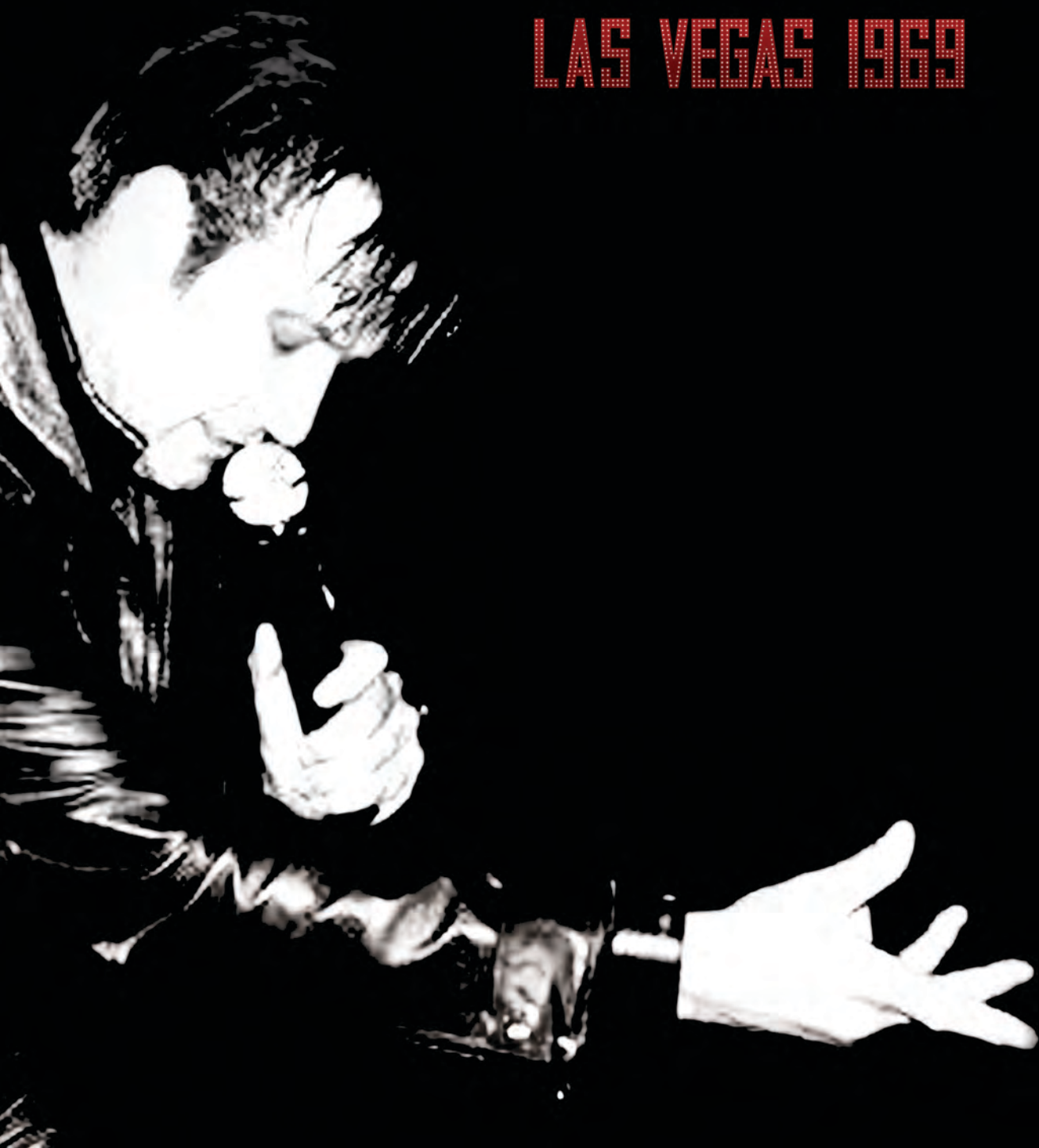


ELVIS

LAS VEGAS 1969





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ELVIS

LAS VEGAS 1969

Based on an original idea by
Neale Hobday

Written & directed by
Gerry Tebbutt

28 & 29 April 2017
The Woodville, Gravesend



SCOTT ELVIS *Elvis Presley*

Scott grew up listening to Elvis Presley from a young age and has always been a devoted follower and fan of 'The King'. Scott was born in Sidcup and attended Crockenhill Primary School in Swanley. He then moved on to Wilmington Secondary School, and he now resides in Swanley - so he is a true Kent boy through and through. After leaving school he worked in the construction industry but in his spare time he took to the microphone to sing the hits of Elvis in local karaoke competitions which led to him giving up his work in construction in 2003 to become a professional impersonator of Elvis. In 2004 he

appeared in the 'European Elvis Tribute Competition' where he achieved third place. His tribute to Elvis became so popular that Scott found himself travelling the county of Kent and further afield on a regular nightly basis and he now enjoys a full time career in the music industry, travelling the length and breadth of the UK with his Elvis tribute act. Scott also performs in the rock n' roll band The Unconditionals and, as Elvis, has made various television appearances including on *Holby City* and *Come Dine With Me*.



