The Powells had a lot of friends in London and Oxford. Famous scientists, writers, poets, and artists often visited their home. One of B-P’s father’s closest friends was Robert Stephenson who was an important engineer and the son of George Stephenson who had designed the first successful steam locomotive. Robert Stephenson was pleased to become B-P’s godfather and on July 8th, 1857, the baby was christened Robert Stephenson Smyth Powell. Less than a month after B-P’s birth, his father died. Mrs. Powell, then aged 35, was now responsible for a family of nine children aged 21 to 3 months. She was determined to do her best for the children. She bought a house in Hyde Park Gate, London and in Hyde Park, they learned about the trees, flowers and plants which grew there, studied the birds, and animals, and went fishing and sailing on the large lake called the Serpentine.
Scouting in Germany started in 1909 when Dr. Alexander Lion translated the book "Scouting For Boys" into German. After World War I, German Scouting flourished until 1934-35, when nearly all associations were closed and their members had to join the Hitler Youth. In West Germany and West Berlin, Scouting was reestablished after 1945, but it was banned in East Germany until 1990 in favor of the Thälmann Pioneers and the Free German Youth. Today, it is present in all parts of the unified Federal Republic of Germany. Today, about 150 Scouting associations and federations exist in Germany.

The Ring Deutscher Pfadfinderverbände (German Scout Federation), which consists of 3 Associations, was recognized by the World Scout Conference in 1950. All 3 Associations maintain close contact with other Scout Associations in Europe and from their education standpoint, they influence youth policies in Germany. Their social commitment is expressed through assistance to developing countries, environmental conservation and work with handicapped children.

On 1 January 1976, the Bund Deutscher Pfadfinderinnen and the Bund der Pfadfinder founded a merged Association, open to boys and girls of all spiritual convictions: Bund Der Pfadfinderinnen Und Pfadfinder (The Guide & Scout Union). The program emphasis is upon hiking, camping, social services, resocialization of young criminals, and work with socially handicapped children.

The World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) welcomes Scouting Antiano and Scouting Aruba as new members, and congratulates the Palestinian Scout Association for acquiring full voting rights. With this, WOSM now has a total of 163 NSOs as its Member Organizations in more than 220 countries and territories in the world.

The 13th of March is designated as Africa Scout Day. Scouts and Scouters throughout the region have been celebrating this day to take stock of the achievements of Scouting and building partnerships for more social impact in Africa.