



THE LITTLE THEATRE, LETCHWORTH SETTLEMENT,
NEVELLS ROAD, LETCHWORTH, SG6 4UB



19 - 21 JUNE 2025

HAYWIRE

A COMEDY BY ERIC CHAPPELL

THE WRITER OF THE CLASSIC SITCOM RISING DAMP



FREE
PROGRAMME

BUY TICKETS ONLINE - WWW.SETTLEMENT-PLAYERS.CO.UK

OR IN PERSON (CASH ONLY) AT DAVID'S MUSIC, EASTCHEAP, LETCHWORTH

The Settlement Players 2025-26 Season



6 SEPTEMBER 2025

We open our 2025/26 season with an evening of one act plays and other performances from our talented members.

Tickets will be just £5 - including a free drink - so do come along and help us get our next exciting season off to a great start!

13-15 NOVEMBER 2025

Everyone creates coping strategies or 'rules for living'. But what happens when an extended family gathers in the kitchen for a traditional Christmas and they each follow those rules, rigidly?

As long-held mechanisms for survival are laid bare, even Mum, who's been preparing this lunch since January, gets embroiled.

In Sam Holcroft's theatrically playful, dark comedy the instructions are there for all to see, audience included – so there's really no place to hide.



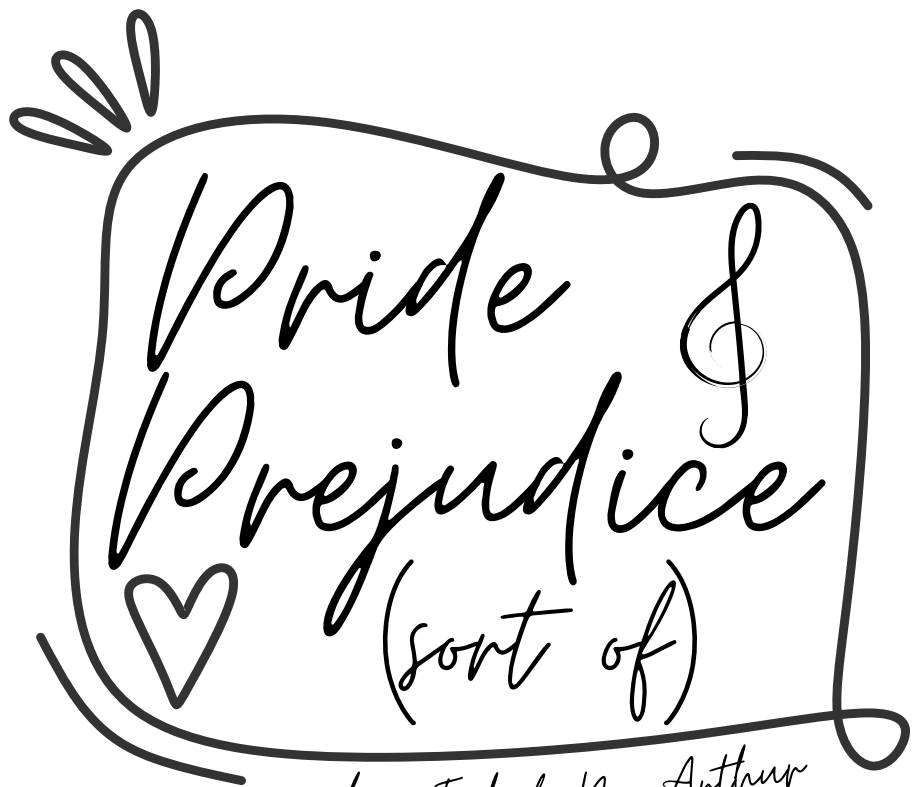
12-14 MARCH 2026

'Love's irrelevant - we're talking about marriage.'

An adaptation of Jane Austen's beloved novel like no other; drawing on over two hundred years of romantic pop history & featuring six young women with a story to tell.

You've seen them emptying the chamber pots and sweeping ash from the grate; overlooked and undervalued, making sure those above stairs find their happy ending.

But these women have always been running the show - 'you can't have a whirlwind romance without clean bedding' - and now the servants are also playing every part. Let the ruthless match-making begin!



*by Isobel McArthur
after Jane Austen*



18-20 JUNE 2026

Pygmalion delighted & scandalised its first audiences in 1914. A brilliantly witty reworking of the classical tale of the sculptor Pygmalion, who falls in love with his perfect female statue.

It is also a barbed attack on the British class system and a statement of Shaw's feminist views. Henry Higgins is the Pygmalion figure who believes he can transform cockney flower girl Eliza Doolittle into a duchess at ease in polite society; however, he overlooks that his 'creation' has a mind of her own...

Haywire Cast



David Smith - Alec

David joined the Players in 2005. Since then he has been involved in 35 productions, most recently directing *The Game's Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays (2023)*. His acting credits include *Season's Greetings (2007)*, *Arcadia (2011)*, *Prescription for Murder (2011)*, *Calendar Girls (2013)*, *The Taming of the Shrew (2014)*, *The God of Carnage (2016)* and *The Ghost Train (2018)* in which he played a cantankerous pain in the bum. It turns out this was quite good training for the role of Alec.



