



Audition notice

Saturday Night At The Crown

Wigan Little Theatre is proud to present Saturday Night At The Crown. We would like to invite you to audition for an acting role or contact us if you would like to be part of the production in another area. For a description of each non-acting role, please see the later pages.

Playwright:	Walter Greenwood
Director:	Maureen Schofield
Audition:	Sunday 27 th October in the bar at WLT at 2pm
Production dates:	March 5 th - 15 th

Synopsis of play

A Northern Comedy. The play is set in The Crown Public House in the early 1950s. It is hosting a funeral 'do' for the late Mrs Hardy. Arguments are rife and some of the family have moved to the snug for a bit of peace and quiet and to get away from the trouble, but trouble follows them – namely Ada – who feels slighted at not being invited to the wake. There are numerous characters who all add to the story as they appear in the bar

Director's Note

All characters need to be able to do a northern accent, (except Wilbur, who is American) and have good comedy timing.

This is a large cast and even though some speaking parts are small, the character is on stage and required to react to other characters

Rehearsals

Three evenings a week to be agreed with the cast. Not all required at some. If there is a night you cannot regularly attend please inform me at audition. Remember this is a comedy - so enjoy it

Cast - list of characters

Ada Thorpe – Loud and forthright. Knows everyone and their business. Totally dominates her hen pecked husband. 50+

Herbert Thorpe – Dominated husband of Ada. Obeys her every whim. Only speaks once in the play so emphasis on facial gestures and physical comedy a must. 50+

Charlie Brother In Law – Regular at The Crown. Peacekeeper in arguments. 40+

Sam – Brother In- Law – Regular at The Crown. Peacekeeper in arguments. Trying to avoid his wife. 40+

Alf – The Barman. Knows all his regulars. A genial chap who runs the bar well. Not a lot of lines but on stage regularly. 40+

Bob – Brother In- Law to Charlie and Sam. Also has domineering wife and strives to keep the peace. 35+

Wilbur – Sargeant in US Army. Smitten with Sally. Charming and keen to get on with the regulars. 30+

Harry Boothroyd – Crown manager. Has played sports in his youth and tries to keep fit. Stands no nonsense from his regulars. Keen on Sally but won't admit it. 40+

Sally – Barmaid. Has been at pub a while. Polite but can stand up for herself. 30+

Eunice Sidebottom – Tries to be better than she is. Flirts with men. Aged femme fatale. 40+

Tom – Father to be. Nervous wreck. Panicking over imminent birth. 25+

Dora Hardy – Married to Bill. Think she's better than everyone. Nags Bill and cause trouble with her vicious tongue. Pseudo posh accent. 40+

Bill Hardy – Married to Dora. Has done alright for himself – quite wealthy. Tries to stop his wife from causing trouble but fails. 40+

Audition Pieces

Ada/Herbert p8/9 Ah well you know...What do you expect me to do -chew it? (Actions)

Ada p49 Thank you very much

Charlie/Bob/ Sam p3

Charlie/Sam/Tom/Harry p26-27 Flamin' money

Alf/Harry p 65 Forgot this- getting wed

Wilbur/Eunice p56/top of 57 Scotch and chaser- both names written on it

Harry/Sally p62/63 Well another day – giving my notice in

Dora/Bill p 34/35 And she can put all I've said – get the In- Laws out of the way

To request an audition piece contact membership@WLT

Advice can also be sought from any member of the Play Selection and Casting Committee:

Nicola Reynolds, Niall Wilkinson, Maggie Hall, Joey Wiswell or Erinna Delaney

THE COMPANY

Actors

WLT aims for a very high standard of production and maximum commitment is required to achieve this. Rehearsals can take place for 8-12 weeks prior to the performance dates, typically 3 or 4 times a week in the evenings or on Sundays. In the event of not being able to attend the audition date, you should contact the director or a member of our Play Selection and Casting Committee (PSCC). Please be aware that only one alternative audition will be held, and times will be limited due to everyone's availability.

