

HARPENDEN AND
WHEATHAMPSTEAD
DISTRICT SCOUTS

63rd

2012 GANG
SHOW



scouts

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Warning – Use of Special Effects

Flashing lights may be used during this performance.



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No Videoing

A DVD will be available to order from www.allmediaworks.co.uk using passcode HARPENDENGs.



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INSPIRATION

From the Producer

With apologies to The Beatles...

"It was 40 years ago today that this particular cub scout first had his say – the show's never gone out of style, it's still guaranteed to raise a smile – so may I introduce to you the act you've known for all these years – Harpenden & Wheathampstead District Gang Show!"

In January 1972 I entered the institution that is the Gang Show ... and I'm still in it! I got so much out of performing on stage for ten years (a length of service that sadly, due to sheer numbers wanting to be in the show, is no longer possible) that I wanted to give something back – some may say that the 25 years' penance of being on the production side of things is more than compensatory, but once you're bitten, you're bitten!

This year we have welcomed Jeremy Finch as a fully-fledged member of the production team; we have welcomed back Rachel Glynn and Mike Layzell (who started last year and agreed to continue!); sadly, though, we are saying goodbye to Deputy Producer Jemma Finch who, after 17 years, has decided to call it a day. My heartfelt thanks to Jemma, whose eagle eyes during rehearsals and team meetings have constantly ensured that no details drop through the cracks.

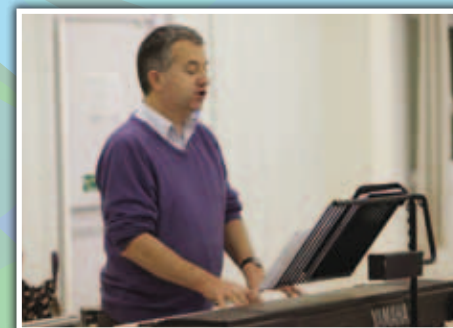
The 150 young people you see on stage have been on stage since 1949 – not the same ones, I'll grant you, but all in the same spirit. And as our District continues

to grow, so the numbers wanting to be in the show grow too. It's a headache to sort out, given that we still steadfastly (and rightly) refuse to audition, but what a great problem to have.

Gang Show is about young people. Gang Show is about friendship. Gang Show is about providing a shop window for the wonderful world of Scouting. It's about a feel-good factor that, in my experience, is very hard to replicate anywhere else in life.

Enjoy!

Ewan Murray
Producer



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ROLLER COASTER YEAR

The Incredible Gang Show Roller Coaster Ride

For the Gang, both on stage and backstage, the entire 12 months ahead of Showtime is always the archetypal rollercoaster ride that we have come to know and love.

- February – We're relaxing, just strolling round the fairground, still a little dizzy from the last ride.
- March – The regular crew, familiar with the ride, dive straight in through the entrance and get on board.
- April – While tickets are being issued for all the eager passengers waiting hopefully in line, and just before the safety harnesses come down, a quick check that we have the full team needed for the care of so many riders before we ratchet slowly up the first slope.
- May – Reaching the top of the first gentle hill, there are a few quivers of anticipation, especially from those new to the ride, as we see the whole impressive, but very daunting, track laid out before us, with its precipitous slopes and spectacular spiralling corkscrews!
- June – A couple of small ups and downs to give us a taste of what's in store.
- July – Stop at an intermediate station, as the rest of the backstage team joins us.
- August – We wait while some safety checks are carried out, some still unaware of what is to follow.
- September – Those lucky enough to get tickets in April clamber on board

and then we're off - no chance to look back or catch our breath for the next four months.

There are many, many highs, lows and crazy corners during October, November and December as cast and crew are flung about physically, mentally and emotionally through rehearsals, before the last, long drag up to the summit of the final peak of the January dress rehearsal and last minute panics from the passengers.

Beyond the point of no return now... all thoughts of the world beyond the ride are forgotten as we teeter at the top, and then the five-day, six-show adrenaline rush which is the heady descent of show week.

All too quickly, sadly, we reach the end of the line and we are buzzing, if a little dizzy. The emails and Facebook statuses and comments are proof of that. The buzz stays with us after the ride awhile, as we stagger through the after show party...

