



A promotional poster for the musical "Legally Blonde" set against a vibrant pink and purple glitter background. The title "LEGALLY BLONDE" is written in large, white, outlined, block letters. The letter "A" in "BLONDE" is replaced by a white paw print. Above the letter "L" in "LEGALLY" is a white graduation cap. To the right of the title is a large white "A+" grade. In the top left corner is the "NODA For every stage" logo. In the bottom left corner is the "shp SOUTH HILL PARK ARTS CENTRE" logo. In the bottom right corner is a smaller version of the Crowthorne Musical Players logo.

Welcome Pack

Who are Crowthorne Musical Players?

Crowthorne Musical Players was formed in 1950 by members of the Parish Church and since then has performed many musical shows at various venues. Since the 1970s the society has produced at least one major musical every year. Recent performances include Nickelodeons The Spongebob Musical, Ghost The Musical and Disney's The Little Mermaid.

We generally on Monday and Thursday evenings as well as the occasional Sunday - primarily at Crowthorne Parish Hall with some rehearsals at the Methodist Hall and Morgan Centre. We also have use of Little Sandhurst Scout Hut which gets used for smaller rehearsals normally twice a month.

Every year we perform a big musical, supported by various other concerts and shows locally in Crowthorne and in Bracknell. We also hold various fundraising social events throughout the year which we hope you can join us for.

We pride ourselves on being a very friendly society, besides the serious business of performing, we like to have fun, have a laugh and socialise.

CMP is a registered charity - registration number - 1139345 and we are affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA).

The CMP committee are all volunteers working in various roles to support the running of the society to ensure we survive and thrive.

Chairman - Janet Winn

Treasurer - Nyck Moore/Jamie
Milburn (elect)

Secretary - Tom Horrox

Committee Members - Peter Winn, Emily Boneham-Horrox, and Emma Greedus

We would love to hear from you with any feedback (positive or constructive), ideas and/or suggestions - so that we can ensure CMP is the best it can be. Please let us know in person, in a message or our anonymous feedback/suggestion box at

<https://www.cmp-berks.org.uk/account/suggest>

Stay up to date with CMP at <https://www.cmp-berks.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/crowthornemusicalplayers>

On Instagram @crowthorne_musical_players

Or join our Whatsapp community - <https://chat.whatsapp.com/LtAtFz8sG1E4NnjEwnmbi3>

Production Team

Director – Matthew Harcourt

Musical Director - Mark Webb

Choreographer - Libby Harcourt

Show dates and times

- Tuesday 17th March 19.45
- Wednesday 18th March 19.45
- Thursday 19th March 19.45
- Friday 20th March 19.45
- Saturday 21th March 14:30
- Saturday 21th March 19.45

Cast Expectations

Being part of the cast comes with a set of responsibilities and expectations, listed below:

● Attendance & Absence

Please ensure you can attend the majority of the rehearsals before auditioning as poor attendance not only impedes your learning and impacts your satisfaction of being involved in this production but it directly impacts your fellow cast members and production team.

We appreciate you may not be able to attend every rehearsal - where you have got commitments, please make these known on your audition form. Where possible we will try to accommodate your availability as long as it will not significantly impact the participation and enjoyment of other members.

The rehearsal schedule will be updated at regular intervals and we will try to give you as much notice as possible when you are called, however you would expediate this process and minimise changes if you inform us of any absences on usual rehearsal days as soon as you are aware.

If you do have other commitments/illness/things that come up out of the blue that mean you cannot attend a rehearsal at the last minute, please do inform the production team directly (Matt, Mark or Libby) as soon as possible. Where possible this needs to be substantially before the rehearsal begins to allow for backup plans to be put in to effect.

● Membership Subscriptions

● Basic Subscriptions

All cast members must pay for the £15 basic subscription. This is payable for all members of all ages except life members. Basic subscription covers the period annually October to September. This allows you to audition for any CMP show, participate in our annual Christmas Concert, vote at our Annual General Meeting and insures you to be on the stage. This must be paid prior to auditioning. You can pay via cash, card or bank transfer via <https://www.cmp-berks.org.uk/account/cast> if you login and select CMP Basic membership. Please pay via Bank transfer or cash where possible.

