

## Eric David Dicker



**14 April 1940 – 24 January 2021**

Eric lived in Brentford for most of his life. He was born in a British Army hospital located in Burma (now Myanmar) and came to England with his parents when he was four years old. He then lived in Sunderland with his mother, aunt, cousin, and grandmother for four years. He then moved to Brentford with his mother to join his father in 1944.

Eric attended Chiswick Grammar School to which he travelled either by bicycle or by railway and where he enjoyed Maths, English and Geography.

When he left school, he took a student apprenticeship with a firm called The Pyrene Company on the Great West Road in Brentford who manufactured firefighting equipment and protective bumpers for cars. The company was taken over by Chubb Locks and became Chubb Fire. He was with Chubb for 35 years.

Unfortunately, he was made redundant and took to an entirely different path and got a job as a driver with the local Toyota and Suzuki car dealership. He stayed with them for about 20 years delivering and collecting new and used cars to and from all parts of the UK and the Irish Republic.

In 2014 whilst returning from collecting a car in Manchester Eric suffered a major health issue and ended up having a 6 week stay in a Birmingham Hospital followed by another 6 weeks in the West Middlesex Hospital. Eric was then diagnosed as suffering with COPD.

Eric, by his own admission, was a bit of a “tech freak” but this did allow him to be reasonably self-reliant during the current epidemic and also to keep in touch with the many organisations to which he belonged. He was also a bird lover and used to keep many bird feeders going in his garden.

Eric’s Scouting started when he joined 6th Brentford Air Scout Group. He became an Assistant Scout Leader on 12 May 1960 and Scout Leader on 11 July 1962. He continued in this role until 2016 a period of some 54 years. Some record !!

Eric did not just serve his Group but also took on the role of District Scout Leader in the District for some 22 years. He was also involved with Scout Section Proficiency Badge Courses at County level, and Air Scout Courses mostly held at Chalfont Heights Scout Campsite. He was also a member of Friends of Chalfont supporting the campsite for many years.

Eric's Scouting Service was recognised with several Awards over the years. He had 5 Long Service Awards for 15, 25, 40, 50 and 60 years Service. He was awarded the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service in 1977, the Silver Acorn in 1991 and the Bar to the Silver Acorn in 2002.

Eric will be sorely missed by his many Scouting friends, his neighbours in Brentford and of course his many friends elsewhere.

May he Rest in Peace.

David Towler