And then comes the first Sunday afternoon ... a post-roller coaster daze. All too soon, the perennial January chorus of the "Oh what can I do on Sunday afternoons now that Gang Show has finished" blues will be sounding out in houses across Harpenden, Wheathampstead and Kimpton (although for some of us there will simply be a palpable sense of relief!).

But of course, like the thrill-seekers we are, we'll do it all over again... and each time we repeat it, the buzz and thrill of it all will be different, but what a ride!

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to all the performers at the
63rd Gang Show**

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QUOTES

From the cast

It's epic, it's fun ... the singing, everything, all of it.
Owain (Mini Gang)

You kinda get a buzz when you get loud applause from the audience, as you know you have done a great job. Just before the curtain goes up you are apprehensive and excited at once. You worry you will mess it up!
James (Junior Gang)

It's fun being part of Gang Show especially in Explorers, as you have dance partners. You get a real buzz from being on the stage before the curtain goes up for the opening.
Annemarie (Senior Gang)

Fun knowing you are going to be part of something so big.
Noah (Mini Gang)

It's amazing, and people have paid to see you, which is awesome!
Emma (Junior Gang)

Being in the Gang show is like being part of a big family, you grow up and the same people keep coming back year after year. You get the opportunity to mature with it.
Chris (Senior Gang)

Fun being with friends, when the audience cheers it makes you want to carry on for ages. When the week finishes it's the worst feeling ever. It really gives you a sense of achievement.
Rupert (Senior Gang)

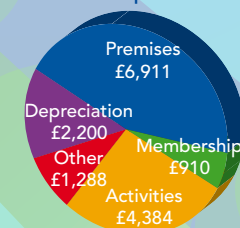
From the Treasurer

In addition to the enjoyment which everyone involved gets from performing in and watching the Show, it is clear from the net income chart that the Gang Show makes a major contribution to the District's funds. This avoids the levy that many other Districts put on annual subscriptions.

Net Income



Net Expenses



Income and expenses for the District are normally more in balance than is shown here. 2010/11 was a somewhat exceptional year - our costs exceeded income by £4000. This was because we invested in major repairs and work to premises in addition to the usual running costs.

PREPARATION



And what are you two up to?



Eureka!



If I say "Jump!", you ask "How high?"



Et voilà!



Have we got a plan?



My legs won't bend that way!



I thought the ghosts & ghouls number was last year ...

PREPARATION



Things are getting a little hairy ...



With gusto!



And s...t...r...e...t...c...h!!!



If three of us show you how, will you get it then?!



Sing it out!



Are you going to let us in on the joke?



It's the only exercise he gets all year!



'Switched on' at the Christmas lights switch on

PRESENTATION

Act 1

One Gang Shaking
Songs of Praise
Much Ado about Gardening
An Englishman in New York
Leaving
Whodunnit?

Act 2

Are You Being Served
English Students
You Dancin'? You Askin'?
Citius, Altius, Fortius
Born This Way
We've Come So Far
Together

DEDICATION

The Gang of 2012

Senior Gang

Nick Aldridge
Howie Atton
Eleanor Austin
Georgie Beale
Tom Bentley
George Berry
Harriet Blacker
Sammy Cooper
Sally Crawford
Edward Cripps
Harry Croft
Sophie Crompton
Alex Davis
Megan Dixon
Fiona Elledge
Alice Gosling
Mike Grover
Emma Hall
Robert Hanson
Andrew Harkness
Nancy Harrison
Ellie Holland
Claire Hysom
Edward Ingram
Alistair Kerley
Adam Khwaja
Becca Leigh
Tom Leigh
Rupert Lloyd
Bethan Luffman
Jack Maloney
Emily Mason
Robert McKenzie
Amy Meilton
Christopher Pearce
Annemarie Playle
Jacob Robinson
Sarah Scrace

Junior Gang

Alison Small
Russell Small
Daniel Solbe
Jessica Stocks
Jacob Taylor-Hansen
George Thomas
Maxine Tink
Mathilda Todd
Elia Tuck
Imogen Wadey
Jonathan Waters
Chris Wharton
Rose Wheeler
Chloe Alvis
Cameron Barford
Matthew Bedding
Dominic Beech
Samuel Beech
Kirsty Bentley
Suzanna Bird
Lewis Burton
Jessie Campbell
Philip Coxon
Felicity Cripps
James Crompton
Nick Davis
Harry Day
Finn Donnelly
Sam Dorney
Declan Doyle
Jay Dunbar
Lucy Elledge
Vita Ellis
Kate Evans
Jordan Everett
Jack Faulkner
Alex Fisher

