

A History of



Compiled by Rodney Hadwen

September 2020

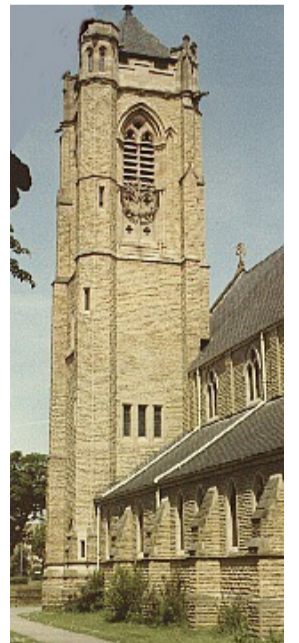


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Introduction

This document has been compiled using information taken from the Archives stored in St Paul's Church tower and personal programmes, photos and newspaper items. Some of the text is my own personal memories.

The Beginnings

St Paul's Players were formed officially in January 1970. However the first performance had been in November 1969 when the play Crystal Clear was performed in aid of the Restoration Fund. The entry in the Church Magazine below records this.

ENTRY FOR NOVEMBER?1969 MAGAZINE.

ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS.

Our first production, a three act comedy called 'Crystal Clear', is to be staged on Friday and Saturday November 21st and 22nd commencing at 7.45p.m. each evening.

Please keep these dates open and give us your support. Tickets are obtainable from the Secretaries of each Church organisation or the members of the Players, prices 3/- for Adults and 1/6d for children and pensioners.

ALL PROCEEDS ARE IN AID OF THE CHURCH RESTORATION FUND.

Following this the congregation were invited to attend an inaugural meeting as detailed in the Magazine note below.

Magazine entry for January 1970
ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS.

Following the success of our first play in November and the interest expressed by members of the church in our efforts, we are to hold our first Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 27th January 1970 at 8 p.m.

At this meeting our Constitution is to be ratified and our officers elected.

We ask all who are interested in our group to come along to this meeting. Remember we need a larger team behind stage than on it, so whichever direction your talent lies, whether with props., lighting, make-up, programme selling or the most important job of making tea you will be very welcome to join us.

We aim to work not only alone but with other organisations to help raise money for the Church Restoration Fund.

The invitation letter for the AGM is shown below together with the follow up letter inviting people to become Patrons at £1 a head.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, SALE.
ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS.

Dear Friends,

You are invited to attend the first Annual General Meeting of the St. Paul's Players on Tuesday 27th January, 1970 at 8. p.m. in the Church Hall.

At this meeting the officers of the Society for 1970 are to be elected and the constitution ratified.

The aims of the Society are :

1. To promote interest in drama in all its aspects and when necessary to help raise funds for the needs of the Church and the Society.
2. To work in harmony with all organisations of our Church and together to spread goodwill and friendship.

We welcome actors and also all talents in the work involved both backstage and in hall management which includes the preparing and serving of refreshments.

Church members are invited to pledge their support in the work that the Society will set out to do.

Sincerely,

Norma Sullock

ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, SALE.
ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS.

343, Manor Avenue,
SALE,
Cheshire.

Dear

As you may know on 27th January, 1970 the newly formed St. Paul's Players came into being. Its constitution was ratified and its officers were elected. A list of both are enclosed.

The Society aims to work with all the organisations of our Church to provide entertainment and to help raise funds for our Restoration Fund.

Dramatic Societies are, of course, expensive to run and we need as much encouragement and financial support as possible.

In view of these circumstances we hope that you will not feel that we are encroaching on you when we ask you to become a patron of our Society.

The suggested donation to the Society of a patron is £1. 0. 0d per annum and this would entitle you to a free pass to all performances.

We would be very honoured to have your name on our list of patrons and we hope you will agree to give us your moral and financial support.

Sincerely,

Secretary,
ST PAUL'S PLAYERS.

The Magazine entry for March 1970 was as follows :-

St. Paul's Players Magazine
entry for March.

On 27th January, 1970 the St. Paul's Players came into being, its constitution was ratified and its officers elected.

It was decided that the subscription for membership should be 10/-d per annum and 5/-d per annum for those under 18.

We hope to produce our next play in May and we require as much help as possible in order to do this. If you can assist in any way please come along to our next open night on Tuesday 17th March at 8.p.m.

The Rules of the Players and the first Committee following the AGM were :-

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, SALE.

ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS.

List of elected officers and rules of the Society.

COMMITTEE.

President.	Rev. A.L.M. Davies.
Vice-President	Mr. R.G. Daintree.
Chairman.	Mrs. M.E. Garner.
Treasurer	Mrs. G. Mazdon.
Secretary.	Mrs. N. Tullock.
Stage Manager.	Mr. R. Guy.

and

Mrs. P.D. Brockbank.
Mr. R. Higgins.
Miss J.L. Leah.

RULES.

1. The name of the Society shall be ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS.
2. The minimum age limit for membership shall be 16.
3. Membership cards containing a summary of the rules shall be issued.
4. A Committee meeting shall be held at least once a month.
5. 4 members of the Committee to form a quorum.
6. An elected Committee member shall attend the Social Committee Meetings.
7. 10 days notice shall be given for all meetings
8. A General meeting shall be called within 2 weeks following a production.
9. The Annual General Meeting shall be in January on a date decided by the Committee and acceptable to the Vicar
10. Treasurer to present books to the Society and the Churchwardens on request.
11. Selection of productions to be made by the Committee with the Vicar's approval.
12. Casting to be done by the producer and a small Committee.

The first play to be performed following the AGM was to be The Love Match in May 1970. For various reasons this was postponed until September and the Licence is shown at right.

In December 1970 the Players took part in a Family Revue.

During the next few years the following plays were performed :-

House on the Cliff - Mar 1971

Breath of Spring - Oct 1971

Friends And Neighbours - Mar 1972

Cat among the Pigeons - Nov 1972

One Act - Call to the North - Feb 73

Murder in Mind - Nov 1973

Two Dozen Red Roses - Mar 1974

02010

RECEIPT

Received from St. Paul's Players. ---
 for the performances by Amateurs of the undermentioned plays
 at St. Paul's Church Hall, Sale, Ches. ---
 on 17th, 16th & 19th September 1970. ---

			£	s.	d.
LOVE MATCH. --	1 Performance @		5	5	0
do --	2 " @ 4/4/-		8	8	0
	" @				
	" @				
	" @				
	" @				
	" @				

The sum of £ 13 - 13 - 0

Thirteen --- Pounds thirteen --- Shillings --- Pence

for and on behalf of
 Samuel French Limited
 33 FENNEL STREET,
 MANCHESTER, M4 3FD. AGENT

26th August 1970.
P.T.O.

At this point the Players were having problems with numbers and an article appeared in the Sale Guardian claiming that they were in trouble.

In response to this a letter was received from members of St Mary's Players who were in a similar plight.

The letter is reproduced on the next page.

ST. MARY'S PLAYERS

12, Harbor Rd.,
Sale,
Wiltshire.

M33 5AB

RING
FRIDAY.

20.11.74
973-3364.

Dear Mrs Higgins,

We read in the "Sale Guardian" that the Saint Paul's Players were unable to put on their autumn production through shortage of acting members.

We are very much in the same boat, & were only able to honour our commitment to the Centenary Committee to produce a play at the beginning of this month by bringing in a visiting producer & two guest actresses.

We cannot foresee a revival of interest in the Players among our own parishioners at the moment, & feel we are too small a body to carry on as we are.

At our committee meeting last night, it was

suggested that I should write to you to ask whether your members would be interested in joining forces with us for some future production. It seems a pity that both societies should have to close down, or at least cease to function actively when we are so close together.

Perhaps you would like to discuss this with your members, & let us know what their reaction is.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) Margaret H. Hinstanley

(Hon. Secretary)

Following this letter a joint meeting was held with a view to combining the two players. In the end three or four ex St Mary's Players joined St Paul's Players. When it was suggested that a possible play for the next St Paul's production could be Hay Fever by Noel Coward, a play that had gone down well with St Mary's a few years earlier, the comment was made : "But we have only done Lancashire comedies before". However the play was selected and did go down well. It also convinced the St Paul's contingent that they could expand their horizons with play choices.

One of my own personal highlights came during this time. When the Royal Exchange Theatre reopened in the mid Seventies their second production was Zack, a revival of a comedy by Harold Brighouse more famous for Hobson's Choice. I was so taken by the play that I thought I would love to play the part of Zack. My first problem was finding a copy of the play. Frenches, who publish the majority of plays for amateur use in England, said it was not available in their catalogue. I went to Manchester Central Library and they discovered in their cellars nine large volumes each containing several plays by Harold Brighouse including Zack. They were not acting editions because they did not include stage directions. Armed with these volumes in a holdall I went to the next St Paul's committee meeting and suggested Zack as a possible future production. I had one or two allies with both Jessica Leah and Jean Jones taken with the play. When I produced copies of the play the matter was settled. We were the first amateurs to do the play after the Royal Exchange revival but we certainly were not the last. Several societies got in touch when they found we had done it to enquire where we got the scripts.



It's all her own work

FOR their next production at the Church Hall in Springfield Road, Sale, St Paul's Players are putting on a new play written by one of their members.

Dorothy Pollard — one of the society's most experienced actresses — was obliged by ill health to give up acting.

But her interest in the Players has never diminished and though she cannot play for them she has written a play for them.

It is called *Assignment In France*. The idea came to her while on holiday in France.

The producer is Margaret Winstanley who, like Dorothy, joined St Paul's when St Mary's Players ceased activities five years ago. Dates: Nov 6, 7 and 8.

Other notable productions with St Paul's included a world premiere - Dorothy Pollard's *Assignment in France* - which unfortunately Dorothy was too ill to attend. As this was before Video cameras were common she only managed to hear a tape recording of her play.

Dorothy - a writer of real courage

DOROTHY Pollard is dependant on those people around her for survival.

For the past few years she has suffered from motor neuron disease, which has eventually meant that she is confined to a wheelchair; has little control over her muscles and even has problems talking because the muscles of her tongue have been affected. And the disease will get progressively worse.

