



## *The Carer*

is our final production for 2008

Kucom Theatre would like to take this opportunity to thank all sponsors, directors, actors, stage crew and front-of house volunteers, the staff of Mackay Entertainment Centre, the Regional Arts Development Fund, and organisers of the Mackay Festival of Arts - and most of all thanks to you, our valued patrons, for your loyalty and support during the year.

We look forward to seeing you again in 2009.



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Kucom wishes to thank the Ian Phillips Crematorium & Pacific Gardens for their assistance with essential props for this production



by arrangement with Bay Street Productions  
proudly presents

# The Carer

28 & 29 November  
3, 5, 6, 10, 12 & 13 December  
starting 8pm

at the Kucom Playhouse  
316 Shakespeare Street  
(opposite Showground)

Bookings: Mackay  
Entertainment Centre  
4961 9700

Other inquiries:  
0408 980 022

Group and pensioner  
concessions available



A heart-warming  
comedy by  
Alan Hopgood

Directed by  
Maureen Coleman  
and  
Heather MacTavish



## The Carer



We, Maureen Coleman and Heather MacTavish, the Directors, invite you to sit back, relax, and enter the world of George Parker – a man of many moods. We think you will laugh more than you'll cry – but we feel you will do both. Alan Hopgood has written a beautiful script,

and we three have had fun and lots of hard work to bring this play to you, our audience – welcome!



## DIRECTORS' NOTES

## THE PLAYWRIGHT



**ALAN HOPGOOD's** play *The Carer* toured Australia with Charles 'Bud' Tingwell giving 260 memorable performances. The play toured New Zealand with Ray Henwood in 2005. In 2006, Alan took over role and performed a new and revised version at Chapel Off Chapel, the 1812 Theatre, the Jute Theatre in Cairns, Upwey, the Kingston Arts Centre and Devonport. The play had a short season in Washington DC in 2007. Alan Hopgood is well known as a playwright (*And the Big Men Fly*), screenwriter (*Alvin Purple*)

and as an actor in *Bellbird* (Dr Reed), *Prisoner* (Wally) and *Neighbours* (Jack Lassiter). His play *Weary* (the adaptation of the diaries of Sir Edward Dunlop) toured in 2006-7, and in 2007 he played opposite David Tredinnick in the American play *Visiting Mr Green*. Since writing a play about his experience as a survivor of prostate cancer he has been invited to write five other plays on health issues – diabetes, widowhood, palliative care and geriatric intimacy. In January 2005, Alan was made a Member of the Order of Australia for service to the performing arts and to the community through raising awareness of men's health issues.

## What's Next at Kucom?

It's been a busy year at Kucom and we're looking forward to a well-earned break before launching into the 2009 season.

In addition to the usual mainstage productions, the Kucom Film Unit is submitting an entry to Tropfest 2009, and will be making a number of short films throughout the year. We are also negotiating to bring a Sydney-based movie producer to Mackay to conduct film-making workshops in 2009.

Kucom's first offering in 2009 will be a season of one-act plays - look for the audition notice on our website: [www.kucom.org.au](http://www.kucom.org.au), and keep watching the *Daily Mercury* for information about this and other events, auditions and performance dates in 2009.

### BOOKINGS:

MACKAY ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE 4961 9700

FREECALL: 1800 646 574

ALL OTHER INQUIRIES TO KUCOM THEATRE

0408 980 022

**Don't forget the Kucom AGM!**  
**Tuesday 10 February 2009 at 7.30pm**

## KUCOM COMMITTEE 2008

<b>Patron</b>	James Bidgood, MP
<b>President</b>	Bronwyn Grannall
<b>Vice President</b>	Stan Hillard
<b>Secretary</b>	Carolyn Thompson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tessa King
<b>Committee</b>	Jim Kelly Ken Ross Sue Stock
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@kucom.org.au">admin@kucom.org.au</a>
<b>Ph:</b>	0408 980 022
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.kucom.org.au">www.kucom.org.au</a>