NEALE HOBDAY *Dave Hebler / Bass guitar*

Neale had a dream of putting on a production that would mark with excellence the forty years that have elapsed since the untimely death of the King of Rock and Roll: Elvis Presley. Neale did not want just another tribute show; he wanted a musical concert that would honour the stunning night that Elvis appeared live on stage for the first time in nearly a decade.

Neale is a veteran and consummate fan of jive, rock n' roll and of both Elvis Presley and Buddy Holly. He started playing this style back in 1986; he played with Buzz Allen and the Allstars,

Longbar Rhythm Kings and formed a band called The Alabama Slammers in 1998. He learned and fed his love of rock n' roll music during this period working with Wee Willie Harris and touring with Bill Haley's original Comets for two years and graduating that part of his learning curve with Big Bopper Jnr and Linda Gail Lewis (sister of Jerry Lee Lewis). In 2002 after the split of the original Alabama Slammers a new band including Neale using the name The Slammers toured and recorded albums finishing in Athens in 2012. With years of knowledge behind him, Neale's new project was now to form The Buddy Presley Band dedicated to the supreme sound of the original artists.

"My aim was to create a show that is so authentic that audiences would feel they were seeing a show from that period of time."

The dream had started and Neale's next important meeting would be with producer Tim Anscombe and director Gerry Tebbutt: the guys who could provide that authentic experience for audiences.

GERRY TEBBUTT Writer & Director

Gerry's career began in repertory theatre, where he and many other stalwarts of today's British theatre learned their trade. An early musical theatre life beckoned to him and he appeared in many long-running musicals in the West End including *The Canterbury Tales*, *Billy*, *Irene*, *Annie*, *Strike A Light*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Gypsy*, *Mack & Mabel in Concert* and two Royal Variety Performances. In 1980 Gerry became the associate director of The New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich and for the next thirteen years he directed plays and musicals in the main house and ran the Wolsey Youth Theatre. He was a regular guest director at Watford Palace, Playhouse Theatre Derby, Queens Theatre Hornchurch, Mercury Theatre Colchester and Pitlochry Festival Theatre. Gerry was overseas director for the Kenya National Theatre in Nairobi where he directed and choreographed *West Side Story*, *Godspell* and *Stepping Out* and has directed and choreographed musicals such as *Grease*, *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and *West Side Story* for the Academy for Performing Arts at the Lyric Theatre, Hong Kong. He has also directed in Hungary, Austria, Norway, USA and Israel. Gerry became a freelance lecturer on Musical Theatre and has lectured and given master classes at many arts institutions and has run courses on 'Directing Musicals'. As a freelance director in drama schools, he has worked for Mountview, Guildhall and Italia Conti. For sixteen years, Gerry was Head of Musical Theatre & Performance at Guildford School of Acting, leading both the three year musical theatre degree course and the summer courses.



TIM ANSCOMBE & STEPHEN HOLROYD Producers

Tim and Stephen have worked on numerous projects as producers since 1985. In 2010 they decided to produce as a team. It was at this point they realised that there were very few production service providers in the industry and that they had been individually providing first rate production management to arts organisations and producers for years; and so Anscombe Production Associates was born. In 2013, Tim and Stephen produced *Diamond the Musical* at Brighton Dome Studio and *Privates on Parade* at Theatre Royal Brighton. Tim and Stephen have also been the lead producers for the National Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company.

They are both very excited about *ELVIS Las Vegas 1969* and they welcome on board the wonderfully talented Gerry Tebbutt as the head of their creative team for this production. Their thanks also to Neale Hobday for hours of inspiration. 'The King Lives' at APA in 2017 and He will shortly embark on a nationwide tour of the UK.





