



Vocation

by Lucy Miles

**Produced and directed by
Robert Gregory & Lucy Miles**

X @vocationtheplaybylucymiles 

VOCATION

A play by Lucy Miles

Vocation follows the experiences of a group of general practitioners and their colleagues at the Old School Surgery, as they navigate their way through the daily challenges of their professional and personal lives. It asks the question, what does vocation mean in a changing NHS?

Find out in this bittersweet and relevant comedy. Old School Surgery is a chaotic GP practice, struggling to meet the needs (and demands!) of its patients, and run by an overstretched but committed workforce who sometimes adopt unorthodox strategies to cope. Enter Kiera – an idealistic trainee doctor who is excitedly embarking on a career in general practice...

The play takes place in a GP surgery set in the current day.

We are really excited to be staging the latest play written by Lucy Miles, a practising medical doctor. It follows the success of her first play, Heartburn, a comedy about family and feminism which premiered at The Archway Theatre Studio in September 2025.

Lucy recently embarked on playwriting, having spent most of her professional life working as an NHS doctor in general practice and in women's health. Vocation is her second play.



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Cast in order of appearance

Dr Nik Guy	Bill Sheehan
Dr Keira McNally	Louise Taw
Dr Colin Cohen	Robin Dixon
Dr Delilah Savidge	Laura Witham
Maggie	Karen Phillipson
Victor Belcher	Peter Tucker
Justyna	Alison Stuart
Daniel	Andrew Pannell
Financier	Alison Stuart
Builder	Peter Tucker
Security Guard	Andrew Pannell

Crew

Stage Manager	Verity Bridger
Assistant Stage Manager	Peter Tucker
Lighting and Sound	Robert Gregory
Prompt	Josie Miles
Technical support	Thom Humphrey

Artwork by Gary Andrews
Production photography by Maya Donegan
Set elements constructed by Tom Last

Produced by Robert Gregory
Directed by Lucy Miles

ACTS

Prologue

Act 1: Summer

Act 2: Early Autumn

Interval

Act 3: Late Autumn

Act 4: Winter

Act 5: Two years later

Epilogue

Setting

A GP surgery in the current day. The action takes place variously in Reception, the Meeting Room and the Consulting Room/Office

Grateful thanks to the Archway Theatre Company for its extensive support to the development and promotion of this production.

This play is a work of fiction. All characters and organisations depicted are fictitious. Any resemblance to, or similarity with, actual persons or organisations, whether living, dead, existing or defunct, is entirely coincidental and unintended.

ABOUT THE CAST



Bill Sheehan
Dr Nik Guy

Bill is back on stage after a twenty-year hiatus and has enjoyed being part of the creative process again. He's particularly proud to be working on topical new writing from exciting local playwright Lucy Miles. His character Nik is experiencing a dilemma felt by GPs across the UK now. His moral and ethical quandary has given Bill plenty of material to sink his teeth into.



Louise Taw
Kiera

Louise returns to the stage after a two-year break, having last played her biggest role Viv in *Di, Viv and Rose* at the Archway Theatre, where she has been a member for around 25 years. She's thrilled to be back on stage and working with such a fantastic team, although working with the writer does mean there's absolutely no excuse for any of us to get our lines wrong!



Robin Dixon
Dr Colin Cohen

Robin has performed in a number of productions with the Archway and Pitchy Breath companies over recent years, mostly in comedic roles. For the role of Dr Colin Cohen, he draws on his own medical background, that being a first aid course he did quite some years ago now. He did once have to bandage someone's hand and take them to A & E, where the proper medics described his bandaging technique as sub-par. Critics!



Laura Witham
Dr Delilah Savidge

Laura is delighted to have the opportunity to bring to life this new piece of writing. She studied Drama and Theatre Studies at university and has been in numerous productions with many different companies across Sussex as well as regularly performing as a dancing bear. Recent credits include Barbara Windsor in *Cleo, Camping, Emmanuelle and Dick* (Wick Theatre Company), Miss Blake in *Blue Stockings* (BHTC), Julia Price in *The Ghost Train* (Wick Theatre Company) and is looking forward to returning to the world of panto as *Fairy* with BHTC.



Karen Phillipson
Maggie

Karen has performed in many different, mainly musical productions in Surrey and France. She is delighted to be performing in this fabulous and unique play, alongside an amazingly talented and friendly cast and crew. Karen hopes you will enjoy watching it as much as she has enjoyed being part of this special adventure.



Alison Stuart
Justyna/Financier

It's almost exactly a year since Alison last appeared on stage, when she played a part in *Heartburn* at the Archway Theatre Studio in September 2025. She's delighted to be back, once again playing a character written by Lucy, alongside some familiar faces and some new ones. Alison admits that playing Justyna wasn't entirely a stretch. While being naturally passive and lacking initiative and experience definitely isn't her, she can certainly relate to not always listening to instructions! Justyna is poorly mentored and frequently ignored, so her incompetence isn't entirely her own fault. Alison feels the directors have been far more patient with her than Justyna's colleagues — although whether she actually listens to them is another matter!



Peter Tucker
Victor Belcher, Architect and Assistant Stage Manager

Peter has been a member of The Archway Theatre since 2019. He has acted in a variety of productions, including comedy, horror and Shakespeare, as well as stage managing *Medea* in The Archway's Studio Theatre earlier this year. He appeared most recently in The Archway's open-air production of *The Wind in the Willows*, at Tilgate Park, Crawley. Peter is delighted to have this opportunity to work alongside such a talented team, to help bring this new play by local writer Lucy Miles to the stage.



Andrew Pannell
Daniel/Security Guard

This is Andrew's acting debut, having spent nearly four years working behind the scenes at the Archway Theatre watching his children perform on stage. He thinks it's his turn to have a go. He is looking forward to playing Daniel the handyman in Lucy's play.

Verity Bridger
Stage Manager

Verity has been at the Archway Theatre for about five years and is usually found propping up the bar with excellent commitment and questionable expertise. This year, she has ventured backstage and is discovering the art of controlled panic. *Vocation* is her first time as stage manager, and she is delighted to be learning the ropes with such a great cast. She hopes to keep everything running smoothly — or at least giving that impression.



Josie Miles
Prompt

This is Josie's first experience of being a prompt and she has thoroughly enjoyed it - so far! She has loved seeing the play come together, getting to know the actors and being part of a team. It has been a great learning opportunity for her.



Robert Gregory
Producer

Robert has spent many enjoyable years at the Archway Theatre playing 'character' roles such as Brian Coventry in *Jack Absolute Flies Again* (2026), Jim Trott in *A Vicar of Dibley Christmas* (2024) and Henry Saunders in *A Comedy of Tenors* (2022).

He was assistant director on *Little Shop of Horrors* (2023), and subsequently co-directed *Rules for Living* (2025). He is delighted to have had the opportunity to work with Lucy Miles in bringing her latest play, *Vocation*, to the stage, and feels privileged to have spent time with such a wonderful cast and crew.



Lucy Miles
Playwright and Director

Having trained and worked in NHS general practice for nearly 20 years, Lucy Miles now works as a speciality doctor in women's health. She also works in medical education: writing, directing, producing and presenting educational content.

Heartburn was her first full-length play, inspired by the resilience and stories of the women she encountered professionally and personally. It premiered at the Archway Theatre in September 2025 but – to her disappointment – has yet to be snapped up by the West End. *Vocation* is her second play and is a dark comedy about NHS General Practice.

in rehearsal

