

HARPENDEN AND
WHEATHAMPSTEAD
DISTRICT SCOUTS

68th

2017 **GANG
SHOW**



scouts

be prepared . . .

NOW HOLDING AT LEAST FOURTEEN PUBLIC AUCTIONS EVERY WEEK

Check out our Brand New App – Haddons Online for an even more convenient way to bid for Great Stock

Haddon & James

Hertfordshire's Number 1 Premier Saleroom

Massive online sales up to 4000 lots featuring • End of Line / Discontinued Stock • Liquidation Stocks • Bankruptcy and Clearance goods • Seized Goods / Police Recovered • Vehicles • Jewellery and Watches

Thought an auction room was full of dusty old furniture and dusty old dealers? Think again – our sales are full of the latest products from Apple, LG, Samsung, Toshiba, and many more.

You can now take part in ALL our sales from your home or office , or even from your tablet in the coffee bar!



Tablets, Laptops, Smart TV'S, Power Tools, Diamond Jewellery, Designer Fragrances, Radio Control Gadgets and Toys, Designer Watches and much more.

23 Porters Wood, St. Albans, Herts, AL3 6PQ
Tel: 01727 846090 enquiries@haddonandjames.co.uk
www.haddonandjames.co.uk



From our Committee Chair

Welcome to the 2017 Gang Show. As usual when I write this it is half term and rehearsals are underway with some urban attitude replacing the Brazilian sambas of last year's dance. Songs have been learnt and dances memorised by a new host of talented young people.

People have been working hard both with the Gang and behind the scenes to pull together this year's extravaganza for you, the audience. Seconds, minutes and hours added up would come to many years of work being undertaken by volunteers in order to create moments of mirth, memories of magic and inspiration for you to take away at the end of the Show this evening.

What we can sometimes forget is that the young people who are on stage performing tonight and across this week spend many other hours together walking, climbing, cooking, undertaking challenges and donating hours of service to the community. And in so doing, they grow up better equipped to play meaningful roles in society. I never fail to be surprised when I suddenly find out that people around me at work have also been involved in Scouting in various parts of the country. And then rather than be surprised I recognise in each of those people the special qualities that you can see in the characters up on the stage in front of you tonight - people who put others first, who will spend time helping others and who are aware that it takes time and effort to create something special! Like the Gang Show!

So, enjoy tonight, laugh a lot, smile, clap, tap your toes and cheer (at appropriate times of course) and remember you will be taking home the memory of something really very special: our 68th Show, the longest continuously running Gang Show in the world.

PS...Please do not distract the Gang after all their hard work by taking photographs, making any recordings or calling out names of individual cast members during the show. Thank you.

*sally
clark*



PPS...There are amazing photos from the Show with thanks to Richard Washbrooke. Check them out and order for yourself directly from Richard at either www.richardwashbrooke.photoshelter.com (then click on "Galleries" then click on the folder called "Scouting") or on a CD via www.hwgangshow.org.uk.

PPPS...Not only great photos but a DVD of the show, taken by Galaxy Video, is available to order via our website at www.hwgangshow.org.uk

The Gang Show is based on an idea by the late Ralph Reader CBE

Jessop &co

Chartered Surveyors &
Commercial Property Advisors
Offices in Harpenden & Luton

“On a crest of a wave”
proud to support the 68th Gang Show

01582 742 664

www.jessopco.co.uk

Commercial property advice
for Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire

INTRODUCTION

From our District Commissioner

The Gang Show comes around every year at the beginning of January, but somehow it always seems, to me at least, like the culmination of the previous year. Maybe that is because the planning for this Show started as soon as the curtain came down on the last one, and I know a huge amount of effort goes into the Show even before rehearsals start in September. So before the Show begins, let's take a quick look back at 2016.

Cubs turned 100 years old during 2016. That's 100 years of fun, 100 years of adventure and 100 years of trying something new. Many of our Cubs were lucky enough to join in the Cubs Centenary Camp at Gilwell Park, or the Herts Cub 100 Camp at Tolmers. And anyone who joined in our District Centenary Chase in Wheathampstead will remember the sight of wildlife expert and adventurer Steve Backshall arriving by helicopter and running across the field to share his enthusiasm for Scouting with them.

As Steve Backshall shared with us at the time, he went animal tracking for the first time whilst a Cub, and developed his love of animals, camping and the outdoors all while in Scouting. Not every Beaver, Cub or Scout will become a wildlife expert and adventurer, but no-one knows where the skills they learn and challenges they experience may take them. While you wait for the Show to start, turn this programme over and take a look at the broad range of activities that have taken place across the District during 2016.

Now we have started 2017, planning is already well under way for another exciting year and there is certainly a lot to look forward to but it begins with our 68th Gang Show. So sit back, enjoy and make some noise!

Russell Brooks

PS...We are currently short of leaders across the District. If you would like more information about getting involved with Scouting, please e-mail me at DC-Harpenden@virginmedia.com

PPS...Bob Finch has this year stepped down from the role of Show week Duty Manager after ten years. We thank Bob for his years of commitment, including seven as business committee chair, plus being a parent and grandparent to members of the Gang. I'm sure he'll still be a regular audience member for years to come.

*Russell
Brooks*



Skye

Optometrists

Independent Optometrists and Contact Lens Practitioners

- Designer frames & sunglasses
- Full contact lens service
- Glaucoma screening
- Retinal photography
- Vision related dyslexia assessments

tel: 01582 712845

www.skyes.co.uk

1 Bowers Parade, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2SH



R&M Butchers

We offer a comprehensive range of Black Gold Beef as well as selling fresh pork, lamb, chicken, ducks and game (when in season). All our sausages, beef and lamb burgers are freshly homemade on site.

