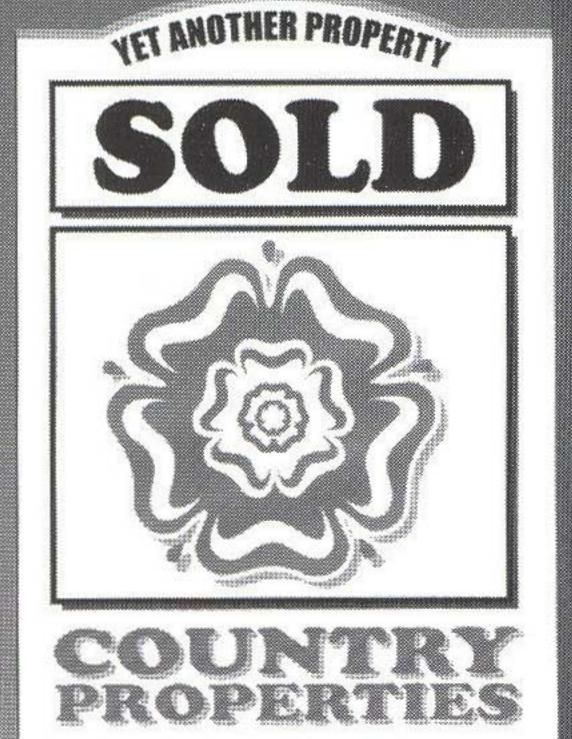
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outwith the old ...



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FROM THE PRODUCER

In 1972, an intrepid cub took to the Public Hall stage as a pirate in an original Ralph Reader number – *The Buccaneers*. Of course, I never thought then that 30 years later I would be taking charge of my tenth Show as Producer, and sixteenth as Musical Director. And yet I most certainly am not alone in keeping Gang Shows as part of my life. So many of the current production and backstage teams have appeared in the Harpenden Gang Show. And there are cast members today whose parents (and even grandparents!) have links with the Show, even back to its origins in 1949. The Show must go on and on and on.

Scouting too goes on and on – ever evolving, to ensure its relevance in today's society. The aims of Scouting have always been to assist young people, through physical, mental and spiritual development, to take a constructive place in society. You can judge for yourself, but having seen these young people on the stage, on mountains, on the streets and interacting with each other, my feeling is that the future is assured. Don't let any news article tell you any different – the young people of today, despite the stresses and strains we put upon them to assure our todays and tomorrows, are alive and kicking. And this is not confined to Harpenden. I have seen Gang Shows in the West Country, in the South, in the Midlands and in Scotland – the spirit of Scouting exists in abundance across the United Kingdom, and we have every hope for the future.

Sweat and tears (if not blood!) have been shed aplenty over the past nine months of preparation and four months of rehearsal to bring you the best that the young people of Harpenden, Wheathampstead and Kimpton have to offer. Enjoy our 54th Show.

Ewan



2 Piggottshill Lane, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 1LH 01582 461886

DANCEWEAR - THEATRICAL MAKE-UP - FACE PAINTS - HELIUM BALLOONS - MASKS



Scouting is a 'movement'. You will see a lot of movement tonight! However, the choreography will not involve Venture Scouts this year, but Explorer Scouts and, of course, Scouts and Cubs. 'Movement' implies progress and Scouting has taken a giant leap in the right direction over the past 12 months, with a radical restructuring of its age groupings and a brand new, very exciting, well-presented and well-supported training programme. The Harpenden and Wheathampstead District has embraced this change wholeheartedly. I am sure that the new programme will enthuse the vast majority of members, young and older, and that this will be reflected in our numbers over the coming years.

Whilst you are sitting here, five of our District are at the 20th World Scout Jamboree in Thailand, having a life-changing experience. They are joining with Scouts from almost every country, under the Jamboree motto of 'Save our world, share our culture'. They will have stories to tell in abundance. Please make sure you get to hear them! On the international front, did you know that Beavers in our District are responsible for launching Beavers in Ghana? It all began 10 years ago and there are now almost 1,000 Beavers in Ghana. To celebrate the anniversary, we are hoping to bring some of their leaders over for St George's Day, to meet the district and pick up some ideas first hand. Our international plans for this year also include a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first successful ascent of Everest. We plan to involve all sections in an attempt to reach the highest point of every county in the land! It should be fun, involve Scouting skills, get us good publicity and raise money for the Nepal Trust. Please get involved.

