



**CROWTHORNE MUSICAL PLAYERS**

present

# Half a Sixpence



Book by  
*Beverley Cross*

Music and Lyrics by  
*David Heneker*

From the novel *Kipps* by H G Wells

Amateur production by arrangement with the Really Useful Group

**Tuesday to Saturday 26 - 30 April 1994**

**WILDE THEATRE, BRACKNELL**

## Chairman's Welcome

Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen

Once again I am pleased to welcome you to Crowthorne Musical Players' annual production at the Wilde Theatre.

This year we have chosen the British musical, "Half a Sixpence". This has been great fun to rehearse and we trust that the finished product will be equally enjoyable to you, our audience. On behalf of the cast, thanks are extended to our popular producer, Maggie Uttley, our new musical director, Dick Stockton, Richard Spong our stage manager and his crew, and all others unseen who have helped in a variety of ways.

Enjoy your evening, and don't forget our Autumn and Christmas shows in Crowthorne are great fun too!

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 fully staged musical shows and has given many concerts for a variety of causes. Our productions during the past ten years have included:

1984	Salad Days	1989	Showboat
1985	Pajama Game	1990	Ruddigore
1986	Viva Mexico	1991	Calamity Jane
1987	The Sorcerer	1992	The Merry Widow
1988	Kiss Me Kate	1993	Oklahoma!

Our next show will be Carousel in March 1995, again at the Wilde Theatre



*Member, National Operatic and Dramatic Association*

## The Story

Set in Folkestone around 1900, *Half a Sixpence* is the story of two classes - the upper class and the working class. It is the story of the poor and the rich, of money gained and lost, and gained once more. It is also the story of happiness - and that too is found, lost and found again.

Kipps is a shop apprentice, a lad with high hopes, lots of friends and no money. He meets up with Ann, a childhood sweetheart. The romance blossoms and Kipps gives Ann half a sixpence as a token of their love. Ann agrees to marry Kipps and everything is rosy.....

However, Kipps's attention is captured by the lovely (and definitely upper class) Helen Walsingham who teaches at the local evening class for which he has been volunteered. He decides that she is "too far above me" to pay attention to him. If only he had money.....

By chance, Kipps learns that he has inherited a fortune and this sudden wealth catapults him into the "upper class". Now he can have it all - money, smart clothes, rich friends, Helen and happiness! Or can he.....?



*Bridal Suite*

*The Bridal Suite*  
3, Manhattan Place,  
Crowthorne,  
Berkshire  
Tel: (0344) 780232

*Laurel Geal*

*"Beautiful Gowns for Beautiful Brides"*

# Half a Sixpence

## Characters

*(in order of appearance)*

Arthur Kipps	Mark Siney
Sid Pornick	Tim Marshall
Buggins	James Lole
Pearce	Simon Hunt
Carshot	Roger Lansdown
Flo Bates	Paula Critchley
Victoria	Claire Lawson
Emma	Chris Pask
Kate	Wendy Watson
Mr Shalford	Tony Kershaw
Mrs Walsingham	Jean Young
Mrs Botting	Andy Lee
Ann Pornick	Sue Prior
Chitterlow	Mark Connolly
Laura	Anita Smale
Helen Walsingham	Liz Darkin
Young Walsingham	John Taylor
Reporters	Ian Paynton
	Maxine Robinson
Gwendolin	Jo Kershaw

## Students

Ian Paynton, Dale Edmenson, Jo Kershaw, Rachel Longley, Rebecca Seise

## Dancers

Lisa Furlong, Nicola Haydon, Debbie Mann, Judith Rogers, Sara Rymer, Helen Siveter

## Chorus

Ted Anderson, Jackie Bignall, Christine Charlton, Shelia Gimblett, Carol Hardy, Carole Kershaw, Debbie Mann, Mavis McCormack, Diane Mears, Maxine Robinson, Keay Smith, Angela Taylor, Paul Tysoe, John Walker, Audrey Wybrow, Derek Young



# Scenes

## Act One

- 1 Mr Shalford's Emporium
- 2 The Promenade
- 3 The Emporium
- 4 Outside "The Hope and Anchor"
- 5 Classroom of The Young  
Workers Association
- 6 The Emporium
- 7 The Promenade
- 8 The Old Military Canal - Regatta

## Act Two

- 1 The Fishing Harbour
- 2 Mrs Botting's Solarium
- 3 The Basement Kitchen
- 4 The Photographer's Studio
- 5 The Rented House
- 6 The Promenade
- 7 The Bookshop - A Year Later

