

**Wilde theatre**  
south hill park

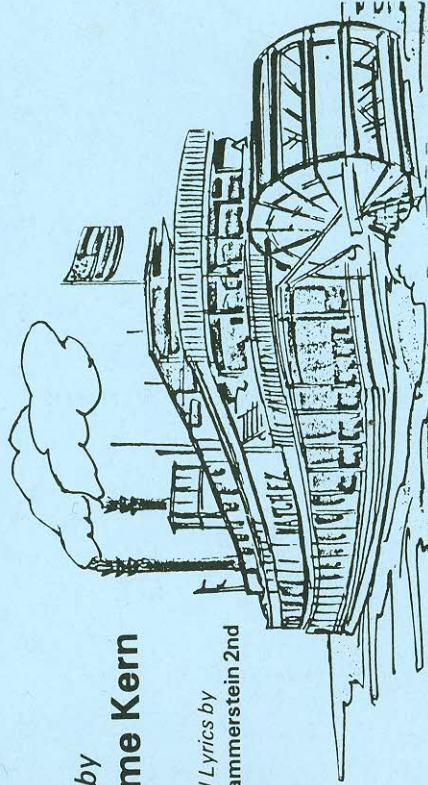
*Crowthorne Musical Players*

*present*

# SHOWBOAT

*Music by*  
**Jerome Kern**

*Book and Lyrics by*  
**Oscar Hammerstein 2nd**



*Presented by arrangement with CHAPPELL & CO. LTD.*

**Tuesday, 25th April to Saturday, 29th April, 1989**  
**at the Wilde Theatre, South Hill Park, Bracknell**  
at 7.45 p.m.

Programme 50p

### Chairman's Welcome

A warm welcome to friends old and new on our second visit to the Wilde Theatre. In our cast and production team there are many familiar names, but you will also see some "new faces" to whom we extend a very sincere welcome. Nothing on the amateur stage can be achieved without enthusiasm from the members plus a lot of time, hard work and energy - which is freely given.



I hope "Showboat" will give you a very enjoyable evening and I defy you to go home without humming some of the lovely Jerome Kern melodies!

Eileen Goode, *Chairman*

### Crowthorne Musical Players

Crowthorne Musical Players was formed by members of the Parish Church in the early 1950's. Since that time the Society has produced many fully staged musical shows and has given many concerts for a variety of causes. Our productions during the past ten years have included:

1979	My Fair Lady
1980	Camelot
1981	Sweeney Todd
1982	Fiddler on the Roof
1983	The Mikado
1984	Salad Days
1985	Pajama Game
1986	Viva Mexico
1987	The Sorcerer
1988	Kiss Me Kate



Member, National Operatic and Dramatic Association.



## THE STORY

*Show Boat* is a musical play in two acts, based on Edna Ferber's novel of the same title, set in Natchez, Mississippi and Chicago at the end of the 19th century.

Unlike most of the young ladies aboard the show boat Cotton Blossom, which cruised the Mississippi dispensing entertainment to the riverside communities, Magnolia is neither actress nor singer, but the daughter of the boat's master, Captain Andy. She longs to be an entertainer though, and is encouraged by the handsome but unreliable Gaylord Ravenal, a gambler with whom she falls in love at first sight. She seeks an opinion of Gaylord from Joe, a member of the crew, but he evades the question by singing philosophically of "*Ol' Man River*." Julie, the show boat's star performer, is more forthright, however, and tries to warn Magnolia.

Julie and her husband are unable at the last moment to take part in the show. Magnolia and Gaylord fill their places, their performance culminating in mutual declaration of love and a decision to marry.

Some years later Captain Andy visits his daughter in Chicago, to learn that Gaylord's gambling is ruining life for Magnolia and her daughter Kim. When Gaylord deserts them Magnolia looks for work as a singer, finding it through the unselfishness of Julie, who learns of her plight and gives up her own singing engagement, enabling Magnolia to make a big success in her place. But Captain Andy returns to take Magnolia and Kim back to the show boat, where they find a repentant Gaylord awaiting them, and *Ol' Man River* still rollin' along.

## PROFILES



**Sandra Lewis** (*Magnolia*) is appearing with C.M.P. for the first time, having sung with several societies in Scotland before moving to this area. She has taken many leading roles with various local societies, including Josephine in *HMS Pinafore* earlier this year, Carrie in *Carousel*, Adele in *Die Fledermaus* and Eurydice in *Orpheus*.



**Cameron Rolls** (*Ravenal*) is also appearing with C.M.P. for the first time, with recent leading roles in *Oklahoma* (Curly), *West Side Story* (Tony), and an off Broadway production of *Pajama Game* (as Sid) in New York last year. As a member of the Philbeach Society he has also played Frederick in *Pirates of Penzance* and Nanki Pooh in *Mikado*.



**Ken Goode** (*Captain Andy*) joined C.M.P. 10 years ago to play Leopold in *White Horse Inn* and has been a principal in every show since then, playing such diverse roles as Lancelot in *Camelot* and Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*. He was a member of EBOS for several years and bass singer in a Barbershop Quartet. Apart from singing and acting Ken is on the C.M.P. committee, plays the piano, makes the scenery and keeps the chairman sane!