Nathan Flemons

Adam Gibson
Sam Gisby
Matthew Gurney
Fieldie Harrison
Jamie Head
Lewis Head
Callum Heyes
James Hunt
Sean Hynes
James Jessop
Oliver Kelly
Daniel Key
Callum Liles
Izzie Lovegrove
Robyn Luffman
Matt Maloney
Tom Martin
Thomas Mason
Paul McCullough
Tabitha Noble
Conor Nugent
Andrew Pearce
Daniel Peeters
Lucy Rainsford
Alexandra Ray
Emma Risley
Mollie Sherwood
Rebecca Simpson
Thomas Slack
Callum Stocks
Charlie Taylor
Sam Todd
Lucy Turberville
Oliver Turberville
Peter Turner
Timothy Wheeler
Max Whiteway
Charlie Wright

Shakey Gang

Charlie Alvis
Macy Banks
Hannah Bedding
Daniel Booth
William Bowran
Bertie Brooks
Dan Burns
James Cromack
Eleanor Day
Alessandro de Marchis
Joseph Eagles
Tom Evans
Harry Faulkner
Emily Grover
Matthew Hollingham
Rachel Key
Noah Layzell
Gethin Martin
Jack Martin
James Mason
Matthew Newport
Owain Peter
Lucy Porter
Isabelle Quigley
Jack Richardson
Bradley Shears
Nathaniel Snowden
Dominic Solbe
Luke Thompson
George Thorpe
Freddie Todd
James Tuck
Sam Venner
Ben Winfield
Molly Wright

DEDICATION

Behind the Scenes

Producer / Musical Director	Ewan Murray
Deputy Producer	Jemma Finch
Choreographer	Rachel Glynn
Assistant Choreographer	Wendy Bideau
Sketch Director	Mike Layzell
Technical Director	Jeremy Finch
'Much Ado about Gardening'	
Written and produced by	Rikki Harrington
Assisted by	Sarah Cripps, Liz Jack, Yvonne Lowry, Tina Miller
Video Director	Jon Gisby
Stage Manager	Mike Layzell
Deputy Stage Manager	Steph Bell
Set Designer & Scenery Master	David Keen
Stage Hands & Scenery Crew	Pete Desborough, Sam Gooch, Colin Jeffs, Rebecca Keen, Darren Lowry, Sue Mann, Trevor Miller, Phil Robinson, Richard Mulholland, Marianne Wheeler, Kit Yardley
Properties	Stuart Jack, Liz Jack, Trevor Miller
Lighting Designer	Robert Hemmin
Lighting Crew	Dan Burns, Neil Hewitt, Edward Kennington, Keith Paddison, Jamie Shirra, Ross Wilcox
Sound	David Errock, Jeremy Finch
Wardrobe	Claire Williams, Margaret Melville and Suzie Heyes, with Liz Barringer, Elaine Brind, Di Chichester-Miles, Ginny Cooper, Liz Davie, Ayesha Grosvenor, Amy Huckle, Gill Ingram, Beryl Jeffs, Debi Lee, Ann Loader, Julia Lloyd, Karen Meade, Helen Mellor, Sally Melton, Jane Murray, Marie-Therese Spicer, Ginny St John Glew, Jane Walter, Moira White, Judy Whyman, Pam Woodford-Smith
Music Arranger	Chris Pettitt
Vocal Coach	Janet Ollerenshaw
Rehearsal Pianist	Graham Thomson
The Band	Reeds – Sue Pettitt; Hilary Robertson Trumpet – Jamie Stoneman Trombone – Adrian Jarvis Keyboard – Graham Thomson Guitar – Colin Mold Bass – Gareth Covey-Crump Drums – Les Arnold
Make Up	Jess Ko, assisted by District Explorer Scouts

