

CHESTER'S OWN GANG SHOW '97



44th Production at The Gateway Theatre, Monday to Saturday February 24th to March 1st 1997.
Evenings at 7.15 & Saturday Matinee at 2.30p.m.

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City of Chester

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor, Councillor Lilian Price

The Lord Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Chester CH1 2HJ
Telephone (01244) 329243

It gives me great pleasure to wish the Chester District Scout Association every success with this year's Gang Show.

I send my best wishes to everyone, both front and back stage, concerned in producing what is always a professional and thoroughly enjoyable event for all the family.

Lilian G. Price.

Lord Mayor



Producer's LETTER

"Two Gangs in one year," came the incredulous cry, "It can't be done!". Well, we have proved our critics wrong and here we are! I am delighted to introduce Chester's 44th Gang Show as its producer for the second time.

This year, we have broken new ground in many ways, but the most notable innovation is the creation of a young and enthusiastic choreographic team. With their help, we take our 70 strong Gang back to the musical favourites of the fifties and sixties and then on to the modern Pop era with the item "Monster Rock". But, as well as the music and dancing there are some screamingly funny sketches, so if you can't laugh, you can have a good scream instead!

The Gang members come from all sections in scouting and this time we have a very young cast of average age of about 15. However, it is to their credit that all our young people, including the older stalwarts who are still young at heart, have given 101% commitment to weeks of intensive rehearsals. Their diligence and loyalty have been the making of this production.

Gang Show is the epitome of scouting ideals. It prepares young people to accept the challenges in life and to be part of a team, since Gang Show does not promote "Stars". It develops skills and qualities of leadership, a caring for others and most of all, friendship and fun. I would like to thank you for supporting us and I hope that you will enjoy watching the show as much as we enjoy taking part.

Matthew Davies

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From the DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

I know that a fun packed entertainment is in store for you as the curtain rises on another Gang Show.

No doubt many of our patrons are already familiar with the Scout Movement and know what Gang Show is about.

Nevertheless, I feel that it is important to stress what it takes to put on a show. Nearly 100 youngsters and adult leaders have been working hard for at least twelve weeks, rehearsing their lines, making costumes and building scenery. This week, along with many backstage helpers, they are giving up all their spare time for the show.

However, all this activity has been fitted in alongside the weekly Cub Pack, Scout or Venture Scout meeting. This is the level of commitment. Oh, and by the way, most of the Leaders are holding down full time jobs as well.

The Scout Movement is not for couch potatoes!

As District Commissioner I welcome Gang Show as a central show piece for our District and I congratulate Matthew and his team who have worked so hard to produce this year's show.

