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DISTRICT
SCOUTS

25 GANG SHOW



Programme 5p

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INTRODUCTION TO THE 25th SHOW

When the Gang Show Committee met in February last year to discuss this year's Show for once the theme was obvious - twenty five years and still going strong! But how to mark it? Eventually it was decided to build this year's show around some successful numbers and favourites of the past.

And so the Producer wrapped a towel around her head and retired to the shores of Loch Lomond to work out a programme. But it was a very difficult job - everybody remembered something different, some numbers were impractical and the words or music could not be found for others! With research came the realisation that this year's Gang Show is in itself a tribute to all those Shows that have gone before, and the numbers depend not on the words or music, but on the "gang" putting it across.

Because of this it was agreed that the Show should be based on the same old formula - something old, something new, something borrowed.....

One item has been specially culled from the past and our Saturday night audience will probably recognise a couple of old faces. Eric Thair will be with us as he has been for twenty-five years, at all times as a friend and mentor, and latterly in a front of house role, and there will be an opportunity to welcome back Jack Skinner who produced a Show for us before he moved to Birmingham in 1969.

But this has to be Roland's year. Nobody can have given greater service to any Gang Show than our imperturbable accompanist who has weathered twice-a-week rehearsals, last minute crises, and dress rehearsals calculated to quench all but the toughest spirit, with an equanimity that has been a source of strength to all three producers. In her 25th year too is Gwen Angood, who has watched her Cubs rise from the ranks to the dizzy heights of 'tappers'. This is her last year with us and our love, best wishes, and grateful thanks go with her to her new home.

New friends too are with us. Geoff Kelly joined us in September as our Musical Director and has borne the brunt of rehearsals with a stoical calm. However, it is suspected he is still secretly wondering what hit him, since the first word of Scout greeting to assail his ears on the Sunday he first met us was a brotherly "What's your criminal record, mate?" Welcome, Geoff.

The list of people to whom we owe a debt of gratitude is an endless one, for what you see on the stage is only 120 portions of the inevitable iceberg, and we are all very conscious of the great fund of love and goodwill that we in the cast are able to call upon at Gang Show time. We have a very loyal band of followers - some newcomers, some old hands - without whose help in the costume, scenery, lighting and front of house departments, the 1974 Gang Show would never have got off the ground. It is essentially a family affair with brothers and sisters on stage and parents in the wings.

It gives us great joy too to know that, as we go on stage, certain seats will always be occupied by certain people - friends of ours who have come to accept the Gang Show as an integral part of Harpenden life.

It is inevitable with the passing of years that fashions should change, and present day audiences geared to television musicals and spectaculars find the homespun humour of earlier years out of tune. It was inevitable too that girls should join the Show and that the advent of longer hairstyles meant an end to most of Ralph Reader's successful military numbers.

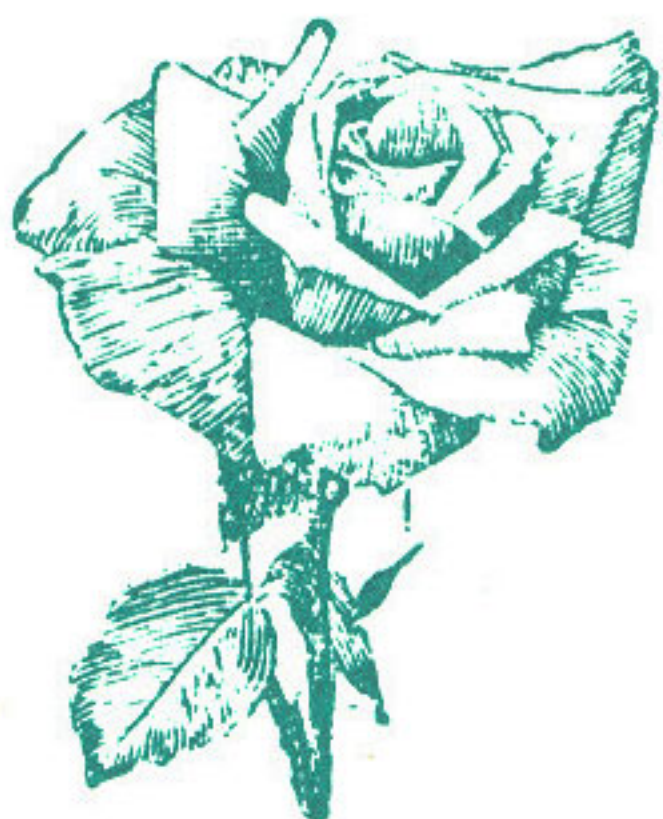
But the spirit is still the same as it ever was and the Venture Scouts, Scouts Cubs and Ranger Guides of Harpenden District are happy to present to you a show which is the climax of four months of rehearsals under varying conditions and a producer who is inclined to bark, shout, gyrate and make highly impractical threats to a largely unresponsive cast, most of whom have two left feet and who can produce the longest list of reasons for non-attendance at rehearsals to be found anywhere. The formula as before!!

