

Harpenden & Wheathampstead
District Scouts

48th GANG SHOW



1997

50p

FROM THE GANG

We have had so much fun in putting this show together for you tonight. We hope that this fun, coupled with the amazing enthusiasm of the Cubs, Scouts and Venture Scouts, will come shining through. We hear so many negative things in the media about young people today - take a look at what's on stage tonight, and make up your own mind.

In the 12 months of Gang Show.....

In the 12 months of Gang Show this District give to us ...

12 ladies sewing (and more);
11 Scouts annoying;
10 laughs a minute;
9 magic moments;
8 "girls" a-dancing;
7 tantrums from the producer and choreographer;
6 last-minute panics;
5 thousand other little things that you don't
remember until the dress rehearsal;
4 members of the production team about to stage
a mass walk-out;
3 days to go - Aaaargh!!;
2 suspected broken limbs.....
and a cast that give their all.

BEHIND THE SCENES

As well as the 100 plus performers that you will see on the stage there as many who toil away unseen - enjoying both the companionship and the "buzz" of the performances. You will see in the programme some extra information on just a few of the people who put so much of their spare time and energy into the Show. Many thanks to them and all the others too.

Did You Know ?



That Baden Powell himself was no mean performer when it came to singing comic songs and skirt dancing - which he learnt in Malta and used so skilfully against the Matabele ?



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Did You Know ?



That in a 1972 dress rehearsal a special effects maroon went off in an unexpected manner and blew a gaping hole in the stage exposing the surprised members of the cast changing in the room below ?

BEHIND THE SCENES

Angela Archer - Choreographer

Angela Archer has been the principal choreographer since 1989. She first became involved in 1980 as assistant choreographer when her Venture Scout daughter Jacqueline was on the stage.

Her interest in dancing began a long time ago and she even admits to Scottish Dancing in the old Harpenden Highland Games as a teenager. She spends most of her spare time (and would like to spend even more) at her great passion - Dancing. Angela gets a great kick out of teaching Scouts and Venture Scouts - whom in most cases have never danced a step - quite complex dance routines.



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The Origins of the Gang Show

On October 30th 1932 the curtain of the old Scala Theatre off Tottenham Court Road rose to show the stage filled with boys and young men in Scout Uniform, all shorts and scarves and shoulder knots. Who then could imagine that in the 65 years to follow there would be so much excitement and laughter and songs enjoyed by so many?

It had all begun when a "Holborn Rover" agreed to write and produce a revue to raise funds for London Scouts. It was so popular that it played to packed houses each year always with a cast of young boys and men. It was hard to believe they were not full time professionals but schoolboys who had their homework to do and young men beginning apprenticeships as artisans or clerks. In 1936 it ran for a fortnight and every single seat was sold out before the opening night! It was now that the "Holborn Rover" was acknowledged to be Ralph Reader, a young theatrical producer and choreographer as celebrated on New York's Broadway as in London's West End. And by then countless people had heard and sung that loveliest of nostalgic songs

"When all our youth is but memory,
And the years bring the parting of the ways,
Then remember, fellows,
These are the times we shall dream about
And we'll call them the good old days."

The London Gang Show went on from strength to strength including a Royal Variety Performance in 1937, until the final curtain came down on the London Gang Show on November 2nd 1974. Scouts everywhere mourned the death of Ralph Reader in 1982. His name will always be synonymous with the fun and friendship of Scouting.

Meanwhile Harpenden Scouts decided to stage their own Show in 1949. Male Scouts only until 1969 when girls joined the cast for the first time. The Harpenden Gang show proudly plays every year in early January with Cubs, Scouts and Venture Scouts - both boys and girls - enjoying the songs, laughter and excitement as so many thousands of young people have done before them in the almost 65 years since that first curtain went up in October 1932.



wish the
Gang Show
a successful week

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AFTER THE GANG SHOW...

THE



SHOW !

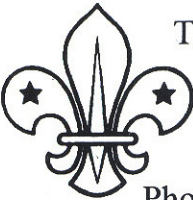


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HELP !



The Gang Show archives are still short of programmes for 1953, 54, 55, 56, 57 and 58. If you have any of these could we please borrow them to make copies ?

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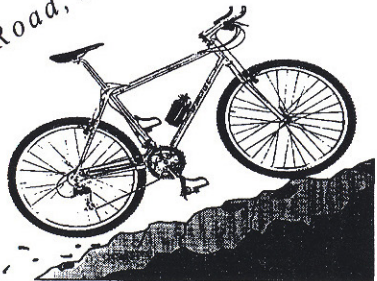
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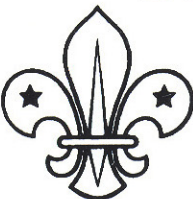
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Did You Know ?



That you can order a video of this show using the form available from the front of house staff ?