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

# Musical Numbers

## Act One

Overture  
Morning Music and Opening Sequence  
All in the Cause of Economy  
Half a Sixpence  
Money to Burn  
I Don't Believe a Word of It  
A Proper Gentleman  
She's Too Far Above Me  
If the Rain's Got to Fall  
The Old Military Canal  
Finale

Kipps and Apprentices  
Kipps, Ann and Chorus  
Kipps and Chorus  
Ann and Shopgirls  
Kipps and Chorus  
Kipps  
Kipps and Chorus  
Chorus  
Chorus

## Act Two

Entracte  
The One Who's Run Away  
Solarium Dance  
Long Ago  
Flash Bang Wallop  
I Know What I Am  
The Party's on the House  
Half a Sixpence - Reprise  
All in the Cause of Economy - Reprise  
Finale

Kipps and Chitterlow  
  
Ann & Kipps  
Kipps and Ensemble  
Ann  
Kipps and Ensemble  
Kipps and Ann  
Shopgirls and Apprentices  
Ensemble

## Profiles

### **Mark Siney** (*Kipps*)

Mark makes a welcome return to the society for his second leading role. Many of you will remember him as Danilo in *The Merry Widow*, and we are delighted to see him back. Mark has also appeared with Reading Operatic at The Hexagon and has enjoyed many leading roles, including Joseph in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* - and another character created by Tommy Steele on the London stage, *Hans Anderson*.

### **Susan Prior** (*Ann Pornick*)

Sue is a newcomer to CMP, although she is certainly not new to the stage. Her previous principal roles include Mabel in *Pirates of Penzance*, Dulcie in *The Boyfriend* and Polly in *The Beggars Opera*. When not performing on stage she can be seen "performing" in court - she is currently training to be a solicitor.

### **Mark Conolly** (*Chitterlow*)

Mark says that prior to joining CMP last year his only claim to fame on the stage was when he played the third shepherd on the left in his infant school nativity play, but then there's always room for late developers in CMP, especially when they have Mark's talents. This is his second principal role, last year he played Ali Hakim in *Oklahoma!*

### **Liz Darkin** (*Helen Walsingham*)

Liz is in her second year with CMP. Last year she could be seen as a poor farmer's daughter in *Oklahoma!* but has found her true vocation by playing a "terribly posh person" this time round. Although this is her first principal role with CMP, she has played principal parts in *The Mikado*, *Oliver* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

### **Jean Young** (*Mrs Walsingham*)

This is Jean's eighth show with CMP, which has become more a way of life than a hobby. She has appeared in the chorus as well as principal roles with the society, notably Parthy in *Showboat* and Susan in *Calamity Jane*.

### **Andy Lee** (*Mrs Botting*)

Andy says she has been with CMP for so long now she should really be drawing her pension! Instead she has cornered the market playing a variety of ladies "of a certain age" - her most recent principal role being Adelaide Adams in *Calamity Jane*.

### **Wendy Watson** (*Kate*)

Wendy joined CMP for *The Merry Widow* where she was seen to dance a mean Can-Can! She was no stranger to the stage, however, having played Irene in *Jane McFudd* and Helen Walsingham in *Half a Sixpence* for Accrington and Blackburn Amateur Theatre. Last year many of you will remember her as Ado Annie in *Oklahoma!*

**Paula Critchley** (*Flo Bates*)

Until fairly recently Paula spent most of her time backstage being terribly technical, but has now been persuaded to venture onto the stage where she has appeared for EBOS in several productions and for CMP in *Oklahoma!* Her principal roles include Dulcie in *The Boyfriend* and Virtue in *Anything Goes*. She has not yet achieved her ultimate ambition of performing in *The Little Shop of Horrors*, but she is working on it.

**Chris Pask** (*Emma*)

Chris joined CMP this year and was rather surprised to find herself a principal! She has previously appeared in the *Pyjama Game* and *Olde Time Musical Hall* with ICL. She also had the dubious pleasure of being cast as the Chief Fairy in the Pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*.

**Claire Lawson** (*Victoria*)

Claire joined CMP for *Calamity Jane* and has appeared in most of their shows since then. Her last principal role was Praskovia in *The Merry Widow*. She has also appeared in *Boop a Doop* and *Beyond Reasonable Doubt* with Wokingham Theatre. She finds the role of shop girl very easy - in her years BC (before children) she was Personnel Manager for Sainsburys!

