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Hello and welcome to the 64th Harpenden Gang Show. Whether you are a regular or this is your first Gang Show you are in for a treat.

The Harpenden Gang Show is based on an idea by the late Ralph Reader CBE. The curtain went up on the first Gang Show on 31st October 1932 at London's Scala Theatre. Harpenden, Wheathampstead and Kimpton Scouts have been entertaining us with their Gang Show since 1949.



The Gang ask you not to take any photographs or make video recordings during the performance.

Photographs of the performance can be seen in the foyer and can be ordered direct from the photographer: www.richardwashbrooke.photoshelter.com.

A DVD of the show will also be available to order from: www.allmediaworks.com (use the passcode HARPENDENGS)

The Gang's all here, so sit back, get ready to clap and cheer and enjoy the show!

Harpenden Gang Show



Harpenden & Wheathampstead Scout District





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## From our district commissioner

I am writing with absolute confidence that 'Tonight is going to be a good night.'

Every year Gang Show provides six excellent shows that fill the Public Hall, but that is only a part of what it is about.

The youngsters on stage today have rehearsed since summer. They and their parents agreed that no more than two rehearsals would be missed and they would continue with their normal scouting activities – this teaches commitment, requires them to prioritise and for those with exams and other commitments it starts to teach them how to use every moment to best advantage. They learn to work as a team and not only do they conform but they enjoy it and can't wait to get their names down for next year.

That is all before they get on stage. Are you as stunned as I am at the way each year the Gang Show team engenders enough confidence in different young people for them to sing and dance in front

of a hall full of people? The confidence that stays with them for the rest of their lives cannot be underestimated and means they are not the quivering wrecks they might otherwise be when having to make presentations to a room full of people in later life.

I hope you enjoy tonight's show and at the end can agree with me that 'Tonight was indeed a very good night.'

Jane Murray



## From our committee chair

A big welcome to the 64th Show from everyone involved in its production, young and old, new volunteers and old hands, tap-dance tappers, scenery shifters, costume makers, show-you-to-your seaters, orchestra players, programme producers, tireless production crewers, money-counters, baton holders, cubs, scouts, and explorers!! Inspired by the amazing summer of Olympics and Paralympics here in the UK, I am writing this piece as those activities have just come to an end and am reminded of the closing ceremony of the Paralympics, where the biggest cheer went up for the volunteers who made it all happen so magnificently. And so it is with the Gang Show – everyone who helps to put this together gives up hours of their time over weeks and months, with one aim: to make a Show that is even better, more entertaining and more exciting than last year!

Every year, despite some of us wondering how it is possible, the team pulls it off. Out of nowhere, wonderful voices are found, those with two left feet are taught to dance and, for those of us who sit in the audience, a moment when a shiver goes down the spine is created.

If you are inspired to get involved after tonight's performance, please do contact us – the feel-good factor of being personally part of the Gang is fantastic and is why so many of us have volunteered and keep volunteering each year. We would love to find ourselves with a deluge of new enthusiastic would-be helpers who would then get their chance to feel that feeling.

Thanks and enjoy the show – it's the best one yet.

sally clark



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## From the producer

It has often been said, but it's worth repeating: Scouting is not an organisation – it's a movement. We don't stand still, but rather we're on a journey. The Scouting journey is exciting: sometimes on a smooth road, sometimes on a rough track, sometimes on top of the world, sometimes down a hole, sometimes in the air, sometimes on the water, but always with such an excellent destination at the end of it – the empowering of young people to make a positive contribution to society.

When I started as musical director of this show back in 1989 the cast came from 7 Cub packs, 6 Scout troops and 2 Venture Scout Units in the District. Today there are 13 packs, 13 troops and 5 Explorer Scout Units! These days, while the excellent destination remains the same, we would ideally like a much larger vehicle.

Unfortunately there is a limit to the size of the Gang Show vehicle. In 1989, around 120 took part. In April 2012 over 240 applied to be in this week's spectacular offering, but we can only squeeze 154 into the limited space we have. Having said that, our opening item features a cast of over 700! ('Eh?', I hear you say – well you'll just have to wait and see!)

None of this would come together without the core creative team of Rachel, Jeremy, Mike, Wendy, Charlie, Claire, Rikki & Jon, plus the countless other adults (many of whom used to be on that stage) who together put thousands of hours into producing what you see on stage before you here today.

But together the adults are merely the said vehicle, enabling and empowering the 154 unauditioned, enthusiastic and wonderfully talented young people (even those whose second left foot has yet to be replaced with a right one!) to give you a performance to be treasured and remembered. They can't wait to strut their stuff for you. Enjoy the show!

Complian

Ewan Murray Producer







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## Test yourself

- 1. What was the title of the first Gang Show performed in 1932?
- 2. How many hours of rehearsal were scheduled ahead of this year's show?
  - A) 157
- B) 132
- C) 121
- 3. How many young people are in the cast of the 2013 Gang Show?
- 4. How many (A) Scout Groups and (B) Explorer Scouts Units are there in the Harpenden and Wheathampstead District?
- 5. When was the much loved song 'Riding Along on the Crest of a Wave' written?
  - A) 1931
- B) 1932
- C) 1934
- 6. Which country will host the 2015 World Scout Jamboree?
- 7. What date is the birthday of Ralph Reader and what was his first name?
- 8. What colour is the surround on Scout Activity Badges?

(If you're stumped, turn to Page 13 for the answers.)

