

# BEHIND THE SCENES

*The Newsletter of The Jávea Players*

## Your Committee

Tony Cabban	<i>Chairman</i>
Hugh Epsom	<i>Vice Chair</i>
Caroline Drewett-Mansell	<i>Secretary</i>
Peter Griffiths	<i>Treasurer</i>
Helma Hermans	

## Play Planning

Paulene Brozel, Cherry Cabban,  
Caroline Drewett-Mansell, Penny Grant,  
Phil Mansell

## Non-Committee

Alison O'Brian	<i>Studio Manager</i>
Peter Messinger	<i>Shed Manager</i>
Gillian Ashworth	<i>Press Officer</i>
Tony Cabban	<i>Publicity &amp; Web</i>
David and Judith Goodall	<i>Box Office</i>
Lesley Davies	<i>Social Secretary</i>
Paul and Helen Nicholls	<i>Bar</i>
Cherry Cabban	<i>Membership</i>
Candy Wright	<i>Almoner</i>
Roger Brown	<i>Newsletter</i>

## Chairman's message

The Welcome Back Quiz and Buffet was (I hear) a great success. We missed it because we were in the UK. Well done Lesley for organising, Anne and Derek Martyr for a super quiz and everyone else who contributed to the evening.

I was invited in mid-September by Jávea Council, as Chairman of the Jávea Players, to attend a meeting at which 5 members and 5 substitutes were to be elected to the Cultural Committee of Jávea Council. Prior to the vote it was agreed to make one of the 5 groups to be for Theatre - previously Theatre was included with other activities. That required re-shuffling some other groups.

The Theatre group consists of the Teloneros (who perform in Spanish), GARUM (who perform in Valenciano) and the Jávea Players. We agreed that Loli Ayllon (Teloneros) would be the representative of the Theatre group, and that I would be the substitute when she is unavailable. The three of us agreed to work together.

For health reasons Pat Kitching has retired as Studio Manager. She did a very efficient job for many years, thank you Pat for all you did. Ally O'Brien has kindly agreed to take on the job, many thanks Ally.

We need volunteers to fill Committee positions in 2020: Chairman, Treasurer and two ordinary Committee members.

The job responsibilities for both the Chairman and Treasurer are being re-drafted to make the positions less onerous, and in the case of the Treasurer, we hope to recruit two people to manage the role, so that absence whilst travelling does not make accepting the job an obstacle.

Hugh Epsom (Vice-Chairman), Caroline Drewett-Mansell (Secretary) and Helma Hermans (with special responsibility for financial matters) are all remaining on the Committee.

Hugh has gone to a huge amount of trouble to organise First Aid/First Responder training with the Red Cross on Wed 16 Oct and Wed 20 Nov at 10.00 hours in the Jávea Players Studio Theatre. Your training could save a life. Do please book with Hugh on gillianandhugh@gmail.com

We have booked Pip Utton, a very well-known one man show actor to perform for us for 6 nights from **Jan 27- Feb 1 2020**. More details to follow.



## Look Out - He's Got A Cast (Almost)!

Rehearsals have started for our December Studio production, *Look Out - He's Got A Gun!* despite minor problems with the cast.

"A few of our cast have yet to return to Spain so they'll be playing catch-up when they join us," said the play's writer and director, Phil Mansell.

"We're also short of a couple of men to play cameo character parts. Anyone who's interested in being part of a fun, lively team would be most welcome to join us," added Phil who brought you *Poor Yorick* in 2018's sell-out summer show.