R & M Butchers, 10 Station Road, HARPENDEN, AL5 4SE
Tel: 01582 969 819

Open Monday - Saturday



**FREE DELIVERY
AVAILABLE**

INSPIRATION

From the Producer

Old, new, borrowed, blue

Something old ... No, I don't just mean certain members of the crew! Gang Show started in 1932, with our version starting in 1949. The format is traditional and has stood us in good stead, and members of the audience of a certain age will recognise many tunes from their youth. The original spirit of Gang Show remains strong and steadfast in everything we do. It's a key ingredient in the vibrancy and strength of local Scouting.

Something new ... While the consistency of backstage stalwarts is a huge element of our success, the addition of newer team members like Fiona, Kat, Martine and Nuria ensures we stay on our toes and keeps things fresh. And of course we add new Gang members on stage every year.

Something borrowed ... There's nothing new under the sun. As Scouting's UK Technical Adviser for Staged Performances I see many Gang Shows every year from the South Coast to Scotland. I'm usually invited to review the Show, but it also allows me to check out the competition as well as steal ideas ... er, I mean participate in best practice! But seriously there is great camaraderie between Shows across the country and we often share sketches, musical arrangements, scripts, costumes and props.

Something blue ... Not on my watch!

This year we had 244 Cubs, Scouts and Explorers apply for 153 places in the Gang. And for every young person on stage there is an adult or another young person supporting behind the scenes. The enthusiasm for this annual event – onstage, backstage and in the audience – never seems to wane.

So whether you're an old hand, are new to this game, borrowed the money to buy a ticket or just feeling blue, sit back and let us entertain you tonight.

"These are the days worth living, these are the years we're given and these are the moments, these are the times; let's make the best out of our lives."

*Ewan
Murray*



BE GOOD AT BEING YOURSELF

TASTER
SESSIONS
AVAILABLE

Unlock your child's potential with
Stagecoach Performing Arts

Singing, dancing and acting classes for
4 - 16 year olds, where students learn
to embrace life with creativity and courage

Find out more today:

 stagecoach.co.uk/harpenden

 harpenden@stagecoach.co.uk

 01525 717567



Creative Courage For Life®

© Stagecoach Performing Arts. All rights reserved. Stagecoach and the Stagecoach logo are registered trademarks of Stagecoach Limited. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

PAN AUTO SERVICES



INDEPENDENT TYRE
SUPPLIERS TO ALL TYRE USERS

Grove Road, Harpenden, Herts. AL5 1PX.

www.panautos.co.uk

E-mail: info@panautos.co.uk

Fast Fit/Tyres/M.O.T'S 01582 764322

Servicing 01582 469955



FIRST STOP TYRE CENTRES

The complete one stop for
all your car's needs:

TYRES
EXHAUSTS
BRAKES
M.O.T'S
BATTERIES
SHOCKS
SERVICING
CLUTCHES

REFLECTION

Why do we do Gang Show?

Sitting in the audience you might be wondering what Gang Show is all about, so we thought we would share with you a brief history of this Gang Show and why we do it.

Gang Show started as the idea of Ralph Reader CBE as a West End show in 1932. He wrote some of the songs that we'll be singing tonight including "On the Crest of a Wave" and "Together". Scouts in Harpenden and Wheathampstead performed their first Gang Show in October 1949 and then January 1951 and have been performing each year ever since. Since 1994 there has been no performer on stage aged over 18 in order to allow the maximum number of young people to take part.

So why do we do it?

For the Explorers, Scouts and Cubs, it is to give them a chance to shine, smile and do something that they may not have a chance to do any other time.

For you watching the Show, there is nothing better as an adult and nothing more likely to make you smile and feel young again than to watch our young people having fun on stage. Or to make young people in the audience want to join the Show.

For Scouting in the District, what better way to promote our active Scouting community than to put on 6 shows performing to over 2,000 people in the space of a week.

To raise funds, because each week over 1,200 young people aged 6 - 25 take part in Scouting in the District and each year our Show raises over £5,000 to help allow these young people to have fun. This avoids the levy that many other Districts have to put on their annual subscriptions and means that Scouting is accessible to all regardless of circumstance.

Maybe for some of you it brings back very happy memories when you were up there on stage, for others this may be your first Gang Show experience. We hope that for all of you watching you enjoy the Show and leave here today smiling and amazed by our young people.





Stay prepared with Neves

Legal advice when you need it most



We provide a range of legal services for
both individuals and businesses

Your complete legal solution

Call 01582 715234

Contact info@nevesllp.co.uk

Visit www.nevesllp.co.uk

Drop in Tollgate House, 69-71 High Street, Harpenden, AL5 2SL

Offices also in Luton, Milton Keynes & Northampton



INVENTION

How it all happens

Gang Show takes a vast amount of time, love and enthusiasm (not to mention coffee, chocolate and biscuits) to turn from the fevered imaginings of the Creative Team into what you are seeing tonight. Here's a quick look at how it all happens ...

Choosing the songs

Every year the Creative Team, with help from the Gang, chooses songs and sketches that are designed to appeal to the various age groups in the Gang and in the audience. It's no coincidence that you'll probably hear a song that's close to your heart in the repertoire tonight, whether you are 18 or 81! Planning starts as soon as the last Show finishes and the songs and sketches are confirmed by early June each year. However, they remain top secret until July!



Choosing the Gang

Anyone who attends Cubs, Scouts or Explorers regularly can apply for one of 153 places. No prior talent or experience is required and there is no audition to get in. The Show is so popular, we had a waiting list of 92 this year.

Preview Day

The Creative Team runs a Preview Day in July, two months before rehearsals start. This is when the Gang gets to hear the songs and themes in store for them.



The whole Preview Day allows the Creative Team to check out the talent available.

Those that want to get the opportunity to show the Gang what they can do (be it comedy, conjuring, singing, dancing, playing an instrument, acting) have an opportunity in our "Gang Show's Got Talent" section.