But Dorothy, of Ennerdale Drive, Sale, has not given up on life. Once a shining light on the stage with the St Paul's Church Players, she has not taken a back seat and has written their latest production, "*Assignment in France*".

"I've only recently got so bad that I can't use my electric typewriter", Mrs Pollard told the *Guardian*. "The play was written about three years ago when I wasn't anywhere as bad."

COMEDY

As well as this play, which is about a personal friend of hers — also a writer — who lives in France, Mrs Pollard, a former draughtswoman, has written four one-act plays.

One of them, a comedy entitled "*Bringing Home the Ashes*", is to be published by the New Playwriters Network.

She is now unable to use a typewriter but has been loaned a Canon Communicator by the Open University so that she can punch out words on tape.

She has plans for more plays

"but I don't know how much worse I will get. I've got dozens of ideas, but at the moment I'm incapacitated."

There is a poem by Browning '*My last Duchess*' which she would like to turn into a play. "At the moment I don't really feel I can embark on anything because I've gone much worse in the last two months and I've been having to wait for an improvement before I can really serious work on anything."

But if plays are not enough, Mrs Pollard has just finished the first year of a six-year Open University BA arts degree course.

Her main problem at the moment is communication.

"If I'm talking about something I'm really interested in I seem to communicate more successfully." Her husband Norman summed up her abilities by saying: "She has plots whizzing round her head that would turn the television green."

"The thing I most miss being able to do is acting", she said.

● '*Assignment in France*' by Dorothy Pollard is being performed by the St Paul's Players in St Paul's Church Hall, Springfield Road, from November 6 to 8.

An embarrassing moment occurred when St Paul's entered a One Act drama festival at Sale Town Hall. At these festivals several societies from the area put on a one act play, usually three societies per night. Although we knew in advance which societies would be present on the same evening as St Paul's we did not know the content of their productions. Our new Vicar, the Revd. John Bassett and family had just arrived at the Church and the players decided it would be a nice gesture to give the family complimentary tickets for the night of our performance.

Consequently Mr and Mrs Bassett and their young son settled down in the town hall for an evening of family entertainment. Unfortunately we had not been warned that the Stretford Youth Theatre were presenting an experimental play riddled with swearing. A large percentage of the audience walked out during this performance. Needless to say the Bassetts were not very impressed.

The Players were beginning to lose members in various ways and in an effort to keep going an alliance with the Circle Players of Timperley was formed. We did one joint production - Uproar in The House - and the next one -Dry Rot - had begun rehearsal when the leading lady died suddenly. At this point it was decided that the Players should be wound up. The photos below show this final set which stayed in place for a few years and was used as the backdrop for Christmas Fairs and other events.



However there was one bright spot at the end of the Players existence. In May 1983 we entered the Sale Drama Festival with a one act play called Villa for Sale. We were awarded the Keith Orton Trophy which was the adjudicator's prize. The award was given for the set which was a "tribute to the style of producer Jessica Leah".

In January 1985 the winding up of the Players began and the documents below record this.



19, Ashlands Rd.
 Timperley
 Cheshire
 WA15 6AL
 21st Jan 1984

Notice is hereby given of St. Paul's Players Annual General Meeting to be held on February 21st 1984 in the Church Hall at 8.00pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last A.G.M.
3. Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Motion : That St. Paul's Players cease to function from February 21st 1984 and the existing committee be reappointed to supervise the disposal of assets.
 In the event of the motion being carried a discussion will follow on member's wishes for the disposal of the assets.
6. Any other business

ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS.

Final Statement of Account from 1st. January, 1984 to 4th. March, 1985.

By Cash at Bank as at 1st. January, 1984	676.14	
Cash in Hand as at 1st. January, 1984	76	
Income for the period:-		
Jumble Sale - net proceeds	34.50	
Sale of Costumes	20.00	
Bank Interest	<u>52.62</u>	
	784.02	
To Expenditure for the period:-		
Photocopying - 1983 Accounts	2.01	
Hire of Skip - Rubbish removal	<u>28.75</u>	<u>30.76</u>
By Funds available for distribution		753.26
To Distribution of Funds:-		
Phone amplifier for Miss M. Wilson	20.00	
Sale, Altrincham & District Spastics Society - The Lil Stockdale Centre	60.00	
Cancer Research Campaign	55.00	
St. Paul's Church P.C.C.	158.26	
St. Paul's Church - for purchase of Chairs	350.00	
St. Ann's Hospice	60.00	
Helen House	<u>50.00</u>	<u>753.26</u>
Balance		<u>Nil</u>

The Special Deposit Bank Account with the Co-Operative Bank p.l.c., Manchester was closed on the 17th. January, 1985.

B. Glover
Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct.

J. Christ
F.C.A. Auditor - 8th. June, 1985.

Minutes of a committee meeting held at 9 Eastview on 11th Jan 1984

Present: Mesdames Garner, Winstanley, Glover and Hughes
 Messers Moore and Hadwen

The minutes of the previous committee meeting were read and signed.

Matters Arising 1. The set built for Dry Rot had been used for the Christmas fair and the Christmas party receiving several favourable comments. It was decided to leave the set until a request to remove it was made.

2. Mrs Glover is to ring Stockport Library to explain why the Dry Rot scripts, presently held by Mrs Glover, have not yet been returned. Arrangements will then be made to return them.

3. The tombola at the Christmas fair raised approx. £40. The treasurer reported that a donation of £20 had been sent to Christie Hospital in memory of Bob Higgins.

A.G.M.

An agenda for the AGM, to be posted to all members and patrons, was drawn up and in addition to the Apologies, Minutes, Chairmans's report and Treasurers report the following motion was drafted:

"That St. Paul's Players cease to function from Feb 21st 1984 and the existing committee is reappointed to supervise the disposal of assets"

The following was also agreed: "In the event of the motion being carried a discussion will follow on the members wishes for the disposal of the assets". The meeting would close with Any Other Business.

The committee were not in favor of the financial assets of the Players being put in any trust for future Players use.

The Players assets, other than money, include tape recorders, dimmer unit, light battens, costumes, props, flats, make-up box, dexion, sideboards and carpets.

Assuming the AGM votes to wind up the players it was proposed that a skip be hired to remove all remaining items after offering such things as the curtains to the Charity Shop, costumes to a Tib Street 2nd hand clothes shop etc.

The Secretary is to prepare an item for the February magazine and is to tell the PCC at the meeting on 19th January of the decision to put the wind up motion to the AGM.

The meeting closed at 10.28pm with a vote of thanks to Margaret Winstanley for her hospitality.

Margaret Garner
 Chairman.

The following pages detail the plays that have been performed since May 1975. Where available they include the Cast lists and reviews taken mostly from the Sale Guardian.

The first play is Hay Fever in May 1975

38

St. Paul's Players

Present

Hay Fever

by
Noel Coward

in
St. Paul's Church Hall
Springfield Road, Sale
at 7.30 p.m.

THURSDAY 15th MAY
FRIDAY 16th MAY
SATURDAY 17th MAY 1975

Ticket/Programme Adults 25p. Children & O.A.P.s 10p
Including Refreshments

Noel

CAST

JUDITH BLISS Dorothy Pollard
DAVID BLISS Bob Higgins
SOREL BLISS Jean Jones
SIMON BLISS Rodney Hadwen
MYRA ARUNDEL Shirley Higgins
RICHARD GREATHAM Jim Moore
JACKIE CORYTON Michelle Guy
SANDY TYRELL Ian Robertson
CLARA Cath Glover

PRODUCED BY JESSICA LEAH

STAGE MANAGER Ron Guy
PROMPT Alice Johnson
PROPERTIES Mary Clarkson, Mabel
Wilson, Pauline Spriggs
MAKE-UP Margaret Garner
HOUSE MANAGEMENT Alf Atkinson, Don
Gregory
PUBLICITY Eddie Tullock

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, SALE.

ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS

May 1975

Dear Friends,

We should like to welcome you to this our tenth production and hope you will have an enjoyable evening. We have been joined this time by members of St. Mary's Players, who have experienced problems, as we have done, namely, shortage of members. We have joined forces for this production to ease the burden on everyone. New members are always very welcome - acting or back stage helpers. If you would like to join us please fill in the coupon and hand it to any of the helpers. Membership fees are:

Adult	50p per year
16 - 17 years	25p "
14 - 15 years	15p "

Don't be shy - Give it a try.



Happy result as Players unite

The cast of "Hay Fever" with left to right, standing: Jim Moore, Cath Glover, Ian Robertson, Rodney Hadwen, Dorothy Pollard; seated, Jean Jones, Michelle Guy, Bob Higgins, Shirley Higgins.

WHAT A HAPPY arrangement resulted when members of the St Paul's and St Mary's Players joined forces to give Noel Coward's classic "Hay Fever" at St Paul's Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday last week.

When a cast of nine people are on stage at once — and this happens many times during the play — excellent application to movement and detail had obviously been stressed by producer Jessica Leah. Stage manager Ron Guy and his helpers produced a colourful and authentic set, while the lighting and effects were beautifully timed.

As the temperamental ex-stage star Judith Bliss, Dorothy Pollard was outstanding, dramatising every emotion and situation with conviction, ably supported (with tongues in cheeks!) by her daughter Sorrel, played by Jean Jones and her son Simon (Rodney Hadwen). The latter's voice was one of the best on stage, strong but not loud with clear enunciation easily heard all over the hall. Bob Higgins as the star's husband was word perfect but a little too forceful for the absent-minded author he was supposed to portray.

Shirley Higgins as Myra Arundel, was unconvincing at

first but improved as the story unfolded and her "row" with the erratic "Mad" Bliss family was a masterpiece. Jim Moore, as the diplomat Richard Great-ham, was nicely bewildered when cast as Judith's reluctant lover and Michelle Guy's Jackie Coryton, the gauche girl who feels "lost" from her first encounter with the family was delightfully shy.