So here we are again, months of scenery painting and heartache (and a lot of laughs) behind us, ready to pay our tribute to Eric Thair and his original Gang Show cast. All too soon our favourites will themselves be the stalwarts of yesterday and, because such is the nature of Gang Shows, new personalities will take their places. Take a good look at our front row chorus, for they are the tappers of tomorrow.

And so the message is the same as it ever was - a lot of faith has gone into this Show of ours which we all dearly love, we've had lots of fun as a District preparing it for you, and we hope that something of this comes over to you tonight.

And for ourselves - in the words of the Finale song-

"These are the times we shall dream about and we'll call them the Good Old Days".



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PROGRAMME

1. Opening
2. Twenty Five Years On
3. Oliver
4. Desert Rose Marie
5. The Evangelist
6. On a Cold and Frosty Morning.
7. I enjoy being a Girl.
8. Villikins and His Dinah.
9. Up Girls and At 'em.
10. Stepping Out.

INTERVAL

COFFEE ON SALE

11. Southland.
12. Dance of The Raindrops.
13. Peter Pan.
14. Guitars.
15. Vienna Nights.
16. Locked In.
17. The Gate Crasher.
18. These Dangerous Years.
19. The Shooting of Dan McGrew.
20. Finale.

THE QUEEN

Produced by **MARILYN HUDSON**

Assisted by **BRIAN MELVILLE**

Musical Director **GEOFFREY KELLY**

PIANISTS

Roland Swallow
Renee Scott

DRUMMER

Graham Cowles

DOUBLE BASS

Lynne Murphy/
Daphne Rice

GANG SHOW 1974 – Cast List

Robert Almond
Gwen Angood
Marcus Appleton
James Arnott
Jonathon Bailey
Kate Bailey
Lesley Ballan
Nicola Batten
Andrew Bennett
Christine Benson
Nigel Benson
Carole Blow
Keith Bracey
Keith Brooker
Graham Burchell
Janette Burrows
Nicholas Campfield
Alistair Cleland
David Crew
John Crouchley
Sue Crouchley
Janice Crowe
Ian Curl
Iain Davidson
Katherine Davis
Tricky Day
Kevin Dukes
Angela Dymoke
Jane Dymoke
Andrew Elledge
Peter Elledge
Neil Elliott
Elizabeth Gostling
Adrian Harmer
Andrew Hayes
Peter Hill

Michael Hingston
Richard Hingston
Martin Hodge
Guy Hopper
Alison Hudson
Kate Hudson
Cheryl Huyton
Susan Jarvis
Charles Jeffery
Peter Jeffery
Martyn Lane
Michael Lockie
Jonathan Lucas
Celia Lynch
Ian Lynch
Andrew Mann
Adrian Marshall
Christopher Marshall
Claire McKechnie
Guy Meade
Karl Meade
Zoe Meade
Linda Mellody
Guy Minton
Trevor Miller
Hilary Mitchell
Gillian Mottram
Suzanne Murison
Ewan Murray
Lesley Nash
Louise Newbury-Ecob
Ruth Newbury-Ecob
Simon Noble
Janice Oldring
Kate Osmond
Paddy O'Sullivan

Guy Partridge
Jackie Partridge
Clare Penrose
Deborah Ponton
Ian Prince
Simon Prince
Trevor Rabson
Christopher Rayment
Stephen Robinson
Peter Rogers
Kate Roseveare
Michael Ross
Peter Russell
Tony Russell
Deborah Satchell
Jonathan Satchell
Marc Scheimann
Rainer Schopp
Alex Spring
Ian Sterrett
Keith Sterrett
Brian Stewart
Graeme Stubbs
Christopher Sykes
Eric Thair
Susan Tompson
John Warner
Anne Whittaker
John Wilkes
Joy Willox
Pat Wilson
Anne Wright
Christine Wright
Kit Yardley

