

Big Bad Mouse

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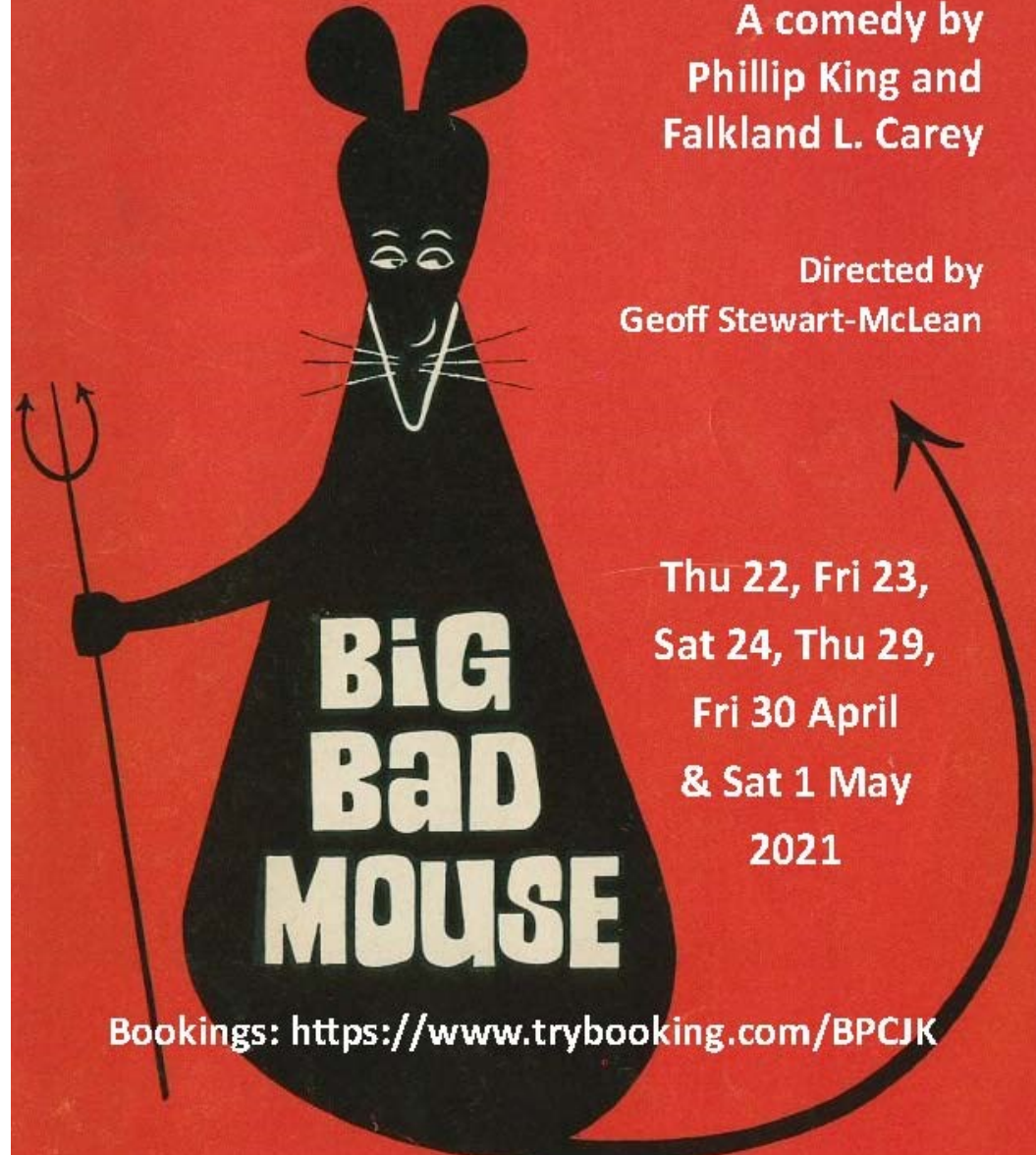
By Arrangement with ORIGIN™ Theatrical
On Behalf of Samuel French
A Concord Theatricals Company
proudly presents

A comedy by
Phillip King and
Falkland L. Carey

Directed by
Geoff Stewart-McLean

Thu 22, Fri 23,
Sat 24, Thu 29,
Fri 30 April
& Sat 1 May
2021

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



Big Bad Mouse

Geoff Stewart-McLean

THE DIRECTOR



Hi Theatregoers

Welcome to Kucom's production of *Big Bad Mouse*. This is a piece of 'froth and bubble' from the Swinging 'Sixties, set in the orders office of the 'Chunkibix' biscuit factory. A farce in the true Whitehall tradition, it deals, in a very light-hearted manner, with a subject matter that today may cause some concern. Kucom as an organisation and its members do not align themselves with the attitudes and opinions portrayed in this play. This is a piece of history and - for those of you who remember - you may fondly recall it was the psychedelic 'sixties of free love, burnt bras, purple hearts and flowers in your hair.

THE PLAYWRIGHTS

Philip King was an English playwright and actor, best known as the author of the farce *See How They Run* (1944). He lived in Brighton and many of his plays were first produced in nearby Worthing. He continued to act throughout his writing career, often appearing in his own plays.

Falkland L Cary, an Irish playwright, developed a lifelong love of the theatre during his days as a medical student, and in 1946 he abandoned a successful career as a doctor to concentrate on writing plays. He frequently wrote in collaboration with Philip King.