The Gang Show moves on, too, and regulars will notice some subtle changes this year. Even with the amazing result that you are now witnessing, I doubt whether you can imagine, if you are not involved, the incredible effort put in by so many people. Above all, Ewan is the chief magician. I'm sure you will join me in congratulating him on the so very richly deserved award of the 'Medal of Merit' for outstanding services to the movement (in both senses!).

I wrote a song for this year's show about the changes I have described. In the end, we didn't use it but, so as not to waste it completely, here's the last verse:

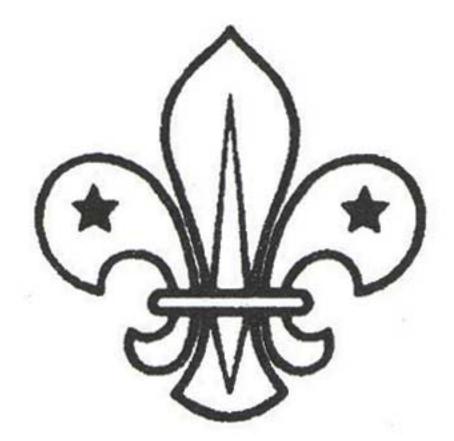
This circle will not die
If you're not in there, why?
I will lay a bet that you'll not regret
A single day so get ready, set
And GO give it a try.

For further, no obligation, information, please get in touch! (01582 769608 or dc.harpenden@herts-scouts.net)
Richard Harrington (Rikki)
District Commissioner

Old Scouting Uniforms Wanted Please

Bought the new uniform yet? If so, may we have the old one please? The Gang Show Costume Team would be grateful for your out-of-date uniform (Cub, Scout, Venture or Leader). We would also gratefully receive (and cherish) any really old uniforms that you may have tucked away.

Please phone Liz Barringer on 01582 768592 or hand them in to your local leader.



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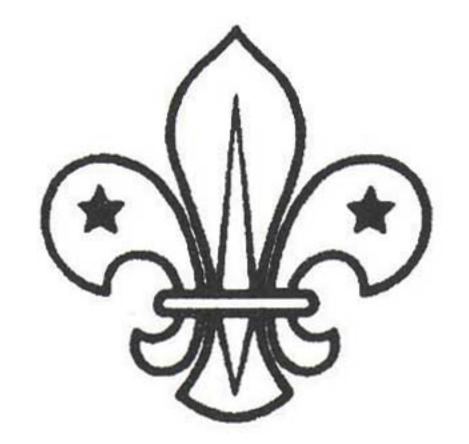
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Did You Know?

That Margaret Melville, one of our Wardrobe Ladies, discovered what looked like a very old hand-sewn shirt while sorting through the Gang Show Costume Store? She took it to the St Albans Museum, where they dated it to around 1800! Hmmm... How and when did we acquire a 200-year-old shirt? Any ideas to Bob Finch please: 01438 832497.



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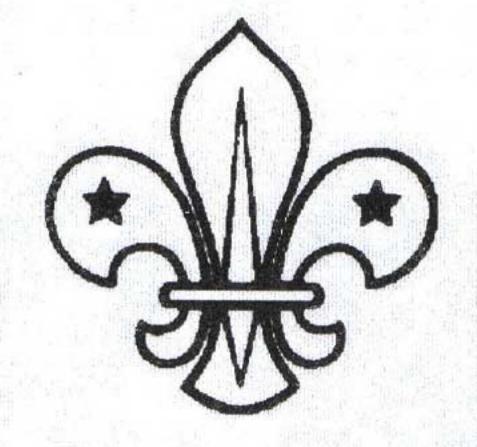
Spotlight on Liz Barringer