BEHIND THE SCENES

Ewan Murray - Producer and Musical Director

Ewan Murray, 35, has been the Producer and Musical Director of the Harpenden Gang Show since 1994 having been Musical Director from 1988 when Marilyn Hudson was Producer. He has had a long association with Harpenden Scouting and the Gang Show itself. He first performed on the Gang Show stage in 1972 as a Cub has been a dancing girl twice and in the "Front Row" four times. Ewan is a man of many parts - as well as being married to Claire with two daughters and another baby on the way and pursuing a career as an export manager, he plays several musical instruments - without any visible music sheets; speaks a number of foreign languages; is not worth playing against in Trivial Pursuit unless you like losing; composes music; and we could go on but that is surely enough.



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***48th Harpenden & Wheathampstead
District Gang Show***

SIDE A

0 The Queen

1 We Can Do That!

2 News Headlines

3 Rumble In The Jungle

4 Slow Boat To China

5 Music Box Dancers

6 Circle of Life

Producer & Musical Director – Ewan Murray

Choreographer – Angela Archer

THE GANG



1997

***48th Harpenden & Wheathampstead
District Gang Show***

SIDE B

7 Deadly Sins

8 Cinderella

9 Dance Hall Days

10 On Y Va

11 Jumpin' Jive

12 Master Spy

13 It's Not How You Start

*The Gang kindly requests that you do not take photographs
or use video cameras. **Thank You.***

STAGE STAFF

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Production Assistants | Jemma Woods and Richard Turberville |
| Music Arranger | Chris Pettitt |
| Scenery Designer & Stage Manager | David Keen |
| Stage Hands and Scenery Crew | Colin Jeffs, Fleur Diggines, Rachel Keen, Russell Husbands, Trevor Brotherton, Sue Mann, Helen Mann, Geoff Yapp, Kit Yardley, Phil Robinson, Mark and Jennifer Hubbard |
| Wardrobe | Dorothy Cawrey and Joan Hall assisted by Liz Barringer, Andy Barringer, Sue Brooker, Olivia Borthwick, Jeanette Bowers, Fran Coulter, Margaret Clifton, Beryl Jeffs, Jane Walter, Margaret Melville, Valerie Pollington, Ros Mulholland, Jill Picken, Pam Woodford-Smith and others |
| The Band | Reeds - Lucy Campbell, Sue Pollitt; Trumpet - Steve Mills, Jamie Stoneman; Trombone - Richard Turberville; Piano - Graham Thomson; Bass - Gareth Covey-Crump; Drums - Neil Duncan |
| Lighting Designer | Peter Elmer |
| Lighting by | The Harpenden Lighting Pool |
| Sound | Robert and Susie Hemmin |
| Make Up | Jeremy Finch assisted by Harpenden Venture Scouts |
| Properties | Jonathan Finch and Brian Woods |
| Call Boys | Andrew and Yvonne Barford |
| Committee Chairman | Marilyn Hudson |
| Secretary | Jan Yardley |
| Treasurer | Geoff Yapp |
| Box Office | Phil and Lois Robinson |
| Front of House | Kit Yardley |
| Stewards | Chris Turberville assisted by Venture Scouts |
| Refreshments | Katy Turberville and Carol Finch |
| Confectionery | Jan Yardley |
| Programme | Bob Finch and Andrew Barford |
| Publicity | Steve Gledhill |

CAST LIST

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| David Alderton | Andrew Durbridge | Stacey Long |
| Natasha Allen | Ian Durbridge | Helen Mann |
| Lisa Angus | Rebecca Edwards | Chris Marchant-Jones |
| Lucy Annetts | Philip Edgington | Michael Marchant-Jones |
| Chloe Arrowsmith | Tom Ford | Gillian Maxwell |
| Daniel Bangs | Andrew Fosker | Andrew Mellor |
| Andrew Barringer | Duncan Gallagher | David Minto |
| James Barringer | Helen Gardner | Connor Mulholland |
| Simon Black | Andrew Gilbert | Kieran Nunn |
| Daniel Borthwick | Charlotte Godden | Laura Oggelsby |
| Katherine Borthwick | Amy Goodridge | Laura Ratcliffe |
| Richard Boulton | Ruth Graham | Adam Robinson |
| Sarah Boulton | Tim Haddon | Hannah Roberts |
| James Bowers | David Herbert | David Scott |
| Simon Bowers | Alex Higgins | Nicola Scott |
| Gemma Brenson | Richard Hobbs | James Shipley |
| Helen Brewell | David Holt | Joseph Smale |
| Ben Brind | Richard Howell | Tim Smale |
| Janna Brooker | Vicki Hunter | Daniel Stagg |
| Kim Brooker | Simon Jack | Richard Stagg |
| Sam Brooker | James Jones | Julia Stent |
| Damian Brown | Luke Jones | Charlotte Sykes |
| Alastair Bryan | Owain Jones | Jonathan Sykes |
| Louise Cameron | Sian Jones | Hannah Tibbetts |
| Paul Carsons | Lewis Keen | Laura Towler |
| Ben Catterall | Alisdair Keith | Lucy Waldeck |
| Simon Catterall | James Keith | Thomas Walker |
| Simon Chandler | Chris Kelly | Kirsty Webb |
| Jenny Cockburn | Richard Kelly | Russell Wesley |
| Sarah Coleman | Joanna Kennedy | Lindsey Wood |
| Jennie Coles | Tom Kerridge | Philip Woodford-Smith |
| Lucy Davie | James King | Rebecca Woodford-Smith |
| Robin Davies | Tessa Lane | Amy Yardley |
| Michael Desborough | Tim Lane | |
| Pete Devonshire | Jessica Long | |