## And did you know?

- When a severed electricity cable disrupted the Gang Show in 1974 the stage
  was lit by the headlights of parents' cars driven up the steps of the Public Hall.
  It must have been a 'chilling performance' that night!
- Around 620 costumes were made and adapted by the wardrobe team for last year's show: imagine tidying that wardrobe!
- Both John Lennon and Sir Paul McCartney were Scouts: their Gang Show tunes would have been special!
- The name given to the Scout scarf slide woggle was first used by Francis Gidney, the first Chief of Gilwell, the Scout Leader Training Camp.
- On average, Scouts in the UK spend over two million nights away from home each year enjoying adventurous activities.
- Bear Grylls was the youngest ever Chief Scout when he was appointed in 2009, aged 34.
- Gang Show is the best winter warmer. Despite freezing temperatures outside over 800 ice creams were sold in the intervals during the 2012 performances.
   There will be plenty of tasty treats on sale this year too.





## Leisure Memberships at Luton Hoo...

Leisure members are spoilt for choice with activities at Luton Hoo. The stable building incorporates the luxurious spa which features an 18 metre indoor swimming pool, heat experiences, a relaxation lounge, six treatment rooms and the latest Technogym.

For those that enjoy the outdoors we have a restored Victorian grass tennis court, a croquet lawn, mapped walks, bird watching and bicycles available to members.

LEISURE MEMBERSHIP OPEN DAY Come and view the Country Club Sunday 13th January 2013, 11am - 4pm For details visit the website

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## GANG SHOW GOES TO HOLLYWOOD

You may recall in last year's show the Gang appeared in a flash mob video, the likes of which are popular on YouTube. The idea was that we would film all over Harpenden, seemingly ending at the Public Halls just in time for the finale.



After lots of planning over the summer, we threw ourselves into several weeks of filming in evenings and weekends. The Gang Show casts a great shadow and everyone we approached had heard of, been in, or had children in the Show. With only a few calls and emails we had offers of scuba gear, a supermarket, a

hair salon, a double decker bus and a cherry picker to name a few. Everyone went out of their way to help.



The Gang threw themselves into the project as well, and were soon doing synchronised swimming in scarves and woggles, and dancing at the station. Everyday places like the chip shop became briefly extraordinary, and to some of us will never quite be the same again. We soon had a hard drive full of video and downloaded editing software and after a

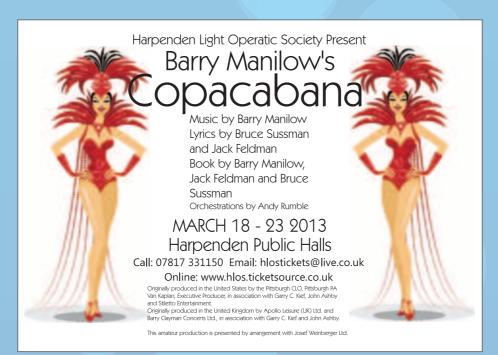
few late nights over Christmas the movie was finished.

It was worth it. Audiences cheered every night, and it became one of the highlights of the 63rd Gang Show.



For Gang Show 64 we've gone bigger and hopefully even better. Our plans have included filming every Group in the District, and key events such as St George's Day. We've gone on location, from Southend on Sea to Lake Ontario, and some of our more ambitious plans have involved helicopters and a drone flying down the High Street. We're also giving a glimpse behind the scenes into the three thousand hours it takes to put on the show. We hope you enjoy the results.

Please get in touch if you want to help with next year's film. We're particularly keen to borrow some elephants ...







## TAKING A GAP YEAR?

Fantastic Fireworks welcomes inquiries from students seeking casual employment between May & December 2013. For more details:

Email us info@fantasticfireworks.co.uk Call us 01582 485555 Visit us Rocket Park (just off the A1081 between Luton & Harpenden)

Fantastic Fireworks Ltd Rocket Park, Half Moon Lane Pepperstock, Herts LU1 4LL www.fantasticfireworks.co.uk

Did you know? We are open all year for the sale of fireworks to the general public.

Photo: Henley Summer Fireworks 2012

## FUN FACTS PART TW

## In 2012, you said ...

So much is reported about the teenagers of today but looking at the children on stage this week I felt proud of them and what they stood for. As a parent I am truly grateful for the opportunity you gave to my children and the community of Harpenden.

Once again, the cast displayed amazing versatility and talent and proved fine ambassadors for the Scouting Movement ... Long may you continue to provide enjoyment to our young people, their parents and people like me.

It clearly takes lots of energy and enthusiasm on your part to produce a show of this standard ... the motivation of everyone involved shone through during the whole of the show to create something worthy of the West End.

... a huge thank you for your continued dedication, professionalism and understanding - all that goes to making this the highlight of each New Year. As ever, the show was varied, hugely entertaining and a joy to watch.

Congratulations to the Gang on a fantastic show ... I sang along, laughed, cried ... and wanted it to last longer. The production team has created some lifelong memories for many people, job well done.

A fantastic show. Possibly your best ever. Massive congratulations on a great show.

And did you also know?

- The 1937 Gang Show was the first amateur production to have the distinction of being selected for a Royal Command Performance, an honour that was repeated in 1957 and 1964. In 2007 Harpenden Gang Show performed at the O2 arena.
- The Ralph Reader Memorial Fund was established in 1982 and aims to offer financial assistance to members of the Scout and Guide movements, in particular to young people who want to enter the theatrical profession or take part in a special activity, such as World Jamboree.
- And finally: Save the Date! The 65th Harpenden Gang Show will take place from 7th to 11th January 2014 and you won't want to miss it. Put the dates in your diary now!

