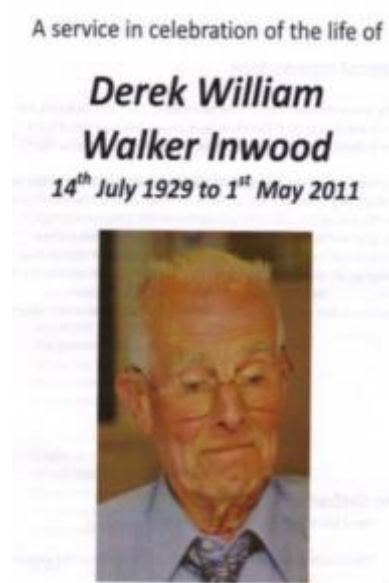


DEREK INWOOD...

DEREK INWOOD, AN EX GSL & ADC CUB SCOUTS IN HARROW & WEALDSTONE DISTRICT, PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY ON 1ST MAY 2011. HIS FUNERAL TOOK PLACE AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, WEALDSTONE ON 9TH MAY.



The District was saddened to hear of the death, on 1st May, of Derek Inwood after a short illness. He was 81. He had been involved with Scouting in the District for over 30 years. Derek was born on the 14th July 1929 in Chadwell Heath in East London, but the family moved to Harrow in 1933 when he was four. He spent all his working life with Kodak, and married his wife Babs in 1955. They had four children. He had been associated with Holy Trinity Wealdstone for all his time in Harrow and had been Church Warden and Building Manager for many years. Several examples of his carpentry skills are visible in the Church

Derek was also vice Chairman of the Harrow Police and Community Consultative Group, and recently received an award from the Borough Commander for his services in this field. Derek was a kind and generous man, always willing to help others and he will be sadly missed by all those who had the pleasure of knowing him.

At the Funeral Service at Holy Trinity on 9th May, it was literally 'standing room only' Many tributes were paid to

Derek, but the one which covered his time in Scouting was given by Ted Peck, former District Commissioner. This is what Ted had to say: "Derek and I became close friends during the heady days of 1963 when Anglican – Methodist church unity seemed a real possibility. Derek had become Cub leader of the 10th Harrow, at Holy Trinity at about the same time as I became the Group Scout leader at the Methodist Church Group. Difficulties in finding leaders led to the two Groups working closely together. As we shared activities and resources we grew together, this led ultimately to one united Scout Group Sponsored by and meeting at both Churches;, a very rare, maybe even unique, alliance. By 1980 the Group had grown to 130 members; the possibility of a united church had, by contrast, faded into obscurity.

Derek became the Assistant District Commissioner for Cub Scouts for Harrow and Wealdstone District in 1984, a post he was to hold for 10 years and once more he and I were working closely together. He was awarded the Silver Acorn in 1994; a well-deserved recognition of his especially distinguished services to the movement and a tribute to the support of his wife Babs.

Reaching the magic age of 65, being retired from Scouting as a Leader, and his day job as a carpenter at Kodak he might have been tempted to hang up his woggle. But a new life began as he applied himself with his usual zeal, into helping with the maintenance at several campsites using his extensive skills. Building display cases at Chalfont Heights and major refurbishment of the sleeping accommodation and the shop at Lees Wood campsite are but two examples. But I still marvel as he, more or less single-handed, hacked his way through a mile of rough potholed woodland rebuilding the boundary fence at that site: an immense feat of enjoyed determination. Many friends from all walks of life including police Chief Superintendent Dal Babu our Borough

Commander of the metropolitan police and a number of officers joined the family at the service.

That sums Derek up. He never shirked a difficult task. He enjoyed what he did and he did everything with dedication. He was a good Scout; we will miss him and his example of service."