

# HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING

### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

or 'A quiet word from the boss'



Right. I'd like to get some thank-yous out of the way before we start the evening's proceedings. There are some people who are not company members and don't get to ponce about on stage and get clapped (that's your job, by the way) but they still worked their bottoms off to help me get this show up and running (sorry, we are in the USA for the evening - that should read, 'worked their butts

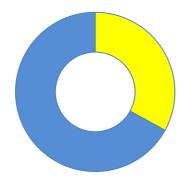
off' - might as well get into the mood!) (Sorry ... I digress ...). Anyway, my thanks to all those bottomless people. I'd especially like to thank Cap'n Stibs, who designed and organised the building of the set, out of the kindness of his heart (well, that and a desire for an excuse to buy more power tools) and he even brought me some toy desks and chairs from the Early Learning Centre to use as visual aids! Then there's Nippy Needles and her daring sidekick Knit-Wit (that's my mum and my sister) for their services in the 'knit one, purl one' department (plus countless other favours performed by Nippy). And I'd like to thank my lovely cast and wish them a great week on stage with lots of laughter and applause (that's still your job, by the way). Special thanks to all of you who got together on your own in little groups to go over stuff and help each other out — GOOD boys and girls!

Talking of teacher's pets, there is none to compare with your male lead for this evening, Mr Jay Cross, who plays J. Pierrepont Finch, a young man determined to climb to the top of the business tree as quickly as possible. He took character

research and getting into role to new Stanislavskian heights – not content with getting promoted where he works and becoming a manager and fighting off some naughty head-hunting pixies, he even went so far as to fake being given an award for being 'Employee of the Year' (or something like that) where he works and pretended he went to a glitzy award event at the top of Portsmouth's Spinnaker Tower. To add to the authenticity of this subterfuge and further steep himself into the character, he even invented a spare ticket for his other half and made them pretend to dress up and attend the event and clap (that's normally your job but wasn't in this case) and then tell me all about it. Amazing dedication to art and all for YOU, dear audience!

Anyway, I hope you are in a silly mood tonight. This show is very silly. I hope it makes you laugh a lot. It probably won't make you cry (unless you really, REALLY like coffee). If you work in an office, or if you take yourself too seriously at work, it might help you gain some perspective. It might make your ears bleed in one or two places (see if you can spot them!) And it might even make you clap (that's your job!)

Enjoy.



33%

of IT workers admit to snogging their boss or a colleague at the Christmas Party.

## A SPARE 5 MINUTES

or 'You know you've worked too long in an office when...'

- You get excited when it's your turn to change the year on the rubber date stamp.
- After completing the necklace made out of paperclips you have now embarked on making the matching bracelet, ring and tiara.
- You find yourself trying to decide which of the Microsoft Office
   Assistants you'd prefer to sleep with... and you decide on Clippy the
   paperclip.
- You get a warm fuzzy feeling when you get to start a new pad of paper.
- Your partner now only looks sexy when lit by fluorescent lighting.
- The smell of Tippex sends you down memory lane to a world of telex machines, carbon paper, and manual typewriters that required the pressure of a small elephant in order to depress the keys.

### FUTURE PRODUCTIONS

or '101 things to do with a Winnie-the-Pooh costume'



### Winnie-the-Pooh

Adapted by Glyn Robbins from the stories of AA Milne 13th - 15th & 18th - 22nd December 2007

Havant Arts Centre Box Office: 023 9247 2700

This Christmas bring the family and meet some old friends live on stage - Christopher Robin, Piglet, Eeyore, Owl, Rabbit, Tigger, Kanga, Roo and of course the bear himself - Winnie-the-Pooh.

Oh, and there are balloons and heffalumps and honey and thistles and birthday cards and pink sugar and hums - lots and lots of hums.

For as Milne himself promised us, somewhere, in that enchanted place at the top of the Hundred Acre Wood, a little bear and his boy will forever be playing...

### THE PRINCE'S TRUST

or 'Our 2007 charity'



Every year during its summer musical HumDrum likes to team up with a charitable organisation to help them to raise funds. This year's charity is The Prince's Trust, which fits quite nicely with our musical's theme of *How to Succeed in Business*.

The Prince's Trust is a UK charity that helps young people overcome barriers and get their lives working.

Through practical support including training, mentoring and financial assistance, they help 14-30 year olds realise their potential and transform their lives.

They focus their efforts on those who've struggled at school, been in care, been in trouble with the law, or are long-term unemployed.

