

Robert C Kelly Limited in Association with the Gala Theatre, Durham.

Alf Ramsey

Knew My Grandfather

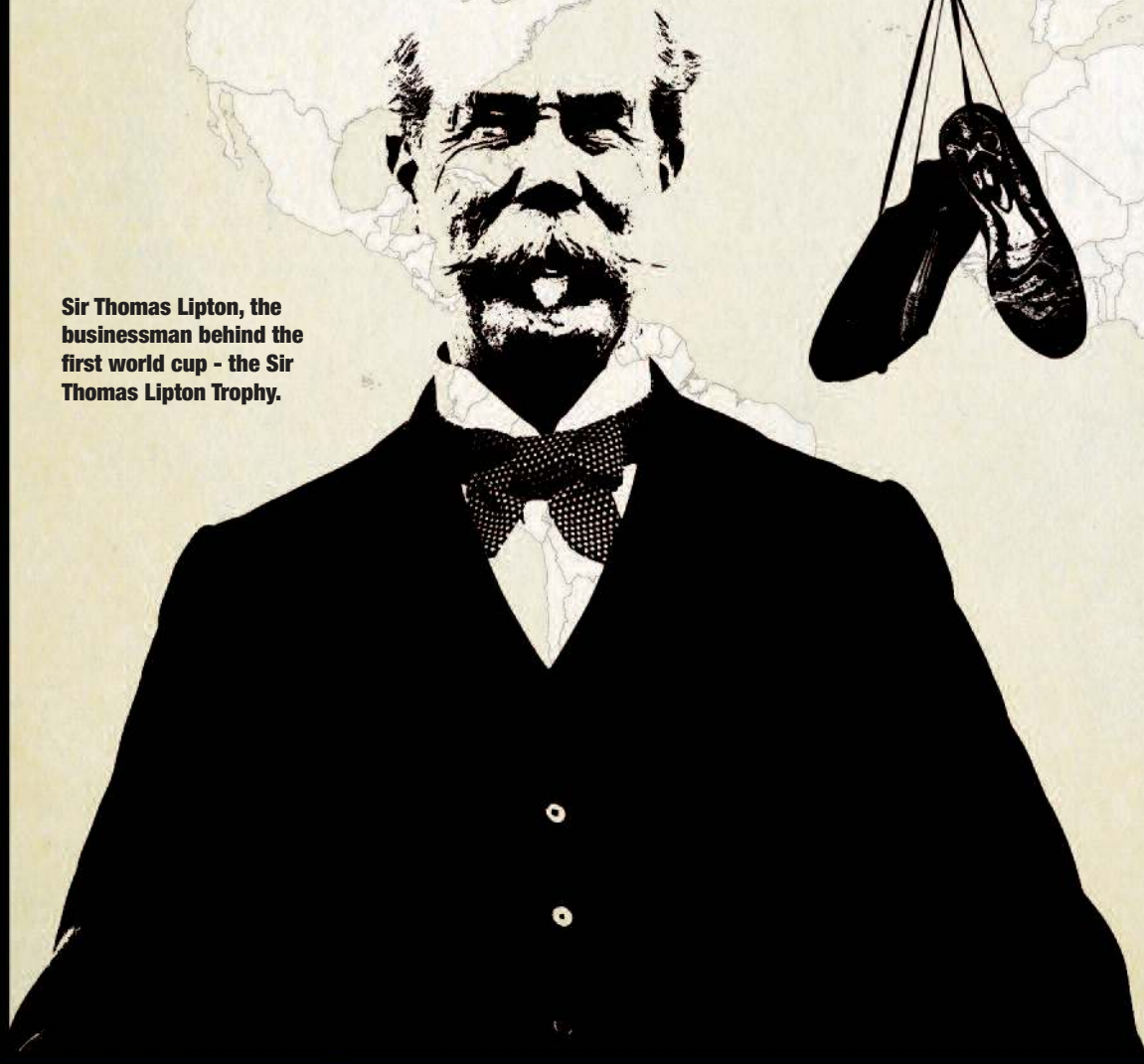


TUESDAY 11 – SATURDAY 15 MAY 2010

THE TRUE STORY OF THE FIRST WORLD CUP.



Sir Thomas Lipton, the
businessman behind the
first world cup - the Sir
Thomas Lipton Trophy.



Alf Ramsey Knew My Grandfather tells the story of the West Auckland football team who won the Sir Thomas Lipton Trophy in the inaugural World Cup Tournament that took place in Turin, Italy, in 1909.

