

RUDDIGORE
Or
The Witch's Curse
By Gilbert & Sullivan

Performance dates: 13—16 June 2012
at The Court Theatre, Pendley

The Vale G & S Society's production in memory of Malcolm Rose,
to celebrate his life and contribution to the society

Director:: Brian Rose
Musical Director: Debbie Davies
Producers: Jackie Farrow & Norma Collins

Auditions: Tuesday 28 February 2012
Time: 8—10pm
Venue: The Anthony Hall, Aston Clinton, HP22 5HS

Rehearsals are every Tuesday, commencing 7 February 2012, time and place as above.

This is an open audition for principal parts.

You don't need to know or have sung Gilbert & Sullivan prior to this.

If there is a song you would like to sing, please bring the music with you.

Chorus—no audition required. All welcome. Our members' ages range from 10 to 80 years old.

Contact: Norma 07947 672069 or Jackie 01442 381739 or
valegs@hotmail.co.uk for further details.

Below is a synopsis of the story, principal roles and vocal ranges required.
If you intend to audition but don't know or are unsure of your vocal range, this can be determined at the audition.

The opera is a parody of the stock melodrama — the villain who carries off the maiden; the priggishly good-mannered poor-but-virtuous-heroine; the hero in disguise; ghosts coming to life to enforce a curse and so forth.

The Baronets of Ruddigore are cursed. Anyone who succeeds to the title has to commit a crime every day — or perish in inconceivable agony.

Robin Oakapple, a young farmer, loves Rose Maybud but both are too shy to tell the other. But Robin has a secret. He is really Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd, the rightful Baronet of Ruddigore, in disguise. His younger brother, Despard, believing Ruthven to be dead, has assumed the title. Robin's foster brother, Richard, seeking Rose for himself, tells Despard of Robin's deception and Robin is forced to accept his true position, losing Rose to Richard in the process.

Now the Baronet of Ruddigore, Robin is confronted by the ghosts of his ancestors, who step from their picture frames in the gallery of Ruddigore Castle to confront him for failing to conscientiously commit his daily crime. Robin eventually finds a way of satisfying his ancestors demands whilst continuing to live a blameless life...

Cast:

Mortals

Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd (*disguised as Robin Oakapple, a Young Farmer*) - **comic baritone**

Richard Dauntless (*his Foster-Brother, a Man-o'-war's man*) - **tenor**

Sir Despard Murgatroyd of Ruddigore (*a Wicked Baronet*) - **baritone/bass-baritone**

Old Adam Goodheart (*Robin's Faithful Servant*) - **bass**

Rose Maybud (*a Village Maiden*) - **soprano**

Mad Margaret—**mezzo-soprano**

Dame Hannah (*Rose's Aunt*) - **contralto**

Zorah (*Professional Bridesmaid*) - **soprano**

Ruth (*Professional Bridesmaid*) - **speaking/chorus**

Ghosts of Ancestors—*apart from Sir Roderic, the ancestors are all chorus singing parts, with some minor speaking roles.*

Sir Roderic Murgatroyd (*the Twenty-first Baronet*) - **bass-baritone**

Sir Rupert Murgatroyd (*the First Baronet*)

Sir Jasper Murgatroyd (*the Third Baronet*)

Sir Lionel Murgatroyd (*the Sixth Baronet*)

Sir Conrad Murgatroyd (*the Twelfth Baronet*)

Sir Desmond Murgatroyd (*the Sixteenth Baronet*)

Sir Gilbert Murgatroyd (*the Eighteenth Baronet*)

Sir Mervyn Murgatroyd (*the Twentieth Baronet*)

Chorus of Officers, Ancestors, Professional Bridesmaids and Villagers