This document contains audition pieces for each character. If possible please try to learn the lines and deliver a performance off script, if not please print out your own copy of the page you need and bring it to the auditions with you.

Above each piece is an underlined title as to which character it applies to. There may be some scenes below in which a character you are interested in auditioning for appears, however if their name is not included in the title this will be played by someone on the audition panel and you do not need to learn it. Only the role of Cecil has two pieces to learn, every other part has only one.

Auditions will take place on September 7th between 11am and 1pm. If you are unable to audition on this date in person, please send a video audition to eleanor.mallinson@btitnernet.com **before** 3pm on the 7th. It is not possible to audition on another week unless casting has not filled all roles. The final cast will be announced via e-mail either the same day or next after auditions have taken place.

**Newspaper Seller Narrator – Audition piece**

NewsP Welcome, welcome one and all,

 to the busy London streets,

 we’ve got a tale to recall,

 and you don’t have to leave your seats

 to join us as we solve a crime,

 a proper little caper,

 our hero’s name will surely shine,

 printed in all the papers.

The name of Sherlock is renown,

 He’s everybody’s hero,

 Especially here in London town,

 Where the crime rate is almost zero,

 He locks up thieves and the evil type,

 No mystery lies unsolved,

 With his signature cape, and hat, and pipe,

 And his best friend Watson involved,

 But this might not be the tale you think,

 Though Sherlock Holmes is great,

 Instead, printed in plainest ink,

 Another story falls on this date,

 So, the detective that you know so well,

 Is not who this panto’s about,

 Instead we’ve another tale to tell,

 Come on, let’s check it out.

**Dame Audition Piece**

Lady B Oh, I don’t know. I’m not sure I want to ask you for directions. You’re a very unsavoury looking lot. I don’t usually mix with the commoners, still this is an emergency.

 I’m Lady Winnifred Byrd. Perhaps you’ve heard of me? No? Well, I suppose we don’t move in the same social circles. I was born into a rich family. Oh yes, they say I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth, which was a very painful experience for my poor mother, I tell you. Oh yes, I’m pure blue blood. I was bought up to be a Lady.

 Well, as you know a Lady has to always wear the finest clothing. What do you think of my dress? It’s designer label. I had it made for a ridiculous figure.

 Oh I do love fashion, although you know these fashions with skinny jeans, I can’t get in to them. Of course my favourite way to dress is in all black. Then again my fashion sense is second to nun. Get it, nun… oh never mind. Oh yes, this is my Brexit dress. Everyone wants me out of it, but once it happens they’re not so sure.

Sherlock This time we’ve got them, Watson!

Watson Do you really think so, Holmes?

Sherlock The paper in this note is made from a specific type of Papyrus, found only in Egypt.

 This symbol in the corner is the symbol for the Egyptian god Horus.

Watson *(comparing the note to the book*) You’re right, it’s exactly the same.

Sherlock But, it is also the symbol for the notorious thieves and criminals who work for that evil character Rattigan!

Watson Rattigan’s minions? You mean we might be able to stop them finally Holmes?

Sherlock We are one step closer to finally meeting this evil mastermind face to face after all of these years. If I am right Watson, this note, left at the scene of the robbery, will not just reveal who committed the crime, but where we can find them too.

Watson How exactly?

Sherlock Because, good doctor, this paper is stained with lamp oil and hasthe aroma, if I am not mistaken, which I seldom am, of jellied eels!

Watson Gracious.

Sherlock And therefore we can conclude that this paper spent time down on the river front, somewhere near a lamp.

Watson there must be hundreds of lamps there Holmes.

Sherlock Yes, but if you look at the paper you will see that one edge is not straight, showing it has been torn off something.

**Rattigan audition piece**

Rattigan We are about to embark on the most evil and sinister plan of my entire career. So far we have proven we can steal anything from under the noses of the pitiful police and now it is time to prove once and for all we are the greatest villains of all time. We have, here in my den, an inventor who has created a machine that can be used as an incredible weapon. We will use this invention to take all of London hostage and finally I shall rule over not just a gang of cutthroat thieves, but an entire country and then the whole world will be mine!

 *Cheer from gang.*

Grub I’m sorry to interrupt boss, but the inventor said he hasn’t finished it yet.

