

BENCHMARK
MUSICAL THEATRE

THE BEST WAY TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER
IS SINGING LOUD
FOR ALL TO HEAR!



THE MUSICAL

SHOW PACK

ELF THE MUSICAL **INTRODUCTIONS & TEAM**

A WELCOME NOTE FROM YOUR DIRECTORS

WELCOME TO THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH NIGHT FOR ELF THE MUSICAL! THE BEST WAY TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER IS SINGING LOUD FOR ALL TO HEAR, AND WE ARE ABSOLUTELY THRILLED TO BRING THIS HILARIOUS, HEARTWARMING SPECTACLE TO THE HISTORIC STAGE OF THE THEATRE ROYAL IN PORTSMOUTH THIS NOVEMBER. THIS PRODUCTION IS A HIGH-ENERGY, VISUALLY STUNNING, AND FIERCELY FUNNY EXPLOSION OF HOLIDAY JOY. WE WANT A CAST THAT RADIATES INFECTIOUS ENERGY, STRONG COMEDIC TIMING, AND CHRISTMAS MAGIC. WHETHER YOU ARE AIMING FOR A PRINCIPAL ROLE OR WANT TO BE PART OF OUR POWERHOUSE ENSEMBLE, THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU IN THE NORTH POLE (OR NEW YORK CITY!). READ THROUGH THIS PACK CAREFULLY, SUBMIT YOUR AUDITION FORMS, AND LET'S MAKE SOME CHRISTMAS MAGIC!

THE TEAM

CO-DIRECTORS: LUKE HENLEY & ROSY STEPHENS

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: JAMES THOMAS **CHOREOGRAPHER:** ELLIE THOMAS

PRODUCER: NICK WILLIAMS **STAGE MANAGER:** SCOTT DOWELL

LIGHTING: CHRIS PRATT **SOUND:** TBC

WARDROBE: EMILY HARKNESS & SHELBY OWEN

MARKETING & SOCIAL MEDIA: MVP DIGITAL

CONTACT DETAILS FOR QUESTIONS:

LUKE - 07581177034 / ROSY - 07386540405

OR MESSAGE EITHER OF US ON FACEBOOK



ELF THE MUSICAL DATES & DETAILS



LAUNCH NIGHT - 20TH JULY (7.30 PM - 9.30 PM) HART PLAIN CHURCH

AUDITION PREP NIGHT - 30TH JULY (7.30 PM - TBC) HART PLAIN CHURCH

AUDITION DATE - 2ND AUGUST (3 PM - TBC) HART PLAIN CHURCH

1ST REHEARSAL - 6TH AUGUST (7.30 PM - 10 PM) HART PLAIN CHURCH

REHEARSALS - MONDAY & THURSDAY (7.30 PM - 10 PM) HART PLAIN CHURCH

SHOW WEEK(S)

SITZPROBE - 15TH NOVEMBER (2 PM - 4 PM) HART PLAIN CHURCH

GET IN - 16TH NOVEMBER (TBC) THEATRE ROYAL

TECH 1 - 17TH NOVEMBER (TBC) THEATRE ROYAL

TECH 2 - 18TH NOVEMBER (TBC) THEATRE ROYAL

DRESS REHEARSAL - 19TH NOVEMBER (TBC) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 1 (EVENING) - 20TH NOVEMBER (6.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 2 (MATINEE) - 21ST NOVEMBER (1.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 3 (EVENING) - 21ST NOVEMBER (6.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 4 (MATINEE) - 22ND NOVEMBER (1.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 5 (EVENING) - 24TH NOVEMBER (6.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 6 (EVENING) - 25TH NOVEMBER (6.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 7 (EVENING) - 26TH NOVEMBER (6.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 8 (EVENING) - 27TH NOVEMBER (6.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 9 (MATINEE) - 28TH NOVEMBER (1.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL

SHOW 10 (EVENING) - 28TH NOVEMBER (6.30 PM CURTAIN) THEATRE ROYAL



ELF THE MUSICAL AUDITION STRUCTURE



AUDITION STRUCTURE

AUDITIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT HART PLAIN CHURCH FROM 3 PM. ALL PROSPECTIVE CAST MEMBERS WILL NEED TO COMPLETE A MOVEMENT AUDITION AND A GROUP-SINGING AUDITION. CANDIDATES WISHING TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PRINCIPAL / NAMED ROLES MUST ALSO PERFORM A VOCAL AUDITION USING THE SPECIFIED SONG CUT(S) FOR THEIR CHOSEN CHARACTER, ALONG WITH AN ACTING AUDITION FROM SCRIPT EXCERPTS. AN UPDATED SCHEDULE FOR SPECIFIC TIMINGS WILL BE RELEASED WHEN ALL AUDITION FORMS ARE RECEIVED.