Call Boy	Andrew Barford
Duty Managers	Sally Clark, Bob Finch
Front of House	Chris and Katy Turberville, assisted by Richard Bates, Linda Dickinson, Liz Scott, Peter Wheeler and team
Foyer Display	Rod Keen
Stewards	District Explorer Scouts
Refreshments	Helen Peter, Marie Whiteway, Jan Yardley with help from parents and leaders
Programme	David Claridge, Janet Dixon, Marion Huckle, Barbi Scrace
Publicity	Jill Coggins, David Croft
Audio Visual	Mark Hubbard
Health & Safety	Neil Liles
Gang Show Committee	Chair – Sally Clark Secretary – Katie Coxon Treasurer – John Mulholland
Website	Rod Keen www.hwgangshow.org.uk
Box Office	Katie Coxon
Photography	Richard Washbrooke Photography
DVD	All Media Works
Photo CDs	Rod Keen
After-show party catering	Les Clark, Carol Finch
Acknowledgements	St. John Ambulance, Richard Aldridge for his underwater expertise, Chris Small for his bus, Legends, Waitrose, Harpenden Swimming Pool, JMS Plant Hire, Network Rail, Pizza Express, Jacks Fish & Chips, Thorns, Harpenden Film Society for the use of their projector and screen, Ian Pigott of Thrales End Farm for his tractor and trailer.

The Creative Team



From left to right : Rikki, Jeremy, Jemma, Ewan, Rachel, Mike, Wendy, Jon

THE GANG SHOW STARS 2012

Shakey Gang



Junior Gang



THE GANG SHOW STARS 2012

Senior Gang



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Photo: Celebrating 400 years of Hatfield House

Harpenden Explorer Scout Unit

Summer Ball



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Good Luck to the Gang Show



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Ian Fulton

Chairman
District Executive Committee

New year 2012 – the Olympics and the Diamond Jubilee – quite a year in prospect – a time to celebrate, to look ahead but also a time to reflect and take stock of the achievements during the Queen's reign. Yet it is also true that we are living in most challenging and difficult times.

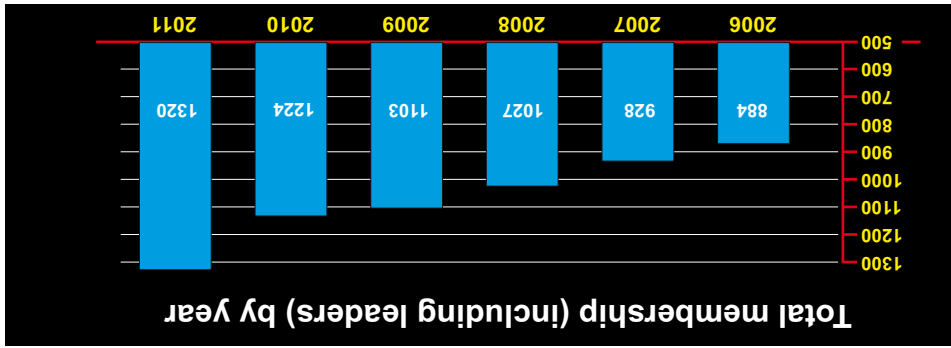


So the Gang Show. Perhaps this is exactly the right moment for something that speaks of healthy, happy, simple values – the product of hard work and enthusiasm, that in these dark mid-winter days is real uplift for both the performing team and the hundreds who come to see them. In the short term, each show is a splendid outcome of the cooperation of so many skills and talents; and in the long term, they leave a legacy of achievement and personal growth that enriches the lives of everyone involved.

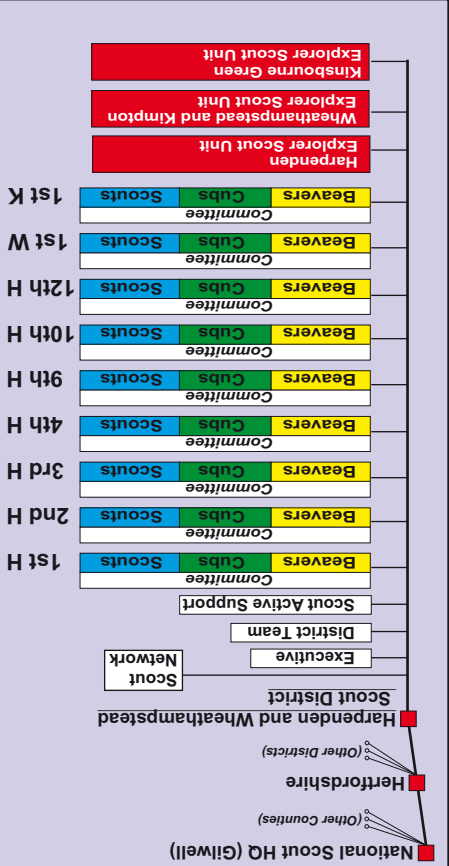
Thank you all for making this possible and how lucky we are to start this year in such a positive and delightful manner – *together* is the way. Banish gloom and doom!