The Gang, as you might guess, does not just appear on stage all dressed up for the Show with no effort. Well, a lot of the credit must go to Liz Barringer, who leads a Merry Wardrobe Crew of over 20 who make it happen. Liz originally got involved six years ago as her three sons were in the Show, and while they have grown up and moved on, she has stayed because she loves the Show, and Scouting in general. In fact, she is part of a real Scouting family, as all her relatives, even out to those cousins in Australia, have been involved with Scouts. As Head of Wardrobe, Liz comes well qualified, having been trained at the London School of Fashion, then worked in the West End at an embroidery firm whose clients included the Queen's family. So how does she keep track of all the costume work? "Lots of bits of paper, but mostly in my head." She also works to match skills and interests in her team with the needs of the Gang, with some preferring to sew at home, and some liking to work with the Scouts themselves. Most memorable costume? "In the first year, when I had to repair an old Chinese silk robe. It took me 40 hours, and then the robe was used onstage for only three minutes!" Most difficult costume? This year, I had to make two huge Gang Show scarves to hang on the walls of the Hall, each one 9ft wide." And what's it like being backstage with the Scouts during a Show? "Exciting, frightening, stimulating - the kids are in party mood all week. Then there is the odd catastrophe, when the elastic gives out, a costume rips, etc." Liz is so committed to 'taking care of the Show' that this partly influenced here decision to retire, so she would have more time for it. And we are not talking about a month of work before the curtain opens. Preparations start almost nine months ahead, in April, as the new show takes shape, and when the last curtain drops, it takes another two months to clean, repair and sort all the costumes – just in time for the next Show to rev up! The Gang Show is really lucky to have Liz on board!

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2003 GANG SHOW VIDEO

An exclusive video-recording of the Gang Show will be available price £13. To order, please send your name, address, telephone number and email address if you have one, together with the remittance (cheques payable to Harpenden & Wheathampstead Scout Council) to Ros

Mulholland, 5 Browning Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 4TS. Tel: (01582) 767878.

Orders should be placed by 31st January. The video is likely to be completed and available late spring/early summer and you will be notified when it is ready for collection. If you prefer, it can be posted to you, in which case please add £1.50 per video ordered to your remittance.

To make life easier, order forms will be available as usual in the foyer. Ask a member of the front of house staff if you can't find one.



wish the GANG a successful week

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Full catering when required, licensed bar and private car park. Please telephone 01582 762880 for further information.

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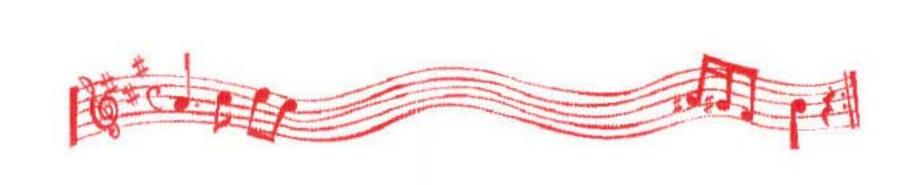
SE AIDAMS
CITY AND DISTRICT