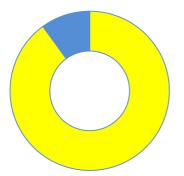
They support young people in a number of ways:

- A 12-week personal development course called **Team** that helps 16-25 year olds the majority unemployed to develop confidence, motivation and skills through teamwork in the community. They deliver the course through partners such as colleges and the fire service.
   Ex-offenders/offenders and careleavers are recruited onto the course,
  - Ex-offenders/offenders and careleavers are recruited onto the course, helping to support these two target groups. And they utilise the practical

support of 50 Premier and Football League Clubs to recruit and retain young people on the Teams.

- **Cash awards** of £50-£500 combined with advice and support, so young people can access education, training or work.
- Group Awards to help fund projects run by young people which benefit the community.
- Low interest loans, grants and other business start-up support for 18-30 year olds. Most are unemployed and have been refused funding by other sources.
- xl clubs A programme in schools for 14-16 year olds at risk of truanting, exclusion and underachievement. The clubs use a teamwork approach towards personal development, to improve students' attendance, motivation and social skills.

If you would like to know more then please visit www.princes-trust.org.uk or call 0800 842 842.



90%

of people drive to work alone.

### **GLOSSARY**

or 'What's with all the funny accents?'



You might just notice that tonight's production is set in America. In order to reduce confusion when viewing a musical written by a nation who don't know how to make a decent cup of tea, here is a glossary of the more obscure references, see how many of them you can spot!

**BBDO** - Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn is an advertising agency formed by merging BDO (Barton, Durstine & Osborn) and Batten Co. in 1928.

**Bergdorf Goodman** - Bergdorf Goodman is a major luxury goods department store based in Midtown, Manhattan in New York City.

**Bum steer** – Nothing to do with cattle buttocks, and more to do with misleading advice.

Crab grass - A common weed.

**FAO Schwarz** - German immigrant Frederick August Otto Schwarz owner of the Schwarz Toy Bazaar on Broadway in lower Manhattan selling quality toys.

**Helena Rubinstein** – Maker of a wide range of innovative cosmetics and skincare products.

**Ivy League** - Ivy League is the name applied to eight universities in the US (Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Pennsylvania, Princeton, and

Yale) that over the years have had common interests in scholarship as well as in athletics.

**Metrecal** - A word coined from the phrase 'metered calories' and was a dietery aid which yielded over \$10 million for Mead Johnson drug company in the first two years.

**Mimeograph machine** - A mechanical duplicator that produces copies by pressing ink onto paper through openings cut in a stencil.

**Mount Vesuvius** - One of the world's most dangerous volcanoes with an eruption cycle of 20 years.

**Vassar College** - Founded in 1861, it was a highly selective, residential women's college. Consistently ranked among the top liberal arts colleges in the USA, it went co-educational in 1969. Renowned for pioneering achievements in education, for its long history of curricular innovation, and for the beauty of its campus.

**Wild Root Cream Oil** - A hair oil used by men and was featured in early radio advertising (use that wild root cream oil Charlie!!)



### **HUMDRUM VOICES**

or 'Doh Ray Me Fa Soh Lah Te Doh!'



### **HumDrum Voices Concert**

10<sup>th</sup> September at 8.00pm

Havant Arts Centre Box Office: 023 9247 2700

Humdrum Voices and guests will be back in the Gallery at Havant Arts Centre this September.

There will be the usual choral loveliness from the Voices, plus duets, trios, poetry and more. Tickets are available from HAC at £3. All monies raised will go towards the funding of a new air conditioning system for the theatre.

### MUSICAL NUMBERS

or 'You don't see that in the supermarket'

#### Act I

Overture

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying Happy to Keep His Dinner Warm
Coffee Break
The Company Way
The Company Way (Reprise)
A Secretary is Not a Toy
Been a Long Day
Been a Long Day (Reprise)
Grand Old Ivy
Paris Original
Rosemary
Finale to Act I

#### Act II

Cinderella, Darling
Happy to Keep His Dinner Warm (Reprise)
Love From a Heart of Gold
I Believe in You
I Believe in You (Reprise)
Brotherhood of Man
Finale: The Company Way

### THE CAST

or 'The White Collar workers'

Tackaberry | Russell Blitz Miss Jones Ovington/TV Presenter Mr Twimble | Peter Colley Wally Womper | Paul Comparini

> J. Pierrepont Finch Toynbee

Wickette/Scrubwoman/Secretary

Miss Krumholtz

J.B. Biggley Wickette/Secretary

> Smitty Bud Frump Rosemary

Wickette/Secretary

Jenkins Peterson | Andy Smith

Hedy La Rue | Helen Stoddart

Gatch

Wickette/Scrubwoman/Secretary | Fiona White

Jeanette Broad

Vaughan Capstick

**Jay Cross** 

**Mark Donalds** 

Diane Ellis

Sheila Elsdon

Bratt | Sean Fisher

**James George** 

Janet Hillman

Elspeth Holm

**James Hume** 

Kerri McLeod

Lu Niland

Williams | Fred Oduro-Sarpong

Sam Sampson

Roger Taylor

The Voice of the Book | Stuart Warner

Office Boy | Mark Winterford

### THE CREW

or 'The Blue Collar workers'