The Gang

Sitting in the audience, looking at the happy, whirling mass of singing children, you might not realise that the Gang is made up of several parts: Mini Gang, Junior Gang, Senior Gang and Dance Team.

Here's a guide to the Gangs:

Mini Gang (unique features: noisy and enthusiastic)

The small but feisty ones! They are 10 and 11 year olds and are a mixture of older Cubs and younger Scouts.



Over 4 months, Rikki Harrington, Kat Foster-Jenkins and many other helpers tame them from hyped up wild things into highly trained thespians.

They star in a 14-minute feature of singing, dancing and acting, and also appear in the finale in the Friday and Saturday Shows. You'll see them tonight in "Poles Apart".





Junior Gang (unique features: easily distracted and know it's uncool to look like you're enjoying yourself)

64 11- to 14-year olds form the Junior Gang. They are involved in much more of the Show than Mini Gang. You'll see them in the opening number,

at least one song in each main musical item of the Show and the finale.

Some of them also pop up in sketches!



Senior Gang (unique features: have the ability to smile until their faces hurt)

Explorers from across the District make up the Senior Gang. They practice at

least once a week for the 17 weeks before the Show.

The saddest part is saying goodbye when they hit 18 years old. There will be some red eyes at the finale as the older ones say goodbye forever.





Dance Team and Soloists (unique features: immunity from embarrassment and amazing enthusiasm, tendency to break into a tap dance)

At the end of the July Preview Day, the Senior Gang dance the

routines learned earlier in the day, with the Creative Team finally nominating 8 boys and 8 girls as "the Front Row". This nickname for the principle dancers of the Gang stems from the fact that "back in the day" the 16 best dancers did end up at the front most of the time to hide the alleged misgivings of the rest of the cast. "Front Row" is a misnomer these days, as everyone gets the chance to shine.



Rehearsals

We asked a clever mathematician to calculate how many rehearsal hours each member of the Gang puts in and we were surprised by the results:

Mini Gang = $23\frac{1}{2}$ hours

Junior Gang = $47\frac{1}{2}$ hours

Senior Gang = $63\frac{1}{2}$ hours

Dance Team = $47\frac{3}{4}$ hours plus the Senior Gang hours = $111\frac{1}{4}$ hours!

(All this means the volunteer Creative Team attends $182\frac{1}{4}$ hours of rehearsal, not to mention all the preparation before and during rehearsal time that the cast never sees!)

PERSPIRATION

In the Wings - backstage

At the end of every performance the Gang Show cast are cheered, clapped and praised. But a crucial part of a live performance happens behind the scenes and in the months leading up to the Show. There are 153 on stage and 154 "crew", including crew members who were once Cubs or Scouts on the same stage.

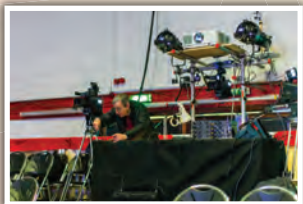
Some of our backstage crew have been involved for a year, some for 43 years! And they are as much a part of the 'WOW' factor as anyone.



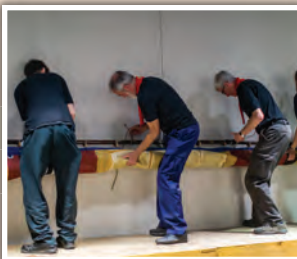
Almost 1,000 costumes are produced for each Show. At least 12 people work behind the scenes each night, ironing and sewing.



There are weeks spent painting and drawing the various scenes, which is a massive task equivalent to painting the front of an average sized house several times over.



Miles of wiring and countless light bulbs and LEDs light up the stage.



After hours of practice, dancing, ironing, sewing, painting and singing was it worth it? We leave that to you to decide. Ask any of us on stage or behind it, we will say "Yes, most definitely".



HICKS

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
AUDIT & TAX SPECIALISTS



We are an established local firm, providing tax and accountancy services tailored to your needs.
We offer a range of services to help you, including;

- Free Initial Consultation
- Personal Tax Returns
- Tax Planning
- Sole Trade, Partnership and Limited Company Accounts,
- Bookkeeping and Payroll
- Specialists in Business Startups and Company Formation
- Independent Financial Advice

Offices in;

- Harpenden. Vaughan Chambers, Vaughan Road,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 4EE. Tel: 01582 766677
- Harpenden. 8 Harding Parade, Station Road,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 4SW. Tel: 01582 463590
- Hemel Hempstead. 83 High Street, Hemel Hempstead,
Hertfordshire, HP1 3AH Tel: 01442 214666



www.hicks.co.uk

Registered to Carry on Audit Work by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales.
Authorised and Regulated to carry on Investment Business by the Financial Conduct Authority.



PARTICIPATION

On the Crest of a Wave

♪ We're riding along on the crest of a wave ♪
And the sun is in the sky
All our eyes on the distant horizon;
♪ Look out for passers-by. ♪
We'll do the hailing,
While other ships are round us sailing
♪ We're riding along on the crest of a wave ♪
And the world is ours.

Thank you to The Scout Association for permission to reproduce the words to Ralph Reader's famous songs

Together

♪ Together, when we're all together ♪
We know how lucky we are.
The world around us is everything
The sound of music, the songs we sing -
♪ And even from the coldest winter ♪
The warmest summer arrives.
We share together, when we're together
♪ The best years of our lives. ♪

DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS

Music and Lyrics by Book by
DAVID YAZBEK JEFFREY LANE

Harpenden Public Halls
28 March - 1 April 2017

hlos.ticketsource.co.uk
hlostickets@live.co.uk

Based on the film "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels". Written by Dale Launer and Stanley Shapiro & Paul Henning. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Limited on behalf of Music Theatre International of New York.