The trophy was created by Sir Thomas Lipton, a keen sports enthusiast and self-made businessman who desired to see a tournament between the greatest football teams of the time. The football associations of Italy, Switzerland and Germany all nominated a team from their respective leagues for the Lipton Trophy but the British association refused to follow suit.

For reasons unknown, West Auckland, an amateur team comprising of mostly Durham miners playing in the Northern League, were invited to fill the available slot by Lipton himself. They were very much considered the underdogs of the tournament, as all the other competitors were professional teams. On top of that, to get to Italy, the lads from West Auckland had to sell their possessions to pay for the trip and many didn't know if they would have a job to return to.

West Auckland beat German champions Stuttgart Sportfreunde 2-0 in the semi-finals before seeing off the Swiss champs FC Winterthur 2-0 in the final, which took place on April 12 1909. Two years later, West Auckland returned and, after beating FC Zürich 2-0, they ran out 6-1 winners in the final over future Italian giants Juventus. By the rules of competition, they were awarded the trophy to keep permanently.

In 1912, West Auckland went bust and had to sell the cup to a Mrs Lanchester, landlady of the village's Wheatsheaf Hotel, in return for a loan of £40. She later moved to Liverpool and the cup was only 're-discovered' in 1960. Villagers tracked her down and she demanded £100 to relinquish the cup. It came home to reside on the bar of the

Eden Arms in West Auckland where it remained until 1994, when the trophy was stolen by thieves.

Despite the police offering a reward for its return, the trophy was never returned. An exact replica was presented soon afterwards, fashioned by the original Sheffield Silversmiths, Jack Spencer, who had made the original, and is today on display in West Auckland Working Men's Club, where people from all over the world come to pay their respects.

The loss of the original cup in 1994 wasn't the first time the trophy had gone missing. The team of 1909 left it on the platform at the Gare du Nord in Paris as they celebrated their victory. They arrived home trophy-less and were paraded around West Auckland's village green in a cart pulled by a horse.

The cup followed a couple of days later, forwarded by a Parisian porter.

In memory of the 1909 Thomas Lipton Trophy final, West Auckland Town FC and Italian giants Juventus FC met once again in 2009 for a friendly match 100 years later, with Juventus FC winning 7-1.

Also in 2009, Simon Stallworthy, Director of the Gala Theatre in Durham, commissioned internationally acclaimed playwrights Ed Waugh and Trevor Wood to write *Alf Ramsey Knew My Grandfather* to mark the centenary of West Auckland's win.

Alf Ramsey co-writer Ed Waugh says of the missing cup: "We had the [replica] cup for press purposes recently and when a friend of mine, who claims to have psychic powers, touched it she said the original was still out there in someone's private collection and that the letter 'G' was coming across strongly. Let's hope she was right and it is returned to its rightful place."



Ed Waugh and Trevor Wood

“Ed Waugh and Trevor Wood are rapidly establishing themselves as one of the most commercially marketable brands in British Theatre.”

The Metro, January 11 2005.

Ed Waugh and **Trevor Wood** began writing their first comedy play *Good to Firm* in January 2002. Astonishingly, thanks to theatre director Ray Spencer’s excellent judgement, it premiered at the Customs House in South Shields five months later. Billed, in a typically understated way, as the funniest play ever about horse racing, it was an immediate hit and, by the end of the run, was playing to full houses in the 400-seat theatre.

Their next play, *Dirty Dusting*, premiered at the Customs House in February 2003. The tale of three elderly cleaning ladies who set up a telephone sex chat line was, and is, a phenomenon. It sold out all seven shows and

returned six months later for a further nine sell-out shows. The late Peter Sarah saw the show and decided to bring it to the Theatre Royal in Newcastle for four more sell-out performances. It returned to the Theatre Royal again in June 2004 for seven sell-out shows. Subsequently, the play has toured Scotland three times and completed an Irish/UK tour of number one theatres in July 2006, including Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield and Dublin, where it played to more than 20,000 people during a four-week run at the prestigious Gaiety Theatre. It recently completed a run at Dunedin’s Fortune Theatre, a short tour of Victoria, Australia, and a further tour of Ireland. A full Australian tour is scheduled for 2010.

Ed and Trevor followed up this success with their third play, *Raising the Stakes*, a sequel to *Good to Firm*, which premiered to full houses and massive critical acclaim at the Customs House in March 2004.

Their next play, *Waiting for Gateaux*, followed in the footsteps of *Dirty Dusting*. A hilarious tale of the worst health and fitness club in the world, it sold out all 2,000 tickets ten weeks before its opening night in April 2005 and, due to overwhelming demand, returned to the same venue in August 2005 for a longer run. *Gateaux* had its New Zealand premiere in Dunedin in July 2006, where it played for three weeks before going on a short tour of the South Island. A short UK tour followed and a further tour is planned for 2010.

