

# A DICKENS OF A GOOD CURRY

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## A CHARITY PERFORMANCE *at St. Mary's Parish Centre :*

*All profits from the show will be donated to the Dover Charter Trustees Split Appeal Fund and the St. Martin's Trust for the Homeless of Dover and Deal. Dr. Curry, a Dovorian who now lives in Florida, returned to England, at the Society's invitation, to give fellow Dovorians the pleasure of hearing another of his Dickens readings.*



IT IS very probable that Dickens appeals to the English, sorry, to the British, - mostly of a certain age - primarily because they can see in his novels a perspicacious portrayal of the life styles, the mores, of the SC Gps 5 & 4 of the later half of the 19th century, a period when the eternal verities had not yet been tumbled, all were still aware of the station "into which God had been pleased to call them" and there was no inflation. Dr. Curry's evocative performance at the Dover Society's presentation at St. Mary's Parish Centre on 23rd November reinforced that perception and the receptive audience was entranced by Dickens' unsurpassed ability to produce an almost photographic record of his time, allowing itself to be transported back to those years when Mr. Micawber,

Betsy Trotwood, Dr. Marigold, and Dickens himself, walked the ill-lit streets, used relatively primitive transport, fared well on simple food and were generally unsophisticated. For me - and most of the audience - George Curry *was* Charles Dickens and the very simple stage 'props' helped to create the illusion.

To Dovorians it was most appropriate that Dr. Curry offered his adaptation of the chapter in *'The Personal History and Experiences of David Copperfield'* in which Dickens describes the young boy's flight from London and his eventual discovery of his Aunt Betsy in Dover, and here, particularly, the reader showed his considerable ability in demonstrating the music and the simple sincerity of Dicken's words.

At the end of the evening the enchanted audience clearly showed its appreciation of a skilful and deeply felt performance.

When the show was over the Society hosted a happy gathering where Dr. Curry, with his delightful wife Ruth, (who has a Ph.D. in Economics, no less), were able to meet and talk with a number of his boyhood school friends.

Sheila and Jeremy Cope conducted a well-supported raffle, as is now usual at all Society affairs. The destination of the funds generated from this event created extra interest and added significantly to the normal "Cope effect". The major prize, a new Biography of Dickens, very kindly donated by Dr. Curry and his wife, was won by Hugh Bax..