



# AUDITION PACK

Rhoda McGaw Theatre, 26 - 29 October 2022

Based on the H.G. Wells novel "KIPPS: The Story of a Simple Soul" and the original musical by  
Beverley Cross and David Heneker

Original Songs by David Heneker

Book by Julian Fellowes

New Music and Lyrics by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe

Orchestrations by William David Brohn

Co-Created by Cameron Mackintosh

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (Europe)  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI Europe [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

## AUDITION NOTICE

**Hatton Musical Theatre** is delighted to announce auditions for our upcoming production of *KIPPS - The New Half A Sixpence Musical*. We are excited to be staging the updated version of the show with new songs from Stiles and Drew (Honk!, Betty Blue Eyes and additional songs for the stage version of Mary Poppins) and book by Julian Fellowes (Downton Abbey) which premiered at Chichester Festival Theatre in 2016 before a successful London transfer.

### **ABOUT THE SHOW**

*KIPPS - The New Half A Sixpence Musical* is a musical adaptation of H.G. Wells's disguised autobiographical novel *Kipps: The Story Of A Simple Soul*, based on his unhappy apprenticeship as a draper at Hyde's Drapery Emporium in Southsea.

Arthur Kipps, an orphan, is an overworked draper's assistant at Shalford's Bazaar, Folkestone, at the turn of the last century. He is a charming but ordinary young man who, along with his fellow apprentices, dreams of a better and more fulfilling world, but he likes his fun just like any other, except not quite.

When Kipps unexpectedly inherits a fortune that propels him into high society, it confuses everything he thought he knew about life. 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, if only he would believe in himself, and listen to her. Both of these young women love Arthur – there is no doubt about that – 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.

If you would like to be involved in the show in any other capacity or have any questions please contact us at [secretary@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk](mailto:secretary@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk).

### **CONTACT DETAILS FOR ANY QUESTIONS**

<b>General enquiries</b>	Aileen Smith <b>Secretary</b>	<a href="mailto:secretary@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk">secretary@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Ellie McMahon <b>Membership Secretary</b>	<a href="mailto:membership@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk">membership@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk</a>

## **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

### **Act I**

*Half A Sixpence* - Young Kipps and Young Ann

*Look Alive* - Shalford, Carshot, Apprentices & Company

*Money To Burn* - Kipps, Mr Shalford, Sid, Buggins, Pierce & Flo

*Believe In Yourself* - Helen & Kipps

*She's Too Far Above Me* - Kipps

*Money To Burn (Reprise)* - Kipps, Chitterlow & Company

*A Proper Gentleman* - Shalford, Kipps, Apprentices & Company

*Half A Sixpence (Reprise)* - Kipps and Ann

*Long Ago* - Ann

*A Simple Lunch* - James, Mrs Walsingham & Kipps

*The Joy Of The Theatre* - Chitterlow & Company

*Just A Few Little Things* - Helen & Kipps

*Just A Little Touch Of Happiness* - Ann & Flo

*If The Rain's Got To Fall* - Kipps, Mrs Walsingham, Helen, Lady Punnet & Company

### **Act II**

*The One That's Run Away* - Chitterlow & Kipps

*Pick Out A Simple Tune* - Kipps & Company

*You Never Get Anything Right /I Know Who I Am* - Kipps & Ann

*We'll Build A Palace /I Only Want A Little House* - Kipps, Helen, Mrs Walsingham, James, Lady Punnet & Mr Maxwell

*In The Middle There's Me* - Kipps, Buggins, Sid & Pierce

*Long Ago (Reprise)* - Kipps & Ann

*Flash, Bang, Wallop!* - Kipps, Ann, Pearce, Sid, Buggins, Flo, Photographer & Company

*Flash Bang Wallop (Reprise)* - Chitterlow & Company

*Finale* - Company

## **CASTING**

We want to create a production that is high-energy, fast-moving, joyful and heart-warming. The show will be supported by strong production values enforced by your commitment to the most professional possible result. The nature of this show requires a diverse adult cast of all ages who are strong singers and accomplished actors. We expect all parts to require a basic level of dance ability with some ensemble and principal parts requiring more advanced skills.