1st Half

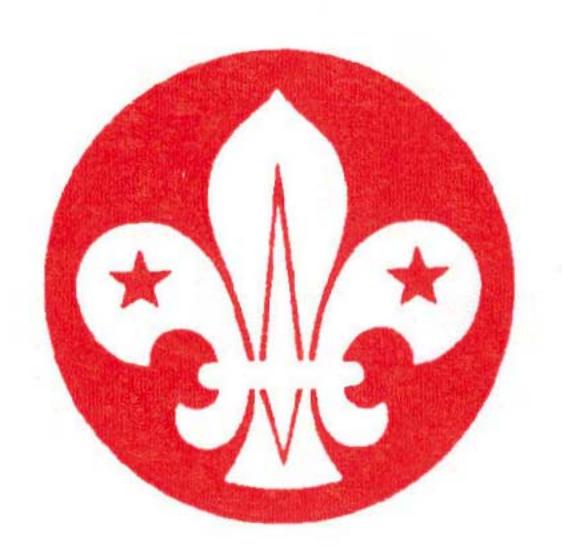




The Queen

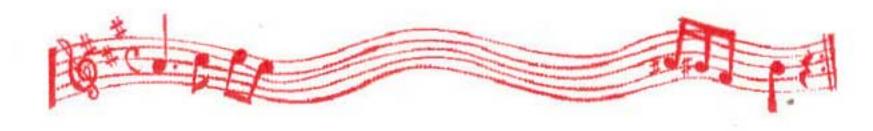
- 1. Get Happy
- 2. Father's Footsteps
- 3. Can You Tell What It Is Yet?
- 4. Signed, Sealed, Delivered
- 5. Everyone's A Winner
- 6. Don't Give Up
 Interval

Producer & Musical Director - Ewan Murray Choreographer - Jan Cox



2nd Half



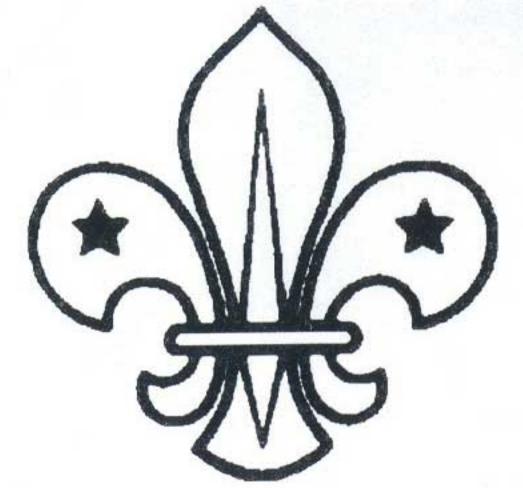


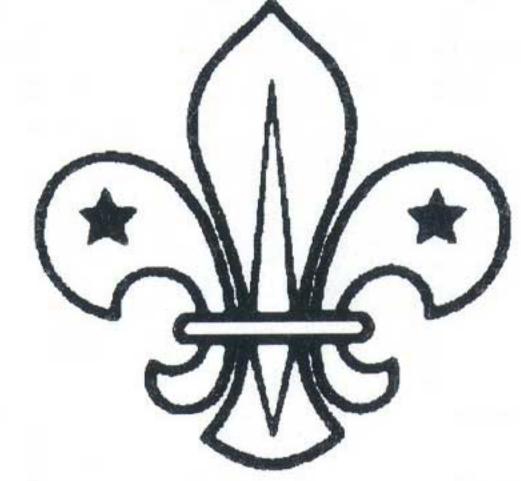
- 7. Bright Side Of The Road
- 8. Bat Out Of Hell
- 9. Bon Voyage
- 10. Antique Antics
- 11. Abbasolutely
- 12. French For Beginners
- 13. What Have You Done Today?

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









STAGE STAFF

Assistant Producers Jemma Finch, Neil Johnston, Pete Mann and Wendy Marquis

Music Arranger Chris Pettitt

Rehearsal Pianist Graham Thomson

Scenery Designer

& Stage Manager David Keen

Stage Hands and Lewis Keen, Rod Keen, Colin Jeffs, Fran Coulter, Michael Scenery Crew Desborough, Pete Desborough, Paul Frisher, Darren Lowry,

Sue Mann, Connor Mulholland, Clare Pollington, Adam

Robinson, Phil Robinson, and Kit Yardley

Wardrobe Liz Barringer, Elaine Brind, Su Brooker, Dorothy Cawrey,

Penny Chapman, Diane Chichester-Miles, Liz Davie, Sue Foord, Marion Goodson, Georgina Jeffrey, Beryl Jeffs, Helen Mellor, Margaret Melville, Christy Monson, Ros Mulholland, Jane Murray, Sara Thrale, Penny Turnbull, Jane Walter, Mavis

Whiteway, Pam Woodford-Smith and Susanne Woods

The Band Reeds – Chris Pettitt, Sue Pettitt; Trumpet – Jamie Stoneman;

