



Welcome to
Shakespeare in
the Park 2025

HENRY V



Get involved!

You can be part of Henry V in all sorts of ways, and in all aspects of the production.

If you'd like to be involved, please scan the QR code and fill in the short questionnaire to register your interest.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK 2025 - PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORM



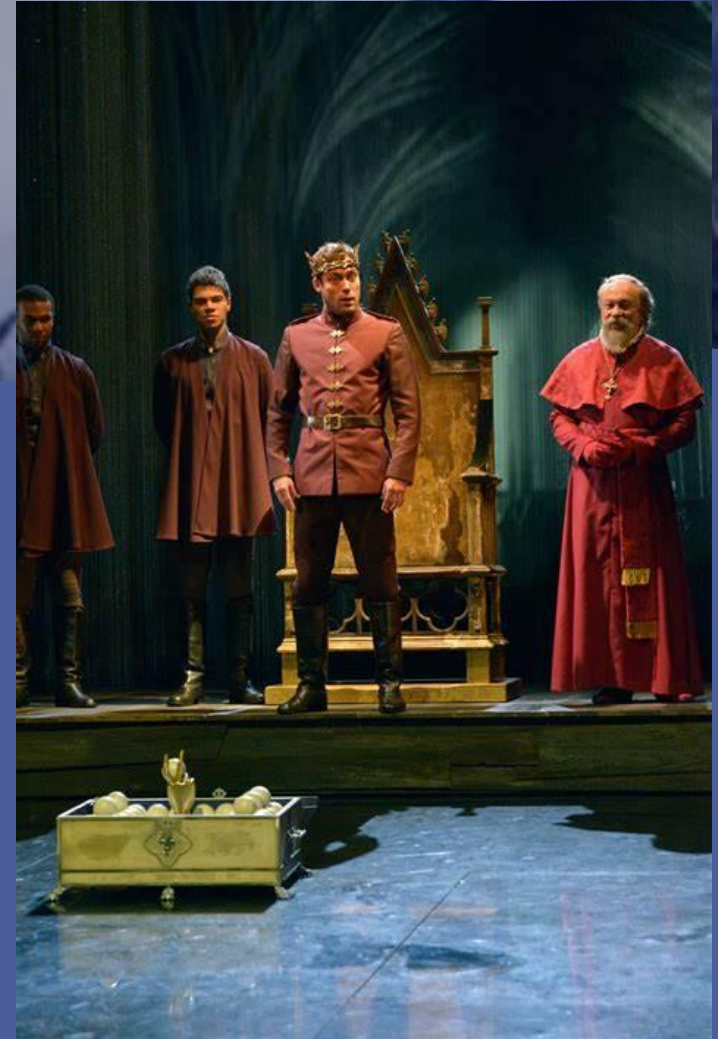
Henry V



The Story: Act I

The newly crowned King Henry V is seen as foolish and wild young man. He is keen to change his reputation and stamp his authority on the throne by winning back the territories lost in France by previous monarchs.

The Bishops of Canterbury and Ely convince him that his claim is lawful. When he receives a public insult from the Dauphin of France he decides to strike back quickly.





The Story: Act II

Henry's old friend Sir John Falstaff is dying, and his followers gather at the Garter Inn.

Henry confronts three traitorous lords who have been passing secrets to France. He orders their execution. The Duke of Exeter travels to the French court to tell them to hand back the old territories peacefully, because, otherwise, Henry is coming to take them by force.



The Story: Act III

Henry's men make quick progress through the unprepared northern towns of France. We pick up the story at the siege of Harfleur with Henry's legendary 'Once more into the breach' speech. The city surrenders.

In the English ranks Pistol offends the Welsh engineer, Fluellen.

Montjoy, the French King's emissary warns Henry that the French army is ready for him and will destroy him if he continues his invasion.



The Story: Act IV

Henry continues his advance, but his men are falling sick and becoming exhausted.

At Agincourt the might of the full French army waits for them. The situation seems hopeless, but once again, Henry stirs his men.

At dawn the battle rages and the outcome seems uncertain. Waiting for the final French charge, all seems lost. Against all the odds the English triumph and Henry accepts the French surrender.



The Story: Act V

Fluellen catches up with Pistol and punished him for his insults.

