

A Network Theatre Company production

at Network Theatre, Lower Road

Happy Chuffing Christmas: 1-5 December 2009

by Kirsty Eyre / directed by Kirsty Eyre



Performances: 01/12/2009 - 05/12/2009

Reading: 02/09/2009 18:30

Audition: 10/09/2009 18:30

Audition: 11/09/2009 18:30

Athena Warburton, Goddess of Barnsley, prides herself on her bacon butties. Sophia Ferrari, Siren of Siena, prefers Prosciutto di Parma. Never the two shall meet - until, that is, Darton High School exchange matches their daughters. Will Adele Warburton (old enough to have a tattoo) and the glamorous Letizia (young enough to model) bond or battle?

The Italian job goes down a storm with the neighbours who keep coming round to inspect la bella Letizia but few are as keen as Nick, Adele's older brother. With an anglo-italian nativity in the making, the Warburtons and Ferraris are brought together at Christmas.

A clash of cultural differences fans the fire which burns the turkey in a spectacular show down on Christmas Day. Packed with spirit, this is one Christmas you'll never forget.

More new writing from Kirsty Eyre.

The Main Characters:

Character	Playing Age	Description
Athena Warburton	Early to mid thirties	On the outside: Ferocious, overweight, stubborn, proud, ardently Northern and well hard - the sort of woman who can shit bricks and piss ice cubes. Multi-layered. Sensitive, caring and loving deep down on the inside with a canny sense of humour.
Aidan Warburton	Early to mid thirties	Lazy, unambitious, frustrating, inconfident. The twinkle of intelligence once in his eyes has been dulled by his addiction to smoking too much weed. A good soul underneath with a good sense of humour. He has become subserviant to the women in the family who rule the roost.
Nick Warburton	22	Salt of the earth, wears his heart on his sleeve, honest, dim-witted and slow on the up-take but die-on-the-sword loyal, loving and kind.
Adele Warburton	16	Scowling, full of hormones and angst, sensitive yet sensible and a decent human being in the making. She is considered, emotionally intelligent and honest.
Ross Warburton	14	Child prodigy, an academic genius, constantly taunted at school for being clever.
Grandma Calypso	Late forties to mid fifties	Obsessed with cleaning and tidying to the point of OCD. She fusses and fiddles and is hyperactive.
Great Grandma Iris	70ish	Fun, comically ditsy, forgetful and very lovable. The first signs of dementia have set in.
Sophia Ferrari	40s	Glamour puss of Rome. She oozes sophistication and would be more at home on a chaise longue than a sofa. She is flamboyant, hot headed and can swing between cool aloof to red hot chilli fiery.
Letizia Ferrari	16-17	An unsolved mystery. A mix of vulnerable, down-to-earth, serious, frightened adolescence and an air of aloof unavailability. Oh and very beautiful.

Character	Playing Age	Description
Julie	16	Comedy character. Adele's sidekick. Never happier than when she's eating. She's not that fussed about much else other than... Darren.
Darren Whittaker	28	Good looking, all the gear, no idea. Cocky, confident, thinks he's God's gift.
Bernadette	30s to 50s	Completely barking mad. She has a split personality. One of her selves indulges in gossip, tea and a normal family life. Madam Verity, her alter-ego is alternative in every way.
Miss Cassini	28-50	Wholesome, nervous, jumpy, slightly drab school teacher who comes out of her shell in comic translation.

More information:

- Poster version 1
- Poster version 2
- Programme
- December 2009 Newsletter review