



# Baden-Powell: Founder of the Boy Scouts

*Tim Jeal*

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## **Baden-Powell: Founder of the Boy Scouts** Tim Jeal

R.S.S. Baden-Powell, who founded the Boy Scouts movement in 1908, was a British military hero during the Boer War and an author, actor, artist, spy, sportsman, and female impersonator. In this absorbing and humane account of Baden-Powell's extraordinary life, Tim Jeal reveals for the first time the complex figure behind the saintly public mask, showing him to be a man of both dazzling talents and crippling secret fears.

*Reviews of the earlier edition:*

“Baden-Powell's life story is as rich and engrossing as any of his memorable campfire yarns . . . a monumental biography.”—Zara Steiner, *New York Times Book Review*

“In an age of good biographies, here is one that deserves to be called great . . . a magnificent book.”—Piers Brendon, *Mail on Sunday*

“Jeal's Baden-Powell is brave and self-seeking, devious and honorable, a domestic paragon whose repressed homosexuality fired his career, a soldier of genius who ultimately rejected militarism. . . . The story that Tim Jeal has to tell is epic, funny, and touching.”—Philip Oakes, *New Statesman*

“Superb.”—Ian Buruma, *New York Review of Books*

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