

London
LONDON

50



MELBOURNE 1981

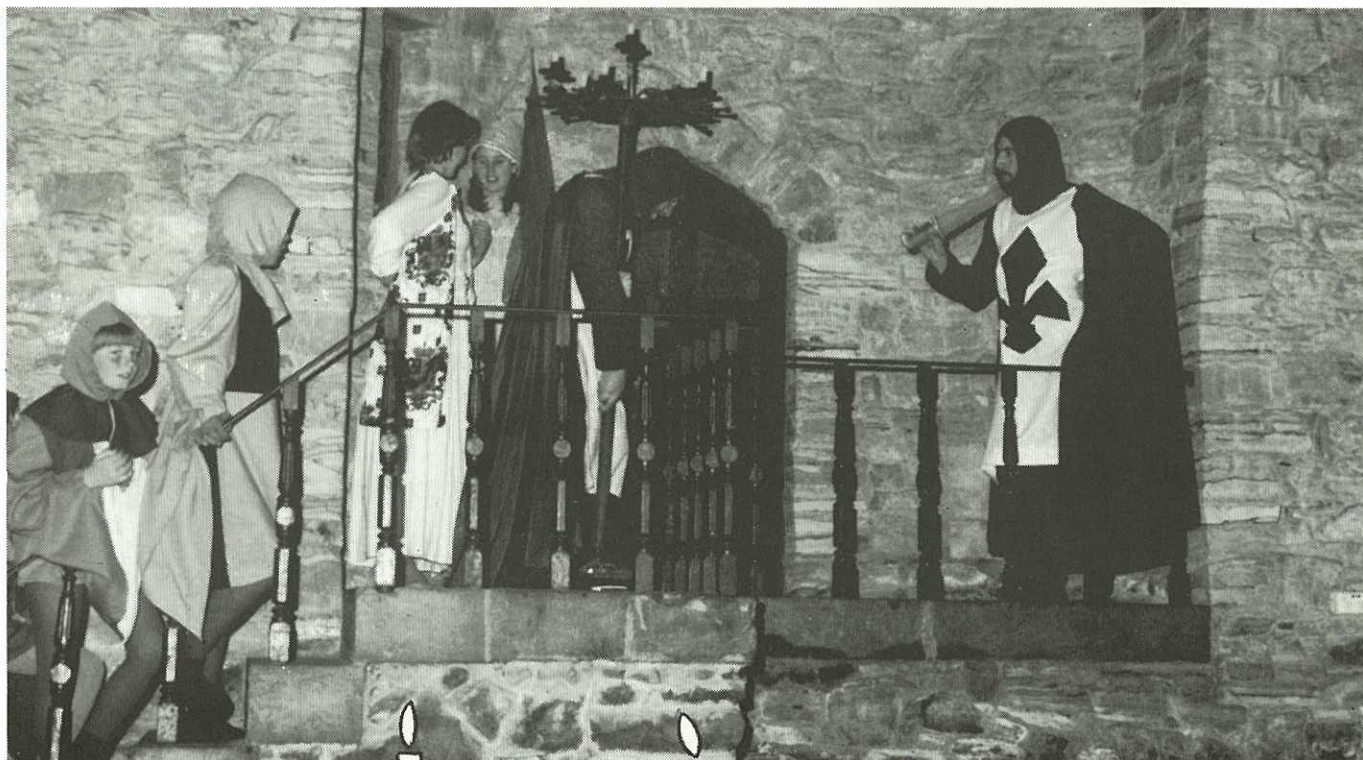
WELCOME

YOU CAN'T
HOLD A CANDLE
TO GANG SHOW



Fifty years of Gang Show around the world – to celebrate this event the 29th Melbourne Gang Show brings back some of those old favourites combined with bright new sketches and songs to make up a truly worthy Birthday Show.

Old favourites like the Cheer Ups, Let's Sing a Song About London, Song of the Open Road and the return of a growing up Post Box, all serve to create a memorable show – a show which we know you will remember perhaps for the next 50 years.



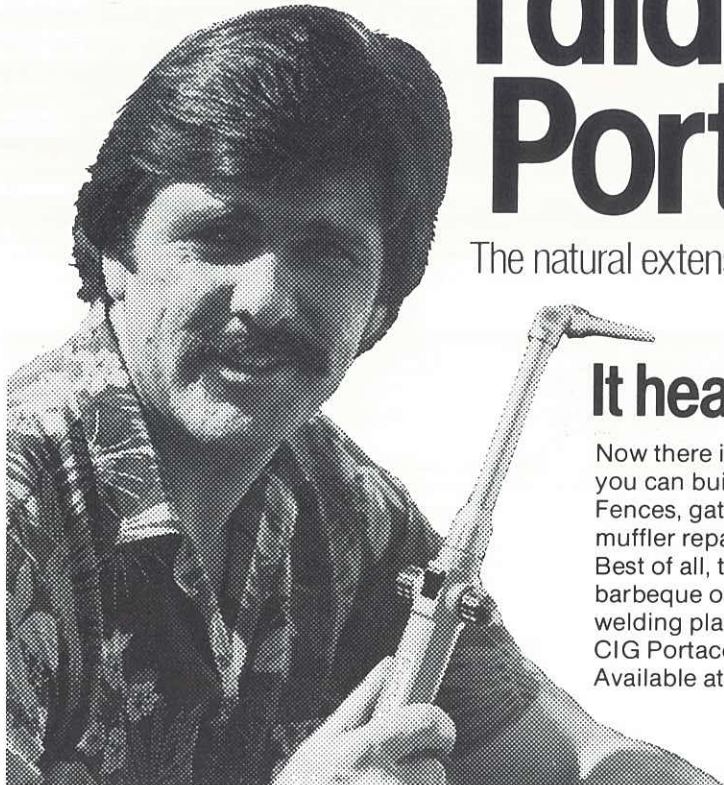
To commemorate the 50 years, our cover this year combines the London Gang Show motif with the Melbourne Gang Show motif brought together for this special occasion.

Enjoy our show for 1981 – once you have experienced the delightful atmosphere created

by this years' Show you will understand that the challenge issued to the cast, the writers, the stage crew, the musicians and the behind the scenes crowd has been accepted and met – and as a bonus the Gang have had the fun of bringing the show to you.