ALL AUDITION MATERIAL CAN BE FOUND AT:

[BENCHMARKMT.CO.UK/ELF-AUDITIONS](https://benchmarkmt.co.uk/elf-auditions)

PASSWORD TO ACCESS: ETM

AUDITION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE 1ST AUGUST

3 PM - 3.45 PM: MICHAEL & EMILY AUDITIONS

WE WILL BEGIN BY AUDITIONING YOUNGER PERFORMERS FOR THE ROLE OF MICHAEL, WHICH WILL BE SHARED BETWEEN TWO OR THREE ACTORS ACROSS THE RUN. ONCE A SHORTLIST HAS BEEN SELECTED, WE WILL PROCEED WITH AUDITIONS FOR THE ROLE OF EMILY. THESE AUDITIONS WILL INCLUDE SINGING ALONGSIDE THE SHORTLISTED MICHAELS TO ENSURE STRONG ON-STAGE CHEMISTRY.



ELF THE MUSICAL



AUDITION STRUCTURE CONTINUED

3.45 PM - 5 PM (ESTIMATE): DANCE AUDITIONS

ELLIE WILL LEAD THE DANCE AUDITIONS FOR ALL ADULT PERFORMERS. THE SESSION WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE CHOREOGRAPHY LEVELS: MOVEMENT, ADVANCED WIGGLE, AND TAP. ALL ADULTS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRODUCTION MUST COMPLETE THE MOVEMENT AUDITION. THOSE SEEKING CONSIDERATION FOR MORE COMPLEX DANCE ROUTINES SHOULD ALSO TAKE PART IN THE ADVANCED DANCE AUDITION. PERFORMERS WISHING TO BE CONSIDERED FOR TAP NUMBERS MUST ADDITIONALLY COMPLETE THE TAP AUDITION.

5 PM - 5.15 PM (ESTIMATE): ENSEMBLE SINGING

ALL PERFORMERS NOT AUDITIONING FOR A PRINCIPAL OR SPEAKING ROLE WILL TAKE PART IN A GROUP SINGING AUDITION, CONDUCTED IN SMALL GROUPS.

5.15 PM - 5.25 PM (ESTIMATE): FEATURED ROLES

ALL PERFORMERS NOT AUDITIONING FOR A PRINCIPAL ROLE CAN AUDITION WITH A SMALL 2 PAGE SCRIPT IF THEY WISH TO BE CONSIDERED FOR MINOR SPEAKING ROLES.

5.30 PM - TBC (ESTIMATE): PRINCIPAL AUDITIONS

WE WILL THEN BEGIN AUDITIONS FOR ALL PRINCIPAL AND SPEAKING ROLES. EACH CANDIDATE WILL BE SEEN FOR THEIR FIRST-CHOICE ROLE, INCLUDING THE REQUIRED SONG CUT(S) AND SCRIPT EXTRACTS, AND SECOND-CHOICE ROLES WILL BE CONSIDERED IF TIME PERMITS. YOU MAY BE ASKED TO AUDITION FOR ROLES NOT ORIGINALLY SELECTED; PLEASE CONFIRM ON THE DAY WHETHER YOU ARE HAPPY TO DO SO.

WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PAIR AUDITIONEES WITH PERFORMERS WHO SHARE SCENES. IF TIME DOESN'T ALLOW, YOU MAY READ OPPOSITE A MEMBER OF THE PRODUCTION TEAM, WHO WILL BE IN THE SPACE WITH YOU SO YOU'RE NOT PERFORMING ALONE.

ELF THE MUSICAL CHARACTERS & AUDITION MATERIAL

BUDDY THE ELF

MALE/ AGE 25 - 35 / VOCAL RANGE C5 - Ab2

SONG 1: WORLD'S GREATEST DAD (BAR 82 - END (BAR 99 X1, NOT X3))

SONG 2: SPARKLEJOLLYTWINKLEJINGLEY - BAR 48 - 80

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 29 - 31 **DIALOGUE 2:** PAGES 36 - 38 **DIALOGUE 3:** PAGES 83 - 85

DESCRIPTION: BUDDY IS THE JOYFUL CORE OF THE SHOW—AN ENTHUSIASTIC, SINCERE HUMAN RAISED AS AN ELF WHOSE UNWAVERING BELIEF IN CHRISTMAS CHANGES EVERYONE AROUND HIM. HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND CYNICISM OR SOCIAL BOUNDARIES, MAKING HIS JOURNEY THROUGH NEW YORK BOTH FUNNY AND HEARTFELT. THE ROLE REQUIRES ENERGETIC COMEDY GROUNDED IN REAL EMOTION, WITH EXPRESSIVE, CHILDLIKE MOVEMENT, STRONG TIMING, AND MOMENTS OF STILLNESS IN HIS MORE VULNERABLE SCENES. HIS INNOCENCE, CURIOSITY, AND DEEP CARE FOR OTHERS MAKE HIM LOVABLE, ENDEARING, AND OCCASIONALLY PRONE TO TROUBLE AS HE SEARCHES FOR WHERE HE BELONGS.

JOVIE

FEMALE / AGE 25 - 35 / VOCAL RANGE D5 - G3

SONG: NEVER FALL IN LOVE WITH AN ELF (BAR 49 - END)

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 36 - 38 **DIALOGUE 2:** PAGES 83 - 85

DESCRIPTION: BUDDY'S GIRLFRIEND (EVENTUALLY). A MACY'S EMPLOYEE WITH A CYNICAL OUTLOOK SHAPED BY PAST DISAPPOINTMENTS AND A STRONG DISLIKE OF CHRISTMAS. SHE BEGINS SARCASTIC AND EMOTIONALLY CLOSED-OFF, THE GROUNDED OPPOSITE OF BUDDY, AND HER JOURNEY CENTRES ON SLOWLY REDISCOVERING VULNERABILITY, JOY, AND LOVE THROUGH HIS INFLUENCE. THE ROLE REQUIRES SHARP WIT, DRY HUMOUR, AND A BELIEVABLE EMOTIONAL THAW, WITH A VOCAL STYLE THAT BALANCES STRENGTH, WARMTH, AND INTIMATE SINCERITY.

ELF THE MUSICAL **CHARACTERS & AUDITION MATERIAL**

WALTER HOBBS

MALE / AGE 50 - 65 / VOCAL RANGE G4 - A2

SONG: THE STORY OF BUDDY THE ELF (BAR 51 - 74)

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 18 - 19 **DIALOGUE 2:** PAGES 100 - 101

DESCRIPTION: WALTER IS BUDDY'S WORKAHOLIC FATHER—A CHILDREN'S AUTHOR WHO HAS LOST TOUCH WITH THE CHILDLIKE SPIRIT HIS SON EMBODIES. SELF-FOCUSED, TENSE, AND IMPATIENT, HE BEGINS THE STORY DISCONNECTED FROM HIS FAMILY AND FIRMLY ON SANTA'S "NAUGHTY LIST." BUDDY'S ARRIVAL FORCES HIM TO CONFRONT HIS VALUES AND REDISCOVER WARMTH, IMAGINATION, AND LOVE. HIS ARC MOVES FROM CYNICISM TO GENUINE CONNECTION, AND THE ACTOR MUST PLAY HIM NOT AS SIMPLY GRUMPY, BUT AS A PRESSURED MAN WHOSE TRANSFORMATION FEELS EARNED AND TRUTHFUL.

