At The Drop Of A Hat is a selection of the music of British duo Michael Flanders and Donald Swann, who achieved fame in the late 1950's and early 1960's with their musical revue of comedic and satirical songs.

The arrangement features four of these - The Gasman Cometh tells of the trials and tribulations of employing tradesmen. The Slow Train details the loss of many small British train stations closed on the order of Dr. Beeching in the early 1960's. The Wompom lists the numerous uses of the multi-purpose animal, vegetable AND mineral which is the Wompom. The final song is perhaps the duos' most famous – The Hippopotamus Song, which naturally enough is a feature for the Tuba section.

There is provision in the arrangement for some visual humour, which would be in keeping with this light-hearted music.

> Sandy Smith September 2008

Note on Percussion

In **The Wompom** other rhythmic percussion or vocal noises may be added at the discretion of the conductor to illustrate this mythical beast!