● Show Subscriptions

All cast members must pay for the **£110** show subscription (juniors/students pay £30). This is required to take part in the show and supports with covering some of the associated show costs which will likely be in excess of £25,000. **Show subscriptions must be paid either in full or in increments by January 31st 2026.** This can be paid by cash, cheque or bank transfer. You can set up a standing order to split the show subscriptions into smaller payments if this is helpful; please do let us know how you intend to pay. If you are suffering from financial hardship or have unexpected expenses which will delay payment, please speak to Nyck/Jamie or a representative from the committee to discuss your options. Our financial year begins October 1st so any subscriptions for the new year will be due from that date. We cannot accept subs via bank transfer or through the website until this date unfortunately, however you can pay cash before this date.

● Additional costs

To realise the creative vision of this show, there are no expectations for the cast to provide costumes. These will be provided from the extensive CMP costume store or made specifically for the character. There may be occasions where you might be asked if you have an item in your wardrobe that you are prepared to use, but again no obligation or cost should be incurred by you. Any queries regarding this should go through our Wardrobe and Costume Designer, Janet.

NB - If you intend on taking part in shows in the future, you may find it useful to own your own pair of black character shoes or black jazz shoes as these are used regularly. If you wish to purchase a pair of these, do speak to your fellow members as people often have items they are willing to loan or sell, or they may recommend the best places to buy them new.

● How to pay

You can pay for your subscriptions in many ways.

1 - Bank Transfer.

This is always our preferred method as we don't receive any charges for direct bank payments. Wherever possible, please pay us using the bank details below:

Lloyds Bank

Sort Code: 30-91-11

Account Number: 02131925

2 - Cash in person.

Cash in person should where possible be handed directly to the Nyck Moore or Jamie Milburn. When this is not possible, the Peter Winn is the second point of contact.

3 - Card payment in person

We can accept card payments in person which we get charged for using but this charge will NOT be passed on to you. If you wish to make a card payment please speak to Peter Winn.

4- Payment online

You can purchase your membership online from <https://www.cmp-berks.org.uk/account/cast>

It's free to sign up and when you go to the "Cast and Crew" area there is a link to purchase which ever membership relates to you. We DO get charged for every transaction using this service so Bank transfer would be preferred.

● Own Learning

There is an expectation for the cast to be working on and practicing their songs/character/dances (where applicable) outside of rehearsals. Rehearsals are limited and thus it is necessary to minimise repetition when songs have already been covered. If you are absent, you must take responsibility to catch up, utilizing other cast members where possible.

To rehearsals, please bring electronic copies or printed copies and a pencil (whichever you prefer) of any libs/songs that you require for the rehearsal to use and to be able make annotations/notes.

● **Active engagement**

All cast members are expected to take an active role in the society by selling tickets, marketing the show and promoting Crowthorne Musical Players - ie. liking, commenting on and sharing social media posts, inviting friends and family and supporting with fundraising. Without the support of marketing the show from members, we cannot sell tickets and we will need your help to make this strategy work.

● **Promotional photoshoot**

There will be a cast photoshoot on **Wednesday 12 November from 7pm until 10pm** at Catherine Taylor Beauty Salon.

This is a mandatory attendance for those wishing to be cast in lead roles, notably Elle, Serena, Margot, Pilar, Paulette, Vivienne, Warner, Emmett, Calahan and Brooke. Please speak to Emily Boneham-Horrox if you have any questions regarding the photoshoot.

● **Leaving the cast**

We sincerely hope you stay with us for the full length of the rehearsal period however, from time to time plans change and you may not be able to complete this process. If this is the case, we will happily refund you your show fees on a pro rata basis. For example, if we were 25% of the way through the rehearsal period, a 75% refund will be issued. This is due to the subscriptions predominantly covering the very large costs of rehearsal hall hire. The basic subscription is non-refundable.