The Denture Clinic

The Complete Denture Service



Denture repairs while you wait

Open Weekends

New dentures direct by
qualified denturist

Easy Parking, ground floor
3 minutes from junction 10 on M1

01582 462880

www.thedentureclinic.org.uk

Paul Ahern Dip CDT.RCS(Eng) 2007
397 Luton Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 3NF



DEDICATION

Behind the Scenes

Producer / Musical Director	Ewan Murray
Creative Director / Principal Choreographer	Cathy Washbrooke
Junior Gang Directors	Jemma Finch and Fiona McCarthy
Technical Director	Jeremy Finch
Choreographers	Wendy Bideau, Nuria Martinez, Martine Moody
Vocal Coach	Robin Hilton
Junior Gang Assistants	Nicky Lewis, Amanda Pym
"Poles Apart" Mini Gang item	
Written and produced by	Rikki Harrington
Assisted by	Kat Foster-Jenkins, Carol Arnsby, Sarah Cripps, Yvonne Lowry, Tina Miller
Wardrobe	Jane Todd, Jocelyn Angrave and parents
Props	Zac Jenkins
Stage Manager	Andy Barford
Deputy Stage Manager	Steph Bell
Stage Hands & Scenery Crew	Pete Desborough, Colin Jeffs, David Keen, Rebecca Keen, Darren Lowry, Sam Keen-Gooch, Sue Mann, Trevor Miller, Richard Mulholland, Marianne Wheeler, Kit Yardley
Properties	Richard Aldridge, Stuart Jack, Liz Jack
Lighting Manager	Ross Wilcox
Lighting Programmer & Operator	Rob Hemmin
Lighting Team	Jon Greenwood, Jamie Shirra, Kayleigh Urquhart, Ross Wilcox
Audio Visual	David Errock, Jeremy Finch, Conor Nugent, Josephine Linhart
Wardrobe	Claire Williams and Margaret Melville, with Liz Barringer, Elaine Brind, Helen Brind, Jill Coggins, Liz Davie, Cath Evans, Jane Hartley, Carolyn Hilder, Beryl Jeffs, Debi Lee, Ann Loader, Nicola Martin, Karen Meade, Jane Murray, Ginny St John Glew, Jane Walter, Judy Whyman, Eva Yalden
Music Arrangers	Carl Gurney, Ewan Murray
The Band	Reeds – Sue Pettitt, Chris Pettitt Trumpet – Simon Router Trombone – Adrian Jarvis Keyboard – Graham Thomson Guitar – Ned May Bass – Gareth Covey-Crump Drums – Les Arnold
Make Up	Emmanuelle Bentley-Sanders and parent helpers
Duty Managers	Sally Clark, Dave Wharton, Colette Eagles
Front of House	Peter Wheeler, Chris and Katy Turberville, Dave Wharton, Liz Scott, Richard Bates, Paul and Candy Jessop and team

Foyer Display	Rod Keen
Websites	harpenden.gs
Photo CDs	hwgsshop.org.uk
Stewards	District Explorer Scouts
Refreshments	Clare Webster, Jan Yardley and parents
Box Office	Jude Playle, Alison Cook, Kevin Playle
Programme - Co-ordination	Siân Denton, Kathy Hilton
Programme - Printing & Production	Platinum Press Limited www.PlatinumPressLimited.co.uk
CCTV	Mark Hubbard
Health & Safety	Neil Liles
Business Committee	Chair – Sally Clark Secretary – Lesley Wallace Treasurer – John Mulholland PR - Colette Eagles
Photography	Richard Washbrooke Photography (see page 3)
DVD	Galaxy Video (see page 3 for ordering details)
After-show party catering	Les Clark assisted by Carol Finch
Acknowledgements and Special Thanks	St. John Ambulance John Gisby, Connor Smith and Dean Neal for video production Harpenden Film Society for use of their projector Jewsons for paint brushes for scenery painting Jessie Campbell for the artwork on page 26 Monarch Airlines for the loan of their Airbus St Albans Gang Show for musical cooperation Entertainment Effects Confetti Magic 3rd Harpenden Scout Group Sue Ryder Care Harpenden Public Halls

The Creative Team



Top row: Ewan, Cathy, Jemma, Jeremy. Middle row: Claire, Rikki, Fiona. Bottom row: Kat, Wendy, Nuria, Martine.



PRESENTATION

Act 1

Larger Than Life

Your Name, Please

Poles Apart

Wizard Wheeze

It Takes Two To Tango

Advance To Go

Act 2

Work This Body

The Interview

Gizza Job

Do You Speak English?

Cool

Planet Scout

Together



DEDICATION

The Gang of 2017

Senior Gang

Macy Banks
Cameron Barford
Esther Batt
Hannah Bedding
Kirsty Bentley
Will Bowran
Bertie Brooks
Jessie Campbell
Ruby Chaston
Will Cowan
Philip Coxon
Felicity Cripps
Alex De Marchis
Toby Denton
Finn Donnelly
Sam Dorney
Laura Duncombe
Georgie Eagles
Joe Eagles
George Elledge
Kate Evans
Josh Gooding
Antonia Green
Nick Gurteen
Alice Hilton
Dan Hubbard
Zac Jenkins
Georgia Jessop
Rachel Key
Emily Knight
James Lawford
Sarah Lawford
Robyn Luffman
Matt Maloney
Gethin Martin
Jack Martin
James Mason
Sarah McCullough
Tom McNeill

Henry Parr
Lucy Porter
Emma Risley
Alex Sach
Sam Sharkey
Ollie Stubbs
Maisie Taylor
Fred Todd
Lisa Trodden
James Tuck
Katie Turner-Small
Jo Wharton
Ben Winfield

Junior Gang

James Agg
Rosie Aldridge
Katy Andrews
Cam Angrave-Smith
Will Barford
Sam Barrett
Herbie Barwell
Philip Batt
Freddie Brooks
Hannah Burns
Oli Clarke
Nicole Cockburn
Jay Colston Patel
Elodie Cowan
Emmy David
Lucy Davis
Tilly Denton
Arthur Downes
Harry Dytham
Sam Eagles
Charlie Edney
Olivia Elledge
Ben Finch
Aidan Freeman
Oli Gamble

