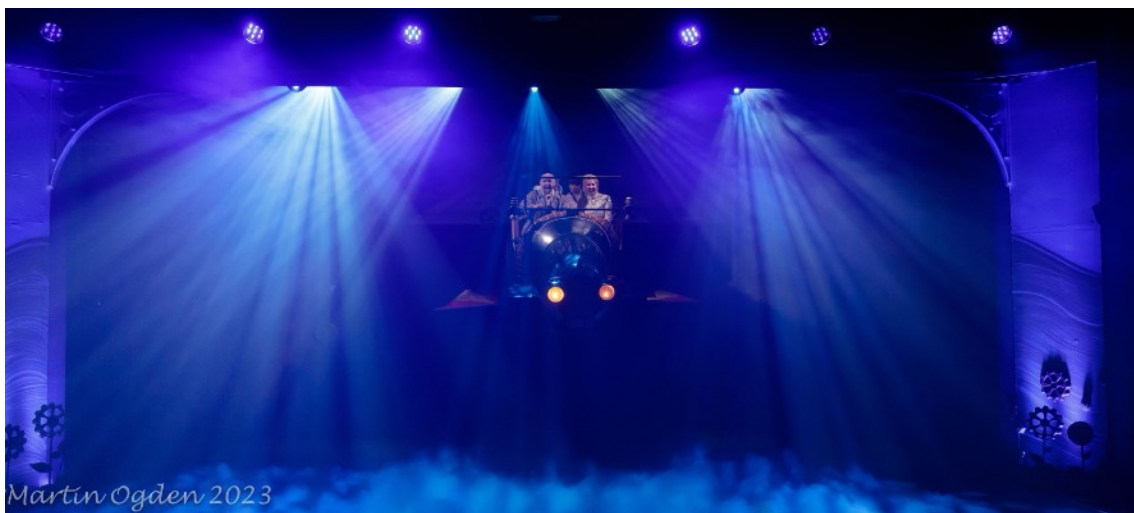


ALTRINCHAM GARRICK PLAYHOUSE

ACTOR'S GUIDE - 2024/2025 SEASON

altrincham garrick playhouse



Introduction

Welcome to the Actor's Guide for the 2024/ 2025 Season at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse.

You will find information about each production, important dates and character lists within this pack, and I hope it will help you to plan which production, or productions, you may wish to get involved with in the upcoming Season.

Once again, I have tried to create a Season that challenges and excites all of our current actors whilst appealing to new talent to join the theatre, as well as entertaining and enriching our ever expanding audience, and also a Season that ultimately will push the boundaries of the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse.

All productions will be cast from open auditions. Where possible, we are aiming to audition productions approximately two months before rehearsals begin, and details as well as an audition pack should be available about one month before the audition.

I have listed the audition and rehearsal dates for each production alongside character descriptions and ages but please keep in mind that these may change slightly, and at the moment this is a guide only.

As always, I would like to thank the Artistic and Casting Team for their continued support with casting and helping to organise this current Season and their valued contribution to the 2024/ 2025 Season. I would like to thank them for all their hard work, effort and commitment to the Theatre.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Best wishes,
Joseph Meighan
Artistic Director



Autumn/ Winter 2024

The History Boys
Jane Eyre
The Wizard of Oz
A Vicar of Dibley Christmas: The Second Coming
Jack and the Beanstalk
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

Spring/ Summer 2025

Oppenheimer
The Addams Family - Young@Part (GAPA)
The Worst Witch
Of Mice and Men
Vardy V Rooney: The Wagatha Christie Trial
Beautiful: The Carole King Musical

The Studio Season - A Series of Irish Stories

The Beauty Queen of Leenane
Waiting for Godot
A Man of No Importance
Little Gem
Translations

The History Boys

By Alan Bennett

Directed by Su Mowat

Monday 16th - Saturday 21st September 2024

(7.30pm each evening plus 2.30pm matinee on 21st September)

"Pass it on boys... that's the game I wanted you to learn... pass it on"

Set in the 1980's, **The History Boys** is the story of a group of bright, funny and unruly sixth-formers in pursuit of sex, sport and a place at university. Their maverick English teacher is at odds with the young and shrewd supply teacher, whilst their headmaster is obsessed with results and league tables. Staffroom rivalry and the anarchy of adolescence overflow, provoking not only universal questions about the nature of history and how it is taught but also questions about the purpose of education today.

Their A Levels may be over, but the real learning has just begun...

Celebrating its 20th Anniversary and hailed as "one of the finest plays Alan Bennett has ever written", **The History Boys** opened at the National Theatre in 2004 to rave reviews, a sell-out run and went on to become one of their biggest ever hits, winning over 30 major awards including the Olivier and Tony Awards for Best New Play. In a recent national survey this comic masterpiece was voted the nation's favourite play.

