

Agatha Crusty and the Village Hall Murders

Director: Jo Ostrowska

Performances: June 2018, venue and dates TBC*



Synopsis

Agatha Crusty (pronounced Croosty) is a crime novelist. She's also pretty adept at solving crimes. And when her sister-in-law Alice invites her to spend a few days with her in the village of Chortelby, it's not long before she gets caught up in a series of murders which seem directed at members of the All Saints Village Hall committee.

From Toby, the Vicar, and Eleanor, Chair of the committee, to Harry Knott the caretaker and identical twins Olivia and Oliver Truscott-Pratt, there are plenty of suspects. And with an investigating officer as incompetent as D.I. Twigg, there are plenty of laughs as the murders begin to pile up.

But, while packed full of wit and very funny scenes, this is also a genuine murder mystery with an ingenious plot which will tax the grey cells of the audience at the same time!

Agatha Crusty and the Village Hall Murders has already had more than seventy productions, and hundreds of performances, in the UK, Australia and the US. Without exception, audiences have loved it and the cast and crew too.

Setting

The present. Chortleby Village Hall. Other than one large cupboard, the set can be quite minimal - the village hall suggested simply by ubiquitous stacking chairs and folded tables.

Cast in order of appearance

- Harry - the village hall caretaker, cynical, worldly-wise, down-to-earth (30s-60s)
- Agatha - a crime novelist, unassuming, but very smart (30s-60s)
- Alice - Agatha's sister-in-law, pleasant, unpretentious (30s-60s)
- Olivia - an upper-crust, landed gentry type with less land than she'd like (30s-60s)
- Eleanor - chair of the hall committee, mother-superior type (30s-50s)
- Twigg - a Detective Inspector of extraordinary incompetence (30s-50s)
- Maisie - a cleaner, pleasant but not afraid to call a spade a spade (30s-50s)
- Toby - the vicar, generally genial and a little naïve, but can be forceful (30s-50s)
- PC Lockett - the village bobby, cousin to Harry (30s-60s)
- Isabella - the pub landlady, mumsy type with definite pretensions (30s-60s)
- Oliver - Olivia's brother, who, except for the hair, looks the same (30s-60s)
- Mandy - a model, young, a streetwise girl (late teens-20s)
- Mortimer (deceased) - 'dead' body, no lines!

Notes:

1. Harry and PC Lockett can be played by the same actor.
2. Oliver and Olivia should be the same actor - they can be dressed identically, except Olivia has longer hair and Oliver usually sports a gun and some dead animals.
3. There is scope for changing ages and sexes to suit.

** Subject to venue availability and licensing*