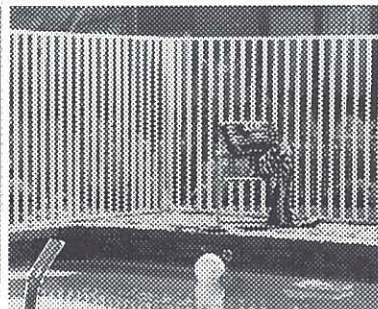
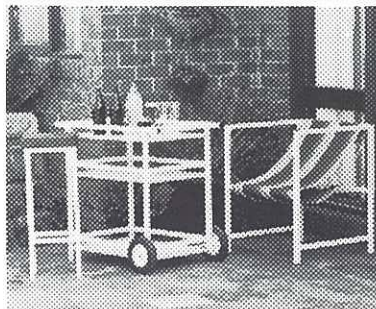
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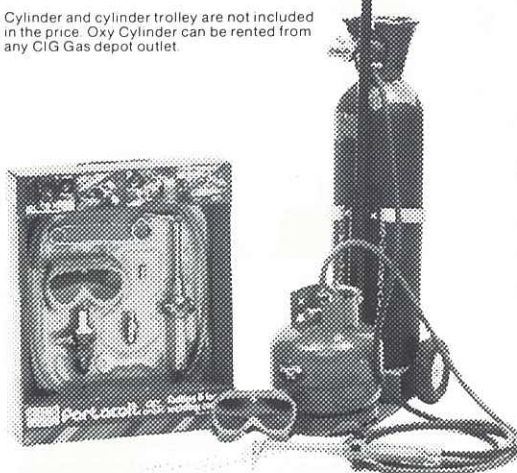


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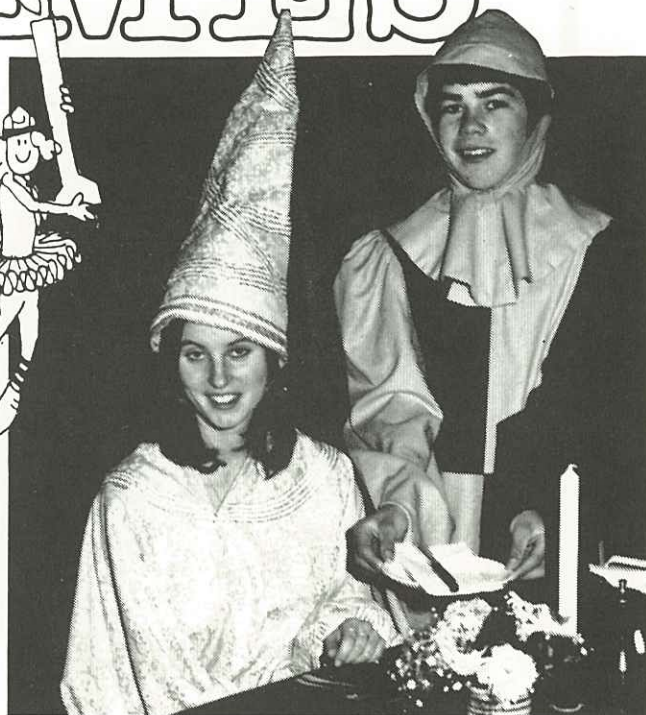
COSTUMES

One Head of Costume Department, 50 Parents and Friends and 1,000 hours of work – mix them all together, sprinkle lightly with enthusiasm and what have you got – 1,500 new costumes for 1981 show.

To complement these new costumes we have drawn 2,500 items from previous shows. These are only part of the 20,000 pieces of costumery held in our store at Chadstone.

Because this is a special year we have tried to make authenticity our goal and that is where the headaches began – but for the “London” segment we have done it and the costumes will reflect those used in the original show.

When the curtain falls some of the items go back to that store but many are either hired to other shows or else join the country tour cast to highlight their performances.



MAKE-UP

During the course of an evening's show the cast disappear deep into the bowels of the theatre and reappear as completely different characters, all due to the talented people of the make-up team. There are many changes to many faces, so many changes that the team has to resort to mass production techniques at least for normal “straight” make-up.

Character parts like the Fairy Godmother, 2 Ugly Sisters, 3 Mice and 1 Rat, etc. in Cinderella this year require more attention but of course are fewer in number.

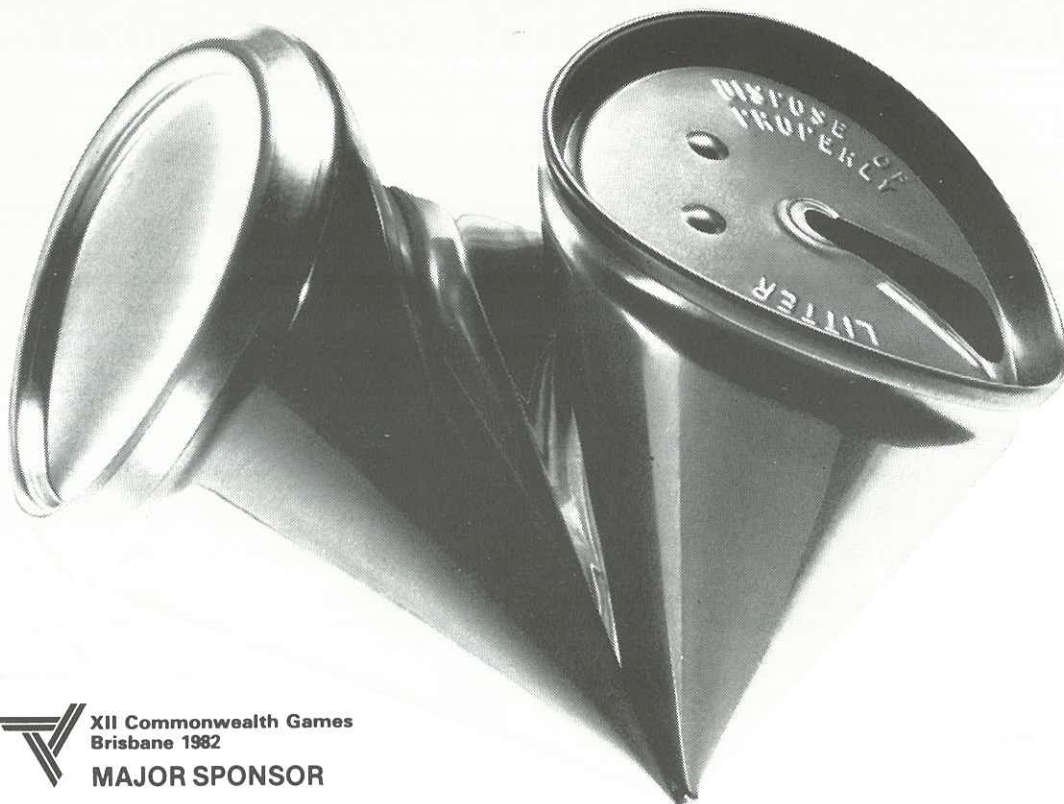
The 18 ODD Members of the make-up team work with a variety of mediums from Grease Paint, Liquid “Body” Make-up, Powder, Crepe Hair and Wigs to perform their task on over 100 Members of the cast each night and you will realise that it could be true to say pandemonium prevails but panic never.

