



COURTYARD THEATRE

CHIPSTEAD PLAYERS

AUDITION NOTICE

It's A Wonderful Life

Based on the film, adapted by Mary Elliott Nelson

- Read through:** Tuesday 16th July 7.30pm – in the Rehearsal Room
- Auditions:** Thursday 25th July 7.30pm and Sunday 28th July 6pm – in the Rehearsal Room
- Rehearsals:** Mondays and Thursdays from 23rd September 7.30-9.30pm, plus Sundays 2-5pm from 24th November. (No rehearsals on the Monday/Thursday Christmas week or New Year)
- Performances:** **8th-12th and 15th-18th January 2025**
Matinees - 11th, 12th and 18th January at 2pm
Evening Shows – 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th at 7:30pm
- Director:** Paul Falconer - paulfalconer8@gmail.com (07981 381463)
- PA:** Britt Adams – britt.adams@btinternet.com (07941 532558)

Synopsis:

Christmas Eve, 1945, Bedford Falls, New York. Down-on-his-luck banker George Bailey feels life has passed him by, and he's at the end of his rope. But when George's guardian angel pays him a visit, he's amazed to discover what life in his beloved town would be like without him. Maybe it's a wonderful life, after all?

Based on the critically acclaimed 1946 Frank Capra movie, Mary Elliott Nelson's reimagining is a joyful story of love, hope and community.

There are a number of other smaller adult parts which will be doubled/tripled so the final cast number is flexible. There will be a small amount of singing in this show but you won't need to sing for the auditions. All characters need to have American accents.

Characters and Audition Pieces:

George Bailey (Playing Age 20-40) The central figure, famously played by James Stewart in the film. The play sees most of the characters age with scenes between 1928 and 1945.

P17 "Hee-haw" to p20 "You bet"

P24 "Oh no don't" to p24 "I'll take it. And then what?"

Harry Bailey (Playing Age 18-35) George's younger brother goes off to College while George has to stay and run the bank. Harry goes off to war and comes home as a war hero.

P32 "Great, George" to p33 "meet the wife."

Sam Wainwright (Playing Age 20-40) Enthusiastic friend of George.

P17 "Hee-haw" to p20 "You bet"

Bert (Playing Age 35-60) – The friendly local policeman. Some singing.

P43 "It just had to rain.." to "This is what I wished for" and sing "I love you truly"

Mr Potter (Playing Age 60-70) – The evil businessman who is trying to ruin the Buildings and Loan. In the alternative world where George didn't exist Bedford Falls becomes Pottersville. A wonderful character part that everyone should hate.

P26 "Wait for what?" to p26 "Now I say"

Mr Gower (Playing Age 55-65) – The alcoholic drug store owner who George works for. George stops Mr Gower from putting poison in a medicine bottle by mistake.

P16 "Take these" to p17 "And he never did, he never told a soul, Help him tonight, Lord."

Angel Joseph (Playing Age 40-70) – One of two angels who appoint George's Guardian Angel.

p9 – "George again? to p10 "Well, yes, I suppose"

Mary Hatch / Bailey (Playing Age 18-40) Becomes George's wife.

P17 "Hee-haw" to p20 "You bet"

P24 "Oh no don't" to p24 "I'll take it. And then what?"

Violet Bick (Playing Age 18-40) Attractive woman noticed by all the men in town.

P19 "Good afternoon, Mr Bailey" to "...don't care how I look"

Angel Gloria (Playing Age 40-70) – One of two angels who appoint George's Guardian Angel.

P9 – "George again? to p10 "Well, yes, I suppose"

Male or Female Roles:

Clarissa (or Clarence) (George's Guardian Angel. Playing Age – Any) In the film, the angel is Clarence but the play version has changed this to Clarissa. They narrate the story showing George back over his life and what would have happened if he hadn't existed.

P9 "George again? to p10 "Well, yes, I suppose"

P58 "What are you, a mind reader or something" to p59 "All right, you've got your wish. You've never been born".

Uncle Billy (Or Aunt Dilly – Playing Age 55-70) Carelessly loses a large amount of money from the building society when he hands over a newspaper to Mr Potter. A loveable character. Has been changed into a female role in previous productions.

P48 "Great? Everything's great this morning!" to p49 "George is gonna be so mad at me"

Mr Martini (Or Mrs Martini - Playing Age 35-55) – Owner of the bar. Italian. George has given him a loan to buy a house.

P56 "Why you drink so much, my friend?" to p57 "Please don't go...please..."

Children's Roles:

George Bailey (Playing Age 12). The central character as a child.

P16 "My ear... You're hurting my sore ear" to P17 "Hope to die, I won't."

Harry Bailey (Playing Age 9) George's younger brother.

P11 "Look at me, Georgie" to P12 "Hot dog"

Sam Wainwright (Playing Age 12) George's friend.

P11 "Look at me, Georgie" to P12 "Hot dog"

Mary Hatch (Playing Age 10) A quiet girl who later becomes George's wife.

P14 "Hello George" to P15 "He only had the one, Mother says."

Violet Bick (Playing Age 12) A confident, pretty girl who likes George.

P13 "Hello George" to P14 "Bye, bye, Georgie"