Chipstead Players' Season List 2025-26

www.chipsteadplayers.org

Tues 16 - Sat 20 September 2025

Evenings at 7.30pm Sat matinee 2.00pm

DRACULA

Directed by Maddie Anstee and Olivia Thynne

Gothic Drama

BY BRAM STOKER. ADAPTED BY ROBERT HAMILTON

Set in Whitby, 1893, strange events unfold at Dr. Seward's sanitorium as his patient Renfield rants about a powerful "Master". Meanwhile, Lucy dies after suffering from mysterious blood loss, and her friend Mina begins to show similar, chilling symptoms. Dr. Seward calls on occult expert Van Helsing, who believes a vampire is responsible. Their fears are confirmed with the arrival of Count Dracula, whose grip on Mina tightens. As Renfield battles his connection to Dracula, Seward, Van Helsing, Jonathan Harker, and Lady Agatha Holmwood fight to save Mina's soul using ancient rituals and faith, in a desperate stand against an ancient evil.

Mon 3 - Sat 8 November 2025

Evenings at 7.30pm Sat matinee 2.00pm

Wed 7 - Sun 11 & Wed 14 - Sat 17 January 2026

Evenings at 7.30pm Matinees at 2.00pm on Sat 10th, Sun 11th and Sat 17th.

Mon 23 - Sat 28 February 2026

Evenings at 7.30pm Sat matinee 2.00pm

Tues 14 - Sat 18 April 2026

Evenings at 7.30pm Sat matinee 2.00pm

Mon 25 - Sat 30 May 2026

Evenings at 7.30pm Sat matinee 2.00pm

Mon 6 - Sat 11 July 2026

Evenings at 7.30pm Sat matinee 2.00pm

THE UNFRIEND

BY STEVEN MOFFATT

Directed by Julie Cumbo

Comedy

In Steve Moffat's *The Unfriend*, the dark comedy centres on a British couple Peter and Debbie who meet an eccentric American woman named Elsa during a cruise holiday. When Elsa invites herself to visit them in the UK, a predicament develops. It becomes evident that Elsa holds some very dark secrets that complicate matters further. The comedy unfolds with a series of humorous and tense situations as they attempt to navigate Elsa's unpredictable behaviour and the fall out of their decision to befriend her.

Tickets on sale from July 7th 2025

SLEEPING BEAUTY

BY RUFUS NORRIS

Directed by Beth Brooks

Family

Once upon a time there was a beautiful Princess who was loved by everyone. Well... almost everyone. Cursed by a wicked fairy, she pricks her finger and falls into a deep sleep. One hundred years later, a Prince wakes her with a kiss. But the Prince isn't as brave as he should be – and his mother's a bit of an ogress... Based on Perrault's 17th-century classic, Rufus Norris's *Sleeping Beauty* goes beyond the kiss into a perilous world of beastly shadows, nasty smells and a forest full of enchanted trouble. This twist on the classic tale of Sleeping Beauty's curse is portrayed through the eyes of the fairy who curses her.

3 - Sat 28 DIXON AND DAUGHERS

BY DEBORAH BRUCE

Directed by Anne Gregory

Drama

Mary has just been released from prison. She wants to come home and forget all about it but Briana has other ideas. Over a tumultuous two days a family is forced to confront not just their past but themselves. There is both humour and horror in store because even if you refuse to hear the truth, the truth doesn't go away. The play is a powerful story of family and forgiveness and as a jet-black comedy, is powerful, sad and funny.

Tickets on sale from Nov 3rd 2025

THE WOLVES OF WILLOUGHBY CHASE BY JOAN AIKEN, ADAPTED BY RUSS TUNNEY

Directed by Charlie McCarthy

Comedy Adventure

"Once upon a time that never was..." In an alternative version of history, wolves stalk the streets of England, but cousins Bonnie and Sylvia have bigger things to worry about when their home, Willoughby Chase, is taken over by their new guardian, the scheming Miss Slighcarp. This adaptation of Joan Aiken's classic children's novel, *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase*, will set your imagination alight as you are whisked away into a magical world of suspense, mystery and danger, with a cast of larger-than-life characters.

Tickets on sale from Jan 5th 2026

STEPPING OUT BY RICHARD HARRIS

Directed by Ian Brown

Comedy

Stepping Out is a warm and very funny play about the lives, laughs and loves of a diverse group of women - and one man! - attending a weekly tap-dance class in a dingy North London church hall. At times moving, the play focuses on their characters and relationships, with anecdotes and confidences being shared as they get to know each other better and as we also get to know them as individuals. They're a likeable bunch and we root for them, hoping that their dancing will improve.

CURTAIN UP ON MURDER

Directed by Lesley Crowther-Smith

Thriller

BY BETTINE MANKTELOW

An amateur production of a murder mystery is rehearsing in the theatre at the end of the pier. Storms rage overhead and the doors are locked: they are trapped! Then the Assistant Stage Manager falls to certain death through a trapdoor. There are characteristics that we will all recognise from our involvement with amateur dramatics, such as fragile egos and self-absorption. Will anyone actually survive until the curtain finally closes?

Tickets on sale from Apr 6th 2026