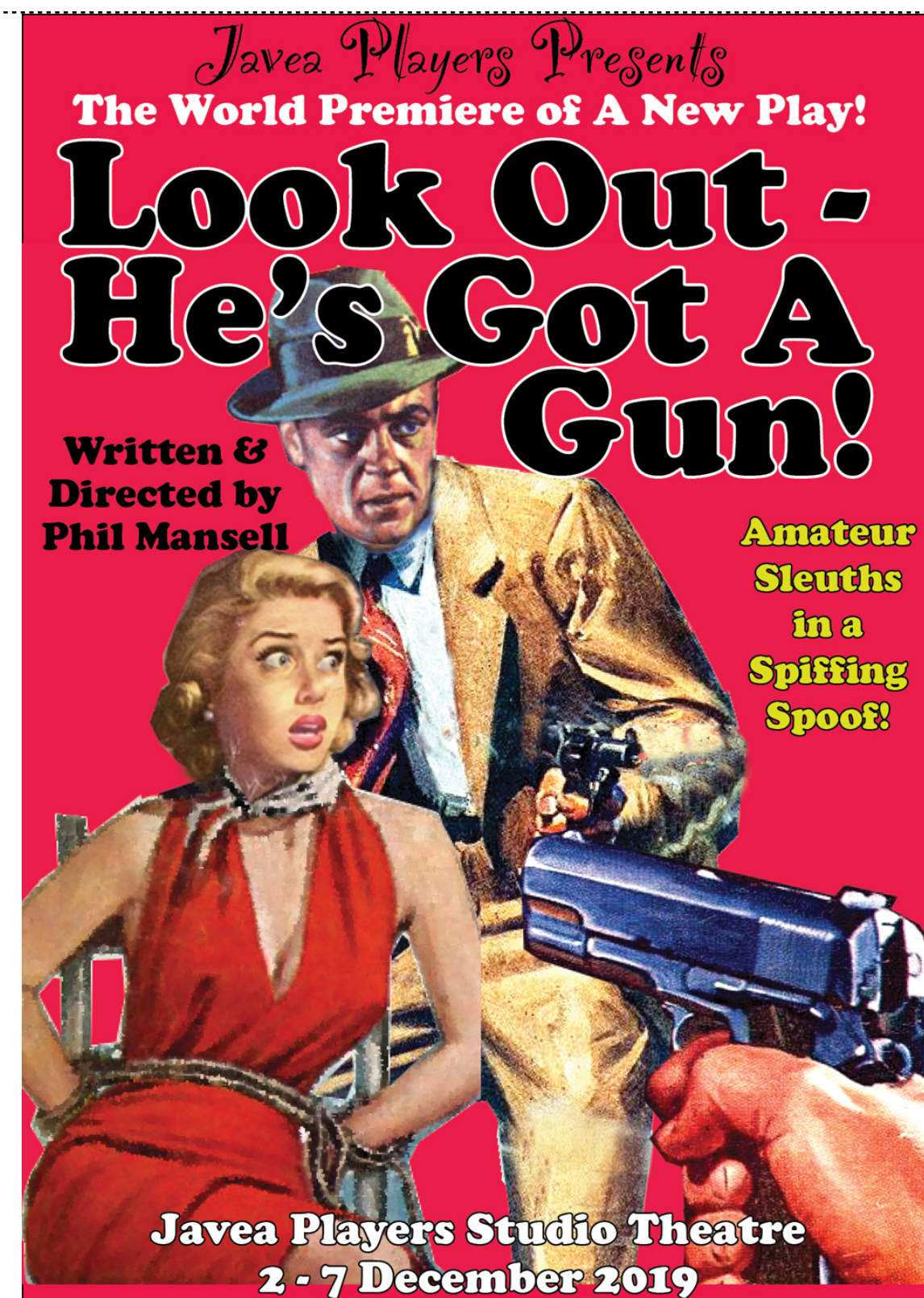
This production will be the world première of Phil's new play which is a fast-paced spoof of British crime dramas of the 1940s and '50s. The action-packed plot centres around a series of mysterious kidnappings at the Purple Cockatoo nightclub. Baffled, the top brass at Scotland Yard call in crime novelist and amateur sleuth Steve Dexter and his sophisticated wife Eve, to help solve the case. The Dexters leave their fashionable Mayfair flat to question suspects - and there are plenty of those, ranging from a Spanish singer with a shady past to a German inventor working on a diabolical "mind machine". There's also action galore as snipers take pot shots at the Dexters and their car is forced off the road.

In rehearsals cast members are already demonstrating their versatility by taking on two or more very different roles, often having to switch accents and change costumes at the drop of a hat. It promises to be a fun-filled production which will take the audience on a nostalgic trip back to a time when heroes had stiff upper lips and villains were mean (but not too mean).

*Look Out - He's Got a Gun!* is at Jávea Players' Studio Theatre from 2 - 7 December. Tickets will be available online shortly.