Trombone – Richard Turberville; Piano – Graham Thomson; Bass – Gareth Covey-Crump; Drums – Neil Duncan; Guitar –

Colin Mold

Lighting Designer Neil Hewitt

Lighting by The Harpenden Lighting Pool

Sound David Errock and Robert Hemmin

Make Up Martin Allen assisted by The Harpenden Explorer Scouts' Unit

Properties Brian and Susanne Woods

Call Boy Andrew Barford

Cub Number written

and produced by Richard Harrington

Assisted by Carol Arnsby, Albert Elliott, Liz Jack, Yvonne Lowry and Tina

Miller

Cub Costumes Jeanette Bowers, Jo Busby and Dee Harrington

Box Office Phil Robinson

Front of House Jan and Kit Yardley

Llamondan Sacut Nature

Stewards Harpenden Scout Network

Halan Datamarith the assistance for an all large

Refreshments

Helen Peter with the assistance of parents and leaders

Programme Roger Monson

Publicity Penny Turnbull and Marion Morris

CCTV Monitors

Health and Safety

Web Page

Mark Hubbard

Jeremy Finch

Rod Keen

Treasurer John Mulholland

Acknowledgements

St Albans Gang & Harpenden Fire Brigade;
Allan Tarry of RB Plastic Fabrication Ltd;
St John Ambulance; Molly Thompson; Andy Mann; Bramwells;
Rod 'HTML' Keen; Glasgow Gang Show; Christchurch, Hitchin

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Ralph Reader

The Harpenden Gang Show is based on an original idea by the late

Ralph Reader C.B.E.



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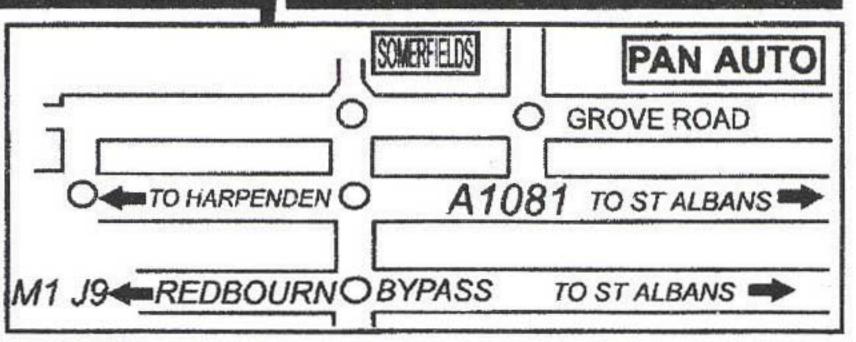


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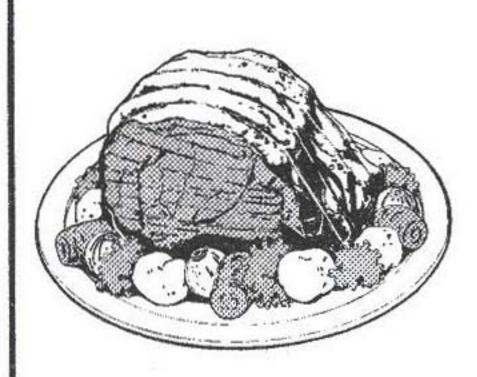
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WISH THE GANG SHOW EVERY SUCCESS

