

**REVIEW: Andy Kind at Blackburn Diocesan Conference, November 9, 2022**

**By Mark Ashley**



**COMEDY and Christianity have always been uncomfortable bedfellows.**

The faith tends to be belittled in the harsh world of 'mainstream' comedy of course.

No doubt many of us have sat through a willing attempt at Christian comedy without swearing or sex references that inevitably comes up a bit dry and dusty.

But hold on - there's a new kid (well, to me at least) on the block and he is nothing short of gut wrenching hilarious!

Andy Kind, self-styled and award-winning 'Promedian' (preacher/comedian) was the 'turn' booked to entertain 300+ Christian souls at the Blackburn Diocesan Conference.

He's a professional comedian, Christian author and preacher and he simply wowed us all.

Andy is a modern comic: quick fire relational comedy, picking out people from his audience and expanding on a theme with them; unafraid at sharing his own life experiences, pointing out absurdities in the lives of the great and the good ... and boy does he have stamina! The great Ken Dodd would have been proud of him.

He kept it up for more than an hour and a half, and certain sections of his audience were reduced to helpless gibbering wrecks by the time Andy suggested we adjourn to the conference bar for a nightcap.

One of his 'victims', the Rev Matt Guilder from St Thomas' Church in Lancaster said after his 'ordeal': "Andy delivered a masterclass in stand up. To see a professing Christian perform comedy to such an extreme level of proficiency left many gobsmacked and, to use a well-worn phrase, laughing in the aisles."

It's an opinion shared by many on the night and it was a performance that two people in particular, Bishops Philip and Jill, will never forget!

If your church is looking for something 'different' to share with your wider community, Andy will perform on Saturday night and then preach on Sunday for you. And you will be laughing all the way to the altar.

Andy can be tracked down on his website [www.andykind.co.uk](http://www.andykind.co.uk) where details of what he offers and his publications can be found.

Now, please excuse me while I wipe away the tears ...