



VENUE theatre



Auditions for the St Albans Gang Show

gang battle

RECORD numbers of Scouts, Guides and young leaders battled it out last week as they auditioned to try to secure a place in next year's **St Albans Gang Show**.

The event is one of the largest and most popular in the country and 105 young people took part in the auditions.

David Barker, the show's producer, said: "Every year we're inundated with young people wanting to be in the show yet sadly, the limitations at the **Alban Arena** mean that it is physically

impossible to take more than 130 cast members.

"Choosing the cast is the toughest part of putting on the show as we know that a significant number of auditionees will be disappointed."

To try to make things as fair as possible, every cast member has to re-audition after three years of first joining and there are about 40 new places available each year.

Tim Withers, aged 14, who has re-auditioned this year, said: "I've performed in three Gang Shows

and loved every minute. The fun, friendship and the amazing feeling of performing at the Arena is second to none – there's really nothing like it."

The youngsters are now waiting for letters to hear if they were successful.

Rehearsals begin next month and The St Albans Gang Show will be on stage at the Alban Arena from Wednesday, February 7, to Saturday, February 10.

Tickets go on sale at the end of November and application forms are available from 01727 830397.