CUB SCOUTS

Ian Ballard
Geoffrey Belben
Jonathan Budds
Jonathan Bylo
Stuart Campfield
Nicholas Clarke
Andrew Cox
Richard Crafter
Andrew Farrow
Timothy Fraser-Hook

John Gulliver
Paul Halloway
Christopher Hamilton
David Henderson
Nigel Hooper
Jolyon Marshall
John Mould
Andrew Ponton
Paul Pritchard
William Randall

David Ross
Colin Smurden
William Taylor
William Taylor
Andrew Thompson
David Vale
Michael Warner
Peter Warner
Richard Washbrooke
Philip Wilson

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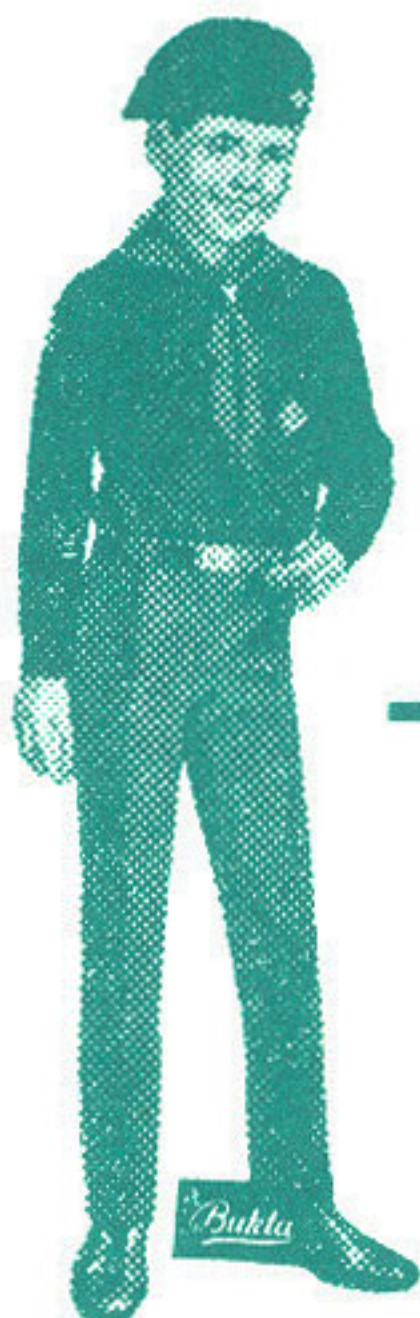
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Stage Hands and

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O. Randall, M. Spalding

G. Swallow and members of

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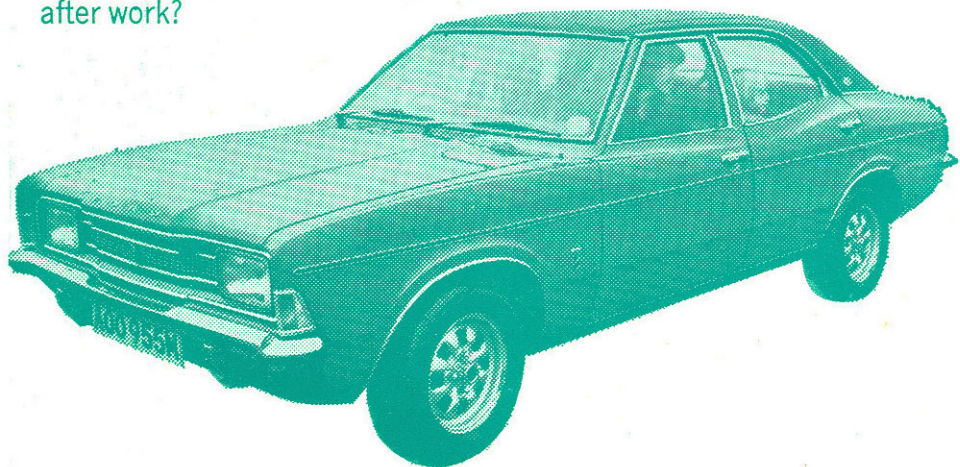
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