

Leeds Children's Theatre
Johnny and the Dead – November 2019

Audition Notice

Readthrough and Auditions for our November production of 'Johnny and the Dead' by Terry Pratchett will be as follows:

Script Reading - Monday 15th April 2019 – 18:30 to 20:30 – Carriageworks Theatre

Auditions 1 – Tuesday 16th April 2019 – 18:00 to 21:00 – Carriageworks Theatre

Auditions 2 – Wednesday 17th April 2019 – 18:00 to 21:00 – Carriageworks Theatre

NB: You only need to attend one night of auditions

First All Cast Rehearsal – Tuesday 23rd April 2019 – 18:30 to 20:30 – Carriageworks Theatre

Rehearsals will be typically on a Tuesday and Thursday evening; however, this is due to change some weeks where there are other events happening – a full rehearsal schedule will be given out at the first rehearsal.

About the Play

Johnny Maxwell can see the Dead. He can talk to them, too – much to his friends' amazement. So, when the news breaks that the local council plans to sell the cemetery to a property developer, Johnny learns that there are some things in life (and death) that are worth fighting for...

This play is a fast-paced, cinematic retelling of this exciting Terry Pratchett novel; set in various different locations around the town of Blackbury including the cemetery which will create our focal point.

Character Information

Some of the characters in this story are described as part of the story in either the dialogue or stage directions. Details of such can be found below in the table of characters. Some of the acting ages are quite vague and can be subject to discussion.

The minor characters are only in one or two scenes, and as such won't be called to a large number of rehearsals until much nearer to the show.

Johnny, his friends and the dead are in quite a large portion of the play and will be called to quite a lot of the rehearsals. Johnny is in 13 out of the 15 scenes and spends much of the show on stage.

As well as the cast listed below, there are also four voice only characters in the script – these will be voiced by members of the cast where possible.

Johnny and his friends

Johnny Maxwell	M	12-14	A twelve-year-old boy who discovers he can talk to the dead in the local cemetery
Wobbler Johnson	M	12-14	Johnny's school friend. <i>Character is Chubby.</i>
Yo-Less	M	12-14	Johnny's school friend. <i>Character is West Indian</i>
Bigmac	M	12-14	Johnny's school friend.

The Dead

Alderman Thomas Bowler	M	30+	One of the Dead. A member of Blackbury Council when alive. He wears civic robes.
William Stickers	M	20+	One of the Dead. A communist when alive. He has a huge black beard and wears gold-rimmed spectacles.
Antonio Vicenti	M	Teen – 20s	One of the Dead. Ran a joke shop and worked as an escapologist and children's entertainer when alive. Wears a red carnation in his button hole.
Mrs Sylvia Liberty	F	30+	One of the Dead. A suffragette who campaigned for votes for women when alive.
Solomon Einstein	M	30+	One of the Dead. A famous taxidermist when alive. A keen thinker.
Addison Vincent Fletcher	M	Teen – 20s	One of the Dead. Invented a form of telephone when alive.
Eric Grimm	M	30+	One of the Dead. Disapproves of the behaviour of the other dead. Has a mysterious past.
Stanley 'Wrong Way' Roundaway (NS)	M	Teens	<i>(non-speaking)</i> One of the Dead. Played for Blackbury Wanderers when alive. Famous for scoring own goals. Wears a 1930s football kit.

Other Minor Parts (most of these are on for one scene and will double up)

Grandad	M	50+	Johnny's Grandad
Nurse	F	Teen	Nurse at Sunshine Acres Old People's Home
Ronald Atterbury	M	30+	From the British Legion
Mrs Ethel Liberty	F	20+	A representative from Blackbury Council (Doubles as Nursing Home Resident)
Mr Bowler	M	30+	A representative of United Amalgamated Consolidated Holdings (Doubles as Nursing Home Resident)
Woman in Audience	F	Teen – 20s	At the Civic Centre meeting (Doubles as Nursing Home Resident)
Thug 1	M/F	Teen+	Cemetery Thug (Doubles as Blackbury Pal/Audience)
Thug 2	M/F	Teen+	Cemetery Thug (Doubles as Blackbury Pal/Audience)
Police Officer 1 (NS)	M/F	Teen+	<i>(non-speaking)</i> (Doubles as Blackbury Pal/Top Table)
Police Officer 2	M/F	Teen+	Arrests Thug 2 (Doubles as Blackbury Pal/Audience)
Private Tommy Atkins (NS)	M	13+	<i>(non-speaking)</i> WWI Soldier (Doubles as Audience)
Johnny's Mum (NS)	F	30+	<i>(Non-speaking)</i> Only in Nursing Home Scene (Doubles as Top Table)
Johnny's Gran (NS)	F	50+	<i>(Non-speaking)</i> Only in Nursing Home Scene (Doubles as Top Table)

25 cast members total