Their fifth play, *The Revengers*, premiered at the Customs House in September 2005 to widespread critical acclaim and recently played the Pomegranate Theatre in Chesterfield.

Their sixth play, *Maggie's End*, which begins with the death of Margaret Thatcher, marked a departure for the pair. An overtly political piece of agitprop, raging against the New Labour project, the play premiered at the Gala Theatre in Durham in October 2007 and went on to form the centrepiece of the 25th anniversary of the Miners' Strike, when it was performed at the Shaw Theatre in London in March 2009.

The prolific pair returned to comedy with play number seven, *Alf Ramsey Knew My Grandfather*, which was written to mark the 100th anniversary of West Auckland FC winning the Lipton Trophy, the first ever World Cup. The play premiered at Durham in March 2009.

The third play in their racing trilogy, provisionally entitled *Photo Finish*, is due to open at the Customs House in October 2010 and another new play, *God Only Knows*, which examines the teaching of creationism in state schools, is also due to hit the stage that year.

Their radio play, *Son of Samurai*, adapted for the stage, was performed at the prestigious Latitude Festival in 2008, standing alongside productions from the RSC, Bush Theatre and the Royal Court.

In addition to their work for the theatre, they have just been commissioned by BBC1 to write a second sample episode of their sitcom, *Silver Acres*. They also have three films in development, *Dead Ringer for Love*, *Hark the Herald Angel* and *Maggie's End*, and an adaptation of their own stage play, all with Ipso Facto Films.

Plays

Good to Firm

Dirty Dusting

Raising the Stakes

Waiting for Gateaux

The Revengers

Son of Samurai

Maggie's End

Alf Ramsey Knew My Grandfather

Film scripts

Hark the Herald Angel

Maggie's End

Dead Ringer for Love

TV scripts

Silver Acres



The Cast...

Mr Barrow
James Gaddas

Tucker Gill
Dean Logan

Charlie Hogg
Wayne Miller

Rob Gubbins
Scott Frazer

Tom Gubbins
Chris Lennon

Bob Jones
Robert Atkinson

Alternate/ASM
Daniel Dodds

The Crew...

Producer

Robert C Kelly

Director

Andrew Lynford

Writers

**Ed Waugh
and Trevor Wood**

Lighting Designer

James Smith

Company Stage Manager

Ray Tizzard

Deputy Stage Manager

Carolyn Roper

Costume Designer

Katie Todd

Costumes by

The Theatrical Costume House, Southend
and TOFFS Football Shirt Company

Furniture Supplied by

The Kenneth More Theatre, Ilford

Special thanks to the Hackney Empire

Awaiting pic.

James Gaddas **Mr Barrow**

Theatre includes: Billy's dad in *Billy Elliot* (Working Title, Stephen Daldry); Captain Hook in *Peter Pan a Musical* (Curve, Leicester); Captain Hook in *Peter Pan* (UK Productions); Yvan in *Art* (David Pugh, Thea Sharrock); *JFK, Jackie* (Cole Kitchenn, Gip Hoppe) and *The Messiah* (West Yorkshire Playhouse, Jenny Darnell).

Film includes: *Starter for 10* (HBO/BBC, Tom Vaughan); *Girls' Night* (Granada Television, Nick Hurran) and *The Human Bomb* (HBO USA, Anthony Page).

Television includes: Ian Ellis in *The Bill* (Talkback Thames); Jack Harcourt in *Doctors* (BBC Television); *Dogtown* (BBC Television, Jonathan Fox Bassett); Carl O'Leary in *Casualty/Holby City* (BBC Television); Det Insp Deighton in *Vincent* (Granada Television, Tony McDonough); Seneca in *Star Hunter* (Star Hunter Productions, Francois Basset and Patrick Malakian); Neil Grayling in *Bad Girls* (Shed Productions) and Vinnie in *Coronation Street* (Granada Television).



Dean Logan **Tucker Gill**

Newcastle-born Dean studied acting at Newcastle College and has a BA (hons) in Theatre Arts from Brighton University.

His theatre credits include: *Skellig*, playing the lead role of Michael (Bloomsbury Theatre and national tour) for Birmingham Stage Company; *Alf Ramsey Knew My Grandfather*, *Beamish Boy* (Gala Theatre); *Bedruthan Steps* (Tristan Bates Theatre).

His TV and film credits include: *Inspector George Gently* (BBC/Company Pictures); *Steel River Blues* (ITV); *The Other Possibility* (Pinball Films).