Answers to the Quiz on Page 9

How well did you do?

1: The Gang's All Here; 2: B(132); 3: 154; 4: (A) 10 (B) 5 There are approximately 1100 young people involved in Scouting in the District, in 1996 there were 682!; 5: C (1934); 6: Japan (very well done if you said Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi Prefecture); 7: 25th May, William; 8: Red







(Alex - Senior Gang)





... I like the finale, it's good, the songs are fun. It's scary when the lights are in your eyes and the lights are in your friends are in you know your friends are in the crowd. It's cool standing the crowd. It's cool standing on the stage and it makes you feel energetic and nappy.

[Red of the finale, it's good, the same in your feel energetic and nappy.

This is my 4th year in Gang Show. I love hearing the audience applause! I am in a sketch this year and am enjoying it. (Finn - Junior Gang)

him?





It <sub>wasn't</sub> me!



Gang Show has forever been a part of my life; singing, dancing and being on stage life; singing, dancing and being on stage with your friends - nothing could be better. With your friends - nothing could be better. It is one of the most amazing experiences it is one of the most amazing show!

I'm going to miss Gang Show!

(Hattie - Senior Gang)

Gang Show is the biggest team challenge I have ever undertaken and at the same time feels like the biggest family I have ever been part of too. The sense of community is unforgettable and it is a great opportunity to learn all sorts of things from tap dancing to parading around the stage in a onesie that I would never have otherwise had the chance to do! (Chris - Senior Gang)

Did she really say that??

Really good. It gives you a big buzz of adrenaline. This year is better than last as the sketches are new and really fun. I really enjoy it. It is hard work and involves lots of rehearsals, which is time consuming (Charlie - Junior Gang)



I love being part of
Gang Show! All of the
rehearsals are really fun, but my
favourite by far is the performance
week when you know all of those
people have come to see you. And
the adrenaline when the curtain
opens is amazing!
(Megan - Senior Gang)



## Act 1

Feeling And Believing
At The Races
Flood Plains Drifter
Hold The Front Page!
Runaway Baby
Never Grow Up

## Act 2

On The Beach
Swimchronised
Revolution!
Give Me A Sign
Laserlight
Parents
Together



## The Gang of 2013

**Senior Gang** Nick Aldridge Howie Atton Tom Bentley George Berry Suzie Bird Hattie Blacker Matt Cook **Edward Cripps** Sophie Crompton Alex Davis Nick Davis Harry Day Megan Dixon Emma Dobson Caitlin Donnelly Fiona Elledge Lucy Elledge Sam Gisby Robert Hanson Becca Harbord Louise Harbord Andrew Harkness Beattie Hartley Callum Heyes **Eleanor Hynes Edd Ingram** James Jessop Maddie Johnson **Edward Kennington** Alistair Kerley Becca Leigh Izzie Lovegrove **Emily Mason** Tabitha Noble Christopher Pearce Annemarie Playle Lauren Porter Lucy Rainsford Alex Ray

Penny Ray
Jacob Robinson
Harry Sherwood
Thomas Slack
Jonah Slater
Matthew Smith
Daniel Solbe
George Stubbs
Maxine Tink
Tilly Todd
Chris Wharton
Tim Wheeler
Claire Wright

**Junior Gang** Macy Banks Cameron Barford Esther Batt Hannah Bedding Kirsty Bentley Jessie Campbell Ruby Chaston Philip Coxon Felicity Cripps Finn Donnelly Jay Dunbar Jasper Earley George Elledge Vita Ellis Kate Evans Tom Evans Harry Faulkner Jack Faulkner Adam Gibson Addy Gisby **Amy Griggs** William Grover Matthew Gurney Esther Harbord William Harris

Jamie Head Daniel Hubbard James Hunt Georgia Jessop Rachel Key Katie Knighton Noah Layzell Oscar Layzell James Leadbetter Robyn Luffman Matt Maloney Jack Martin Tom Martin James Mason Sarah McCullough Douglas Noble Conor Nugent **Andrew Pearce** Lucy Porter Charlotte Rainsford Jack Richardson Mark Richardson Emma Risley Alexandra Sach Rebecca Simpson Nathaniel Snowden Dominic Solbe Callum Stocks Charlie Taylor Luke Thompson Sophie Titman James Tuck Lucy Turberville Peter Turner Joanna Wharton Max Whiteway Ben Winfield Charlie Wright Cara Wyper

Weather Gang Charlie Alvis Phoebe Apsey Joshua Banks Dylan Bentley Bertie Brooks Tom Cooney Eleanor Day Alessandro De Marchis Aidan Donnelly Joseph Eagles Alexander Edwards Ben Elledge Matteo Garlich Daniel Gurney James Harris Callum Haward Adam Hodge Matthew Hubbard Joselvn Hunt **Eleanor Jones** Charlie Kennedy Sam Lewis Gethin Martin Henry Parr Owain Peter Isabelle Quigley Toby Scowcroft-Tay Matthew Shelley **Eleanor Stocks** Harry Tallantire James Titman Frederick Todd Ewan Tottv Owen Willis John Wilson Murray Wilson Molly Wright



