

## AUDITION PACK

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for our next production *Agatha Crusty and the Village Hall Murders* which will be performed at the *Bankstown Arts Centre* in **JULY 2024**. The following will give you information about this production, audition requirements as well as your rehearsal and performance commitments. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be made available when rehearsals commence.

### PRODUCTION TEAM

**Director: ARTHUR PICKERING**

#### **AUDITIONS: BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

Bankstown Arts Centre  
5 Olympic Parade, Bankstown  
**WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**  
**From 6.30pm**

#### **TECHNICAL/DRESS REHEARSALS:**

Bankstown Arts Centre  
**SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY from 6.30pm**  
**MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY from 6.30pm**  
**TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY from 6.30pm**  
**WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY from 6.30pm**

#### **REHEARSALS:**

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 7.30PM**  
**COMMENCING TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**  
Bankstown Arts Centre  
5 Olympic Parade, Bankstown.

#### **PERFORMANCE DATES:**

Bankstown Arts Centre  
**FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 8pm**  
**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 8pm (Evening ONLY)**  
**SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2pm**  
**FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 8pm**  
**SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2pm (Matinee ONLY)**  
**SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2pm**

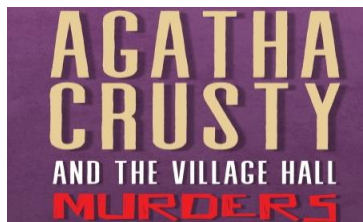
#### **BUMP IN:**

Bankstown Arts Centre  
**SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
**ALL CAST & CREW REQUIRED**

#### **BUMP OUT:**

Bankstown Arts Centre  
**SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY (After Show)**  
**ALL CAST & CREW REQUIRED**

***ABOUT BANKSTOWN THEATRE COMPANY:*** BTC is a not-for-profit community association, incorporated in NSW. It is operated by a management committee on behalf of members and is not a production company. All members, committee and production teams are volunteers. All cast members **MUST** be or become a member of *Bankstown Theatre Company*.



### **ABOUT AGATHA CRUSTY AND THE VILLAGE HALL MURDERS:**

Agatha Crusty (pronounced Croosty) is a crime novelist. She's also pretty adept at solving crimes. And when her sister-in-law Alice invites her to spend a few days with her in the village of Chortelby, it's not long before she gets caught up in a series of murders which seem directed at members of the All Saints Village Hall committee.

### **A message from the Director**

In writing this script, Derek Webb was quite clearly inspired, not only by the best-known plots of Agatha Christie, but also by the performances of many character actors who appeared in iconic British comedy films of the 1950s and 60s. I would like to approach this play with that genre in mind.

If you are a fan of actors like Margaret Rutherford, Alec Guinness, Kenneth Williams, Joyce Grenfell, Hattie Jacques, Sid James, Barbara Windsor, Charles Hawtry or Joan Simms, few of whom are known for their subtlety, you will know what I am looking for. I would like the characters to be clearly drawn and not too scared to hint at the stereotypical.

So come with us and explore the zany, bizarre, quirky, funny, and murderous 1950s world of a sleepy English village. Woven throughout this play's clever dialogue there is a gleeful British comedy, sure to cause giggles, snorts, and guffaws.

Please come and audition and be prepared to surprise me. Don't be afraid to try something different as we find the laughs together. I look forward to seeing you.

**Arthur Pickering**  
**Director**

## **THE AUDITION PROCESS**

### **AUDITION BOOKINGS:**

Auditions are strictly by appointment only and can only be made by email.

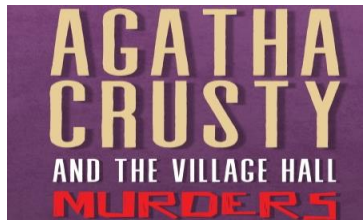
**Please send an email to [creaseg50@optusnet.com.au](mailto:creaseg50@optusnet.com.au) & cc: [gcrease6@gmail.com](mailto:gcrease6@gmail.com)**

When emailing your audition booking, please include your full name, your contact number, the role/s you would like to audition for. Once your request has been received you will receive a confirmation reply and your corresponding audition dialogue piece.

### **ON THE DAY:**

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your audition. Auditions at *Bankstown Theatre Company* are closed auditions, with a panel comprising of the Director and one member of the committee of *Bankstown Theatre company* in a non-voting capacity.