Matt Grant
Molly Grout
Ewan Harkness
Hamish Hartley
Fraser Haward
Lucy Hawkins
Verity Hawkins
Harry Hill
Theo Hilton
Al Holmes
Henry Husbands
Rob James
Louis Jenkins
Sam Keen Gooch
Edward Kennedy
Zak Knight
Thomas Lewis
Ruben Mahendra
George Martin
Millie Martin
Nia Martin
James McCarthy
Hannah Mulholland
Izzy Parr
Freya Peter
Ben Petevinos
Kit Porter
Amelie Pym
Levi Pym
William Pym
Alice Rainsford
Adam Sharp
Daniel Speller
Julia Swapp
Freddie Tallantire
Josh Todd
Hannah Van
Geesbergen
Emma Wilson
Luka Wilson

Mini Gang

Izzy Andrews
Josie Aujla
Guy Bandell
Samuel Barber
Charlotte Barber
Corran Barwell
Neel Sean Bhopal
Ralph Brooks
Adam Brooks
Cameron Caldwell
Matthew Chopping
Stefano De Marchis
Finlay Edwards
James Evans
Matt Finch
Toby Goodhind
Connor Haward
Abi Holmes
Sam James
Theo Lynam
Lucy McCarthy
Toby Mitchell
Edward Moyses
Sophie Parr
Caitlin Ramsay
Ben Rodger
Henry Simonsen
James Stent
Daniel Thomas
Isabel Thomas
Ted Turnpenny
Ben Washbrooke
Will West
Mike Wharton
Taine Wilton
Anneka Wrentmore
Lauren Wyper

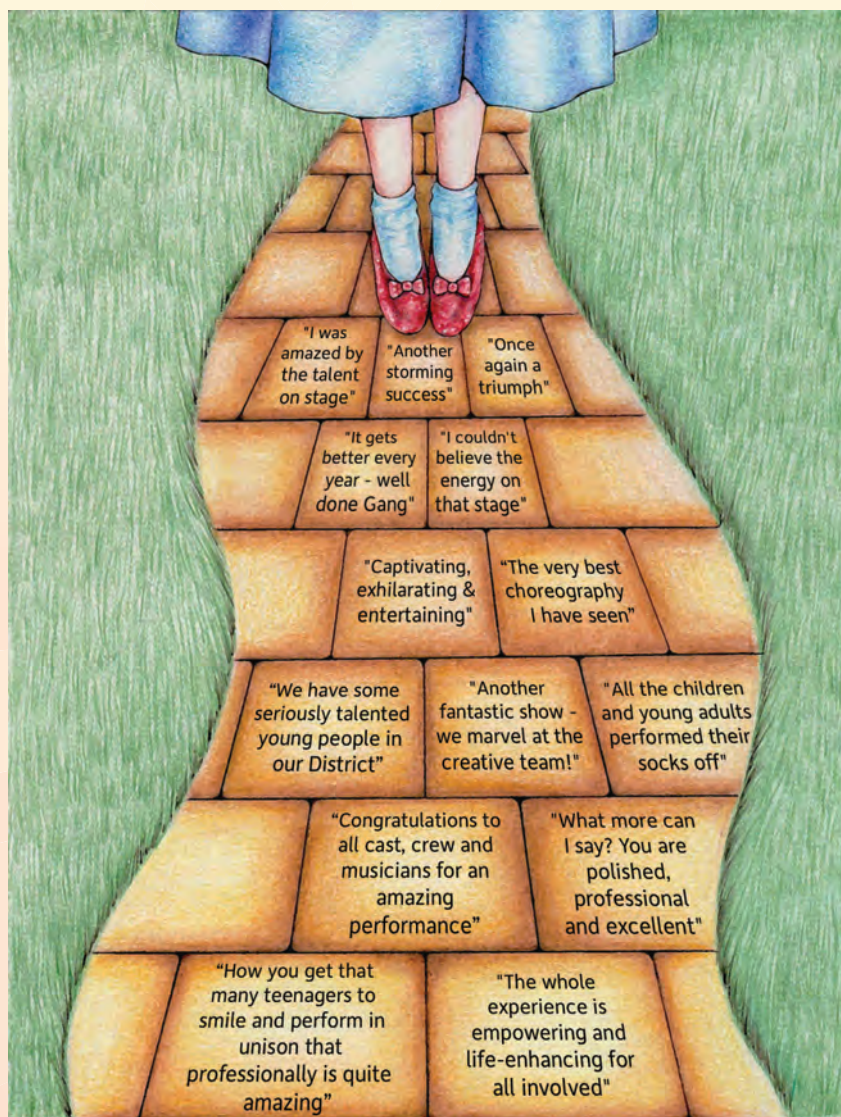


LE GANG



APPRECIATION

What last year's audience said



CHASTON'S LTD

Builders and Property Developers

Local family business with over 20 years experience
For all your building and property needs

Tel/Fax: 01582 765745

Mobile: 07710 314475 and 07711 843972

Email: chastonsltd@chastons.biz



www.maisonhartley.com

THE BIG INTERVIEW

Interview with the photographer

A photo tells a thousand tales and we are fortunate to be able to call on the talent of one of our own, Richard Washbrooke, who gives up his time to ensure we have photographs for many years to come.

How long have you been a professional photographer and why did you become a photographer? To begin with it was very much a hobby. On family holidays and Scout camps I was always the one taking snap shots with a point and shoot camera. It was actually through my Scouting friendships that I started professionally. I have been taking photos of Gang Show for 9 years.



