

AUDITION NOTICE



READ THROUGH	Tuesday 18 November 2025, 7.45pm in the Studio
AUDITIONS	Friday 28 November 2025, 7.45pm in the Theatre Sunday 7 December 2025, 2pm in the Theatre
FIRST REHEARSALS	Begin Wednesday 11 February 2026 Rehearsals are at 7.45pm, Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, with Sunday afternoons at 2pm from 29 March 2026
PERFORMANCES	16 – 25 April at 7.45pm Matinée: Saturday 18 April at 2.30pm
DIRECTOR	Suzi Whittle suzi.whittle@cadogan.co.uk 07764 661743
PA	Lucy Auva lucyauva@gmail.com 07977 499793 Scripts available from Lucy.

This sparkling comedy is one of Coward's best known. It centres around the bohemian Bliss family who have each invited a guest for the weekend, unbeknownst to the others. When the guests arrive, they suffer an uncomfortable tea and then, after dinner, have to play a game which only the family understand. The evening is capped by a historic display by the family which sends the terrified guests scuttling away early the next morning.

CHARACTERS AND AUDITION PIECES

SOREL BLISS – female, early 20s

The daughter of the family. She is aware of the family's eccentricities and is attempting to be more conventional.

Audition Piece:

Page 9 – 'Listen to this Simon to Page 12 'Shut up, Simon!'

SIMON BLISS – *male, early 20s*

The son of the family. Artistic. A little bohemian. Prone to quick changes of emotion.

Audition Piece:

Page 9 – 'The poor girl's potty!' to Page 12 'entirely unsuited to the Pet of the Foreign Office.'

JUDITH BLISS – *female, 50s*

A celebrated actress, retired, but has decided to return to the stage. She switches into dramatic mode regularly. The family all play along with her.

Audition Pieces:

Page 27 – 'You must forgive me for having rather peculiar children' to Page 30 'Give me my hat'.

Page 69 – 'Forgive me for interrupting' to page 72 'Yes, my dear – the end.'

DAVID BLISS – *male, late 50s*

A novelist. Mostly absorbed with his writing but ready to play along when Judith is in acting mode.

Audition Piece:

Page 64 – 'and, you see, he comes in and finds her there' to Page 72 'So this is the end, Judith?'

MYRA ARUNDEL – *female, late 20s – mid 30s*

She is a vamp. She is described as 'using sex like a shrimping net'. She is potentially looking for an affair with David.

Audition Piece:

Page 64 – 'She hadn't been away at all!!' to Page 69 'I should like to go to bed.'

SANDY TYRELL – *male, late 20s – early 30s*

A charming, athletic young man. A fan of Judith's acting. Eventually overwhelmed by the family.

Audition Piece:

Page 27 – 'I say, it's perfectly ripping of you to let me come down.' to Page 30 'You said it would be quite quiet, with nobody at all.'

JACKIE CORYTON – *female, early 20s*

A very shy young girl. Quite out of her depth with the family's play acting. Only at home when talking to Sandy.

Audition Piece:

Page 36 – 'Well!' to Page 40 'Oh, thank you.'

RICHARD GREATHAM – *male, 40s*

A diplomat. Well-travelled. Initially quite confident but ultimately overwhelmed by Judith.

Audition Piece:

Page 37 – 'A strange young man!' to Page 41 'You're rather a dear, you know.'

CLARA – *female, 50s/60s*

Formerly Judith's dresser at the theatre, now the family's all purpose maid/housekeeper. She is hard working and very fond of the family.

Audition Pieces:

Page 12 – 'I don't know, dear.' to Page 13 'as spoilt me eye for it.'

Page 26 – 'My God!' to 'It's nothing more nor less than an imposition!'