Auditions - Tuesday 11th June 2024

Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 11th August 2024

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

STAFF:

HECTOR: A man of studied eccentricity. He prides himself in not teaching to an exam, or any prescribed path. He teaches his students to learn by heart, driven by a belief in the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake. He is met with different reactions. He is known for allowing his emotions to effect his teaching. Playing age: 60

IRWIN: is a young history teacher, employed for his innovative approach to education. The antithesis of Hector, he believes that education is for now, and teaches an approach which subverts facts to find an original and interesting argument. He believes in presentation, and history as performance. Playing age: 25 - 35

MRS LINTOTT: is a 'traditional' History teacher, she gets excellent results, and does not allow her emotions to interfere with her teaching. She comments that as the only woman on the staff, she is often overlooked, and this clearly frustrates her. Playing age: 50 - 60

THE HEADMASTER: is a typical headmaster with authority, concerned with league tables, and getting students into Oxbridge. "Our fearless leader". His understanding of the arts is limited. Playing age: 50 - 60

STUDENTS:

DAKIN: is an attractive boy, who is very aware of it. Despite having both Posner and eventually Irwin interested in him, he is only interested in Fiona, the Headmaster's secretary. Nonetheless, he enjoys indulging Irwin's desires.

POSNER: is a quiet Jewish boy who loves singing, from show tunes to hymns and is in love with Dakin. Looks and is young for his age. He sings.

SCRIPPS: is currently predisposed with exploring his Christianity, is a budding writer, and often records events in his notebook. He is Posner's confident. Plays piano.

RUDGE: is a star rugby player whose ability surprises everyone. He finds Irwin's ways difficult due to his straightforward nature. Not as bright as the other boys.

AKTHAR: is happy to get involved in the class's testing of Irwin and is a Muslim.

CROWTHER: is a keen actor and friends with Lockwood.

TIMMS: is the joker of the pack and often subject to a whack from Hector as a result.

LOCKWOOD: is a shrewd film buff, interested in politics.

Jane Eyre
By Charlotte Brontë
Adapted by Polly Teale

Directed by Carole Carr

Monday 7th - Saturday 12th October 2024
(Matinee at 2.30pm 12th October)

As a child, the orphaned Jane Eyre is taught by a succession of severe guardians to stifle her natural exuberance. A part of herself is locked away, out of view of polite society... until she arrives at Rochester's house as a governess to his young child. Soon Rochester's passionate nature reawakens Jane's hidden self, but darker secrets are stirring in the attic...

A bold and theatrically inventive adaptation of the literary classic that puts the interior life of the novel on stage.

Charlotte Brontë's story of the trailblazing Jane Eyre is as inspiring as ever.

Auditions - Monday 8th July 2024
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 1st September 2024

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

Jane Eyre

Playing Age: 18 - 30

Bertha

Playing Age: 20s - 30s

A very physical role/ dancer/ strong mover

Rochester

Playing Age: 30+

John Reed

Saint John Rivers

Pilot, Rochester's Dog

Mrs Reed

Mrs Fairfax

Bessie

Blanche

Diana Rivers

Grace Poole

Mary Rivers

Teacher

Abigail

Helen

Adele

Woman

Girl in the Market

Brockelhurst

Lord Ingram

Richard Mason

Footman

Clergyman

There will also be a **Small Ensemble** playing other cameo roles and storytellers

The Wizard of Oz

By L. Frank Baum

Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen & E.Y Harburg

Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company

Based on the Classic Motion Picture by Turner Entertainment Company and
Warner Brothers

Directed by Joseph Meighan

Musical Direction by Andrew Saunders

Choreography by Emma Kay

Monday 28th October - Sunday 3rd November 2024

(Evening Performances at 7.30pm, Monday 28th Oct - Saturday 2nd Nov.

Matinee at 2.30pm - Saturday 2nd November

Matinee at 4pm - Sunday 3rd November)

Journey over the rainbow this October Half Term for an unforgettable family musical at the
Altrincham Garrick Playhouse!

Little Dorothy Gale from Kansas, like so many girls her age, dreams of what lies over the
rainbow.

After a freak tornado hits her quiet farmhouse home, she is whisked away to the magical
land of Oz! Now young Dorothy must follow the yellow brick road to meet the mighty
Wizard of Oz, who holds the power to take her home.

On the way she teams up with a Scarecrow, a Tin Woodsman and a Cowardly Lion, and
they all must avoid the clutches of the Wicked Witch of the West, who is trying to steal
the mysterious magic slippers that once belonged to her evil sister but are now on
Dorothy's feet.

Based on the 1939 MGM film, this stage classic features the well-loved songs *Merry Old
Land of Oz, We're Off to See the Wizard, Ding! Dong! The Witch is Dead* and of course
Somewhere Over The Rainbow.

Auditions - Principals - Tuesday 9th July

Auditions - Children / Adult Ensemble - Wednesday 10th July

Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 15th September

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays
(2pm - 5.30pm)

DOROTHY GALE

AUNT EM – Emily Gale / **GLINDA** – The Good Witch of the North

UNCLE HENRY – Henry Gale / **EMERALD CITY GUARD**

ZEKE – Farmhand / **COWARDLY LION**

HICKORY – Farmhand / **TINMAN**

HUNK – Farmhand / **SCARECROW**

MISS ALMIRA GULCH / THE WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST – non-singing role

PROFESSOR CHESTER MARVEL / THE WIZARD OF OZ – non-singing role

Ensemble/Chorus Roles:

CITIZENS OF MUNCHKINLAND

Mayor
Coroner
Barrister
The Lollipop Guild
The Lullaby League

Three Crows – male trio
Three Trees – female trio
Poppies – female chorus
Snowmen – male chorus

OZIANS

Beauticians – female chorus
Polishers – male chorus
Manicurists – female chorus
Ozians

Winkies – male chorus
Winkie General – Leader of the Winkies
Flying Monkeys – dancers
Nikko – Commander of the Monkeys
Jitterbug – Lead Dancer
Jitterbugs & Ghosts

A Vicar of Dibley Christmas: The Second Coming

A Stage Play by Ian Gower and Paul Carpenter adapted from the original TV series by Richard Curtis and Paul Mayhew-Archer.

