



## VALE HEATHER MACTAVISH (d. 26 February)



Heather MacTavish (née Martin) joined Mackay Community Theatre around 1950, when she was 17. The ensuing 70 years saw Heather evolve from an actor to director, show other talents as a set designer and take on roles in the Committee, including President.

Some of the earliest productions she appeared in include *The White Sheep of the Family* (1956), *The Reluctant Debutante*, and *Bell, Book and Candle* (both 1960). In the years that followed, her favourite roles were Judith Bliss in *Hay Fever* (1991 - directed by her

favourite director, John Taylor), Bubbie Kantor in *Crossing Delancey*, and Ida in *The Cemetery Club* (1999).

While she always loved acting, it was the directing that Heather enjoyed the most. Most rewarding of all was the opportunity it gave her to teach and mentor people who were not well versed in acting. Even when she was no longer actively directing, she maintained a keen interest in Kucom and its members.

Heather loved directing *The Odd Couple*, *Steel Magnolias*, all of the Farndale comedies, and many more too numerous to mention. Her last production for Kucom was *Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*, which was staged at the CQ Conservatorium in 2012. She also directed *Night Watch*, Kucom's last production in the Shakespeare Street Playhouse.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Heather's family.

## VALE JOHN TAIT (d. 21 February)



This photo was taken on the day the first sod was turned for the construction of the new Kucom Theatre - John Tait had the honour of doing this, celebrating his 60 years as a member of Kucom, on 17 August 2017.

John and his wife Barbara were avid theatregoers for over 70 years. Their first date was to a Mackay Community Theatre production at the Theatre Royal, which also doubled as a picture theatre. Their ongoing love of the theatre also extended to the Conservatorium of Music, where John was on the board for its planning and construction.

In 2017, Kucom's 70th anniversary year, John and Barbara were made Life Members of Kucom Theatre.

Never a performer himself, John used to describe himself simply as "a looker and a laugher and a clapper".

One play he particularly enjoyed was *The Diary of Anne Frank* (2016), calling it "a great production and a great story" as it was "simply done" at Paxton's. There are too many plays to recall more details, but he recounted one stand-out moment when his howling laughter during a tragedy put on at the old Theatre Royal induced the director decided to go for the laughs in future nights

and promote it as a humorous play.

In later life, mobility issues restricted John's ability to attend shows at the old Shakespeare Street theatre, and he was delighted with the accessibility afforded by the new venue, making a generous contribution towards the cost of installing the new raked seating system in 2023.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Barbara and family.

# The Kucom Theatre

## 2026 Annual General Meeting

will be held on Tuesday 24th March at 7.00pm  
1 Snow Wright Court, Andergrove  
*All welcome*

For more information, phone 0439 684 548  
or visit the Kucom Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/kucomtheatre/>

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The list of nominees to the 2026 Kucom Committee has now been circulated to all members in preparation for our AGM on Tuesday 24 March.

Please note, proxy voting is not permitted.

Should you have any specific questions regarding the Annual General Meeting, please send us an [email](#) or message us through the [Kucom Facebook](#) page.

We urge you to attend this meeting if at all possible, as 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.



## ***The 2026 season***

12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21 MARCH

*The Ties That Bind*—a season of one-act plays:

*For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*, by Christopher Durang, directed by Anzjuli Venter

*Looking at the Alps*, by Yvette Wall, directed by Maureen Coleman

*The Problem*, by A R Gurney, directed by John Irvine

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

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

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

**AUDITIONS:** Sunday 22 March at 2pm.

[Audition packs](#) now available for download.



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

Monthly Happy Hours will continue, 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 incoming 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/>

## THE YEAR AT A GLANCE—FOR YOUR DIARY

12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21 March	<i>The Ties That Bind</i>
Sunday 22 March	AUDITIONS: <i>Waiting For God</i>
Tuesday 24 March	KUCOM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday 27 April	<i>Waiting For God</i> bookings open
18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27 June	<i>Waiting For God</i>
Monday 27 July	<i>Sideline Family</i> bookings open
10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 September	<i>Sideline Family</i>
Monday 12 October	Farndale <i>Christmas Carol</i> bookings open
26, 27, 28, 29 November & 3, 4, 5 December	The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Production of <i>A Christmas Carol</i>

## CONTACT US

### Committee

President:	Kathryn Evans
Vice President:	Hayley Long
Secretary:	Bronwyn Grannall
Treasurer:	Maureen Coleman
Committee Members:	Amanda Lewis, Carolyn Roche

Phone	0439 684 548
Email	<a href="mailto:admin@kucom.org.au">admin@kucom.org.au</a>
Street address	1 Snow Wright Court, Andergrove Qld 4740
Postal address	PO Box 1130, Mackay Qld 4740
Website	<a href="http://www.kucom.org.au">www.kucom.org.au</a>
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/kucomtheatre/">https://www.facebook.com/kucomtheatre/</a>
Instagram	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/kucom.theatre/?hl=en">https://www.instagram.com/kucom.theatre/?hl=en</a>
Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/kucomtheatre">https://twitter.com/kucomtheatre</a>
ABN	27 691 742 387