



## WE HAVE A NEW COMMITTEE!



Special thanks to  
Mayor Greg  
Williamson for  
continuing as Kucom's  
Patron into 2026

**Congratulations** to the new Kucom Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 24 March:

*Seated, L to R:* Tessa King (Vice President), Kathryn Evans (President), Maureen Coleman (Treasurer)

*Standing, L to R:* Bronwyn Grannall, Steven Newitt, Kristyn Everett, Anne Clutterbuck (Secretary)

Thank you to everyone who turned up for the meeting. We appreciate your continued support and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

The new Committee will be looking for inspiration to help plan our 80th birthday\* celebrations next year. If you have any ideas you'd like to share, here's your opportunity.

\* Follow this [link](#) for a potted history of Kucom Theatre.

## ***The 2026 season—what's next?***

Congratulations to everyone involved in *The Ties That Bind*, the season of one-act plays that entertained Kucom audiences during February. Kudos especially to our three directors: Anzjuli Venter, directing for the first time (*For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*), Maureen Coleman (*Looking at the Alps*), and John Irvine (*The Problem*).

But we're not resting on our laurels, and are now well into rehearsals for the next production:

18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27 JUNE

*Waiting for God*, by Michael Aitkens, directed by Bronwyn Grannall

All your favourite characters from the original award-winning BBC TV comedy series are reimagined for the 2020s, facing the challenges that come with growing old disgracefully in the era of the silver surfer.

Cast:

**Tessa King** as Diana Trent

**Geoff Stewart-McLean** as Tom Ballard

**Sarah Menso** as Jane Edwards

**Hayden White** as Harvey Baines

**Cheryl Obst** as Sarah Chase

**David Goodwin** as Geoffrey Ballard

**Andrew Obst** as Rev Dennis Sparrow

**Jeany Elliott** as Milly Dawkins



10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 SEPTEMBER

*Sideline Family*, written and directed by Amy Jeffcoat.

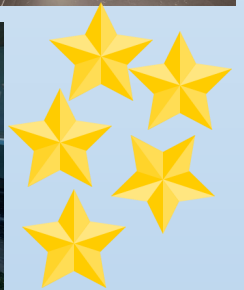
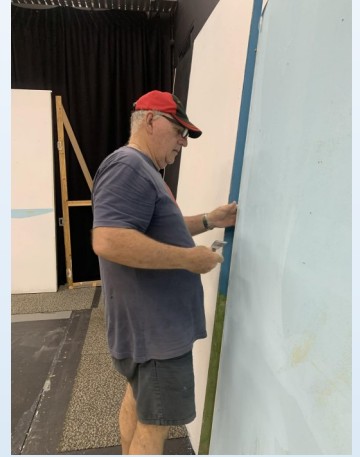
26, 27, 28, 29 NOVEMBER, 3, 4, 5 DECEMBER

*The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society production of "A Christmas Carol"*, by David McGillivray and Walter Zerin Jr. (with apologies to Charles Dickens), directed by Anne Clutterbuck.

And of course there will still be the usual Happy Hours and Club Nights throughout the year. These will be announced in our Newsletters and on social media, so don't forget to follow us on Facebook for all the latest news.

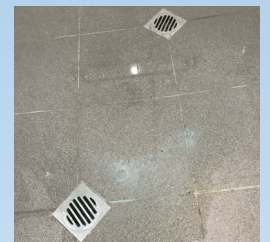
## THEATRE IN THE MAKING

This is the heart and soul of community theatre.



It's not just the actors who work so hard to entertain our audiences, it's also everyone you don't see but without whom there would be no production. People like The Kucom Strippers—Tessa, Kristyn, Paul, Steven, Geoffrey, and John—seen above removing layer after layer of paint from flats so they can be sanded, primed and painted. It's a messy business, but someone has to do it. There are floors to be painted, curtains to be hemmed, props and costumes to be accumulated, sets to be constructed, lights to be set. The list just goes on and on.

