

# JULIUS CAESAR

## Notes for auditionees

Auditions for The Cotswold Players' production of *Julius Caesar* will be held on

**Friday 3 May (1930-2130) and Bank Holiday Monday 6 May (1600-2000).**

Both sessions will be held at The Cotswold Playhouse. You are welcome to come along at any time during either of the sessions. If you would like to audition but are unable to attend either of them, please contact Jonathan Vickers before the end of April, at [vickers@hotmail.com](mailto:vickers@hotmail.com) or on 07977 499926, to arrange a separate time.

If you would like to get a feel for the play and how we will be staging it, there will be a readthrough at The Playhouse on **Wednesday 1 May, starting at 1930**. All are welcome. Scripts will be provided.

Please note that casting will be done on a "gender-blind" basis. This means that your gender will not be a factor in determining which part you play. So if, for example, a woman is cast as Caesar, then the character of Caesar in the play will be a woman, and we shall be altering the script to reflect that. So everyone is welcome to audition for any role.

Please prepare two pieces (around a dozen lines each) of Shakespeare, at least one of which should be from this play. You do not need to memorise them, but you should be familiar enough with them to be able to convey the meaning, and to be able to try alternative interpretations. Some suggestions for audition pieces are available for downloading from the website, but you are welcome to choose your own: feel free to change any gender pronouns! At the audition, you will be asked to perform one or both of your pieces, and you may then be asked to perform them again in a different way. We are not trying to catch you out – we just want to help everyone show the best they can do. Most auditions will last around 10 minutes.

Before auditioning, please study carefully the list of possible rehearsal dates, and note any problem dates on the audition form. Not all of these dates will be rehearsals – and no one will be called to all rehearsals - but the schedule will be drawn up based on the availability you indicate now. So it is important that you let us know of any dates you will be unable to attend.

This is going to be a large-cast show: at the last count there were over 40 named characters with lines in the script. Brutus is the biggest part, with around 400 lines; Cassius and Antony each have nearly 300; Caesar has just over 100; and there are a further six or so named characters with between 20 and 50 lines. Critical to the show's success will be the crowd of Roman citizens (later, soldiers), most of whom have a few lines of their own, and all of whom are responsible for setting the atmosphere and reacting to what is going on in the four main scenes.