Apart from Gang Show what else do you photograph? Away from Gang Show I am involved in a wide variety of photo shoots. These include Wimbledon, Le Mans 24 Hour race, the Champions League Final, and the GB Paralympics team at both London 2012 and Rio 2016.

How do you capture the right photo at the right time? It is important to know and understand your subject and read the situation and movement, understanding what is coming almost before it happens. I look through the camera with my right eye and use my left eye to scan what is going on around me!



Highlights? That has to be my photo of GB Paralympics Gold medallist Ellie Simmons being used on the stamps to celebrate London 2012.

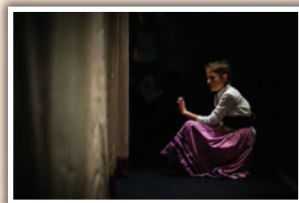
Favourite ever photo?

A great shot of my wife Cathy and our son Ben jumping on the beach.



Favourite Gang Show photo?

I have taken so many, but one of my favourites is from last year. This Scout was on her own on stage, just running through the next scene. It was a split second but it encapsulates Gang Show for me: youth, preparation and commitment.



Platinum Press Limited

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

Break a leg!

Print supplier to
The Harpenden & Wheathampstead District Scout Gang Show and
your complete local print solution.

Platinum Press Limited
Calders House, Putteridge Park,
Hertfordshire. LU2 8LB

Contact: Richard Langeveld
Telephone: 0844 880 4722 www.PlatinumPressLimited.co.uk

Richard Washbrooke Photography

Richard Washbrooke
Photography



www.richardwashbrooke.com

www.richardwashbrookeweddingphotography.com

www.shootdaysphotography.com

www.richardwashbrookearchitectureandconstructionphotography.com

District Review 2017



Harpenden and
Wheathampstead
District



At the heart of your community

Find out what sets us apart.

- Personal, efficient and friendly service
- Competitive rates
- Convenient and local
- Trustworthy, stable and reliable
- Strong reputation

**For Savings and Mortgages,
we're here to help.**

Harpenden Branch

Aberdeen House, 14 Station Road, Harpenden
Hertfordshire AL5 4SE
Tel: 01582 344204

harpendenbs.co.uk

 **HARPENDEN**
BUILDING SOCIETY
local reputation, national recognition

Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. Firm reference number: 157260.

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE



My Scoutmaster died recently. Bill welcomed me and explained that I was leaving the Cub Pack jungle and entering the wide world of Scouting. What a big world it was giving me opportunities to darn a sock, use a fire extinguisher, cook, light a fire, canoe, pitch a tent, organise a patrol camp, race a trek-cart, climb a mountain, tap dance (well, sort of), sweep the floor, But more than that it taught me team-work, to have fun and make friends, to take part and lead. It taught me that working together we achieve so much more.

Bill was not the single person that made Scouting work but the person who co-ordinated, encouraged, mentored and coached a team who opened the door of opportunity for me. Thank goodness they did because my life and friendships would have been so much the poorer without.

Each meeting ended with:
May the blessing of Almighty God rest upon us and all absent and past members of this Troop and Group. May he give us light to guide us, courage to support us and loyalty to unite us, this night and forever more.

Those words have reverberated since hearing of Bill's passing. Thanks Bill and rest in peace.

And thanks to every volunteer who makes the fun and opportunities - the wonder of Scouting - available to so many. You really do make a huge difference.

If you would like to volunteer to help open the Scouting door contact me on 07774 863292 or keith.brooker22@gmail.com. There is lots to be done and no matter if you have Scouting experience or not there is a role for you.

Keith Brooker
Chairman
Harpenden and Wheathampstead District Scout Council

First Harpenden Scout Group

It has been another active year for the 1st. Our second Beaver Colony has continued to grow, and in September we opened a second Cub Pack to accommodate them as they move on!

Highlights for the Beavers have included a night-hike and sleepover in the hut, rafting and trips to the Beaver Skills Day and Beavers in Tents camp. The Cubs have been ice-skating, climbing and sailing.

In May, 11 Cubs enjoyed the week at Cubjam; others went to the Centenary Cub camp in June. As well as Quasar, the river crossing and night-hikes, the Scouts hosted the 1st Gedling Scouts for a weekend in May and had an exceptional camp in North Wales. At Group level, we have installed new-look cupboards and a new floor in the hut.



In September we had a hugely enjoyable Family Camp at Tolmers - our largest ever. Huge thanks are due to all the leaders who have made this happen, and to those who work behind the scenes to support it.

Paul Bedding
Group Scout Leader



During the last year all sections lived by our motto "2nd to None" with a balanced and varied programme that provided many engaging activities for our young people. The Beavers have visited Pets at Home, Hemel Ski Centre and taken part in hikes and a Star Wars themed sleepover.

Our Cubs ventured to Camp twice to celebrate 100 years and join in traditional Scouting activities such as making totem poles.

The Scouts week long

camp in Derbyshire proved a real hit, with our Scouts taking part in caving, climbing, shelter building and sleeping out in the wild. Weekly activities try to use the outdoors as much as possible building on team work and adventure challenges.

Our annual AGM, BBQ and hike proved popular again this year with families enjoying a circular route round Batford Springs and Mackerye End. Returning to a well-stocked BBQ made it even more worthwhile.

Cate Brown
Group Scout Leader

Third Harpenden Scout Group

This year our hut has undergone yet more refurbishment works. With our wonderful secluded grounds and space for camping we are hoping to double the size of our group and are looking for adult helpers to help us to achieve this.



Beavers have engaged in a number of activities working towards badges and learning a number of new basic skills including building fires safely, building a bug hotel, making volcanoes and building forts for a water fight.

Rachel our ex-Beaver leader has now moved up to help the Cub team! We've had a really good year at the Comanche Pack lighting fires, enjoying a ready steady cook evening, and a brilliant games evening run by Liz Jack. We are fortunate to have 2 Explorer Scouts helping us at the moment while they work towards their D. of E. award.