Special thanks to John for overseeing much of the above, and for his dedication to sanding away all that horrible blue paint. He is now known as 'Papa Smurf'. Fortunately he was able to wash most of it off afterwards in the Kucom shower, leaving behind nothing of himself but a small blue puddle.



## DID WE MENTION IT'S OUR 80TH BIRTHDAY NEXT YEAR?



Unless you've been living under a rock, it would be pretty hard to ignore the fact that we are heading for a landmark event next year. Our history is well documented, going back to the public meeting that was convened on 11 July 1947 in the Mackay Town Hall, 'for the purpose of forming a dramatic society for Mackay'. But did you know that there has been an enthusiastic interest in live theatre in Mackay going back more than 150 years? Here is an extract from the Mackay Mercury and South Kennedy Advertiser, Saturday, 10 April 1875:

On Thursday evening last a numerously attended meeting was held at Wills' Hotel, for the purpose of establishing an Amateur Dramatic Club. Mr. G. Smith took the chair, and formal resolutions were put and passed, affirming the desirability of establishing a Dramatic Club for the purpose of giving periodical entertainments. A provisional committee ... was appointed, to draw up, for the management of the club, rules to be submitted to a general meeting to be held at the same place on the 15th inst. A list of members willing to join was then made out, and a total of sixty-eight names of those who were either present, or who had signified their willingness to become members, was made out. We believe that the establishment of a Dramatic Club was a very happy thought, and that it will prove quite a success. It will be the means not only of affording amusement to the members and the public, but will materially assist the various charitable, and other public institutions of the district.

*Thanks to the Mackay Historical Society for this and other press clippings.*

## ACTOR CALL OUT

### *EOI now open*

Be part of the creative development of two new plays, produced and written by Mackay locals and Kucom members, Traci Lietzke and Cassandra Ramsay.

This is a paid opportunity, with the development culminating in a reading to be presented at this year's Mackay Festival of Arts.

Traci and Cassandra have assembled most of their cast, but are still looking for the following:

Male: 40-60s

Female: 40-60s

For more information, email Cassandra directly at [cassramsay@live.com.au](mailto:cassramsay@live.com.au).

## THE YEAR AT A GLANCE—FOR YOUR DIARY

18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27 June

*Waiting For God*

Monday 27 July

*Sideline Family* bookings open

10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 September

*Sideline Family*

Monday 12 October

Farndale *Christmas Carol* bookings open

26, 27, 28, 29 November &  
3, 4, 5 December

The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate  
Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society  
Production of *A Christmas Carol*

Happy Hours will continue on the last Friday of every month, except in those months when we have a show running.

We will also be scheduling a series of Club Nights during the year. Some suggested themes (to be confirmed by the new Committee):

May – a 'heading into winter' theme

July – reflecting the theme of the 2026 Mackay Festival of Arts

October – an 'Oktoberfest' theme

Don't forget, when it comes to timely updates, Facebook is your friend:

<https://www.facebook.com/kucomtheatre/>

## NEW SPONSOR



Kucom Theatre always welcomes new sponsors, and we are delighted to announce that we have received enthusiastic support from Craig Willmott at [ReFindIt by Outlook](#) (a.k.a. The Incredible Tip Shop, Mackay). We approached ReFindIt in the hope of sourcing a bed for our current production, and received this reply:

I would be more than happy to assist with your play productions in donating a bed and mattress from our ReFindIt store here in Paget. Please feel free to continue looking for anything else you may require in your props department.

This is a welcoming relationship between Outlook Australia and Kucom Theatre and [we] would be able to assist with any further props you may need in the future. We are heavily becoming involved within the charity base here in Mackay and Whitsunday regions, our organisation is based on helping within the community and assisting wherever we can.

Thank you, Craig, and thank you, Outlook Australia!

## CONTACT US

### Committee

President:	Kathryn Evans
Vice President:	Tessa King
Secretary:	Anne Clutterbuck
Treasurer:	Maureen Coleman
Committee Members:	Kristyn Everett, Bronwyn Grannall, Steven Newitt

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