



A Tribute to Ron Stone

**Instructor 1970: ASL 1971: S L 1974: AGSL 1984:
Group Vice President 1989, with 5th Pinner:
Pinner & Headstone District Treasurer 1997 and
County Auditor from 1974 to 1984**

It was May 1976 when fate decided to introduce me to Ron Stone. I picked my son up after Scouts, as parents do, to be told tearfully there would be no summer camp this year, and this news actually got me out of my car to find out why. There was Ron in the hall clearing away, a quiet, mild-mannered man, who explained that no other Leader could get time off and he needed another adult, any adult, no training needed, could I help so my son and many others could camp. Before I left he had me signed up for the camp, and had arranged an appointment for me to see the GSL, and I had learnt that his quiet attitude masked a great determination and a great enthusiasm for Scouting. Ron was the perfect Scouter and teacher, he ran on average 4 or 5 camps a year, the vast majority on 'green field' sites. He was a superb organiser and had the ability to persuade, in a gentle convincing manner, most people to go along with his ideas. Ron's cooking was superb, as I recall he was involved in army catering during the war.

His other lifetime commitment was to The Multiple Sclerosis Society where he was Treasurer for many, many years, and involved the Scouts in this by organising every year a Birthday Party and a Christmas Dinner for the local group with the scouts preparing and cooking a 3 course meal for some 80 MS sufferers and helpers. He was also Chairman of the Pinner Men's Methodist Supper Club who met at the Methodist Church where he was also a Church Steward.

When Ron retired from running the Troop he stayed within the Group as Vice President and later I got my revenge for my original recruitment by proposing he should become District Treasurer, a task he carried out for several years. A more considerate, cheerful, unflappable and honest person I have yet to meet, with a dry sense of humour. He was quite an optimist, but then he had to be, he supported West Ham! A true gentleman and a good friend! Typical of him to have said "We have had so much good out of life; I feel we should something back".

He was awarded The Medal of Merit in 2000 and the Long Service Decoration in 1987 and a Bar in 1993

Our condolences go out to his wife Barbara, daughter Susan & sons Timothy & James and the whole family.

Fred Beard. AGSL.5th Pinner

A Tribute to Nigel Boardman

The Chapel at Breakespeare Crematorium was packed with those who wished to pay their last respects to a man who had been such a well-known and popular member of the local community. Nigel died suddenly at the early age, these days, just short of his 64th birthday. Some years ago he had undergone a heart by-pass operation, but had recovered well and was looking forward to driving again.

Nigel was born in Willesden, one of twin boys who were both members of 21st Willesden Scout Group. He learned to sell in a nearby gentleman's outfitter and, after attending Kilburn Grammar School, joined the City firm of Kitkat and Aitkin. He used to remark that his early learning selling experiences stood him in good stead in his later career. In his latter years, he helped new companies with their funding, as he had a profound knowledge of the City and had many contacts there.

When he moved to the Eastcote area he worked with 4th Eastcote Group, where his son Darren, was a Cub Scout and a Scout, Nigel became AGSL at the 4th Eastcote and then, for the past 11 years, he had been Chairman of the Ruislip District Scout Council. He oversaw amalgamation with Northwood Eastcote Scouts District to form Ruislip Eastcote Northwood District. Much credit goes to Nigel for the smooth way in which the new District took shape.

He was also instrumental in getting 'The Shooting Star Appeal' adopted by the scouts to raise money for the first children's hospice and was a member of the group working to raise money for the purchase and development of Chalfont. He worked for the NSPCC, and served as a JP, regularly sitting on the Uxbridge Magistrates' Bench.

The funeral service was conducted by Captain Don Woodhouse who recounted that Nigel never ceased to be interested in the well-being of children. He attended all the Scouting functions he could, including the Centenary Jamboree. His favourite saying was "when a member dies, they have gone home" A fitting tribute to the popularity of such a person who worked to 'help others' all through his life.

Our condolences go to his daughters Gail and Susan, and son Darren.

David Horchover. PRO. R.E.N. Scout District