**Production Assistant** | Karen Swanson

Choreography | Caz Gilmore Stage Manager

Stage Crew

Set Design Set Construction

Costumes

Props

Sound Marketing **Artwork** | Mike Palmer

**Artwork Photography** Russell Blitz

**Director** | Caz Gilmore

**Lighting** | Steve Jeapes

John Moore

Felicity Barker, Hayley Moore, John Moore, Rob Scott,

Amey Smith, Karen Swanson

Stephen Rose, Vaughan Capstick Vaughan Capstick, Richard Holm,

Phil Jackson, John Moore, Stephen Rose, Andy Smith

Janet Aplin, Caz Gilmore,

Kerri McLeod, Audrey Simmonds,

Wendy Sturgeon

Caz Gilmore, Audrey Simmonds,

Karen Swanson, The Company David Greenfield, Ben Trethowan

Sam Sampson

**Photography** Jon Brackpool

### THE BAND

or 'The ones making all that noise in the stalls'

Musical Director Steve Tanner
Piano Nickie Tabeart
Keyboard Michael Carter
Reeds Dave Clacket

Lara Jelliff Jamie McEachran

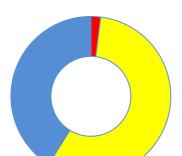
Lizzie Stutters

Trumpet | Roger Hammond

John Yates

Trombone Dave Thomas

Bass Trevor Briton
Percussion Dan Rhodes



*58%* 

of office workers have stolen office supplies, of which 2% were plants, paintings and office furniture.

### GRAND FOR THE BAND

or 'People HumDrum would like to sincerely thank'



HumDrum would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our 'Grand for the Band' appeal. Without these people's generosity, it would not have been possible for us to bring you *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Musicians for this performance have been funded by:

Tuesday	Reeds	Ms J. J. Delmeny			
	Bass	Kerri Mcleod & Michael Jeffrey			
	Piano & Bass	Andrew Smith			
Wednesday	Piano & Bass	Peter Colley & Mark Donalds			
	Keyboard	Cass & Noel Cross			
	Trumpet	John Moore			
	Reeds & Percussion	Mrs A. R. Simmonds			
Thursday	Reeds	Mr & Mrs Nash			
	Trumpet	Sam Sampson			
Friday	Keyboard	Anne Teahan			
	Keyboard & Percussion	Lee & Sheila Stoddart			
Saturday	Keyboard & Trombone	Jay Cross & Stephen Rose			
	Reeds	Peter Colley & Mark Donalds			
	Trumpet	Paul & Diane Comparini			
	Piano & Bass	Marilyn & Eric McLeod			
	Bass & Percussion	The Holm family			
	Trombone	Tim Sturton-Davies & Gemma Valler			

### COFFEE BREAK

or `Something to do when you should be working'

It's always the way, you really should be completing your accounts, or resuscitating that car crash victim, but that latest Sudoku or crossword just has to be finished first. So who are we to deny you your office pleasure...?

3	6			4	9			2
								6
		1			3	4		
6		7		3				
8			6		4			1
				9		7		4
		4	9			8		
2								
5			4	8			7	9

If you've never played Sudoku before, the object of the game is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the grid so that each number only appears once in each row, column and small square box.

# Or maybe a Drill? What about a Hammer?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then you very well might be the kind of person we're looking for!

We hope you'll agree that we're a fairly talented bunch when it comes to performing... however, when it comes to putting set and large props together, we rely on a few very patient and completely indispensable people. We need more practical DIY types... but you don't need to be 'Bob the Builder'...

We're sure there are people out there who can answer yes to some of the questions above and would love to volunteer to help us out, but are just too shy to say so.

You can either join and be a fully fledged permanent member, or just help out when we need you. You need never set foot on a stage if you're worried about that!

If you think you might be able to help us, please email info@humdrum.org.uk with a name and number, that kind of thing, and someone will give you a call.

Thank you and enjoy the show.

### THANK YOU

or 'No really, we'd like to thank them'

### **BAE Systems**

Our Patrons, Jim & Beryl George and Audrey Simmonds

The Portsmouth Tae Kwando Centre



### **KINGS OFFICE FURNITURE & INTERIORS**

ATLANTIC HOUSE OAKLEY ROAD SOUTHAMPTON

Telephone 020 8078 9978 for new and used office furniture & interiors.

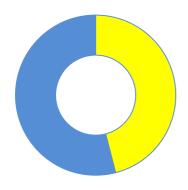
### JOINING HUMDRUM

or 'Come on you know you want to'

HumDrum mounts on average three productions per year, including at least one musical, performing at a number of venues in and around Portsmouth.

