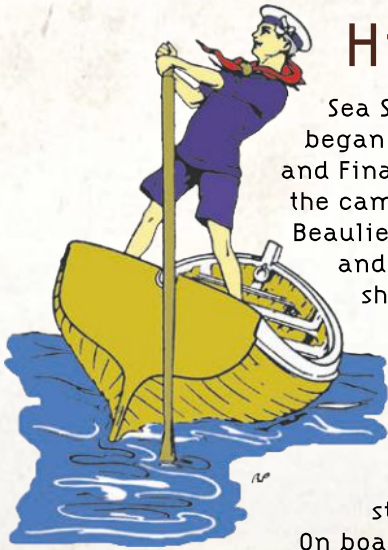


SEA SCOUTING



Sea Scout History



Sea Scouting effectively began at Baden Powell's third and Final camp in 1909. He held the camp at two sites; ashore at Beaulieu in Hampshire, England and afloat on the training ship 'Mercury' on the River Hamble.

While at Beaulieu, Scouts learned camp craft, cooking, hiking, pioneering, nature study, First Aid, etc.

On board the Mercury they learned rowing, sailing, signalling, knots, splices and boatswain's work and wore sailors' hats emblazoned with the term 'Sea Scouts'.

The Beaulieu-Mercury Camp is now recognised as the beginning of Sea Scouting. BP asked his older brother Warrington, to plan a Sea Scout training scheme and to write their handbook.

Scout Marr

After the First World War, Shackleton planned another expedition to the Antarctic. Right from its inception

Shackleton chose his crew from different nationalities to demonstrate unity of purpose and break down barriers. He needed a cabin boy, and he knew where to look.



On July 9th, 1921, Shackleton wrote:

"For many years, I have been an admirer of the Scout Movement, which I may say appeals to me particularly because it seems to give every boy a grounding in the practice of exploration."

Baden-Powell had often told stories to young people of explorer-heroes, including Scott and Shackleton.

BP gave Shackleton a list of six Scouts from whom the explorer could pick one as cabin boy for the expedition. He chose Patrol Leader James Marr.

James was described as a "bluff, big-hearted fellow from Aberdeen". He'd earned the Silver Cross and the Humane Society's Medal for Life-Saving. He was 18 and also wore a Scout National Service Badge on his uniform.



Tom Crean



Sir Ernest Shackleton

While I was away in the Antarctic a marvellous movement was being formed called Scouting. On our return to Britain,

I and other members of the crew met Baden Powell at a talk on our adventures in the Royal Geographical Society in London. I was most impressed by the man and what he had achieved for young people.

The 'Boss' (Shackleton), was keen to have close links with this new venture and fully understood the great benefits of creating young people of character to undertake adventures in the future. Shackleton had a

few meetings with Baden Powell and they decided it would be a good idea to hold a competition for older Scouts to become members of the crew on Shackleton's next adventure to Antarctica on the "Quest".

Shackleton was looking forward to revisiting Antarctica. He wanted me to rejoin him with the others who had voyaged on our "Endurance" adventure, but my life was taking a different direction and I declined the offer.