Origin of Cub Scouting: By 1913, the younger boy element was seen as a problem. Deputy Chief Scout Percy Everett was asked by B-P to prepare an “experimental scheme for Junior Scouts.” The Wolf Cubs started in 1914 with the age ranging from 9 to 12. B-P: “It will meet the view of a large number of Scoutmasters who have been anxious to take boys under 11; it will open a number of elementary schools to Scouting; it will give a ground-work of Scout knowledge to boys before becoming Scouts… it will bring boys under Scout discipline at an earlier and more receptive age.” But in 1916, B-P stepped in and published “The Wolf Cub’s Handbook” which was based on Rudyard Kipling’s “Jungle Book”. B-P had the help of a brilliant young Akela, 22 year old Vera Barclay who wrote many books for Wolf Cubs until 1931. Within a year of the re-launch in 1916, there were 30,000 Wolf Cubs in the UK.

Collectors’ Corner: Cub Scout items

Cub Scout and Brownie leaders will come together in the summer of 2014 (2-6 August 2014) in Westernhohe for an international camp. Leaders of both genders are invited by the German Scout and Guide associations to discuss the following topics: What activities do you do during your weekly meetings? What issues are important to children and group leaders in other countries and cultures? This camp is a fantastic opportunity to make friends, gain new contacts and develop fresh ideas for your weekly meetings as well as to present your activities with this age section in Germany.
SCOUTING IN AUSTRIA:

Pfadfinder und Pfadfinderinnen Österreichs (PPÖ; Austrian Boy Scouts and Girl Guides) is the largest Scouting and Guiding organization in Austria. The first Austrian Scouting was founded in 1909 under Austria-Hungary. In 1910, the first Scout group - still in existence today - was founded in Wiener Neustadt. In 1912, Emmerich Teuber began the first Scout group in Vienna. The Catholic Church simultaneously founded the Pfadfinderkorps Sankt Georg. The first camps were held in 1913.

As the movement spread, Girl Guides joined in 1913 and troops were founded all over the country. The national organization, the Österreichischer Pfadfinderbund (ÖPB), was founded in April 1914, including the Girl Guide movement. This organization had strong ties to Magyar Cserkészeszövetség and Junák, which was an independent Scout association in Bohemia. After World War I, Scouting developed separate organizations in Slovenia and in other areas of the fractured Habsburg Empire.

Beginning in 1934, there was a non-Scouting youth organization run by the state, which provided competition for Austrian Scouts. With the arrival of the Nazis and World War II, however, Scouting in Austria was banned. In 1938, a number of Scout leaders were arrested and Scouting went underground, becoming associated with the Red Cross for example. At the first celebration of the end of World War II, there were Scouts in uniform on the streets.

The Boy Scouts were readmitted to WOSM in 1946. Following the way, the national organizations combined to form the Pfadfinder Österreichs, which hosted the 7th World Scout Jamboree in Bad Ischl in 1951 with 12,884 participants from 61 countries. In 1949 several Scout leaders left the Pfadfinder Österreichs and founded the Österreichischer Pfadfinderbund again. In 1956 Austrian Scouts helped refugees after the Hungarian Revolution of 1956.

There are nine geographical divisions of the PPÖ, one for each State of Austria. Every Scout wears the badge of his state on his uniform (see left).

Scouting has always been a peaceful and pacifying movement. Scouts around all over the world are actively working with the aim of creating a better world. Peace cannot be secured entirely by commercial interests, military alliances, general disarmament or mutual treaties, unless the spirit for peace is there in the minds and will of the people. And this is a matter of education.

Lord Robert Baden-Powell

The most important thing about Scouting is what is done in the field. On the Scout.org website, you can read about some of the projects Scouts are doing in different parts of the world. Check it out.