



Patcham Methodist Church
by arrangement with Cameron Mackintosh
PRESENTS

KIPPS THE NEW HALF A SIXPENCE MUSICAL

THURSDAY 27TH & FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 7:30pm

SATURDAY 29TH FEB 2:00pm & 7:30pm

**METHODIST CHURCH HALL
LADIES MILE ROAD
PATCHAM**

2020

www.barnstormers.org.uk

Based on the H.G. Wells novel "Kipps, The Story of a Simple Soul" and the original musical by Berkeley Croze and David Heneker.
Original Songs by David Heneker, Book by Julian Fellowes, New Music and Lyrics by George Stiles and Anthony Davis, Orchestrations by William David Brown, Co-Created by Cameron Mackintosh.
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (Europe). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI Europe. www.mti-europe.co.uk



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From the Director:

“ I had never really considered directing a show before but after seeing ‘Kipps’, I knew that if I was ever going to direct, it would be this.

When I first saw ‘Kipps: Half A Sixpence’ at Chichester Festival Theatre in 2016, I instantly fell in love with the show. I remember walking out of the theatre and telling my husband that I just had to see it again and I instantly booked tickets for their next performance. I don’t know why it had such an impact on me but I remember being in awe of the dancing and thinking that Charlie Stemp, the actor that played Arthur Kipps, was more talented than anyone I had ever seen on stage before! I couldn’t get over how witty and clever the script was and I was delighted when we found out that Barnstormers had the opportunity to perform it.

I have to thank the cast enormously for what they have achieved. We began rehearsing for the show since August last year and they’ve shown endless enthusiasm throughout, despite the new challenges this show has brought including a huge number of props, pyrotechnics, instruments and difficult choreography. Perhaps foolishly, I wanted to choreograph and direct the show and I wasted no time in asking the cast to perform crazy lifts, dance with spoons, jump about and whizz around an imaginary

maypole. They have embraced it all. I still vividly remember teaching the choreography for ‘Money To Burn - Part 2’ because the room felt like it was buzzing with energy and I couldn’t wait for audiences to feel the same magic that I felt when I was watching them rehearse.



I’ve put my heart and soul into this show but as a beginner to directing, I’ve relied on a number of people in the cast, crew and band for support and guidance. It’s been a privilege to work with every

one of them and I could not be more proud of the result.

My last thanks has to be to my husband, Seb Harrington. When I decided to direct this show, I was pregnant and asked my husband to play Arthur Kipps in the show and produce it for me. I think we were completely mad but I want to thank him for his patience, his endless hard work and continuous support.

However, I think I really want to dedicate the show to our ten week old son, Hugo. He was born in the middle of our rehearsal schedule, after listening to the music throughout his entire life in the womb, and has been my driving motivation throughout. I hope he will be very proud of Mummy and Daddy one day.

**Amber Harrington, Director
and Lead Choreographer**

A Word from the MD 🎵🎵🎵

Back in 2016 I went to see Chichester Festival Theatre's revival of 'Half a Sixpence' and was immediately blown away by the dynamite combination of David Heneker's original score revamped by the enigmatic music and lyricist duo of George Stiles and Anthony Drewe ('Mary Poppins', 'Just So'). Anyone who knows me well will appreciate just how much these guys are my real-life heroes! Despite Stiles' revised score being incredibly challenging to play, it sounds magical when it's right. It's also incredibly clever. The main melodic theme in *Pick Out A Simple Tune*, at the start of Act 2, is based entirely on the sounds created by the four open strings of a banjo - sounds that Stiles has used to create a wallopingly fun company number. Likewise the musical style of *A Little Touch of Happiness* evokes the sounds of a turn-of-the-century visit to the pier, and when combined with Drewe's witty lyrics, the result is a comedy highlight.



All the new songs added into the show by Stiles and Drewe seamlessly sit alongside the fantastically reworked original songs and together create a score full of punch and energy. For the cast that also means beautifully soaring, yet challenging, harmonies to revel in. But without a doubt, this is one of the most fun musical scores we have ever had the joy of performing.



