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WHEATHAMPSTEAD

73<sup>rd</sup>

2023  
GANG  
SHOW

Scouts 

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# WELCOME

## *From our Committee Chair*



Welcome to the 73rd Gang Show! It's showtime again and this January, more than ever, we need a bit of a lift - and what better way than spending a few hours watching our fabulous and hugely talented young people entertain us in a way that only they can.

As ever, I need to say the most enormous thank you to each and every volunteer who gives up their time to make Gang Show happen - it is an experience like no other for everyone that takes part and we could not do this without the amazing group of people who are involved. It's incredible that we have so many who are willing to dedicate so many hours to making these shows happen. You are all brilliant - thank you.



On a personal note, this is the last time one of my children will be in the Gang and we have had a wonderful 12 years watching all three of them having the very best time. We are all so lucky to be part of such a great community.

Now sit back and enjoy ... applaud, cheer, laugh and cry and let the Gang entertain you.

**Colette Eagles**

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# INTRODUCTION

## *From our District Commissioner*

Scouting within the District has thrived during 2022. We have seen every Group and Unit bounce back and return to full strength. You can see from the District Review just some of the activities that they have been involved in. Camps, with all the excitement and new experiences they entail, are back for all Groups and Units. Explorers have been on expedition in Switzerland and we have selected our representatives to participate in this year's World Scout Jamboree in South Korea.

None of this would have been possible without our leaders and supporters. They are all volunteers, fitting in Scouting around family and work commitments. On behalf of all our young people, thank you for all that you do.

Last year was also notable for the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, our patron for over 70 years. She was a lifelong supporter, believing that "Scouting is a global force for good" and she embodied our fundamental values of integrity, respect, care, belief and co-operation. For many it will be the first time you sing God Save The King at the Gang Show, but while doing so today let us remember her kindness and devotion to duty.

***Russell Brooks***





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# INSPIRATION

## *From the Producer*

Gang Show is an ever-changing beast. Occasionally we make huge adjustments, like last year's move to a new venue. In general, though, this Show is all about evolution, not revolution. The Show's format remains traditional, but items are treated differently. The Creative Team gets rejigged (thank you to Mark and welcome back Russell). The programme design is updated, but it's still packed with information. Change is constant, but incremental. It's the same much-loved Show, but it develops every year.

One thing has changed, and that's our old starburst/spotlight logo. It's been around for twelve years, so it was time to freshen it up. We now have three starlit circles, representing the fabulous talent on stage from Harpenden, Wheathampstead and Kimpton.

Lives change because of Gang Show. New friendships are formed, new abilities discovered, great experiences never forgotten. Last summer twelve members of our Gang from our 70th, 71st and 72nd Shows performed on stage at Hammersmith's Eventim Apollo (see page 9). Lives change because of Scouting. Next year six of this Gang, together with another six of their District colleagues, go to South Korea for the adventure of a lifetime at the World Scout Jamboree.

None of this would be possible without the many adult volunteers, so a huge thank you to them. They give amazing support behind the scenes to make it all happen. And thanks to you for coming. Your applause and your encouragement complete us.



***Ewan Murray***

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# ONE NIGHT ONLY

## *Gang Show 90*



9 July 2022 saw the Eventim Apollo, Hammersmith host 157 Scouts and Guides from 37 Gang Shows on stage for Gang Show 90, celebrating the 90th anniversary of the very first London Gang Show in 1932.

Preparations began in 2019, and UK-wide rehearsals – online, in halls and residential (under canvas) – took place from April to June 2022. What an undertaking!

Our Show provided: twelve past/present Gang members (Emma Agg, Jay Colston Patel, Toby Denton, Katie Frost, Sam Frost, Theo Hilton, Matt Hubbard, Millie Martin, James Mason, Kit Porter, Ollie Schlich, Charlie Young), one co-producer (Ewan), one lead choreographer (Becca), one make-up team and several dozen costumes.

It was an utterly joyful event and an amazing opportunity for everyone. We look forward to seeing some of our current Mini and Junior Gang in Gang Show 100!