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PETER RUSSELL

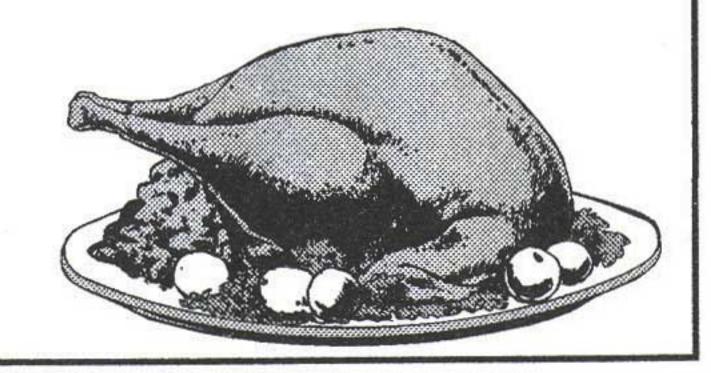
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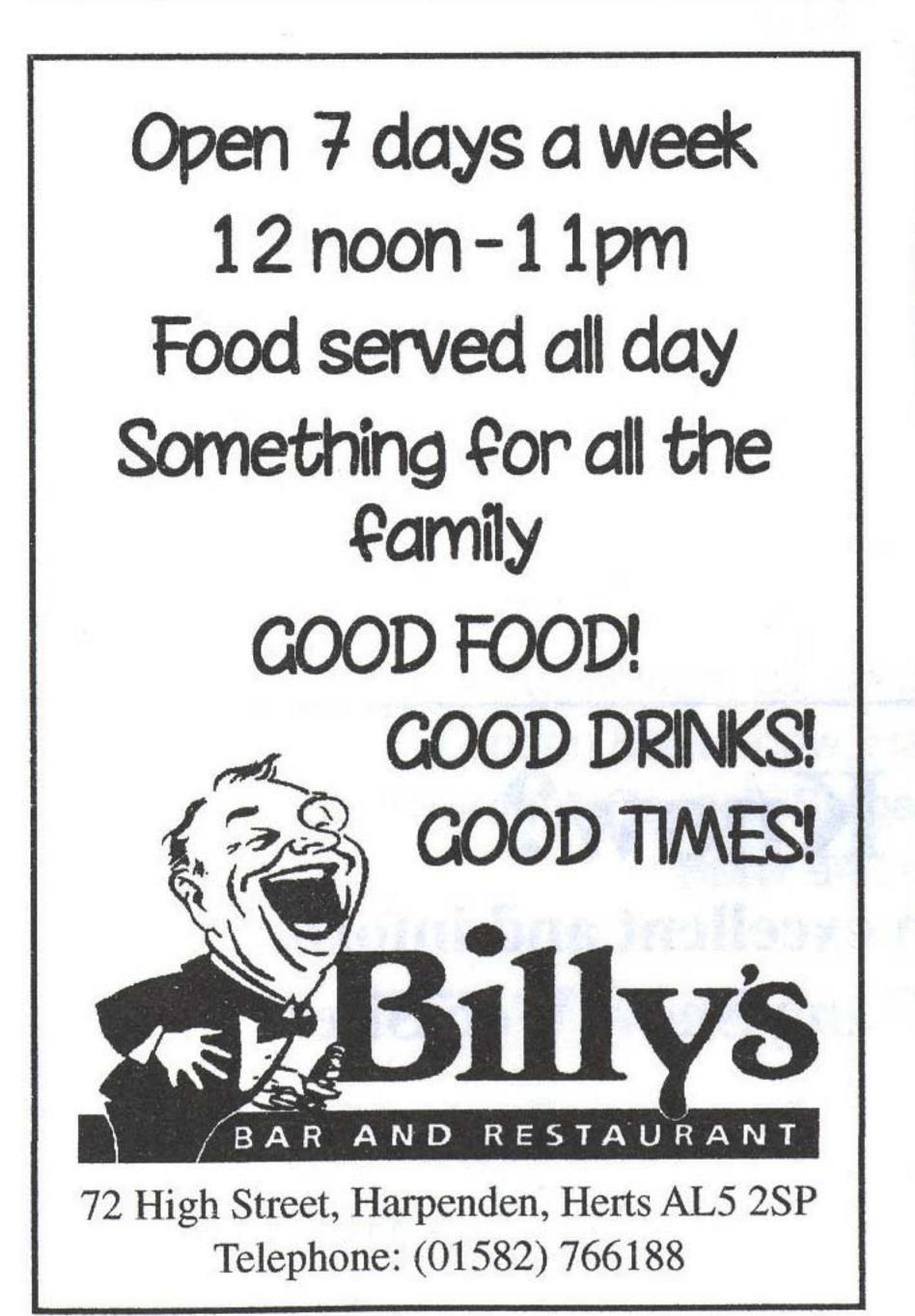
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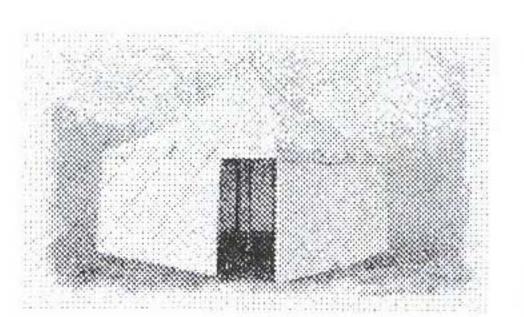
FRENCH CONNECTION