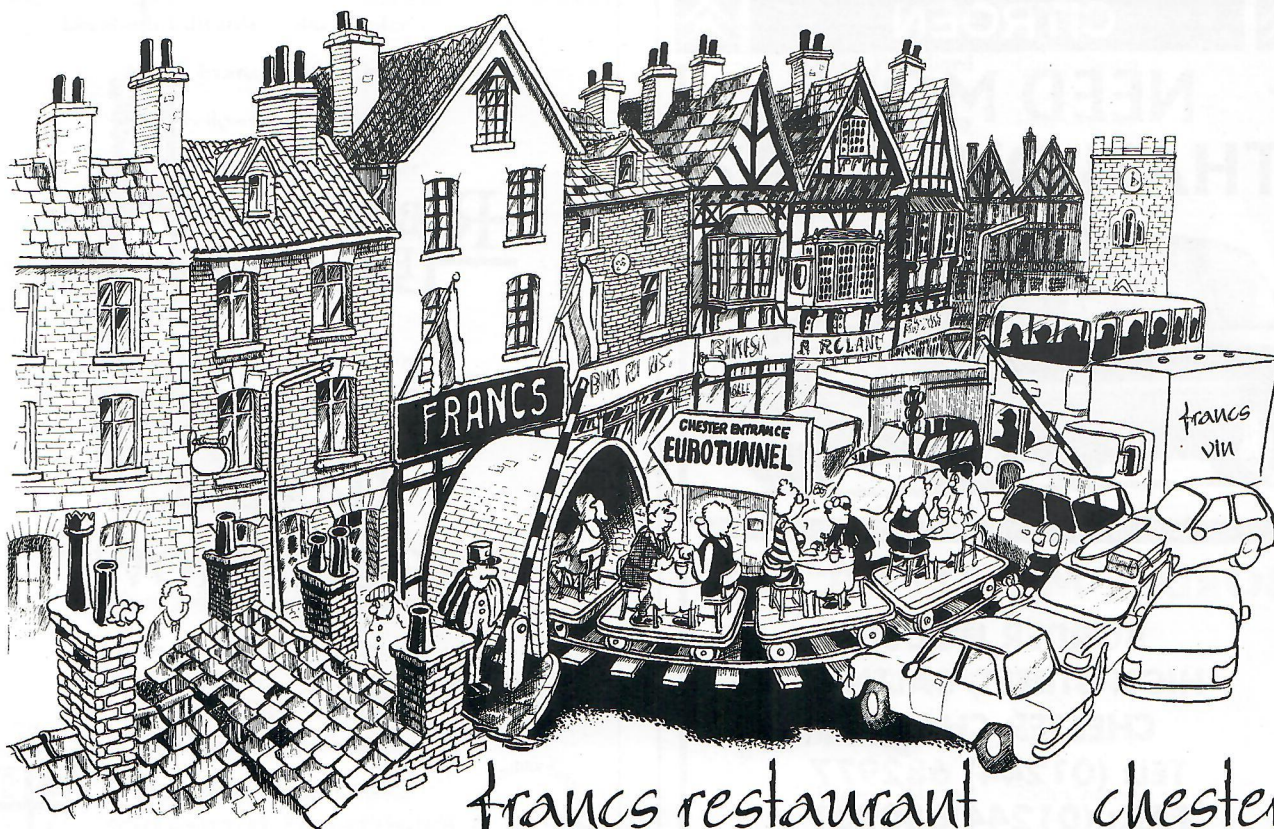
We are delighted that Marks and Spencer Financial Services have, yet again, generously supported us as have all our other advertisers and sponsors. Without their financial help it would be very difficult to stage the show.

Finally, a special thank you to all the parents and friends who have helped the Gang and, of course, to you, our audience, for coming along to see the show; your continued support is much appreciated.

I hope that you have a most enjoyable time at *Gang Show '97*.

Geoff Taylor

District Commissioner



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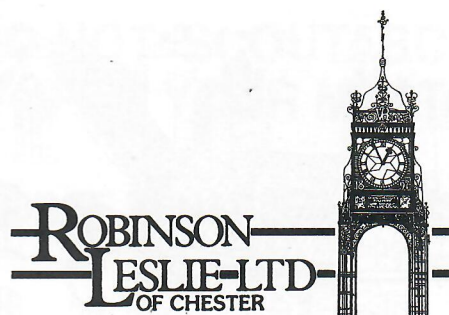


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Jenny Brealey	8th Chester	Christopher Lee	1st Upton
Chris Brittain	48th Chester	David Lee	1st Upton
Jonathan Brittain	48th Chester	Brian McMohan	18th Chester
David Carrington	40th Chester	Adam Morgan	40th Chester
Jayne Challinor	8th Chester	Robert Morgan	40th Chester
Jennifer Challinor	8th Chester	Dylan O'Brien	44th Chester
Jason Clarke	5th Blacon	Paul Oldfield	1st Upton
Richard Clarke	48th Chester	Andrew Paterson	1st Tattenhall
Daniel Coates	40th Chester	Simon Piercy	5th Blacon
Vicki Courtney	40th Chester	Nikki Pinches	8th Chester
Matthew Davies	40th Chester	Ian Powell	18th Chester
Andrew Ditchfield	1st Waverton	Lesley Pritchard	42nd Chester
Mark Dowling	1st Saltney	Paul Ramsay	48th Chester
Elizabeth Edwards	8th Chester	Ross Renshaw	40th Chester
Adam Evans	44th Chester	Evan Roberts	1st Saughall
Vicky Fellows	District	Thomas Selby	1st Tattenhall
Kier Ferguson	44th Chester	Ann Shone	8th Chester
Thomas Greenwood	1st Upton	Greg Smith	1st Upton
Allison Horne	1st Upton	Peter Steel	25th Chester
Helen Horne	1st Upton	Tim Steel	25th Chester
Ashley Hughes	25th Chester	Robert Stephens	18th Chester
June Hughes	District	Craig Turnbull	25th Chester
Felicity Jackson	Hatchmere	Mark Turnbull	25th Chester
Lucy Jackson	8th Chester	Dale Warburton	40th Chester
Angela James	1st Upton	Robert Waring	25th Chester
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CHESTER'S OWN GANG SHOW