JOE CONNORS *Charlie Hodge*

Born and bred in South Wales, Joe comes from a theatrical background and made his theatrical debut aged thirteen in *Oliver!* playing the Artful Dodger. After three years at Arts Educational Schools London he began a musical theatre career and has appeared in shows such as *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Pharaoh), *Grease* (Kenickie), *No Trams To Lime Street*, *Robin - Prince of Sherwood* (Sheriff of Nottingham), and *Hair* (Berger), as well as appearing in the stage versions of *Much Ado About Nothing* (Benedick), *Billy Liar* (Billy), and *A Nightingale Sang, Bugle Boy: the Glenn Miller Story* and *A Taste of Honey*. Recently Joe completed a three year national and international tour of *Annie*, taking in such venues as Hong Kong, Singapore and New Zealand, appearing as President Roosevelt, Bert Healy and subsequently Daddy Warbucks, and prior to that Joe completed a very enjoyable five year stint as lead performer for C.M.C onboard the sister ships, Oriana and Aurora, where he played parts ranging from Elvis to Frank N Furter via all manner of various roles. Joe can be seen most Christmases being evil around the country as Abanazer in *Aladdin*. Television/film credits include: *On Dangerous Ground*, *Peak Practise*, *Ravedown*, *Open Grave*, *Formulæ*, various corporate films for Vodafone and Virgin Media and he recently appeared in an advanced trailer for *World War Z* which starred Brad Pitt.



TOM DUSSEK *Colonel Tom Parker*

Tom's recent theatre credits include *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Moss), *The Ugly One* (Scheffler), *The Graduate* (Mr Braddock), *The Tale of Tommy O'Quire* (the Poet) and *Beowulf* (the Narrator). As a voice artist Tom is the voice of Gorilla Glue and Lloyds Pharmacy, and many number-one-selling video games including *The Blue Toad Murder Files*, *Joe Danger* and *Family Games Night*. Tom will soon be seen in the film *Little Heroes*, playing a dastardly Bishop. Tom lives in Brighton, plays volleyball and thinks *Heartbreak Hotel* is one of the greatest performances of all time.



FRANCESCA PELOW *Priscilla Presley*

Francesca trained at the Guildford School of Acting graduating with a B.A. (Hons) in Musical Theatre. Since graduating she has worked in a variety of media. Theatre includes: Tatiana Romanov in *Trapped* (Cockpit), *Ensemble in Flight* (Opera Holland Park), Isobel Andrews / Ensemble in *Murder in Whitechapel* (Tristan Bates Theatre) Pam / Jean in *Dead in the Water* (Brighton / Camden Fringe). Film includes: Vivien in *Down the Rabbit Hole*, June Marsden in *Ghost Keeper*, Tasha in *Player*, Sutton in *Chapter Two*, April in *Killer Moves*. Other: Holiday Inn and Eircom commercials, *London 2012 Olympics Closing Ceremony* (ballet dancer).

CHELSEA BELLA *Sylvia / Vocals*

Chelsea began singing at the age of six when she joined the church choirs in the army barracks where her dad was stationed. She started playing the piano at eight and also began to appear in a number of pantomimes. She began singing professionally in pubs at eighteen and has been in a number of groups as well as performing solo in various venues around the world. She has also sung on the boats that travel along the Thames. Chelsea is currently singing solo and as part of a duo in pubs and clubs around Kent and beyond.



BOZ BRISTOW *Keyboard / Piano*

Boz started playing piano around the age of seven when his father showed him the basics of boogie woogie. At eleven he was given a guitar and his first LP for Christmas. The first track was 'Whole Lotta Shakin' by Jerry Lee Lewis. The first time he heard it he knew that's what he wanted to play. Wild rock n' roll was the way to go and when he left school he got into the rockin' scene and tried to jump in with any band that had a piano. He played at local jam sessions and was asked to play in a punk rock band. He turned them down and two weeks later they were on Top of the Pops! He carried on playing his style of rock n' roll until he had a family and then took to playing guitar and blues harmonica as they didn't take up much room in a small family home with kids running around. After twenty years of not touching a piano, he got back into playing when a group of friends decided to form a rock n' rock band just for a bit of fun. They ended up playing in local pubs and clubs for a few years. The Giants came to an end but later he went on to meet Conrad and Neale and joined them in The Atomiks. He carried on playing piano at jams and depped for Jukebox and The Buddy Presley Band and a few others. He currently plays in a honkytonk style rockabilly band called The Highwaymen.