Rattigan He said what?

Grub That the invention isn’t finished yet.

Rattigan Then he had better hurry up and finish it.

Scrug He told us he couldn’t finish it without a few more pieces.

Rattigan And when exactly were you planning on telling me this?

Scrug Um… Just now.

Rattigan Then you three had better get whatever else it is he needs to finish the job.

G, S, B Yes boss.

Grub but, even if we get the other things, how do we make him finish it? He’s refusing to work on it.

Rattigan do I have to think of everything? We find some way to threaten him. Find out what will make him agree. He must care about something or someone enough to do anything we tell him to. All you have to do I find out what.

Grub Got it, boss. You can count on us.

Rattigan I’d better be able to, because this time I will have nothing stand in my way!

Bartimus What about Sherlock Holmes?

Rattigan That interfering detective? Oh, I have a plan for him. Even he cannot foil my evil plans this time. Nothing will stop me!

**Tracker Audition Piece**

Tracker Well. This place is a right dump*.(to audience*) Ah, I bet you didn’t know I could talk, did you. Of course I can only talk when there’s no-one else around. That’s called pantomime magic. Cecil seems to think he’s going to be a great detective. He means well, but he’s never going to manage this on his own. I think he’s going to need some help. I can find clues, of course I can. I’m a tracking dog, but he’ll never notice I’ve found one unless you can tell him. Maybe we can work together. I’ll find the clues and show you that I’ve found one, like this. *(Tracker runs round in a couple of circles, does some dramatic action and points.)* Now if you ever see me do that do you think you could shout out ‘A Clue, A clue!’ then Cecil will realise I’ve found something. Can we practice it? (*they do the routine a couple of times until the audience get the idea)* Thanks. That’s going to make everything a lot easier. I’d better start sniffing around to see if I can find something.

**Thief, Scrug and Grub Audition Piece**

Thief pst.

Scrug did you just pst me?

Thief pst.

Scrug Well somebody just pst us.

Grub but if it wasn’t you and it wasn’t him, then who was it.

 *The thief does a dramatic combat roll in front of them.*

Scrug I’m guessing it might be him.

Grub Really? What was your first clue?

Scrug Well, the fact that he’s rolling round the place and going pst was… (G*rub hits him)* ow.

Grub Are you the thief known as the shadow?

Thief State the password.

Scrug Password? What password?

Grub I don’t know. You never said anything about a password when Rattigan hired you.

Thief How do I know you’re who you’re supposed to be without a password?

Scrug Well, this could be difficult. The boss never told us there was a password. He just told us to meet you here.

Thief No password, no items.

Grub I guess that means we can’t pay you then.

Thief Pay. That’s the password.

Scrug It can’t be. Everyone knows you have to have at least eight digits, one of which has to be a capital letter and another has to be a number and sometimes you have to have a symbol too. And then it gets so complicated that you can’t remember it, and then you have to change it again anyway. Pay only has (*counts on fingers, twice to make sure*) three letters.

Thief Pay me 1 pound note.

Grub Ah, well that’s better.

Thief Rattigan agreed 1 pound note. Hand it over and I give you the goods and information.

Grub Information? What information?

Thief Cash first.

Grub Oh, hang on a minute then.

**Marianne and Cecil Audition Piece**

Lady B I think we lost them.

Marianne I hope so, but they took Emma. Mr Holmes what do we do?

Lady B We mustn’t panic. We mustn’t panic. (*screams)*

Marianne Don’t worry mother. The great detective Sherlock Holmes will think of something, won’t you, Sherlock?

Cecil I… I can’t.

Marianne Of course you can. You’re the great Sherlock Holmes.

Cecil No. No I’m not.

Marianne But…

Cecil I lied. I’m not Sherlock Holmes. I’m his nephew, Cecil. I’m not a detective. I’ve only just arrived in London. I wanted to learn from my uncle, but he was away on a case and when you turned up, I thought I could do what he does, but I can’t. I’m not good enough.

Marianne But, you solved all those problems and found the clues.

Cecil Emma did all that, and Tracker. All I did was try to impress you.

Marianne So you chose to lie to us?

Cecil I just wanted you to like me.

