



**CHRIST CHURCH PLAYERS
PRESENT...**



TWELFTH MAN

**A COMEDY IN TWO INNINGS
BY H.CONNELLY**

8TH - 11TH FEB 2017

TIME: 7:30_{pm} | PRICE: £8.00

**VENUE: Christ Church Parish Centre,
Markland Hill (off Chorley New Road),
Bolton, BL1 5AH.**

BOX OFFICE: 01204 465631

This amateur production of 'TWELFTH MAN' presented by arrangement with 'SAMUEL FRENCH LTD'





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TWELFTH MAN

BY H. CONNELLY

WELCOME

I don't like cricket oh no....I love it....! Welcome to the Christ Church Players' 2017 production of *Twelfth Man*. The action of the play takes place in a small cricket pavilion in the fictional village of Markland, Lancashire, home of Markland Cricket Club, a cavalier troop of ostentatious, overbearing local men (and that's before they've got into character....!) Cricket is a serious business in Lancashire as 'Len Hinchliff', the pompous and chauvinistic captain of MCC knows only too well. When his men unexpectedly find themselves face to face with a visiting ladies team, their reactions are far from encouraging...and it appears this self-important skipper's past might finally catch up with him. But is 'Len' the only who hides a guilty secret? Does intrigue and trickery result in downfall for this struggling team or will the Spirit of Cricket prevail?

This production has not been without its challenges (including a last minute complete change of play in December!) and I hope we can be forgiven for giving this delightful comedy an enterprising dash of dramatic license with regards to location, cast and the odd minor edit to H.

Connolly's original script. Rehearsals have been fuelled by plenty of laughter and an extraordinary quantity of cakes and biscuits although we (rather unwillingly) had to tone down the tea drinking... too many "comfort breaks" during rehearsals! Once again I have been blessed with a wonderfully supportive cast, to whom I am indebted for their extraordinary levels of enthusiasm (despite the dehydration!) and commitment.

I would like to thank the Christ Church PCC for their permission to stage this play and the CCP Committee for their hard work and organisation in ensuring this production could take place, namely our President Jeanne Lonnen, Co-Chairs Pam Hodson & Brenda Griffiths and Secretary Janet Balshaw. What you see here tonight is only the very tip of the iceberg and without the dedication of our incredible back-stage team, who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes on every level, this play would not have been possible. Finally, thank you to all our audience for coming to support the Christ Church Players tonight, we hope you enjoy the performance!

Ruth Syddall, Director

SCENIC BREAKDOWN

SETTING: Markland Cricket Club (MCC), Bolton, Lancashire

ACT I

SCENE 1: Saturday, 10.30pm

SCENE 2: Early Sunday afternoon the following day

ACT II

SCENE 1: An hour and a half later that day

SCENE 2: After tea the same day





CAST

<i>Billy Wigley</i>	Adam Syddall
<i>Pauline Hinchliff</i>	Ruth Syddall
<i>Len Hinchliff</i>	Geoffrey Pearson
<i>Ray</i>	Martin Miller
<i>Jean Hinchliff</i>	Janet Balshaw
<i>Duncan</i>	Ben Latham
<i>Doc</i>	Mike Thomas
<i>Jack Digem</i>	Brian Peel
<i>Mary Townsend</i>	Jill Leatherbarrow
<i>Bryony Stauffman</i>	Frances Shinks
<i>Sally Field</i>	Julie Steele
<i>Alice</i>	Brenda Griffiths

PRODUCTION TEAM

<i>Director</i>	Ruth Syddall
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Judith Pearson
<i>Production Co-ordinator</i>	Pam Hodson
<i>Set Design & Build</i>	Martin Miller, Geoffrey Pearson
<i>Wardrobe, Hair & Make-Up</i>	Ruth Syddall, Judith Pearson
<i>Sound Design</i>	Adam Syddall
<i>Sound Engineer</i>	Daniel Shinks
<i>Lighting Engineer</i>	David Morley
<i>Properties</i>	Judith Pearson, Ruth Syddall
<i>Continuity</i>	Stella Good
<i>Box Office</i>	Pam Hodson
<i>Marketing</i>	Ben Latham, Ruth Syddall
<i>Interval Refreshments</i>	Stuart & Maureen Barnes
<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>	John Balshaw
<i>Front of House Team</i>	Pam Hodson and other Members of Christ Church Congregation

