

Council Chamber of the Town Hall, 104 Ferguson St, Williamstown, 7.30pm, Wednesday 27th November, 2024.

THE LADYKILLERS

Mrs. Wilberforce, a rather vague old lady living alone in a tumbledown house near King's Cross station, decides to take in a lodger. The weird Professor Marcus applies, is installed, and frequently visited by four sinister friends. Mrs. Wilberforce happily accepts the explanation that they are keen amateur musicians, whereas in fact they are planning a daring robbery in which the old lady herself is to be unwittingly involved.

This comedy thriller is the best film to come from Ealing Studios for some time, and the combined talents of William Rose (writer) and Alexander Mackendrick (director) have produced a witty and original diversion. If once or twice the handling is a little too broad and comedy topples into farce - the pursuit of Mrs. Wilberforce's parrot and Frankie Howard's "guest" appearance as an outraged barrow-boy - the style as a whole is agreeably subtle and sophisticated, and the confrontation of elderly respectability and raffish criminality provides many extremely funny episodes. Alec Guinness creates a splendid portrait of Marcus, outwardly absurd but at times genuinely frightening, and Katie Johnson strikes just the right note of frail obstinacy as Mrs. Wilberforce. The collection of old ladies at the tea party is masterfully assembled.

The Monthly film Bulletin published by the BFI - Vol 23, No. 264, January 1956

Please note that I actually removed part of the first paragraph as it gave far too much away. If you wish to read it all you can find it by scrolling through the reviews on Rotten Tomatoes (see our website calendar for a link), cheers Michael.

Starbox Results

	5	4	3	2	1	Average
EGO: The Michael Gudinski Story	30	9	3	0	0	4.6

To watch a trailer (& read more) head to the 2024 program on our website

[https://: www.williamstown-film-society.org](https://www.williamstown-film-society.org)