Pictures by Helen Boyd Photography



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# FOLLIES



## FOLLIES

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# THE BIG INTERVIEW

*Ewan Murray - Producer and Musical Director*

1

**First, congratulations on being awarded the Silver Wolf by the Chief Scout. What is the Silver Wolf all about?**

Thank you. It's the highest award from The Scout Association for exceptional service. I received a letter from Bear Grylls last summer, I've just been presented with the award, and I'll be at Windsor Castle on St George's Day for a special service along with the first King's Scouts.



2

**We've not interviewed you for a long time so let's find out more about you and Gang Show! When did you realise you were mad about music?**

I played the recorder at school but after discovering I could play the piano I received a family heirloom as a birthday present. Lessons followed, and the rest is history. I also play guitar and clarinet, and I sing.

**When did you first get involved with Gang Show?**

In 1972 as part of the Mini Gang, going on to the dizzy heights of "front row". I performed in 11 Shows, joined the creative team in 1988, became musical director in 1989 and took over from Marilyn Hudson as producer in 1994.

**Performing on stage is exciting, but what made you decide to volunteer for an off-stage role?**

I volunteer because someone volunteered for me. I know the buzz you get from performing to an audience so I want to give others the same opportunity. I'll paraphrase Forest Witcraft's words from Scouting magazine in 1950: "100 years from now it will not matter the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove, but the world may be different, because I was important in the life of a child". So many lives have been enhanced because of the confidence that Gang Show has given.

3

4

**It takes 10 months to create a Gang Show.  
What's your favourite part of the preparation cycle?**

5

Show week is exhilarating but putting the Show together is enormous fun! We throw around ideas and listen to hundreds of songs, finally whittling them down to a Show. We have far too many ideas, but that means that we have lots to build on next time!

6

**You had an extra job in 2022 when you also volunteered to do the National Gang Show. What made you do that?**

Insanity! Nigel Hailey of Warwickshire Gang Show and I started work on an anniversary Show, surrounding ourselves with an army of helpers and a Gang from right across the UK, culminating in a Show at the Eventim Apollo in Hammersmith. Gang Show 90 was a huge challenge, but the amazing team pulled it off. An uplifting experience for all.



7

**If money were no object what would you have on stage for Gang Show?**

A fly tower above the stage so we could “fly in” scenery for quick transitions. We could do some amazing things! We would, however, need to double the height of the theatre and the neighbours would doubtless object!



8

**And finally, what is your preferred biscuit for rehearsals?**

Custard creams and shortbread, but really anything that doesn't melt is great. Chocolate on a piano keyboard isn't ideal!



# FINALE SONGS

## *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,  
When all the ships are round us sailing  
We're riding along on the crest of a wave  
And the world is ours.