Directed by Pete Brassington

Monday 18th - Saturday 23rd November 2024

(7.30pm each evening plus a 2.30pm matinee on 23rd November)

No, no, no, no, Yes! That's right... Following on from our recent smash hit production of "**The Vicar of Dibley**" in February 2024, the nations favourite chocolate loving Vicar and her beloved sidekicks are back!

When Hugo and Alice return from their honeymoon, Alice finds that she is putting on a little more than just holiday weight and she turns to the Vicar for advice!

Geraldine is still desperately trying to bring the Dibley Parish Council to some order. After the carnage of the Village Quiz and organising a week of 'Radio Dibley', the Vicar feels she may be living on a different planet.

Then just when things couldn't get any more bizarre in Dibley, Geraldine is flabbergasted when little verger Alice actually has a good idea!

Why not put on a Nativity? Why not indeed! What could possibly go wrong?

A Fantastically festive and belly-laughing production awaits at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse with **A Vicar of Dibley Christmas: The Second Coming!**

Auditions - N/A

Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 13th October

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

The Company from our February 2024 Cast have been offered to reprise their roles. If they are unavailable, we will then audition for those roles only.

REVEREND GERALDINE GRANGER

FRANK PICKLE

JIM TROTT

DAVID HORTON

HUGO HORTON

ALICE TINKER

OWEN NEWITT

LETITIA CROPLEY

THE VET

CHILDREN (aged 6 - 8 years old)

Jack and the Beanstalk

A Pantomime by Tom Whalley

Directed by Joseph Meighan
Musical Direction by Peter England
Choreography by Gemma Sales

6th December 2024 - 5th January 2025

Performance Schedule:

Friday 6th December - 7.30pm
Saturday 7th December - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Sunday 8th December - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Thursday 12th December - 7.30pm
Friday 13th December - 7.30pm
Saturday 14th December - 1.30pm (Relaxed Performance)
Saturday 14th December - 5.30pm
Sunday 15th December - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Thursday 19th December - 7.30pm
Friday 20th December - 7.30pm
Saturday 21st December - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Sunday 22nd December - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Monday 23rd December - 7.30pm
Friday 27th December - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Saturday 28th December - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Sunday 29th December - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Monday 30th December - 7.30pm
Tuesday 31st December - 1.30pm
Friday 3rd January - 7.30pm
Saturday 4th January - 1.30pm & 5.30pm
Sunday 5th January - 1.30pm & 5.30pm

Young Jack, his daft-as-a-brush brother, Silly Simon, and his long-suffering mother, Dame Trott, live in a tiny cottage in the shadow of the terrible giant, Blunderbore. With the rent overdue they have no choice but to sell their beloved cow, Daisy. After tricking the Trotts into selling her for a bag of worthless beans, the villainous giant's henchman – Fleshcreep - kidnaps the Princess for his master's supper.

Will Jack be able to rescue Daisy and Princess Jill in time? Perhaps those beans aren't as worthless as they seemed ...

Expect laughs, music, dance, special effects, dazzling costumes, stunning sets, magic beans and bundles of audience participation at the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse!

Auditions (Principals) - Tuesday 10th September 2024

Auditions (Ensemble) - Tuesday 17th September 2024

Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 27th October

FLESHCREEP

The villainous henchman. Servant to Giant Blunderbore.

MOTHER NATURE

A magical spirit!

PRINCESS JILL

The beautiful Princess. Sweet but feisty.

SILLY SIMON

The loveable comic. Not the brightest bulb on the Christmas tree...

DAME TROTT

The outrageous Dame. Mother to Jack and Silly Simon

JACK TROTT

The eponymous hero of the story.

KING EDWARD

Ruler of all Vegtaville. Father to Princess Jill. Vertically challenged.

PAT THE COW

THE GOBLIN

GIANT BLUNDERBORE

ADULT ENSEMBLE / DANCERS

YOUNG ENSEMBLE

(Aged 8 - 16)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

Adapted for the Stage by Simon Stephens
Based on the Novel by Mark Haddon

Directed by Joseph Meighan

Monday 3rd - Saturday 8th February 2025
(Matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday 8th February)

Christopher, fifteen years old, stands beside Mrs Shears' dead dog. It has been speared with a garden fork, it is seven minutes after midnight, and Christopher is under suspicion.

He records each fact in the book he is writing to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington. He has an extraordinary brain and is exceptional at maths, but he is ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. He has never ventured alone beyond the end of his road, he detests being touched, and he distrusts strangers. But Christopher's detective work, forbidden by his father, takes him on a frightening journey that turns his world upside-down.

Simon Stephens' adaptation of Mark Haddon's bestselling, award-winning novel, ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*** offers a richly theatrical exploration of this touching and bleakly humorous tale.