Our rehearsals are normally from 6pm to 9pm Saturday and Sunday evenings in North End, Portsmouth. We respect members' personal commitments at the weekend and try to ensure that rehearsal schedules are matched with their availability.

If you are interested in joining, speak to a member of HumDrum at tonight's performance or email us at info@humdrum.org.uk.



46%

of U.S. workers have gained weight since starting their current job.

### PAD

or 'Portsmouth Amateur Diary'

### 25th-28th July Disney Double Bill - Aladdin and Jungle Book

PORTSMOUTH PLAYERS THEATRE 11-18

023 9237 0501 City of Portsmouth Boys School

### 27th-28th July & 3rd-5th Aug Torch Song Trilogy

PHOENIX PLAYERS

023 9247 0545 St Peter's Theatre & South Parade Pier (5<sup>th</sup> Aug)

### 1st-4th Aug Katherine Howard

**CCADS** 

023 9282 8282 Kings Theatre Studio

### 8th-11th Aug High School Musical

STP MUSICALS

01329 231942 Ferneham Hall

### 11th Aug & 13th-18th Aug Round And Round The Garden

HIADS

023 9246 6363 Station Theatre

### 5th-29th Sept Fiddler on the Roof

**FAREHAM MUSICAL SOCIETY** 

01329 231942 Ferneham Hall



### HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING

Book by Abe Burrows

Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser

Based on the novel by SHEPHERD MEAD
Originally presented by Cy Feuer and Ernest H. Martin in association with Frank
Productions.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with JOSEF WEINBERGER LTD. on behalf of MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL of NEW YORK.

### THE BIT AT THE BACK

or 'The ramblings of a very nervous man'



I've been writing 'The Bit at the Back' of the programme for about seven years now; not as a named individual, but on behalf of everyone at HumDrum. I have high hopes that people read it and take on board 'the message'. This is, however, the first time that I've done so in the first person – mostly because *How to Succeed* is very personal for me: it's my face on the artwork.

I'm in the fortunate position to work for a Big American Company, and even more fortunate that they fly me (Economy, alas) through Duty Free every other month. This has given me a wonderful opportunity to model Finch on a number of my American colleagues, both in the UK and in the US. Only little things, mind you, such as the accent. To those of my work-mates who have come to the performance: it's probably not you.

The reason for telling you this: an anecdote about a business trip. In fact, it was during a weekend off in New York City. The colleague I was sightseeing with is not accustomed to 'early arisal'; this left me pretty much to my own devices in the mornings. Staying in Brooklyn (couldn't afford Manhattan) I was out for a walk after breakfast and came across 'Pierrepont Street'. 'Ah ha!' I thought, 'research'. At the end of Pierrepont Street is a statue, inscribed to 'the Brotherhood of Man', and I thought 'must write that down'. I never did.

Details of 'J. Pierrepont' and statues and the like are elsewhere in this programme. I'm much more interested in HumDrum's commitment to research. We know why 'Vassar' is funny, and what the deal with 'B. B. D. O' is. This will

always be an issue when performing modern American musicals. This was first an issue for HumDrum in 1995 when we presented the little known *God Bless You, Mr Rosewater* here at the NTR. There were literally dozens of jokes that only an American audience would get. So we put a glossary together, as we have done for you tonight.

But why go to all that trouble? I believe it's part of the commitment to the audience that any performance group should have. It's essential for an ensemble to understand every nuance of every line and convey that to those people who are following the story. If the audience doesn't know 'Vassar' was a women-only college until 1969, enforce the word with an action that makes sense. Of course, there will always be things that cannot be explained through action: certain names, references, etc. At that point, the director has to step in and make a cut or a change – but HumDrum tries to keep this to an absolute minimum.

Last year, I was asked by a colleague (the same one as New York City) why *The Full Monty* was set in the US. I said that was what was written, and that's what we were licensed to perform. He expressed his opinion that it should be shifted back to England for a UK performance. My feeling? Too much of a liberty with the author's work. Where should the line be drawn? Somewhere between New York and Sheffield, I guess.

I certainly hope that you appreciate our thoroughness. Part of that enthusiasm spills over into the programme, which we try to fill with informed comment rather than more traditional biographies. We hope that this booklet makes it to your coffee table for a few weeks and reminds you of your evening's entertainment. Not bad for a pound – if not, please let us know for next time.

Thank you for coming this evening, and laughing along with us. It really is a team effort, even if I'm the one on the poster.

www.humdrum.org.uk

or 'A really good place to find out all about us!'

**HUMDRUM IS SPONSORED BY** 

BAE SYSTEMS