## *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.



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

# THE CREATIVE TEAM



*Ewan*



*Becca*



*Jemma*



*Fiona*



*Jeremy*



*Charlie*



*Emma*



*Kat*



*Robin*



*Wendy*



*Russell*

# THE WARDROBE TEAM



*Sophie*



*Kathy*



*Mylene*



*Jane*

# BEHIND THE SCENES

<b>Producer / Musical Director</b>	Ewan Murray
<b>Creative Director</b>	Becca Leigh
<b>Deputy Producer</b>	Fiona McCarthy
<b>Choreographer</b>	Charlie Meade
<b>Assistant Choreographers</b>	Wendy Bideau, Emma Ball
<b>Technical Director</b>	Jeremy Finch
<b>Vocal Coach and Sketch Director</b>	Robin Hilton
<b>Production Assistants</b>	Russell Husbands, Kat Foster-Jenkins
<b>Production Manager</b>	Jemma Finch
<b>“A Red Herring” (Mini Gang) Written and directed by</b>	Kat Foster-Jenkins
<b>Assisted by</b>	Carol Arnsby, Sarah Cripps, Tina Miller, Felicity Cripps
<b>Wardrobe</b>	Jane Todd
<b>Junior Gang Assistants</b>	Mark Denton, Andrew Dadswell, Yvette Husbands, Rachel Keen, Nicky Lewis, Steve McCarthy, Richard Horne
<b>Stage Manager</b>	Steph Johnson
<b>Assistant Stage Manager</b>	Jamie Urquhart-Shirra
<b>Call Boy</b>	Andy Barford
<b>Set Design</b>	David Keen
<b>Scenery Crew</b>	Nicola Denny, Pete Desborough, Colin Jeffs, David Keen, Rebecca Keen, Sue Mann, Trevor Miller, Richard Mulholland, Adam Robinson, Nick Urwin, Marianne Wheeler, Kit Yardley
<b>Set Dressing and Properties</b>	Richard Aldridge, Stuart Jack, Liz Jack
<b>Lighting Designer</b>	Ross Wilcox
<b>Assistant Lighting Designer</b>	Jon Greenwood
<b>Followspot Operators</b>	Mike Desborough, Kayleigh Urquhart-Shirra
<b>Audio Visual</b>	Jeremy Finch, Mark Hubbard

<b>Radio Mics</b>	Millie Martin, James McCarthy, Toby Denton, Henry McDonald
<b>Wardrobe</b>	Led by: Sophie Crompton, Mylene Fourie, Kathy Hilton, Jane Todd Liz Barringer, Elaine Brind, Helen Brind, Katie Coxon, Liz Davie, Cath Evans, Helen Frost, Alice Hilton, Beryl Jeffs, Debbie Lyon, Nicola Martin, Margaret Melville, Jos Sharp, Marta Serra Catasus, Jane Walter, Tania York
<b>Music Arranger</b>	Chris Pettitt
<b>Rehearsal Accompanist</b>	Graham Thomson
<b>The Band</b>	Reeds – Sue Pettitt, Chris Pettitt Trumpet – Simon Router Trombone – Adrian Jarvis Keyboard – Graham Thomson Guitar – Ned May Bass – Gareth Covey-Crump Drums – Les Arnold
<b>Make Up</b>	Emmanuelle Bentley-Sanders and parents
<b>Duty Managers</b>	Colette Eagles
<b>Front of House</b>	Peter Wheeler assisted by Scouts and leaders from the District
<b>Website and Media</b>	Rod Keen, Chris Tickler
<b>Box Office</b>	Jude and Kevin Playle
<b>Programme Editors</b>	Siân Denton, Julie Brooks
<b>District Review Editor</b>	Steph Johnson
<b>Programme Design</b>	Han Print Designs
<b>Programme Printing</b>	Platinum Press Limited
<b>CCTV</b>	Mark Hubbard
<b>Health and Safety</b>	Neil Liles
<b>Stage Door and First Aiders</b>	Leaders and adult helpers from the District
<b>Business Committee</b>	Chair – Colette Eagles, Secretary – Lesley Wallace, Treasurer – Louise Gordon
<b>Photography</b>	Richard Washbrooke Photography (p.46 to order)
<b>Filming</b>	Galaxy Video (p.46 to order)
<b>Special Thanks</b>	Harpenden Computer Services, Entertainment Effects, PK Roberts

# PRESENTATION



## *Act 1*

1. What A Feeling
2. Politics Now
3. The Red Herring
4. Hall of Fame
5. Alternative Employment
6. Tribes

## *Act 2*

7. Every Day I'm Shuffling
8. Viva La Vida
9. L Plates
10. Online IRL
11. Wonderland
12. Torn
13. Together



# THE GANG'S ALL HERE!

## SENIOR GANG

Emma Agg  
Samuel Barber  
Freya Barker  
Isobel Bright  
Adam Brooks  
Lauren Dent  
Isabelle Dixon  
Charlotte Dytham  
Sam Eagles  
Fin Edwards  
Liv Edwards  
James Evans  
Matt Finch  
Coemy Fourie  
Jonah Giles  
Katie Gray  
Jude Jenkins  
James Jewell  
Lara Jones  
Elizabeth Kennedy  
Sammy Lewis  
Nina Mahendra  
Toby Martin  
Lucy McCarthy  
Isabel Mellor  
Ella Montgomery  
Billy Montgomery  
Chloe Petevinos  
Kit Porter  
Isabel Priggen  
Immy Rule  
Chloe Sayle  
Ollie Schlich  
Margot Speirs  
Alice Tate  
Ben Taylor-Rose  
Bella Thomas  
Noa Vicente Serra  
Sam Walker  
Eddie Watson  
Callum Whelan  
Elise Wilson  
Anneka Wrentmore  
Charlie Young