District Data



Our District



Haarlem Jamborette

Haarlem in the Netherlands hosted the Jamborette (a smaller version of a World Jamboree) which attracted over 2,000 scouts from 15 countries. Unlike the mission-based Ghana Expedition, Haarlem was essentially a celebration – the joy of being young with the world opening up; sharing the open landscape with friends; meeting scouts from around the world. The event architects intended sharing, learning and affirmation and amply achieved it. Activities and challenges kept the scouts busy and thinking throughout the ten days and all the scouts who attended said that it was indeed a fantastic experience. Haarlem was a great Scouting success.



Spaarnwoude Netherlands
31 July – 9th August 2011



Scouting Overseas

Explorers in Ghana



Of the hundreds of countries in the world, only six do not have Scouting (but probably would if their governments allowed it). Ghana has always sponsored Scouting but their resources are scarce. Harpenden and Wheat-hampstead District Explorers formed links with Ghana in years past and in 2011 mounted another expedition to Hohoe to develop Scouting and help the community.

It is a huge opportunity for cultural exchange and both nations are the richer for it. During this expedition, a school and a hospital were helped through refurbishment and donations. The pictures show 21 explorers sharing time, doing repairs and painting newly-made benches.

Explorer scouts, 14 to 18, end Scouting's journey to adulthood. Throughout their scouting, the promotion of friendliness between nations has been central to their scout training. Like Jamborees, radio links, travel and a welcome to visiting scouts, overseas expeditions are an exciting way to show we care while gaining so much personal experience.





Scouts reach the age where the body changes gear: the young adult emerges. They learn how to use their new-found power and to coexist with others. Working with adults is a major influence in their development. Scouts are aware of their development and are ready to volunteer discipline, confront life's issues and to use their strengths for others. Leaders are generally pushing on an open door when setting standards. Projects can be ambitious, responsibilities challenging. Here, the pictures show scouts engaging in a range of activities and enjoying them - then inwardly seeing that success follows endeavour and teamwork.

Scouts start at 10½ and leave for Explorers at 14.



