

The New Normal

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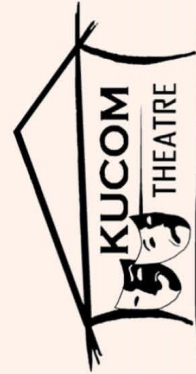
Our outgoing Patron, **Cr Kevin Casey** and our incoming Patron, **Mayor Greg Williamson**

Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre for their unstinting support and professional advice throughout a very difficult year

All the **parents** of the Kucom Youth Drama Group for their generous assistance and enthusiastic encouragement

Tessa King for her amazing artwork

Frank and Faye Roche for being there



proudly presents

a season of
one-act plays

1 Snow Wright Court, Andergrove

THE NEW NORMAL

LOCKDOWN

in Little Grimley

Changes
Written and directed
by Ken Sanders

11, 12, 13, 18, 19 & 20 February 2021
at 7.30pm

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BNSIZ>

By Arrangement with ORIGIN™ Theatrical
On Behalf of Samuel French
A Concord Theatricals Company

A comedy by
David Tristram



The New Normal

THE DIRECTORS

WHAT'S NEXT AT KUCOM?

Bronwyn Grannall

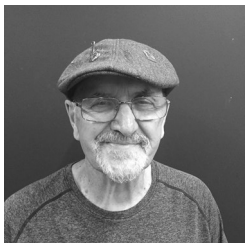
Lockdown in Little Grimley



I joined Kucom Theatre in 1994 and immediately auditioned for a role in Sue Stock's production of *Last Tango in Little Grimley*. Thus began my love affair with the comedies of David Tristram. In that play I was cast as Margaret, with John Atkinson as Gordon, Maureen Coleman as Joyce, and John Irvine as Bernard. The four of us met up at John Atkinson's place last Christmas, just before he moved back to Adelaide, and discovered we could still remember some of our lines from 26 years earlier! Over the years Kucom has presented other Tristram plays (*Last Panto in Little Grimley*, *The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimley*, *Brenton Versus Brenton*, *Joining the Club*) and when I discovered *Lockdown* it seemed only natural that we add it to our comedy repertoire. My cast (including, happily, Maureen reprising her role as Joyce) have taken to their roles with enormous enthusiasm and not a little hilarity. We have had great fun with *Lockdown*, and we hope you will too.

Ken Sanders

Changes



Changes is the last of a trio of stories about a young woman, Myfanwy Jenkins. The stories follow her journey through early womanhood and the shifting of her comfortable and secure life due to friendly but nonetheless disconcerting influences. The first of these plays was inspired indirectly by one of my young music students, Matilda Ralph, whose intelligence and personality suggested to me the character of "Miff". Just for fun I started writing *The Drive Home*, in which a young girl sternly interrogates her widowed mother's new boyfriend. This play premiered at Kucom in 2019, and was well enough received that I was encouraged to write a sequel, *No Kissing* (2020), this time a dialogue between the girl and her grandmother. *Changes* just seemed to be a logical follow-on. I promise I'll try to stop now.

March

Kucom Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 23 March at 7pm

April/May

Big Bad Mouse
a comedy by Philip Young & Falkland Carey
directed by Geoff Stewart-McLean
Season dates: 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 20 April & 1 May

July

Five Women Wearing the Same Dress
a comedy by Alan Ball
directed by Luana Royal
A Mackay Festival of Arts Fringe Event
Season dates: 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24 July

October

When the Rain Stops Falling
by Andrew Bovell
directed by Victor Scott
Season dates: 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 October 2020

KUCOM COMMITTEE 2020

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Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Committee

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Bronwyn Grannall
Carolyn Roche
Tessa King
Maureen Coleman
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The New Normal

Changes



Kristyn Everett's stage debut was as Anybodys in *West Side Story* (Mackay Musical Comedy Players, 1994). Her first Kucom appearance was in *What's for Pudding?* (1997), followed by *The Farndale "Mikado"* (2005), *Bazaar and Rummage* (2008), and *The Husband Murderers Support Group* (2017). An avid live theatre fan, Kristyn has tried her hand at performing, directing, producing, set building, costume sewing, and props construction. Theatre provides the creative outlet for her analytical lawyer brain!

The Cast

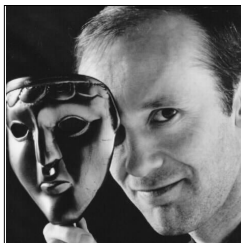


Suzannah Elliott-Haynes has been performing her whole life, starting with her first dance concert when she was three years old. She performed in her first musical, *Beauty and The Beast*, in 2015 at the age of 9. Now at 15 Suzannah has performed in 5 other Mackay Musical Comedy Players shows, including *Scrooge: The Musical* as 'Kathy', *Cinderella* (2016), and *The Wizard of Oz* (2019). In 2020 she played Buttons in Kucom's production of *Cinderella's Halloween Adventure*.

The Playwrights



Ken Sanders is well known to Mackay audiences as a musician, guitar teacher, songwriter and actor. He was present at the 'birth' of Kucom Theatre when Kudos and Mackay Community Theatre merged in 1976, and has been a stalwart of the group ever since. His most recent appearance in a major Kucom production was as Stanley's Dad in *Caught in the Net* (2015), and he has been a popular performer at many Kucom Club Nights over the years. *Changes* is the third in a trilogy, following *The Drive Home* (2019) and *No Kissing* (2020).



