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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

**COMMUNITY ACTORS TO BRING THE
STAR-CROSSED LOVERS UP-TO-DATE
AT BRADFORD CATHEDRAL IN THEIR
TENTH OUTDOOR PRODUCTION**



The cast preparing at a recent rehearsal.

ACT – Actors Community Theatre – will be returning to Bradford Cathedral for the tenth time this summer for their latest outdoor Shakespeare performance. This year they will be performing

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HOSPITALITY. FAITHFULNESS. WHOLENESS.

one of the Bard's most popular plays - the tragedy 'Romeo and Juliet': the famous story of the star-crossed lovers.

The play was chosen by this year's director Alison Rooks:

"I knew that when I stop work and I've got more time I'd like to direct 'Romeo and Juliet'. I love the language and I like the tragedies the best anyway. What we look for are the plays that we can cast, but for me it was always going to be 'Romeo and Juliet' or nothing!"

With rehearsals for the four performances going well, the Cathedral and ACT are looking forward to this next chapter in their annual partnership. They have been working hard to bring 'Romeo and Juliet' up-to-date, to fit the popular play into two hours and ensuring the language is suitable for Shakespeare veterans and those new to the plays alike.



Juliet (Catherine Bailey) and Romeo (Harry Rundle) in rehearsals for the summer performances

Alison Rooks:

“You’ll love it! It’s not just – spoiler alert! – every one ends up dead! The language is just lovely. The thing about Shakespeare’s plays is that they have a lot of language that people don’t understand now. It was relevant at the time, but not as relevant now. We’ve cut all that – it’s gone!

“We don’t let actors speak works that they don’t understand because if an actor doesn’t understand what they’re saying, then the audience won’t understand what they’re saying. If it’s done properly and it’s done well then you’ll certainly understand it! It’s got beautiful language, a great plot and a fabulous cast. And an amazing director of course!

“I would say definitely come: it’s a great first Shakespeare play to see as people have an idea of the story anyway. It’s not an obscure one, so it’s a good starter.”

ACT will be performing ‘Romeo and Juliet’ from Thursday 25th – Saturday 27th July 2019, with performances at 7:15pm, with an additional matinee on the Saturday at 2:30pm. Tickets can be bought from bradfordcathedral.eventbrite.com, by coming to the Cathedral office or by calling Eve on 0113 393 0929. Tickets will also be available on the door. They are also looking for new faces to join in acting and stage management, and they can be contacted on their ‘Actors Community Theatre’ Facebook page.

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Notes for Editors

About ACT

Actors Community Theatre (ACT) was formed at the Priestley Theatre in 2003. The company are based in the city centre of Bradford producing four plays a year including the highly acclaimed annual Shakespearian production at Bradford Cathedral.

About Bradford Cathedral

Bradford Cathedral has been a place of worship in Bradford since the first millennium. It is the oldest building in the city and, alongside being a place of worship, hosts events, arts projects and much more. Bradford Cathedral celebrates its centenary in 2019.

For further information please contact:

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