## Behind the Scenes

Producer / Musical Director	Ewan Murray
Choreographer	Rachel Glynn
Sketch Director	Mike Layzell
Technical Director	Jeremy Finch
Assistant Choreographer	Wendy Bideau
Production Assistant	Charlie Meade
Video Director	Jon Gisby
'Flood Plains Drifter'	
written and produced by	Rikki Harrington
Assisted by	Carol Arnsby, Sarah Cripps, Liz Jack, Yvonne Lowry, Tina Miller
Stage Manager	Steph Bell
Cast Liaison	Mike Layzell
Stage Hands &	Pete Desborough, Sam Gooch, Colin Jeffs, David Keen,
Scenery Crew	Rebecca Keen, Rupert Lloyd, Darren Lowry, Sue Mann,
	Trevor Miller, Richard Mulholland, Phil Robinson, Marianne
	Wheeler, Rose Wheeler, Kit Yardley
Properties	Stuart Jack, Liz Jack, Trevor Miller
Lighting Designer	Robert Hemmin
Lighting Crew	Neil Hewitt, Keith Paddison, Daniel Peeters, Ross Wilcox
Sound	David Errock, Jeremy Finch
Wardrobe	Claire Williams, Margaret Melville, Suzie Heyes and Ginny St
	John Glew, with Liz Barringer, Elaine Brind, Helen Brind, Jill
	Coggins, Liz Davie, Cath Evans, Jane Hartley, Gill Ingram,
	Beryl Jeffs, Bridget Leadbetter, Debi Lee, Julia Lloyd, Ann
	Loader, Karen Meade, Sally Melton, Jane Murray, Jude Playle,
	M-T Spicer, Liz Wadey, Jane Walter, Judy Whyman, Pam
	Woodford-Smith
Music Arranger	Chris Pettitt
Vocal Coach	Gill Kilvert
Rehearsal Pianist	Graham Thomson
The Band	Reeds – Sue Pettitt, Hilary Robertson
	Trumpet – Rob Bryan
	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 & Katy Turberville, assisted by Richard Bates, Linda
	Dickinson, Liz Scott, Peter Wheeler, Paul Jessop and team

Foyer Display	Rod Keen
Websites	hwgangshow.org.uk
Photo CDs	hwgsshop.org.uk
Stewards	District Explorer Scouts
Refreshments	Helen Peter, Marie Whiteway, Jan Yardley & Parents
Programme	Janet Dixon, Marion Huckle
Publicity	Hannah Davies
ССТУ	Mark Hubbard
Health & Safety	Neil Liles
Gang Show Committee	Chair – Sally Clark
	Secretary and Box Office – Katie Coxon
	Treasurer – John Mulholland
Photography	Richard Washbrooke Photography
DVD	All Media Works
After-show party catering	Les Clark assisted by Carol Finch
Acknowledgements	St. John Ambulance
Video Assistance	Thomas Garlich for making us so welcome at Luton Hoo (and
	for lending his shoes!); Ahoy Rentals (rescue boat); Sheila
	Rutt (beach hut); Andrew Barford (lights); Chris Small (bus);
	Stephen James (Rothamsted Research Centre and Manor);
	Richard Hollingham (filming); Mark Vickers (helicopter);
	Harpenden Air Cadets (parachute)

## The Creative Team



Top row: Ewan; Rachel; Mike. Middle row: Jeremy; Wendy; Charlie. Bottom row: Jon; Rikki; Claire.

# THE GANG SHOW STARS 2013 Weather Gang



# THE GANG SHOW STARS 2013



## THE GANG SH













## Good Luck to the Gang Show



Pick up a leaflet for our new season in the Public Halls foyer.

www.harpendenfilmsociety.co.uk Harpenden Public Halls

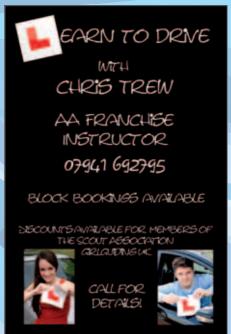


is very honoured to be associated with The Harpenden & Wheathampstead District Gang Show and to be asked to produce the programme again.

Break a leg!

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## lan Fulton

how the human spirit can all how to face adversity and the Paralympians showed us world and then in particular and welcoming face to the of volunteers gave a human as promised - the great band complex and excellent show tion proved it could deliver a Paralympics - first the na-Then the Olympics and the George VI – right up to 2013.

strength - how lucky we are - live this our lives - "together" is a marvel and a that is best in the way we can all lead in Scouting there is a microcosm of all share with you because I believe that very personal view which I want to So in ending I make no apology for a

.ddmuint

fo the full!

a continuing part - King Alfred, Henry and fascinating story of which we are cally to refresh our links in our long mostly peaceful years - and romantibe thankful for all the blessings of these Sovereign but also a time to assess and tion of the service and dedication of the lit by the scouts - not just a celebrathe Jubilee - and the beacon here was events despite all the problems. First full of valuable and upliffing

very difficult times - days

tionally and internationally

the year just ended - na-

to look back and reflect on However, for once it is good

ahead in the year to come. challenge for all that is still

hard work involved and a

vivid evidence of all the we enter the New Year-

splendid fanfare as Show acts as a

S ALWAYS the Gang

V, Queen Elizabeth, William and Mary,

Chairman, District Scout Executive

## Scout Shop

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(term time) Every 4th Monday of the month mq00.7 of 00.8







## **Awards**

## The Silver Acorn Award has been presented to:

**Jan Yardley** Appointments Secretary and founder member of Harpenden ACA

Kit Yardley District Administrator and founder member of Harpenden ASU and Busby International ASU member (local District and HQ)

John Clifton ASU coordinator

**Jan Spragge** GSL 1st Wheathampstead

**Don Sykes** Chairman Appointments Sub- Committee.

The Silver Acorn is awarded on the recommendation of the Chief Scout for long and exceptional service.