Bar

Members of this team should be over the age of 18. They are responsible for working behind the bar, which is open from 7.00 pm until 11.00 pm during each production. Members often do one or two nights during any production.

Box Office

We need friendly and helpful people who have good interpersonal skills both face to face and over the phone. Experience of working with IT would be an advantage but training will be given on the box office computer and administrative systems. Box Office opening hours are 7-9 pm.

Coffee

Coffee is sold during the interval. Most helpers arrive prior to the opening of the show on one or two separate occasions to make and serve the coffee, and once the washing up is done they are free to go!

Front of House

The Front of House (FOH) Team welcome the public to a show, hand them their tickets where appropriate, escort them to their seats if necessary and remain on hand until the end of the show when the FOH representative will wait until the last patron has left before locking the main doors. The usual commitment is for one or two nights during the run of a show from 7-10 pm approximately.

Lighting and sound

The Technical support group is responsible for the design and operation of the lighting and sound for each production. Setting up a new show normally takes place on two or three separate evenings before the Technical Rehearsal, and then two or three members are at the Theatre each night of the production to operate the lighting and sound desks and provide any additional services required by the show. Training will be given, and you won't be left to work alone until you feel completely confident.

Programme Sales

The job is as simple as it sounds! All you need is your smile and the ability to handle cash – then all you have to do is wait for patrons to come to buy a programme! Programme sellers normally arrive at around 6.45 pm and stay on duty until the start of the show at 7.30 pm.

Prompts

Members of the prompt team are never seen - and hopefully never heard – during the run of a production! Prompts work on a rota basis and attend rehearsals for approximately three weeks prior to the opening of a show and for one or two nights during a show, sitting in the wings with a copy of a script, ready to whisper a helpful reminder if required!

Properties

Attention to detail when setting the scene can certainly bring life to a production. This is the aim of the props team. New members are welcome to join us with a view to becoming a props leader. To fulfil this, we are looking for volunteers who are organised, creative and who can deal with situations in a sensible and realistic manner. Commitment to shows and their rehearsal time is necessary. Working together we can create innovative and exciting productions.

Set Building

For this any DIY or trade experience would be useful, but definitely not necessary! A lot of the work involves carrying/moving theatre flats, steps, doors etc. And holding them while they are fixed in place. We have a workshop at the side of the stage with the materials and equipment that we need. There is always someone around, so you won't be asked to do any job or use any tools that you don't feel comfortable with. Generally, we build the sets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 10 am until 2 pm and Thursday evenings from 7 until 9 pm. All times are approximate and, of course, you can come and go at whatever time suits you within those time periods. So, if you could spare any time at all (even just the odd hour) we would appreciate it.

Set Painting

Set painters bring the set to life with their paintbrushes, whether it's a Victorian Drawing room or a street of terraced houses! You don't have to be Monet – anybody who can use a paintbrush is welcome and the ability to climb a step ladder is also useful. Set painters work during the day, usually the week before a play opens, generally between 10 am and 3 pm. Guidance will be provided along with frequent coffees and a lunch break – and you can stay for as long or as short as you like.

Stage Management

The role of the Stage Manager is to ensure the smooth running of a performance. You will enjoy this role if you are interested in all things theatrical; tactful when dealing with directors, actors and other members of the theatre; able to remain calm under pressure; able to recognise a team; be a good communicator; are mature and sensible in attitude – ideally over 18 years of age.

Sweet Sales

Sweets are sold prior to the start of the show and the interval, along with ice creams, during each performance. Sweet sellers are expected to be on duty from around 6.45 until after the interval, the time for which obviously varies.

Wardrobe

The wardrobe department supplies and constructs suitable costumes for every production. In addition, the department is responsible for cleaning, repairing and maintaining the existing costumes. Some heavy lifting can be required; however, any help is a benefit to support the department. The ability to sew is a bonus.

If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, please contact secretary@wiganlittletheatre.co.uk

Please note that you will be required to become a member of Wigan Little Theatre to take part in any production, in any capacity.