SPECIAL THANKS

We would also like to extend our special thanks to the following for their help in this production: Polyfab & Formings Ltd and Alan Lever Windows for the kind provision of scenery materials, The Marco Players for storage and loan of staging and loan of properties, Bolton Little Theatre for the loan of costumes, DPE Systems for the transport of scenery

and staging and the loan of electrical items and Bolton Motor Cycles for the donation of properties. The cast and various members of the Christ Church congregation and the wider community have additionally been extremely generous with their loan or donation of scenery, properties and costumes.





INTRODUCING THE CAST



Adam Syddall
as **Billy Wigley**



Ruth Syddall
as **Pauline Hincliff**



Geoffrey Pearson
as **Len Hincliff**



Martin Miller
as **Ray**



Janet Balshaw
as **Jean Hincliff**



Ben Latham
as **Duncan**



Mike Thomas
as **Doc**



Brian Peel
as **Jack Digem**



Jill Leatherbarrow
as **Mary Townsend**



Frances Shinks
as **Bryony Stauffman**



Julie Steele
as **Sally Field**



Brenda Griffiths
as **Alice**





ABOUT CHRIST CHURCH PLAYERS

It seems impossible to believe that this society in one form or another has been going for the best part of 100 years, and maybe even longer! What an incredible achievement!

Unfortunately records are somewhat sparse with regards to the early years. However, we do know that in 1951 a “new” Dramatic Society was formed at the old Parochial Hall at the top of Markland Hill. Literature written at the time about the different organisations and groups at Christ Church quotes *“Its productions have grown steadily in efficiency and in consequence its popularity has increased”*. Rather amusingly, the efficiency perhaps relates to the fact that the group appear to have had a relatively limited repertoire and would often produce the same play for several years in a row! There were several predecessors to the 1951 society, sadly, each of comparatively short duration. Interestingly, in 1933 a re-built Society proudly claimed, *“We shall soon make our name in Bolton”*. Would their dreams come true?



The Dramatic Society continued in one form or another, producing plays, mostly dramas it would seem, on a sporadic basis until the 1980s when the Parochial Hall was demolished and all activities were relocated down to the newly built present day Church Centre. Due in part to the burgeoning youth

presence at Christ Church at the time and an extraordinary level of enthusiasm from a musically and vocally gifted congregation, the plays were swapped in favour of what became a hugely successful run of family pantomimes throughout the 1980s and 1990s.

Our current President, Jeanne Lonnen resurrected the Dramatic Society as The Christ Church Players in February 2000 with J.B. Priestley's *When We Are Married*.



After hearing parishioner Dorothy Lee, who had recently lost her daughter Jane, say of the first performance *“that was the first time I have laughed since Jane died”*, the Players have typically produced comedies, farces and murder mysteries due to audience demand with only one repeated play in the last 17 years.

Those years have not been without trauma, drama, highlights, happiness and, as far as we can ascertain, nothing is new! However, it is quite a remarkable record for any Dramatic Society, to give almost twenty years unbroken entertainment and, we hope, pleasure to the Christ Church and wider Bolton community. Our sell out runs each year are testament to the perseverance and patience of our Box Office team and the slick salesmanship of cast and crew alike over the years and every penny of profit has always, and will continue





to be put straight back into Christ Church. The Players are proud of the fact they are one of the few Church societies of their kind remaining in Bolton who still function in that capacity.



Martin Miller and Janet Balshaw are to be congratulated as the only present cast members to have performed in every production and indeed the Players' family has changed somewhat over the last two decades with every single member, both cast and crew, contributing to the strength and longevity of the society. A special mention must go here to the set designers and builders Geoffrey Pearson and Martin Miller. Their task is, for want of a better phrase, "Mission Impossible" each year; to design and build a safe, sturdy set that can taken apart quickly and easily and can be stored, relatively compactly, inbetween rehearsals due to other Centre users. Furthermore, the sets typically need to incorporate a quite frankly mind boggling number of doors and other entrances, windows, hatches, cupboards, staircases, and this is before you add in things like secret panels, balconies and balustrade landings, "breakable" window panels, fireplaces, shutter doors, wardrobes, clocks with spinning hands, an array of complex lights, lamps, switches and much more!