Rehearsing the musical numbers has been hugely entertaining and it's with great excitement that we are performing it for you. So Look Alive, *Pick Out A (not-so) Simple Tune* and get ready for a musical *Flash Bang Wallop* of a score.

Russell Taylor, Musical Director

From
the *Assistant
Choreographers ...*



‘ We were incredibly excited to have the opportunity to devise the choreography for this show. Amber and Louisa were hugely humbled by having experienced the exceptional choreography devised for the Chichester Festival Theatre revival in 2016 - and we all wanted to take the essence of this into our own production. As a choreography team, led by the fabulous Amber, we worked hard to allow the characters to express their personalities in the musical numbers, i.e. their personalities defining the dance rather than the other way around.

‘Kipps - Half A Sixpence’ naturally lends itself to two very distinctive styles of choreography: one for Kipps’ working class friends and family, and one for the upper class world in which he attempts to find his feet. We’ve given the working class characters a wilder, more exuberant, freer style where individual personalities shine out even in company numbers. In contrast, on the whole, the upper class characters are more uptight, restricted and measured.

We have had an absolutely fantastic time devising the choreography (many an evening spent prancing around various living rooms) and an even more amazing time watching those routines coming to life with a cast who have thrown themselves at it all with unbridled enthusiasm. To



all of the cast, thank you - it’s been an honour and a pleasure. To all of you, our audience, we hope you enjoy what we’ve had so much fun creating.

**Claire Fowler and Louisa Taylor,
Assistant Choreographers**

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Background to the musical

The author H.G. Wells was himself employed as an apprentice at Hyde's Drapery Emporium in Southsea, Hampshire between 1880 and 1883. His experience of 13-hour working days and sleeping in a dormitory with the other apprentices inspired later books including his semi-autobiographical novel "*Kipps*".

First published in 1905, this novel had taken seven years to finish. Although sales were initially slow, "*Kipps*" eventually became one of Wells' most successful novels. There have been a number of adaptations for stage and screen, TV and radio, prior to it being rewritten in 1963 as the London West End stage musical *Half A Sixpence*.

The musical was written as a vehicle for British pop star Tommy Steele. Marti Webb played the part of Ann. Two years later it opened on Broadway, again starring Tommy Steele, but with Polly James (Beryl from the BBC TV sitcom "*The Liver Birds*") as Ann. John Cleese played Helen Walsingham's young brother who embezzles Kipps' fortune. In 1967 a film adaptation was made, again with Tommy Steele in the lead but with Julia Foster as Ann. Lesley Judd, who many years later became a presenter of BBC TV's "*Blue Peter*", was among the dancers. The film included two new songs – "The Race Is On" and "This Is My World".



HG Wells.

Photo: *The story of the House of Cassell* - <http://bit.ly/39hf1p8>

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... *Thank you!*

Synopsis

Arthur Kipps, an orphan, is an over-worked draper's assistant in Folkestone, in the early 1900's. He is a charming but ordinary young man who dreams of a better and more fulfilling world. When he unexpectedly inherits a fortune that propels him into high society, it confuses everything he thought he knew about life and love.

Watching him wrestle with his new identity is his childhood companion and not-quite girlfriend, Ann Pornick, who sees with dismay how Arthur is being made over in a new image by the beautiful and classy Helen Walsingham. She is always there with helpful hints on how Arthur could improve himself and make his life richer and more meaningful. Both of these young women love Arthur but which should he listen to?

With the help of his friends, Arthur learns that if you want to have the chance of living the right life, you need to make the right choices.

This production

A new stage version opened to rave reviews at the Chichester Festival Theatre in July 2016, with Charlie Stemp in the lead role. It transferred to London's West End four months later, where it ran until September 2017. The show and cast members were nominated for 11 awards, of which they won three.