## JUNIOR GANG

Abigail Ahmed  
Robbie Andrews  
Lauren Antcliff  
Raffy Baralt  
Freddie Barker  
Tom Baudot  
Olly Berg  
Charlotte Black  
James Bonner  
Maxton Brewer  
Alice Bright  
Summer Costin  
Sophie Crisford  
Jonah De Silva  
John Dent  
Isla Dixon  
Olivia Downes  
Joe Finch  
Ellie Finch  
Sam Gillies  
Tom Goddard  
Molly Greening  
Heidi Griffith  
Keira Haden  
Tausa Harkema  
Anesu Harkema  
Oliver Hibbert  
Luke Hilton  
Marcus Jenkins  
Annabel Lee  
Ben Lewis  
Hannah Lipsett  
Toby Lucas  
Jemima Martin  
Max McCarthy  
Branna McCluskey  
Eddie Mellings  
Owen Mellor  
Finlay Murphy  
Daisy Musgrave  
Isobel Pickford-Cook  
Tommie Priggen  
Stanley Priggen  
Ewan Robson  
Lily Robson  
Rebecca Rock

Bobby Shaughnessy  
Adam Sims  
Adam Smith  
Edward Stroh  
Alex Taylor-Rose  
Bella Thorpe  
George Tilly  
Luke Vos  
Ella Walton  
Peggy Watson  
Charlie West  
Will Westlake  
Charlotte Westlake  
Oscar York  
Eda York

## MINI GANG

Amy Aidley  
Charlie Allen  
Max Bradbury  
Tillie Bridge  
Lilia Brooker  
Sophie Bunbury  
Maya Clift  
Max Corley  
Alex Corol  
Harvey Costin  
James Crisford  
Rose Dickens  
Annie Finch  
Tay Findlay  
Willow Grayson  
George Greening  
Natalie Hope Robertson  
Lucas Maxwell  
Oliver Pacifico  
Kirsty Poynter-Smith  
Barney Salmon  
Lonimi Sanusi  
Alex Shaw  
Emily Tang  
Annie Taylor  
Billy Vaughan  
Blanca Vicente Serra  
Rafferty Walsh  
Amy West

# THE GANG OF 2023





# SUSTAINABLE GANG SHOW



**With 600 costumes being used in Show week, we are trying to reduce waste where possible. Even before the environment became headline news, we reused and repurposed costumes. Some costumes have been reused so many times that we have lost count! Tonight, old Gang members will see clothes they wore in previous Shows, and the spotty skirts that often appear were used back in the 1980s!**



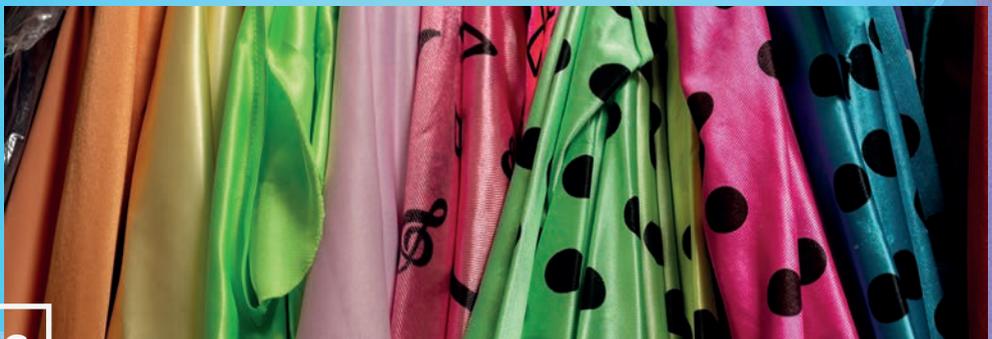
Some costumes have been sourced from charity shops and good quality jumble sales.