David Tristram, an English comic playwright, has published 19 plays and a comedy novel. In 1985 he founded the Flying Ducks Theatre Company, which has now become a professional touring company. Widely performed by amateur and professional groups, his plays take a farcical view of sex, alcohol, drugs, crime, and theatre itself. *Lockdown* is the fourth in the Little Grimley series, following on from *Last Tango in Little Grimley*, *Last Panto in Little Grimley*, and *The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimley*. Kucom has now done all four!

The New Normal

Lockdown in Little Grimley, by David Tristram

Directed by Bronwyn Grannall

Cast (in order of appearance):

Bernard
Margaret
Gordon
Joyce

Harry O'Connell
Tessa King
Geoff Stewart-McLean
Maureen Coleman

There will be a 20-minute interval after this play

Changes

Written and directed by Ken Sanders

Cast (in order of appearance):

Myvanwy "Miff"
Richard, *Christina's partner*
Daniel Watson
Nanna "J.J."
Christina, *Miff's mother*
Sylvia Gray
Bertie

Matilda Ralph
Ben Clutterbuck
Trojan Johnson
Bronwyn Grannall
Kristyn Everett
Suzannah Elliott-Haynes
Ken Sanders

... AND THE REST OF THE TEAM

Stage Manager
Set Construction
Lighting
Sound
Costume Coordinator
Props
Front of House Coordinator
Photography
Public Relations
Program and Poster

Leticia Harberger
John Irvine
Joe & Anne Clutterbuck
Sarah Ralph
Jeany Elliott
Anne Jensen
Maureen Coleman
Monica Stewart-McLean
Bronwyn Grannall
Taffy's Typing Service

The New Normal

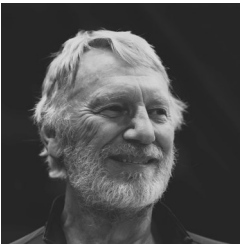
Lockdown in Little Grimley



Although **Harry O'Connell's** first show with Kucom was just last year, playing the role of George in *First Things First*, that was far from his first experience in the world of the performing arts. He has been studying speech and drama from his early years, and been in several musicals with Mackay Musical Comedy Players as well as Red Giraffe Theatre company. He has furthered his studies by completing several different exams with the Trinity College of London, and has been taking part in the local Eisteddfod since Grade 1.



Tessa King joined Kucom in 2005 as a member of the ensemble in *The Farndale "Mikado"*. That same year she shared with Bronwyn Grannall the title role in *Shirley Valentine*, followed by *The Memory of Water* (2006), *The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimley* and *Fallen Angels* (both 2009), *The Shoe-Horn Sonata* (2010), and *Husband Murderers Support Group* (2017). Her directing credits with Kucom include *Rumours* (2006), *The Exorcism* (2007) and *Bazaar and Rummage* (2008).



Geoff Stewart-McLean has played many roles over the years, both musical and straight. He cites Javert from *Les Miserables*, Fagin from *Oliver* and Don Quixote from *Man of La Mancha* as his favourite roles. In 2009 he performed the one-man show *Mark Twain Down Under* by Stephen Measday in Mackay and Brisbane, and as a consequence was asked by Channel Seven in Melbourne to perform Twain for their TV broadcast introduction to the 150th anniversary of the Melbourne Cup. In 2018 he played David Horton in Kucom's *The Vicar of Dibley*.



Maureen Coleman first played Joyce in *Last Tango in Little Grimley* (1994). In the intervening years she has made memorable contributions to all the Farndale comedies, and in July 2006 she featured as the brilliantly neurotic Teresa in *The Memory of Water*. In 2018 Maureen made a welcome return to the Kucom stage, after an absence of nearly 9 years, to play Mrs Cropley in *The Vicar of Dibley*.

The Cast

The New Normal

Changes

Matilda Ralph has been involved with Kucom theatre since 2019 when she appeared in Ken Sander's one-act play *The Drive Home* and *Honey Spot* by Jack Davis. She is a member of the Kucom Youth Theatre group. Matilda has been studying Speech and Drama since Grade 1. She competes in the local Eisteddfod and has sat examinations through Trinity College of London and Comdance. Over the last two years she has attended the CQ Uni Summer Music Theatre School where she performed in *Chicago Jnr* and *Grease*.

This is **Ben Clutterbuck's** fourth role in a Kucom production. Following his stage debut as Governor Briscoe in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (Mackay Musical Comedy Players, 2018), in 2019 Ben appeared in *The Mousetrap* and then premiered the role of Richard in *The Drive Home*, the first play in this trilogy by Ken Sanders. Last year he bravely donned skirts and makeup to play Cheryl, one of the evil stepsisters in the Kucom pantomime *Cinderella's Halloween Adventure*.

Trojan Johnston has performed in school musicals, group speaking performances, choirs and drama classes. He also enjoys public speaking in class assessments and as part of a debating team. He joined Kucom's Youth Drama Group in 2019 and has been a very active member. He played the male lead in *Honey Spot* (2019), co-wrote and performed in the one-act play *Room 420* (2020), and most recently appeared as Prince Charming in *Cinderella's Halloween Adventure*.

Bronwyn Grannall has appeared in numerous productions, both amateur and professional, both in Australia and overseas. Some of her more recent Kucom appearances include *First Things First* (2020), *The Anniversary* (2017), and *The Diary of Anne Frank* (2016). Her directing credits for Kucom include *Secret Bridesmaids' Business* (2007), *Caught in the Net* (2015) and *The Vicar of Dibley* (2018). In a previous life she performed in comedy revue at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

The Cast