Completely right in his part as the well-off, well-educated Sandy Tyrell, Ian Robertson showed a well-bred disbelief that such people could possibly exist, off the stage. Last but by no means least, Cathy Glover's long suffering maid, cook, house-keeper and ex-dresser Clara who kept the mad household together was in turn resigned, exasperated and capable to a most convincing degree.

It is to be hoped that this well balanced team will entertain us again in the near future.

000020
St PAUL'S PLAYERS

present

DANGER INSIDE

by
F.L.CARY and I.BUTLER

in
ST PAULS CHURCH HALL, SPRINGFIELD ROAD

SALE
AT 7.30pm



Thursday 13th November
Friday 14th November
Saturday 15th November

Programme/Ticket

ADULTS 30p
Children and OAPs 15p

REFRESHMENT AVAILABLE

CAST

MRS GRAYSON
MARJORIE RIGBY
YORK GRAYSON
LOUIS WESTCOTT
UNA DEBREK
ETHEL VINING
COLONEL DYKE
MISS SPARLING
DR. JOAN HEWITSON

Margaret Winstanley
Hilary Moore
Rodney Hadwen
Ian Robertson
Dorothy Pollard
Jean Jones
Ron Guy
Alice Johnson
Cath Glover

produced by SHIRLEY HIGGINS

STAGE MANAGER
SOUND EFFECTS
PROMPT
PROPERTIES
MAKE-UP
HOUSE MANAGEMENT
PUBLICITY

R. Higgins
L. Smith
H. Spriggs
M. Clarkson, M. Guy, A. Wray
M. Garner
A. Atkinson, D. Gregory
E. Tullock

Espionage was rife at St Paul's Hall

ST. PAUL'S Church Hall, Sale, was rife with espionage and counter-espionage last week when St. Paul's Players staged their spy thriller, "Danger Inside" writes Mike Birch.

The play, which ran from Thursday for three nights was produced by Shirley Higgins. For her first production, she did wonders with the nine strong cast, and created a really entertaining evening.

SMUGGLERS

The action took place in the lounge of a family hotel on the Lincolnshire Coast, and the plot revolved around an attempt to smuggle stolen radioactive material out of the country.

Far fetched? Only when the lights came up, but in the darkened church hall in Springfield Road you almost felt you were in the hotel lounge. With its strong lacing of humour and romance, and the final thwarting of the baddies at the end when everyone's true identity is revealed — it all added up to good entertainment.

The wicket lady in black, Una Debrek, was convincingly played by Dorothy Pollard, and she had no trouble holding the mysterious accent throughout the show.

Colonel Dyke with the jovial glint in his eye and joke at his lips was a favourite with the audience, and the character was given authenticity by Ron Guy.

Bumbling Mrs Grayson and her ambitious nephew York were well casted by Margaret

Winstanley and Rodney Hadwen.

The hero of the day, Louis Westcott, and his concerned yet interfering girlfriend, Marjorie Rigby, added a dash of romance to the production, and as we saw, true love conquers all in the end. Hilary Moore and Ian Robertson did a good job with the two characters.

When the country doctor turns out to be an enemy agent there must be something wrong with the health service. Cath Glover as Dr. Joan Hewitson gave everyone a shock when she revealed her true identity.

Miss Sparling, the lively spinster turned out to be one of the few innocent bystanders when all the cards were on the table, and the part was handled admirably by Alice Johnson. And the black lady's secretary was also well played by Jean Jones.

THE GUARDIAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1975 5



Pictured in the cast of the St. Paul's Players latest production, "Danger Inside" are (from left) Margaret Winstanley, Alice Johnson, Cath Glover, Ron Guy, Rodney Hadwen (front), Jean Jones, Ian Robertson, Dorothy Pollard and Hilary Moore. (Photo No H 738/6).



COUNCILLORS IN TROUBLE!

St Paul's Church Hall, Springfield Road, was the setting last week for the St Paul's Players latest production "When We Are Married." Members of the cast are pictured before the first night showing. (Photo No. J260/3).

ALDERMAN Joe Helliwell and Cllr Albert Parker had their future in jeopardy on Thursday last week. And it was not in the municipal council elections, but in J. B. Priestley's classic north-country comedy "When We Are Married" writes Andy Buckley.

This old established farce about the marital mix-up of three couples needs no recounting here. It is a favourite choice for amateurs and St Paul's Players who presented it in the church hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday did it full justice, extracting every possible laugh by fine individual portrayals.

The main failing, and this is one that seems to be epidemic, was the inability to be word perfect and with the necessity for too frequent promptings some of the continuity and free-flowing action was lost.

Jim Moore was suitably impressive as a respected alderman who found that he had unwittingly been "living in sin" for 25 years, and Irene Grant gave a relaxed interpretation of his wife.

CONVINCING

Harry Spriggs capably conveyed the character of hen-pecked Herbert Soppitt, another pillar of society, and Shirley Higgins did little wrong as his domineering wife.

Bob Higgins was competent as the tight-fisted Cllr Albert Parker and Norma Tullock as a wife who scented freedom was equally convincing.

Ron Guy imparted plenty of humour into the role of imbibing photographer with Jean Jones handling the part of the maid with great expertise.

Alice Johnson was well cast as the gossiping charwoman, Mrs

Northrop, but Ian Robertson could have been a little more relaxed as the carefree young suitor, and Michelle Guy would have found the going easier had she slowed down the pace of her delivery.

Rodney Hadwen easily coped with the role of the reporter and Dorothy Pollard, Eric Hughes and Bill Grant gave sound support. Jessica Leah's production maintained a nicely-balanced tempo and used the small stage effectively.

Something to Hide - Oct 1976

P A T R O N S

MRS. TURNBULL
 MR. & MRS. A. ATKINSON
 MR. & MRS. C.G. PATERSON
 MRS. O. BURGESS
 MR. J. CLISSET
 MRS. A.E. GILSON
 MRS. A. GUY
 MR. A. JOHNSON
 MR. E. MOORE
 MRS. O. OULTRAM
 MRS. B.C. ROBINSON
 MRS. E. SANKEY
 MR. F. TOFT
 PRESIDENT REV. ROY ARNOLD

PAST PRODUCTIONS

1969 CRYSTAL CLEAR
 1970 THE LOVE MATCH & CHRISTMAS REVUE
 1971 HOUSE ON THE CLIFF & BREATH OF SPRING
 1972 FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS & CAT AMONG THE PIGEONS
 1973 MURDER IN MIND
 1974 TWO DOZEN RED ROSES
 1975 HAY FEVER AND DANGER INSIDE
 1976 WHEN WE ARE MARRIED

CAST

HOWARD HOLT - RODNEY HADWEN
 JULIE GRANT - JEAN JONES
 KAREN HOLT - SHIRLEY HIGGINS
 INSPECTOR DAVIES - BOB HIGGINS
 MR. PURDIE - HARRY SPRIGGS
 STELLA - IRENE GRANT
 MRS CUNNINGHAM - CATHERINE GLOVER

PRODUCER DOROTHY POLLARD

STAGE MANAGER - J. MOORE
 PROMPT - A. JOHNSON
 PROPS - M. CLARKSON
 MAKE UP - M. GARNER
 PUBLICITY - E. TULLOCK
 HOUSE MANAGER - A. ATKINSON

ST. PAULS PLAYERS

P R E S E N T

Something to Hide

A THRILLER BY

LESLIE SANDS

IN

ST. PAULS CHURCH HALL

SPRINGFIELD ROAD SALE

ON

THURSDAY - 28th OCTOBER

FRIDAY - 29th OCTOBER

SATURDAY - 30th OCTOBER

AT 7.30 P.M.

PROGRAMME/TICKETS 40p ADULTS

20p CHILDREN / O.A.P.'s

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT 1

A NIGHT IN SEPTEMBER

ACT 2

SCENE 1. A FEW DAYS LATER

SCENE 2. SOME WEEKS LATER

ACT 3

SCENE 1. SHORTLY AFTER

SCENE 2. THE NEXT MORNING

THE ACTION TAKES PLACE IN

THE LIVING-ROOM OF A CONVERTED

TOLL HOUSE IN ESSEX - THE TIME

IS THE PRESENT.

XX

XX

Members of the cast of St Paul's Players' latest production, *Something to Hide*, pictured on set.



Players rise to the challenge

LESLIE SANDS' thriller, "Something to Hide" is a play which demands much from its actors — and St Paul's Players deserve credit for deciding to take it on **writes Phil Edwards.**

The performance they gave on Thursday last week was a satisfying one. Providing a constant atmosphere of suspense is no easy job for amateurs and in the end, the company proved capable of the job.

The plot is fiendishly complicated. It twists and turns in a manner which befits a good thriller and the audience is kept guessing right to the end.

Principle characters are Howard Holt, a writer and man of few scruples, and his wife Karen, an older woman who is also his publisher.

The intrigue begins when Karen accidentally runs down Howard's mistress Julie, in her car. Howard convinces Karen that Julie is dead and persuades her to keep the facts from the police, a decision which eventually leads to the downfall of them both.

From then on, it's red herrings all the way, as the shrewd Inspector Davies gathers evidence to back up his suspicions about the

seemingly simple motor accident, which the couple insist is no more than a collision with a gatepost.

It's a fairly long play, around two hours and the two hardest workers on stage were without doubt Karen, played by Shirley Higgins and Howard, played by Rodney Hadwen.

But there were also some splendid supporting performances from Bob Higgins as Inspector Davies and Catherine Glover as the local busybody, Mrs Cunningham.

IMPROVEMENT

Fluffed lines were few and far between throughout the play and as the action proceeded, there was a notable improvement in performances, especially from Rodney and Shirley. Some light-hearted moments were provided by Harry Spriggs, in his role as Mr Purdie, the garage proprietor.

Only one set was called for throughout the play, a converted Essex toll house and this was ably provided by stage manager Mr J. Moore.

"Something to Hide" was Dorothy Pollard's first full-length production for St Paul's Players and let's hope it won't be the last.



The Camel's Back - May 1977

ST. PAULS PLAYERS

P R E S E N T

The Camel's Back

A COMEDY BY

ARNOLD HOLSBY

ON

THURSDAY - 5th MAY

FRIDAY - 6th MAY

SATURDAY - 7th MAY

AT 7.30 P.M.

