

GLENBROOK PLAYERS INC

presents

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S VERDICT

NOVEMBER 2026

Directed by Ron Wadick

AUDITION AND PRODUCTION INFORMATION

KEY DATES

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Info Night	Wednesday 22 July, 730pm	Glenbrook Theatre side hall
Auditions	Monday 27 July, 7.30pm	Glenbrook Theatre side hall
Rehearsals	Commence on Monday 3 August at 7:30pm Then, every Monday and Wednesday 7:30-10:30pm	Glenbrook Theatre (combination of theatre and side hall)
Tech and Dress Rehearsals*	Monday and Wednesday from 19 October, 7pm start	Glenbrook Theatre
Performances*	Friday 6 Nov, 7:30pm Saturday 7 Nov, 2pm and 7:30pm Friday 13 Nov, 7:30pm Saturday 14 Nov, 2pm and 7:30pm Sunday 15 Nov, 11am (followed by Bump Out and Cast Dinner)	
Marketing / promo - Springwood Spring Fair	Saturday 19 September	Springwood
Marketing / promo - Glenbrook Festival	Saturday 10 October (probably)	Glenbrook

*Availability for tech and dress rehearsals and all performances is mandatory. Please advise us of any time away or other known unavailability during the rehearsal period as we may be able to plan our schedule accordingly.

REQUIREMENTS FOR INVOLVEMENT

Please read the following information carefully.

- ☐ Be a financial member of Glenbrook Players. Annual membership is from January to December each year and is \$35 for adult working members and \$20 for students and non-working members. (You do not need to join prior to the audition.)
 1. Transfer: Bank Details: BSB: 032-370 Account: 126272
 2. Fill out: Membership form. <https://glenbrookplayers.com.au/membership-form>
- ☐ Agree to abide by our Code of Conduct. (Details are on our website).
- ☐ Cast members are expected to be prompt and advise as early as possible if you are unable to attend a rehearsal or are going to be late. Frequent absences may mean that you will be replaced.

If you have any questions, please contact secretary@glenbrookplayers.com.au or wilver.velasco@gmail.com

AUDITION INFORMATION

- ❑ Please fill out the Audition Form on the Glenbrook Players Website here:
<https://glenbrookplayers.com.au/auditions-form-1>

Auditions will be held on Monday night 27 July at Glenbrook Theatre, please enter through the side hall.

All auditionees will attend at 7:30pm for a briefing, warm up and to be allocated scenes to prepare. Please wear comfortable clothing.

Auditions will be a cold read and depending on which role or roles you are interested in, you will be given a piece from the play to read on the night. You may be asked to read for additional roles. Please indicate on the form if you are or are not willing to accept any other roles than the ones you specify.

NOTES ON HOW TO FILL OUT THE AUDITION FORM:

- If you are new to Glenbrook Players, please tell us about any of your past experiences in performance or theatre as relevant.
- Please tell us which roles in Verdict you are interested in and whether you will consider a different role.
- It is essential that you tell us as early as possible if you will be away or unavailable for any rehearsal dates, or date ranges during the rehearsal period. Not all characters will be needed for all rehearsals, so we can potentially accommodate any known away dates, but only if you tell us up front. All dress and tech rehearsals, and of course performance dates are mandatory for all cast members. Please check the key dates at the top of this document for those dates.
- A preliminary rehearsal schedule will be made available as soon as is practically possible following the casting.
- There is a section on the audition form for you to indicate your interest in helping out with any other facet of the production. Help may be needed on a variety of things throughout the period and during the run. Please tell us if you are willing for our production team to contact you to help out with other production activities in the event you are not cast.
- Please attach a Headshot / photo of yourself to the audition form. We will use this in our cast announcement, and for any preliminary promotion. This also helps us to identify you in your audition and during the casting process.

VERDICT - BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

SETTING

Spring of 1958, Bloomsbury in London. The entire play takes place in the home library of a flat in which Karl, his wife Anya, and Anya's cousin and carer Lisa reside.

GENRE AND THEMES

Verdict is an intimate, psychological and domestic exploration of duty, virtue, passion, patriarchy and above all the cost of rigid idealism. Whilst there are many familiar elements with which to capture a loyal Christie audience, Verdict deviates from the usual murder-mystery format and instead shows a murder and the murderer explicitly on stage and asks the audience to turn inward to consider the question of responsibility, guilt and mercy among many other things.

PLOT SUMMARY

Set entirely in the drawing room of Professor Karl Hendryk's London flat in the late 1950s, the play follows Karl, a respected political refugee caring for his terminally ill wife, Anya, with the help of her devoted cousin, Lisa. Their household is disrupted when Helen Rollander, a wealthy young woman, becomes Karl's private pupil and develops an obsessive attachment to him.

After Karl accepts financial support from Helen's father for his research, Helen gains greater access to the family and murders Anya by replacing her heart medication with poison. Helen confesses to Karl, and when he subsequently rejects her advances, Helen dies by suicide. Suspicion for Anya's death falls on Lisa after Mrs. Roper, the Hendryk's housekeeper, witnesses Karl and Lisa embrace. With the real killer dead, Lisa is arrested. Lisa is ultimately acquitted, while Karl is left devastated by the consequences of having allowed Helen into their lives.

CHARACTERS

CHARACTER NOTES: There are 10 roles in the play. Smaller roles may be doubled or have their gender adapted depending on audition turnouts; dialogue will change to accommodate this. Any requirement in relation to age specifies the character's age on stage, not the actual age of the actor.

Karl, Anya and Lisa are political refugees from an unspecified European country. Whilst accents will not be a requirement for any of these roles, we would be interested in seeing any appropriate accent you can do, particularly German or Eastern European. London accents will not be required for the remaining characters, however are welcome. Broad Australian accents should be avoided for all characters.

The scene in which Karl rejects Helen's advances includes a physical altercation in which Karl puts his hands on Helen's throat and throws her across the room. This will be choreographed and rehearsed as stage combat according to best practice for the comfort and safety of the cast involved. Please be aware of this if you are auditioning for either of these roles.

CAST & CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Please note that ages mentioned are the ages of the characters, and the actor's age will not preclude them from being considered for any role which they can convincingly portray.

LEADS			
Professor Karl Hendryk	40–50	Brilliant professor, Anya's devoted husband	Male
Lisa Koletzky	30–40	Anya's cousin and dedicated house manager	Female
Anya Hendryk	35–45	Karl's wife who is chronically ill and disabled	Female
Helen Rollander	20–25	Wealthy, deeply obsessive university student	Female
MAJOR SUPPORT			
Lester Cole	20–25	Naive, earnest student of Karl's	Male
Dr. Stoner	50–65	Trusted family doctor and longtime friend	Male
Mrs. Roper	45–65	Meddling, gossiping housekeeper	Female
Sir William Rollander	50–60	Helen's powerful, influential industrialist father	Male
MINOR SUPPORT			
Detective Inspector Ogden	40–60	No-nonsense police investigator *	Any
Police Sergeant Pearce	20–40	Obedient police sergeant *	Any

* Roles marked with an asterisk may be doubled or adapted dynamically.