Abigail Sage - Liz

Abi joined the Players in 2010 for *Ghost of a Chance*. She has had huge fun playing roles including teenage genius Thomasina in *Arcadia (2011)*, Callie in *The Wise Man Knows (2012)*, Debbie in *The Real Thing (2012)* and Pat in the Alan Turing drama *Breaking the Code (2013)*. After a break of 10 years, she is thrilled to be back on the Settlement stage, and even more thrilled to finally be too old to play the youngest character.



Val Barber - Maggie

Val has been a member of the Settlement Players for 40 years, first appearing as the maid in *Ladies in Retirement* in 1985. Many varied roles later, Val has really enjoyed exploring her devious side for the role of Maggie!



Alison Hudson - Phoebe

Alison has been a member of the Settlement Players since 2016. She has played some strong women in this time including Doll Common in *Playhouse Creatures* and Maria in *Twelfth Night*. Phoebe is another of those strong woman but with a crafty mischievous side that has been a joy to explore.



Hamish Robb - Jamie

Hamish joined the Settlement Players in 2018, and has taken on roles ranging from a murderer to an Irish jockey. Normally a very physical actor, the role of Jamie has presented the new challenge of performing with reduced mobility.



Grae Kelly - Mandy

Grae has been a Settlement Player since 2019. They have enjoyed exploring different characteristics and personalities that have been presented with each character. Especially with the role of Mandy for this play, *Haywire*.

Haywire

Behind the Scenes

Director – Pat Baskerville

Assistant - James Barnard

Prompt - Beth Moore

Stage Manager and properties – Tracy Rudeforth

ASM – Jess Landy

Lighting – Sadie Sadt

Sound - Phil Ross

Set Design - John Baskerville (2001)

Set Construction - Stephen Charles, Ivor Davies, Rob Evans,
Graham Frost, Kevin Hudson, Phil Ross



From the Director - Pat Baskerville

Dear Friends,

As usual, working with this wonderful group of people has been a real joy. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to bring “Haywire” to you.

We have had plenty of laughs during rehearsals and hope you will sit back, relax and enjoy it too.

Love, Pat



The Settlement Players

Honorary President - Pat Baskerville



Founded in 1923, the Settlement Players have been entertaining audiences in Letchworth and North Herts for over 100 years. Our aim is to provide a memorable theatrical experience in a local theatre at a reasonable price.

We currently stage three main productions a year in March, June and November. We also showcase one-act plays and the diverse talents of our members at our Opening Night in September.

We always look forward to welcoming new members both on stage and behind the scenes. If you would like more information, please contact us:

contactplayers@settlement-players.org.uk
www.settlement-players.co.uk
or find us on social media

With thanks to

Knebworth Amateur Theatrical Society (KATS)

For their kind donation to the Settlement Players that assisted in our recent investment in some new stage rostra and accessories

Letchworth Settlement for their ongoing support

www.letchworthsettlement.org.uk

David's Music for running our box office

www.davids-music.co.uk

Am Dram Thank You Ma'am - Herts and Beds

The Facebook group for local theatre in North Herts and South Beds



Other upcoming events



Grease in the Word!

Next week why not head over to the Broadway Cinema & Theatre, Letchworth where our friends at SPADS (Song, Pantomime & Drama Society) are staging this epic 50's classic musical!

www.broadway-letchworth.com/theatre/

Comedy Night!

And in July, don't miss the launch of what we hope will become regular live comedy events at the Settlement

www.letchworthsettlement.org.uk/events

A black and white poster for a 'Live comedy Launch Gala in Letchworth'. At the top left is a circular logo with a smiling face and the text 'FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY - LETCHWORTH'. To the right of the logo is the main title 'Live comedy Launch Gala in Letchworth' in large, bold letters. Further right is a small photo of a man with a beard and glasses, labeled 'MC' and 'GARY G KNIGHTLEY'. Below the title, the word 'featuring' is written in a smaller font. Underneath are three portrait photos of the comedians: Arthur Smith, Mary Bourke, and Garrie Grubb. Each photo has a name tag below it: 'HEADLINER ARTHUR SMITH', 'MARY BOURKE', and 'GARRIE GRUBB'. At the bottom of the poster, the date 'Saturday 19th July' is written in large, bold letters. Below the date is a warning: 'THIS NIGHT CONTAINS GUARANTEED HILARITY, STRONG LANGUAGE AND MATURE THEMES'. At the very bottom, there is a table with event details.

LETCWORTH	DOORS 18:15, SHOW 19:00-21:30
SETTLEMENT // 229 NEVELLS RD // LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY // SG6 4UB	
TICKETS	EARLY BIRD : £10 // STANDARD : £13 // ON THE DOOR : £15