Please come prepared to stretch yourself, and support everyone in achieving a fantastic experience.

All auditionees will receive an email once the cast list has been finalised. Decisions made by the production team are final. Should you disagree with the casting decision or require any feedback please email us directly.

Please note, some roles may be combined. This will be subject to final casting

## **PRODUCTION TEAM**

**Director:** Jack Griffin

**Musical Director:** Artemis Reed

**Choreographer:** Charlie Booker

**Assistant Choreographer:** Holly Gilbert

## **PERFORMANCE VENUE**

We are thrilled that Hatton Musical Theatre will be returning to the **Rhoda McGaw Theatre** in Woking, after our sell out production of Elf The Musical. The theatre seats 228 in nine rows of raked seating. Backstage are five well equipped dressing rooms over two levels.

## **SHOW WEEK DATES**

- **Get in & sitzprobe:** Sunday 23 October 2022.
- **Technical rehearsal:** Monday 24 October 2022.
- **Dress rehearsal:** Tuesday 25 October 2022.
- **Performances:** Wednesday 26- Saturday 29 October 2022 (7.30pm with a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm).

**It is vital that cast members must attend all these dates.**

## **REHEARSALS**

A full rehearsal schedule will be sent out once the show is cast. Rehearsals take place on a Monday evening (7.45pm-10.00pm at St Hilda's Church Hall) and on a Wednesday evening (times and venue tbc). There will be additional Sunday rehearsals from October, also at St Hilda's Church Hall. A list of rehearsal dates can be found on our website.

You will not be called for all rehearsals! If you are aware that you are unable to make certain dates, please acknowledge this on your audition form. We will do our best to work around planned absences as much as possible.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Social media campaigns will be running throughout the rehearsal process. Photos and videos will be taken during rehearsals or at pre-arranged photo shoots for promotional purposes. Consent will be gained from parents/guardians of under 18's. If you have any issues regarding this please contact Aileen Smith (Secretary) via email - [secretary@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk](mailto:secretary@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk).

### **MEMBERSHIP AND SHOW FEES**

Annual membership to Hatton Musical Theatre is £20 (£15 Junior). This is to be paid immediately upon starting rehearsals. A show fee of £120 is payable for this production. The show fee is to be paid no later than 31 August 2022. If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the committee.

It may be possible to make concessionary fee arrangements to ensure that everyone who would like to be in the show is able to be. Please contact our Membership Secretary, Ellie McMahon, if you have any questions about being a member - [membership@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk](mailto:membership@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk). All correspondence regarding fees will be kept confidential.

### **AUDITIONS - SATURDAY 7 MAY**

To be considered for any principal role, you must audition. Those who do not wish to be considered for any ensemble speaking or singing roles do not have to audition for the panel, but we still need you to fill in the online audition form to indicate that you wish to take part in the show. Please ensure that you inform us of **all** roles you wish to be considered for.

Auditions will take place on Saturday 7 May at **St Hilda's Church** (1.00pm-5.00pm). You will be able to select your preferred audition time slot on the audition form. We will do our best to accommodate your request, however this may not be possible in all cases. An audition timetable will be shared with you no later than Wednesday 4 May. Please note that these are closed room auditions and only the audition panel will be present in the room. If you would prefer, you can bring one other person into the audition room for support.

If you are unable to make the audition date, please speak to the production team who will do their best to find an alternative solution.

Please can **everyone** who wishes to be in the show fill out an audition form on the Hatton Musical Theatre website. **The deadline for audition forms is midnight on Tuesday 3 May.**

## **CHARACTERS**

### **Principal roles**

#### **Arthur Kipps (Baritone)**

Apprentice to Shalfords Bazaar who comes into a fortune, chirpy, sincere, very likable. Strong actor, dancer and singer. (20+).

#### **Ann Pornick (Mezzo-Soprano)**

Childhood companion to Arthur, works as a domestic maid, sweet natured, girl next door, working class. Strong mezzo voice required. (20+).

#### **Chitterlow (Baritone)**

Actor, playwright and impresario, flamboyant, eccentric showman, takes Arthur under his wing. Strong actor and singer. (40+).

