

# The Ties That Bind

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# KUCOM THEATRE

PRESENTS

A SEASON OF ONE ACT PLAYS

# *The Ties That Bind*

*For Whom The Southern Belle Tolls*

By Christopher Durang

*Looking At The Alps*

By Yvette Wall

*The Problem*

By A.R. Gurney Jr

Thu 12, Fri 13, Sat 14, Thu 19, Fri 20, Sat 21

March 2026 at 7:30pm

Matinee: Sun 15 March at 2pm

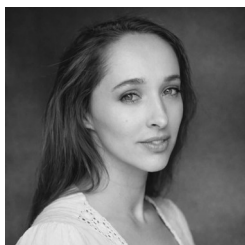


<https://events.humanistic.com/the-ties-that-bind>

Mature themes and sexual references. Parental guidance recommended.

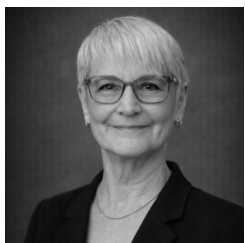
# The Ties That Bind

## THE DIRECTORS



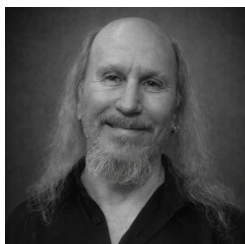
### ANZJULI VENTER

Directing *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls* with Kucom for the first time has been an absolute joy. I couldn't have asked for a better script, cast, or support network. Watching this talented cast bring such a hilarious play to life has been both a privilege and a delight. Their dedication and hard work have been incredible, and I am so proud of what we've created together.



### MAUREEN COLEMAN

When I directed last year it was to be my swan song as a director but "needs must" sometimes. Having said that, it is always a pleasure to work with multi-talented actors and I have had the good fortune to work with two of Kucom's best. *Looking at the Alps* is a poignant story of connection and reflection. Sometimes the "ties that bind" can create best buddies but seemingly worst enemies because of past events not fully understood. The play originally premiered on Norfolk Island in 2016, winning Best Production at the Norfolk Island Theatre Festival. It was rewritten in 2025 for this season at Kucom. Enjoy!



### JOHN IRVINE

Kucom's connection to *The Problem* began in 1993 when I directed it for a Club Night. We took it to Townsville in May 1994 and were runners-up for Best Play at the North Queensland Festival of One-Act Plays. With this success behind us, the play was presented to the Mackay public in September 1994 as part of a season of one-act plays. I'm delighted to bring it back again with a talented new cast. I wonder if today's audiences will be able to solve *The Problem*?

# What's next at Kucom?

## 24 March 2026

Kucom Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday 24 March at 7pm

## June 2026

*Waiting for God*  
adapted from the BBC sitcom by Michael Aitkens  
directed by Bronwyn Grannall  
AUDITIONS: Sunday 22 March at 2pm  
Season dates: 18, 19, 20, 21 (matinee), 25, 26, 27 June

## September 2026

*Sideline Family*  
written and directed by Amy Jeffcoat  
Season dates: 10, 11, 12, 13 (matinee), 17, 18, 19 September

## November—December 2026

*The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild  
Dramatic Society production of "A Christmas Carol",*  
by David Mc Gillivray and Walter Zerlin Jr  
directed by Anne Clutterbuck  
Season dates: 26, 27, 28, 29 (matinee) November  
and 3, 4, 5 December

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Kucom Theatre respectfully dedicates this production to the  
memory of



HEATHER  
MACTAVISH  
Actor, Director,  
past President  
and Life Member  
of Kucom  
d. 26 February  
2026

JOHN TAIT  
Long-time loyal  
patron  
and Life Member  
of Kucom  
d. 21 February  
2026



# The Ties That Bind

## THE PLAYWRIGHTS



**CHRISTOPHER DURANG** was an American playwright known for works of outrageous and often absurd comedy. *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls* is a parody of *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams. Though knowledge of Williams' play helps with enjoyment of the parody, audiences unfamiliar with it can enjoy the play as a crackpot comedy of parent-child tensions.

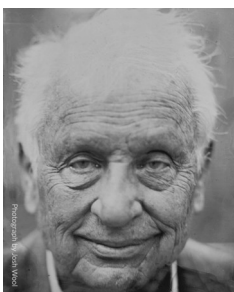
Playwright photo supplied by United Talent Agency



**YVETTE WALL** is an award-winning playwright and theatremaker based in Perth (WA). Her writing includes pantomimes, fractured fairytales for primary school students, historical pieces, and dramas focusing on complex family connections. Another of her plays, *Ashes to Dust* (staged by Kucom in November 2025), came 3rd in the Edythe Brook Cooper Play Writing Competition

and also won Audience Choice Award in 2020.