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE AUDITION & MEMBERSHIP FORMS AND BRING WITH YOU ON THE DAY OF AUDITIONS. IF YOU ARE RUNNING LATE OR NEED DIRECTIONS, PLEASE TEXT DIANE 0434 149 775**



### CAST ANNOUNCEMENT:

Successful auditionees will be contacted as soon as possible after the audition date to be offered a role. Once these parts have been accepted a full cast list will be posted on the *Bankstown Theatre Company's* website and social media pages. Unsuccessful auditionees will be notified by email prior to the published announcement. Please check your junk mail if you are unsure.

### INFORMATION FOR SUCCESSFUL AUDITIONEES:

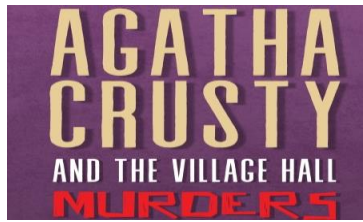
*Agatha Crusty and the Village Hall Murders* is reliant on the entire cast attending rehearsals as per the rehearsal schedule. By Auditioning for this show, you are committing to be able attend every Tuesday and Thursday night rehearsal and selected Sundays as per the announced schedule. Please note that the rehearsal schedule may be subject to change within reason, and it is expected that cast to be available upon reasonable request. A Facebook group will be set up for all successful cast and crew members and a rehearsal schedule will be provided. Rehearsals will commence Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> of April. Cast members need to understand that frequent absences from rehearsals, unless previously approved by both the Production Team and Management Committee, may result in replacement. Should a cast member not be able to attend because of illness, they must contact a member of the production team as soon as possible. All cast are expected to assist in fundraising activities, if required, and actively promote the show and the sale of tickets. Cast are also expected to assist in building scenery and creating costumes and other such activities, if required. *Please let us know if you have special skills or contacts who do.*

### MEMBERSHIP AND PRODUCTION CONTRIBUTION:

All cast are required to be financial members of the company and pay a show levy fee which assists in paying for rehearsal venues, insurances, costumes, and other costs. Membership and Production Contribution is a total of \$100. This fee includes all photos taken by our official photographer at Dress Rehearsals. *BTC* annual memberships are valid from 1st January to 31st December. **Fees are payable within the first two weeks of rehearsals.** Please see membership breakdown on audition form.

### CREW:

We are always recruiting technical expertise along with eager novices to join our stage crew. We encourage you to join our crew team and learn how to create the magic of theatre. We require a Stage Manager / Set Construction Team / Backstage Crew / Front of House Crew / Seating Ushers.



## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

(in order of principal to featured roles)

**AGATHA** playing age 30-60. Gender: Female Identifying.  
A crime novelist. Unassuming, but very smart

**TWIGG** playing age 30-50. Gender: Male Identifying.  
A Detective Inspector of extraordinary incompetence.

**ELEANOR** playing age 30-50. Gender: Female Identifying.  
Chair of the hall committee, mother-superior type.

**TOBY** playing age 30-50. Gender: Male Identifying.  
The vicar. Generally genial and a little naïve but can be forceful.

**OLIVIA / OLIVER (Dual Role)** playing age 30-60. Gender: Open.

**Olivia** – (with wig on) An upper-crust, landed gentry type with less land than she'd like.

**Oliver** – (with wig off) Olivia's brother. Usually sports a gun and some dead animals.

**Played by the same actor - characters are dressed identically except for wig and minor costuming details.**

**HARRY** playing age 30-60. Gender: Male Identifying.  
The village hall caretaker. Cynical, worldly-wise & down-to-earth

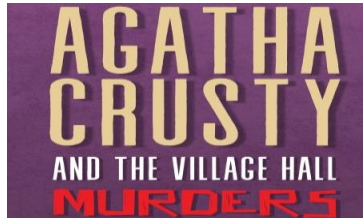
**ALICE** playing age 30-60. Gender: Female Identifying.  
Agatha's sister-in-law. Pleasant & unpretentious

**MAISIE** playing age 30-50. Gender: Female Identifying.  
A cleaner. Pleasant but not afraid to call a spade a spade.

**PC LOCKETT** playing age 30-60. Gender: Male Identifying.  
The village bobby.

**ISABELLA** playing age 30-60. Gender: Female Identifying.  
The pub landlady. Mumsy type with definite pretensions.

**MANDY** playing age Late Teens-20. Gender: Female Identifying.  
A model. Young & streetwise.



**AUDITION FORM**

Please complete this form and bring with you to your audition

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

WWC ID (18+)\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*if successful in your audition, you will need to provide BTC with your up to date Working With Children Check ID

Role(s) auditioning for: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you accept another role: Yes / No

Do you have **ANY OTHER COMMITMENTS** during the rehearsal period? Yes / No  
(eg. other theatrical productions, family commitments, work, study, dance/singing/acting lessons, sport, holidays)

