

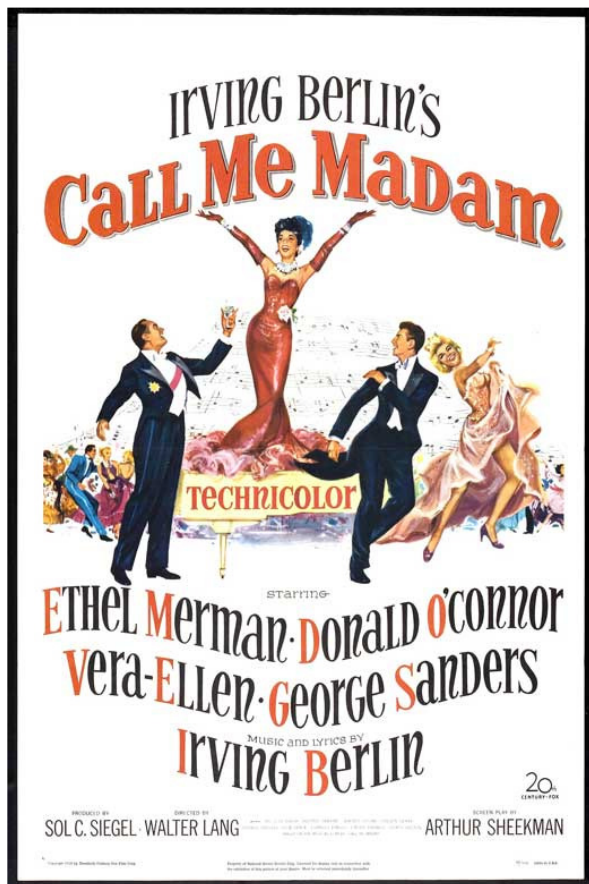
AMMPT WESTERN REGION (INC.)

SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No. 64 May / June 2019)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The future of AMMPT will be impacted on by two important matters. Firstly, the public name change to "Pictures in Motion" to help branding. Our corporate registration remains AMMPT Western Region. Secondly, Pictures in Motion has received a reply to our submission for a permanent home at Sunset Hospital. We were unsuccessful in the first stage due to our financial position as we were expected to fund the renovations ourselves. However, we were informed that as we meet all the other cultural and heritage criteria our details will be given to the other organisations who are progressing further to the second stage. They can then partner/collaborate with our organisation if they wish to. Potentially that could make their submission stronger, if their cultural/heritage aspect is not as strong as ours. At this stage we have been told that the process may take up to the end of the year and we are just to carry on business as usual. To this end we will be making a concerted effort to bring our exhibition hall up to full museum standards. To assist potential host organisations, the Sunset display area is being enhanced.



CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN

MAY 27th – 10.00am

**GRAND CYGNET THEATRE
PRESTON STREET, COMO.**

The next Classics of the Silver Screen will be the 1953 Technicolor musical "Call me Madam" with song by Irving Berlin. The film stars Ethel Merman, Donald O'Connor, Vera-Ellen and George Sanders. The plot involves a wealthy socialite Sally Adams (Merman) who is appointed US Ambassador to the tiny country of Lichtenburg. A young journalist, Kenneth Gibson (O'Connor) persuades her to let him tag along as her press attaché. Sally finds herself attracted to Lichtenburg's foreign minister (Sanders) while Kenneth has developed a very impractical interest in Princess Maria (Vera-Ellen). Live performances in Australia, Broadway and West End.

IN FOCUS PRESENTATION

The next In Focus Presentation will be **JOHN BELL A YOUNG WESTERN AUSTRALIAN INVENTOR** by Richard Rennie.

John Bell built WA's first disc recording apparatus in 1930. He also manufactured and sold Bellmont radios in 1930-31. In 1932 Bell demonstrated to the University of Western Australia's Science Society a television system (camera and receiver) of his own invention. Hear his story and see a demonstration of a working model of Bell's 1932 television invention.

Invite your friends to this free event at the Fred Bell RSL Hall in Fred Bell Parade, St. James on the 19th June at 7.30pm. Free nibbles and refreshments are available before the presentation.

TV CORNER



A quad videotape recorder machine being extracted from Ian Stimson's shed prior to loading it for transport to the Pictures in Motion museum at Sunset Heritage Precinct.

This is the last model of 2" quad videotape recorder manufactured by RCA in 1972.

We are now fortunate to have the first production model RCA TRT1B 2" videotape machine first used by TVW7 that was manufactured in 1959, and the last production model TR600 in our collection that was manufactured in 1972.

This latest acquisition recorder spent its working life at GWN in Bunbury and was one of two acquired by our member Ian Stimson and added to his personal equipment collection at his North Yunderup property. Ian was a former Chief Engineer at GWN and a former President of AMMPT Western Region (Inc.) before being appointed our first honorary member in 2017.

When videotape machines were in their early stages of development, Ampex Corporation of America and RCA Corporation were two manufacturers competing for this lucrative market, a market that was destined to take over from film in the television industry. Ampex had designed and manufactured the first 2" quad videotape machine in 1956, with RCA manufacturing their first machine in 1958. Despite the size and weight of the tapes and the size and bulkiness of the recorders they were a new concept in television and it wasn't too long before most major TV stations around the world had purchased one or other of these video recording machines.

WIRELESS HILL EXHIBITION PICTURES WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE