

KUCOM PRESENTS



WHAT THE BUTLER SAW!

THEATRE ROYAL APRIL 1st-4th



"WHAT THE BUTLER SAW"

BY JOE ORTON

Joe Orton had a meteoric rise as a playwright. His first play "Entertaining Mr. Sloane" was very successful in London, New York and all over the world. His second play "Loot" won the prestigious Evening Standard Award for the Best Play of the Year in London. "What the Butler Saw" was his third play but before it was staged, Orton was murdered by a friend who had become deranged. (It was actually his male lover for many years standing who couldn't cope with Orton becoming successful while he remained a nobody.)

The first production of "What the Butler Saw" was not very successful, but a later production in 1975 was and the play has enjoyed enormous success ever since.

The style of the play is that of the English farce and it is extremely funny on that level with lots of mistaken identities and potential disasters. However Orton had a comic view of the world which was uniquely his which extends the play to a more interesting level.

"What the Butler Saw" is set in a private mental clinic but only doctors and other similarly sane people appear in the play.



THE CAST

L to R: Back Row - David Oliver, Adrian Shirley, Barbara Heggen, Graham Bathgate.
Front Row - Sharyn Steller, Chris Del Mar.

KUCOM THEATRE

Kucom has been in existence for almost 2 years, being formed by the amalgamation of Kudos Theatre and Mackay Community Theatre.

Previous productions include "Move Over Mrs. Markham", an English Cooney-Chapman farce; "Inherit the Wind", an exciting American court-room drama; "Taste of Tudor", an evening of short plays with a Tudor theme; "Private Lives", a Noel Coward classic which was directed by professional producer Gilbert Spottswood; and "Toad of Toad Hall", last year's Christmas production which had a cast to rival that of "Ben Hur".

The group has also done a number of smaller productions for social clubhouse nights, concerts, etc., with the aim of encouraging new directors, actors and technical people. At the moment there are two short plays being prepared especially for the Sub-Normal Association's fund-raising dinner. This will be KuCom's contribution to The International Year for the Disabled Person.

New members are always very welcome, so if you're interested in any aspect of theatre (eg. acting, directing, stage-managing, lighting, sound, set design and construction, costume, etc.) then contact any member of the group, or give our Secretary a ring: Cheryl Helenius — 55 2483.

**furniture
furnishings
& plenty of style.**

HOMIWORKS

Interior Design

133 VICTORIA ST., MACKAY
PHONE 511565

CAST — In Order of Appearance

CHRIS DEL MAR (Dr. Prentice)



Chris went to school at Oundle, where he acted in plays such as "The Firefighters", "Penny for a Song" and in Reviews.

While studying at the Universities of Sanford, Manchester, and Cambridge he directed, and acted in, satirical Reviews and varied theatre activities, including Middleton's Restoration comedy "A Chaste Maid: Cheapside". He even directed a full scale Handel opera.

At the University College Hospital, London, he took part in more Reviews, this time with a group formed by Jonathan Miller — "The Fallopian".

Chris has a special interest in mime (he studied briefly with Lindsay Kemp) and he hopes to start a special interest mime group in Mackay.

BARBARA HEGGEN (Geraldine Barclay)



Barbara was in the Sarina Little Theatres production of "Jack & the Beanstalk". She also appeared in two school productions "Man of Steel" (in which she played Lois Lane) & "The Importance of Being Earnest".

Last year she was one of two people from Mackay who went down to Brisbane for the Queensland Theatre Company's Theatre Experience Week.

Barbara hopes to attend the National Institute of Dramatic Art next year.

SHARYN STELLAR (Mrs. Prentice)



Sharyn's first role in Mackay theatre was that of Sleeping Beauty with the Mackay Musical Comedy Players. It's a role she remembers vividly. "I used to be "asleep" for what seemed like hours on stage every night — and I'd invariably get an almost uncontrollable desire to sneeze or scratch!"

Since then, she's had acting roles in "Dark of the Moon", "Fiddler on the Roof", "The Glass Menagerie", "Abelard & Heloise", "The Servant of Two Masters", "Sweeney Todd", & "Private Lives". She has also directed "Habeas Corpus" (for Kudos), "Move Over Mrs. Markham" & "Toad of Toad Hall" (for Kucom).

ADRIAN SHIRLEY (Nicholas Beckett)



Adrian made his acting debut in Mackay, with Kudos as a cranky Pakistani in "Hotel Paradiso". That was followed by a leading role in "Glass Menagerie". Then the suave Master of Ceremonies in "Sweeney Todd" and "Vaudeville Revival". Aged many years in "Habeas Corpus" and then to prison in "Chocolate Frog". "A Day in the Death of Joe Egg", "Abelard & Heloise" and "Four Seasons", are all to his credit. The last time Adrian was on the boards was "Backstage" as Stage Manager for "Toad of Toad Hall". We welcome Adrian back to the Mackay stage after two years as a reclusive fisherman

GRAHAM BATHGATE (Dr. Rance)



Graham is a recent arrival in Mackay and he describes himself as "A Scotsman from New Zealand". His previous acting experience includes such well known plays as "The Real Inspector Hound", "Look Back in Anger" & "The Importance of Being Earnest". He also played Alistair in a N.Z. production of "Move Over Mrs. Markham."

He has acted and been Master of Ceremonies in melodramas and was a member of a semi-professional music hall group.

As a teacher, Graham has produced many plays with students, Kucom is keeping its fingers crossed that he'll do the same in Mackay.



David caught with his pants down.



Every good keyhole should have one.

What **DID** the butler see?

Cathy, Mavis & Jan

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HIDEAWAY

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and after theatre suppers*

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DAVID OLIVER (Sergeant Match)



David got thrown into acting at the deep end when he auditioned for "The Servant of Two Masters" and landed a lead part. Since then, he has turned his hand to both stage-managing and set design. You may remember the beautiful set for "Move Over Mrs. Markham".

He also played the over-grown boy scout in "Gosford's Fete" and most recently, the bumbling policeman in "Toad of Toad Hall". He is upholding the law again. David insists that his next part will NOT be someone in uniform.

BRUCE SHEPHERD (Director)



Bruce has directed many plays including "The Boyfriend" and "Fiddler on the Roof" for Mackay Musical Comedy Players, "Girl in My Soup" (Community Theatre), "Hotel Paradiso" (Kudos) and "Inherit the Wind" (Kucom).

On the acting side, he tends to specialise in creating old men. His last appearance was as a crotchety 154 year old judge in "Toad of Toad Hall". However many people remember him as a not so old professor Higgins in MMCP's production of "My Fair Lady".

Actors who have worked in Bruce's plays find this experience rather nerve-racking, as his productions have a reputation for being chaotic right up to the last dress-rehearsal, then falling into place. "What the Butler Saw" is no exception!



The action is continuous, and takes place in a room in a private clinic. There will be only one interval of 12 minutes.



— Production Team —

Producer	Bruce Shepherd
Stage Manager	Doug Robinson
Set Design	Jim Brown
Set Construction	Bill Langdon
Costumes	Kath Johnson
Props	Jill Meredith
Prompt	Margaret Leedham
Publicity	Kerry Shirley
Lights	Anne Hoffman
Front of House	Julie Brock
Make Up	Cheryl Hedland

SPECIAL THANKS : Staff of the Mater & Base Hospitals
1st Mackay Boy Scouts
Lyn & Heather Hair Stylists
and all who kindly helped out.



Looking through a key hole at Sharyn. Barbara can't get away from those fellas.

*The cut that counts
at
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