

MACKAY COMMUNITY THEATRE

presents



**THE MAN**

FIRST MEMBERS' PRODUCTION, 1965-66

OCTOBER 19-20-21

THEATRE ROYAL  
MACKAY

OCTOBER 19-20-21, 1965

The  
Mackay  
Community  
Theatre



presents

THE CAST

(In order of appearance)

MRS. GILLIS .....	BERYL SMALLEY
MR. ARMSTRONG .....	MERV. ALLAN
RUTH .....	LEANNE CRAWLEY
HOWARD WILTON .....	JOHN TAYLOR
MR. FRANKS .....	ARTHUR THOMAS
SARAH .....	A SPANIEL
DOUG .....	JOHN HAZELL
MR. STEVENS .....	RUSSELL BROWN

PRODUCED BY BETTY ANDREW

SCENES

The time is the present and the entire action takes place in the living-room and kitchen of Mrs. Gillis's home.

ACT I: SCENE 1: A morning in early winter.

SCENE 2: About an hour later.

SCENE 3: Several hours later.

ACT II: A minute or two later.

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### ABOUT THE CAST

**Beryl Smalley** (Mrs. Gillis) displays another facet of her personality in tonight's production. She was widely acclaimed for her outstanding performances as "Mrs. Lack" in "Sailor Beware" and "Ida the Maid" in "See How They Run", both comedies, but there is nothing comical about Mrs. Gillis. Beryl proved herself as a dramatic actress by winning the Shakespearian Recital at the recent Mackay Eisteddfod, tonight's performance merely underlines that fact.

Making his first appearance on the Mackay stage is **John Taylor** (Howard Wilton). John is a talented actor with wide stage experience having played leads in "Suddenly Last Summer", "Odd Man In" and others for Lae Dramatic Society (New Guinea) as well as appearances with the Independent Theatre and the Greenwich Dramatic Society in Sydney playing Shakespearian roles and parts in "Inherit The Wind", "Miranda", "I Am a Camera" and others. John has also produced and written plays.

**Leanne Crawley** (Ruth) has been working backstage since her last appearance as "Penelope" in "See How They Run", but tonight she steps into the lights again in a part which, though small, is important to the plot and adds to the drama.

**Merv Allan** (Mr. Armstrong) adds another supporting role to his list of credits having appeared in "The King and I", "The Shifting Heart", "The Trapper", and "One More River".

**Arthur Thomas** (Mr. Franks) last appeared in "See How They Run" for the Theatre and appeared in "Oklahoma" for the Musical Comedy Players.

**John Hazell** (Doug) makes his stage debut in tonight's show.

**Russell Brown** (Mr. Stevens) has appeared in many productions for the Theatre the last being "The Shifting Heart".

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### THEATRE NEWS

Never before has the public of Mackay given such overwhelming support to a Theatre venture as was given to "The King & I". It was indeed heartening to all those who had worked so hard to make the success it was. Proceeds from the show will go a long way towards paying for our house. Full credit for the production must go to the Production Team Jim Bussell, John Bull and Betty Meskell with a special bouquet to costume designer and chief fabricator Margo Arbuthnot; it is hoped that this talented team will combine to produce another show in the new year.

Speaking of Musicals we were pleased to see the successful staging of "Oklahoma" by the Mackay Musical Comedy Players in which some of our members earned credit for themselves and the Theatre. They were Ken Kennett, Maureen Fuller, Arthur Thomas and Keith Smith. Congratulations Musical Comedy Players, we hope to see bigger and better productions in the future.

Our next production in the current subscription series will be an Intimate Revue produced by Ken Kennett. This type of entertainment is becoming more and more popular in the south each year, watch for the announcement, the dates to remember, 7, 8, 9th December.

some thoughts on the man a mans a man for all that rabbi burns man proud man dressed in a little brief authority most ignorant of what hes most assured will shakespeare the child is father to the man wonder what that means satisfy the inner man of what every young bride should know the quickest way to a mans heart is through his stomach and what better way of treating a stomach than to lead it gently by the gullet to taste delicatessen you knew id get round to it eventually didnt you what a delectability of edibles what a cornucopia of comestibles what a fostering of a tohellwith calories attitude to life succulent oysters salamis of character cheeses of breeding coffees of olfactory fragrance cold meats of distinction this is beginning to sound like a cigarette ad go on indulge yourself the end is sooner than you think make your way to taste delicatessen the long narrow shop with the short balding prop at 60 wood street within spitting distance of this theatre if the winds in the right quarter.

# MACKAY COMMUNITY THEATRE ADMINISTRATION

Patron: Dr. I. H. Chenoweth  
Trustees: Messrs. A. M. M. Galletly, H. Hart and Senator I. A. C. Wood  
Director: Mr. J. Brown  
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. N. Green  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Plant  
Executive Committee: Mrs. M. Smalley, Messrs. J. Buttell, I. Cook and R. S. Brown  
Play Assessment Committee: Mrs. J. Arbuthnot, Miss B. Docherty, Mr. J. Brown, Mr. K. Kennett  
Hon. Assistant Secretary: Miss M. McVicar  
Front of House Manager: Miss A. Bugeja  
Publicity and Programmes: Mr. R. S. Brown

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## THE PRODUCER AND THE PLAY

Tonight's performance of "THE MAN" by Mel Dinelli introduces to Mackay an unusual type of thriller. The theme is like a page from a psychiatrist's case book.

The central characters are involved in a web of terror from which escape seems impossible.

Howard Wilton, the quiet young man who comes to help clean house for Mrs. Gillis and stays to terrify her, is a psychological misfit with a persecution mania whose sudden outbursts of madness blaze and are just as suddenly gone in a cat and mouse game for life which is stark in its frightening realism and breathlessly sustained until the unexpected climax.

Our producer, Betty Andrew, is a well known personality on the Mackay stage and it is from a background of wide stage experience that she draws in this her first major production for Community Theatre.

From the outset, Betty believed that the essential ingredient for the success of this play was two strong leads. We feel sure that in John Taylor and Beryl Smalley her wishes have been granted.

If you enjoy being scared, you will enjoy "THE MAN".

## BACKSTAGE TONIGHT

Stage Manager: Merv. Allan

Lighting and Electrics: Roy Cowan

Sound: Morris Bartlem

Properties: Biddy Docherty

Prompt: Beris Tomkins

We acknowledge with thanks assistance given by 4MK and all others associated with this production.