CHERYL BROOKS *Sissy / Vocals*

Cheryl started singing at the age of nine, and at ten began taking singing lessons under the direction of Elizabeth Adams and Michael Goldthorpe. She attended choirs for fifteen years through the Music Centre in Sidcup (now Bird College) under the instruction of John Mackenzie. After achieving all grades in Music and Music Theory with the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music, Cheryl studied at Roehampton University and achieved a First. Her professional singing career began in 2013, performing with various bands, duos and trios as a soloist and harmonist and she sings regularly at weddings and receptions as a classical singer. For eight years Cheryl has been a singing teacher for both children and adults, and has organised charity concerts with her students for the past two years raising money for local charities.



CAST

Elvis Presley SCOTT ELVIS

Colonel Tom Parker TOM DUSSEK

Charlie Hodge JOE CONNORS

Priscilla Presley FRANCESCA PELOW

Red West / Press DJ CUNNINGHAM

Sonny West CONRAD DI IANNI

Dave Hebler NEALE HOBDAV

Sylvia / Press CHELSEA BELLA

Cissy / Press CHERYL BROOKS

Myrna / Press CAROLINE WILDMAN

Press BOZ BRISTOW

Press STEVE DOWLING

Press LLOYD McSWEENEY

BAND

Lead guitar CONRAD DI IANNI

Bass guitar NEALE HOBDAV

Rhythm guitar STEVE DOWLING

Keyboard / Piano BOZ BRISTOW

Drums LLOYD McSWEENEY

Female backing vocalist CHELSEA BELLA

Female backing vocalist CHERYL BROOKS

Female backing vocalist CAROLINE WILDMAN

Male backing vocalist DJ CUNNINGHAM

Trumpet 1 & Flugelhorn MATT PAYNE

Trumpet 2 & Flugelhorn CONNOR SMITHER

Trombone NIC JONES

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AS 1969

CREATIVE

Written and directed by GERRY TEBBUTT
Based on an original idea by NEALE HOBDAV

Set design by STEPHEN HOLROYD
Lighting by BRIAN HOLT
Choreography by JILL FRANCIS
Costumes by DAVID MORGAN
Sound design by MARCUS WADLAND

Produced by
TIM ANSCOMBE & STEPHEN HOLROYD

TECHNICAL

Stage Manager ANDREW HOLTON
Technical ASM ROBERT LAWS
Technical Swing CLAIRE RISSEUW
Prop Builder BEN DAVIES
Assistant to the Producers JOSE DA SILVA

Set construction by MARK WINROW & SAM FORBES

Digital marketing & programme design ALAN KITE

SYNOPSIS

31st July 1969 International Hotel, Las Vegas

The final hours leading up to Elvis Presley making his return to the stage in the presence of a star-studded audience following seven years away from live performance making movies.

Based on a true story.



CONRAD DI IANNI *Sonny West / Lead guitar*

Born in Milan, Conrad developed an interest in music from a young age and learnt to play first the drums and then guitar. He moved to London at the end of the 80s where he attended the Guitar Institute and studied Rock and Blues. In the 90s he joined The BackBeats, a rock n' roll/rockabilly group from West London, and toured the UK extensively. In 1995 they appeared on a national talent contest for BBC One: *Don't Give Up Your Day Job* and the band won the series, and went on to sign to Nervous Records but a few months later the band split up.

Conrad then formed Crazy Jay & the Partytimers: a rock n' roll band with a female vocalist. Crazy Jay toured the UK, Europe, and recorded three albums and one Christmas single. From the end of 2009 and for the next few years, Conrad became involved with other projects going from blues rock to swing, skiffle and surf instrumentals. In 2012 he started to supply his guitar to The Buddy Presley Band, Tribute to Cash, and Doors on Fire tribute bands. Conrad still keeps his projects such as the Atomiks for blues and rock n' roll and the Shar-keys for surf and 60s garage.



DJ CUNNINGHAM *Red West / Vocals*

DJ began singing in the school choir as a lead soprano aged eight. From eight until seventeen, playing football completely took over his life but after sustaining an injury, he returned to studying drama at age eighteen and began to sing again taking lead roles in productions such as *West Side Story*, Brecht's *Mack the Knife* and the debut of the rock n' roll musical, *Prometheus Hung* at the 1982 Edinburgh Festival. Years of recording, touring and performing followed, with various bands and a cappella doo wop groups. A return to education saw DJ practising as a psychotherapist and university lecturer but in 2013, DJ joined up

with The Harmonaires to fill in at a recording session. He liked it so much, he decided to hang around and spent two years touring the UK with The Buddy Presley Band.