PROGRAMME 2 PENCE

C A S T

CICELY	-	SHIRLEY HIGGINS
NED RUDDLE	-	HARRY SPRIGGS
PRUDENCE HANNACOTT	-	MARGARET WINSTANLEY
FAITH HANNACOTT	-	JEAN JONES
TILDA HANNACOTT	-	ALICE JOHNSON
ROBERT SLADEN	-	RODNEY HADWEN
MISS LOVEDAY	-	DOROTHY POLLARD
MRS. MIDDLETON-JONES	-	CATH GLOVER
SAMUEL MEACOCK	-	TONY WORDSWORTH

PRODUCED BY SHIRLEY HIGGINS

STAGE MANAGER	-	BOB HIGGINS
STAGE BUILDERS	-	JIM MOORE & JOHN GREENWOOD
PROMPT	-	ALF JOHNSON
PROPS	-	MARY CLARKSON & BARBARA NEWLOVE
MAKE UP	-	MARGARET GARNER & PAULINE SPRIGGS



● The cast of "The Camel's Back," performed by St Paul's Players at St Paul's Church Hall. (Photo No. K342/10).

Uproariously funny offering from St Paul's

THE UNDOUBTED star of a talented cast in "The Camel's Back" presented by St. Paul's Players last week was the overalled, wellie-booted Harry Spriggs, who as Ned Ruddle, the farm foreman, did his best to rid the Hannacott family of their bossy spinster relative Prudence, played to chilly perfection by Margaret Winstanley.

Jean Jones and Rodney Hadwen were convincing as the young lovers who had to rely on their parts in the amateur dramatic society's play to thwart the terms of the late Farmer Hannacott's will, whilst Alice Johnson gave a lovely performance as Tilda, the timid, cowed sister who reluctantly enjoyed the plots concocted by Ned and her daughter.

Shirley Higgins, who played the sympathetic maid Cicely, was also the producer of the play and in this dual capacity really excelled herself. Dorothy Pollard as the schoolmistress and dramatic society's producer was her usual scintillating self and Cath Glover's ladylike performance as Mrs Middleton-Jones was a gem.

It was left to Tony Wordsworth as the local innkeeper Sam Heacock to complete the rout

of the unwanted Prudence, and his masterly treatment provided the "last straw" in this uproariously funny comedy by Arnold Helsby.

As usual, the Players' set was authentic and colourful, and tribute must be paid to the assiduous back-room staff,

who included Bob Higgins, Jim Moore, John Greenwood, Alf Johnson, Mary Clarkson, Barbara Newlove, Margaret Garner, Pauline Spriggs, Don Gregory and Eddie Tullock.

M.J.



PATRONS

Mr & Mrs A Atkinson	Mrs A Guy
Mr C Brayford	Mrs E Moore
Mrs O Burgess	Mrs O Oultram
Mr J Clisset	Mr & Mrs C G Paterson
Mrs Condron	Mrs B C Robinson
Miss D K Fox	Mrs Sankey
Mrs A E Gilson	Mr F Toft

PRESIDENT - REV ROY ARNOLD

PAST PRODUCTIONS

1969 Crystal Clear
 1970 The Love Match & Christmas Revue
 1971 House on the Cliff & Breath of Spring
 1972 Friends and Neighbours & Cat Among the Pigeons
 1973 Murder in Mind
 1974 Two Dozen Red Roses
 1975 Hay Fever
 1976 When We Are Married & Something to Hide
 1977 The Camel's Back

CAST

Paul Munning	---	Chris Brayford
Zachariah Munning	---	Rodney Hadwen
Joe Wrigley	---	Ron Guy
James Abbott	---	Gerry Ibbotson
Thomas Mowatt	---	Bill Grant
Harry Shoebridge	---	Jim Moore
Mrs Munning	---	Shirley Higgins
Virginia Cavender	---	Jean Jones
Martha Wrigley	---	Michelle Guy
Sally Teal	---	Sally Lightbown

PRODUCED BY JESSICA LEAH

Stage Manager	---	Alf Johnson
Assistants	---	John Greenwood Bill Grant Bob Higgins
Props	---	Mary Clarkson Barbara Newlove
Make up	---	Margaret Garner
Prompt	---	Dorothy Pollard
Hall Manager	---	Donald Gregory
Publicity	---	Eddie Tullock

000190

St. Paul's Players

PRESENT

ZACK

BY HAROLD BRIGHOUSE

in

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HALL
 SPRINGFIELD ROAD, SALE AT 7.30 PM

THURSDAY 10th NOVEMBER

FRIDAY 11th NOVEMBER

SATURDAY 12th NOVEMBER

Programme/Ticket	ADULT	40p
	CHILDREN/O.A.P.	20p

Refreshments Available

SCENES

Act 1. Mrs Munning's Parlour
 An afternoon in early June.
 Act 2. Morning - a fortnight later.
 Act 3. Evening - a month later.

In the village of Little Hulton, Lancashire (1905)

Our thanks to all who answer our various calls for help. Especially during Productions, Jumble sales and the like.

Harold Brighouse was born in ECCLES in 1882. His most notable success was "Hobsons Choice" written in 1915, to be followed a year later by "ZACK".



● The cast for the St Paul's Players production of Harold Brighouse's "Zack". Front row, from left to right: Zack Munning (Rodney Hadwen), Virginia Cavender (Jean Jones) and Paul Munning (Chris Brayford). (Photo No. K920/3.)

St Paul's have another 'hit'

THE CLASSIC tale of the misused and little loved Lancashire underdog attracted an enthusiastic first night audience for the St Paul's Players production of 'Zack'.

By the same author as the legendary 'Hobson's Choice', the play centres on life in the Lancashire village of Little Hulton, at the turn of the century.

The lead role was a gift for Rodney Hadwen, who skilfully portrayed the ungainly son, condemned to an arranged marriage. Virginia, the saviour for Zack's misfortune, was cleverly played by Jean Jones. Ron Guy gave a fine performance as the intrepid

Joe Wrigley, and the scheming Mrs Munning was well played by Shirley Higgins. Throughout the production the witty script was nicely timed.

The production maintained the fine record the St Paul's Players proudly hold. This, their ninth year as an amateur company, was possibly one of their most successful and the choice of play suited both cast and audience.

Credit must go to Jessica Leah, as producer, and to Alf Johnson for the attention to detail on the stage.

Proceeds from a raffle, and the three night production, went towards a fund for the new St Anne's Hospice, aptly to be built in the Lancashire town of Little Hulton.

ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS
present

ZACK

A Character Comedy by
Harold Brighouse

Thursday, 10th. November.
Friday 11th. November.
Saturday 12th. November.
in the

Church Hall, Springfield Rd.
Sale
at 7.30pm.

Tickets 40^p Refreshments
Children } 20^p Available
O.A.P.s }

Bonaventure - April 1978

PRESIDENT - Rev. Roy Arnold

Hon. Life Members:

Mr A Atkinson, Miss D K Fox, Miss M Wilson

PATRONS

Mr C Brayford
Mrs O Burgess
Mr J Clisset
Mrs A Condron
Miss D K Fox
Mrs E A Gilson
Mrs A Guy
Mr F W Toft
Mr E Moore
Mrs O Oultram
Mr C G Patterson
Mrs C G Patterson
Mrs B C Robinson
Mrs E Sankey
Miss M C Stanley

PAST PRODUCTIONS

1969 Crystal Clear
1970 The Love Match & Christmas Revue
1971 House on the Cliff & Breath of Spring
1972 Friends and Neighbours & Cat Among the Pigeons
1973 Murder in Mind
1974 Two Dozen Red Roses
1975 Hay Fever
1976 When we are Married & Something to Hide
1977 The Camel's Back & Zack



PRESENT

"BONAVENTURE"

A Play by Charlotte Hastings

in

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HALL
SPRINGFIELD ROAD, SALE AT 7.30 PM

THURSDAY 27th APRIL

FRIDAY 28th APRIL

SATURDAY 29th APRIL

PROGRAMME/TICKET ADULTS 45p
CHILDREN/O.A.P.s 25p

Refreshments Available

CAST

Nurse Phillips	Sandra O'Shea
Nurse Brent	Michelle Guy
Sister Josephine	Margaret Winstanley
Willy Pentridge	Chris Brayford
Sister Mary Bonaventure	Cath Glover
Dr Jeffreys	Jim Moore
The Mother Superior	Mabel Wilson
Melling	Alan James
Sarat Carn	Dorothy Pollard
Miss Pierce	Alice Johnson
Martha Pentridge	Irene Grant

The action takes place at the Convent of our Lady of Rheims, a nursing order at Denzil St. David, a village near Norwich.

TIME 1947

Act 1

The Great Hall of the convent at 6pm

Act II

Scene 1 Sister Mary's room 2 hours later

Scene 2 " " " Next Evening

Scene 3 " " " Next Afternoon

Act III

The Great Hall - 3 hours later

PRODUCER - SHIRLEY HIGGINS

Prompt	Rodney Hadwen
Stage Manager	Harry Spriggs
Assistants	Alf Johnson, John Greenwood, Bill Grant and Ron Gay
Props	Jean Jones and Pauline Spriggs
Make up	Margaret Garner and Jessie Leah
House Management	Don Gregory and Eddie Tullock

Our thanks to all who helped in the appeal in aid of ST. ANNE'S HOSPICE (Little Hulton) during our last production.

New members are always welcome to join us.

A Public Mischief - October 1978

000065



PRESENT

A Public Mischief

A Comedy by Kenneth Horne

in

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HALL

SPRINGFIELD ROAD, SALE AT 7.30 PM

THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER

FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER

SATURDAY 28th OCTOBER

PROGRAMME/TICKET ADULTS 45p
CHILDREN/O.A.P.s 25p

Refreshments Available

CAST

Mr Tibbits	Harry Spriggs
Mrs Tibbits	Alice Johnson
Mrs Porter	Shirley Higgins
Miss Morgan	Dorothy Pollard
Mark	Rodney Hadwen
Bridget	Jean Jones
Nicholas	Bob Higgins
Policeman	Ron Guy

PRODUCED BY JESSICA LEAH

Stage Manager	A. James
Stage Assistants	A. Johnson, W. Grant J Greenwood, C. Glover
Prompt	I. Grant
Props	M. Clarkson, B. Newlove
Make-up	M. Garney
House Management	D. Gregory, E. Tullock

Spotlight on local drama . . .