Acknowledgements

the late Ralph Reader C.B.E.; John Pigott;
St. John Ambulance; Ogglesby of
Harpenden; Southdown Entertainers

CUBS CAST LIST

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Colin Arnsby | Ross Graham | Christopher Mantell |
| James Bogart | Giles Harlow | Richard Meade |
| Matthew Borgatti | Paul Hearmon | Christopher Miller |
| Matthew Brown | Nicholas Hewitson | Daniel Norris |
| Matthew Burns | Richard Hubbard | Keith Paddison |
| Adam Childs | Clare Jackson | Robin Prince |
| Andrew Clark | David Lawrence | Jonathan Richardson |
| Tommy Clark | Jonathan Levy | Laurence Thackwray |
| Matthew Cocks | Alex Lewin | Daniel Thompson |
| Jonathan Courtman | Thomas Lincoln | James Thompson |
| Tom Cutler | Daniel Ling | Hannah Wilcox |
| Andrew Denholm | Stephen Logan | Luke Wilcox |
| Lee Fox | David McNicoll | Laurence Wiper |
| William Gaskell | Robert McNicoll | |

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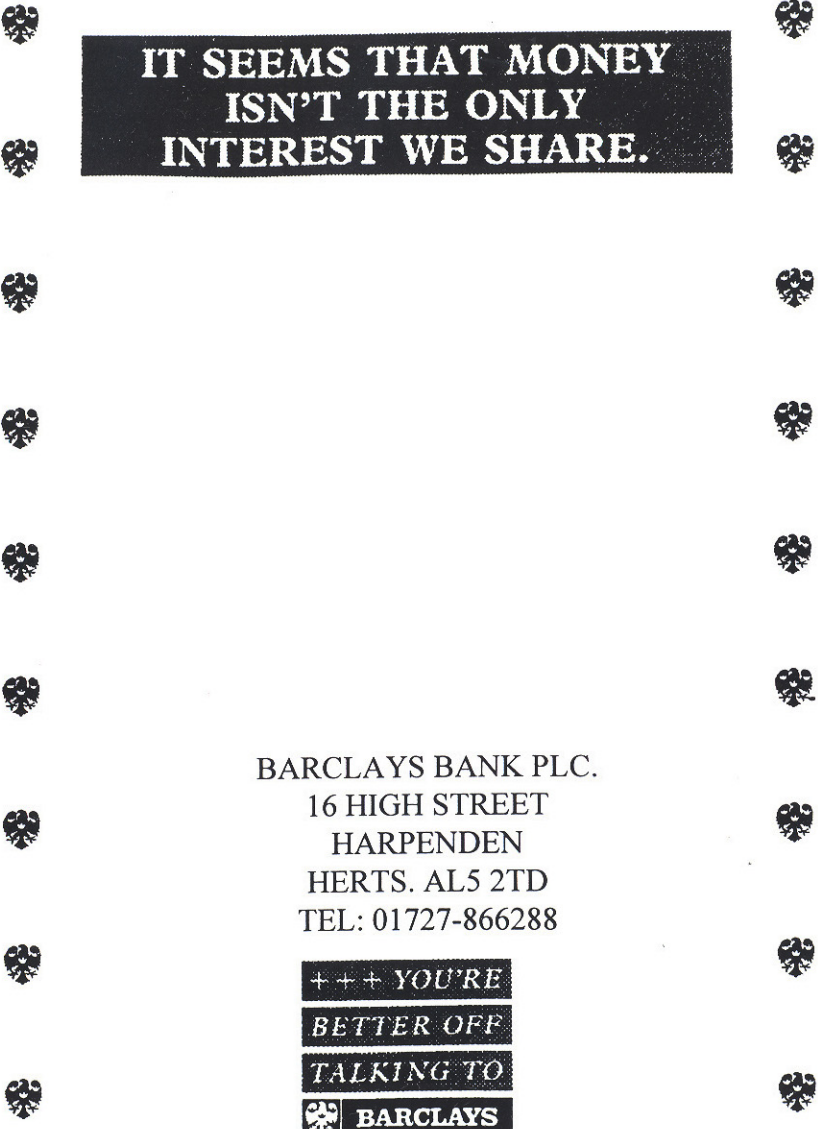
* CHILDREN ESPECIALLY WELCOME *
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BEHIND THE SCENES