EMILY HOBBS

FEMALE / AGE 40 - 55 / VOCAL RANGE Eb5 - F3

SONG: I'LL BELIEVE IN YOU (BAR 87 - END (WITH MICHAEL))

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 19 - 20 **DIALOGUE 2:** PAGES 86 - 87

DESCRIPTION: EMILY IS WALTER'S WIFE AND MICHAEL'S MUM—THE STEADY EMOTIONAL CENTRE OF THE HOBBS FAMILY. WARM, PERCEPTIVE, AND QUIETLY RESILIENT, SHE WELCOMES BUDDY WHILE URGING WALTER TO PRIORITISE FAMILY. SHE BALANCES MATERNAL CARE WITH THE AUTHORITY TO STAND UP TO WALTER, ONE OF THE FEW PEOPLE HE LISTENS TO. THE ROLE NEEDS SINCERITY, EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, AND A GROUNDED PRESENCE THAT ANCHORS THE STORY.

ELF THE MUSICAL CHARACTERS & AUDITION MATERIAL

MICHAEL HOBBS

MALE / AGE 12- 16 / VOCAL RANGE G5 - F3

SONG: I'LL BELIEVE IN YOU (BAR 87 - END (WITH EMILY))

DIALOGUE 1: PAGE 50 **DIALOGUE 2:** PAGES 86 - 87

DESCRIPTION: MICHAEL IS BUDDY'S STEPBROTHER—THOUGHTFUL, SENSITIVE, AND OFTEN OVERLOOKED. HE'S QUICK TO EMBRACE BUDDY AND THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT, THOUGH HE SHARES HIS MUM'S WISH THAT WALTER WOULD SPEND MORE TIME WITH THE FAMILY. BUDDY HELPS HIM BUILD CONFIDENCE AND FIND HIS VOICE, MAKING THEIR BOND ONE OF THE SHOW'S EMOTIONAL CENTRES. THE ROLE NEEDS AUTHENTICITY AND VULNERABILITY SO MICHAEL'S GROWTH FEELS NATURAL AND RELATABLE.

SANTA CLAUS

MALE / AGE 60 - 80 / VOCAL RANGE E4 - A2

SONG: NOBODY CARES ABOUT SANTA (BAR 3 - 27)

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 11 - 13

DESCRIPTION: SANTA IS BUDDY'S FIRST PATERNAL FIGURE—A WARM, WISE, AND SLIGHTLY MISCHIEVOUS STORYTELLER WHO BRIDGES THE MAGIC OF THE NORTH POLE WITH THE REAL WORLD OF NEW YORK. HE LOVES CHRISTMAS, HIS JOB, AND THE OCCASIONAL CHANCE TO RELAX, AND HE SETS THE TONE OF THE SHOW WITH HUMOUR, AUTHORITY, AND HEART. THE ROLE NEEDS STRONG STAGE PRESENCE AND NATURAL STORYTELLING ABILITY.

ELF THE MUSICAL CHARACTERS & AUDITION MATERIAL

DEB

FEMALE / AGE 25 - 55 / VOCAL RANGE Eb5 - D4

SONG: A CHRISTMAS SONG (BAR 17 - 32)

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 20 & 60 (WITH THE 2 PIECES CONTINUING ONE AFTER THE OTHER)

DESCRIPTION: WALTER'S QUIRKY, EAGER-TO-PLEASE SECRETARY WHO FEELS UNDERAPPRECIATED. SHE TAKES AN INSTANT LIKING TO BUDDY SIMPLY BECAUSE HE'S A NOVELTY IN HER OTHERWISE CHAOTIC OFFICE LIFE. EFFICIENT, OBSERVANT, AND DRYLY FUNNY, DEB'S HUMOUR COMES FROM SUBTLE TIMING RATHER THAN EXAGGERATION, OFTEN ACTING AS THE AUDIENCE'S VOICE WITHIN THE CORPORATE WORLD.

MANAGER

Male / AGE 35 - 45 / VOCAL RANGE F#4 - B2

SONG: NOBODY CARES ABOUT SANTA (BAR 3 - 27)

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 29 - 31

DESCRIPTION: THE MACY'S MANAGER IS A BLUNT, STRICT BUT ULTIMATELY GOOD-NATURED LEADER JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE THE HOLIDAYS AND IMPRESS HIS BOSSES. BOLD, ECCENTRIC, AND HIGHLY THEATRICAL, HE THRIVES ON BIG CHARACTER CHOICES AND COMIC ENERGY, OBSESSING OVER APPEARANCES AND STORE SUCCESS TO OFTEN RIDICULOUS EXTREMES.