● A question of mistaken identity unravelled into a tale of intrigue when St Paul's Players stepped onto the stage last week. The group's latest production, 'A Public Mischief', played to packed audiences all week. The full cast is pictured at the final dress rehearsal. (Photo No. L889/9).

'Players' hold their own in mystery

A WEST country guest house, dull and just a little depressing, becomes the scene of a macabre — and all too often predictable — tale of suspected murder and intrigue.

All the ingredients were there to blend the perfect comic mystery. "A Public Mischief" awaited trial by audience as the curtain went up on the opening night of the St Paul Player's production last Thursday.

And at the end of the night, the company from St Paul's church were the victors with a convincing performance.

Pompous and obnoxious to the last, Mrs Porter (Shirley Higgins) was the domineering lady at the centre of the hilarious affair. Consuming

endless boxes of chocolates and stomping back and to across the stage, Shirley Higgins gave a delightful performance as the cantankerous — and wealthy — old aunt of the establishment.

WITNESS

But the star of the night was Dorothy Pollard. Cast as Miss Morgan, the witless and lovable proprietor of the guest house in the centre of Bath, her visible charisma made her an instant success.

With wild gestures and constant bubble, she added a welcome touch of humour which was sometimes lacking in this production of Kenneth Horne's situation comedy.

A fast-flowing farce, saucy and packed with fun, the production occasionally faltered as the tale moved on towards its ever-predictable end.

Lover and mistress Mark and Bridget (Rodney Radwen and Jean Jones) did their best to raise a smile or two. But the

arrival of husband Nicholas (Bob Higgins) — suspected of murdering the runaway Bridget — fell sadly flat.

INEVITABLE

And from there, the outcome was inevitable. A happy ending with man and wife together again and all was well. Yet the best moment of the production came when husband and wife — alias Mr Simple and the pretty Bridget — were found "petting in the potting shed!"

Harry Spriggs leaped into action and raised a cheer of laughter as the harmless Mr Tibbits. Together with a dreamy wife (Alice Johnson) he unravels the plot and unearths a suspected murderer in their midst.

Produced by Jessica Leah, the comedy offered great scope — and with limited resources the players at St Paul's certainly gave their best to a warm and appreciative first night audience.

AJM

The Whole Truth - April 1979

PRESIDENT- Rev. Roy Arnold

HON. LIFE MEMBERS:

Mr A Atkinson, Miss D K Fox, Miss M Wilson, Mrs M Garner

PATRONS

Mr. C Brayford	Mrs M Cornforth
Mrs O Burgess	Mrs A Ibbotson
Mr J Clisset	Mr G Ibbotson
Miss D K Fox	Mrs C G Patterson
Mrs E A Gilson	Mr C G Patterson
Mrs A Guy	Mrs B C Robinson
Mr E Moore	Mrs E Sankey
Mrs O Cultram	Miss M C Stanley
Mr F W Toft	



PAST PRODUCTIONS

1969 Crystal Clear
1970 The Love Match & Christmas Revue
1971 House on the Cliff & Breath of Spring
1972 Friends and Neighbours & Cat Among the Pigeons
1973 Murder in Mind
1974 Two Dozen Red Roses
1975 Hay Fever & Danger Inside
1976 When we are Married & Something to Hide
1977 The Camel's Back & Zack
1978 Bonaventure and A Public Mischief

CAST

Deenie	Cath Glover
Lewis Paulton	Gavin Richardson
Brenda Paulton	Shirley Higgins
Carliss	Rodney Hadwen
A Visitor	Jean Jones
Brett	Harry Spriggs
Petty	Alan James

PRODUCED BY DOROTHY POLLARD



Stage Manager	R. Guy
Stage Assistants	A. Johnson, W. Grant, J. Greenwood
Prompt	I Grant
Props	B. Newlove, M. Clarkson
Make-up	M. Garner
House Management	D. Gregory, E. Tullock



PRESENT

"The Whole Truth"

A Play by Philip Mackie

in

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HALL
SPRINGFIELD ROAD, SALE AT 7.30 PM

WEDNESDAY 25th APRIL

THURSDAY 26th APRIL

FRIDAY 27th APRIL

SATURDAY 28th APRIL

PROGRAMME/TICKET ADULTS 45p
CHILDREN/O.A.P.s 25p

Refreshments Available

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

- ACT 1.
The Paulton's living room at 7-30 pm
- ACT 2.
The Paulton's living room at 9-15 pm
- ACT 3.
Scene I Inspector Brett's office at 11-30 pm
Scene II The Paulton's living room at 11-45 pm

The action takes place one evening in present day
London



Furniture kindly loaned by ASHBROOKS OF SALE.



ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS - one of the family in St. Paul's
Societies. Why not join one?
Details in the PARISH MAGAZINE.

To the rescue

HOW the Evening News helps amateurs. Half way through rehearsals for The Whole Truth, St Paul's Players, of Sale, Cheshire, lost their leading man, who was forced to drop out.

Faced with the prospect of having to cancel a play for the first time in their 10 years, members scanned back numbers of the News and discovered that

Culcheth Players had recently given the play.

The review named the player who took the lead, Gavin Richardson. He was contacted and agreed to play for St Paul's.

So the show goes on, thanks to Gavin and the Evening News.

Dates: April 25-28, at St Paul's Church Hall, in Springfield Road, Sale.



● Members of St Paul's Players pictured during a scene from 'The Whole Truth', their latest production staged at St Paul's Church Hall until Saturday. From left to right are Shirley Higgins, Alan James, Gavin Richardson, Rodney Hadwen, Harry Spriggs and Cathy Glover. (Photo No. M478/7).

St Paul's do justice to a host of crimes!

A BLEND of blackmail, adultery and murder kept the audience on the edge of their seats during the latest production of "The Whole Truth" performed by St Paul's Players on Wednesday.

Despite first night nerves and a few fluffed lines, the cast kept the suspense and tension of the plot alive with some fine acting of which the playwright Philip Mackie would have been proud.

The plot is about the murder of an ambitious actress Marion Grey (Jean Jones) who was blackmailing millionaire's son Hugh Carliss (Rodney Hadwen). Carliss stabs her and then devises an ingenious plot to frame Miss Grey's lover — the wretched unsuspecting Lewis Paulton (Gavin Richardson)

The "Planted" clues convince pedantic Inspector Brett (Harry Spriggs) that he has an open and shut case. He impedes Lewis Paulton's frantic attempts to prove his own innocence.

But two bodies later, justice does prevail and Inspector Brett gets the right man.

Lewis Paulton, a film

producer, is the ideal suspect, because of his love/hate relationship with the scheming actress Marion Grey. And he admits to his wife Brenda (Shirley Higgins) that "I could so easily have killed her."

Shirley Higgins plays sympathetically the part of the wretched wife, who discovers her husband's infidelity and then finds he is also suspected of murder.

Just when the murderer's meticulous web of deceit and alibi seems destined to succeed, the plot reveals that the housemaid Deenie's (Cath Glover) keen observation can prove Lewis Paulton's innocence.

The plot reaches its nail biting climax when in a moment of blind panic, the murderer strangles the housemaid, and is in the process of killing Mrs Paulton — who inadvertently stumbles on the corpse — when the police arrive.

SAVED

Produced by Dorothy Pollard the play was beset by problems after a leading actor left the cast. But the play was saved by Gavin Richardson who stepped into the role of Lewis Paulton.

Nearly ten years of acting experience was reflected in the high standard set by St Paul's Players, and obviously enjoyed by the whole audience

Lord Arthur Savile's Crime - April 1980

000061



PRESENT

LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME

A Comedy by CONSTANCE COX

(Based on a story by Oscar Wilde)

in

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HALL

SPRINGFIELD ROAD, SALE AT 7.30 PM

Thursday 24th April 1980 at 7.30 pm

Friday 25th " "

Saturday 26th " "

PROGRAMME/TICKET ADULTS 45p

CHILDREN/O.A.P.s 25p

Refreshments Available

CAST

BAINES, the butler	Harry Spriggs
LORD ARTHUR SAVILE	Rodney Hadwen
SYBIL MERTON, his fiancée	Jean Jones
THE DEAN OF PADDINGTON his uncle	Bob Higgins
LADY WINDERMERE, his aunt	Cath Glover
LADY CLEMENTINA BEAUCHAMP his great aunt	Margaret Winstanley
LADY JULIA MERTON Sybil's mother	Shirley Higgins
MR. PODGERS, a cheiromantist	Eddie Tullock
NELLIE, the maid	Paula Cliffe
HERR WINKELKOPF, an anarchist	Jim Moore

Produced by JESSICA LEAH

Stage Manager	R Higgins
Stage Assistants	J Greenwood, W Grant, M Spence E Haygarth & A James
Effects	C Smith & C Whittaker
Prompt	I Grant & B Newlove
Property	P Spriggs & M Clarkson
Wardrobe	E Quarmby & B Ramsden
Make-up	M Garner
House Manager	D Gregory
Ticket Manager	E Tullock



● The cast of Lord Arthur Savile's crime congregated in the drawing room at St Paul's Church Hall. From left to right (back) Nellie (Paula Cliffe), Herr Winkelkopf (Jim Moore), Baines (Harry Spriggs), Sybil Merton (Jean Jones), Lord Arthur (Rodney Hadwen), Mr Podgers (Eddie Tullock), The Dean of Paddington (Bob Higgins). Front: Lady Windermere (Cath Glover), Lady Clementina Beauchamp (Margaret Winstanley) and Lady Julia Merton (Shirley Higgins). (Photo No. N592-3).