The French King and his court come before Henry to sign the terms of the new peace.

The new alliance is sealed with the marriage of Henry to the Princess Katharine, who he attempts to win over despite the fact that neither can speak the other's language.





The Venue

All rehearsals and performances take place on site in the glade at Maple Hayes. We're there unless the weather is unbelievably bad, so dress for the conditions!

Every year our fantastic tech team transform the Glade into a new fantasy world, each one different from the last.



The Schedule

As previous participants will know, the SitP schedule is quite intense.

It involves six weeks of rehearsals followed by show week. This years show week is Sun 14th – Sat 21st June. Rehearsals are on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and on Sunday morning.

Rehearsals last around 2 hours.

If you are not available for some dates, please let me know and I can work around it, but you should assume you will be needed for most rehearsals.

Henry V 2025 PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE



Date	Times	Event	Notes
TBC	TBC	Get together/readthrough	Details TBC
Tues 29 th April	7pm	SECTION A blocking	
Wed 30 th April	7pm	SECTION B blocking	
Thurs 1 st May	7pm	SECTION C blocking	
Sun 4 th May	10am		No rehearsal
Mon 5 th May	7pm		No rehearsal
Tues 6 th May	7pm	SECTION D blocking	
Wed 7 th May	7pm	SECTION A	
Thur 8 th May	7pm	SECTION B	
Sun 11 th May	10am	SECTION C	
Mon 12 th May	7pm	SECTION D	
Tues 13 th May	7pm	SECTION A	
Wed 14 th May	7pm	SECTION B	
Thur 15 th May	7pm	SECTION C	
Sun 18 th May	10am	SECTION D	
Mon 19 th May	7pm	SECTION A	
Tues 20 th May	7pm	SECTION B	
Wed 21 st May	7pm	SECTION C	
Thur 22 nd May	7pm	SECTION D	TBC
Sun/Mon 25/26 th			No rehearsal – Spring Bank Holiday
Tues 27 th May	7pm	SECTION A	
Wed 28 th May	7pm	SECTION B	
Thur 29 th May	7pm	SECTION C	
Sun 1 st June	10am	SECTION D	
Mon 2 nd June	7pm	ACT 1 **BOOKS DOWN**	
Tues 3 rd June	7pm	ACT 2	
Wed 4 th June	7pm	ACT 1	
Thur 5 th June	7pm	ACT2	
		Publicity Event in Town?	
Sun 8 th June	2pm	FULL RUN	
Mon 9 th June	7pm	FULL RUN	
Tues 10 th June	7pm	FULL RUN	
Wed 11 th June	7pm	FULL RUN	
Thur 12 th June	7pm	FULL RUN	Curry night-names to Dave
Sun 14 th June	7pm	Tech Rehearsal	
Mon 16 th June	7pm	Dress/Tech	
Tues 17 th June	7pm	Dress/Tech	
Wed 18 th June	7.45pm	Opening Night	
Thur 19 th June	7.45pm	Performance	
Fri 20 th June	7.45pm	Performance	
Sat 21 st June	2/7.45 pm	Matinee and Last Night	
Sun 22 nd June		Picnic/BBQ and Strike	Everybody come and help please!

Section A: p.26-51 (Prologue to II.2)

Section B: 51-76 (II.3 to III.6)

Section C: p. 77-100 (III.7 to IV.5)

Section D: 101-126 (IV.6 to end)

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THE LIFE OF HENRY THE FIFTH

The Characters

Shakespeare lists 43! named characters, plus assorted lords, messengers and attendants.

This means there must have been a lot of actors with multiple roles...