Traditional skills:
Building with rope

County competition:
Build and race go-karts

Service to the community:
Conservation

Adventure:
Canoeing

Scout skills:
Making fire



Cub scouts



Community:
St George's Day

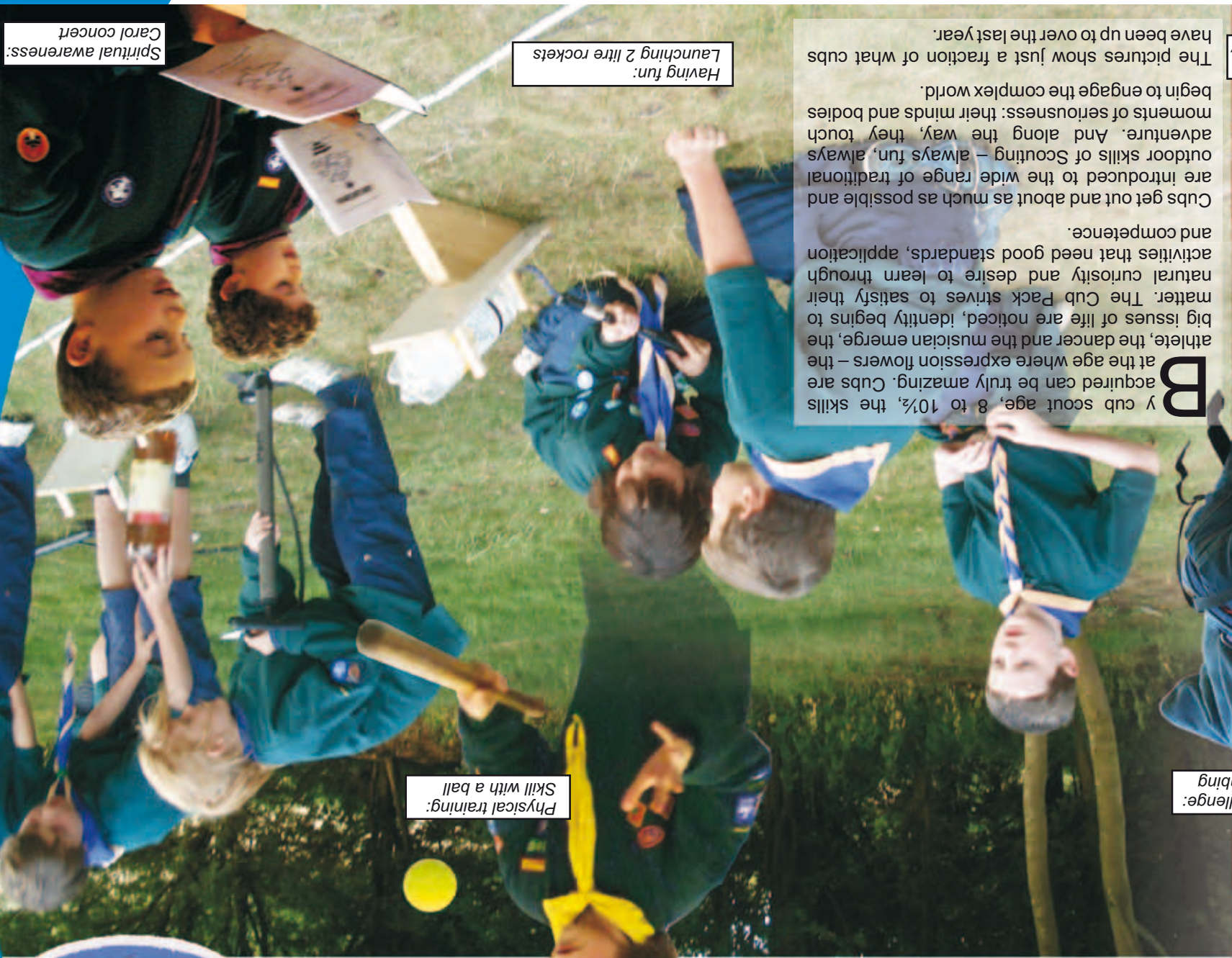


Challenge:
Climbing

By cub scout age, 8 to 10½, the skills acquired can be truly amazing. Cubs are at the age where expression flows – the athlete, the dancer and the musician emerge, the big issues of life are noticed, identity begins to matter. The Cub Pack strives to satisfy their natural curiosity and desire to learn through activities that need good standards, application and competence.

Cubs get out and about as much as possible and are introduced to the wide range of traditional outdoor skills of Scouting – always fun, always adventure. And along the way, they touch moments of seriousness: their minds and bodies begin to engage the complex world.

The pictures show just a fraction of what cubs have been up to over the last year.