'97

First HALF

- 1** We're Off!
- 2** Sons of the Sons of the Pirates
- 3** Men in Tights
- 4** When Knights were Bold
- 5** Snow White and the Twenty Dwarfs
- 6** The Plank
- 7** Way Out West

There will be an Interval of 15 minutes

No photography in the Auditorium please.
Gang Show is based on an idea, and using material,
by the late Ralph Reader CBE

Second HALF

- 8** Young Ones
- 9** Seeing the Foreign Sights
- 10** Monster Rock
- 11** Disc Buyers
- 12** Friends
- 13** Monkey Business
- 14** It's a Great Game!

Civic Night

On Thursday evening 27th of February 1997 we extend a cordial welcome to the
The Sheriff of Chester and his lady, Councillor and Mrs Ken Holding, also Helen Terry
and Kate Thompson of Marks and Spencer Financial Services, former officers of Chester
and District Gang Show and other distinguished guests of Chester District Scout Council.

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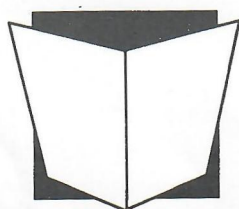
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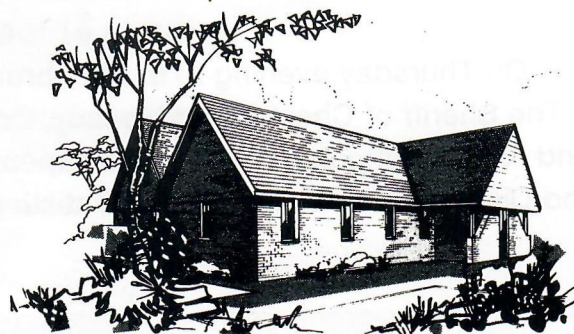
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Side EFFECTS

Over the last 44 years the boys and girls of the Chester and District Scouts, have joined the annual Gang Show to show much talent. They also visited other Gang Shows and caught the bug known as Gang Show fever. As with any illness, there are often 'side effects', which were never planned!

At midday on the Monday of the 1960 Show at the Royalty Theatre, a thick fog descended and stayed all day. Out of a Gang of 135 only one scout was late - but not so the musicians in the orchestra. The curtain went up on time, the Opening being accompanied only by Bill Brickland on piano and Ron Cooke on drums. As it progressed so the other musicians arrived, crept into the pit, picked up their instruments and joined in. They were all there in time to play the chorus of 'Great, Great, Game'.

Another 'foggy' experience happened inside the Theatre when, for the first time, we used the cardice smoke effect. Bill Capstick and Eric France - forever after known as the 'Cardice Twins' said "leave it to us" - so we did. The heavy smoke they produced rolled down the stage into the orchestra pit and the only person who could be seen was Keith Kennerly, the double bass player who was, of course, standing. The cast could not see why the audience was laughing. "The Twins" got it right for the rest of the week!

The one rather nice unscripted side effect of Scoutabout has been the bringing together of many couples who eventually tied the marriage knot. These include Keith and Carole (Brassington), Ian and Wendy (Peers), Geoff and Pat (Morris), Keith and Sue (Churchill) and Geoff and Mary (Taylor). These are just five of a number of 'Side Effects' for which the Chester Gang Show can take a little credit.