Wayne Miller
Charlie Hogg

Wayne trained at South Tyneside College and Redroofs Theatre School. Leaving Redroofs, he returned to the north-east and over the years has appeared in many productions including: *Pray for Rain*, *Babies*, *Ted Nasty's Park Bench of Mild Surprise*, *Tom and Catherine*, *Dangle in the Dust*, *Love in NE32*, *Cuddy's Miles*, *Riot*, *Son of Samurai*, *Worlds Apart*, *The Machine Gunners* to name but a few. Despite his lack of good looks, he has still found his way onto TV in two series of ITV's *Real Crimes* as well as baring all in the film *Six Bend Trap*. Wayne is so pleased to be back playing Charlie 'Dirty' Hogg and lacing up the boots once again!



Scott Frazer
Rob Gubbins

Scott was born in Newcastle and studied drama at Newcastle College Centre for the Performing Arts before moving to London to train at LAMDA.

Theatre: *Alf Ramsey Knew My Grandfather* and *The Likely Lads* at the Gala Theatre; *Twisted* at the Oval House; *A Charmed Life* on tour in Italy; *Cause for Concern* at the Brockley Jack; *The Round Dance* at the Round House; *Burglar Beware!* at the Old Red Lion; *The Challenge* at the Tobacco Factory; *Tartuffe* and *Luther* for the Royal National Theatre; *Write Now!* at the Donmar Warehouse; *Twelfth Night* at the Liverpool Playhouse; *And Then They Came for Me* on national tour; *Home Front* at the Wimbledon Studio Theatre; *Antigone* at The Old Vic; *Pidjin Makbed!* at the Scarborough Theatre Festival; *They Shoot Horses Don't They?* for Northern Stage; *Il Capuleti e Montecchi* at the Royal Opera House, and some recorded singing under the direction of the composer Stephen Warbeck for the Donmar Warehouse production of *To the Green Fields Beyond*.

TV: *Timewatch - The Iron Coffin*, *Old Devils*, *Car Sharks*, *Pirates!*, *Byker Grove*, *The Girl* and *The Fifteen Streets*.

Film: *Blood of the Last*, *Alphaville 451*; *Alexander*, *Intermedia*, *Warner Bros*; *EMR*, *Cottonopolis* (Raindance 2004 Audience Award-Winner); *12K Basic*, *Jam Films*.

Scott was nominated for a 2008 Journal Culture Award for his portrayal of Terry in the Gala Theatre production of *The Likely Lads*.





Chris Lennon

Tom Gubbins

Trained at the Guildford School of Acting.

He made his professional debut as Electra in *Starlight Express* (Apollo Victoria Theatre). He played Nick Piazza in *Fame* (Victoria Palace); Sonny in *Grease* (national tour); Mickey in *Blood Brothers* (Phoenix Theatre); understudied and played Galileo (original cast) in *We Will Rock You* (Dominion Theatre) and, most recently, as Tony in *Billy Elliot the Musical* (Victoria Palace Theatre); *The Rink* (Haymarket Theatre, Leicester); *Skellig* (the Young Vic) and *Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens* (Bridewell Theatre). Chris also created the role of Peter Pan in a workshop of a new musical at Kensington Gardens.

Television: *Family Affairs*, in which Chris played the regular character Charlie Davis and film work includes the title role in the short film *Dave, The UK of A, 2.30* and *Following Catherine*.

Chris has toured South Africa singing with the Johannesburg Festival Orchestra.



Robert Atkinson

Bob Jones

This is Rob's second performance on the Theatre Royal stage and he is delighted to return. He got the acting bug whilst here in 1996 on work experience. Since then, Rob has worked extensively in the north-east as an actor, director and facilitator.

Theatre credits include: *Geoff Dead: Disco for Sale, Dirty Nets, You'll Never Hook a Haddock With a Pen Nib, Body Parts* and *Laughter When You're Dead* (all Live Theatre); *Alf Ramsey Knew My Grandfather* (Durham Gala Theatre).

Rob can currently be seen performing improvisation comedy with the Suggestibles and works as a clown doctor in Newcastle hospitals for Tin Arts, a job he is extremely proud of.



Danny Dodds

Alternate/ASM

Danny was born in Middlesbrough and trained at Bretton Hall College.

His work in theatre includes: *Road, Too, Crave, Blood Wedding, Measure for Measure* and *Decadence* at the Powerhouse Theatre in Wakefield and *Blood Wedding* at the Laurence Batley Theatre.

Film includes: *After the Silence, In the Jeans* and *Zapped*.

In his spare time, Danny also enjoys writing and recently co-wrote and performed in several comedy shows for the Under Construction season at fringe venue Bistroteque.