Having fun:
Launching 2 litre rockets

Physical training:
Skill with a ball

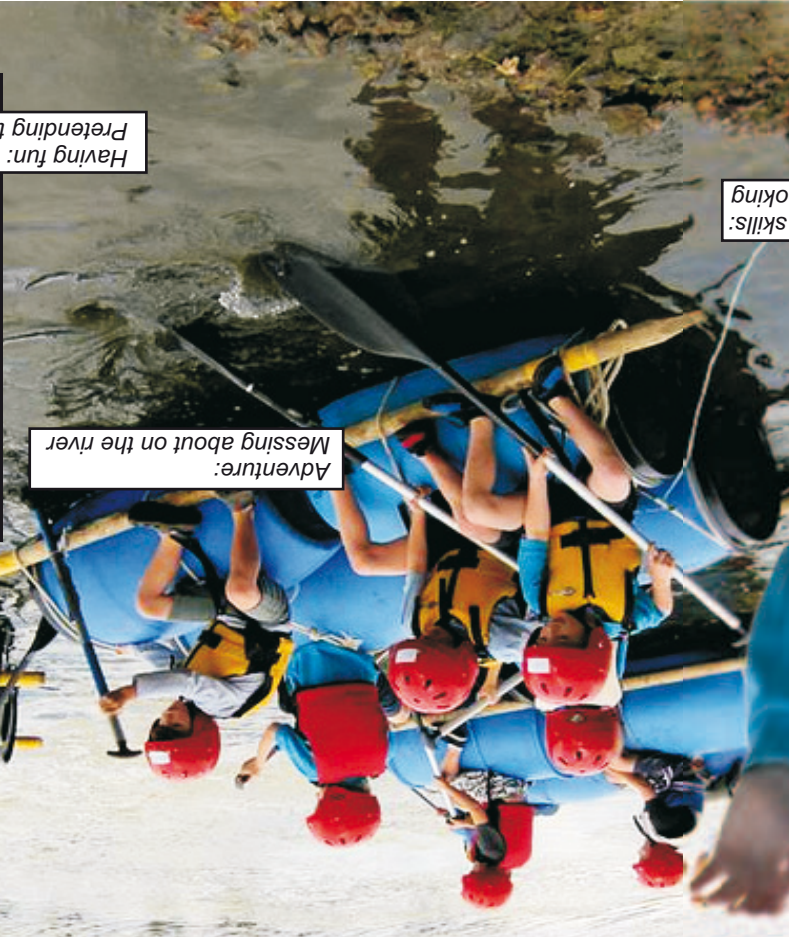
Spiritual awareness:
Carol concert

Beaver Scouts

Beavers, from 6 to 8, are discovering the world beyond the home and it is a time when skills of every kind develop. The Programme is rich with experience and opportunity. Getting out, visits to emergency services, paddling on rafts and cooking sausages on open fires are a few examples. Craft work, games and competitions with neighbouring Beaver Colonies are further examples. The activities are always meaningful. Keeping them safe and happy as they develop is the leaders' constant aim.



Developing skills:
Fire and Cooking



Adventure:
Messing about on the river



Having fun:
Pretending to drive



Community:
Visiting the Fire Station



Jane: DC

Growing Scouting to reach more young people

television etc. Once they have tasted a wide game, a night away, a hike in the dark, an aerial walkway they built, a part in Gang Show, they never look back. This year alone, over 50 went abroad to Ghana, Denmark, Switzerland on various Scouting activities.

Feeling envious? Did you miss this when you were their age? Or is it just a fond and fading memory? Well it's not too late to get your slice of the fun. Across Harpenden and Wheathampstead we have over 200 adults who make Scouting possible for our young people. Some have Scouting in their blood, but many bring nothing but their enthusiasm to begin with, quite rightly accelerating their own children up the waiting list in return for their weekly commitment. We need still more adult volunteers for new Groups and Sections to meet the growing demand. Help and training is at hand. Working as a team, the occasional business trip or clash with other commitments can be managed. The fun that leaders have and the camaraderie that they discover is another string to one's social bow.

The simple fact is that even at our age we can "share together, when we're together, the best years of our lives".

To find out more about signing up as a volunteer leader please email me at dc.harpenden@gmail.com

Jane Murray

Jane Murray
District Commissioner
Harpenden and Wheathampstead Scout District



As DC I strive to provide and support leaders across all sections to offer Scouting opportunities for everyone in our District who wants to join. I am failing.

Despite opening new Groups and Units across Harpenden our waiting lists are still growing and we cannot keep pace with the number of youngsters wanting to share in the fun and adventure of Scouting. You could be mistaken for thinking that fun and adventure is a clichéd sales pitch, but is it? Scouting in Harpenden & Wheathampstead is almost twice as popular as it was ten years ago. Reading the press you could be mistaken for thinking that the 'youth of today' is only interested in Xbox and Facebook. Clearly that is not the case here. When you watch tonight's show, remember that most of the performers are teenagers and seeing this many in a group on the streets would potentially feel threatening.

.....and yet, if you talk to the people who work with youngsters they feel differently.

I spent this summer in Ghana with 21 teenagers, some of whom are performing here tonight. They had spent two years raising funds to travel to Ghana to fit out a Mothers' Lodge in a hospital and replace the mosquito nets at a school for the deaf and mentally disabled. When in Ghana they sawed wood, hammered nails and came back able to sign well enough to communicate with the new friends they had made and far more appreciative of the differences between their childhoods and those of the children they had travelled so far to help.

Ghana is an extreme example of the opportunities on offer to young Scouters in our District but the unique mix of adventure that is Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers (all 1200 of them in our District) is clearly a welcome addition to their routines of school, computer,



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Harpenden, Wheathampstead and Kimpton Scouts

Registered Charity Number: 302531

