



This is what mattered

During Ian's long service with Harpenden and Wheathampstead Scout District, thousands of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers have grown up unaware of the endless 'back-office' work that occurs to make Scouting happen for them. Ian was first to point to others' efforts and achievements in this and never sought credit for himself.



I have gone home



Harpenden and Wheathampstead Scout District



30th November 1934 - 22nd February 2019

Ian Fulton Chairman District Executive Committee

Ian was continuously re-elected District Executive Chairman between 1977 until he stood down due to ill health in 2014 having served nine District Commissioners. Under his guidance, the District grew to be among the foremost in the UK both in number and quality. A lawyer by profession but also in earlier times a soldier, and later Mayor and psychiatric nurse, he placed his extensive experience generously at the service of Scouting.

Ian's overarching skill was in motivating and inspiring the District Executive to achievement and high standards. The stability, collective skill and effectiveness of the Executive was Ian's contribution and legacy. Scouting in Harpenden, Wheathampstead and Kimpton owes its strength not only to the past forty years of uniformed leaders but in large measure to Ian, the enduring Chairman, who secured the environment and resource for hundreds of leaders to deliver Scouting to young people. Ian was awarded the Medal of Merit in 2003.

"What we seek is independence and moral fibre - Character: the parents' universal desire for their children"



Ilan at 2009 District AGM held at Crabtree Fields.

A master of the introductory speech, Ian always gave Scouting a touch of dignity and greatness.



Patrol Leader of the 12th Harpenden reads the citation on Ian's 30 Year Service Award, 2012.

Ilan's contribution to the wider community

- 1970 - 2010 President of the St Albans and District Model Engineering Society
- 1970 - 1974 President of the Harpenden Rovers Youth Football
- 1970 - 2010 Vice President of St John Ambulance
- 1974 Mayor of St Albans and Chairman of the Council for Harpenden
- 1974 - (unknown) St Albans Old People's Welfare
- 1975 - 2000 Trustee of St Albans International Organ Festival for youth
- 1976 - (unknown) Founder member of Friends of St Nicholas Church, Harpenden
- 1977- 2014 Chairman, Harpenden and Wheathampstead District Scout Association
- 1985 - (unknown) President of Festival of Performing Arts
- 1992 - 2012 President of the Harpenden Society
- 2004 - (unknown) Chairman, League of Friends, Harpenden Memorial Hospital
- (30 years) Vice President of Save the Children Fund
- (Dates unknown) Governor of the National Children's Home



For many years HESU Explorers erected a marquee in Ian's front garden to serve tea and cakes to leaders and visitors associated with the District St George's Parade.

It was a cherished moment for old friends to reunite and for uniformed and non-uniformed Scouters to network.

The hospitality was Ian's gift.

Always ready to boost the PR of local Scouting, Ian invited community leaders to witness the impressive number of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers who parade at the annual St George's Day celebration. He was keen to play his part in the promotion of such major events.



Ilan at the Herts County Scout AGM 2012 just before he relinquished office. In his various capacities, he had managed or contributed to hundreds of AGMs: here, as guest, he could do what he loved most- bump into friends who shared a piece of his long time in Scouting.