Congratulations!

## Chief Scout's Awards to Beavers. Cubs, Scouts and Explorers

Beaver Scouts:

30 Chief Scout's Awards (Bronze)

Cub Scouts:

38 Chief Scout's Awards (Silver)

Scouts:

15 Chief Scout's Awards (Gold)

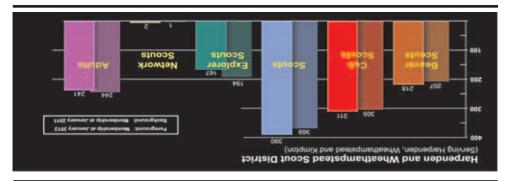
Explorer Scouts:

4 Chief Scout's Awards (Platinum), and 2 Young Leader belts.

Congratulations to all the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers who achieved their Section's top award.

Well done all!

## District Statistics



2012, aged 80. A great loss: she will be remembered.

<u>lan Fulton.</u> For 30 years of service to Scouting as Chairman of the District Executive, Ian received the Long Service Award.

**Ewan Murray.** Ewan was awarded the Annual Town Council Award of Merit for outstanding contribution to the community over many years.

## District News

Mew Groups and Units. Following the recent success of the 2nd Harpenden start-up, two more are underway: the 5th Harpenden at Batford Methodist Church and Dora Explorer Unit at Tallents Crescent. Both have high membership. Crescent. Both have high membership.

Page Eighteen

## Active Support Unit

possible, we will be pleased to help. For those adults who would like to help but cannot give regular support to a Scout Group or Explorer Unit, the Active Support Unit may be the solution.

The ASU team meets formally a few times each year but will mobilise at any time to help with the local Groups' and District's projects. This could involve anything of a practical nature but always within your abilities. The team gets together ocasionally for a social event to keep in touch.

To find out more, contact:

Dave Lowndes, Chairman, Scout
Active Support Unit via
www.harpendenscouts.org.uk.



to helping all Groups, for example, by manning bases, marshalling events, catering and camp support. Leaders can call on the Active Support Unit and providing we have enough notice, sufficient people available and the tasks are cient people available and the tasks are

Unit is a team of adults dedicated

## Five Reasons to be a Leader

**Strengthening youth.** Our commitment to youth is ultimately about community. We want youth to arrive at adulthood, capable, fulfilled and mindful to participate. It is an adult impulse to want to assist youth's journey and Scout leadership is among the best ways to influence the outcomes.

**Personal growth.** Leading young people is a many-sided challenge. It needs insight and judgement, skill and energy, a youthful spirit and commitment. Always confidence grows, more is understood and there is personal growth.

Join in the fun. If Scouting isn't fun it isn't really Scouting. It has its serious moments but our engine is fun and adventure. Leaders not only facilitate it but become part of it.

Social opportunity. Adults need to connect with other people. Scouting is so adults. Friendship is natural to Scouting.

To be a scout. Adults too need an ethical code beyond playing the role model. There is integrity in being a scout: it's personal, valuable and Scouting at it's best. Page Seventeen

## Scouting as a District



Carnival The District at Harpenden's

Competition County's Green Beret Harpenden teams at the





мкеаth

planting trees



Hohoe in Ghana Games with Ghanaians at work, map, compass and fire. popular adult events for rope-Leaders at Skill Boosters--



## Shackleton Explorer Scout Unit



- First time entry of 2 teams (with KES) into Chiltern Challenge.
- Ran the tea and cake stall at the St George's Day Parade.
- Ran a first camp in the Peak District.

Everyone at Shackleton would like to thank all those who have helped us get established this year and we look forward to doing loads more things during the coming years.

Mike Weston ESL

HACKLETON EXPLORER Scout Unit, based at the 3rd Scout 3 January (none of us are superstitutious!) 2012. The logo (inset) and our black and yellow colour scheme were designed by the explorers.

A pioneering group of 6 would-be explorers joined 3 new leaders – one escaping from Cubs and 2 enticed in from outside – under the wing of KES for the Autumn term until they had established themselves as a separate Unit in January. Shackleton has since grown to 25 explorers, and is on its way to 50, when explorers, and is on its way to 50, when the HQ will reach bursting point!

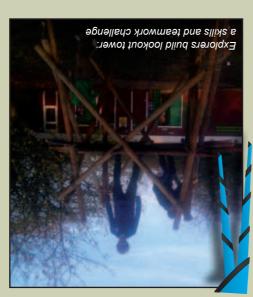
2012 has therefore been a year of firsts for Shackleton:

■ A first night hike - on the coldest day of year, down to -12 °C! (See picture).



Page Fifteen

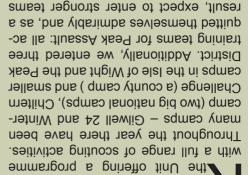
## Kinsbourne Explorer Scout Unit



All events have been well supported and enjoyed by all.

