

A WORKINGTON theatre group hopes to give its audience food for thought as it tackles pertinent issues with a touch of humour in its latest production.

Workington Playgoers will perform *Neighbourhood Watch* from Tuesday until next Saturday at the Theatre Royal, Washington Street.

The black comedy, by Playgoers favourite Alan Ayckbourn, follows churchgoing brother and sister Martin and Hilda Massie as they move into their new home in the idyllic Bluebell Hill Development estate and immediately find its just as easy to make new enemies as new friends.

When a meeting to form a Neighbourhood Watch group turns sour as the Massies' beloved garden gnome, Monty, crashes through their window, things quickly get out of hand and the sinister, hilarious tale unfolds.

Director Tony Parker said: "We've done quite a few Alan Ayckbourn comedies and this is quite a dark one.

"It's a very intelligent play and it does raise quite a few pertinent



**DARK COMEDY:** The cast of *Neighbourhood Watch* rehearse ahead of next week's run at the Theatre Royal in Workington

Picture: Chris Lewis

points, particularly considering the current political situation we're in.

"It asks questions about vigilantism and class relationships.

"I think it's going to be a production with leaves lots of food for

thought."

Performances start at 7.30pm each night.

Tickets cost £11, concessions £10, and can be booked online at [www.theatre-royal-workington.co.uk](http://www.theatre-royal-workington.co.uk)