The combined years experience of the make-up team is in excess of 60 years, sufficient proof that it's fun even though there are hectic moments.

Hectic moments like last years' African sequence where we changed quite a number of the cast to African Tribesmen and later in the show to South Americans with body make-up both required the cast to be quickly changed into straights for the following items.

We hope that while you are watching the items JUSTICE FOR ALL and DO-DA-DAY you will think of the hard work going on under the stage to change the cast back into “straights”.





XII Commonwealth Games
Brisbane 1982

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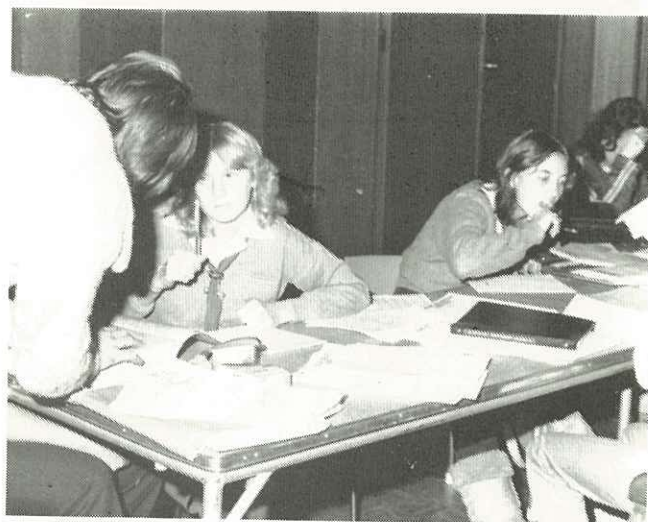
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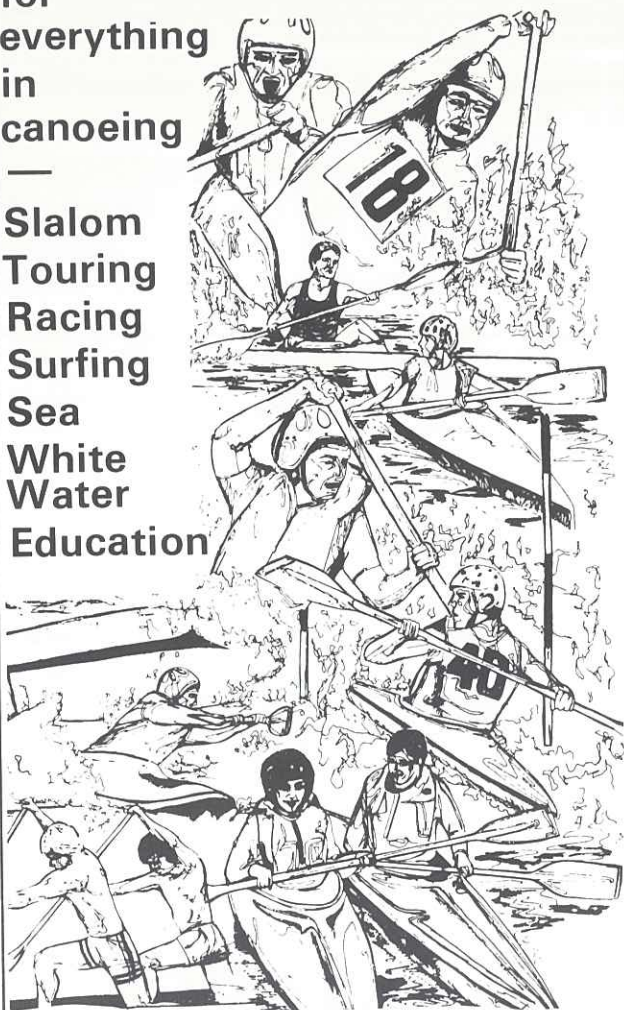


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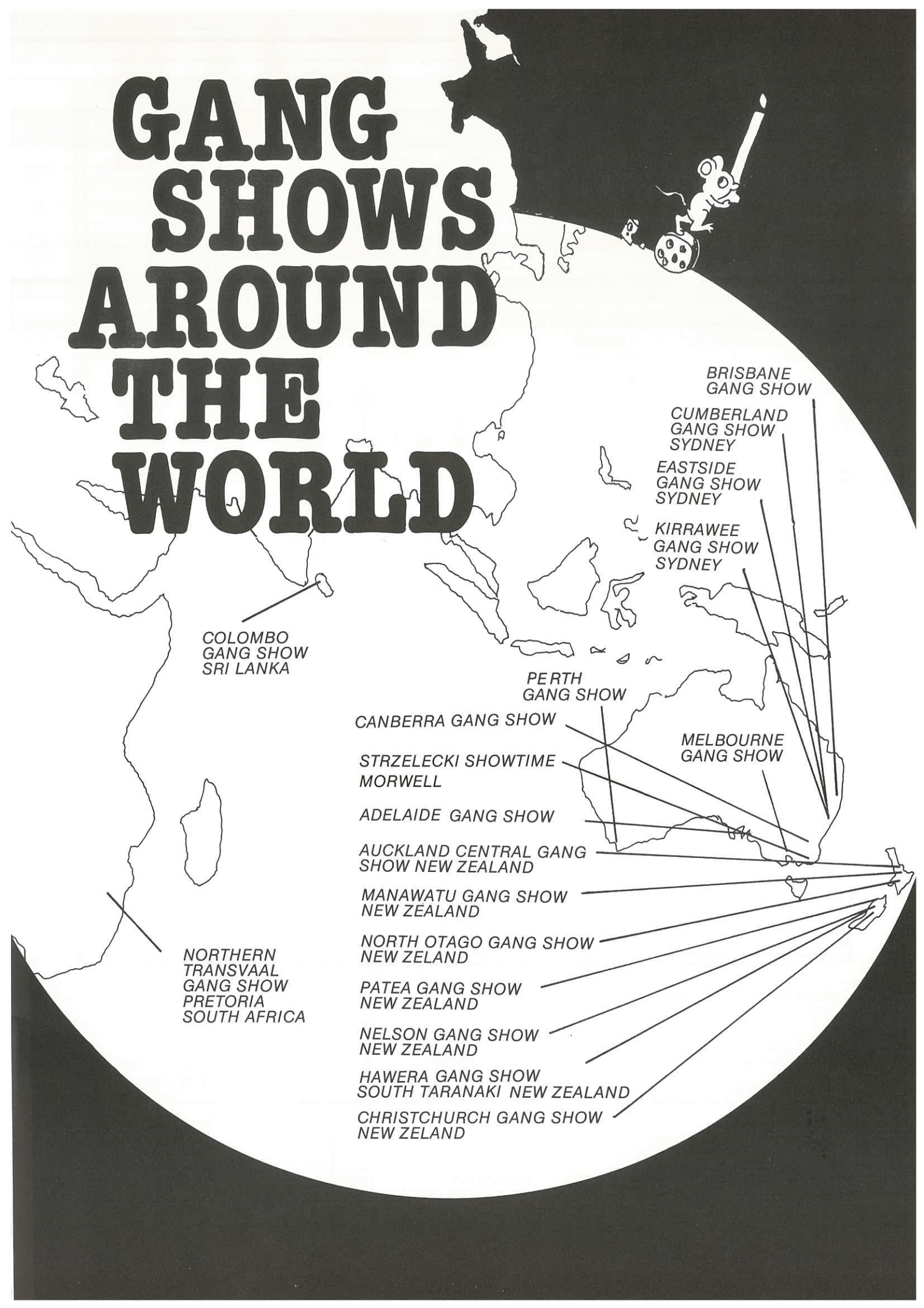
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GANG SHOWS AROUND THE WORLD