Highlights for Scouts have been making laser-tag guns, including electronics, woodwork and fund-raising for materials. Other events saw us cooking for the District again, gliding at Gransden, sailing at Luton Hoo and contacting Scouts internationally via JOTI. We had 3 teams competing in Green Beret and had a great summer camp in Sussex.

Pete Mann
Group Scout Leader



The Beavers celebrated 30 years of Beavers and enjoyed sleepovers at the hut and Well End. They also enjoyed the Beaver Skills day and the Beavers Ramble.

The Cubs have had an awesome year celebrating 100 years of

Cub Scouts. Almost 100% of our Cub Scouts camped at Tolmers and attended pop concerts and fun fairs as well as all the site activities.

Several snippets of 4th history were displayed around our hut revealing many ex leaders and young people. All sections at the 4th are named after ex leaders hence Kinvig Pack and Petter Troop.

Our family camp was the largest ever and our NAFTA trophy was stolen by a thief in a black morph suit from behind our backs. Families spent the Saturday afternoon working out who was the thief with activities like fingerprint ID, chromatography to identify which pen wrote the ransom note, breaking codes for all ages and finally the culprit was caught hiding at the entrance to the nature trail.



Both Scout troops took part in Green Beret, PAW, camped for a week at Ferny Crofts and visited Brownsea Island. They held another successful Heaven and Hell Camp where Hell worked with basic rations for the weekend.

MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU!

Elaine Brind
Group Scout Leader

Fifth Harpenden Scout Group

This year the Beavers were visited by endangered animals and learnt about the environment with a water filter experiment. We hosted an inspirational visit from Paralympian David Clarke and his amazing dog Ned.

The Cubs visited De Havilland Air Museum to learn about their aircraft, made kites and flew them on Dunstable Downs for our Air Activities badge. We undertook our emergency aid level 2, learning the importance of getting help at an accident. We were selected to join in the National Rocket Science project and began planting and assessing the growth of space seeds.

The Scouts also worked towards their air activities badge visiting an airfield in Chiswell Green. Pilots escorted the Scouts around the airfield showing them different types of planes and in the briefing room gave a lesson in the practicalities of flight.



We used a computer flight simulator to take off and land a plane at Luton airport. Finally, in the summer 10 Scouts had the opportunity to fly gliders. The Scouts navigated across the fields around Wheathampstead using only maps and compasses to guide them. We also visited Cross Farm where the Scouts tried out farm equipment such as harvesters and self-driving, satellite guided tractors.

Carol Thompson
Group Scout Leader

The Beavers (Cherokee and Odakota colonies) have had a fun filled year with a night hike, growing flowers and food for the gardener badge, and attaining many other activity badges. They have had a joint Hallowe'en party and the annual trip to Knebworth with Cubs. A good number of Chief Scout Bronze Awards were given out, including the first from our new Odakota colony.



Our Cubs (Everest and Eiger packs) have been celebrating the Cubs 100th birthday year with a host of activities including the centenary chase and County Camp (2000 cubs!) They have also been pioneering (catapults), shelter building, on hikes and cooking on fires, with camps at Longridge and Gilwell .

The 9th Scouts (Hillary and Tenzing troops) have been busy with camps at Beaudesert and the challenging Green Beret. They have been skiing, ice skating, volunteering at Heartwood Forest, taking on water activities, pioneering and hosting a tea party for the Queen's 90th birthday.

All sections at the 9th attended the St George's Day parade and family camp and the wonderful annual 9th Fete, Fireworks, and Christmas Tree Carrying fundraisers.

Nick Corran
Group Scout Leader

Tenth Harpenden Scout Group

The two 10th Harpenden Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs and Scout Troops are always busy. During the year, the Group sections undertook a total of 42 nights away and a total of 38 of our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts earned their respective Chief Scouts Award. This shows their efforts and the breadth of activities provided but this only tells part of the story.

The Beavers have also had a day visit to Harry Potter World, the Cubs have enjoyed CubJam, had a sleepover on HMS Belfast and visited Woburn Abbey Safari Park, while the Scouts have all been go-karting and enjoyed a week long summer camp in the Brecon Beacons as well as taking part in the Green Beret Challenge.

This, in addition to the Group's fundraising activities, Family Summer Festival Day and exciting weekly programme has made another busy year at the 10th.

Yvette and Russell
Husbands
Group Scout Leaders





Our Beavers achieved Adventure, Teamwork and My World Challenges, built dens, rubbed leaves, 'drove' an indoor road, and constructed towers for a truly thrilling 'egg-drop'.

The Cubs made dragons, got fit, celebrated Diwali and Chinese New Year, sponsored two loos and enjoyed a Cubs 100 Adventure Camp and an international pack holiday. In theory they can make beds, wash up, cook pancakes and iron scarves.

Our Scouts at Green Beret achieved 1st on Day Bases, 1st on Assault Course and 5th overall and camped at Ferny Crofts with an exclusive visit to Brownsea Castle.

Stuart Jack
Group Scout Leader

First Kimpton Scout Group



All our Kimpton sections have embraced opportunities to experience the outdoors this year. Our Cubs enjoyed camps at Harmergreen Wood and Henlow, with some of the older Beavers joining. We are proud to be nurturing some budding entertainers showcased in a fabulous 'Cubs Got Talent' show.

The Scouts welcomed Lynne Wood as their new Scout Leader in April, and have excelled at a range of outdoor challenges. In addition to a self-planned expedition around Norfolk's

coastline, they achieved 2nd place in both the orienteering element of the Green Beret Challenge and the training teams category of the Chiltern Challenge.