Playwright photo supplied by Off The Wall Productions



**A R GURNEY JR** is known for plays such as *The Dining Room* (1982), *Sweet Sue* (1986/7), *The Cocktail Hour* (1988), and for his Pulitzer Prize nominated play *Love Letters* (1988). *The Problem* premiered in Boston in 1968. His works offer a whimsical yet incisive critique of white middle and upper-class behaviors, often revealing the superficiality of social values.

Playwright photo by Josh Wool

## KUCOM COMMITTEE 2025

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Patron</b>         | Mayor Greg Williamson       |
| <b>President</b>      | Kathryn Evans               |
| <b>Vice President</b> | Hayley Long                 |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | Bronwyn Grannall            |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | Maureen Coleman             |
| <b>Committee</b>      | Amanda Lewis, Carolyn Roche |

# The Ties That Bind

## THE PROGRAM

***For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*** by Christopher Durang

Directed by Anzjuli Venter

- |          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| Amanda   | Kristyn Everett |
| Lawrence | Toby Drage      |
| Tom      | Hayden White    |
| Ginny    | Richelle Hodson |

***Looking at the Alps***, by Yvette Wall

Directed by Maureen Coleman

- |       |                  |
|-------|------------------|
| Trin  | Bronwyn Grannall |
| Sally | Tessa King       |

***The Problem***, by A R Gurney Jr

Directed by John Irvine

- |         |                 |
|---------|-----------------|
| Wife    | Anzjuli Venter  |
| Husband | Ben Clutterbuck |

*There will be two 20-minute intervals.  
The Stockyard Bar will be open for refreshments.*

## THE PRODUCTION TEAM

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <b>Stage Manager</b>                     | Anne Clutterbuck |
| <b>Sound &amp; Lighting</b>              | Steven Newitt    |
| <b>Visual &amp; Social Media, Poster</b> | Hayley Long      |
| <b>Public Relations, Program</b>         | Bronwyn Grannall |
| <b>Front of House Coordinator</b>        | Maureen Coleman  |

*For updates on forthcoming Kucom events, please visit the Kucom website, or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter:*

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
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# The Ties That Bind

## THE CAST

### *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*



**KRISTYN EVERETT** has delighted Kucom audiences in *Bazaar and Rummage* (2008), *The Husband Murderers' Support Group* (2016), *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* (2021), *The Perfect Wedding* (2023), and *Bloody Actors!* (2025). She has also shared her considerable talents with Mackay Musical Comedy Players and Thespian Ink.



**TOBY DRAGE** is making his Kucom debut after moving to Mackay from New South Wales. He has presented his diversity in character expression and impersonation to audiences in plays such as *Hinterland* by Matt Cameron and musicals such as *Beauty and the Beast* for Belmont Christian College. He is here to deliver the south from the south!



**HAYDEN WHITE** is new to Kucom, but has been on stage previously with Mackay Musical Comedy Players, with roles as Lord Farquaad in *Shrek the Musical*, Mal Beineke in *The Addams Family*, Gabe in *Next to Normal*, and roles in *Mamma Mia* and *Footloose*. He is thrilled to entertain audiences in a different theatrical setting, and in this instance, to bring some southern charm and vivacity.



This is **RICHELLE HODSON's** second performance with Kucom Theatre. She played Laura in Victor Scott's production of *The Father* last year, and has acted in multiple student-led short films at the University of Queensland. She is excited to bring a new flavour to her acting palette as Ginny!

# The Ties That Bind

## THE CAST

### *Looking at the Alps*

**BRONWYN GRANNALL** has appeared in numerous productions, both amateur and professional, in Australia and overseas. Some of her more recent Kucom appearances include *The Diary of Anne Frank* (2016), *The Anniversary* (2017), *First Things First* (2020), *When the Rain Stops Falling* (2021), *Family Values* (2024), and *Last Tango in Little Grimley* (2025).



**TESSA KING** has featured in many productions since joining Kucom in 2005, notably *Shirley Valentine* (2005), *The Memory of Water* (2006), *Fallen Angels* (2009), *The Shoe-Horn Sonata* (2010), *Dinkum Assorted* (2022), Irene Ruddock in *A Lady of Letters* from Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads* series (*Quartet*, 2023), and most recently Joyce in *Last Tango in Little Grimley* (2025).



### *The Problem*

After obtaining a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Drama and Creative Writing from the Queensland University of Technology, **ANZJULI VENTER** went on to train at the Howard Fine Acting Studio in Melbourne. Her recent theatre and musical theatre credits include *Westerly*, *Alvida: Goodbye Mother India*, and *Reefer Madness*. Anzjuli's Kucom debut was as Juliet Finlay in *Bob's Your Auntie* (2024), followed by the role of Anne in *The Father* (2025).



Since his stage debut as Governor Briscoe in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (Mackay Musical Comedy Players, 2018), **BEN CLUTTERBUCK** has performed in a variety of roles with both MMCP and Kucom. He first appeared on the Kucom stage in *The Drive Home* and *The Mousetrap* (2019), followed by the pantomime *Cinderella's Hallowe'en Adventure* (2020). *The Ties That Bind* is his fourth Kucom production.