Nametags are needed for every costume and this year we are safety pinning named ribbon rather than buying new iron-on tags. The ribbon is easily removed and safety pins reused.

Instead of buying yellow coat hangers, we made a request on our local Facebook and suddenly we had plenty.

Collaboration reduces waste – we often share costumes with other Gang Shows. For Gang Show 90, we made 64 reversible waistcoats and lent out 400 costumes. Some of the waistcoats are on stage tonight!

**If you can help the wardrobe team by donating your time, skills or even deadstock fabric, please get in touch with Kathy Hilton at [kathy@thehiltons.co.uk](mailto:kathy@thehiltons.co.uk).**





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# MEMORIES OF 2022





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# District Review 2022



Harpenden and Wheathampstead District



# BEAVERS



## Fact Sheet

- Beavers are aged 6 - 8
- Beavers wear a turquoise sweater and their Group scarf
- Beaver Groups are called Colonies
- Around 260 Beavers in the District

## Highlights of our year across the District

Beavers have been very active and learning lots of new skills including map reading, healthy eating and fitness. They have also enjoyed visits to the fire station and the hedgehog sanctuary. Beavers have taken part in their first camps alongside Cubs and Scouts from their Groups. These camps were often the first in a number of years, so a huge thanks to the organisers.





# cubs



## Fact sheet

- Cubs are aged 8 - 10 <sup>1/2</sup>
- Cubs wear a green sweatshirt with their Group's scarf
- A Cub Pack is usually organised into small groups called Sixes with each Six named after a colour
- Around 340 Cubs in the District

## Highlights of our year across the District

Cubs have participated in lots of new exciting activities including raft building, self-defence and fire-lighting. They've also been hiking and on summer camps with Beavers and Scouts in the District. A special mention for 1st Harpenden Cubs who are the proud winners of the District Rothamsted Challenge.

# SCOUTS



## Fact sheet

- Scouts are aged 10<sup>1/2</sup> - 14
- Scouts wear a teal green shirt, navy blue activity trousers, a Group scarf with a woggle, and a Scout belt
- A Scout Troop is usually organised into small groups called Patrols, each headed up by an older Scout called a Patrol Leader
- Around 380 Scouts in the District

## Highlights of our year across the District

Scouts took part in camps, alongside Cubs and Beavers. Some Scouts from 12th Harpenden completed a 2 day expedition challenge over Cannock Chase. Scouts have honed their axe and knife skills, explored the Chilterns on expedition and helped build the Platinum Jubilee Beacon at Hammonds End Farm.





# EXPLORERS



## Fact sheet

- Explorers are aged 14 - 18
- Explorers wear a core uniform of a shirt, navy activity trousers and a Unit scarf
- Explorers continue to enjoy being outdoors, and developing their life skills through new activities, but are involved much more in planning their own evening activities
- Around 135 Explorers in the District

## Highlights from our year across the District

Explorers have enjoyed a year of exciting activities including expeditions away. They have also supported events across the District including the St Georges Day Parade tea tent. Congratulations to the Shackleton - KES joint team that won Peak Assault, the 6th time in a row Shackleton has won the trophy! HESU performed in their annual Olde Time Music Hall to roaring applause.

# network



Scout Network is our fifth and final section for 18-25 year olds.

Whether you're completely new to Scouting or have been with us since you were 6 years old, joining is a great way to meet new people, seek out new challenges and see the world.

Scout Network connects 20,000 18-25 year olds across the UK, and gives them the opportunity to take part in a huge range of exciting projects and events centred on the themes of 'Adventure', 'Community' and 'International'. Whether you're organising a local meet-up or a once in a lifetime trip to the Amazon, it's all about working together to build new skills, seek out new experiences and make a difference in the world.



Network groups are flexibly run and self-led. Members can create profiles on the Scout Network website, using the platform to meet others with similar goals and share their progress. There are 395 virtual badges currently available to achieve, and members can also work towards a number of top awards.

