

# **Glenbrook Players Inc**

is presenting

## **Arsenic and Old Lace**

By Joseph Kesselring

### **Preliminary Information**

**Directors:** Robyn & Alan Pope

**Key Dates:**

**Info Night:** Wednesday 16 July 2025 (side hall)

**Auditions:** Monday 21 July (theatre) and possibly Wed 23 July (side hall)

**Rehearsals:** Mon & Wed 28 July to 5 Nov, plus additional dates for publicity

**Performances:**

Fri 7 Nov & 14 Nov 2025 (Evening)

Sat 8 Nov & 15 Nov (Mat & Evening)

Sun 16 Nov (Mat & Bump Out)

**Location:**

Glenbrook Community Theatre (Cinema) - Auditorium or Side Hall – depends on date

**Further Information:**

This is preliminary information only. Further information and an audition pack will be available very soon and can be accessed from [www.glenbrookplayers.com.au](http://www.glenbrookplayers.com.au)

Brief cast information follows. We also require a stage manager and some stage crew.

If you would like to put in an expression of interest in assisting with any aspect of the production, you can send an email to

[treasurer@glenbrookplayers.com.au](mailto:treasurer@glenbrookplayers.com.au) with “Arsenic Interest” in the subject line.

Please note that this will not be taken as an Audition Form.

## Arsenic and Old Lace

*Arsenic and Old Lace* is a classic dark comedy play written by Joseph Kesselring in 1939. It became wildly popular after being adapted into a film in 1944, directed by Frank Capra and starring Cary Grant. The play is not quite the same as the movie.

The story revolves around the eccentric Brewster family, particularly two sweet old aunts who have a peculiar hobby of poisoning lonely old men with a concoction of arsenic, strychnine, and "just a pinch" of cyanide, disguising it as elderberry wine. The plot thickens when their nephew, Mortimer Brewster, discovers their deadly secret. What follows is a series of hilarious and suspenseful events involving another murderous relative, a drunk doctor, and the well-meaning but bumbling efforts of Mortimer to keep everything under wraps.

### The Characters

There are 14 roles in the play. Some of the smaller roles may be doubled. Any requirement in relation to age is the character's age not necessarily the actors. Some of the roles can be male or female. Dialogue will be change to accommodate this.

Characters	Character Age	Relationship	Male/Female/Either
<b>Major Roles</b>			
Abby Brewster	70's	Spinster Aunt	Female
Martha Brewster	70's	Spinster Aunt	Female
Mortimer Brewster	30-40	Nephew	Male
Teddy Brewster	30-40	Nephew	Male
Jonathon Brewster	35-45	Nephew	Male
Elaine Harper	20-30	Mortimer's Girlfriend	Female
Dr Einstein	40+	Plastic Surgeon	Male or female
<b>Smaller Roles</b>			
Rev Dr Harper	50+	Elaine's Father	Male
Officer	20-50	NY Police Officer	Male or female
Officer	20-50	NY Police Officer	Male or female
Officer O'Hara	25-50	NY Police Officer	Male
Lt Rooney	40-60	NY Police Detective	Male
Mr Gibbs	60+	Small role *	Male
Mr Witherspoon	60+	Small role *	Male
		Roles * will be combined	