Co-created with Cameron Mackintosh, this new stage production brought together writer Julian Fellowes of "*Downton Abbey*" fame with George Stiles and Anthony Drewe, reuniting the creative trio which was behind the 2004 smash-hit stage adaptation of "*Mary Poppins*" with Disney.

Fellowes' rewriting of the original 1963 script by Beverley Cross returns the musical to its literary roots in H.G. Wells' novel "*Kipps*". Stiles' and Drewe's new score includes all but three of David Heneker's original songs but introduces nine new ones for modern audiences.





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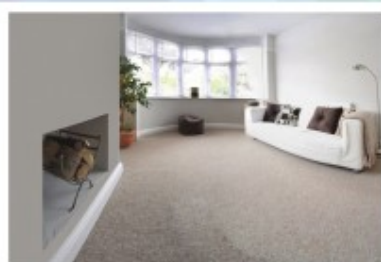
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Scenes and Musical Numbers

Act One

Scene One: Prologue - New Romney,
Kent 'Half A Sixpence - Part 1' *Kipps*
and Ann

Scene Two: Shalford's Bazaar - Folkestone.
Day. 'Look Alive' *Shalford, Carshot and*
Apprentices

Scene Three: Dormitory, below Shalford's
Bazaar. Evening 'Money to Burn - Part 1'
Kipps, Sid, Pierce, Buggins and Flo

Scene Four: Miss Walsingham's Art Class.
Evening. 'Believe in Yourself' *Helen and*
Kipps

Scene Five: A Street in Folkestone. Night.
'She's Too Far Above Me' *Kipps*

Scene Six: The Hope and Anchor Pub. Night.
'Money to Burn - Part 2' *Kipps,*
Chitterlow and Ensemble

Scene Seven: Shalford's Bazaar. Day.
'A Proper Gentlemen' *Kipps, Apprentices*
and Ensemble

Scene Eight: New Romney. Day
'Half A Sixpence - Part 2' *Kipps and Ann*
'Long Ago' *Ann*

Scene Nine: The Grand Hotel - Folkestone.
'A Simple Lunch' *James, Mrs Walsingham*
and Kipps

Scene Ten: The Hope and Anchor pub.
Evening. 'The Joy of the Theatre'
Chitterlow and Ensemble

Scene Eleven: The Walsingham House. Day.
'Just A Few Little Things' *Helen and Kipps*

Scene Twelve: Folkestone Pier 'Just A Little
Touch Of Happiness' *Ann and Flo*

Scene Thirteen: Lady Punnet's Garden
Party. Day. 'If The Rain's Got To Fall' *Kipps*
and Ensemble



Act Two

Scene Fourteen: Folkestone Pier. 'The One
Who's Run Away' *Chitterlow and Kipps*

Scene Fifteen: Lady Punnet's Drawing
Room. Evening. 'Pick Out A Simple Tune'
Kipps and Ensemble

'I Never Get Anything Right/I Know Who I
Am' *Kipps and Ann*

Scene Sixteen: Lady Punnet's Drawing
Room. Evening. 'I Never Get Anything
Right' *Kipps*

Scene Seventeen: A Plot of Building Land.
Day. 'We'll Build A Palace/I Only Want A
Little House' *Mrs Walsingham, James,*
Lady Punnet, Maxwell, Kipps and Helen

Scene Eighteen: The Hope and Anchor pub.
.Evening. 'In the Middle There's Me'
Kipps, Sid, Pierce and Buggins

Scene Nineteen: The basement kitchen at
Lady Punnet's house. Night. 'Long Ago -
Reprise' *Kipps and Ann*

Scene Twenty: The Walsingham House.
Day.

Scene Twenty-One: The street outside. Day.

