

Service to Scouts began in the days of Zeppelin raids

TO THE people of St Pancras, London, the sound of a Wolf Cub's bugle during the First World War signified the end of danger.

When it was blown by young Fred Hill, it meant the all clear after Zeppelin air raids.

Fred, then 11, was driven around the streets in a sidecar putting his bugle training to good use.

Today, 88, he still remembers that early start to a Scouting career which took him to a top post as president

of the Canterbury, Whitstable and Herne Bay Scouts.

Fred, of Bramley Avenue, Canterbury, has now retired as president but can look back on an involvement with Scouting which has included everything from attendance at the first World Jamboree, at Olympia in 1920, to his work in setting up the International Skills Olympics, for which he was awarded the MBE in 1958.

He came to Canterbury in 1947 and built up a business making hand looms and spin-

ning wheels, which employed 29 craftsmen, working from a former monastery in Gordon Road.

In 1952, he became chairman of the 2nd Canterbury, later known as Northgate, and was appointed chairman of Canterbury district in 1972.

In 1982 he became district president.

At a party to mark his service to Scouting, at the Canterbury district Scout headquarters, Sturry Road, district commissioner George Aldridge said the district

Scouts owed Fred a great deal.

Without his inspiring leadership of the 2nd Canterbury in the 1950s, the headquarters building would not have come into being. He had led the building work and fund raising personally.

The site was donated by Bretts in 1952 and the foundation stone was laid five years later. It opened in 1960.

In reply, Fred told of his Zeppelin warning days and thanked everyone for their good wishes.



Fred Hill, already honoured in his early days of Scouting