During this year four of our explorers have completed their Chief Scout's Platinum Awards, which is a great achievement, and are ready to embark on the Scout's Diamond Award. We have several others who have nearly completed the requirements for the Chief Scout's Platinum Award while a new group of explorers is ready to take on the challenge.

Nigel Marriot ESL



TES HAS HAD another great year with its numbers doubling and

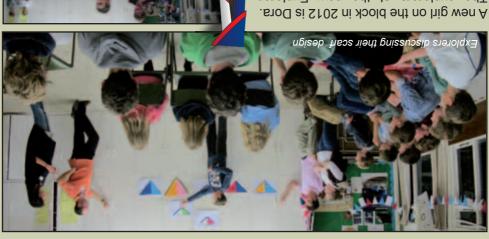
for the full competition later this year.

KES members have been busy giving back to their local community too. This year they have helped with the Jubilee Teas on the Common, the 9th Aarpenden Christmas Tree carrying, and the Fun Run in Rothamsted Park amongst other events. Supporting the local community is an important part of the KES ethos and the explorers do of the KES ethos and the explorers do the KES ethos and the explorers do the KES ethos and the explorers do of the KES ethos and the explorers do the KES ethos and the explorers do make the image of youth a positive one.

Programme activities have been varied from rafting to a night hike (in -15°C!), pioneering and joint meetings with pioneering and HESU building crossbows.



## Dora Explorer Scout Unit



year. white and blue to reflect this Jubilee ethos of the new Unit. Our scarf is red, a fun name that reflects the intended whelming majority vote. So we have Batford, chose its name by an over-Scout Unit based at Tallents Crescent, The explorers at the new Explorer

A self supporting square

The first game Dora Explorers played

Units at camps next summer including they will be joining explorers from other

the international camp at Kandersteg.

such as cooking, climbing and caving. the more traditional scouting activities and film nights as well as some of scavenger hunt, night hike, bonfires Activities have included golf, games, mained very high throughout the term.

into a Unit. Attendance levels have reto make new friends as they develop six different Troops and have all had The new explorers have come from

enccess: are looking good for the Unit to be a It is early days but the initial indications

towards their Platinum Awards and Several explorers have started work

ESF Bruce Crawford

## WAK Explorer Scout Unit



and our on-going training in orienteering and outdoor cooking.

Dan Bangs ESL

HE UNIT HAD a successful back-to-basics camp Summer 2011 and early this year we attended the Chiltern Challenge, now a UK wide competition featuring assault courses and orienteering. We have held two fundraising camps: Moto GP in June and T1 in July at Silverstone.

This Summer we went to Austria for canyoning, mountain biking, visiting castles, swimming in lakes, high ropes, film making and a journey down a 2.2mile alpine 2-man roller coaster. Very sucessful and all great fun!

We recently helped clean the River Lea as part of our Community Week activity.

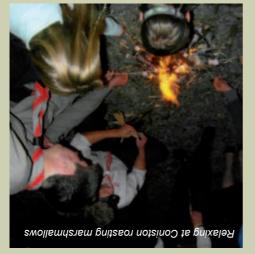
WAK and KESU have held two joint events, both very successful. Other events have included First Aid training, a self-defence class, Zumba dancing



## Harpenden Explorer Scout Unit







with some very successful events with some very successful events including one of the best 'Old a weekend sway to the Brecon Bescons in South Wales where we took part in some great hiking and mountain biking and then our summer Expedition to coniston in the Lake District where 30 coniston in the Lake District where 30 explorers and leaders spent a fantastic explorers and leaders spent a fantastic explorers and leaders spent a fantastic

Our most recent success was last month at Hertfordshire Peak Assault in Llanthony, South Wales where we came away with trophies for the overall Explorer competition and the highest placed all female team - it was a massively impressive display by all of the sively impressive display by all of the HESU teams including 4 teams in the top 10.

high ropes experience at Go Apel

ESL Wike Howells

### 1st Wheathampstead Scout Group

Christmas post. The Group made £361.93 at the Scout ies & Rainbows of Wheathampstead.

them to their parents & made £21.74 for lenge cooked biscuits & cakes and sold Mead Cubs for their community chal-

Great Ormond Street Hospital.

joined in with great gusto and took the activities went ahead. The parents all excellent which meant all the planned ing, including leaders. The weather was in September. There were 70 attendwhich was held at Phasels Wood the first family camp for the Group HE HIGHLIGHT of the year was

įλι competition very serious-

awake very early! the cubs - they were still didn't dampen the spirit of to the heavy rain but it to be spent indoors due offers. The first night had the activities that the site taking advantage of all camp at Tolmers in June The Cubs held a joint

Troop camped at Wells next to the Sea. Scout campsite in Essex while Lamer Amwell Troop camped at Witham, a

Park. including a day out at an Adventure All the usual scout activities took place

Leaders didn't get a soaking!! firemen were on hand to make sure the have a go with the hoses - luckily the Fire Station where they were allowed to most of all enjoyed a visit to the local The Beavers have been very busy and

dogs and a campfire to finish. Pack enjoyed a firework party with hot The Beavers, Cubs & a local Brownie

Carol Service with the Guides, Brown-The Group held its eleventh Christmas



ont own area. money was raised but we helped tidy we did a litter pick in the village. No

For the Group's Community Challenge

It's been a good year.