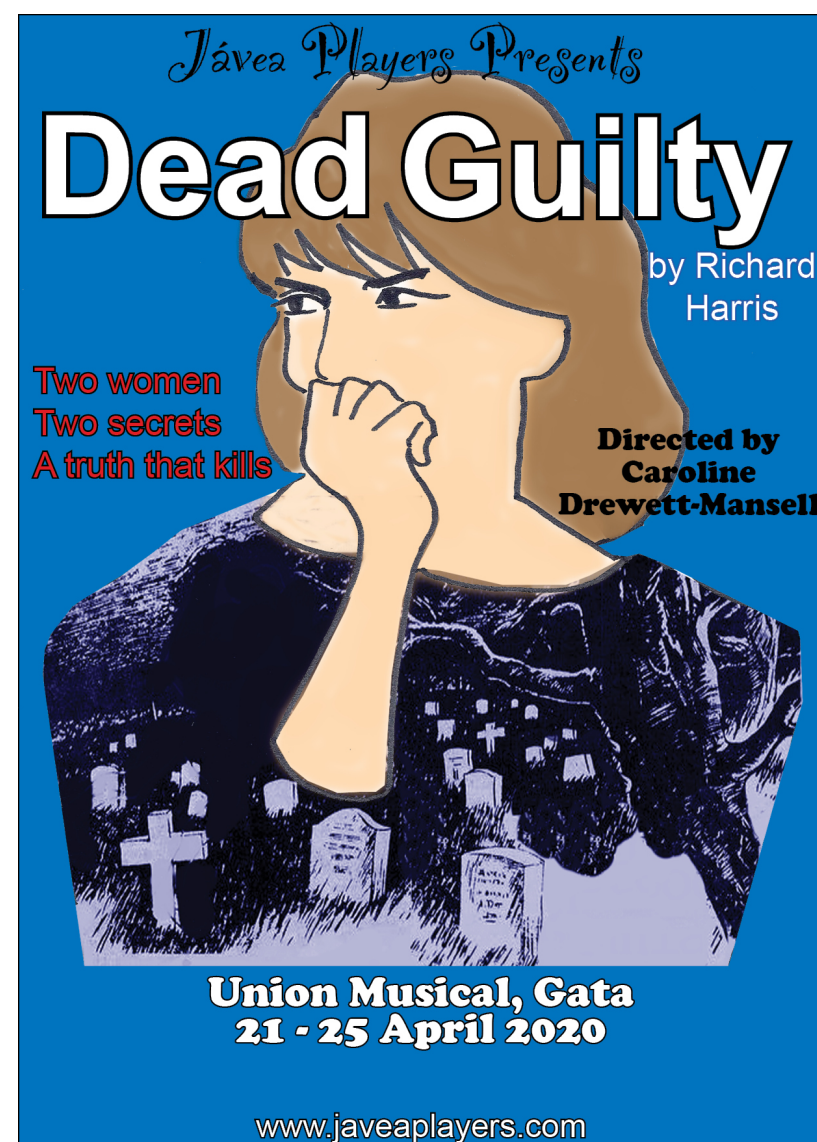
**Helen and Paul are looking for volunteers to help run the bar during the next production of *LOOK OUT - HE'S GOT A GUN*.**

**In particular the Thursday night. Please contact Helen at [helen.d.nicholls@gmail.com](mailto:helen.d.nicholls@gmail.com)**



Members of the cast of '*Look Out - He's Got A Gun!*' are pictured busily learning their lines at rehearsal.





## Our Spring Production - Dead Guilty

Two women, two secrets and a truth that kills. These are the spell-binding ingredients of our spring production, *Dead Guilty*.

The play follows Julia, a professional businesswoman, who is seriously traumatised and has become housebound following a car accident. As her friends look after her, a series of events lead her to believe that someone knows that the accident was not quite what it seems.

Caroline Drewett-Mansell will direct this tense psychological thriller, written by Richard Harris. It will hook you in the first few lines, grab your attention while the intriguing storyline develops, and hold you spellbound until the final shocking scene.

*Dead Guilty* will be staged at the Unión Musical, Gata from **21 - 25 April 2020**.

## Christmas Party

**Friday 13th December at 18.30.** Like last year, we will be providing our own entertainment so if anyone has a sketch, poem, joke, magic trick, song, dance, ANYTHING they would like to perform, please contact Roger Brown on [aahbees@gmail.com](mailto:aahbees@gmail.com) who will be organising the performance part of the evening. There will be a buffet for €6 per person, payable on the night. E-mail Lesley Davies on [lesley-davies@hotmail.com](mailto:lesley-davies@hotmail.com) to book. Please note: numbers will be limited as room is needed for the performance area and last year we had a full house.

