

Charles Dickens

The Pickwick Papers

Read by **David Timson**

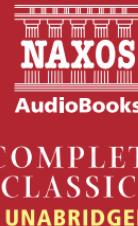
In *The Pickwick Papers*, his first novel, Dickens displays the talents and skills that became his trademark; observational humour, pathos and social comment abound as we follow Mr Pickwick and Sam Weller, his sharp-tongued cockney servant, travelling around England with his friends in search of adventure and knowledge. Brilliantly comic scenes at the Eatanswill election, and the trial of Mrs Bardell vs Pickwick contrast with the horrors of the debtors prison. It was Thackeray who described the novel as 'that great contemporary history', and it presents a nostalgic view of England just before the coming of the railway.



David Timson has made over 1,000 broadcasts for BBC Radio Drama. For Naxos AudioBooks he wrote *The History of Theatre*, which won an award for most original production from the Spoken Word Publishers Association in 2001. He has also directed five Shakespeare plays for Naxos AudioBooks, including *King Richard III* (with Kenneth Branagh), which won Best Drama award from the SWPA in 2001. In 2002 he won the Audio of the Year award for his reading of *A Study in Scarlet*. He has read the entire *Sherlock Holmes* canon for Naxos AudioBooks.

'I can't think of any better way to spend a winter evening than with Naxos AudioBooks' *The Pickwick Papers*, a complete recording read by the wonderful David Timson, who brings every character to sparkling or lugubrious life. He makes me laugh aloud – Dickens would be proud of him' – Claire Tomalin

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