



Crowthorne Musical Players

present

Rogers and Hammerstein's

OKLAHOMA!

Music by
RICHARD RODGERS

Book and Lyrics by
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Based on Lynn Riggs' *Green Grow The Lilacs*

Original Dances by Agnes De Mille

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Tuesday 27th April to Saturday 1st May 1993
8 p.m.

WILDE THEATRE BRACKNELL

Chairman's Welcome

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to you all, old friends and newcomers to our audience this evening. In "Oklahoma!" we have chosen one of the most popular shows to have come from Broadway to our shores just after the end of World War 2. Our Producer and Musical Director have worked us very hard to attain the highest standard and we hope that the finished product will give you much enjoyment. A successful show depends on the support of many helpers who do not share the applause, they need to be acknowledged, and I do that now on behalf of a very grateful cast.

Thank you all for coming, enjoy the show and please come to see us again next year in "Half a Sixpence".

Ted Anderson, Chairman

CROWTHORNE MUSICAL PLAYERS

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

1983 The Mikado
1984 Salad Days
1985 Pyjama Game
1986 Viva Mexico
1987 The Sorcerer

1988 Kiss Me Kate
1989 Show Boat
1990 Ruddigore
1991 Calamity Jane
1992 Merry Widow

Our next major show will be Half a Sixpence in April 94 again in the Wilde Theatre. We will also giving an Autumn concert in early October '93

Member, National Operatic and Dramatic Association.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Photography courtesy of Julie Hughes
Hairdressing by Phyllis Hallam

RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN

Why are Rodgers and Hammerstein so important in Musical Theatre? When Oklahoma opened in 1943, it broke the traditional conventions of the musical, just as Showboat had 16 years previously. There were no high kicking chorus girls when the show started but offstage, a baritone began to sing "Oh what a beautiful morning" unaccompanied. Rodgers and Hammerstein supported the conviction that the song was the servant of the play. "Oh what a beautiful mornin'" was the first lyric Hammerstein wrote for the show. Rodgers recalls, "When Oscar handed it to me I was a little sick with joy because it was so lovely and so right. When you're given words like, 'The corn is as high as an Elephant's eye', you've got to say something musically."

The shows of Rodgers and Hammerstein were the product of sincerity. Hammerstein particularly embraced life's simple truth and communicated that truth in words, characters and situations. He really did believe that love conquers all, that virtue triumphs and that dreams do come true.

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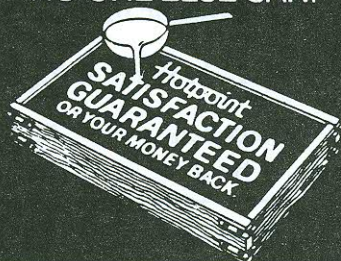
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OKLAHOMA!

This musical was first produced by The Theatre Guild on April 1st, 1943, at the St. James Theatre, New York City, and in London it was first produced at The Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, on April 30th, 1947.

CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

AUNT ELLER	Pam Stanney
CURLY	Jon Ranwell
LAUREY	Juliet Clarke
IKE SKIDMORE	John Walker
SLIM	Roger Lansdown
WILL PARKER	Tony Randall
JUD FRY	Trevor Leuty
ADO ANNIE CARNES	Wendy Watson
ALI HAKIM	Mark Conolly
GERTIE CUMMINGS	Alison Critchley
ANDREW CARNES	Len Scott
CORD ELAM	Robin Macdonald

THE COMPANY

Ted Anderson	Sharon Baird	Felicity Bignell
Jackie Bignell	Michael Bristow	Christine Charlton
Monty Cook	Paula Critchley	Liz Darkin
Dale Edmenson	Scott Edmenson	Sheila Gimbett
Peter Jones	Carole Kershaw	Jo Kershaw
Tony Kershaw	Claire Lawson	Rachel Longley
Debbie Mann	Diane Mears	Ann Mayers
Mavis McCormack	Gaye Rees	Andy Shackleton Lee
Abi Shackleton Lee	Anita Smale	Keay Smith
Pat Steer	Angela Taylor	Paul Tysoe
Shirley Wilkinson	Mary Wilson	Audrey Wybrow
	Jean Young	

DANCERS

Lisa Furlong	Nicola Haydon	Shelley Lewin
Debbie Mann	Helen Orme	Lizzy Orme
Judith Rogers	Sara Rymer	Tamsin Runnalls
	Helen Siveter	

SCENES

ACT ONE

Scene 1	Laurey's Farmhouse
Scene 2	The Smoke House
Scene 3	Laurey's Farmhouse

ACT TWO

Scene 1	The Skidmore Ranch
Scene 2	Laurey's Farmhouse

Time: Just after the turn of the century.

Place: Indian Territory (Now Oklahoma).

(There will be an interval of 20 minutes between Act One and Act Two)

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Scene 1

Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'	Curly
The Surrey with the Fringe on Top	Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller
Kansas City	Will, Aunt Eller, and Company
I Cain't Say No	Ado Annie
Many a New Day	Laurey and the Girls
It's a Scandal! It's a Outrage!	Ali Hakim and the Boys
People Will Say We're in Love	Curly and Laurey

Scene 2

Pore Jud	Curley and Jud
Lonely Room	Jud

Scene 3

Out of My Dreams	Laurey and the Girls
The Dream	Dancers And Company

ACT TWO

Scene 1

The Farmer and the Cowman	Carnes, Aunt Eller and Company
Oklahoma Reel	The Company
All er Nuthin'	Ado Annie, Will and Two Dancing Girls
Reprise "People will say we're in love"	Curly and Laurey

Scene 2

Oklahoma	Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller and Company
Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'	Laurey, Curly and Company
Finale	The Company

Profiles

Pam Stanney

(*Aunt Eller*) has performed in plays and musicals over many years. She has performed in such diverse roles as Mercedes in *Carmen*, Madam Acartie in *Blyth Spirit*, Katrina in *Mikado* and Queenie in *Show Boat*. She recently had great success in the BT sponsored play *Happy Families* by John Godber for the Little Theatre Guild. She makes a welcome return to CMP for this production.