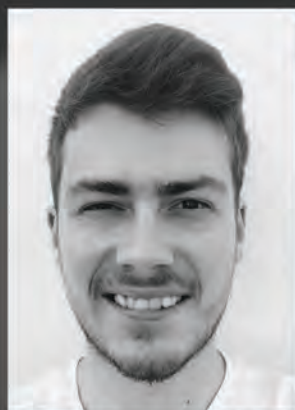
STEVE DOWLING *Rhythm guitar*

Steve started his career in the music business about forty years ago as a roadie for a local band before progressing onto the mixing desk and then going freelance as a live sound engineer. Finally in 1991 he formed his own band and learned the finer points of being a gigging musician constantly travelling throughout the UK and the continent. After fifteen years he got married and decided to take a break from music, moved to France and built a house. In 2015 Steve was missing being on stage and decided to return to the UK. In 2016 he joined a band called The Unconditionals, which was basically his old band with a

new singer, Scott Elvis, which turned out well, because it was Scott Elvis who asked Steve to join this new Elvis Show. During his career, Steve has performed with Robb Storm & The Satellites, Jet Black, The Persuaders, Mean Streak and The EP Big Band.

NIC JONES *Trombone*

Born in Northampton, Nic is now London-based performing as a classical, pop, big band/jazz and folk musician. He regularly plays with Thames Brass, No Limit Street Band and The UK's No.1 Frankie Vallie tribute: Let's Hang On. Nic has also appeared in London City Orchestra, English School's Orchestra, One Tree Hill Sinfonia (with members of the Philharmonia Orchestra), Boston Sinfonia and many of the Youth Ensembles across Lincolnshire. As an educator, Nic has had the pleasure to teach many brass players from beginner right through to university level. He provides group workshops with SuperSonics around south-east London and with Lincolnshire Music Service as part of their 'Wider Opportunities' scheme. Nic himself studied with Simon Wills before his BMus at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance under Carol Jarvis, Roger Argente, Graham Lee, Mark Bassey and Phil White. As a soloist, Nic enjoys performing a wide and varied range of programmes to showcase his different interests and talents; consistently expanding his repertoire to include new styles and technology. Some highlights include touring Poland with Lincolnshire Youth Wind Orchestra performing the Rimsky-Korsakov Trombone Concerto all around the country.



LLOYD McSWEENEY *Drums*

Lloyd started playing drums at school and after passing A level Music he decided that this was what he wanted to do. His first band was a blues / rock band which played pubs in and around London. A couple of years later he was asked to stand in for a drummer who couldn't make a gig and this introduced him to rock n' roll. The band was Rob Storm & the Barons and they toured all over the UK and Europe recording albums and performing at top rock n' roll festivals. Lloyd later joined Meanstreak amongst various other bands and then The Unconditionals came knocking: a band which would headline major festivals throughout the country. He went on to join Neale Hobday's Buddy Presley Band by answering an advert on Planet Jive and says he is "extremely privileged" to be a part of the group playing the music he loves.



MATT PAYNE *Trumpet 1 & Flugelhorn*

Matt is a professional trumpeter based in London. He has played for bands such as Mcfly, The Devotions and The Basie Millers. Matt has also worked on many shows in and around London: most recently *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and has appeared on the BBC television programme *Holding Back the Years* with Alex Mendham and his Orchestra. Matt is currently in his third year at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance.





CONNOR SMITHER *Trumpet 2 & Flugelhorn*

Connor is a classical, jazz and commercial trumpeter currently studying a Trumpet Performance degree at Trinity Laban under the direction of Bob Farley and Steve Waterman. Connor performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2016 in the musical *Merrily We Roll Along* and is currently touring with *Let's Hang On The Frankie Valli Tribute Show*. He performed at the London Jazz Festival as part of a new commission for Mark Lockheart and at the Cork International Jazz Festival with the UK's number one Commitments Tribute Band "The Committed". As a founding member of the "Thames Brass Ensemble" Connor played for the

National Trust's Winter Lights Festival in December 2016 and performed at Old Street and Venn Street Records for their Christmas Carol events. Connor recently became a member of The Lucky Andersons Indie rock band and has just released a debut EP across several online music platforms and is looking forward to the festival season, playing at the Isle of Wight and at Live Expressions in Tunbridge Wells. He has also recorded numerous videos for the Epic Renditions YouTube channel.