This production is performed by **THE GARRICK ENSEMBLE**.

The Garrick Ensemble is a company of 18 – 30 year old aspiring actors from Greater Manchester and Cheshire who perform one production each year as part of the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse Main House Season. The production will be directed by Artistic Director Joseph Meighan.

The Garrick Ensemble aims to make theatre that is fresh, innovative and exciting. See the very best of local, up and coming talent before they move forward in the next stages of their careers in the Arts.

Auditions - Tuesday 8th October

Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 15th December
(Breaks over Christmas period)

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

Christopher: Christopher is particularly adept at math and space, but finds people confusing. He is searching for the killer of his neighbour's dog, Wellington. Christopher is an autistic person who is exploring his place in the world as he seeks to solve the mystery of Wellington's death. Actors with autism are encouraged to audition.

Siobhan: Christopher's teacher. Warm and encouraging, Siobhan sometimes acts as narrator and sometimes acts as a calming voice in Christopher's head.

Ed: Christopher's father. A determined, patient and caring, but stubborn parent. He is harbouring two huge lies that cause the breakdown of his relationship with his son.

Judy: Christopher's mother. She had an affair and left her family when she couldn't cope with Christopher's behaviour and the strain it put on her marriage, although she is honest and open about her shortcomings as a parent.

Actor One: Mrs. Shears (the wife of the man Judy is having an affair with), Mrs. Gascoyne, Woman on Train, Shopkeeper, Voice One

Actor Two: Roger Shears (the man Judy had an affair with and is living with), Duty Sergeant, Mr. Wise, Man Behind Counter, Drunk One, Voice Two

Actor Three: Policeman, Mr. Thompson, Drunk Two, Man with Socks, London Policeman, Voice Three

Actor Four: Reverend Peters, Uncle Terry, Station Policeman, Station Guard, Voice Four

Actor Five: No. 40, Lady in Street, Information, Punk Girl, Voice Five

Actor Six: Mrs. Alexander (an elderly neighbour who, although a gossip, is kind to Christopher. She reveals a dark secret to Christopher that sets his journey in motion), Posh Woman, Voice Six

Movement will play a big part in the story telling and all actors will practically be present throughout.

Oppenheimer

By Tom Morton-Smith

Directed by John Cunningham
Associate Direction by Carole Carr

Monday 24th February - Saturday 1st March 2025

1939: fascism spreads across Europe, Franco marches on Barcelona and two German chemists discover the processes of atomic fission. In Berkeley, California, theoretical physicists recognise the horrendous potential of this new science: a weapon that draws its power from the very building blocks of the universe.

Struggling to cast off his radical past and thrust into a position of power and authority, the charismatic J Robert Oppenheimer races to win the 'battle of the laboratories' and create a weapon so devastating that it would bring about an end not just to the Second World War but to all war.

Originally written for the RSC in 2015, Tom Morton-Smith's play takes us into the heart of science, politics and humanity clashing in the propulsive story of the Manhattan Project and the development of the world's first nuclear bombs.

Auditions - Tuesday 19th November 2024
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 5th January 2025

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

**Edward Teller
Haakon Chevalier
Richard Feynman
Joe Weinberg
Tibbets
Kenneth Nichols
Ruth Tolman
Waitress
Jackie Oppenheimer
Charlotte Serber
General Leslie Groves
Frank Oppenheimer
Soldier 2
Klaus Fuchs
Richard Harrison
Soldier 1
Military Policeman
J Robert Oppenheimer
Robert Wilson
Giovanni Rossi Lomanitz
Captain Peer Da Silva
Hans Bethe
Kitty Puening Harrison
Jean Tatlock
Luis Alvarez
Doctor
Military Policeman
Bob Serber
Einstein
Little Boy**

The Worst Witch

Adapted from Jill Murphy's original books by Emma Reeves
With Music by Luke Potter

Directed by Kay Valentine

4th - 17th April 2025

Performance Schedule:

Friday 4th April – 7.30pm

Saturday 5th April – 1.30pm & 5.30pm

Sunday 6th April – 1.30pm & 5.30pm

Wednesday 9th April – 7.30pm

Thursday 10th April – 7.30pm

Friday 11th April – 7.30pm

Saturday 12th April – 1.30pm & 5.30pm

Sunday 13th April – 1.30pm & 5.30pm

Wednesday 16th April – 7.30pm

Thursday 17th April – 7.30pm

Before **Harry Potter** exploded onto the scene there was another seemingly ordinary child, Mildred Hubble, who wound up in the most extraordinary of places... A school for witches! Now its time for you to join the world of magic and mayhem at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse this Easter Holiday!

Currently in her final year at Miss Cackle's Academy, accident prone Mildred and her fellow pupils are about to embark on their biggest adventure yet...

When Mildred and her friends decide to put on a play about their experiences as witches in training, mayhem inevitably ensues. Jealous Ethel Hallow is always out to spoil Mildred's fun. Stern Miss Hardbroom is opposed to all fun in general. Worst of all, an old enemy returns with a plan for revenge that could threaten not just the Academy, but the whole world.