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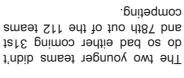
### 1st Kimpton Scout Group

# St George Scouts help at

### ET'S CELEBRATE!

First for the amazing success of our scouts in the Hert-fordshire Green Beret Challenge. The Troop entered three teams this year. Our team of older scouts finished first in

three out of the four challenges and were overall county winners of the Green Beret Trophy. This really is a fabulous achievement and we are all so proud of them – huge congratulations to Austin, Charlie, Declan, Jacob, Jonah and Rory. They demonstrated real determination, all with great skill and humour, to overcome stiff competition... and mud!





This great result is the culmina-

tion of years of involvement in the Kimpton Scout Group, with the young people starting off in Beavers, moving to Cubs and then putting all they have learnt into practice once they are in Scouts. As leaders we are proud of the achievements of all our teams, and as a village community, share this pride in our young people.

Secondly, we must celebrate our fantastic Cub Leader, Pete Desborough who, in Movember, was presented with the Bear Grylls' Special Merit Award by the County Commissioner for his many years dedicated service to Scouting. Many in Kimpton can vouch for his huge contribution to Scouting in the village. Many thanks and well done Pete!

The Group has fared well over the year: all Sections busy and active. Membership strength has held steady with slight growth in the Beaver Colony. It's been a great year!

Annie New BSL



floods and squalls throughout the 10 days and enjoyed themselves enormously, even to the extent of booking for the 2015 event the moment they got back home.

First place in the County Cooking Competition and 3rd place in Green Beret were notable achievements and the scouts have flown, sailed, canoed, karted, performed and mountaineered this year and raised over £2,000 for local charities plus £590 for a Shelter Box.





EAVERS CONCENTRATED on their Outdoor, Fitness and Friendship Challenges which included sensory exploration of Rothamsted

a sensory exploration of Rothamsted Park, planning a healthy meal and making fruit smoothies, and learning about living in Australia and the USA. They also made progress in the Sporting Adventure Challenge and many activity badges. 8 beavers attained the Chief Scouts Bronze Award.

Meanwhile our Cub Leader team were augmented by two Young Leaders, Anna and Rupert, who were the first in the County to attain the Young Leaders' belt.

The Pack camped at Lees Wood and enjoyed a Pack holiday with a pirate theme at Phasels Wood. Cubs hiked several times, sometimes with the 1st Wheathampstead Cubs; learnt about the World Scout Jamboree; cooked in many doors and out, and engaged in many other activities.

Together with the 1st and 4th Harpenden Troops, the scouts went to Haarlem again, this time via Eurostar, for the 2011 Scout Jamborette. 30 scouts and 9 leaders enjoyed sunshine, hail,

We are very grateful to our huge team of energetic dedicated leaders who along with the executive committee create such fantastic opportunities for all the 10th Harpenden members.

Katy Turberville AGSL





ATThe 10TH AHARPENDEN we are celebrating our

50th year. We have been very busy. Our two Beaver colonies, Tree & River have painted cars, made instruments, rockets & bird feeders, explored archaeology and taken part in their Olympic Challenges.

Our two Cub Packs, Fox & Swift have camped, cooked, cycled, been charitable and conserved trees. Swift Pack have raised funds to sponsor a street child in Colombia and Fox Pack has heard all about life in Uganda and are supporting Spotlight on Africa.

Our two very active Scout Troops, Mercia and Wessex have skied, slept over in the headquarters, scrambled on mountain bikes, flown in gliders and spent a hot summer camp on the Dorset coast.

Commissioner. missioner and Tim Kidd the UK Chief Commissioner, Rikki our County Comto be visited by Jane Murray our District course a campfire! We were delighted lenges, party food, a huge cake and of ing games, It's a Knockout, Team Chalwe had a birthday celebration. Involvhome of Scouting, and on the Sunday All 200 of us travelled to Gilwell, the over the bank holiday weekend in May. ebrations was at our Group camp held neckerchiefs. The main focus of the celwhich is worn on brand new gold edged had a special badge designed by 2 cubs To commemorate the occasion we have as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. 2012 is a special year for us as a Group

camp life. in the hut giving them their first taste of shire. Beavers had a great sleepover and a Wild West Camp in Buckinghamsaurs in the Natural History Museum action packed night amongst the dinochearnhead. The cubs spent an

all. Again, a great weekend of activities for ers and attracted around 100 people. faces: last year it took place at Tolmlarge numbers and brings in lots of new Our family camp continues to attract



committed people. to be part of such a wonderful team of tee work. As GSL I am extremely proud with the hut management and commitgroup of willing volunteers who help us Group is also well supported by a large activities, camps and days out. The fer our scouts a full range of scouting run such fabulous programmes. We ofhard work of our dedicated leaders who Our work cannot take place without the

> plans for a new hut have been apa very busy and exciting year. The HE 9TH HARPENDEN have had Scou<mark>ts co</mark>nsult their map during a hike

taking place every month by our fantasraising the capital required with events proved and we are now enthusiastically

tic fundraising team.

Heartwood Forest earlier in the year. All hands on deck! They also helped at liantly for both scouts and the charity. Santa Collection-which worked brilscouts helped with the Round Table supporting the community too. The The Sections have been out and about

Peak District and a fantastic week in Locluded a week in Devon, nights in the Scout camps in the Group have in-

Elisabeth Grover GSL

famous Cuckoree Camp followed by the lighting of the Jubilee beacon at Gilwell Park.

The highlight for cubs this year was the Kinvig Reunion when a BBQ was held and all ex Kinvig cubs invited to attend. The Pack was reopened in April 1992 with Carol Dunsterville, Elaine Brind and Vivienne Davis. Moira Carrington attended who is Kim Kinvig's daughter from then the Pack got its name.