Jemma Woods - Production Assistant

Jemma Woods, 26, has been a Production Assistant for three years after appearing in a number of Gang Shows herself. Jemma sang solos in numbers such as Send in the Clowns, Seventeen, and the very amusing duet "Pretty Miss Brown". She has appeared at the Oxford Playhouse in "High Society", has toured America, Mexico and Canada with the British Youth Choir, and has competed in the Montreux Music Festival. She is currently Joint Leader of the Harpenden Venture Scout Unit, has a degree in nursing and works as a nurse in a cancer unit at Mount Vernon Hospital.





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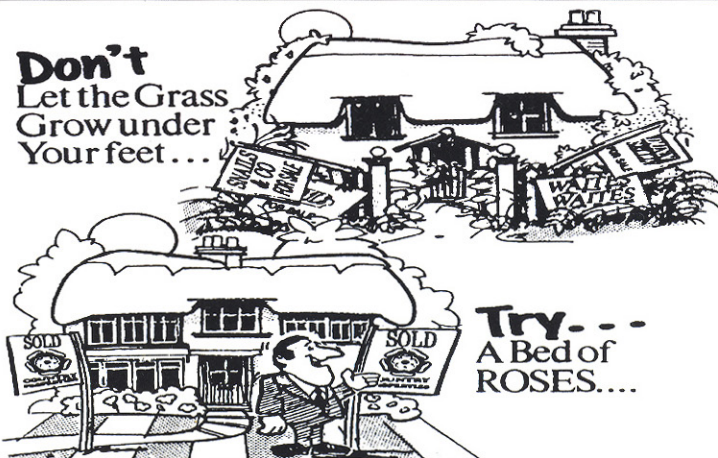
BEHIND THE SCENES

Richard Turberville - Production Assistant

Richard Turberville, 34, has been a Production Assistant for eight years having previously appeared in the Gang Show as a Venture Scout. He also plays the trombone in the Gang Show band. Richard is an Assistant Leader in the Harpenden Venture Scout Unit and takes an active part in their numerous walking and climbing expeditions in the UK and Europe. He plays the trombone in a number of bands including "Chicago Loop" - a Boogie Blues Big Band, and "Chapter Eight", a function band that plays all over the South of England and is a familiar sight and sound at Harpenden events.



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That the 50th Harpenden Gang Show will be played in January 1999 and that Ewan would like to hear of your favourite Gang Show numbers from the past to help the team plan this very special occasion.

Contact Ewan on 01462-451281.

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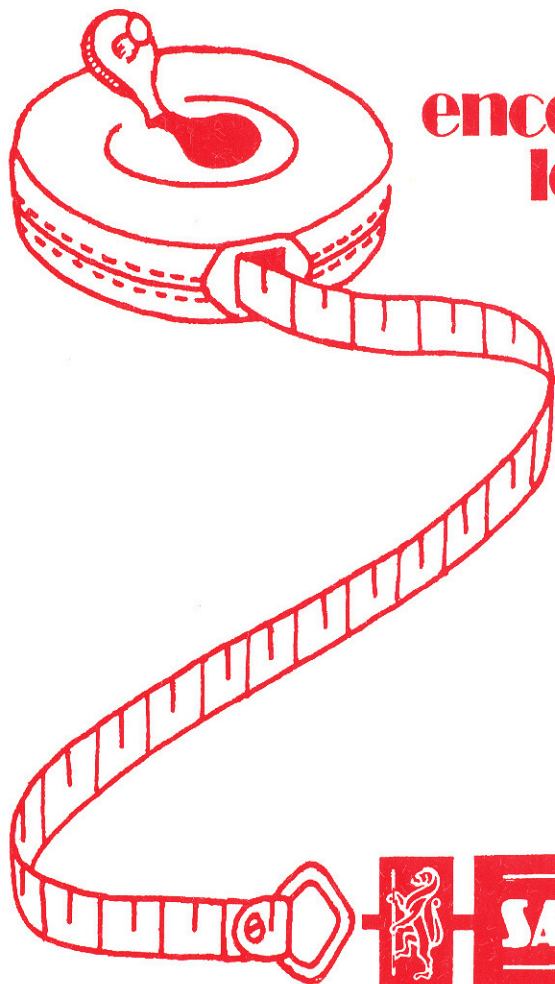


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