#### **Sid Pornick (Baritone)**

Apprentice at Shalford's Bazaar, Ann's brother and a Socialist, feels injustices. Strong character actor (20+).

#### **Pierce (Baritone)**

Apprentice at Shalford's Bazaar, A Dandy, show off, fancies himself. Strong singer, able to sing in harmony. (20+).

#### **Buggins (Baritone)**

Apprentice at Shalford's Bazaar, A Pessimist, unsure, more dour and earnest than the others. Comedy actor, able to sing in harmony.(20+).

#### **Flo Evans (Mezzo-Soprano)**

Head Window Dresser at Shalfords –nice, chirpy, confident. Strong comedy actress required, with good singing ability. (20+).

#### **Helen Walsingham (Soprano)**

Educated, classy suitor to Arthur, kind. Strong singing range. Clipped RP. (20+).

#### **Mrs Walsingham (Soprano)**

Helen's mother - over-bearing snob. Comedic actress with a strong soprano voice. (50+).

#### **James Walshingham (Baritone)**

Helen's brother – financial adviser, a charlatan. Confident singer. (20+)

#### **Lady Punnet (Soprano)**

Wealthy friend to the Walshingham's, comes from a privileged background (35+).

#### **Mr Shalford (Baritone)**

Proprietor of the store, gruff, proud man. Good singing and acting ability. (50+).

**Featured ensemble**

**Mr Maxwell (Baritone)**

An architect (any age).

**Photographer (Baritone)**

Photographer at the wedding of Ann and Kipps (any age).

**Ms/Mr Carshot**

Floor-walker at Shalford's Bazaar, dedicated, been doing the same job for years, bit down trodden (any age).

**Aunt Susan Kipps and Uncle Bert Kipps**

Arthur's Aunt and Uncle – working class, salt of the earth types who own their own little shop (50+).

**Lady Dacre/Mrs Bindo-Botting**

Wealthy friends of Lady Punnet (40+).

**Hayes/Miss Ross**

Students at Miss Walshingham's evening class. (any age).

**Foster**

Lady Punnet's Butler (any age).

**Ensemble**

Shoppers, Crowd, Party Guests, Policemen, Waiters, Maids, Posh Ladies and Gentlemen, Promenaders, Wedding Party Guests, etc.

## **AUDITION MATERIAL**

For your audition, you will not need to sing the whole song. Sheet music, with the relevant cuts can be found on the auditions page of the Hatton Musical Theatre website.

**We will not have any printouts on audition days so please do print your own copies of whatever you need. Feel free to use an iPad/tablet if you wish.**

Please note we are not expecting you to be word perfect for the auditions. We just ask that you come with a knowledge and understanding of the song and show us lots of character!

<b>Character</b>	<b>Audition Song</b>
<b>Arthur Kipps</b>	In The Middle There's Me (bars 5-82) If The Rain's Got To Fall (bars 11-43)
<b>Ann Pornick</b>	Long Ago (all) Just A Little Touch Of Happiness (bars 13-45, sing both parts)
<b>Helen Walsingham</b>	Believe In Yourself (bars 5-34) Just A Few Little Things (bars 22-38)
<b>Sid/Pierce/Buggins</b>	Look Alive (bars 43-62, sing all parts)
<b>Flo</b>	Just A Little Touch Of Happiness (bars 13-45, sing both parts)
<b>Chitterlow</b>	The One Who's Run Away (bars 25-45) Flash, Bang, Wallop - Reprise (bars 16-50)
<b>Mrs Walsingham</b>	We'll Build A Palace (bars 3-26, sing both parts)
<b>Mr Shalford</b>	Look Alive (bars 20-35)
<b>Lady Punnet, James Walsingham &amp; Featured ensemble</b>	We'll Build A Palace (bars 11-26, sing all parts)

The production team may also ask an auditionee to read a brief extract from the script on the day. Members of the audition panel will read in other parts. If you are not comfortable with this, please indicate this on your audition form and you will not be asked to do so.

## **AUDITION FORM**

The link below takes you to the audition form. The deadline for signing up to audition is midnight on Tuesday 3 May.

<https://forms.gle/JMJkwUaqTWd7PDmEA>