ST PAUL'S MASTER A GENTLE COMEDY

THURSDAY, Friday and Saturday saw the subtle wit of Oscar Wilde produced on a Sale stage.

For their 18th play in 11 years St Paul's Players performed Lord Arthur Savile's Crime by Constance Cox, based on a story by Oscar Wilde, about a true product of the aristocracy who is taken in by an imposter.

Lord Arthur Savile as a well-meaning but not very

intelligent aristocrat was played with suitable blundering incompetence by Rodney Hadwen as he attempts to dispose of one of his many relatives, so that he can marry his fiancée Sybil Merton (Jean Jones).

Thwarted at every attempt to murder one of his relatives and fulfil the prophesy of a cheiromantist (Eddie Tullock), Lord Arthur was further hindered by the introduction of Herr Winkelkopf, an anarchist, played by Jim Moore, who showed suitable relish in producing his weapons for anarchy; only to find that they did not work most of the time.

Shirley Higgins as Lady Julia Merton, who as Arthur's prospective mother-in-law was a thorn in his flesh, enthusiastically entered the part of the cynical matron looking after the interests of her daughter.

The scenery set the atmosphere for the gentle comedy which brought a touch of the Victorian drawing room to St Paul's Church Hall.

enjoyable and successful production

Dorothy Pollard writes...

Under the skilful and artistic direction of their producer, Jessica Leah, St Paul's Players' presentation of "Lord Arthur Saville's Crime" (based on a story by Oscar Wilde) proved to be a most enjoyable and successful production.

Rodney Hadwen, as the inane aristocrat and his butler (played by Harry Spriggs) carried the burden of most of the action and established a fine contrast in characterisation. But the ladies were by no means outshone, each one giving an authentic interpretation..from the not-so-demure Sybil, played by Jean Jones and Shirley Higgins as her overbearing and over-dressed mother, Lady Julia, to Arthur's two aunts, played with elegance and style by Cath Glover (as Lady Windermere) and Margaret Winstanley (as Clementina). Bob Higgins as the Dean and Eddie Tullock as the fortune teller provided good support and Jim Moore seemed to revel in his part as Herr Winkelkopf, the anarchist. His bungling efforts to assist Arthur were among some of the funniest scenes in the play. Special mention must be made of Paula Cliff who played the part of the maid with great confidence and we hope to see her again in future productions.

The ladies costumes were a feast for the eyes and full marks must go to the set builders and property department for helping to create a truly Victorian atmosphere.

Dorothy Pollard...well known Book Reviewer for "Chester Diocesan News" was engaged at great expense to write this review of St Paul's Players spring production...so we're very glad she enjoyed it. It was lovely to see her there.

Assignment in France - November 1980

PRESIDENT- Rev. Roy Arnold

HON. LIFE MEMBERS:

Mr A Atkinson, Miss D K Fox, Miss M Wilson, Mrs M Garner
Miss J Leah

PATRONS

MRS O BURGESS	MR S B LATTIMORE
MR J CLISSET	MRS E LATTIMORE
MRS M CORNFORTH	MR E MOORE
MRS E A GILSON	MRS O OULTRAM
MRS A GUY	MRS B C ROBINSON
MR G IBBOTSON	MISS M C STANLEY
MRS A IBBOTSON	MR F W TOFT



PAST PRODUCTIONS

1969 Crystal Clear
1970 The Love Match & Christmas Revue
1971 House on the Cliff & Breath of Spring
1972 Friends and Neighbours & Cat Among the Pigeons
1973 Murder in Mind
1974 Two Dozen Red Roses
1975 Hay Fever & Danger Inside
1976 When we are Married & Something to Hide
1977 The Camel's Back & Zack
1978 Bonaventure and A Public Mischief
1979 The Whole Truth
1980 Lord Athur Savile's Crime

000350



PRESENT

ASSIGNMENT IN FRANCE

A new drama by DOROTHY POLLARD

in

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HALL
SPRINGFIELD ROAD, SALE AT 7.30 PM

Thursday 6th November 1980

Friday 7th " "

Saturday 8th " "

PROGRAMME/TICKET ADULTS 60p
CHILDREN/O.A.P.s 40p

Refreshments included

CAST

JANE GORDON (a young woman staying at the villa)	JEAN JONES
KATRINA BRANT (an authoress)	CATH GLOVER
MADAME LAVAL (Katrina's Mother)	MABEL WILSON
GASTON (taxi driver)	BILL GRANT
ZITA (portuguese maid)	IRENE GRANT
FRED TURNER	RON GUY
BETTY (his wife)	PAULA HUGHES
MAISIE (their Daughter)	PAULA CLIFFE
PHILIP (a young businessman)	RODNEY HADWEN
SERGE (mysterious stranger)	CHRIS BRAYFORD

} English Tourists

Produced by MARGARET WINSTANLEY

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The action takes place in the sitting room of the "Villa Francoise" on the north coast of France.

ACT I

Scene 1. A Sunday afternoon in July.
Scene 2. A few minutes later.

ACT II

Scene 1. After dinner that evening.
Scene 2. Half an hour later.
Scene 3. A few minutes later.

ACT III

Scene 1. Next morning.
Scene 2. After lunch.

Time - Mid 1960's

Stage Staff J MOORE, J GREENWOOD, R HIGGINS, A JAMES
EFFECTS H SPRIGGS
Prompt S HIGGINS
Properties M CLARKSON
Make-up M GARNER & P SPRIGGS
House Manager D GREGORY
Ticket Manager E TULLOCK
Refreshments E QUARMBY & B RAMSDEN

Our thanks to everyone who has in any way assisted in this new play.

New members, acting or not, are always welcome to join us.

Fools Paradise - May 1981

000033

PRESIDENT- Rev. Roy Arnold

HON. LIFE MEMBERS:

Mr A Atkinson, Miss D K Fox, Miss M Wilson, Mrs M Garner
Miss J Leah

PATRONS

MRS O BURGESS	MRS E SANKEY
MR J CLISSET	MR E MOORE
MRS M CORNFORTH	MRS O OULTRAM
MRS E A GILSON	MRS B C ROBINSON
MR G IBBOTSON	MISS M C STANLEY
MRS A IBBOTSON	MR F W TOFT
	MISS D K FOX

**St. Paul's
Hayer**

PRESENT

FOOL'S PARADISE

By

PETER COKE

in

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HALL
SPRINGFIELD ROAD, SALE AT 7.30 PM

Thursday	30th April	1981
Friday	1st May	"
Saturday	2nd May	"

PROGRAMME/TICKET ADULTS 60p
CHILDREN/O.A.P.s 40p

Refreshments Available

PAST PRODUCTIONS

1969 Crystal Clear
1970 The Love Match & Christmas Revue
1971 House on the Cliff & Breath of Spring
1972 Friends and Neighbours & Cat Among the Pigeons
1973 Murder in Mind
1974 Two Dozen Red Roses
1975 Hay Fever & Danger Inside
1976 When we are Married & Something to Hide
1977 The Camel's Back & Zack
1978 Bonaventure and A Public Mischief
1979 The Whole Truth
1980 Lord Athur Savile's Crime & Assignment in France

CAST

Julius Caxton	HARRY SPRIGGS
Rose	PAULA HUGHES
Susan Dawson	MARGARET HATTON
Catherine Hayling	CATH GLOVER
Jane Hayling	SHIRLEY HIGGINS
Philip Hayling	RODNEY HADWEN
Fiona Renshaw	JULIA PERRY
Brigitte Blair	Margaret Winstanley

PRODUCER: JEAN JONES

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I 4 pm on a Monday in May
ACT II A Few Days later
ACT III The following Wednesday afternoon

The action takes place in the first floor
drawing-room of the Haylings house in Westminster



STAGECRAFT Alan James, Bob Higgins, Bill Grant, Jim Moore
EFFECTS/LIGHTS Jim Moore
PROPERTY Pauline Spriggs, Sheila Clarke, Mary Clarkson
PROMPT Jessica Leah
WARDROBE Betty Ramsden
MAKE UP Margaret Garner
PUBLICITY Elizabeth Arnold & Eddie Tullock
REFRESHMENTS Edith Quarmby
HOUSE MANAGEMENT Don Gregory & Eddie Tullock

We would be happy to welcome anyone to join us
who is interested in either acting or stagecraft.



● The cast of "Fool's Paradise", performed by St Paul's Players last week. From left to right: Rodney Hadwen, Paula Hughes, Harry Spriggs, Shirley Higgins, Cath Glover and Margaret Winstanley. (Photo No P856-11).

A show in the best traditions

THE St Paul's Players gave a refreshing and lively performance of Peter Coke's popular comedy "Fool's Paradise" at St Paul's Church Hall last week.

The plot revolved around the emeralds bequeathed by the late Basil Hayling to his two surviving wives — forced by reduced circumstances to live together.

Fraught by money problems, they are frantically trying to rob Peter to pay Paul. In the best theatrical tradition, all ends well when the emeralds turn out to be priceless.

Harry Spriggs' interpretation of the smooth, 'crooked as a corkscrew' Julius Caxton, the scheming antique dealer whose catch phrase was "I want to be absolutely honest with you" — whilst being quite the reverse — was excellent.

Paula Hughes amused the audience in her role as the aging, faithful but obstinate maid (though, on occasions, her movements were a little too fast for one in such advanced years).

The scene in which she rehearsed the announcement of Senora Conchita Elvas (Jane Hayling in disguise), failing to recollect the unfamiliar foreign name, was exactly right.

Margaret Hatton as Susan Dawson and Rodney Hadwen as Philip Hayling gave a true - to - life portrayal of the young couple too much in love to be aware of the intrigue going on around them and Margaret Winstanley played the eccentric Brigitte Blair well.

Fiona Renshaw, the upper class former girlfriend of Philip, who used typical public schoolgirl slang, would have described Julia Perry's interpretation as 'fab', which it was despite being difficult to hear now and then. Incidentally, the striking black and white outfit worn by Fiona on her first appearance, was stunning).