COLOMBO
GANG SHOW
SRI LANKA

NORTHERN
TRANSCAAL
GANG SHOW
PRETORIA
SOUTH AFRICA

CANBERRA GANG SHOW

STRZELECKI SHOWTIME
MORWELL

ADELAIDE GANG SHOW

AUCKLAND CENTRAL GANG
SHOW NEW ZEALAND

MANAWATU GANG SHOW
NEW ZEALAND

NORTH OTAGO GANG SHOW
NEW ZEALAND

PATEA GANG SHOW
NEW ZEALAND

NELSON GANG SHOW
NEW ZEALAND

HAWERA GANG SHOW
SOUTH TARANAKI NEW ZEALAND

CHRISTCHURCH GANG SHOW
NEW ZEALAND

PERTH
GANG SHOW

MELBOURNE
GANG SHOW

EASTSIDE
GANG SHOW
SYDNEY

KIRRAWEE
GANG SHOW
SYDNEY

CUMBERLAND
GANG SHOW
SYDNEY

BRISBANE
GANG SHOW

GANG SHOWS AROUND THE WORLD

The history of the Gang Shows around the world is of course far too mammoth a task to include in this programme.

However, looking at the pages on either side of this resume will give some indication of how many shows are in operation today.

The first 'Show' from which the Gang Shows draw their beginning was organised by Rover Scout, Ralph Reader. 'The Gangs All Here' ran for three nights at the Scala Theatre in London almost 50 years ago. The audiences were small and funds raised were used to build a swimming pool at the Downe campsite in Kent.

All of the material for the show was written by Ralph Reader who at that time was a well established actor, dancer and choreographer. Until 1936 he billed himself as 'A Holborn Rover' and only after that year did the many songs which are still being sung around the world today actually carry his name.

The first show was followed by the 'The Gang Comes Back' and this was such a success that new shows began around England and Scotland. In 1935, Ralph made the generous decision to give the rights to all his material to the Scout Association.

The Gang Show has only been interrupted in its performances by the Second World War in 1939 when no London Show was conducted. Wartime shows did however entertain troops through Europe, Africa, Asia and Burma.

The London Gang Show was reestablished in 1950 and continued on until 1974 when Ralph Reader retired at the age of 71.

The first Melbourne Show was a Headquarters organised Ralph Reader musical entitled, 'We'll Live Forever', a stage play centered around the activities of a Scout Group. The cast was drawn from throughout Melbourne and ultimately created the nucleus of the Melbourne Gang Show.

The 1953 season ran for ten days at the Union Theatre and played to an audience of 500. This was small compared to later venues of the Cathedral Hall with 700 and now the Palais with seating for 3,000. The first shows had great difficulty filling the theatres and it required quite a deal of effort to bolster those early days.

The earlier shows also tended to religiously follow the London show which produced problems with lack of identification to songs and sketches related to British scenes and personalities.

In 1955 the idea of country touring shows was introduced by the Gangsters. Country tours now incorporate some of the main cast members of the Melbourne Show capably supported by local talent.

The 'Gang of 1960' hit the floorboards in that year when the use of the Gang Show title was withdrawn due to the use of local Australian material. In 1961 rationality prevailed and once again the Show became the Melbourne Gang Show. 1960 was also the year the show moved to the Palais theatre – not without certain problems as the sets had already been designed for a smaller theatre. This show was one of the few failures and tickets were given away in an attempt to fill the theatre.

Following the introduction of a professional Public Relations consultant audiences doubled in the next year. Audiences have continued to increase and the Show has regularly had to stage extra performances.

1968 saw the introduction of girls into the cast thus allowing much greater flexibility in songs and sketches. Girls had previously assisted in off-stage roles but not in cast. Some light-hearted dressing up in the guise of the opposite gender still goes on however the contribution afforded to the cast by the girls is now well established.

The days of the early Gang Shows will not be forgotten. Today's Gang Show is a highly professional and polished performance with a budget and an enthusiasm which increases each year.

This year we have had the opportunity to review some of the best from 50 years of Gang Show – next year, and the next and so on will bring us more good times and good shows to remember.

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GANG SHOWS AROUND THE WORLD

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ENGLAND

BIRMINGHAM GANG
SHOW ENGLAND

BOURNEMOUTH GANG
SHOW ENGLAND

SUTTON COLDFIELD
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

GLOUCESTER
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

SCREAMLINE
STAFFORDSHIRE
ENGLAND

URMSTON
GANG SHOW ENGLAND

STONE GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

STONE GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE
GANG SHOW ENGLAND

OAKHAM GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

WORTHING SCOUT &
GUIDE GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

NORTH LONDON
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

BIRKENHEAD
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

WALTHAMSTOW
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

OXFORD
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

CREST-OF-A-WAVE
BURTON-ON-TRENT
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

