

BBC One's *The Pale Horse* begins Sunday 9th February after filming at The Bottle Yard Studios and on location in Bristol & surrounding region

[Watch cast interviews](#) recorded on set at *The Bottle Yard* and on location at *Ashton Court, Arnos Cemetery & Sheldon Manor*

BRISTOL, 6 February 2020: Brand new Agatha Christie thriller **The Pale Horse** begins on BBC One on Sunday night, after filming at The Bottle Yard Studios and on location in Bristol and the surrounding region.



(Left) Rufus Sewell stars in The Pale Horse. (Right) Rufus Sewell & Henry Lloyd Hughes on set at The Bottle Yard Studios. Images courtesy Mammoth Screen / Agatha Christie Ltd / BBC

Starring Rufus Sewell, Kaya Scodelario, the two part-drama produced by Mammoth Screen and Agatha Christie Limited for BBC One is adapted by Sarah Phelps (*The ABC Murders, Ordeal By Innocence*) from the 1961 Agatha Christie novel of the same name. It filmed between July to September last year on set at The Bottle Yard Studios and on location in Bristol with support from Bristol Film Office. A major Chelsea apartment set was built at the Studios where a large proportion of filming took place, whilst the six week shoot also used a host of Bristol locations.



(Left) Filming in Clifton Bristol. Image courtesy Tony Stiles (Right) Rufus Sewell filming on location (image courtesy Mammoth Screen / Agatha Christie Ltd / BBC)

Ashton Court Estate and Arnos Cemetery feature prominently, whilst a host of Bristol's central streets also create the backdrop of 1960's London. Frogmore Street and Cave Street double as the East End, Denmark Street stands in for the Soho district, properties overlooking St Nicholas market were brought to life as period police station interiors, Queen's Square doubles as a Chelsea apartment block and Clifton Village's picturesque West Mall doubles as the Capital's iconic King's Road.

Line Producer Benjamin Greenacre says: “Having based Poldark here for 5 years, Mammoth Screen already knew about the professional excellence provided by local crew, the variety and beauty of locations found in the city and the region, the excellent facilities and staff at The Bottle Yard and the unparalleled help and expertise proffered by the Bristol Film Office and Bristol City Council. It’s because of all these invaluable assets that Mammoth have returned to their home-away-from-home to shoot this flagship drama for BBC One.

“Bristol should take pride that it has become a centre of excellence for High End TV drama; it is as strong an option for filming as London ever was and is now the front runner amongst the regional production bases such as Manchester or Cardiff. It’s been a pleasure to shoot The Pale Horse in Bristol and I’m sure that everyone will enjoy watching it and spotting familiar locations recast as London landmarks.”

Further afield, filming took place at Sheldon Hall near Chippenham and the picturesque Chew Valley, with assistance from Bath Film Office. The picturesque Cotswolds village of Bisley near Stroud was transformed into the fictional village of Much Deeping where Christie’s original novel is set. Three days of filming took place in the village, with The Bear Inn providing the setting for The Pale Horse, the pub where the trio of alleged witches are said to have plotted a number of deaths.



The Pale Horse filming in Bisley. Images courtesy Mammoth Screen / Agatha Christie Ltd / BBC)

The Pale Horse follows Mark Easterbrook as he tries to uncover the mystery of a list of names found in the shoe of a dead woman. His investigation leads him to the peculiar village of Much Deeping, and The Pale Horse, the home of a trio of rumoured witches. Word has it that the witches can do away with wealthy relatives by means of the dark arts, but as the bodies mount up, Mark is certain there has to be a rational explanation.