Featuring all of Jill Murphy's beloved characters, this action-packed new stage adaptation by Emma Reeves includes original music, magic and a dose of Mildred's unique brand of utter pandemonium!

The Worst Witch premiered at Royal & Derngate, Northampton in 2019 and toured the UK before transferring to London's West End later that year. The production then went on to win the Olivier Award for Best Family Show in 2020!

Auditions - Tuesday 7th January 2025

Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 16th February 2025

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

Miss Ada Cackle/Agatha Cackle

Headmistress of the Academy/ Miss Cackle's evil twin sister!

Miss Hecate Hardbroom

School Mistress

Mildred Hubble

Our hero!

Maud Spellbody

A natural born leader

Enid Nightshade

Sassy, cheeky and not afraid to stand up to anyone!

Ethel Hallow

Extremely neat, but when she doesn't get her own way, jealousy comes out!

Miss Drill

PE Teacher

Miss Bat

Fenella Feverfew

Drusilla Paddock

Of Mice and Men

Written by John Steinbeck

Directed by Joseph Meighan

Thursday 8th - Sunday 18th May 2025

Performance Schedule:

Thursday 8th May – 7.30pm
Friday 9th May – 7.30pm
Saturday 10th May – 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Sunday 11th May – 4pm

Wednesday 14th May – 7.30pm
Thursday 15th May – 7.30pm
Friday 16th May – 7.30pm
Saturday 17th May – 7.30pm
Sunday 18th May – 4pm

“Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world. They got no family. They don't belong no place...with us it ain't like that. We got a future. We got somebody to talk to that gives a damn about us.”

George and Lennie are migrants with a dream; a dream of a better life, a place where they can belong, where Lennie feels safe and George can be somebody. But this is the Great Depression, not many dreams come true in a time where a few have plenty but most have nothing. When the friends take a job on Curly's farm, tragedy unfolds leading to a heart-breaking decision.

John Steinbeck's classic novel is more than 80 years old, but with themes of economic migration, racism, prejudice and exclusion it remains a parable for our times.

A story of enduring friendship and hope.

Auditions - Tuesday 11th February
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 30th March

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

George Milton

A small, quick-witted man who is Lennie's de facto guardian, traveling companion, fellow ranch hand, and best friend. Although he frequently complains about his caretaking responsibilities, he is obviously devoted to and protective of Lennie.

Lennie Small

A physically imposing, lumbering, and clumsy childlike man, also a migrant worker along with his friend and companion George. His mental disability means that he is almost entirely reliant upon George for guidance and protection, however Lennie looks up to his pal with a combination of awe, respect, and love. He is gentle and kind, but he has no conception of his own strength, which gets him into trouble.

Candy

An aging ranch handyman, Candy lost his hand in an accident some time ago. He worries about his future on the ranch and fears the arrival of the day when his age will make him useless to others. Candy has an ancient dog he loves dearly.

The Boss

The Boss is a stocky and well-dressed man in charge of the ranch George and Lennie land at. He is also Curley's father. He is stern but fair-minded employer. He makes only one appearance on stage.

Curley

The Boss' son: a young, impetuous, and combative character. He obviously has several chips on his shoulder, many of them regarding his newly acquired wife of two weeks and the way the other ranch hands look at her. His jealousy and frequent losses of temper serve to accentuate his essential pettiness - and his inadequacies.

Curley's Wife

Only known throughout the whole play by her relationship to her new husband Curley and a string of unpleasant epithets from the ranch hands, she is a victim of time and place. Young, pretty, and isolated as the only woman in the play, she is, like many of the ranch hands, desperately lonely and has broken dreams of a different life.

Slim

The consummate ranch hand and the main driver of the mule team, Slim is called the "prince of the ranch." And for good reason - he is tall, good looking, strong, and greatly respected by the other characters for his physical abilities around the ranch as well as his treatment of the other workers.

Carlson

Another one of the ranch hands, he is a thick-bodied man who constantly complains about the smell of Curley's old dog. Carlson is a simple man who enjoys simple pleasures, but he has little sympathy for Curley when convinced to let him take the dog out back and shoot it.

Whit

Another one of the ranch hands, noted as a youngish labourer. He is amiable and good-natured, but a bit of a pushover. He and Carlson are in company together for much of the

play, though when it comes down to it he is the only one who takes Candy's side over the killing of the dog - but only for a moment before resigning himself to the group's will.

Crooks

The proud, bitter, and somewhat cynical black stable-hand, Crooks gets his name, it is indicated in the script, from his crooked back. He lives by himself and is largely shunned by the other ranch hands - and he actively shuns them back, regarding any offers of kindness with suspicion. This bitterness stems from a combination of loneliness and the extremely pervasive, casual prejudices held by the country at the time this story takes place.

VARDY V ROONEY: The Wagatha Christie Trial

Adapted by Liz Hennessey

Directed by Dan Ellis

Monday 2nd - Saturday 7th June 2025

A story stranger than fiction that blurs the boundaries of tabloid scoop, court case and soap opera, ***The Wagatha Christie Trial*** explores privacy and celebrity in modern Britain.

On 9 October 2019, Coleen Rooney publicly accused Rebekah Vardy of selling stories about her to The Sun. The four words "It's..... Rebekah Vardy's account" sent shockwaves across British and global press. Nobody could have expected the social media scandal to grow so large.

