYC) in 2001. Consisting of a diverse group of 13 – 25-year-olds, the NYC provided opportunities for those representatives to:

- advise on the relevance of the youth program to young people,
- advise Scouts Australia and external agencies of internal and external issues it should address,
- provide further youth input into all strategic development objectives,
- be a sounding board for new initiatives; and
- make recommendations to national committees and councils.

The NYC was represented at the national level by its Chairperson, a youth member elected by the Council. This ensured that, along with the NRC Chairman, there was youth member representation on decision making bodies of Scouts Australia.

Over the course of the next 17 years, the NYC evolved and developed and was eventually retired when a new model of youth involvement in decision making was introduced. Now, all national appointments have a deputy appointment that must be a young person under the age of 30.

June 2001 saw the National Council of Scouts Australia approve a further update to the Scout Promise. In this instance, an alternative version was introduced, permitting those who wished to, to make their promise "to Australia", rather than "to the Queen of Australia".



# History of Australian and World Scouting A Centenary of Scouting



## A Centenary of Scouting

The Movement in Australia celebrated the one-hundredth anniversary of both World and Australian Scouting in 2007 and 2008, with several local, state, and national events. With Federal Government support, Scouts Australia was able to increase its visibility in the community during those years, with television and cinema advertising, a specially minted one dollar coin, a special stamp issue, and a featured front cover of the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2008 Yearbook. The Australian Government also declared 2008 The Year of the Scout. The combined additional exposure over this two-year period resulted in an increase of membership for the first time in many years, as recruitment outstripped losses.



The Wood Badge Training Scheme entered a new era in 2011 when a project to deliver a proportion of the adult training via eLearning began to go live. It started with some test modules for the Rover Scout section, and then further compulsory and elective modules came online for both leaders of youth and leaders of adults. This brought about a new level of flexibility for volunteers to complete a significant component of their training at a time and place that suits their personal needs. The remaining training is still conducted face-to-face, in the outdoors, and in small teams in the spirit of the Scout Method.

In 2013, a review of the Scouts Australia youth program was launched. Its purpose was to revitalise the entire program to ensure that it met the needs of 21st Century Australian youth and their parents, to ensure Australia was committed to the expectations of World Membership, and to arrest significant membership loss resulting from poor retention over the past 40 years. A key factor identified for this poor retention was an inconsistent, and poorly understood, resourced, and delivered program of youth development that was unable to maintain the engagement of youth across the full age range. This was known as the Youth Program Review (YPR) and it challenged existing thinking about program delivery and worked towards offering a modern well-resourced program based on Scouting's trusted fundamentals that had remained relevant for over a hundred years.

After several years of deliberation, consultation, and research, Scouts Australia made significant changes to the Scout Promises and Scout Law in 2017. Along with policies and training that made it clear that membership is open to all, regardless of which religious faith a person follows, or not

having a religious faith at all, the new Australian Scout Promises ensured that members could make a promise that was more relevant to themselves.

The new Australian Scout Law was significantly overhauled as well, which brought about a more contemporary phrasing and language, and ensured it was accessible to all members, from Joey Scouts to adults.

In November 2017, the National Executive Committee of Scouts Australia agreed to lower the starting age of the youth program, permitting 5-year-olds who had started formal schooling, to become Joey Scouts. This followed on from trials conducted by the Victorian Branch over the preceding few years. The overall decision also included adjustments to the age ranges of all five sections, as recommended by the Youth Program Review.

Scouts Australia agreed to participate in the National Redress Scheme launched by the Australian Federal Government on 1 July 2018. The National Redress Scheme was a recommendation from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse held from 2013 to 2017. Scouts Australia committed to ensuring that all survivors of institutional child sexual abuse have access to the National Redress Scheme.

The Australian Scout Jamboree, held in January 2019, featured two major announcements for the future of Australian Scouting. The first was the official launch of One Program, One Journey – our new youth program. This marked the beginning of a period of transition as new program training rolled out around the country. The Youth Program Review was complete, and a new program of youth development, designed to meet the needs of young people in a modern twenty-first century society, was ready to go.

The second major announcement was a new brand for Scouts Australia. Importantly, this new look brought a new level of consistency in the way the organisation presented itself to the community. Two key elements are the logo and the gumtree graphics. Our logo is inspired by the Southern Cross, the contours of the maps that guide us, and the five age sections. The fleur-de-lis, Scouting's global symbol, connects us with Scouts around the world. And the gumtree graphics remind us that we camp and hike, surrounded by gumtrees and their wonderful bark patterns. Characters participating in outdoor adventures are blended into the artwork and shows the world the adventures we have in Scouting.





# History of Australian and World Scouting

## The World Shuts Down



### The World Shuts Down

In 2020 Scouts Australia and its Branches had to move extraordinarily quickly to an online-only style of Scouting when the global coronavirus pandemic forced governments around the world to shut down all activities and socially isolate citizens. Events large and small were cancelled, including the national Venture planned for January 2021. Scouting At Home became the way of Scouting for some months, and in Victoria most of the year. Travel for international Scouting was put on hold for the rest of 2020.

Nevertheless, Scouts Australia continued to transform itself and by mid-2020 had launched an all new online platform for Scouts and adult leaders to plan programs and record personal progression. Scouts | Terrain was built from scratch by a local company with expertise in web applications. Their design brief was to produce a modern system for all ages that supported members to engage with key concepts of Scouts Australia's One Program, One Journey youth program.

In parallel with the roll out of the new program, the Wood Badge schemes and content were reviewed to ensure they met the new learning needs of adult leaders, as well as the evolving expectations from the World Scout Movement. In September 2020, a new online learning system was released, incorporating new and varied modes of imparting information, and developing the attitudes, skills, and knowledge of volunteers, while still complementing face-to-face courses run locally.

### Looking Beyond the Horizon

Globally, the Scout Movement is defined as a voluntary non-political educational movement for young people, open to all without distinction of gender, origin, race, or creed, in accordance with the purpose, principles, and method conceived by the Founder. Today there are over 40 million Scouts in over 200 countries and territories globally. The 2019 census showed that Australia contributes around 70,000 to that total.

And now we look to the future with great excitement. The Vision for World Scouting states that by 2023 Scouting will be the world's leading educational youth movement, enabling 100 million young people to be active citizens creating positive change in their communities and in the world based on shared values. Scouts Australia will contribute to this growth by raising its own membership to 100,000 by 2023.

