



# SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No.16 May 2014)

## COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

In order to streamline the activities of AMMPT Western Region the Committee made a number of appointments at its last meeting. Continuing donations being made to the museum and the centralising of previously donated items at Sunset Hospital are creating space problems. This situation prompted the appointment of Roy Mudge as Museum Curator and Disposals Panel member. Graeme Lacey is the other member of the Disposals Panel. The Curator will be responsible for museum display layout and confirming provenance. The Panel will determine those items that are surplus to museum requirements and arrange for their disposal after first offering the item back to its donor.

For a number of years the AMMPT website which is the responsibility of the National body has been in need of an upgrade. The Western Region Committee has appointed member Beth McKechnie as webmaster with the job of upgrading the format and information as it relates to our Region. The National body also accepted a recommendation that Beth be responsible for the overall website. The overriding objective is to create an interesting and user friendly site which helps AMMPT project itself into the community. Regions will have the opportunity to lodge separate information activity. Beth is well known for work in researching and creating a Mount Lawley Federation house pictorial and provenance database.

## PORT CINEMA IS STRIPPED

A six person work team comprising David Smith, Keith Rutherford, Graeme Lacey, John Fuhrmann, Jerry Voutsinas and Roy Mudge converged on the Port Cinema on two occasions to dismantle and manhandle equipment ready for museum storage. Collection of gear from the cinema had to be delayed until the day the building key was to be handed back to the City of Fremantle because of the Harbour Theatre equipment stacked immediately in front of the screen's steel frame which itself posed loudspeaker removal problems. The four speaker boxes and multicellular horns were of a weight and size that challenged the work team (see below). Walls required demolition to allow removal via the back exit steps.

amplifiers were also rescued



Roy Mudge (left) guides one of the Port Cinema speaker boxes (not quite in free fall) down the back exit steps to a waiting truck. Graeme Lacey (above) without parachute on top of a 2.5m high speaker box manhandles a multicellular horn into its storage position. All volunteer workers are insured by AMMPT and new volunteers are always welcome.

pared to have been home for a number of homeless persons with food, drink, mattress and chairs evident. Unfortunately, lack of time prevented the rescue of street wall display cabinets originally from the Theatre Royal.

## STATE LIBRARY MOU

Keith Rutherford has resumed negotiations and is close to finalising a Memorandum of Understanding between AMMPT Western Region and the State Library. The memorandum will formalise arrangements between our two organisations. Film of local cultural value discovered by AMMPT will be transferred to the State Library for conservation and a copy made available to AMMPT. Likewise film discovered by the Library and of likely interest to AMMPT will be transferred to us. There will also be the opportunity for AMMPT to use Library facilities if required.

## WANTED TO BORROW

Member Richard Rennie is searching for a 16 mm education film or DVD titled Salmon Fishing at Hopetoun. It was made c1948 and shown in WA schools. Richard viewed a copy in the 1980s in the State Library who no longer have the film. He needs the film for a public presentation later this year. Contact Richard Rennie on 9330 1636 or [rsrennie@lightandsound.net.au](mailto:rsrennie@lightandsound.net.au)

## IN FOCUS PRESENTATION –JUNE 18<sup>th</sup>– 7.30pm FRED BELL RSL HALL

The next In Focus Presentation will be from Vice President Ian Stimson on “**The Pye multiplexer for Television film transfer to video camera. How it works.**” Ian is an early member of AMMPT who carries great knowledge of our corporate history. He has a unique work history that includes both cinema and the early years of south west television as an engineer.

## CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN – 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE– 10.15am – CYGNET CINEMA “THE BAND WAGON”

Our next screening is the 1953 MGM film “The Band Wagon” starring Fred Astaire and Cyd Charise. A smorgasbord of musical hits such as That’s Entertainment, There’s a Shine on My Shoes and I Guess I’ll Have to Change My Plan hit the screen. The plot is about a failed dark interpretation of Faust that is reinvented into a lighted hearted success. If you have friends interested in attending the show, why not send them this broadsheet or direct them to [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZby\\_hrm75Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZby_hrm75Q). Successful screenings at the Cygnet are the financial engine that allows AMMPT to develop our museum.

## MUSEUM JOTTINGS

A major collection of museum material which includes items obtained in the early days of AMMPT has been collected from CBH in Kwinana. The company generously allowed free storage for many years. Almost all donated equipment except for a small amount remaining with Daryl Binning and at the Graeme Lacey residence is now at our Sunset Hospital facility. Clive Woodward arranged the collection of and has carted the promised Channel 10 TV equipment to Sunset as well.

The assembly of equipment and its storage has identified a number of 16mm projectors that are surplus to museum requirements. After de-accessioning, these will be formally available to members probably by tender and then possibly advertised on gumtree.

## BARRY’s GOLD – PART 8

Barry Goldman’s historic cinema information details both indoor and garden cinemas that have existed in city and country Western Australia. The series continues and lists [further outdoor gardens](#).

Locality	Theatre	Exhibitor	Seating capacity
Mt. Magnet	Hall and Gardens	R. A Yelland	250
Mt. Hawthorn	Ritz and Gardens	During and Parker	1000
Nedlands	Broadway and Gardens	Suburban Theatres Pty. Ltd.	800
Norseman	Criterion and Gardens	Dean and Scholey	450
Northam	Capitol and Gardens	Goldfields Pictures Ltd.	1000
North Beach	Hall and Gardens	F.A.Payne and R.F. McClure	400
North Perth	Rosemount and Gardens	During and Parker	1150
Osborne Park	Kookaburra and Gardens	F.A. Payne and R.F. McClure	250
Palmyra	Mayfair and Gardens	Richmond Theatre and Gardens Co. Ltd.	800
Port Hedland	Port Hedland (open air)	C.Bayman	200