On 10 May 2022, the "Wagatha Christie" trial commenced. Over seven days, the libel court case saw Vardy and Rooney remark on each other's lives, with much of it documented heavily in the press.

Only a handful of people witnessed what happened behind the closed doors of this footballers' wives drama and now you can too in this hilarious (and slightly tacky) court room comedy!

You'll be on the edge of your seat as you relive the high-profile case, filled with drama, intrigue, and scandal.

Vardy V Rooney: The Wagatha Christie Trial was first performed at the Wyndham's Theatre in the West End in 2022 before a UK and Ireland tour.

Auditions - Tuesday 25th February
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 27th April

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

COLEEN ROONEY

Female
Late 20s/ Early 30s

Married to Liverpoolian Footballer Wayne Rooney

REBEKAH VARDY

Female
Mid - Late 30s

Married to Footballer Jamie Vardy

PUNDIT 1 – called JEFF – also JAMIE VARDY/WAYNE ROONEY

Male

PUNDIT 2 – called JEM – also HARPREET ROBERTSON/CAROLINE WATT

Female

HUGH TOMLINSON QC

Male

DAVID SHERBORNE

Male

MRS JUSTICE STEYN

Female

BEAUTIFUL: The Carole King Musical
Book by Douglas McGrath
Words and Music by Gerry Goffin & Carole King
and Barry Mann & Cynthia Weil

Directed by Joseph Meighan
Musical Direction by Mark Goggins

Monday 23rd - Sunday 29th June 2025
(Evenings at 7.30pm, 23rd - 28th June
Matinee at 2.30pm, 28th June
Matinee at 5pm, 29th June)

Before she was hit-maker Carole King — she was Carole Klein, a spunky, young songwriter from Brooklyn with a unique voice.

Telling the inspiring true story of King's remarkable rise to stardom, the chart-topping hits she wrote for the biggest acts in music with her husband Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to her own life-changing, trailblazing success with *Tapestry*, ***Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*** takes you back to where it all began — and takes you on the ride of a lifetime!

Along the way, she wrote the soundtrack to a generation, with countless classics such as "You've Got a Friend", "One Fine Day", "So Far Away", "Take Good Care of My Baby", "Up on the Roof", "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling", "The Loco-Motion", "It's Too Late", "Will You Love Me Tomorrow", and "(You Make Me Feel like a) Natural Woman", this Tony® and Grammy® Award-winning musical phenomenon is filled with the songs you remember and a story you'll never forget.

Auditions - Sunday 16th March 2025
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 11th May 2025

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

Carole King

An aspiring singer/songwriter. A unique, appealing, funny and vulnerable girl from a Jewish family in Brooklyn. Talented, good natured, unassuming and often the peace maker in difficult situations. A reluctant star with no pretence and a passion for music.

Gender: Female
Age: 18 to 30

Gerry Goffin

Carole's boyfriend, songwriting partner and eventual husband. Innately sympathetic, wounded and tortured. An ambitious artist always striving for more.

Gender: Male
Age: 18 to 30

Barry Mann

A songwriter who becomes romantically involved with Cynthia. He is good natured, appealing & neurotic. Ambitious, but likeable.

Gender: Male
Age: 18 to 30

Cynthia Weil

A songwriter who becomes romantically involved with Barry. Carole's best friend. She is sophisticated, smart & chic with a quick wit. Although self-confident and sarcastic, she is also extremely likeable.

Gender: Female
Age: 18 to 30

Don Kirschner

An influential music publisher and producer. He is a fast talking, energetic force of nature. Powerful, direct & sometimes intimidating, but he has a real affinity for his writers and artists. A hit maker.

Gender: Male
Age: 40 to 60

Genie Klein

Carole's Jewish mother. Once an aspiring playwright, she has been broken down by life & her husband's infidelity. Protective of Carole and unforgiving of her husband's mistakes.

Gender: Female
Age: 40 to 50

Neil Sedaka

A singer-songwriter

Gender: Male

Nick

A musician.

Gender: Male

Janelle Woods

A singer.

Gender: Female

Marilyn Wald

A singer

Gender: Female

Lou Adler

A record producer and music executive.

Gender: Male

Bobby Vee

A singer

Gender: Male

The Drifters

The doo-wop group The Drifters

Gender: Male

The Shirelles

Member of pop group The Shirelles

Gender: Female

The Righteous Brother

The Righteous Brothers duo

Gender: Male

Lucille

Don Kirshner's secretary

Gender: Female

Betty

Carole King's childhood friend.

Gender: Female

Little Eva

A pop singer

Gender: Female

altrincham
garrick
studio

Altrincham Garrick Studio Season 24/25

A Series of Irish Stories

The Beauty Queen of Leenane

Written by Martin McDonagh

Directed by Mark Goggins

Tuesday 1st - Sunday 6th October 2024
Altrincham Garrick Studio

“Sometimes I dream... of anything! Of anything. Other than this.”

In the mountains of Connemara, County Galway, Maureen Folan – a plain, lonely woman, tied to her manipulative and ageing mother, Mag – comes alive at her first and possibly last prospect of a new life. But Mag has other ideas; and her interference sets in motion a train of events that leads inexorably towards the play’s breathtaking conclusion.