## The Carer

### SPONSORS

Kucom Theatre gratefully acknowledges the assistance and support of:



10 Prospect Street MACKAY QLD 4740 (07) 4969 4722  
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Kucom Theatre is proud to be associated as a Business Partner with Easy Listening 1026am, Mackay

## The Carer

### THE CAST

**George Parker**

Jim Kelly

**Voices off**

Susanne Boath  
Stan Hillard

*There will be a 20-minute interval between Act I and Act II.  
The bar will be open and drinks are permitted into the theatre.*

*We respectfully request that patrons observe our  
Liquor Licensing requirements as displayed in the foyer.*

### THE PRODUCTION CREW

**Directors**

Maureen Coleman and  
Heather MacTavish

**Stage Management**

John Atkinson  
Stan Hillard

**Sound and Lighting**

Joe and Ann Clutterbuck

**Set Design, Construction  
and Painting**

Maureen Coleman  
Sue Stock  
John Atkinson  
Stan Hillard  
Jim Kelly

**Front of House Coordinator**

Sue Stock

**Media Liaison**

Bronwyn Grannall

**Program**

Taffy's Typing Service

### The Directors wish to thank:

**Alan Hopgood** for granting Kucom the performing rights to *The Carer*, and for his support and encouragement throughout

**IML International** for the loan of furniture used in this production

**Kucom members and Committee** for all their help, and particularly **Sue Stock** for yet again taking on the dreaded 'Front of House'



**Jim Kelly**

This is Jim's 43rd year in theatre here in Mackay. He says: 'I have had the privilege of working with some wonderful people, to have been involved in some great productions and to have played some brilliant roles. I believe as long as I have breath I will continue to be involved in theatre of some sort ..... I am now just going to look toward the future, and hopefully present some more entertaining shows for the Mackay theatre-goers.' *The Carer* is a play especially dear

to his heart, and he welcomed the opportunity to play the role of George Parker.

Of the many productions Jim has been involved with, some of his favourite roles and productions would be Mary Sunshine in *Chicago*, Roo in *Summer of The Seventeenth Doll*, and Roy in *Cosi*. Jim has directed numerous musicals and straight plays, and has been successful at drama festivals over the years, winning best director and best actor several times - the most recent was winning every award eligible at the Yeppoon Drama Festival in 2003. He also appeared in the mini series *Tales of The South Seas*, filmed in Airlie Beach. More recently Jim appeared in *Veronica's Room*, *A Different Way Home* and *Rumours*, and directed *Farewell, Brisbane Ladies* (2005), *Beautiful Thing* (2006) and *Agnes of God* (2008), all for Kucom Theatre. In 2009 he will direct a one-act play for Kucom followed by *The Full Monty*, the musical, for Wasted Space Productions.



**Maureen Coleman**

Maureen first became involved with Kucom Theatre in 1990 and worked backstage until she made her acting debut in 1991 with what she modestly describes as 'a very small role'. She has since acted in many plays, like Heather 'too numerous to mention'. Her debut as a director followed a couple of years

later, quite by default, when the original director was transferred with his work out of town and as Director's assistant it fell to Maureen to continue. This play was *Crossing Delancey*. Maureen has subsequently directed both one-act and full-length plays, namely *The Cemetery Club* and *Educating Rita*.



**Heather MacTavish**

Heather started in theatre as a member of the Mackay Community Theatre, at the tender age of 17. She was one of the 'breakaways' to form Kudos Theatre, and has been a member of Kucom Theatre since the amalgamation of MCT and Kudos up to the present time. Heather has acted in many plays, and directed a myriad of

same. 'Too numerous to mention', she says, 'suffice to say, I enjoyed each and every one ..... well, nearly! It all still excites and thrills, as one makes the audience feel laughter, tears or fright. That is what live theatre is all about, the emotions, and that is what I love to give our audiences.'