Finally, we said a sad goodbye to Group Scout Leader Annie New, who stepped down after steering our group with immense dedication and good humour over the past 11 years. Mark Hubbard and Amanda Gummer have gamely stepped up to share the role on a temporary basis but we are actively seeking a new GSL and would welcome any enquires to chairman@kimptonscouts.org.uk

James Hartley
Chairman



The Beavers have been busy this year learning about space and constellations. They had a visit from a guide dog and made bird feeders as part of their Animal Friend badge.

Both Cub packs enjoyed a joint camp at Wymondley Wood with "Rio Olympics" as the theme. Mead pack won the District Football Competition for the 2nd year running and had a sleepover on HMS Belfast. London Zoo and Whipsnade Zoo were visited as part of the Cubs 100 celebrations.



The Scout troops enjoyed a July camp at Hamlet Wood in Maidstone with a "Jurassic" theme. They took part in the Green Beret Challenge and had a joint night hike and sleepover. They also had an ambulance visit the hut as part of their Emergency Aid Badge.

To help celebrate the Cubs Centenary Year we held a Cubs Centenary Chase where all Cubs in the District were invited to run a 2K or 5K Fun Run around the Marford playing fields in Wheathampstead. We were visited by TV wildlife presenter Steve Backshall and former Rugby Union star Thom Evans who flew in by helicopter and awarded medals to the winners!

Karen Oxley
Group Scout Leader

Once again, HESU has had another outstanding year. We have enjoyed a variety of successful evenings ranging from zumba, quasar and the animal man, to quizzes, a kids party and sports nights.

We sent two teams to this year's Peak Assault with the boys' team narrowly missing out on the trophy, while the girls smashed their competition bringing home first place in the girls' contest, and sixth overall.



Another year, another expedition! This year to Mauterndorf, Austria. The Explorers spent their first two days hiking in the scenic mountains followed by fun activities such as white water rafting, mountain karting, high ropes and a much needed relaxing day at the pool.

The year ended on a high note with Annual Dinner, a formal black tie event, where a 5 course meal followed by a disco was enjoyed by all.

Jo Wharton & Sarah McCullough
Vice Chair & Secretary



KES has enjoyed a successful year.

Teams competed in Dragnet and Peak Assault, as well as a popular summer camp in Cornwall. The summer camp included windsurfing, investing Explorers at Land's End, and narrowly missing out on being crowned sandcastle champions!

The unit is more popular than ever, with membership rising to over 40.

David Barr
Assistant Section Leader

OWLS Explorer Scout Unit



Some notable achievements for talon-ted OWLS Explorers this year, with several Chief Scout Platinum awards made, two Young Leader belts and 4 top flight Explorers about to get their Chief Scout Diamond awards which is the one before the Queen Scout Award.

Our members flew far and wide, with participants winging

it to Austria, France (Roverway 2016) and Swaziland as part of a county expedition to support local Scouting in Africa. OWLS ESU hosted this year's Jamboree on the Internet, with District Beavers, Cubs and Scouts conversing online with hundreds of overseas Scouters, from California to New Zealand and everywhere in between, which was a real hoot.

In terms of everyday adventure, our activities included the London Monopoly run, Gilwell 24, ten pin bowling, back to basics camping, making dream catchers and bouncing at Jump Arena.

Richard Bird
Unit Leader



It's been a year of change in Shackleton with our first ever group of Elders, the Explorers who run most of the evenings, leaving us; thanks to them for setting such a high standard of leadership. Our new Elders ably led by Lisa have stepped up to the mark and have continued to run a huge variety of fun and challenging evenings.



This year we have been sailing, climbing, caving, high wiring, cycling and best of all go-cart racing! We have also cooked, some over open fires, held our own 'Explorers Got Talent' evening, ran our very own sedan chair grand national, did some very artistic pumpkin carving and lots, lots more.



Once again Shackleton led the way at Peak Assault over some very demanding terrain and in some atrocious weather, winning the Senior Competition for the second year in a row and coming second in the Training Team Competition. We also managed a very respectable third place in Chiltern Challenge.

Overall another great year at SHACKLETON.

Ian Rodger
Unit Leader

Wheathamspead & Kimpton Explorer Scout Unit

WAKESU (Wheathampstead and Kimpton Explorers) continues to thrive, and has been working hard to get an active committee to run each week's events. Due to the majority of the Elder Explorers leaving us, some of our not so young Explorers (anymore) have stepped up and become involved in the weekly activities.



Our weekly meetings have been well attended and our evenings have been filled with interesting activities including a visit to Hatfield Police Station and seeing inside the Emergency Centre control room where 999 calls go in to. We have had more Explorers partake in Chiltern Challenge and Peak Assault, with 3 teams for each event. We were unable to run an Explorer camp this year but plans are already underway for next year's camp

Matt Wood
Unit Leader

Scout Shop

District HQ
Tallents Crescent
Batford
Harpenden

Every term time Saturday
9am - 11am

Visit
<http://www.harpendenscouts.org.uk/>

District Network

Most of the District Network members are at university, this means during term time numbers can be small, so we need more members! Network is open to anyone aged between 18 and 25, so bring your friends (Scouts or not) and get involved in something special.

If you want to join please email handwnetwork@gmail.com, or you will be approached through your current Explorer Unit the term before your 18th birthday.

Active Support Unit

The Active Support Unit aims to do "what is says on the tin" - a group of adults looking to support and help out across the District in any way we can. Our members include warranted leaders, administrators and many others who, whilst wishing to support Scouting in the District, are not able to commit to a regular slot as a leader. Our commitment is more flexible and we simply ask people to give whatever time they can when they can.

During the past year we have been involved in many District activities including organising night hikes for both Beavers and Cubs, running a Beaver fun day; catering for the District Cub camp, stewarding the annual St George's Day Parade and much more besides. At the same time we have an active social programme with walks, talks, barbecues, a weekend away and an annual post-Christmas dinner.

We are always pleased to welcome new faces and if you would like to become involved, please speak to any of our members or e-mail me at suedave@lowndes45.freemove.co.uk