If yes, please provide details, dates and times of absences:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

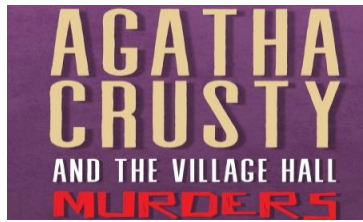
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\_\_\_\_\_

Previous Experience: (please complete or attach details)

YEAR	SHOW	ROLE	COMPANY

**BANKSTOWN THEATRE COMPANY CODE OF ETHICS**



*The Bankstown Theatre Company Code of Ethics* is an important aspect of participating in a *BTC* production. It is an agreement that you participate in an *BTC* show according to agreed standards of behaviour.

I will give my best at all times - offering energy and enthusiasm at rehearsals, bump in/out, working bees, promotional events and throughout performances.

I will be fully committed to each *BTC* production I am involved in, by being on time and attending ALL rehearsals and performances - unless experiencing serious illness, or if I have permission for absence either prior to auditions or with advance notice to the Production Team so my absence does not unfairly disrupt the rehearsal schedule.

I will communicate effectively and support my fellow cast members, crew, production team and committee members - keeping my interactions/comments towards others positive and constructive.

I will accept and follow all instructions and advice given to me by the production team and will express concerns/issues as soon as they arise to these individuals only, in a respectful and appropriate manner.

I will participate in all required rehearsals, while demonstrating flexibility, patience and understanding on necessary schedule changes.

I will be prepared as a cast member - learning all lines and music efficiently, being prompt on cues, as well as bringing all items required eg. script, props, costumes etc.

I will never direct or speak disrespectfully to another actor. If you should have some problem with another performer, you should discuss the problem with the Production Team.

I will demonstrate care to the environment which surrounds me - the rehearsal space, theatre, dressing rooms, scenery, props, costumes, scripts, and scores.

I will always represent and promote *BTC* in a positive way, both inside and outside of rehearsals and performances - in the way I speak, act and throughout all interactions on social media.

I will support the decisions of the Production Team and/or the committee and be supportive of the choices made in the best interests of *BTC*.

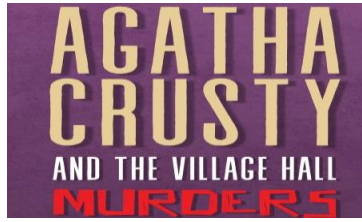
All cast members must conduct themselves respectfully whilst participating in a show.

#### **BANKSTOWN THEATRE COMPANY COVID PLAN**

*Bankstown Theatre Company* respects and enforces any health orders from the NSW government and from both the *Bankstown Arts Centre* and *The Bryan Brown Theatre*. The current COVID regulations as of 14 October 2022 are:

If you are tested as COVID positive you no longer need to self-isolate but need to let people with whom you have come in contact know, including *Bankstown Theatre Company*.

You may still come to rehearsals but are required to wear a mask.



### BANKSTOWN THEATRE COMPANY'S TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

I understand that, if successful in my audition, I/my child must become a member of *Bankstown Theatre Company Inc.* and that the applicable membership and show contributions **must be paid within two weeks of the first rehearsal**. I will abide by *Bankstown Theatre Company's Code of Ethics* and am comfortable with their COVID plan. I will make myself available for all rehearsal and production dates and understand that my absence from these, unless previously approved by both the Production Team and Management Committee, may result in my replacement in the production.

#### I understand the following:

- That I will be required to assist with bump in/out and may need to assist with set construction/painting.
- That production accessories, such as make-up, hosiery, and footwear will be at my expense.
- Membership fee (payable annually 1 January—31 December) is \$25.00 and Production Contribution is \$75.00 (This includes all photographs taken by our official photographer of the production)  
Total payable \$100.00.
- Any information collected by *Bankstown theatre Company* may be used for promotion and advertising of its productions. By signing this audition form you are agreeing to *Bankstown Theatre Company's* Terms of Membership and give permission for *Bankstown Theatre Company* to provide your photograph and details for promotion to our Publicity Team

#### I have read and agree to the above terms and conditions

*If the auditionee is under 18, this section is to be signed by their parent/carer.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship (if auditionee is under 18) \_\_\_\_\_

#### IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES CONTACT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: All information collected by Bankstown Theatre Company Inc. is for use only within the company. Bankstown Theatre Company will only distribute this information with your consent.*

#### Photograph Permission

I \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for *Bankstown Theatre Company* to use photographs of myself, taken by the official company photographer, for the exclusive use of publicity for a production and/or for future use in promoting the company in newspapers and/or on the *BTC* website.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_