BRIGHTON
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

GREENFORD
& DISTRICT
GANG SHOW
MIDDLESEX
ENGLAND

KENILWORTH
GANG SHOW
WARWICKSHIRE
ENGLAND

WREXHAM GANG
SHOW ENGLAND

SOUTH EAST
LEICESTER
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

NORTHAMPTON
GANG SHOW
ENGLAND

DUNDEE GANG SHOW
SCOTLAND

EDINBURGH GANG SHC
SCOTLAND

GLASGOW GANG SHOW
SCOTLAND

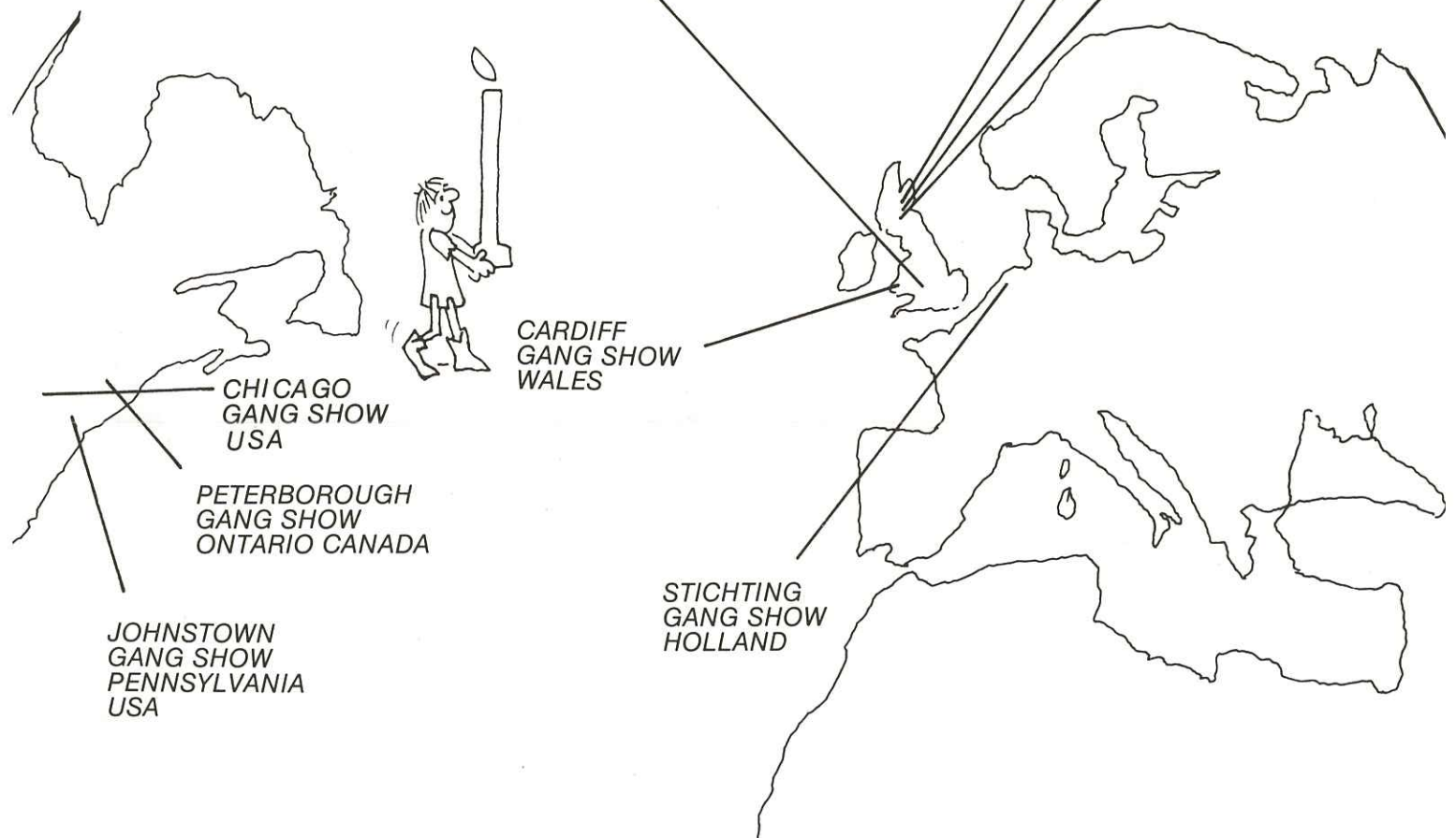
CARDIFF
GANG SHOW
WALES

CHICAGO
GANG SHOW
USA

PETERBOROUGH
GANG SHOW
ONTARIO CANADA

JOHNSTOWN
GANG SHOW
PENNSYLVANIA
USA

STICHTING
GANG SHOW
HOLLAND



PROGR

You're Only Young Once

Ralph Reader

The Palais Hillbillies

Rod Dorin, Doug Edmonds, Lynton Wade

Hoedown

Ken Bayly

Dead Letter Office

Andrew Taylor, Doug Edmonds

And The Little Black Bag

Ralph Reader

Justice For All?

