

## Director's Notes

Although only running to two series and ten 'specials' the TV series of 'The Vicar of Dibley' has been warmly taken to the nation's heart and sunk into our folk memories. We only have to hear the stuttered, "NO, no, no, no....Yes" and we are immediately taken back to those happy family evenings around the television when we laughed uproariously at the way Jim Trott's hesitations caused David Horton such irritation as he tried to chair the Dibley Parish Council.

Part of the series' appeal was based on its topical nature. In the Spring of 1994 the Church of England ordained the first 32 women priests in its history. In the autumn of the same year Geraldine Granger stepped on to our screens to face the prejudices and rural traditions of the fictional parish of Dibley in Oxfordshire. With its diverse range of characters, cleverly written jokes and sometimes earthy humour The Vicar of Dibley played out on our screens some of the issues of sexism which were actually happening in parishes around the country.

The idea that the Wychwood Players might have the opportunity to perform such a popular tale was too much to resist and as soon as the idea was mooted we immediately started negotiations. It's not hard to imagine the delight and pride felt by the Players when several weeks later they received permission to perform the stage adaptation of the iconic TV series.

It seemed that everybody wanted to be involved in this hilarious play. Never before have we had so many people auditioning for parts or volunteering to help backstage. Even when illness and work forced members to relinquish their parts others gamely came forward to take up the roles.

We are delighted that the royalties for the production will be going in total to the Comic Relief Fund and anyone wishing to make a further contribution will find a collection box at the Exit.

Together with the efforts of many people backstage this is a team production and together we want to make it our homage to the rich and warm memories we all have of those family evenings round the telly. We hope you enjoy the evening.

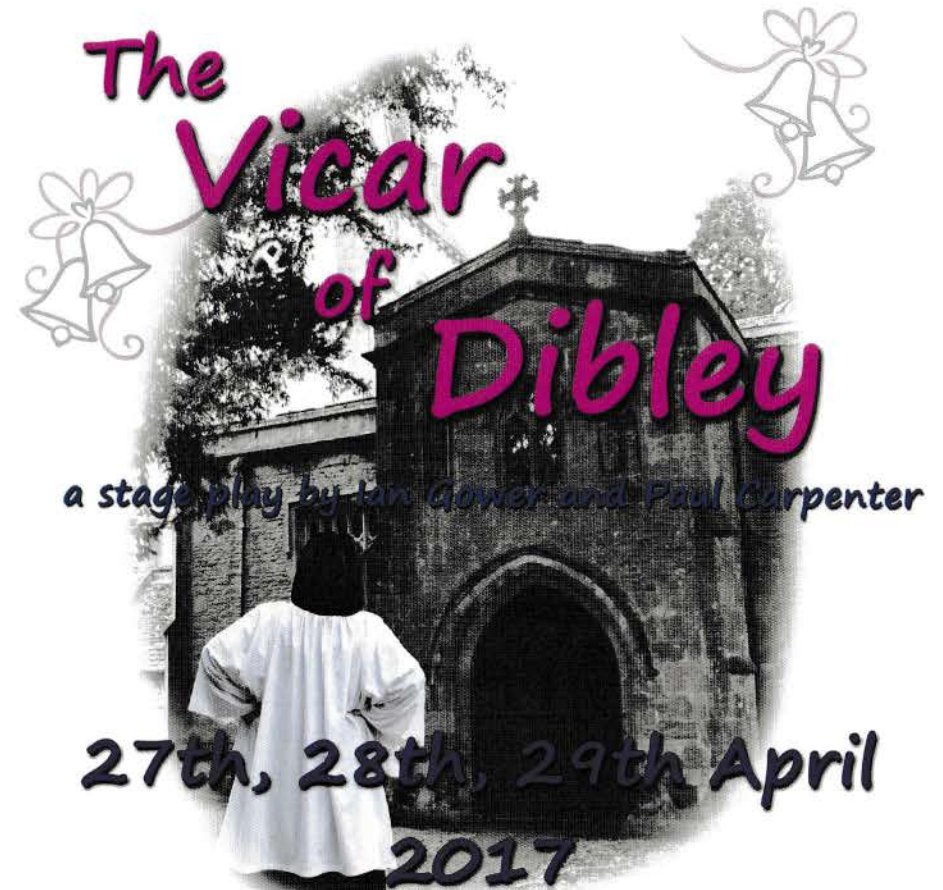
Dudley Thompson

Our next production (yet to be decided!) will be  
on 30 November, 1 & 2 December 2017

For further information please visit:

[www.wychwoodplayers.com](http://www.wychwoodplayers.com)

WYCHWOOD PLAYERS



The New Beaconsfield Hall

# PROGRAMME

For which a donation would be very much appreciated

Thank you

# The Vicar of Dibley

A stage play by Ian Gower and Paul Carpenter

Adapted from the original TV series by Richard Curtis and Paul Mayhew-Archer with kind permission of Tiger Aspect Productions.

(All Royalties from this production go to Comic Relief)

## CAST (in order of appearance)

Frank Pickle (Parish Clerk)	Phillip Croxson
Jim Trott	Mark Jessey
David Horton (Chairman Parish Council)	Ralph Wears
Hugo Horton	Richard Dreyer
Letitia Croypley	Rachel Read
Owen Newitt	Steve Colter
Alice Tinker	Rachel Hartley
Geraldine Granger	Clare Brown
Tinky Winky & Dipsy	Julie Downing & Sue Mellerick
Woman in the Church	Karolina Weir

## CREW

### Set Conception & Construction

Amanda Keighley  
Ben Curran  
Ed Reynolds  
Members of the Players

### Stage Manager

Tony Mellerick

### Back Stage Crew

Richard Hartley  
Ed Reynolds

### Props

Katy White  
Lizzy Aldridge  
Members of the Players

### Lighting

Frank O'Neill

### Music & Sound Effects

Simon Aldridge

### Costume, Hair & Make-up

Sue Mellerick  
Rose Hartley  
The Cast

*Thanks to the Oxford Drama Wardrobe, to Brenda Leedham for wigs and to Rev Anne Hartley for all things 'Vicary'.*

### Front of House

Julie Downing  
Members of the Players

### Box Office

Sally Elderfield  
Sharon Light

## Posters/Programme Cover Publicity

Amanda Keighley  
Ralph Wears  
Members of the Players  
Rachel Read  
Sally Lewis  
Rachel Read  
Dudley Thompson

## Programme Rehearsal Prompt Assistant Director Director

### Act I

#### Scenes 1-10

Take place in the Village Hall and the Vicarage and start with the arrival of Geraldine Granger as the new Vicar of Dibley following the death of the previous incumbent.

### Act II

#### Scenes 1-12

Geraldine Granger has settled in well to Dibley and undertakes her next task, which is to convince David that the marriage of his son Hugo to Alice is a good thing...

None of our productions would be possible without an array of volunteers who master a myriad of tasks just to get the show on the road.

The Wychwood Players have been a local institution for decades and there is always a warm welcome to any new members, especially those with relevant practical skills. Why not find out more?

These days we are inevitably competing with all the modern offerings in the entertainment world, which makes it even more important that our marketing efforts count. It costs approximately £2500 to stage a play and we need to focus on what works best. Please help us by completing our short questionnaire so we can learn more about what brings you here.

*Thank you in anticipation!*