1. How to audition

- **Applying to Audition**

To audition you MUST have paid your £15 basic membership prior to audition which is non-refundable. You must also fill in the audition application form on the website. This is available on this link:

<https://www.cmp-berks.org.uk/lb-audition>

Please be honest about your availability for rehearsals. Your availability responses on the forms will not affect casting, except in extreme examples i.e. if you can't make it to half of the rehearsals. Your responses are used to create a rehearsal schedule that best reflects everyone's availability and means we need less time to re-cap things people have missed. Rehearsals will commence on Monday 6th October the day after auditions. This will be a read through. All other rehearsal dates will be listed in the audition application form on our website.

- **Pre-Audition (All 3 workshops prior to auditions will be at Crowthorne Parish Hall)**
- **1st Workshop – 25-09-2026 Intro evening and Audition prep. 20:00**

Welcome to CMP's Legally Blonde! Learn about Matthew's creative vision for the show, his rehearsal process, a bit about the show, and what to expect at the auditions. Libby will talk through her ideas for the dance elements of the show and her approaches to choreography. Hear from Mark about the music, and then spend time with him working through each of the audition songs. Come and have any of your questions answered and get a better understanding of who you might want to audition for!

- **2nd Workshop – 29-09-2026 19:30**

After the Intro Evening, you only need to attend one workshop as the content for the next two workshops will be the same.

During this workshop, you will go over each of the acting pieces with Matthew and learn a dance with Libby appropriate to the type of character you wish to audition for: featured or ensemble.

- **3rd Workshop – 02-10-2026 19:30**

This workshop is the same as the previous one. If you attended the workshop on the 29th Sept, you do not need to attend this one.

During this workshop, you will go over each of the acting pieces with Matthew and learn a dance with Libby appropriate to the type of character you wish to audition for: featured or ensemble.

- **Audition Day (05-10-2026 14:00 Crowthorne Methodist Hall)**

CMP hold open auditions for their productions where all auditionees are present in the room at the time of your audition. It is a very supportive environment but also provides a very good idea for the production team as to what you are like under pressure to perform. You may be asked to do your audition multiple times depending on who you are paired with. In the interest of fairness, we will always take your first attempt as your audition and any subsequent outings are you supporting other auditionees. Please don't read in to pairings or people being used multiple times. It is a busy day and we are trying to give everyone an equal chance to show what they can do.

The auditions will be video recorded. This is solely for the purpose of memory aiding for the audition panel to avoid recency bias when casting. They are not intended for any other purpose. If we would like to use them for any other purpose then we will always ask everyone featured for their permission before doing so.

- **Audition results**

We will endeavour to decide on the audition day who will play what roles, but this can be a lengthy process so please be patient. Once casting is complete, we'll share the results on our website, along with any uncast roles and call backs.

If you would like feedback on your audition, Matt will be available during the week immediately following auditions to chat this through. We encourage everyone to take up this opportunity - feedback can be really helpful in understanding the casting process, recognising what went well, and identifying areas to grow for future auditions.

Our aim is always to create a supportive, positive rehearsal room. Clear, honest communication helps us all move forward together and avoids any misunderstandings. Please rest assured that any feedback discussions will be kept confidential.

Rehearsals and communications.

Primary information about the show will come through the Whatsapp community on the specific show announcements channel. There will also be a cast chat for general conversation amongst cast and production team. Please contact the committee prior to auditions if Whatsapp is not an option for you.

If you need to make a last minute contact about changing of plans, a phone call would be the preferred method of contact as early as is reasonably possible.

All rehearsal aides like videos and note bashes will be available in the file share area of the website. This can be reached by going to www.cmp-berks.org.uk/file-share and typing in the password "bendandsnap" This password will change after auditions.

Please ensure you attend rehearsals promptly and with everything you need and are ready to go at the start time.

Please offer to help set up and pack down at the end of rehearsals too.

Finally - have fun!

Most of all, being part of a society like Crowthorne Musical Players we want you to have fun and enjoy yourself! There will be plenty of opportunities to have a chat, have a laugh and get to know one another.

In what has become a bit of a Crowthorne Musical Players tradition, many members regularly go to a local pub for a drink, a chat and plenty of laughter - it's a great way to get to know your fellow members!

Everyone is invited to these social occasions, the more the merrier.

Thank you for taking the time to read this document.

If you have any further questions about the show or the process, please don't hesitate to ask them.