The Play has, traditionally, always been cast from the Christ Church congregation although more recently the net has been cast further afield and we have been delighted to welcome friends from other local churches and dramatic societies. Players have also gone on to tread the boards elsewhere and we have built up fantastic relationships with other amateur dramatic and operatic groups nearby.

The Players' move to join BATS in 2015 helped to strengthen these local connections further still and we quickly gained increased recognition throughout Bolton, aided by reviews in the Bolton News and our Runners Up nominations in both 2015 and 2016 for the "Best Comedy" award at the annual BATS ceremony, with Brenda Griffiths also to be commended for her individual nomination for "Best Actress in a Comedy".

Accordingly, the continuing success of the Christ Church Players in all its guises over the past century is every bit as much thanks to a succession of dedicated and unsung committee members, administrators, set builders and back stage crew members as to its performers on stage. Most of their names have, regrettably, faded into the annals of time but we owe them all an enormous debt of gratitude which we can only attempt to repay by constantly striving to present the best possible productions while still maintaining that indispensable element of fun in doing so. We take what we do seriously, but never ourselves! We look forward to producing plays for many years to come and hope you, our audience will enjoy watching them as much as we enjoy being in them!





IT'S JUST NOT CRICKET!

STRANGE TERMINOLOGY BETWEEN THE STUMPS

Tonight's Twelfth Man (taking its name from the substitute player on a cricket team) is naturally immersed in the world of cricket and cricketing lore. Have you ever wondered about the difference between a hoick and a hook? A dibbly-dobbly and a donkey drop? Do you know how to bowl a maiden over? Or what the correct distance is to set two fine legs apart? Does it confuse you that the side that goes out...are in? In cricket you have two sides, one out in the field and one in. Each man that's in the side that's in goes out and when he's out he comes in and the next man goes in until he's out. When they are all out, the side that's out

comes in and the side that's been in goes out and tries to get those coming in, out. Sometimes you get men still in and not out. When a man goes out to go in, the men who are out try to get him out, and when he is out he goes in and the next man in goes out and goes in. There are two men called umpires who stay out all the time and they decide when the men who are in are out. When both sides have been in and all the men have been out, and both sides have been out twice after all the men have been in, including those who are not out, the winner is declared...if there is one! And that's the end of the game...Howzat!!



BALL TAMPERING

Why do bowlers polish their balls? Ball tampering is an action in which a fielder illegally alters the condition of the ball. Players are barred, under Law 42.3 of the Laws of Cricket, from rubbing the ball on the ground, interfering with its seam or surface, or using any implement that can alter the condition of the ball to thereby gain unfair advantage. (Smoothing out one half of the ball allows air to pass over one side of the ball more quickly than over the other.)

There have been plenty of high-profile ugly incidents centering on accusations of ball tampering through cricket's history including the John Lever "Vaseline" affair in 1976-77; Michael Atherton's admission that he used dirt to treat the ball against South Africa in 1994; Faf du Plessis' recent charge in November 2016 and perhaps most infamously, the 2006 Oval Test between England and Pakistan, when Pakistan forfeited the match because they were accused of having tampered with the ball which subsequently led to a 3 year dispute and the Pakistani game captain being charged and found guilty of "bringing the game into disrepute"!

The use of foreign substances to polish the ball, while illegal, is in some corners considered to be relatively common, and passes without incident or sanction. Substances which have been used for this purpose include hair gel, sugar and lip balm.

Conversely, roughening one side of the ball by use of an abrasive or cutting surface, such as boot spikes or bottle caps, is also ball tampering. In addition, picking at the threads of the main seam or 'lifting' the quarter seam to aid conventional and reverse swing respectively are considered illegal.

A bowler guilty of ball-tampering can be prohibited from continuing to bowl in that innings if he is found to be repeatedly ball-tampering. Following the conclusion of play, additional sanctions are usually brought against a ball-tamperer, as it is considered a serious offence. The captain may be equally penalised, (doubly so if he is the offender in question!) as he is responsible for the conduct of his players on the field.

PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

2000	WHEN WE ARE MARRIED
2001	HAPPIEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE
2002	WILD GOOSE CHASE
2003	FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS
2004	SEE HOW THEY RUN
2005	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE
2006	OH, CLARENCE!
2007	WANTED: ONE BODY!
2008	RUNNING RIOT
2009	MURDERED TO DEATH
2010	DRY ROT
2011	TONS OF MONEY
2012	GHOST TRAIN
2013	LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME
2014	OFF THE HOOK
2015	SEE HOW THEY RUN
2016	OUT OF SIGHT...OUT OF MURDER
2017	TWELFTH MAN

IN LOVING MEMORY

*"All the world's a stage,
And all the men and
women merely players;
They have their exits and
their entrances, And one
man in his time plays many
parts..." The Christ Church
Players dedicate their 2017
production In memory
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By: SS Simon and Jude ADS
At: St Simon and St Jude School
Opens: Friday 17 February 2017 - 2:30pm
01204 520232 / 01204 385657

KINDERTRANSPORT

By: The Marco Players
At: Stepping Stones Nursery Chorley Old Rd
Opens: Wednesday 22 Feb 2017 - 7:30pm
01204 841561 / 01204 451005

ALL IN GOOD TIME

By: St Paul's AODS
At: The Village Hall, Bromley Cross
Opens: Thursday 23 Feb 2017 - 7:30pm
01204 847866

MADE IN DAGENHAM

By: St Paul's Players, Adlington
At: Adlington Community Centre
Opens: Monday 6 March 2017 - 7:30pm
01204 407784

WYRD SISTERS

By: Bolton Little Theatre
At: Bolton Little Theatre
Opens: Monday 6 March 2017 - 7:30pm
01204 524469

PINK CHAMPAGNE

By: The Operetta Company
At: Trinity Methodist Church
Opens: Wednesday 15th March 2017 - 7:15pm
01204 524469

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL JR

By: BCMCS
At: Walmsley Parish Hall Theatre
Opens: Wednesday 15 March 2017 - 7:15pm
07958 459423 / www.bcmcs.co.uk

SEPARATE TABLES

By: Farnworth Little Theatre
At: Farnworth Little Theatre
Opens: Saturday, 18 March 2017 - 7:30pm
0845 643 0808

UNORIGINAL SIN

By: Tyldesley Little Theatre
At: Tyldesley Little Theatre
Opens: Tuesday 21 March 2017 - 7:30pm
01204 655619

THE GONDOLIERS

By: New Rosemere AOS
At: Walmsley Parish Hall Theatre
Opens: Tuesday 21 March 2017 - 7:30pm
01204 300666

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

By: St Philip's AODS & Junior Workshop
At: Commerce House
Opens: Wednesday 5 April 2017 - 7:30pm
07929 993761 / 07712 673957

THE EARTHLY PARADISE

By: Bolton Little Theatre
At: Bolton Little Theatre
Opens: Wednesday 12 April 2017 - 7:30pm
01204 524469

HIGH SOCIETY

By: Walmsley Church AODS
At: Walmsley Parish Hall Theatre
Opens: Monday 24 April 2017 - 7:30pm
01204 305812

CHESS

By: Adlington Music and Arts Society
At: Adlington Community Centre
Opens: Tuesday 25 April 2017 - 7:15pm
07799 486876



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WHAT'S ON NEXT AT CHRIST CHURCH HEATON

SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

There will be a cakes and bakes sale in addition to a raffle in the Church Centre after the 9.30am service in support of Gill Lee's next visit to Ethiopia with ReTrak.

WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

Messy Church 2.30pm - 4.30pm. For accompanied children of all ages. Crafts, games and songs all centred around a Biblical theme, followed by food and refreshments. Free, although donations welcome.

TUESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

Shrove Tuesday Family Pancake Party hosted by the MCC (Men of Christ Church... rather than Markland Cricket Club!) 6.30pm, all welcome. Varied savoury and sweet pancake menu.

SATURDAY 6TH MAY

Race Night 7.30pm in the Church Centre.

SATURDAY 10TH JUNE

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