A meeting for those of you who would like to be part of the entertainment will be combined with a meeting about *Master of the Musicals* on **Friday November 8th at 7.30pm in the Studio.**



## Master of the Musical - cast needed!!

### Summer show 2020

Next summer's dinner show will celebrate the work of Andrew Lloyd Webber. Accompanied by a small live combo led by Roger Parham, set very simply and dressed formally, the show will feature performances of some of Lloyd Webber's most iconic songs and, with 13 musicals to choose from, there is no shortage of them. There will be a narrative linking songs together with interesting information about the music and the show it came from. This may be delivered by a narrator or by several narrators. There is no intention of putting much, if any, dance but there may be a little movement, it is after all not a

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will outline our thoughts in more detail and try to gauge the level of interest and ability of those of you that want to take part. So keep an eye out for more information and don't hesitate to contact me with questions, suggestions or expressions of interest between now and then. Roger [aahbees@gmail.com](mailto:aahbees@gmail.com)

choral concert!

I want to create the show around those of you who would like to take part rather than choose the music and then try to cast it, so get your thinking caps on and shower me with suggestions of songs which you would like to sing. Don't forget that we can, within limits, change keys of songs to fit the vocal range of the singer(s).

Just one note of caution. Space at the Casa de Cultura is limited, as is time to rehearse, so there will be very limited songs for a 'chorus' and the bulk of the 18 or 20 songs will be small ensembles, solos, and duets. Everyone taking part will be asked to form the chorus and will be expected to learn the music, lyrics and harmonies from teaching tracks and possibly backing tracks away from rehearsals, although Roger is happy to meet people at his home if you need extra help.

I know it is a long way off but, if we are to write a show for those interested we need to know who is interested in taking part. Roger Parham and I would like to hold a get together on **Friday November 8th at 7.30pm** at which we

## The Final Curtain

### A farewell from Norman Dunnington

For the benefit of those who joined Jávea Players after I stopped living permanently in Spain in 2014, I should explain that I joined in 2001 and in the next 14 years directed eight productions and played in twenty-two, as well as occupying various committee positions. Unfortunately, my wife Hazel became ill and all the specialists in Spain could not find a diagnosis so we returned to the UK, where she was eventually diagnosed as having Parkinson's Disease in addition to serious spinal problems. For the next four years we managed to get back to Spain each spring and autumn for two or three months at a time, and I was able to maintain contact with JP. However, due to Hazel's condition, we decided last year to reduce our visits to just one a year, the last one having just occurred. Regrettably, almost every conceivable thing went wrong and after just five days we decided to return to the UK, leaving me with the inevitable conclusion that it had been a mistake and that we shall not make any further attempts. I feel we have come to the end of an era.

We had a lot of fun with JP and I have many happy memories of numerous successful productions and of the bonds that are created in such ventures.



Sadly, many of those who were members when I joined, and even some of those who joined later have already gone to their maker. Happily, though, it is clear from the newsletters that others have come along to take their places, and the Jávea Players continues to flourish. Long may it do so.

Our home now is in the heart of rural Lincolnshire, and we would love to see any Players who happen to be in our area at any time. I can be contacted at [normandunnington@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:normandunnington@hotmail.co.uk).

Hazel joins me in thanking you all for the happy times we have enjoyed together, and we wish Jávea Players all the future success that it so richly deserves.

Best wishes.

Norman Dunnington

## Bar Prices JP members

Members and membership category 'friends', can buy discounted drinks at all members only social functions held at The Studio.

During productions in The Studio and at Gata, cast and crew and helpers can use the Tab system for their drinks at a discounted price.

At all other events where the general public are invited, the normal prices apply to everyone.

It is impossible for bar staff to identify between members and non-members.

## This is your Newsletter

Another one will be produced after Christmas so please feel free to forward any article you would like to be included for consideration. We will not include personal advertisements, but articles of interest to members and friends are welcome. If you would like to advertise a business here or in our show programmes please contact the editor for details.

Roger [aahbees@gmail.com](mailto:aahbees@gmail.com)

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