Ken Bayly, Doug Edmonds

Return To Sender

Andrew Taylor, Doug Edmonds

Cinderella

MGS Workshop

On The Way Home

Ralph Reader

Fagin's Boys

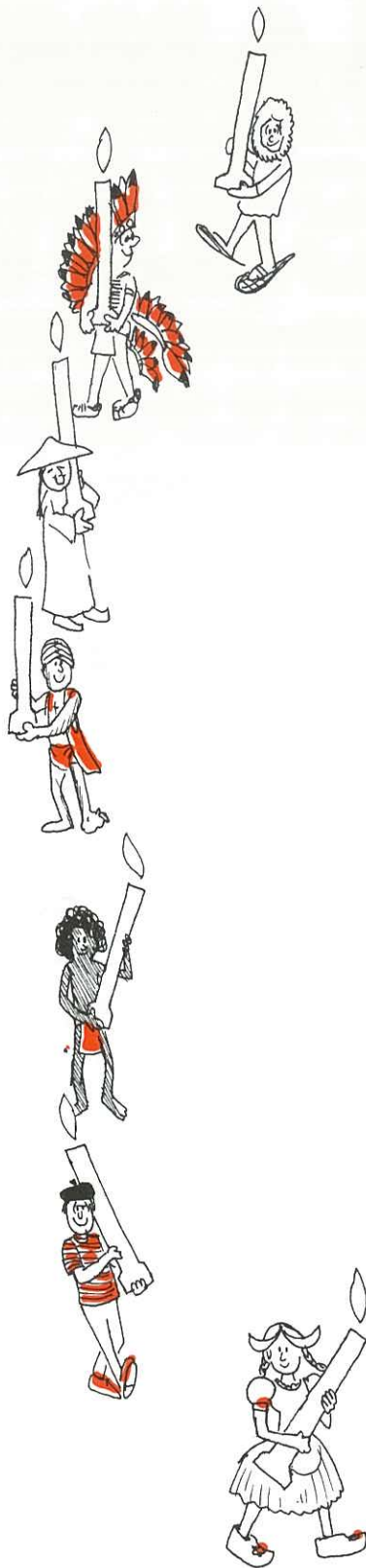
Ken Bayly, Doug Edmonds

The Best Of London

Doug Edmonds

Let's Sing A Song About London

Ralph Reader



AMME

Do-Da-Day

Ken Bayly, Doug Edmonds

Hand Delivered

Andrew Taylor, Doug Edmonds

Accolade

Don Sutherland

The Fairy At The Bottom Of The Billy

Andrew Taylor

Spring

Ralph Reader

Knocking At The Door For Cheryl

Ralph Reader

Harvest

Ken Bayly, Doug Edmonds

The Cheer Ups

Ralph Reader, Ray Howden

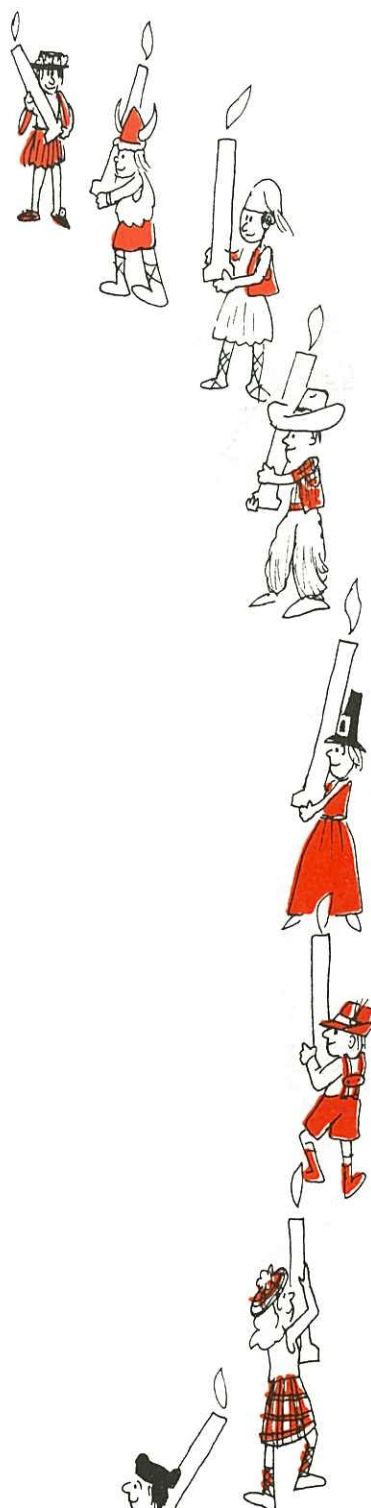
The Night After The Show Before

Andrew Taylor

I Can Reach For The Stars

Peter Marriott

Finale



Jan
Gunn

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Peter Hart

**ADMINISTRATION
COORDINATOR**
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FINANCE
Stan Knowles

ACCOUNTING
Neil Cross
Alan Bridge
Beryl Knowles

FRONT OF HOUSE
Norm Shaw

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Dawn Wright

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David Abbey
Andrew Baker
Deborah Brand
Tony Colacino
Richard Cooling
Alan Eade
Matthew Elliott
Peter Farren
Steve Farren
Greg Nicholls
Nick Seelig
Arthur Spurgeon
Pauline Spurgeon

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Graeme Bell
Lillian Beard
Peter Blank
Alma Brand
Lorna Carthy
Frank Dart
Maria De Jong
Sandra Firth
Andrew Fisher
Richard Fisher
Mark French
Anne Gilbert
Doug Kilburn
Dawn Mogford
Wal McDonald
Heather McDonald
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Leon Jones

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Ian Gunn
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Vicki Collins

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Doug Edmonds
Brett McLeod

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS
Callum Cowell
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Alana Moor

CHOREOGRAPHER
Ala L-Tozer

MUSIC
Ken Bayly
Matthew Hicks
Malcolm Miles
Simon Thewlis

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Andrew Bean
Peter Bean
David Bean
Cameron Bell
David Bell
John Bennett
Susan Bergman
Jason Blake
Sarah Bowes
Mark Boxer
Simon Brand
Tracey Browne
Danny Buckley
Glenn Burnell
Dave Butts
Mark Campbell
Dean Clydesdale
Ashley Coleman
Michael Coleman
David Collard
Ian Collier
Anne Cook
David Corney
Russell Corr
Simon Cousins
Sandy Crompton
Janet Doueal
Tony Ellerton
Russell Emmerson
Rod Farrington
Nickie Fidge
Michael Francis
Donald Fraser
Simon Gainey
Jeff Gardner
Ian Gillan
Chris Goffin
Kevin Goodall
Cameron Griffiths
Stephen Griffiths
Carol Hall
Paul Hall
Tony Hall
Jenny Hammond
Mark Hartley
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Barb Papworth
Craig Paroissien
Andrew Perri
Rob Pinal
Leigh Prossor
Brendan Pryor
Philip Purkiss
Bruce Pyke
Stuart Redman
Drew Rikard-Bell
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Kevin Short
Linda Smith
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Robert Stephens
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Ruth Stillwell
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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
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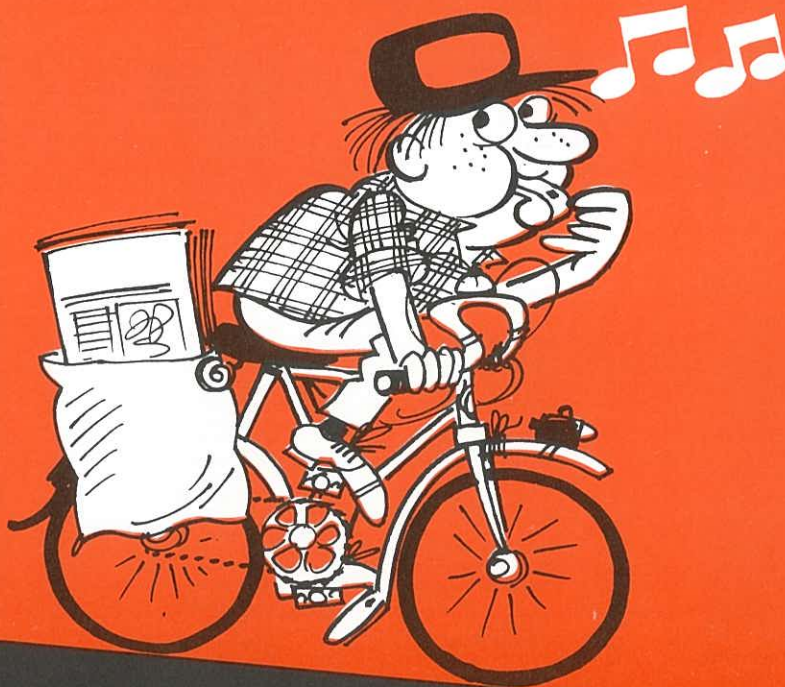
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LIGHTS

This year the lighting department has the mammoth task of lighting the large scenery sets and the 130 cast members. To do this specialised job, they use 150 lanterns across six flying bars, ladders, booms and front of house lighting positions. All these lanterns are being controlled from the rear stalls on a duet microprocessor memory-controlled switchboard with the use of one hundred and ninety eight lighting cues.