The Beauty Queen of Leenane is one of playwright Martin McDonagh’s (*Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri, The Lieutenant of Inishmore*) finest achievements. Winner of four Tony Awards on Broadway and nominated for an Olivier Award, the play conjures up the unbearable tension and loneliness of an isolated.

A dark, comedic, thriller.

Warning: This production includes scenes of violence, cruelty and strong language. The production also contains sexual references and themes of loneliness, abuse and mental health.

Auditions - Tuesday 2nd July 2024
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 25th August 2024

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

Maureen

Age: 40s

An unmarried woman living in Leenane, Ireland. Maureen is written to be in her 40s and takes care of Mag, her mother. Maureen is the protagonist. Must be willing to be onstage in a slip or similar lingerie for one scene. Requires broad emotional range. (Mother and daughter share a turbulent and unhealthy relationship)

Mags

Age: 70s

A very difficult older woman of poor health who is cared for by Maureen, her daughter. She is not good hearted. (Mother and daughter share a turbulent and unhealthy relationship)

Pato Dooley

Age: 40s

An acquaintance of Maureen's. They have similar backgrounds, and Maureen and Pato hook up after a party.

Ray Dooley

Age: 20s

Pato's younger brother.

Waiting for Godot

Written by Samuel Beckett

Directed by Celia Bonner

Tuesday 21st - Sunday 26th January 2025
Altrincham Garrick Studio

Two wandering tramps, Vladimir and Estragon, wait by a lonely tree, to meet up with Mr. Godot, an enigmatic figure in a world where time, place and memory are blurred and meaning is where you find it.

The tramps hope that Godot will change their lives for the better. Instead, two eccentric travellers arrive, one man on the end of the other's rope. The results are both funny and dangerous in this existential masterpiece.

When Samuel Beckett's play exploded on to the London stage in 1953, it shocked as many people as it delighted. There had never been a play like it; indeed it was said that: "Beckett has achieved a theoretical impossibility—a play in which nothing happens, that yet keeps audiences glued to their seats."

Today, ***Waiting for Godot*** is accepted as one of the most significant plays of the 20th century.

Auditions - Tuesday 15th October 2024
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 8th December 2024

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

VLADIMIR (DIDI)

The more responsible and mature of the two wandering tramps.

Age: 40 - 60

ESTRAGON (GOGO)

Seems weak and helpless, always looking for Vladimir's protection. He also has a poor memory.

Age: 40 - 60

POZZO

A wealthy and large passerby.

Age: 20 - 50

LUCKY

Pozzo's slave, who carries Pozzo's bags and stool.

Age: 20 - 50

BOY

A child, supposedly in the employ of Mr. Godot.

A Man of No Importance

Music by Stephen Flaherty

Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Book by Terrence McNally

Directed by Barry Purves

Tuesday 25th - Sunday 30th March 2025

Altrincham Garrick Studio

In Dublin in 1964, bus conductor and Oscar Wilde fan Alfie has ambitions to stage *Salome*, despite the objections of the church hierarchy at St Imelda's, where his amateur theatre group is based. When a newcomer to town, Adele, joins his passengers, he realises he has found the right person for the title role and starts to assemble his cast.

Meanwhile Alfie's sister Lily mistakes her brother's interest in Adele as romantic - she longs to have him off her hands so she can be free to marry. Little does Lily realise that Alfie's love "dare not speak its name" and the object of his affections is in fact bus driver Robbie.

As opening night draws near, secrets come spilling out which threaten to shake this little community to its core. But camaraderie and the redeeming power of theatre offer a thread of hope in this story of friendship, forbidden love and finding our place in the world.

Winner of the 2003 Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, ***A Man Of No Importance*** is the second successful collaboration by the team of Terrence McNally, Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, all of whom won Tony Awards for ***Ragtime***.

Auditions - Tuesday 26th November 2024

Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 9th February 2025

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

Adele

Female

18 - 25

A girl new to Alfie's bus route who he thinks will be perfect for his play. She is a young, sweet, "small-town" girl who is wise beyond her years.

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: C4

Alfie

Male

35 - 45

Average looks and build, he is a dreamer who idolises Oscar Wilde. He is in love with Robbie but wrestles with his sexuality throughout the story.

Vocal range top: E4

Vocal range bottom: A2

Baldy

Male

50 - 70

Also known as James Michael O'Shea, he is the resident stage manager at St. Imelda's. He lost his wife early in life.

Vocal range top: G4

Vocal range bottom: B2

Breton Beret

Male

20 - 35

Seduces Alfie in order to beat him up for being gay.

Vocal range top: C4

Vocal range bottom: A2

Carney

Male

45 - 60

The local butcher who is the usual star of Alfie's productions and boasts an ego about it. The most socially and morally conservative member of the community.

Vocal range top: G4

Vocal range bottom: A2

Ernie Lally

Male

25 - 40

The company set designer.

Vocal range top: G4

Vocal range bottom: B2

Father Kenny

Male

Lily Byrne

Female

40 - 50

Alfie's sister who cares deeply for him, but finds him odd. She is socially and morally conservative.

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: E3

Miss Crowe

Female

40 - 60

The company costume designer.