Their two most successful works were farcical comedies, *Sailor Beware!* (1954) and *Big Bad Mouse* (1966). *Sailor Beware!* featured in Mackay Community Theatre's 1964 season along with *The Desperate Hours*, *The Teahouse of the August Moon*, *Voodoo Drums*, *One More River*, *Pygmalion*, and *Hiss the Villain*.

What's next at Kucom?

2021
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: 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23 October 2020

2022
July

The Vicar of Dibley 2
adapted from the original TV scripts by Richard Curtis
directed by Bronwyn Grannall
A Mackay Festival of Arts Fringe Event
to celebrate Kucom's 75th anniversary
Season dates to be advised

Other 2022 productions to be advised

KUCOM COMMITTEE 2020

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Bronwyn Grannall
Carolyn Roche
Tessa King
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Big Bad Mouse



Big Bad Mouse

Cast (in order of appearance):

Fiona Jones
Harold Hopkins
Miss Spencer
Mr Price-Hargraves
Mr Bloome
Lady Chesapeake
Doris Povey
Charlady

Leticia Harberger
Tobi Loftus
Stephanie Jones
John Manning
Gordon Lowe
Sarah Neivandt
Carolyn Roche
Monica Stewart-McLean

There will be a 20-minute interval between Act I and Act II

... AND THE REST OF THE TEAM

Director
Assistant Director
Stage Manager
Set Design
Set Construction & Painting

Geoff Stewart-McLean
Tessa King
John Irvine
John Irvine
Geoff Stewart-McLean
Monica Stewart-McLean
Sarah Ralph
Steven Ralph

Sound & Lighting

Sarah Ralph
Joe Clutterbuck

Costume Assistant

Kristyn Everett

Props

Monica Stewart-McLean

Front of House Coordinator

Maureen Coleman

Photography

Monica Stewart-McLean

Public Relations

Bronwyn Grannall

Program and Poster

Taffy's Typing Service

Big Bad Mouse

The Cast



On joining Kucom in August 2019, **LETICIA HARBERGER** was appointed Stage Manager for *Honey Spot*, a Kucom Youth Theatre production directed by Joe Clutterbuck. She has proven a valuable team member, most recently as Stage Manager for *First Things First* (2020) and *The New Normal* (2021), and is now venturing onstage for the first time.



Big Bad Mouse is **TOBI LOFTUS'** debut play with Kucom and his return to community theatre stages for the first time as an adult. He was heavily involved in community theatre as a child and teenager, appearing in *Annie Get Your Gun* and *The Wedding Singer* at different theatres around Brisbane, but he has spent over a decade outside of the theatre scene. In his day to day life Tobi is a journalist with the ABC in Mackay. He has a passion for telling stories.



STEPHANIE JONES is originally from the UK, where she performed in pantomimes every year from 1991 to 2009. She migrated to Australia in 2011, and two years later joined Moranbah Theatrical Players, performing in adult-only shows and theatre restaurant in Moranbah, Dysart and Clermont whilst also teaching Junior Drama workshops for the local Arts Committee. She moved to Mackay in 2016. This will be her debut on a Mackay stage.



JOHN MANNING began his stage career with the Athena Production of *Alice in Wonderland* in 1987, playing a royal child. He followed up with the Studio Pierrot productions of *Strike Me Lucky*, *Pippin* (as Theo), and *The Pirates of Penzance*. He appeared in *Guys and Dolls* on the first birthday of the MECC. A mainstay in age-group Eisteddfods, he was given the Encouragement Award in 1990. After school, John left Mackay to follow a professional rugby league career. He has continued acting in film and TV in Brisbane, Sydney and Los Angeles.

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GORDON LOWE's introduction to theatre began when his high school drama teacher convinced him to audition for Kucom, where he appeared in *Death in the Limelight* (2010) and *The Lion in Winter* (2012). Gordon first met and worked with director Victor Scott in *Death of a Gerbil* (2018). Gordon has also worked with Triple Threat Theatre Company in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, *Jekyll and Hyde—The Musical*, *Cosi*, and in *Apocalypstick* as the hilarious co-host Gordon. He also featured in *Miss Saigon* (Wasted Space Productions), *Hyperspace: Warp Drive* and, most recently, *First Date* with Mackay Musical Comedy Players.



SARAH NEIVANDT performed in over 20 stage shows with theatre groups in Bundaberg and Gympie before arriving in Mackay in 1996. Since then, she has appeared in *Will Rogers Follies*, *Grease*, *Hairspray*, and *Oliver* (Mackay Musical Comedy Players), *Macbeth* and *Twelfth Night* (Mackay Shakespeare Ensemble), and in a short film for Kucom. This is her first time on stage at Kucom.



CAROLYN ROCHE joined Kucom when she arrived in Mackay in 2006. She started in the shadows by helping behind the bar as well as in the box office, dabbling with doing props and costumes. In 2007 she had a small part (all five lines!) in the Kucom production of *Secret Bridesmaid's Business*, where she also tried her hand at being the stage manager – which she has done a couple more times over the intervening years. Carolyn has been on stage in at least one production every year and continues to help in the shadows in the other productions. She has had many roles including a belly dancer, a flower girl, a pregnant 20ish woman, and a 'second' wife – twice!