The Pale Horse features an all star cast led by Rufus Sewell (The Man In The High Castle, The Marvellous Mrs. Maisel) who plays Mark Easterbrook and is joined by Kaya Scodelario (Crawl, Extremely Wicked and Shockingly Evil And Vile) playing Hermia, Bertie Carvel (Doctor Foster, Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell) as Zachariah Osborne, Sean Pertwee (Gotham, Elementary) as Detective Inspector Lejeune, Henry Lloyd-Hughes (Killing Eve, Indian Summers) as David Ardingly, Poppy Gilbert (Call The Midwife) as Thomasina Tuckerton, Madeleine Bowyer (Black Mirror) as Jessie Davis and Ellen Robertson (Snowflake) as Poppy. Sarah Woodward (Queens Of Mystery), Georgina Campbell (His Dark Materials) and Claire Skinner (Outnumbered) also star. Completing the cast are Rita Tushingham (Vera) as Bella, Sheila Atim (Girl From The North Country) as Thyryza Grey and Kathy Kiera Clarke (Derry Girls) as Sybil Stamford who play the trio of witches.

The Pale Horse marks the fifth Agatha Christie adaptation penned by Sarah Phelps, following previous titles *And Then There Were None*, *The Witness for the Prosecution*, *The ABC Murders* and *Ordeal by Innocence*.

The Pale Horse is a Mammoth Screen and Agatha Christie Limited drama for BBC One, directed by Leonora Lonsdale (Beast) and produced by Ado Yoshizaki Cassuto (City Of Tiny Lights). The executive producers are Sarah Phelps, Damien Timmer and Helen Ziegler for Mammoth Screen, James Prichard and Basi Akpabio for Agatha Christie Limited and Tommy Bulfin for BBC.

The Pale Horse begins on BBC One at 9pm on Sunday 9th February and concludes on Sunday 16 February. It will be available on Amazon Prime Video from 12 March.

– ENDS –

For information about The Bottle Yard Studios/Bristol Film Office, contact Tara Milne taracmilne@gmail.com.

For further information about The Pale Horse, contact Jessica.morris@milpublicity.co.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Bottle Yard Studios

The Bottle Yard Studios is a Bristol City Council initiative. The site, which operated for more than 50 years as a former winery and bottling plant, is now an established base for film and television production in the West of England, attracting UK and overseas productions of all sizes. Eight stages are available at competitive rates, just 15 minutes from Bristol city centre, plus giant green screen, extensive back lot, workshop areas, production offices, costume and make-up rooms, dressing-rooms, storage, private roadways and parking. On-site tenants deliver a host of services including creative, digital, technical and audio/visual expertise, grips, transport, structural, fire and safety assistance.

Productions made at The Bottle Yard Studios include: Sanditon (ITV), Poldark (BBC One), The Spanish Princess (STARZ), Hellboy (Lionsgate), Fortitude (Sky Atlantic), The Crystal Maze (Channel 4), Tipping Point & Tipping Point Lucky Stars (ITV), Eric, Ernie & Me (BBC Four), Ill Behaviour (BBC Two), Three Girls (BBC One), The White Princess (STARZ), Broadchurch (ITV), Trollied (Sky1), Crazyhead (E4/Netflix), Sherlock: The Abominable Bride (BBC One), The Living and the Dead (BBC One), Andy's Safari Adventures (CBeebies), Galavant (Disney/ABC Studios), Wolf Hall (BBC Two), The Lost Honour of Christopher Jefferies (ITV). www.thebottleyard.com

Bristol Film Office

A division of Bristol City Council, Bristol Film Office is a free service to all productions planning to film in the city. Dedicated to making film, television or commercial photography shoots run as smoothly as possible when on location in Bristol, it is the one-stop-shop for all filming enquiries. It can assist at all stages of production, from initial location and crewing advice to reces and logistical support. In 2017-18, Bristol Film Office recorded a strong total of £15.2 million inward investment from productions working in Bristol and registered more than 1,140 location filming days in the city, a 10% increase on the previous year.

Bristol Film Office is leading delivery of a programme of activity to celebrate the permanent UNESCO City of Film status Bristol was awarded in 2017. www.filmbristol.co.uk