Roy Fisher

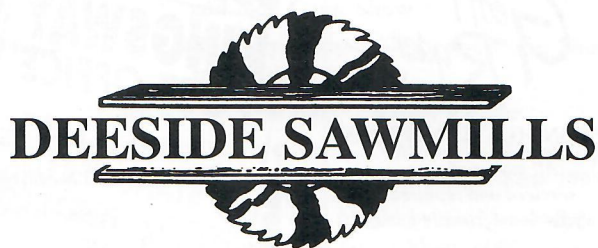
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BEHIND THE GANG

The Team

Producer: **Matthew Davies**
 Assistant Producer: **Richard Clarke**
 Production Assistants: **Allison Horne, Vicky Fellows & Alison Johnson**
 Gang Coordinators: **Eric Plenderleath & Vicky Fellows**
 Choreography: **Matthew Davies & Allison Horne**
 Assistant Choreographers: **Vicki Courtney, Felicity Jackson & Lesley Pritchard**
 Lighting: **Jim Woodley** (Member of The Association of Lighting Design), by arrangement with DSL, London
 Musical Director: **Colin Parfitt**
 Amplification & Sound Effects: **Gerald & William Roose**
 Stage Director: **Geoff Morris**
 Properties: **David Dennis**
 Stage Manager: **Brian Dickinson**
 Stage Crew: **Members of Chester District & Crusader Venture Unit**
 Scenery Design & Construction: **Brian Wilkes & Bob Johnson**
 Wardrobe Mistress: **Vicky Fellows**
 Costume Design: **Pam Jones & Kath Kitchen**
 Make Up: **Richard Clarke & Joy Hughes** (Assisted by Gang Show Supporters)
 Back Stage Steward: **Les Harding**
 Front of House: **Peter Slater** (Assisted by Members of Chester District)

FOR GANG SHOW

Chairman: **Dave Lloyd**
 Vice-Chairman: **Gerald Roose**
 Treasurer: **Ron Jackson**
 Secretary: **Janet Bull**
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 District Publicity: **Dave King**
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 Gang Bookings: **Pam Jones**

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 Deputy Technician: **Andy Blacklock**
 Marketing Manager: **Rachel Reeves**
 Stage Technician: **Drew Smith**
 Assistant Technician: **Helen Jackson**

FOR CHESTER DISTRICT

DC: **Geoff Taylor**
 Chairman: **Terry Collier**
 Secretary: **Linda Dodd**
 Treasurer: **John Hickman**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1st Christleton Scout Group
 1st Upton Scout Group
 35th Chester Scout Group
 40th Chester Scout Group
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CREDITS

"Sons of the Sons of the Pirates" - **Peter McElhinney and Sale Gang Show**
 "Men in Tights" - **Originally devised for Crewe Gang Show by Graham Swallow**
 "When Knights were Bold" - **Ralph Reader**
 "Snow White & the Twenty Dwarfs" - **Words and Music by Mike Willis & Alan Pollitt, Birkenhead Gang Show 1995**
 The "Name Song" - **Verses and Music by C. Marshall & R. J. Farrington, Stoke Gang Show 1992**
 "The Plank" - **Based on an idea from Royal Eltham Gang Show**
 "Way Out West" - **Arranged by Louise Roffey, directed by Matthew Davies & Allison Horne**
 "Young Ones" - **Arranged and Directed by Allison Horne**
 "Seeing the Foreign Sights" - **Peter McElhinney & Sale Gang Show**
 "Monster Rock" - **Arranged and Directed by Matthew Davies**
 "Disc Buyers" - **Ralph Reader**
 "Friends" - **Arranged by Louise Roffey**
 "Monkey Business" - **Roger D. Buist & Dundee Gang Show**
 "It's a Great, Great Game" - **Ralph Reader**

CONTACTS

If you are interested in helping with the show, or in becoming a Gang member, please contact one of the following by phone:
Matthew Davies (Producer) - 01244 300464
Richard Clarke (Assistant Producer) - 01244 317100
Geoffrey Taylor (District Commissioner) - 01244 379342

Did You KNOW...?

Part of the Team for 1997 (some you saw last year and some you didn't)



Pam Jones Vicky Fellows Kath Kitchen



Lesley Pritchard Vicki Courtney Felicity Jackson Allison Horne Alison Johnson
Richard Clarke Dave Dennis Matthew Davies

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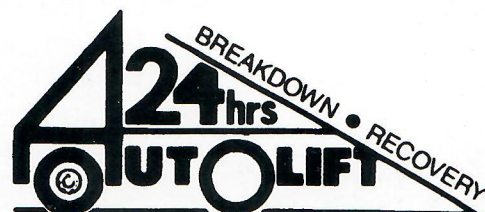
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