Robert C Kelly **Producer**

Robert C Kelly has almost 30 years' experience of producing plays, musicals, concerts and pantomimes. He has presented artistes as diverse as: Elaine Paige, Jane McDonald, Joe Longthorne, Elkie Brookes, Danny La Rue, Bobby Davro, Lena Martell, Dean Park, Andy Stewart, Keith Harris and Orville, Gary Wilmot and the Nolans.

Robert's shows have starred such actors as: Bernie Nolan, Beverly Callard, Sarah White, Blythe Duff, Patsy Palmer, Imogen Stubbs, Cathy Tyson, Jenny Éclair and Kim Hartman, and has given acting 'breaks' to singers including: Carol Decker (T'Pau), Maureen Nolan (the Nolans), Lorraine McIntosh (Deacon Blue) and Brianna Corrigan (Beautiful South). Robert has produced and co-produced many plays and musicals including: *Menopause the Musical*, Olivier Award-winning *Defending the Caveman*, Pam Gem's *Piaf*, 11 productions (including a West End run) of the comedy *Mum's the Word*, *Mum's the Word 2 - Teenagers* in the UK and Germany, Prunella Scales in *Too Far to Walk* (London), the musical comedy *Always Patsy Cline* (UK and Australia) and many more lost in the mists of time and alcohol. The company has also produced sensational concerts, including: *The Piano Men* and *The Music of Dirty Dancing*.

In 2008, with Oskar Eiriksson, the Nederlander Organisation and William Morris Agency, Robert presented *Sexy Laundry* at the Hayworth Theatre in Los Angeles, which was nominated for three LA Stage Awards (winning Best Director). The show was revived in February 2009 in Sacramento.

Over the past six years, Robert has produced many shows in Ireland including: a 22-week Dublin season and two sell-out Irish tours of *Menopause the Musical*, a 10-week Dublin season of *Strictly the Rat Pack* and the European premiere of *The Blues Brothers Revival*, plus two Dublin seasons and an Irish tour of *The Gruffalo*.

He has produced five Irish tours of *Dirty Dusting*. In 2010, in Ireland, Robert has produced the premiere of the 'off-Broadway' hit *My First Time*, a second Irish tour of *Menopause the Musical*, and shall produce a second tour of *Strictly the Rat Pack*.

In the UK for 2010, this tour of *Mum's the Word*, along with further tours of *Dirty Dusting*, *The Best of Brian Conley*, and a brand new show, *Motherhood the Musical*, which shall then tour Australia for 44 weeks in 2011. From the writers of *Dirty Dusting* comes this new play *Alf Ramsey Knew My Grandfather*.

Throughout 2010, Robert is also co-producing the Australian tour of *Dirty Dusting* and the first Lithuanian production of *Mum's the Word*.

In association with RTÉ Television and Screentime ShinAwiL, from April to June, Robert is co-producing and appearing as a judge in a 10-week reality television series to find the male and female leads for *Fame the Musical*, which shall then tour Ireland for 12 weeks in the autumn of 2010.



Andrew Lynford **Director**

Andrew trained at the Mountview Theatre School in London, and has worked as an actor, presenter, director, writer and producer.

He has directed *The Cheeky Chappie*, *Side by Side by Sondheim* and Ken Hill's *The Curse of the Werewolf* for the Union Theatre, London; the comedy *Dirty Dusting* at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin; Tivoli Theatre, Dublin; Irish tour, King's Theatre, Glasgow and Scottish tour; *Menopause the Musical*, Tivoli Theatre, Dublin; two Irish tours and the UK tour last year; *Spirit of the Musical* and *Stage Stars* UK tours, and many pantomimes. From 2008 until 2010, Andrew was Associate Producer for Paul Holman Associates, and was in charge of production for several summer shows and 24 pantomimes during that time. (Oh yes he was!) He also wrote the scripts for many of these shows.

Other work as a writer includes sketches for the BBC comedy *Tittybangbang* and a new Sky

comedy *Butter My Crackers* (with Tim Ward); gags writer for Dick and Dom on various television shows; his 1970s musical, *Love Is in the Flares*, toured the UK after winning a Fringe First at the Edinburgh Festival, and his adaptation of *The Jungle Book* played a summer season at the Pavilion, Whitby.

As an actor, he appeared in the Children's BBC show *Playdays* (playing roles like the pig that built his house from twigs and the cockerel who couldn't crow) and these demanding roles led to repertory seasons and tours all over the UK, where he played everything from Adrian Mole to Algernon in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

He played Simon Raymond (the miserable gay one) in *EastEnders*, for which he received a Best Newcomer nomination at the National Television Awards. (He didn't win it.)