CHORUS		Captain JAMY, a Scotsman	} officers in the king's army
<i>The English side</i>		Captain MACMORRIS, an Irishman	
KING HENRY V		John BATES	} English soldiers
Duke of BEDFORD, his younger brother		Alexander COURT	
Humphrey, Duke of GLOUCESTER, another younger brother		Michael WILLIAMS	
Duke of EXETER, the king's uncle		HERALD	
Duke of YORK, the king's cousin		<i>The French side</i>	
Earl of WESTMORLAND		FRENCH KING, Charles VI	
Earl of WARWICK		QUEEN ISABEL, his wife	
Earl of SALISBURY		Lewis the DAUPHIN, their son and heir	
Archbishop of CANTERBURY		KATHERINE, their daughter	
Bishop of ELY		ALICE, Katherine's lady-in-waiting	
Richard Earl of CAMBRIDGE	} conspirators against the king	CONSTABLE of France	
Henry, Lord SCROOP of Masham		Duke of BURGUNDY	
Sir Thomas GREY		MONTJOY, the French Herald	
Corporal NYM		GOVERNOR of Harfleur	
Lieutenant BARDOLPH		Duke of BOURBON	
Ancient PISTOL		Duke of ORLÉANS	
HOSTESS QUICKLY, keeper of a tavern, married to Pistol		Duke of BERRI	
BOY, previously page to Falstaff		Lord RAMBURES	
Sir Thomas ERPINGHAM	} officers in the king's army	Lord GRANDPRÉ	
Captain GOWER, an Englishman		French AMBASSADORS to England	
Captain FLUELLEN, a Welshman		FRENCH LORDS	
		Soldiers, Messengers, Attendants	

The Characters

My plan is to use a cast of 18 actors.

There are 5 parts where the actor will only play that part.

The other actors will all play more than one role across the play.

Some characters have specific gender and/or age requirements. However, a large number of parts are open to anyone. This looks like a very male play, but I want give parts to the most suitable players, male or female, so ladies, please don't be put off.

I really hope that everyone who is cast will feel that they are a vital part of the ensemble.

Henry V

Actors and roles

Actor 1 (m 25-35)	Henry
Actor 2	Chorus/Montjoy
Actor 3	Exeter
Actor 4 (f. 18-30)	Boy/Katharine
Actor 5	Scroop/Court/Jamy
Actor 6	Grey/Bate/MacMorris/Burgundy
Actor 7 (m. 40+)	Bishop of Canterbury/King of France/Erpingham
Actor 8	Ambassador/Westmoreland(Bedford)/Gloucester(Warwick)
Actor 9	Dauphin
Actor 10	Cambridge/Williams
Actor 11	Fluellen
Actor 12	Pistol
Actor 13	Nym/Orleans
Actor 14	Bardolph/Rambures/French Soldier
Actor 15 (f. 40+)	Bishop of Ely/Hostess/Queen Isobel/York
Actor 16	Gower/Salisbury
Actor 17	Constable of France/Bourbon/Governor
Actor 18 (f)	Alice/Messenger(Grandpre)



Auditions

Auditions will take place at the Guild Hall on Sunday 30th March between 10am and 2pm.

There are audition pieces for 11 parts. These will be available online after the meeting.

You may be asked to take a role that you didn't audition for. Please be willing to do so – the pieces I have set are designed to help me choose the best possible combination of cast to cover all the roles.

Audition Tips

- Check the notes at the top – they will tell you a little about the character and the context of the extract.
- Check whether the part is open to anyone, or if there is a gender or age requirement.
- Audition for ONE or TWO parts only.
- The extracts are short – learn them if possible, but definitely prepare them so that I can see that you have really thought about how you want to present that character.
- One of the panel will read in other character lines for you.

Fluellen

This part is open to anyone, but does require a convincing Welsh accent.

Fluellen is a proud Welsh soldier. When his honour and national pride is insulted by Pistol, he decides to make him eat his words. And some leek. In this scene he tells Gower that he is waiting to confront Pistol.

GOWER

Nay, that's right. But why wear you your leek today? Saint Davy's day is past.

FLUELLEN

There is occasions and causes why and wherefore in all things. I will tell you as my friend, Captain Gower. The rascally, scald, beggarly, lousy, praggng knave Pistol, which you and yourself and all the world know to be no petter than a fellow, look you now, of no merits, he is come to me and prings me pread and salt yesterday, look you, and bid me eat my leek. It was in a place where I could not breed no contention with him, but I will be so bold as to wear it in my cap till I see him once again, and then I will tell him a little piece of my desires.

Enter Pistol.

GOWER

Why here he comes, swelling like turkey-cock.

FLUELLEN

'Tis no matter for his swellings, nor his turkey-cocks.—God pless you, Aunchient Pistol, you scurvy, lousy knave, God pless you!