

NEWS

Gang's all here to put on show

AFTER six months of gruelling rehearsals the cast and crew of the 27th annual St Albans Gang Show are putting the final touches to this year's Scouting extravaganza.

A Gang Show, for the those not familiar with the Scouting movement, is a traditional cabaret production, held every year, featuring singing, dancing and comedy from young people aged between 11 and 25.

The St Albans show, consisting of more than 230 cast members and crew, is one of the most successful in the country, enjoying sell-out audiences year on year at the Alban Arena.

Places in the show are fiercely contested. So for Gang Show veteran and Loreto College pupil Siobhan Brennan, 16, her fifth successive appearance is something of an achievement.

by Neil Skinner

nskinner@london.newsquest.co.uk

She said: "The St Albans Gang Show has a very friendly atmosphere at every rehearsal and every show.

"After the rehearsals there is the long wait to find out if you have become a part of St Albans Gang Show. I tried not to get my hopes up as it was my first audition but as the letter came through the door I was really excited.

"I absolutely love going to the Alban Arena because we start to rehearse on the stage which I find really exhilarating.

"It also gets me in the right frame of mind for the show and it gets me more excited because I can then tell that show week is approaching.

"It holds about 800 people and once they all start cheering my heart starts beating faster and faster. When the opening music starts I can always feel a massive smile grow across my face because the first move I make on the stage on the first show is the most amazing experience I have ever felt and I am sure most of the cast will agree with me."

The show's producer, David Barker, is promising big things from this year's production. He said: "We've got some very talented young people in St Albans. They have put a tremendous amount of effort in."

The curtain goes up on Wednesday, February 7, at 7.30pm. Closing night is on Saturday, February 10.

To find out more information please visit www.stalbansgangshow.com



Rehearsals for the 27th annual St Albans Gang Show.