Jon Ranwell

(*Curly*) has been involved on the stage for the last ten years. He has had many roles including Kipps in *Half a Sixpence*, Cornelius in *Hello Dolly* and Orpheus in *Orpheus in the Underworld*. Having been encouraged by being invited to audition for *Aspects of Love* 18 months ago Jon is hoping to go to drama college and turn professional. This is his first performance with CMP.

Juliet Clarke

(*Laurey*) is in her first show with CMP. She is 22 and she first played Laurey at the age of 12. Since then she has had principal roles with The Digby Youth Theatre, The Newbury Nomads and The Newbury Operatic Society.

Tony Randall

(*Will Parker*) has been involved in acting/singing for the last 5 years. His experience includes roles in *Big Deal*, *West Side Story*, *Verdi's Macbeth*, *Fish out of Water*, and *Brigadoon*. He recently played Jud Fry in Newbury Nomads production of *Oklahoma*. He too is a newcomer to CMP.

Wendy Watson

(*Ado Annie*) started her amateur operatic career in 1987 as Jane McFudd in *Irene* with Accrington Amateur Dramatic Society followed by Helen Wallsingham in *Half a Sixpence* with Blackburn Amateurs. This is her first principal role with CMP having been a Grizette and member of the chorus in *The Merry Widow* last year.

Mark Conolly

(*Ali Hakim*) joined CMP this year. His only previous experience, that he can recollect, was as the 3rd Shepherd in his infant school nativity play in 1961.

Trevor Leuty

(*Jud Fry*) first appeared on stage in 1971. Some twenty plays later he took his first role in a musical in 1987 playing Wasir in *Kismet*. Since then he has had principal roles in the CMP productions of *Ruddigore* and *Calamity Jane*. His most recent performance was as Rat in *Wind in the Willows* with Sonning Village Players.

Len Scott

(*Andrew Cames*) joined CMP in 1986 as Ramon in *Viva Mexico* and has been in every CMP production since then. Last year he devised and wrote "*America Pie*" which CMP performed to celebrate the 500 years of America's existence.

Robin Macdonald

(*Cord Elam*) has had minor roles in CMP's last two productions. He has also sung in the Chorus in *Iolanthe* and *South Pacific* with Woodley Light Operatic Society.

Alison Critchley

(*Gertie Cummings*) has joined CMP this year. She has been a regular member of the cast in EBOS productions over recent years. She is due to appear again at the Wilde Theatre in May in the *Boy Friend*.

John Walker

(*Ike Skidmore*) is in his first major CMP production. He has performed regularly with Woodley Light Operatic since 1991 and has had principal roles in *The Boyfriend* and *Kiss Me Kate*.

Roger Lansdown

(*Slim*) joined CMP in 1991 for *Calamity Jane* as Danny Gilmartin and played St Brioche in the *Merry Widow*. He has also performed with Woodley Light Operatic and Shinfield Players.

Maggie Uttley

(*Producer*) has produced over 75 shows for Amateur Companies including operas, operettas, musicals and plays of all kinds. She trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and has been involved since then in productions as far afield as Scotland and Kent. Since moving to the area in 1979 she has produced shows for most of the operatic societies in the Berkshire Area. Her other interest is the English Folk Dance and Song Society and she has produced Folk shows at the Albert Hall and Dominion Theatre in London. She is in charge of her second show for CMP having produced the very successful *Merry Widow* for us last year.

Nick Austin

(*Musical Director*) graduated from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 1979. He spent a year at King Alfred's College Winchester where he qualified as a teacher. He is currently in his tenth year as Head of Music at St Crispin's School Wokingham. He is the organist at his local church and rehearsal pianist for the Bracknell Choral Society. This is his fourth show as Musical Director with CMP.

Reg Priest

(*Rehearsal Pianist*) has been with CMP since the early 70's and was the Musical Director for a number of our productions. He moves from the area later this year and the Society wish both him and Sybil the very best in the future. Our loss will be Petersfield's gain!

ORCHESTRA

Leader	Harold Kershaw
1st Violins	Vanessa Craig/Nicola Brown John Spurgeon
2nd Violins	Ellie Moutrie/Gordon Arthur
Viola	Molly Dussek
'Cello	Neil Charlton
Double Bass	Ted Howard
Flute/Piccolo	Ceri Hollywell
Clarinet	Jane Staunton
Clarinet/Bass Clarinet	Julie Britton
Oboe/Cor Anglais	Hazel Todd
Bassoon	Alex Pratt
Horns	Lucy Hodson/Tom Bennellick
Trumpets	David Gray/Paul Harris
Trombone	Nicholas Kershaw
Guitar	Frazer Thornycroft-Smith
Harp	Satu Salo
Percussion	Les Lawrence

PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer	Maggie Uttley
Musical Director	Nick Austin
Rehearsal Pianist	Reg Priest
Principal Rehearsal MD	Reg Priest
Choreographer (Dream Ballet)	Jan Hester
Stage Manager	Richard Spong
Assistant Stage Manager	Chris Evans
Prompt	Don Manning
Lighting	William Titterton/Keith Uttley
Properties	Sam Mussett/Penny Jones
Stage Crew	Peter Mayers/John Jones Alan Duerden/Andrew McBain Steve Smale/Kevin Harfield Pip Leuty/Derek Young
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