

AUDITION NOTICE



READ THROUGH	Tuesday 15 December 2026, 7.45pm in the Studio
AUDITIONS	Friday 8 January 2027, 7.45pm in the Theatre Sunday 17 January 2027, 2pm in the Theatre
FIRST REHEARSALS	Wednesday 3 March 2027 Rehearsals are at 7.45pm, Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, with Sunday afternoons at 2pm from 8 April 2027
PERFORMANCES	29 April – 8 May 2027 at 7.45pm Matinée: Saturday 1 May 2027 at 2.30pm
DIRECTOR	Chris Hannigan chris.hannigan@btinternet.com 07841 731235
PA	Avril Swift avrilandnigel@talktalk.net 07932 110664 Scripts available from Avril.

This is, quite simply, a barnstormer of a play.

WhatsOnStage called it “A blistering comedy, full of the deepest, saddest truths about life. It is Chekhov on Heineken – reaching the parts other plays cannot reach.” It’s funny but it’s angsty in equal measure. A huge opportunity for actors to really let rip on stage. We will hold nothing back. We will turn this one up to eleven!

Set in Nottinghamshire we will need to tune in to the East Midland brogue. We need to create a highly believable, close-knit family unit. Your director grew up in a mining community in Leicestershire and can’t wait to flatten your vowels – but it will take dedication inside and outside the rehearsal room.

Hazel, Maggie and Sylvia are the three daughters of widower and ex-miner, Tony. Pete, Tony’s estranged brother, also an ex-miner, is married to Carol – an absolute tour-de-force mother replacement for the sisters. Hazel is in a loveless marriage with John, who has eyes on another.

Together they have two daughters, Leanne (14) and Sarah (10). Completing the lineup is Marek, a Pole who moved to the area five years ago and has worked his socks off to finally own his own business.

It is Sylvia and Marek's wedding day. It will start in a blur of hair-straighteners and lip-liner and end with everyone's life being changed forever. Did I mention it's a barnstormer?!

CHARACTERS AND AUDITION PIECES

HAZEL – female, 35-50

The eldest; rock of the family but clinging to the wreckage.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 99: "There was this time ... Dance while we can."

Pages 101 "How about we see ... See you in the morning"

MAGGIE – female, 35-45

Desperate for love but please not with Hazel's husband!

Audition Pieces:

Pages 24-25 "Oh these are lovely ... "They get stuck in your head."

Pages 59-61 "I should get back inside ... "I tried living without you - I can't."

SYLVIA – female, 30-35

The youngest; had her issues but prays this is a new start.

Audition Pieces:

Page 23 "You remember that TV show ... Stay like it - forever."

Pages 104-105 "Tell them what happened ... You broke his nose. His rib!"

AUNTIE CAROL – female, 55-65

Hard drinking, fast talking, her rules.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 10-12 "Hello Sugartits ... Still to this day."

Page 94 "You're not the first woman ... What matters: your family."

LEANNE – female, 14 – actor *MUST* be at least 18 because she kisses an older man – ideally looks younger than her age

'Nearly' a woman.

Audition Pieces:

Page 64 "One day life as we know it ...that's how it ends."

Pages 77-78 "I wouldn't go with the quiche ... It's okay." (with Marek)

SARAH – female, 10

Still very much a little girl; I want!

Audition Piece:

Prepare a short piece (1 minute) – a poem, a short speech, anything you like.

TONY – male, 60-70

Slow; sad; weary with life; deep-thinking.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 44-45 "I want to thank everyone ... to Sylvia and Marek."

Pages 85-87 "Haven't we both been fools ... I'll have you now." (with Pete)

PETE – male, 60-70

Proud; angry at life and particularly with his 'scab' brother.

Audition Pieces:

Page 41 "Annesley ... Welbeck."

Pages 85-87 "Haven't we both been fools ... I'll have you now." (with Tony)

JOHN – male, 35-45

Kind; thoughtful; but a lost soul.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 24-25 "Oh these are lovely ... "They get stuck in your head."

Pages 59-61 "I should get back inside ... "I tried living without you - I can't."

MAREK – male, 30-40

A lovely guy but will not let bigotry pass; Polish accent.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 77-78 "I wouldn't go with the quiche ... It's okay." (with Leanne)

Page 45 "Thank you, Tony ... The electric to my machine." (Sung – but he doesn't have to be a great singer. Just in love!)