CAROLINE WILDMAN *Myrna / Press*

From Dudley, West Midlands, Caroline has been performing since a young girl in school and church choirs. At the age of eleven she had the privilege of singing solo in a Christmas production at Worcester Cathedral. Caroline went on to sing with the Sunshine Babes in Dudley during the early '70s which lead to her performing in the local productions of *Cabaret* and *Hello Dolly*. During the '80s through to the late '90s Caroline was still singing in various pubs and clubs in the Midlands. Caroline has been an Elvis fan for as long as she can remember and this new venture is a dream come true for her.



JILL FRANCIS *Choreographer*

Jill trained as a dancer and began her professional career at thirteen with Danny La Rue in *Queen Passionella* at the Saville Theatre, London. After a long career as a performer, she now choreographs musicals, television shows, opera, films and pantomimes and her work has taken her all over the world. In opera she has worked for the English Bach Festival, Central Festival Opera, McEvoy Productions and Crystal Clear.

As a director / choreographer shows include: *Snoopy*, *Godspell*, *The Joint is Jumping*, *Oh! Coward* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

For New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich she choreographed *A Chorus of Disapproval* and *Adam Bede*. She was resident choreographer for the London based company *Bedside Manners* for ten years, assistant choreographer on *A Chorus Line* and *Gypsy* at Guildford's Yvonne Arnaud Theatre and returned there to choreograph the

sparkling revival of *Kiss Me, Kate*. Jill was invited to re-direct the revue *The Wonderful Words of Sammy Cahn* on board the QE2 for its world cruise and was subsequently asked to devise, direct and choreograph a new show *The Game of Love* for its last world cruise. She choreographed a new show centred around the lives of the Cornish miners called *Hell Fire Corner* at the Hall for Cornwall and in the summer of 2009 choreographed a revival of the musical *Hair* prior to the recent West End revival. For many years Jill has been associate choreographer and children's director for Evolution Productions pantomimes at the Yvonne Arnaud. Alongside choreography Jill works as a freelance dance teacher and over the years has worked at Arts Educational Schools, London, Central School of Speech & Drama, RADA, Italia Conti Academy, London, ARTTS International, Guildhall School of Music & Drama, Guildford School of Acting, The National Theatre of Nairobi, The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and The Musical Theatre School, Somerset. Jill regularly runs national and international musical theatre workshops and is a Fellow of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing.

ANSCOMBE PRODUCTION ASSOCIATES
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Callum Hobbs – Technical Manager, The Woodville
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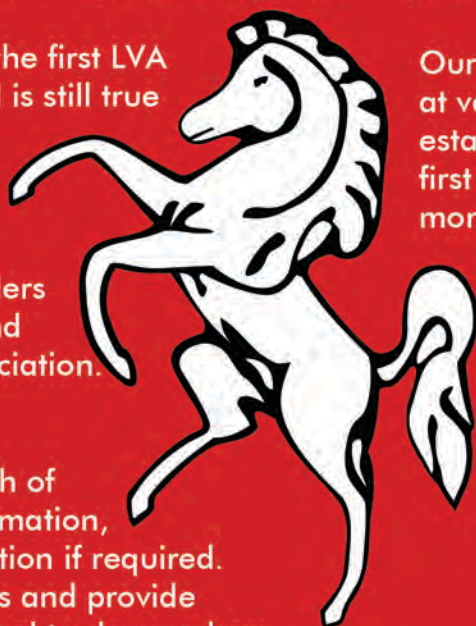
What is Gravesham LVA?

Gravesham Licensed Victuallers Association was formed in 1880. It has worked tirelessly for over 135 years to help, assist and protect licensees and personal licence holders. It has close ties with the Guild of Master Victuallers who act on licensees' behalf in matters of law and in the Houses of Parliament. We also arrange social events inviting guests, friends and other LVAs and we are affiliated to Kent Federation joining together LVAs from every part of Kent.

Why join together?

"Like a bundle of sticks firmly bound together, they cannot be easily broken."

This is a quote from the first LVA meeting in 1880 and is still true to this day. Anyone can join us on Facebook and support our events. Personal licence holders are welcome to attend meetings in our association.



Our meetings are held at various members' establishments on the first Thursday of each month starting at 10am.

Our chairman is Mr Slim Nijjer, landlord of the Bat & Ball Pub, Wrotham Road, Gravesend.

We can offer a wealth of knowledge and information, and legal representation if required. We hold social events and provide an opportunity for local trade members to meet and exchange ideas and our association has close ties to the Licence Trade Charity: a registered charity which helps anyone involved in the licence trade should they fall on hard times: helping people working or retired from the licence trade, facing personal or family problems.

Gravesham LVA wishes the cast and crew of ELVIS Las Vegas 1969 a fantastic weekend at The Woodville.

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