Having spent two years fundraising, scouts eventually attended the Haarlem Jamborette in Holland for ten days. They held Heaven & Hell and Mission Impossible camps where they invited other Troops in the District to join them. Four of the Groups' scouts attended the World of the Groups' scouts attended the World Jamboree in Sweden.

Bring the adventure on for yet another year!

Elaine Brind GSL

HE GROUP CONTINUES to thrive with a very strong leadership team.
Elaine Brind stepped down as Akela after 12 years and was succeeded by Helen, who will bring a new fun and creative atmosphere to develop the Pack furtive atmosphere to develop the Pack furtive

Joint section activities included a visit to London for the Trooping of the Colour, pantomime in St Albans and the Harpenden miracle that is the Gang

Show.

All sections held terrific sleep-overs or camps. Beavers visited Paradise Wildlife Park and the Transport Museum followed by a sleep-over. Cubs held a Robin Hood Camp, a Circus Pack holiiday and their

Scouts build and race rafts









3 course meals. All in all, we have had another great year full of interest, activity and memories.

The membership in every Section has held steady, we have been moderately successful with fundraising and the money raised has been split between charities and our HQ development.

A Group Family Camp is planned for the Autumn which apart from the fun, will give us an opportunity to say thank you to all who make the 3rd a success.

Trevor Lilley SL



## Water, cooking and flying the flag! Another great Scouting year

E LIKE ENJOYING ourselves

with a purpose and there is about-in-the-river. Beavers got the hang of their raft and crewed it magnificently. The scouts did much the same but in canoes and once they're in you can't get them out! — except perhaps when there is a cooking competition: the scouts enjoyed practising for entry to the county joyed practising for entry to the county cooking competition creating delicious

We think we can claim the nation's deepest ever investiture since we invested 4 new scouts at the bottom of the deepest cave in the country, and were told by the instructor that no other Scout Troop had done that before.

We had fantastic fun making and performing on a float for the Carnival, showing off the range of outdoor activities that scouts get up to, with even a canoe paddling down a river on the back of a tractor. Is there no limit? We were proud to come 2nd in the float competition in our first entry, if somewhat suspicious that the 1st Harpenden Brownies came that the 1st Harpenden Scouts came 2nd. We'll pretend to be the 0th Harpenden Scouts came 2nd. We'll pretend to be the 0th

Phil Murray GSL

HE 2ND HAS HAD a very satisfactory second year! All of our sections are full to bursting, and we have now started to talk about splitting our Scout Troop into two, so we'll be getting our thinking caps on before

too long about the naming issues.

There's been a great emphasis through all the Sections on the outdoors with hikes and other fresh air activities. Our Mights Away totals are building quickly with one or two of our young people reaching some very impressive personal totals. There was a nice moment at the end of March when all three Sections were on nights away at the same tions were on nights away at the same over at the 9th HQ, the cubs enjoyed a over at the 9th HQ, the cubs enjoyed a space camp at Tolmers and the scouts enjoyed some great hiking and climbing enjoyed some great hiking and climbing

in Derbyshire.

Scouts are invested in a cave: the deepest investiture on record



Our Troop spent a lot of time under canvas, notably at the Haarlem Jambo-rette, Green Beret and the joint camp

Our Cub Pack is at full strength. Many cubs have been awarded Challenge and Activity badges and a proud few achieved their Chief Scout Award. Looking wider, we shared activities with Fox Pack (10th), joined in with the District Camp, the Fun Day and the Six-a-Side competition. Our cubs and Six-a-Side competition. Our cubs did well. There have also been widedid well. There have also been wide-

Our Beaver Colony is thriving with a varied programme keeping the beavers busy and active.

GOOD YEAR. It started with all Sections coming together for our life theme was space: scouts made the rocket launchers, beavers and cubs made the rockets.



Sean Lowry GSL

at Easter.

On behalf of all the scouts in every Section, a huge thanks to all those who have helped make our Scout year work so well and a special thanks to Paul Bedding, who stepped down as Akela

organised by the 4th. The scouts' programme featured local knowledge which, through sheer enthusiasm, involved building a bridge across the river Lea. Other highlights include fire-lighting, planning hikes and building Easter egg catapults.

### 1st Harpenden Scout Group

### Jane's Round-Up



could be. If not you, do you know anyone who could fill this role? It is rewarding and enjoyable which is why most of our leaders stay in role for several years.

I am not the greatest at asking for help, but please spread the word and ask any potential helpers to get in touch so we can make next year a great year for we can make next year a great year for hear from you.....

Jane Murray
District Commissioner

AM IMMENSELY proud to be District.
Commissioner for this Scout District.
Tonight you will get a glimpse of why, but not nearly the whole picture. These young people don't just sing and dance with Scouts, they camp, hike, climb, pothole and sail. They win tough County competitions, deliver thousands of Christmas cards to help the elderly in our town and they fundraise for other charities. Perhaps most importantly charities. Perhaps most importantly they have fun doing all these things.

Harpenden Scouting has many unsung heroes who give up time each week to provide quality Scouting to our youth but we need more. So if you are reading this and you are not already a leader, please give thought to whether you



# outdoor gear for scouts and all the family

from The RuckShak in Harpenden

Vango Trangia Bridgedale Craghoppers DofE approved kit from



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