Scene Twenty-Two: The Hope and Anchor
pub. Day. 'Flash, Bang, Wallop!' *Kipps,*
Ann, Sid, Pierce, Buggins, Flo,
Photographer and Ensemble 'Flash, Bang,
Wallop! - Reprise' *Chitterlow and Ensemble*



**“Then we mustn’t
let Folkestone fall
behind. Go on Mr.
Kipps. Play.”**



Cast in Order

Arthur Kipps



Seb Harrington

Ann Pornick



Louisa Taylor

Aunt Susan Kipps



Astrid Fox

Uncle Bert Kipps



Hyder Khalil

Buggins



James Smith

Flo Evans



Natalie Steel

Helen Walsingham



Claire Fowler

Mrs Walsingham



Becky Higgs

Foster/
Policeman



Ian Bates

Mrs Bindo-Botting



Caroline Dewar

Mr Maxwell/
Zoltar



Ellen Herriott

Mildred



Natasha Knight

Pit Singers:

Ann Barrows and Roni Graham

of Appearance

Mr Shalford/
James Walsingham



Keith Fox

Lady Punnet



Paula Bates

Photographer



Lucy Cadman

Carshot



Jean Porter

Mrs Hayes/
Lady Dacre



Sheila Carey

Sid Pornick



Sam Clarke

Pierce



Nick Herriott

Chitterlow



Mark Lambert

Miss Ross/ Mary



Imogen Fox

Ensemble: Shoppers/ Crowd/Party
guests/ Waiters/ Posh ladies and gentlemen on the
promenade/ Wedding party guests.



Laura Carey



*Catherine
Rumboll*



Sue Sawyer

Band

Keyboard 1 - Russell Taylor

Keyboard 2 - Hannah Pool

Flute - Emma Francis

Clarinet - Chris Cheetham

Trumpet - Steve Morris

Trombone - Tom Jenkins

Guitar & Ukelele - Paul
Harrington

Bass - Peter Webb

Drums - Alex Harrington

Musical Director:
Russell Taylor

Crew

Director:
Amber Harrington

Choreographer:
Amber Harrington

Assistant Choreographers
Claire Fowler

*'Believe in Yourself', 'I
Never Get Anything Right/
I Know Who I Am'*

Louisa Taylor

*'Joy of the Theatre', 'Just A
Few Little Things', 'In the
Middle There's Me'*

Prompt: Karen Knight

Lighting: JJ Nolan
Donna Bull

Lighting Construction:
Alex Harrington
Seb Harrington
Russell Taylor

Sound:

Craig Flint

Shaun Hann

Wardrobe:

Christine Ashby

Angie Webb

Philip Davis

Backstage Manager:

Karen Ashby

Props/Scenery:

Karen Ashby

Paula Bates

Ian Bates

Laura Carey

Lucy Cadman

Imogen Fox

Ellen Herriott

Zoe Higgs

Olivia Joseph

Mark Lambert

Holly O'Reilly

Make-up Team:

Astrid Fox

Lucy Cadman

Performance Consultant:

Margaret Taylor

Webmaster:

Amber Harrington

Seb Harrington

Box Office:

Sue Harrington

Seb Harrington

Programme:

Sue Harrington

Instrument Instruction:

Seb Harrington

Paul Harrington

Russell Taylor

Photography and Media:

Adam Clacher

Paul Harrington

Seb Harrington

George Khalil

Nick Slater

Front of House:

Gary Robertson,
Margaret Taylor, John Corin,
Pam Corin, Sue Harrington,
David Sawyer, Bob Hinton,
Dan Woodhouse,
Barbara Walker and team

Production Team:

Creative/Show Producer:

Seb Harrington

Barnstormers Producer:

Keith Fox

Cast Representative:

Claire Fowler

Church Liaison Officers:

Caroline Dewar

Gary Robertson

Treasurer:

Paula Bates

Production Committee

Members:

Christine Ashby

Natalie Steel

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SIMPLE SOUL”**









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Last time we nominated Oscars Wish Foundation (OWF), and raised £418.73 thank you to everyone who donated

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MAY

3rd Open Mic Night
6th Quiz Night
23rd BNI
24th The Miles Got Talent
25th Bank Holiday Madness

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