The undoubted success of the play rested largely on the shoulders of the two wives Catherine and Jane Hayling.

made the perfect partner for Shirley Higgins who played Jane. Catherine, pessimistic by nature, was kept in a perpetual state of turmoil by the plans constantly being hatched by the optimistic, flamboyant, Jane.

Shirley's confident performance — especially when apparently slightly intoxicated — was rewarded by much laughter from the audience. Her successful switch of role from the very English Jane to the exotic Senora Conchita Elvas, was brilliant.

Congratulations to producer Jean Jones on her casting.

JT

Night Must Fall - Nov 1981



PRESENT

NIGHT MUST FALL

BY EMLYN WILLIAMS

in

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HALL
SPRINGFIELD ROAD. SALE AT 7.30pm

Thursday November 5th 1981

Friday " 6th "

Saturday " 7th "

ADMISSION ADULTS 60p
CHILDREN/O.A.P.s 40p

Refreshments Available

CAST

Mrs Bramson	MONICA EDWARDS
Nurse Libby	HILARY MOORE
Olivia Grayne	JEAN JONES
Hubert Laurie	HARRY SPRIGGS
Mrs Terence	PAULA HUGHES
Dora Parkoe	JULIA PERRY
Inspector Belsize	RON GUY
Dan	RODNEY HADWEN

Produced by SHIRLEY HIGGINS

Stage Management	Margaret Hatton
Assistants - Bob Higgins,	Colin Smith
Prompt	Cath Glover
Property	Margaret Winstanley
	Sheila Clarke
	Jennifer Hadwen
	Mary Clarkson
Make up	Margaret Garner
Wardrobe	Betty Ramsden
Refreshments	Edith Quarmby
House Management/Publicity	Don Gregory
	Eddie Tullock



● The cast of the St Paul's Players play Night Must Fall staged last week. Front (left to right) Monica Edwards (Mrs Bramson), Jean Jones (Olivia Grayne), Harry Spriggs (Hubert Laurien). Back (left to right) Rodney Hadwen (Dan), Ron Guy (Inspector Belsize) Paula Hughes (Mrs Terence). (Photo No: P1516-6).

Rodney grabs the limelight

A WELL-studied and sensitive role by Rodney Hadwen made him the star of the St Paul's Players presentation: "Night Must Fall" by Emlyn Williams produced by Shirley Higgins.

Although the play started slowly and did not allow the actors to explore their parts to the full, this was largely due to the writer, not the actors.

The play is set in pre-war Suzzex when the serenity of the countryside is shattered by the search and eventual discovery of a headless corpse behind Mrs Bramson's (Monica Edwards) cottage.

Spinster Olivia Grayne (Jean Jones), Mrs Bramson's niece is forever threatening to tender her resignation as housekeeper to the miserable old Mrs Bramson. She is continually

hounded by the 'wet' Hubert Laurie (Harry Spriggs) who wants to marry her.

The news of the murder excited the household — above and below stairs. Rumour monger Mrs Terence, the cook (Paula Hughes) drives the house, but especially Dora Parkoe the maid (Julia Perry) into a state of panic.

When messenger-boy Dan (Rodney Hadwen) charms his way into the household he becomes the apple of old Mrs Bramson's eye.

But when the headless corpse is found in the garden of the cottage — suspicion is rife. Inspector Belsize (Ron Guy) from Scotland Yard makes frequent visits to the household. His last visit is Dan's downfall.

Rodney Hadwen's speeches were well executed and well thought out. ABR

Uproar in the House - Oct 1982

ST PAUL'S PLAYERS (SALE)
 AND
 CIRCLE PLAYERS (TIMPERLEY)
 PRESENT
 "UPROAR IN THE HOUSE"
 A "WHITEHALL" FARCE IN 2 ACTS
 BY
 ANTHONY MARRIOTT AND ALISTAIR FOOT

IN ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL
 SPRINGFIELD ROAD SALE

AT 7.30 PM ON

TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER 1982 (BLUE PROGRAMME)
 WEDNESDAY 27 OCTOBER 1982 (PINK PROGRAMME)
 THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER 1982 (GREEN PROGRAMME)
 FRIDAY 29 OCTOBER 1982 (GOLD PROGRAMME)

PROGRAMME/TICKET
 (INC REFRESHMENTS)

ADULTS - 70p

JUNIORS - 45p

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TONIGHT. NO DOUBT YOU WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW WHY OUR TWO GROUPS ARE WORKING TOGETHER IN A JOINT PRODUCTION OF THIS PLAY.

SMALLER SOCIETIES LIKE OURS ARE OCCASIONALLY FACED WITH DIFFICULTIES THAT CAN DELAY OR EVEN CANCEL A PLANNED PRODUCTION AND AT THIS TIME SUCH A SITUATION EXISTS FOR BOTH. FORTUNATELY THESE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN SOLVED BY WORKING TOGETHER AND THIS HAS PROVED A DELIGHTFUL AND REWARDING VENTURE FOR ALL CONCERNED.

THE VERY NATURE OF THIS PLAY AND THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE INVOLVED HAS ABSORBED MOST OF THE TWO GROUPS AND WE HOPE THAT THE PLEASURE WE HAVE EXPERIENCED IN PREPARING FOR TONIGHT WILL BE SHARED BY OUR AUDIENCE.

OUR THANKS ALSO TO THE OTHER PEOPLE NOT MENTIONED IN THIS PROGRAMME WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED IN TIME AND EFFORT TO MAKE YOUR EVENING ENJOYABLE.

GFB

CAST (In order of appearance)

CYRIL ALCOCK	....	JOHN COOK
MONICA JOHNSON	....	JEAN RITCHINGS
YVONNE WILBY	....	JULIA PERRY
MELANIE SINCLAIR	....	MARGARET HATTON
BERNARD LOCKWOOD	....	BRIAN EASTWOOD
NIGEL PITT	....	ROY DUNCKER
SIR LINDSAY COOPER	....	DAVID PARKES
LADY COOPER	....	DIANE PERRY
DAVID PROSSER	....	JOHN HEADON
ANDREW GREY	....	RODNEY HADWEN
AUDREY GREY	....	BRENDA ELLICOTT
PHOTOGRAPHER	....	GRAHAM TAVENOR
ISABEL	....	PAULA HUGHES

PRODUCTION DIRECTED

BY
 GEOFF BROOKES

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The action of the play takes place in a show house selected as "House of the Year" in "His and Hers" magazine.

ACT 1 SCENE 1 A LATE AFTERNOON IN AUTUMN
 SCENE 2 EARLY EVENING

INTERVAL

ACT 2 MUCH LATER THE SAME EVENING

of the St Paul's Players of Sale and the Circle Players of Timperley was performed with fine pace and style at St Paul's Church Hall, Sale.

The two drama groups got together after the Circle Players lost their theatre through a fire.

The plot is centred around a bachelor who is a parliamentary candidate posing as a family man to sell a house.

Roy Duncker, as the bachelor, delivers the implausible explanations of farcical situations with fine timing.

Happy performances were also given by Margaret Hatton, David Parkes, Diane Perry, John Headon, Rodney Hadwen and Brenda Ellicott.

Amateur Stage

ST PAUL'S
 THE WHITEHALL farce, Uproar In The House, the first combined production

Villa for Sale - May 1983

Sale Drama Festival - One Act Play

S A L E
D R A M A
F E S T I V A L
1 9 8 3

Monday 23rd May 1983

to

Wednesday 25th May 1983

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 25p

ST PAULS PLAYERS

"Villa for Sale"

By Guitry. Translated by V. F. Vernon

CAST

Gaston	Rodney Hadwen
Jeanne	Monica Edwards
Juliette	Margaret Winstanley
Mrs Al. Smith	Audrey Shepherd
A Maid	Paula Hughes

The Action takes place in a Villa near Joinville, France
Time About 1930

Directed by:- Jessica Leah Stage Manager:- Jim Moore
ADJUDICATION, INTERVAL/REFRESHMENT DOWNSTAIRS IN TEA ROOM

This is a play of manners, translated from the French and has a certain Gallic charm. It is not however very demanding and depends largely upon style and panache in presentation. This group of players got it right first time.

The staging was absolutely superb and well deserved the applause it received. With the minimum of props and materials the maximum effect was achieved. They completely banished the suffocating effect of those black tabs and created for us all the light of a sun drenched villa in the French countryside. Congratulations.

The costumes were also good and a real attempt at period was made. I think that the maid might have had a uniform rather than the peasant type blouse and skirt. I liked Gaston's suit it was just right. I felt that Jeanne's shoes looked a little too uncomfortable, they inhibited her movement somewhat.

MAID.

Good diction, delivered her lines well and had excellent timing. She got all her "laughs" and I thought that her "Oh if only I could be a Greta Garbo" was smashing. An engaging personality this and a good mover. Watch out for those stepping forward and back movements when talking to your mistress. A very nice performance.

JULIET.

A stylish player this with effortless grace and charm. A good stage presence too. She delivered her lines a little slowly at times which pulled back the pace generated by Gaston. I liked her reactions to the Maid on being told that she had "a funny face" A very nice performance and most pleasing to the eye and ear.

GASTON.

This actor knows how to play comedy. He didn't miss a trick. His pace and timing was good, very good. The ruthless business man, the shrewd operator, the confidence trickster didn't quite emerge. He was a little too likable for I suspect that Gaston was far from being that. However, he "lit up the stage" with his personality and made the play fairly zoom along. An excellent performance.

JEANNE.

Poor Jeanne, we suspect that her marriage is far from happy but she keeps plugging away. A foil for Gaston, this player could have been forgiven for allowing herself to be submerged by him. But no, she makes this character real for us. Her diction is good, every word is clear if a little slow at times. She makes her mark. Those shoes didn't help but she had a good stage presence. A good performance this.

MRS AL SMITH.

Gaston met his match with this player! She stormed onto the stage like Ethel Merman in her prime and "took over" Much more the business woman than the film star I suspect. She steam rolled everyone in sight. Good diction and excellent delivery, she matched Gaston for timing. Her scene with him developed marvellous pace. One complaint - that handbag - you practically had a wrestling match with it. Either it was too big or the table was too small. Smashing performance - great fun - sorry to see you make an exit.