This job is being undertaken by the small team of six people including the department head, Andrew Holmes. With the aid of the Palais staff who operate the three follow spots and switchboard we are sure you will enjoy the visual effects produced by this technical team.



SOUND

The output from 40 mikes, mixed, balanced, amplified and projected from three sound control consoles within the stalls backstage and in the orchestra pit provides the magical sound we now associate with the Gang Show.

Additional features provided by this department include pre-recorded sound effects, back stage broadcast for cast members cues and the all important recording of the show to provide the Gang Show cassette to enable the audience to relive the thrilling sounds of Gang Show – don't miss your copy.

WIZZ BANG CRASH

Once you've got the whole show on stage – the scenery, costumes, props and lights – it's starting to look pretty good, but it's lacking those final touches that make it a really polished performance.



This is where special effects come in. A hard-working team of five imaginative guys have the task of adding all the extra bits and pieces that brighten up the show. Tell them what you want done and chances are they'll be able to come up with it, whether it's campfires or London fog – or even rainbows. Some of the more challenging problems facing the special effects team this year included making realistic-looking street-lamps that could be "lit" by realistic looking lamp-lighters, and a soot-filled fire-place capable of self-destruction, as well as the normal everyday run-of-the-mill explosions and smoke clouds... and the fog? That comes from way down in the bowels of the theatre where a huge behemoth full of dry ice pours out enough mist to cover the stage (one year it engulfed the orchestra and the first three rows!). Special effects is just a small part of the show, but a vital one. It's just one of the many teams without which Gang Show simply wouldn't be Gang Show.

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20 RUSSELL STREET, MELBOURNE, 3000. Telephone 63 7911

We're Guiding the New Generation

For over 70 years the Girl Guides have been trained to be self-reliant, caring members of the community; ready and willing to act when needed in whatever situation. Over the years our programme has changed to meet the needs of current generations of girls, and we are still changing.

We hear about the fun the girls have in Guiding – have you ever thought how much enjoyment the adults gain through friendship and participation? Apart from the satisfaction of watching the girls in their care develop into responsible and active citizens, they have the added enjoyment of adult company, social outings, the opportunity to travel and to try varied activities.

Our 8 point programme covers – Thinking for yourself, learning new arts and crafts, giving service in the community, exploring the out-of-doors and caring for the environment, home craft skills, health, fitness and beauty, making new friends, both here and overseas, and putting the Guide Law into practise.

Each year, many thousands of girls are denied these pleasures due to a lack of adult leaders. If you are female, 15 years of age or over, and enjoy being with girls, there is a place waiting for you in the Girl Guide Movement.

Why not give it a try?

For further information
please contact:
The Girl Guides Association,
20 Russell Street,
MELBOURNE.
Phone 63.7911



For Help at Home or at Work, Rent:



PUMPS



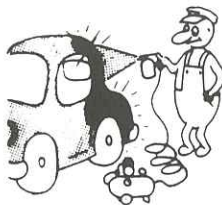
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LAWN MOWERS



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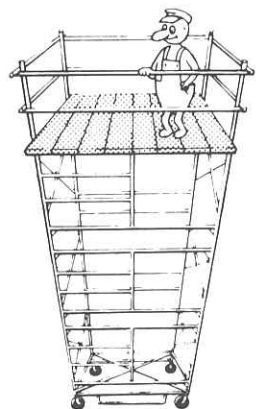
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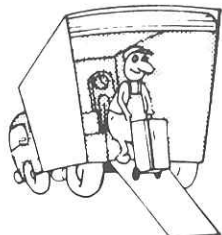
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PROPS

From the Days of Old when Knights were bold to our present day when the Knights are just cold requires a large range of items from the PROPS DEPARTMENT to make a good show into an excellent show.

Props this year have had to provide items such as swords and shields from Medieval England, Bath tubs and chamber pots from the 30s, and glittering skateboards and magic wands of a more modern age.

Intermingled with these will be luminescent banjos, a Hillbilly band, six packets of fish and chips and 61 champagne glasses – not to mention the return of a sweet young letterbox and brown owls' toadstool.

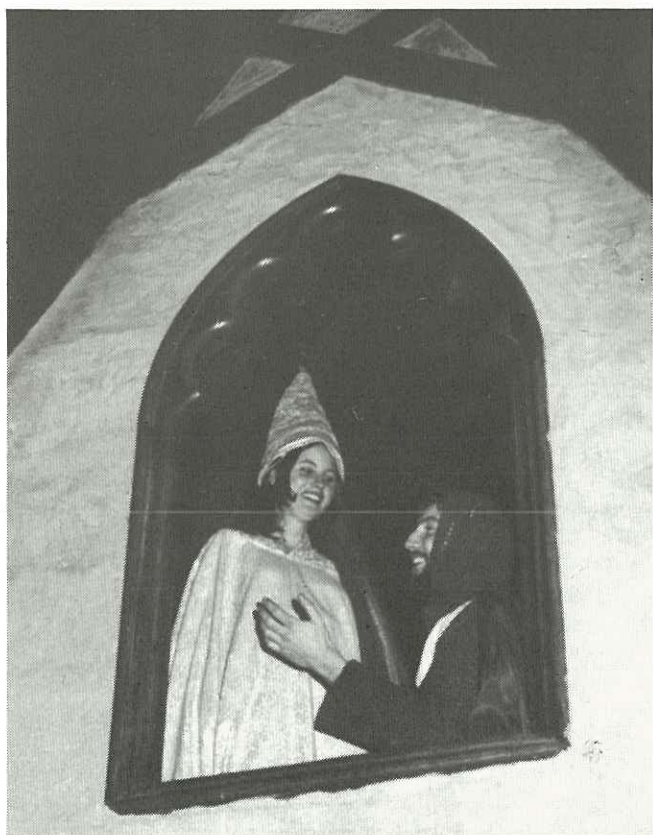
Even after producing all these articles the Props crew were still not satisfied – they could have rested on their laurels and used a real cast member instead of a dummy in one sketch and an animal dummy instead of the real thing in another sketch – but not this department.

Unfortunately there will be no prize for those in the audience who identify which is which – when you have seen the show you will understand how some difficulty could arise in distinguishing the animate from the inanimate – be watching.