Vocal range top: A5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Mrs. Curtin	Female	30 - 40
An actor in the company and the choreographer.		
Vocal range top: D5		
Vocal range bottom: A3		
Mrs. Grace	Female	
Mrs. Patrick	Female	35 - 45
Robbie's married lover and the mother of three children.		
Vocal range top: E5		
Vocal range bottom: G3		
Oscar Wilde	Male	
Peter	Male	
Rasher Flynn	Male	25 - 35
The company technician.		
Vocal range top: E4		
Vocal range bottom: A2		
Robbie	Male	20 - 35
Alfie's coworker and closest friend. He is charming, honest and likeable.		
Vocal range top: A4		
Vocal range bottom: C3		
Sully O'hara		

Little Gem

Written by Elaine Murphy

Directed by - To Be Announced

Tuesday 29th April - Sunday 4th May 2025
Altrincham Garrick Studio

Love, sex, birth, death and salsa classes. Three generations of women. One extraordinary year.

Happy-go-lucky Amber, fresh out of school, is high on life, double sambucas and boyfriend Paul. That is until the fierce indigestion starts. Lorraine attacks a customer and her boss wants her to see a psychiatrist. She is told to do one nice thing for herself each week, so she starts by signing up for Salsa classes. Meanwhile, Kay is finding life on the wrong side of sixty frustrating. Ailing husband Gem doesn't like the neighbours coming in to "mind" him, and she's missing more than just his conversation. And if all that wasn't bad enough, Little Gem makes his presence felt and – well – life is never the same again.

Elaine Murphy's play ***Little Gem*** was first staged by Guna Nua and Civic Theatre, Tallaght, in 2008, then at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, in 2009. It won the Carol Tambor Best of Edinburgh Award, the BBC Northern Ireland Drama Award in Association with the Stewart Parker Trust, and the Fishamble Award for Best New Irish Writing.

Auditions - Tuesday 28th January 2025
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 16th March 2025

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

AMBER

18/ 19 Years Old

LORRAINE

Late 30/ Early 40s

KAY

Early/ Mid 60s

Translations

Written by Brian Friel

Directed by Charlie Tomlinson

Tuesday 10th - Sunday 15th June 2025
Altrincham Garrick Studio

It's August 1833. The pupils have gathered in a hedge-school in the townland of Baile Beag/Ballybeg; an Irish-speaking community in County Donegal which has become the unlikely focal point for a changing world.

Progress is coming. Tensions are growing. There are plans for a new English-speaking national school and a recently arrived detachment of the Royal Engineers are making the first Ordnance Survey. For the purposes of cartography, the local Gaelic place names are to be recorded and rendered into English...

Brian Friel's modern masterpiece ***Translations*** examines the fractious relationship between people and nations through the lens of language and (mis)communication.

This play appears on the recommended Secondary School Reading List.

Auditions - Tuesday 11th March 2025
Rehearsal Start Date - Sunday 4th May 2025

Rehearsals will take on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7.30pm - 10pm) and Sundays (2pm - 5.30pm)

Owen - Male

Son to Hugh; Brother to Manus. He is the primary character who is torn between the obvious necessity of progress and his unwillingness to see the land he grew up in and the people he loves get erased to make progress happen.

Lieutenant Yolland - Male

He is the romantic. He is English, and works for them, but he is a “Hibernophile,” or someone who is in love with the mysticism and lore of Ireland. He falls for Maire.

Manus - Male

Son to Hugh; Brother to Owen. He is stuck in a difficult position to want to make a life for himself, but not abandon or step over his father to get there. He has romantic feelings for Maire, but knows she won't consider him seriously until he's made something of himself.

Maire - Female

She seems set on learning English and heading to America because that's where she feels she'll be free from a life that will keep her down. She cares for Manus, but doesn't want to commit to someone with no prospects. She then is attracted to Yolland, who has position, and speaks English.

Hugh - Male

60. A smart, nostalgic man who has made a career out of drinking and teaching the locals. He lacks vision, but teaches the past very well. He is sure of himself, and even more sure when he has many drinks in him.

Jimmy Jack - Male

60. A human encyclopaedia on Greek mythology. Can recite whole portions of Horace, Ovid, or Homer from memory. He lives half in this world loving mythology and scaring away young girls, and half in the world of myth, trying to find a cure for a life of alcoholism and loneliness.

Captain Lancey - Male

The cold, calculated official in charge of England's renaming campaign in Ireland. He tries to be civil, but it's clear that he's trying (not succeeding). His true nature is in getting things done, and letting people know who is in charge, and who's under the boot.

Sarah - Female

She communicates well with people, though she has a speech impediment which renders her virtually incapable of speaking. She uses non-verbal communication primarily to pass information along. She's warm, good-natured, and in love with Manus, though she can't tell him.

Bridget - Female

Town gossip, and spitfire! She has a natural inclination toward mischievous behaviour, and then telling in great detail and with great vigor “exactly what happened.” She is habitually partnered with her alter-ego, Doalty.

Doalty - Male or Female

A practical joker and general shenanigan-organiser. He/she can't do math, or translate Latin, but can surely make fun of people and mess with the English's campaign. He/she

sees himself/herself as an iconoclast (a revolutionary), when really, he's/she's more like the lovable village idiot.

altrincham
garrick
playhouse