The production was as I said earlier, full of style and panache and reflected the gifts of the director of the piece who is a superb actress in her own right

Alice in Wonderland - Nov 1979

Junior Players

Thank you for supporting the first production of our newly formed Junior Players' Group which - this time - is a 'family affair' with no outside advertising.

This production has enabled us to get to know one another, and give each member an opportunity to take part.

We had inevitable teething troubles, mainly, establishing a regular and reliable membership, this delayed commencement of rehearsals.

In addition, many of you will be aware that our Producer, Director and General Organizer, Mrs. Margaret Hatton, is busy preparing for her own personal production - namely the very imminent arrival of her second child - we wish her well. This has also had some effect on our first year - with unavoidable absences and fewer rehearsals than was originally intended.

We did manage a coach trip in September to Alton Towers which was enjoyed by all - having been favoured with good weather.

We hope that our next twelve months will prove to be a busy one, with more acting and other activities.

ST. PAUL'S JUNIOR PLAYERS

PRESENT

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

IN THE CHURCH HALL

7TH - 10TH NOVEMBER, 1979

7.30 p.m.

REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

This Programme/Ticket is for

Wednesday 7th Nov
Thursday 8th Nov
Friday 9th Nov
Saturday 10th Nov

Adult - 35p
O.A.P - 25p
Child - 25p

CAST

Madam Chairwoman	Kath Glover
Lewis Carroll	Rodney Hadwen
Alice	Paula Cliffe
..... and	Samantha Dobbs
Alice's Sister	Jill Taylor
White Rabbit	Rachel Arnold
Mouse	Elizabeth Arnold
Eight of Clubs	Alison Littlewood
Nine of Clubs	Elaine Thompson
Ten of Clubs	Amanda Smith
Caterpillar	Ailse McLelland
Cheshire Cat	Simone Milner
Duchess	Annette Smith
Cook	Jane Croughton
Fish Footman	Rachel Meakin
Frog Footman	Debbie Shea
..... and	Karl Eaton
Doormouse	Hazel Davies
March Hare	Colin Whittaker
Mad Hatter	Harry Spriggs
..... and	Gordon Horne
King of Hearts	Colin Smith
Queen of Hearts	Karen Jones
Two of Spades	Alison Littlewood
Ace of Spades	Jane McLelland
Five of Spades	Dianne Murphy
Seven of Spades	Janice Smith
Knave of Hearts	Karl Eaton
Executioner	Catherine Meakin

Produced and Directed by Margaret Hatton
Assisted by Eileen Woodward
..... and Lynn Chadwick
Make up Helen Stewart
Assisted by Annette Smith
Prompter Nicola Woodward
Props and Scenery Karl Eaton
..... and Senior Players
..... Betty Ramsden
Parents and Senior Players

Act 1

Scene 1 Alice's Introduction to Wonderland
Madam Chairman Alice
Lewis Carroll Her Sister
White Rabbit
Mouse

Scene 2 The White Rabbit's House
Alice Number Eight
White Rabbit Number Nine
Number Ten

Act 2

Scene 1 Alice Receives a Little Assistance
Madam Chairman Alice
Lewis Carroll Caterpillar

Scene 2 The Duchess's House
Lewis Carroll Alice
Duchess Fish
Cheshire Cat Frog

Scene 3 The Mad Hatter's Tea Party
Alice The Mad Hatter
Cheshire Cat The March Hare
Doormouse

REFRESHMENTS

Act 3

Scene 1 A Strange Game of Croquet
Number Two Alice
Number Five Cheshire Cat
Number Seven Knave of Hearts
Ace of Spades Queen
King White Rabbit
Duchess

Scene 2 The Trial - Who Stole the Tarts?

The Whole Cast

Party Spirit - December 1980

Junior Players

10

ST. PAUL'S JUNIOR PLAYERS

PRESENT

'THE PARTY SPIRIT'

a play written and produced by

Margaret Hatton.

CAST, IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE:-

Angela Yates	Karen Jones
Peter Anderson	Colin Smith
Sue Howard	Paula Cliffe
Gill	Nicola Woodward
Martin Finley	Selwyn Shipperbottom
Carol Yates	Rachael Arnold
Katie	Nicola Battle
Anthony Rheade	Rodney Hadwen
Jane	Jane Croughton

We should like to convey our thanks to The Senior Players, without whose help this production would not have been possible.

Stage Staff	} The Senior Players
Effects	
House	
Refreshments	
Stage Manager	Margaret Hatton
Prompt and Assistant	Eileen Woodward
Producer	
Makeup	Helen Stewart

Synopsis of Scenes

The play takes place in the living room of a flat somewhere in London in the present day.

ACT ONE Early Friday Evening.

ACT TWO Later on during the same evening.

ACT THREE The following morning.

Our special Thanks also go to Mr. J. Greenwood
'Ashbrooks' the Furnishers
Beverley King who supplied us with our
cushions, (From Alrincham Market).

PAST PRODUCTIONS!

1979

'Alice in Wonderland'

Music Hall productions with Choir and Friends

6th, 7th Feb 1976

4th, 5th Feb 1977

Happiness is . . . olde tyme music

Happiness is . . . sharing, joining in, becoming part of . . . and this was the by-word on Friday and Saturday when St Paul's Players, Choir and Youth Club joined forces to present their Olde Tyme Music Hall in aid of the Church Organ fund. In fact, everyone joined in — cast, helpers and audience — and what a gathering resulted!

With a large number of people in the well-filled hall wearing old fashioned dress (no specific period — Edwardian, Victorian or just plain "Good Old Days" vintage) the atmosphere was one of determination to leave inflation, taxation and any other botheration outside.

With the voluable Ron Guy launching into "loquacious multiloquence" as the Master of Ceremonies, the evening was away at a cracking pace with the "entire company and most of all the audience themselves" singing such old songs as "Old Bull and Bush," "Henary the Eighth," "Down the Strand" and many more. Monologues by Mr W Grant ("Gunner Joe") and Mr J Moore ("Sam, Sam"), a Black and White Minstrel "special" and a "twenties" style dancing number by the Youth Club members, kept the merriment bubbling.

Two songs "Don't be Cross" and "Bells of St Mary's" were delightfully sung by Miss Jessica Leah who also, together with Mr Robert Higgins produced the show. Mystery and Murder — "Maria Martin" and intrigue and perfidy "The Wages of Sin" were two of the Players' hilarious contributions to the evening's entertainment and Shirley Higgins and Don Gregory delighted their listeners with "Operatic Wedding."

The unlikeliest comedian of all was the Vicar of St Paul's, the Rev. Roy Arnold, complete with false moustache and whiskers who read an uproariously funny list of "Parish Notices for the week."

The Musical Director and pianist throughout both evenings was Mr John Clissett and the cafe/bar was organised by Mrs Hilary Moore.

A sponsored swim at Sale Leisure Centre in aid of the Organ Fund is to be held on March 27.

St. Paul's Players, Choir and Friends
present an

OLD TIME MUSIC HALL.

on

Friday 4th. February, 1977 &
Saturday 5th. February, 1977 at 7.45 p.m.

"The organisation for Church Restoration
Has sponsored this Concert for fund augmentation"

PROGRAMME AND SONG SHEET.

Price 3p.

7. The Players present

"The Bells".

Sir Henry Ermine

Stage-Manager

Ann

Christian

Mr. Jim Moore

Mr. Gerald Ibbotson

Miss Gail Watkins

Mr. Rodney Hadwen

13. The Players present

"Temptation Sordid" or "Virtue Rewarded"

A melodrama in 5 scenes.

Lady Lucre

Arabella, her daughter

Clarence

Sir Jasper Breakneck

Fanny

Miss Margaret Wynstanley

Miss Michelle Guy

Mr. Rodney Hadwen

Mr. Harry Spriggs

Mrs. Dorothy Pollard

THE PLAYERS.

Miss Margaret Wynstanley, Mrs. Dorothy Pollard, Miss Collette Guy, Miss Michelle Guy, Mrs. Cathy Glover, Miss Gail Watkins, Miss Karen Tindsley and Mrs Alice Johnson.

Mr. Harry Spriggs, Mr. Jim Moore, Mr. Rodney Hadwen, Mr. Gerald Ibbotson, Mr. William Grant, Mr. Tony Wadsworth, Mr. Alfred Johnson and Mr. Ron Guy.

THE CHOIR.

Miss Barbara Newlove, Mrs. Hilda Williamson, Miss Jessie Leah, Miss Sybil Hughes.

Mr. Eric Hughes, Mr. Gordon Daintree, Mr. John Chatterton, Mr. Donald Gregory, Mr. John Clissett and Master Robert Wild.

FRIENDS AND GUESTS.

Mrs. Huguette Chatterton, Mrs. Norma Wild, Mrs. Olive Oultram, Miss Susan Holt, Miss Kathryn Holt, Miss Karen Jones and Miss Ailsa McLellan.

Mr. Stan Daley, Mr. John Dorgan, Mr. Alan Whitehead, Mr. Bob Coraish, Master Philip Daintree and the Vicar.

Producer

Musical Director at the piano

Producer for the Players

Chairman

Stage setting and decor

Make-up

Stage Manager

Cafe - Bar

Miss Jessie Leah

Mr. John Clissett

Mr. Robert Higgins

Mr. Ronald Guy

Mr. Tony Wadsworth

Mrs. Margaret Garner &

Mrs. Joy Daintree

Mr. Robert Higgins

Mrs. Hilary Moore,

Mrs. Ann Ibbotson &

Mrs. Joan Bradbury.

These Photos were taken for publicity for the performance of The Whole Truth April 1979



Cath Glover



Rodney Hadwen



Dorothy Pollard



Jean Jones



Bob Higgins



Alan James



Shirley Higgins



Harry Spriggs



All the material in this document can be found in the St Paul's Players Archive box held in the Church Tower.

This box includes files of correspondence and minutes covering the whole of the existence of the Players.

Rodney Hadwen - Sept 2020