SCENERY

On any Sunday from June to September you can thrill to the sounds of electric saws, jigsaws, hammering and banging by visiting the Richmond scenery store. Fourteen able bodied artisans carry out these activities to convert lifeless pieces of canvas, plywood and timber into that building or hill or fence or post box required to bring the required scenes to the stage. Little problems like, will it really fit through the door on completion, or does the colour match the costumes, or did we buy enough materials, all go together to make like a real challenge in the scenery department.



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A pat of encouragement here, a personal
or financial commitment there.

The needs of our communities are many
and varied and timely assistance enables
individuals and groups to achieve goals which
would otherwise be unattainable or slow to reach.

Shell Australia contributes to numerous
community associations and groups.

Being involved in community affairs
means being involved in the way
you want to live.



SHELL AUSTRALIA

FRONT OF HOUSE

Dressed in white and wearing the coveted Gang Show scarf, the Front-of-House team is Gang Show's first line of attack on the entertainment senses of you, the audience.

From your first encounter with one of our young cheery Programme Sellers, outside or inside the Palais, to when you are shown to your reserved seat by one of our Ushers, the Front-of-House team is pleased to serve you.

With 15 minutes to go before the curtain rises, the theatre looks empty, 10 minutes a little more filled, and then the rush starts.

From busloads of eager Cubs, Scouts, Brownies, and Guides to the wheelchairs of the disabled, the F-O-H team work quietly and efficiently, hopefully to seat you all in time to hear the overture and see the curtain rise on yet another Melbourne Gang Show performance.

Every member of the audience is a V.I.P. to Gang Show. We also have some special V.I.P.'s who are welcomed firstly by our Guest Reception members.

Gang Show invites some of these people as a 'Thank You' gesture and also takes the opportunity to show community leaders just what Gang Show is all about.

Their enthusiastic comments during interval when they are entertained and after the show are proof of their enjoyment of the occasion.

The Front-of-House team is privileged to form part of the Gang Show set-up and your enjoyment is ample reward for their efforts.

OFFICE SERVICES

Our Department, like Big Ben in London, never ceases to work – when one show finishes we begin to type and print the production material and other notes for next years show. During Rehearsals we use 60,000 sheets of paper for manuals, song folders and the ever popular 'Scraggy' newsheet. When the show arrives at

the Palais, Office Services are there to produce the nightly production notes – and even a 'Hate Sheet' to remind cast and stage crew of those small errors yet to be cured – but we always finish the final performance with a 'Love Sheet' for a job well done.



RELATIONSHIPS

A team of 17 people combine to 'sell' the Gang Show. This section comprises Ticket Sales, Advertising, Sponsorship, Publications, Photography and Liaison with other Scout and Guide shows all combining to promote the show. This promotion takes place within the Movement, as well as outside Scouting, striving to sell about

20,000 tickets for each years' show. The establishment of Area and District Representatives to further promote the Show to groups has greatly assisted our sales this year.

It's a great Gang and we're proud to be part of it.



The Commercial Division of The Scout Association of Australia

The first "Scout Outdoor Centre" located at Moorabbin, opened in April, 1980 and has proved to be most successful.

Since that time, two additional Scout Outdoor Centres have been opened at Mitcham and Melbourne to replace the Nunawading and Elizabeth Street Scout Shops.

Not only has the commercial division greatly improved its image by way of bright, spacious and exciting atmospheres, but Scout Indoor Centres offer an extensive range of camping and outdoor equipment at competitive prices. We now use the slogan "**We Will Beat Your Best Price**" and we stick by our promise.

Have you visited one of our outdoor centres yet?

Don't forget, we not only cater for the needs of scouting, but also for the general public. So tell your family, friends, - everyone, because we can cater for the needs of the weekend hiker to the family camper.

Scout Outdoor Centres are located at:-

Moorabbin - 880 Nepean Highway;
Telephone: 555-7811.

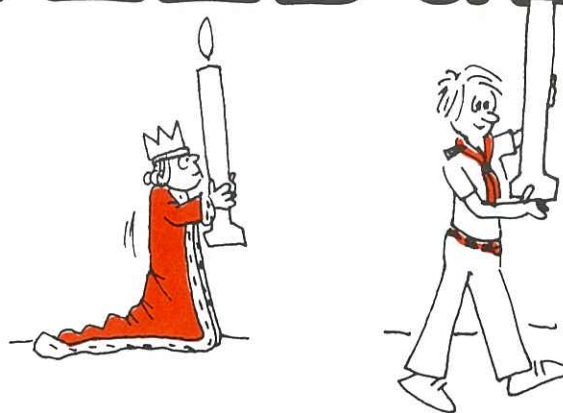
Mitcham - 20-22 Station Street.
Telephone: 873-5061.

Melbourne - Shop 7, Myer House Arcade,
250 Elizabeth Street.
Telephone: 663-3228.

Come and visit us and give us the opportunity to help you.

ACKNOWLEDGE MENTS

Ken Lloyd Jones and Scout Magazine, Lesley Hadine, and the Scout shops, Maurice Scott and staff of its Bryson Cinema. Mrs E. Hull, Les Phillips of Powerhouse. Reg Smith. ATV-10, GTV-9, 3 LO, 3 UZ, 3 KZ, 3 MP, 3 AW, 3 DB. Ray McKenna, Bob Cornish, Imago Makers Aust. Challenge Magazine Montsalvat-Eltham, Gilda Howard. Graeme Cornall. Pacific Films. Andrew Taylor, Doug Edmonds. Area and District Reps. Rank Electronics. Ampex Aust. Greg Nichols. Whelan Truck Rentals. David Miller, Bonnie and Norm Lock, John Peak, and all our friends in the Melbourne media who offered their kind assistance.



PROGRAMME

Advertising - Margo Hartley: Concept and Illustration - Ian Gunn. Design - David Miller. Printing - Waratah Press. Photography - Neil Fookes, David Brown. Cover Design - Ken Smith. Research - Bronwyn Jones.

FAREWELL



That's our show for 1981 – if you have enjoyed the show as much as we have enjoyed bringing it to you then we have all gained from the experience. Gang Show aims to give value for money to its patrons, its advertisers and sponsors but above all, it aims to provide one more area of training for the members of the Scout and Guide Movement.

So on to 1982 and the 75th year of scouting – a big year for the Scout movement and the opportunity for you to become part of the Gang Show.

New ideas for songs and sketches need new talents so there will always be an opening for you.

See you in '82.



To join Melbourne Gang Show write for an Application Form to:
72 Queens Road Melbourne 3004 or pick up a form in the upstairs Foyer of the Palais.

Gang members must be aged 10 or over in the Scouts or be an invested Ranger 15 years or over in Guides.