**Tony Kershaw** (*Mr Shalford*)

Tony joined CMP several years ago for *Ruddigore* (he was a ghost) and has appeared in all productions since. His principal roles include Rattlesnake in *Calamity Jane* and Kromov in *The Merry Widow*. He has been treasurer for CMP for the past two years and we are very pleased to have him on our side - by day he turns into a VAT man!

**John Taylor** (*Young Walsingham*)

The love of the theatre and the affliction of being the ultimate volunteer brought John from Crowthorne Amateur Theatrical Society. When he is not being volunteered for other parts, John is extremely busy with CATS. He has taken part in many pantomimes and was recently in the highly successful comedy *Noises Off*. He is currently directing the farce *Run for your Wife*.

**James Lole** (*Buggins*)

James is a well-known member of EBOS where he was last seen playing Lord Evelyn Oakleigh in *The Boyfriend*. He also appeared in a university production of *Sweeney Todd* and when he is not at rehearsals for EBOS and CMP he performs in a travelling Olde Time Music Hall group Cabbages and Things. In August he will be travelling north with the group to appear in the Edinburgh Festival.



**Tim Marshall** (*Sid Pornick*)

Tim is a real stage addict and is a member of many societies. He has appeared in many productions - this year he made a brief appearance in Park Opera's *Hansel and Gretel* and he is currently rehearsing a principal role in *The Sorcerer*. He is also going to Edinburgh in August as part of the group Cabbages and Things.

**Simon Hunt** (*Pearce*)

We are pleased that after a three year break, Simon joined CMP this year to renew his acting career. He made his debut at university playing Ko Ko in *The Mikado*, rapidly followed by Cupid in *Orpheus in the Underworld*. He is a man of many talents as he has also been lighting director for university productions.

**Roger Lansdown** (*Carshot*)

Roger joined CMP in 1991 when he played Lt. Danny Gillmartin in *Calamity Jane*. Other principal roles include St Brioche in our production of *The Merry Widow* and Nicholas Wainwright in Shinfield Theatre's recent production of *Charlie Girl*. Roger is a member of so many societies that he rarely has time for anything else - but he's open to offers!

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**Maggie Uttley** - *Producer*

Maggie has been producing amateur shows for more years than she cares to remember - she has now been involved with at least 76! She trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and has been involved in productions as far apart as Scotland and Kent. She moved to this area in 1979 and has produced shows for Marlow, Maidenhead, Abingdon, High Wycombe and Woodley societies. Maggie still loves the stage and delights in seeing a script "come to life" under her direction. We are very pleased that Maggie is with us for her third production with CMP.

**Richard Stockton** - *Musical Director*

After studying physics at Imperial College, Dick went on to study singing and conducting at the Guildhall School of Music. He is very well known amongst local societies, he also teaches singing in his home town of Camberley. Although this is his first show with CMP, Dick has had a busy year, he was musical director for the Savoy Singers' recent production of *Pirates of Penzance*, and he is currently working on *Trial by Jury* and performances of *Carmina Burana* and *Dream of Geronius*. When he is not wielding the baton Dick works as a freelance Business Consultant and Systems Analyst.



## Orchestra

Violin	Vanessa Craig, James Ranson John Spurgeon, Giles Wade (Leader) Ruth Washington
Viola	Jon Large
Cello	Pat Naisby
Double-bass	Sharon Davies
Flute/Piccolo	Richard Swan
Oboe/Cor Anglais	Hazel Todd
Clarinet/Bass Clarinet	Jane Staunton
Bassoon	Erica Tugwell, Hugh Lloyd
Trumpet	David Gray, Kevin Ransom
Trombone	Eddie Harmer Nick Kershaw
Percussion	Russell Widdicombe
Keyboards	Dan Moriyama

## Production Team

Producer	Maggie Uttley
Musical Director	Dick Stockton
Rehearsal Pianist	Pat Steer
Choreographer	Jan Hester
Stage Manager	Richard Spong
Asst. Stage Manager	Chris Evans
Lighting	Keith Uttley, Roland Spong
Backstage Crew	Alan Duerden, Kevin Harfield Penny Jones, John Jones Trevor & Pip Leuty Peter Mayers, Andy McBain Steve Smale, Brian Swindley
Costumes	Crescendo, Patsy Leuty, Sonia Manning
Prompt	Don Manning
Properties	Susan Archer
Make Up	Neale Smith
Hair Stylist	Phyllis Hallam
Box Office	Shirley Lee
Front of House	The Company and Friends
Photography	Brian Hardy and Molly Willis
Programme Design & Artwork	Shirley Wilkinson