Network members don't necessarily meet every week. Some might meet a few times a year to complete a single project together. Others might dive into lots of different projects at once, or meet locally more regularly.

Please contact our District Chairman to find out more.  
Jonathan Finch: [district-chair@harpendscouts.org.uk](mailto:district-chair@harpendscouts.org.uk)

# Leaders, Helpers & Supporters



You don't need to be Bear Grylls to join us. You don't need to have been a Scout when you were younger. You don't even need to know how to put up a tent. Our door is open to people of all ages, genders, races and backgrounds, and we're only able to change lives because people like you lend a hand. We're talking about tea makers, tidy-uppers and skill sharers. We're talking about mini bus drivers and first aiders. We're talking about students who want to boost their CV, and parents who volunteer so they can spend more time together as a family.

Whatever your skillset, lend a hand for as little or as much time as you can spare, and we promise you'll get more out than you put in. Because whether you're helping a leader to run an activity in the local town hall, organising a night away, or buttering 120 slices of bread for a group of hungry eleven year olds, no two

[dc@harpendscouts.org.uk](mailto:dc@harpendscouts.org.uk)



Scout meetings are the same. The difference you make, though, is always great. We provide the training. You show up, get stuck in, and make memories for life.

As long as you're over 18, you can help out as an adult volunteer in Scouting. There is no upper age limit for adult volunteers. If you are aged between 14 and 18, there is the option of becoming a Young Leader; and if you are aged between 18 and 25 you can be part of Network.

Sounds fun? Worthwhile? It is.

Please contact our District Chairman to find out more.  
Jonathan Finch: [district-chair@harpendenscouts.org.uk](mailto:district-chair@harpendenscouts.org.uk)

# Adult Awards

A huge thank you to all our leaders and other adult support that have enabled our young people to have wonderful experiences and develop skills for life through Scouting.

An extra special thank you to all those who have been presented awards during the last 12 months:

## **Silver Wolf**

Ewan Murray

## **Silver Acorn**

Peter Mann

## **Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service**

Rachel Keen

## **Chief Scout's 50 years Service Award**

Ken Scott

## **Chief Scout's 30 years Service Award**

Mike Barrett

Jonathan Finch

Baggie Fox

Ros Mulholland

## **Chief Scout's 25 years Service Award**

Kelvin Goodson

Judy Whyman Bates

## **Chief Scout's 20 years Service Award**

Matt Bolton

Scott Nugent

# Hedgehog Sanctuary & bonfire event

The owner of the Hedgehog Sanctuary, Hornbeam Wood, Harpenden, was approached by the ITV Weather crew to help broadcast a public information piece on 3rd November 2022 about protecting hedgehogs on bonfire night.



A bonfire was prepared at the sanctuary and the owner gave a talk on how to check bonfires for hedgehogs before firing. He asked four Scouts from the 3rd Harpenden to get the bonfire alight. Not an easy task since it had rained heavily for days. However, the Scouts rose to the challenge and using only traditional fire lighting techniques, had the bonfire ablaze on cue for the ITV cameras. The broadcast went out live to the nation at 7.15pm.

# ORDERING VIDEOS AND PHOTOS

**Photos** – order printed photos at [www.richardwashbrooke.com](http://www.richardwashbrooke.com). Click on “Archive”, then “All Galleries”, then scroll down to the folder called “Scouting”.

**PhotoUSB** – order a PhotoUSB, which includes all of this year’s photos including the Saturday evening performance and behind the scenes shots. Go to [www.harpenden.gs](http://www.harpenden.gs) and click the “Shop” dropdown and choose “Merchandise shop”. If you are a Gang member and you loved your Show portrait, email Richard on [richard@washbrooke.com](mailto:richard@washbrooke.com) to order a copy.

**VideoUSB** – order a video of the Show on a USB stick at [www.harpenden.gs](http://www.harpenden.gs) and click the “Shop” dropdown and choose “Merchandise shop”. Order by 1 March 2023.



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