Marianne And Albert and Emma?

Cecil I can’t do anything to help them now. Maybe we can just…

Marianne No. we cannot just do anything. There is no ‘we’. I can’t believe you lied to us.

**Cecil Audition Piece**

Cecil So this is London! I never imagined it would be so big! *(to audience)* Hello there. I’m Cecil. What’s your name? *(gets audience to shout out names – repeat until louder. Of course it’s impossible to hear them all.)* Well, it’s nice to meet you. Have you come to see Sherlock Holmes, the great detective? So have I. He’s my uncle. I’ve travelled for miles to come to see him, you see I want to be a detective just like him and I’m hoping he’ll train me. I know every one of his cases and I’ve watched every episode of CSI so I think I’ll be a really good detective. I brought my dog, Tracker with me, so we can solve mysteries together. Would you like to meet her? *(response)* great. Tracker! Tracker! Come here girl! (*Tracker doesn’t appear)* Maybe she can’t hear me. Do you think you could help me shout for her? *(response)* Brilliant. Ok, we’ll all shout together. After three, 1, 2, 3, Tracker! (*repeat as required)*

**Emma and Bartimus Audition Piece**

Emma Bartimus, what are you singing?

Bartimus If you’re happy and you know it.

Emma I like that song too.

Bartimus Do you want to sing it with me?

Emma Ok.

B and E (*singing*) If you’re happy and you know it clap your hands….

 *Bartimus claps, but Emma can’t because her hands are tied.*

Bartimus You didn’t clap.

Emma I can’t. My hands are tied.

Bartimus Oh, yeah.

Emma if you untied me I could clap too.

Bartimus Ok.

 *He is about to untie her when he realises.*

Bartimus Wait. Grub told me I was not to untie you. He gets very mad if I don’t remember what he told me.

Emma That’s not very nice.

Bartimus He’s not nice. Scrug is ok, but I don’t really have many friends.

Emma It isn’t right though for them to be mean to you. Friends shouldn’t be mean to other friends.

Bartimus I do wish they weren’t mean to me.

**Dr Albert Audition Piece**

Emma Thank you.

Albert That’s quite alright. What sort of gentleman would I be if I didn’t help a damsel in distress?

Emma Can your machine really do what Rattigan says it can?

Albert I have no idea. It’s a theory mostly, but if he finds out it might not work, then who knows what he’ll do.

Emma Maybe we can escape?

Albert I’ve tried. It’s no good. This den is deep underground. The entrance is almost impossible to find.

Emma So we’re trapped here.

Albert I’m afraid so.

Emma Can I just say, you’re not what I expected.

Albert What do you mean?

Emma I thought you’d be older.

Albert Ah yes, the eccentric inventor does usually come with an image in your head. Sorry I’m not what you thought.

Emma No. It’s just I thought you were getting married.

Albert I am, to my pretty bird.

**Mrs Hudson Audition Piece**

Woman 1 Good Morning, Mrs Hudson.

Mrs H Is it a good morning?

Woman 1 Of course it is. I thought you’d be happy that your employer solved another puzzling mystery. It must be very exciting working for the great Sherlock Holmes.

Mrs H Exciting wouldn’t be the word I’d use, although I suppose it was slightly exciting when he decided to solve the case by working out how long a rope would take to burn through. The key to the entire mystery he said, which would be fine if he hadn’t decided that the curtain tie backs were the right material to test his theories. He burnt through them all, dropped one on the rug and almost set fire to the entire place and then complained this morning that it was too dark in his study because the curtains aren’t tied back. I’ve had to come out to find new ones so he can carry on working.

Woman 1 Still, I think it would be wonderful to work for such a great detective.

Mrs H It has its moments.

Woman 1 Is that his post?

Mrs H Yes. There were a couple of letters waiting for him at the post office.

Woman 1 Do you think one of them is a case?

Mrs H I don’t know. It might be.

Woman 1 How exciting.

Mrs H There’s one from his brother.

Woman 1 I didn’t know he had a brother.

Mrs H Oh yes. He has two. One lives in town and the other lives on the Devonshire coast I believe. I doubt Mr Holmes will read it. He’s not normally bothered about letters from family, but I suppose I’d better get it home to him anyway.