MR GREENWAY

Male / AGE 40 - 65

SONG: NOBODY CARES ABOUT SANTA (BAR 3 - 27)

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 100 - 101

DESCRIPTION: GREENWAY IS WALTER'S DEMANDING, INTIMIDATING BOSS—AN EMBODIMENT OF THE HIGH-PRESSURE CORPORATE WORLD THAT DRIVES WALTER'S BEHAVIOUR. THE ROLE NEEDS SHARP DELIVERY AND A STRONG, COMMANDING PRESENCE.

ELF THE MUSICAL **CHARACTERS & AUDITION MATERIAL**

MALE FEATURED ROLES

CHADWICK / MATTHEWS / CHARLIE / FAKE SANTA AND OTHER ROLES

SONG: NOBODY CARES ABOUT SANTA (BAR 3 - 27)

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 9 -10

DESCRIPTION: ANYONE NOT WISHING TO AUDITION FOR THE CHARACTERS ABOVE, BUT STILL WANTING TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SMALLER SPOKEN ROLES. CHADWICK & MATTHEWS: WALTER'S SLIGHTLY DIM, RIGHT-HAND MEN. ALWAYS TRYING TO IMPRESS. CHARLIE: 'LEAD' WORKSHOP ELF, UPBEAT AND CHIRPY.

FEMALE FEATURED ROLES

TIARA / WAITRESS / MOTHER / CHARLOTTE AND OTHER ROLES

SONG: A CHRISTMAS SONG (BAR 17 - 32)

DIALOGUE 1: PAGES 9 -10

DESCRIPTION: ANYONE NOT WISHING TO AUDITION FOR THE CHARACTERS ABOVE, BUT STILL WANTING TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SMALLER SPOKEN ROLES. TIARA: ELF IN THE WORKSHOP, UPBEAT AND SASSY, PAST FLING OF CHARLIE'S. WAITRESS: FEATURES IN NOBODY CARES ABOUT SANTA, HATES HER JOB. STRONG DANCER.

MALE ENSEMBLE

SONG: NOBODY CARES ABOUT SANTA (BAR 3 - 27)

FEMALE ENSEMBLE

SONG: A CHRISTMAS SONG (BAR 17 - 32)



ELF THE MUSICAL



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SHOW FEE:

THERE WILL BE A £50 SHOW FEE PAYABLE TO THE BENCHMARK BANK ACCOUNT FOR ALL WHO WISH TO BE INVOLVED.

LIB DEPOSIT:

ALL THOSE WHO WISH TO BORROW A LIBRETTO FOR THE SHOW WILL NEED TO GIVE A DEPOSIT OF £20, WHICH WILL BE RETURNED WHEN THE SCRIPT IS HANDED BACK IN GOOD CONDITION WITH NO VISIBLE MARKS.

ATTENDANCE:

THIS IS A DEMANDING SHOW WITH NUMEROUS MOVING PARTS. AS SUCH WE MUST INSIST THAT ANY DATES YOU ARE UNAVAILABLE FOR ARE RECORDED ACCURATELY ON YOUR AUDITION FORMS. WE WILL ENDEAVOUR TO CREATE A SCHEDULE FOR REHEARSALS, SO THAT PEOPLE ARE NOT CALLED UNNECESSARILY. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU ATTEND ALL REHEARSALS YOU ARE CALLED FOR IN ORDER FOR THE SCHEDULE TO WORK FOR THE ENTIRE CAST.

FINAL NOTE:

WE'RE SO EXCITED TO HAVE YOU JOIN THIS PRODUCTION. ELF IS BURSTING WITH HEART, HUMOUR, AND HIGH-ENERGY CHRISTMAS SPIRIT, AND EVERY SINGLE ROLE HELPS BRING ITS MAGIC TO LIFE. THIS SHOW SHINES WHEN EVERYONE COMMITS FULLY TO ITS JOY, SINCERITY, AND FESTIVE CHAOS, SO LEAN IN, GO BIG AND ABOVE ALL, HAVE FUN. LET'S BUILD A WORLD THE AUDIENCE CAN'T HELP BUT SMILE AT.