

**Press Release PR355**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Open Auditions for The Crucible**

Banbury Cross Players announce Open Auditions for their forthcoming production of Arthur Miller's challenging play, "The Crucible".

Focussing on the fate of those caught up in the persecution surrounding the 1692 Salem witch trials and originally reflecting Senator McCarthy's hunt for Communists in 1950s America, its meaning (says Miller) "is somewhat different in different places and moments". Director, Chrissie Garrett's vision centres on the themes of hysteria, fear of differences, and hunting out those who think differently, staging the play in modern dress and in a timeless fashion.

Roles available are as follows:

John Proctor	Sinner; guilty about his affair; strong complex character; respected farmer with short temper, central figure (40-60 yrs)
Reverend Hale	Minister; initially full of conviction and authority, determined to pursue witchcraft but ending the play with sympathy for the accused (any age)
Reverend Parris	Selfish, concerned with power and position; not a spiritual man (any age)
Danforth	Deputy Governor; powerful character- judge, jury and executioner (any age)
Giles Corey	Brave, loyal, and shows moral courage in the face of torture and accusations (40+ yrs)
Thomas Putnam	Bitter, vindictive, narrow-minded, bearing grievances against the people of Salem (40-60 yrs)
Abigail Williams	Strong, manipulative, arrogant, quick witted, dominant and very attractive (16-18 yrs)
Elizabeth Proctor	Fiercely loyal wife, calm, unshakable religious belief; cold initially but changes to show love and compassion (40-60 yrs)
Mary Warren	Serving girl, easily influenced, subservient, lonely, afraid of Abigail, tries to stand up for herself (16-18 yrs)
Rebecca Nurse	Strong character with moral courage, almost saintly (70 yrs)
Mrs Putnam	Narrow minded, bitter, vindictive and petty minded (40-60 yrs)

There is an excellent opportunity for four younger actresses (16-20 yrs) to play the roles of Betty, Susanna, Mercy, and the important role of Tituba the slave.

Other smaller/doubled male and female parts are also available.

There will be a read through at The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury on 7 June 2016 at 8pm – all welcome. Open Auditions are on Thursday 30 June 2016, 7.30pm, also at The Mill Arts Centre.

Performance dates are 2-5 November 2016 at The Mill Arts Centre. You do not have to be a member to audition but will be required to join if cast. Rehearsals will be on Monday and Wednesday evenings, commencing 1 August 2016 (consideration will be given for holidays already booked).

For further information (or if you are interested but cannot attend the above audition) please contact Director, Chrissie Garrett on 01295 810412, 0755 723144 or [chrissiegarrett@btinternet.com](mailto:chrissiegarrett@btinternet.com).

More information about Banbury Cross Players can be seen at <http://banburycrossplayers.org.uk>  
[www.facebook.com/BanburyCrossPlayers/](http://www.facebook.com/BanburyCrossPlayers/)  
or <https://twitter.com/bcptheatre>

