



## Telling a Scout's story

**O**N August 1, 1907, Scouting's founder Robert Baden-Powell blew his kudu horn on Brownsea Island to open the world's first Scout camp.

Since then, Scouting has spread around the world and now exists in 216 countries and territories.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Scouting, an event that has prompted a variety of celebrations.

For one Lincoln writer it has provided the opportunity to share his love of the movement and memories of his many years in the "worldwide brotherhood of Scouting".

On My Honour: Scouting, Childhood to Man Personal Reflections (Barny Books, £5.99) is Mike Costello's recollection of life with the 64/74th Leicester and 28th Lincoln.

"The Scout movement has been in existence for the last hundred years and I have been a part of it," he writes.

"I joined in 1955 and, although I am approaching retirement, have never really left it.

"It's a way of life. It isn't a hobby or a casual interest."

But Costello's lifelong involvement started almost accidentally.

"I joined the local Scout group when

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I was 12, the 64th Leicester Sacred Heart Inner City troop," he explains.

"I didn't consciously think that I wanted to be a Scout but some of my friends were and they told me about the good things that they were doing and suggested that I went along with them.

"It was one of the best things that I have ever done in my life."

Encouraged to write his story by Scunthorpe-based author and former Lincoln Prison writer in residence Stephen Wade, Costello takes the reader on a journey from his first annual camp in Oakham, near Rutland, in 1955 as a newly invested Scout to his final camp visit, Poacher 2004 at the Lincolnshire Showground after retiring from being a group leader.

His enthusiastic and fun reminiscences will surely inspire others to make sure they are part of the dawn of a new century for Scouting around the world.

■ Costello will be launching his book on Wednesday, September 12, at the 28th Lincoln Scouts headquarters on Larne Road, Lincoln.

### SCOUT'S STORY:

Mike Costello author of On My Honour.