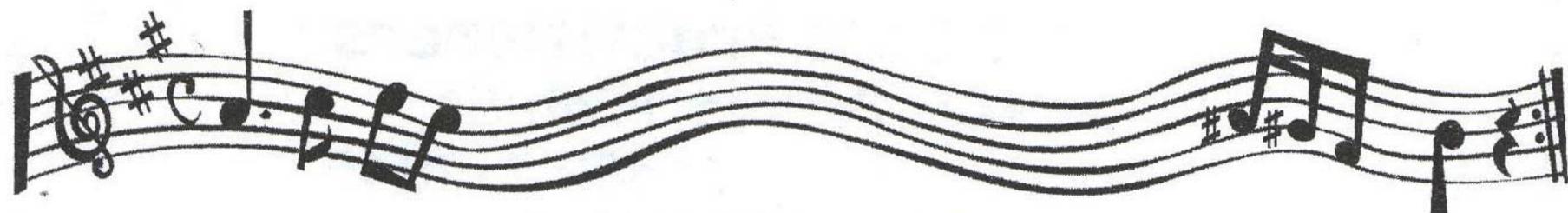


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We know how lucky we are.
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The sound of music, the songs we sing –

And even from the coldest winter
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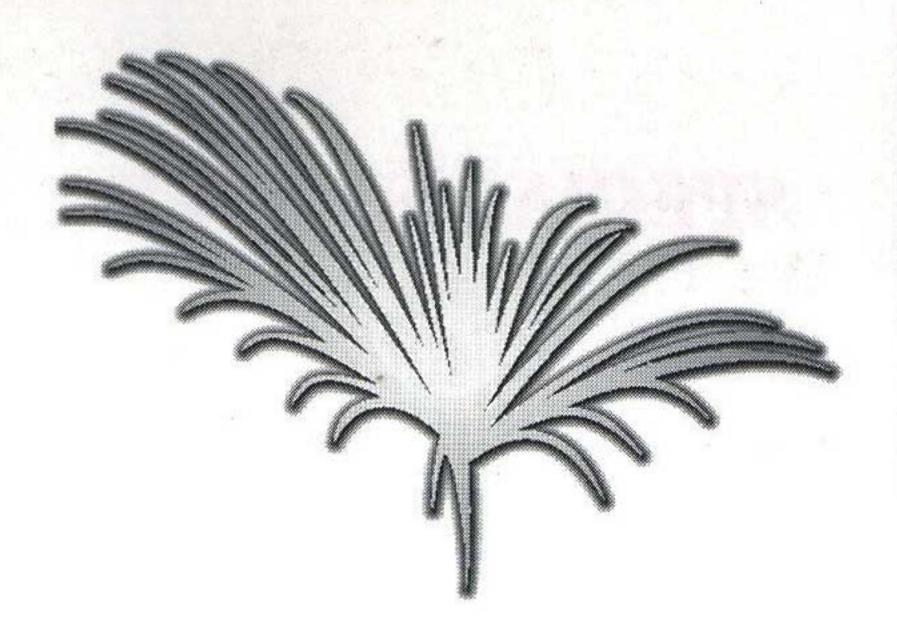
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Did You Know?

That there is an excellent and informative Harpenden Gang Show Web Site?

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