

SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No. 76 July 2020)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As restrictions have eased, the Sunset activities have re-commenced on Tuesday mornings, with most volunteers now attending. Work in the exhibition hall is slowly progressing also.

We recently received a donation of film projectors and associated equipment from UWA which is being sorted and catalogued.

The In-Focus meetings are now to recommence on Wednesday 19th August

The Cygnet Cinema has not yet re-opened so there are still no "Classics of the Silver Screen" to be screened.

IN FOCUS PRESENTATION WEDNESDAY 19th AUGUST

The next In Focus presentation, from Richard Rennie, concerns Stuart Booty, (1890-1971) a Western Australian Electrical, Movie and Audio Technology Genius and Entrepreneur.

Stuart started his career in sound and movies in Western Australia in 1910 when he was employed by the Auxetophonoscope Company.

In 1911 Booty was screening Eclair (French) movies using a projector of his own manufacture.

In 1913 he was also making movie films in Perth using a movie camera he had designed and built. In the next few years he made many films of local events, such as the March of the Light Horsemen through Perth (1915).

He then moved to Sydney and into the sound recording industry where, in 1922 he invented and produced a gramophone called the **Vitavox**. In 1925 he was the owner of **Vitavox Records**, one of Australia's earliest record companies where he manufactured and sold Vitavox gramophones from 1926 – 1928. He also operated a recording studio where singers, choirs and musicians would come to make records from 1926 – 1963. Stuart and his wife Edith also ran an Electrotherapy and X-ray business from their home.



SCIENCE & HISTORY OF TV IN WA PRESENTATION BY AMMPT TV VETERANS

Two of the most common objects found in the home today are the television set and the computer/smartphone/tablet screen. This presentation takes a look at the science behind their use for entertainment in the home.

The talk will cover the history of the science, as used in Western Australia, and will include a look at free to air television as well as pay-tv and streaming services.

WHERE AH Bracks Library + Creative Space
Corner Stock Road and Canning Highway
Melville WA 6156

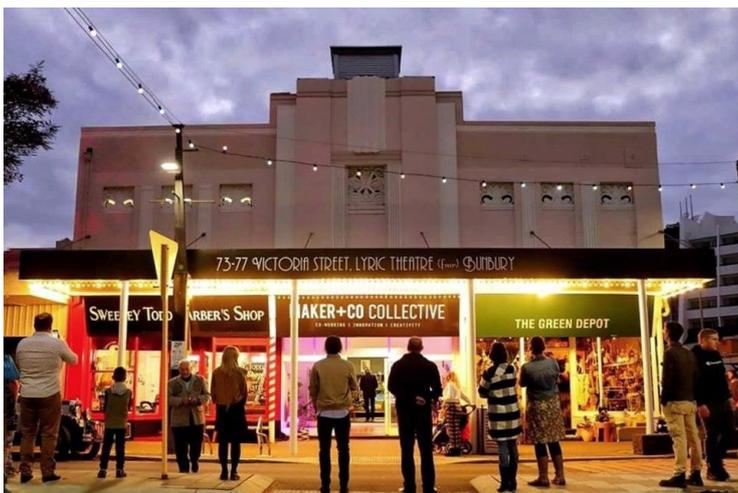
WHEN 3rd August 2020 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Free event but bookings are essential. Please complete a separate registration form for each member of your group. Phone the Library staff on 9364 0115

LYRIC THEATRE BUNBURY

Located on the southwest corner of Symmons Street and Victoria Street, the Lyric Theatre was officially opened on 5th April 1905 by Sir Newton Moore. The Theatre was severely damaged by fire on 1st April 1937, and closed. After a facelift with a new Art Deco facade designed by the then prominent Western Australian cinema architect William T Leighton it reopened on 6th July 1937 with "Girl in a Million". The Lyric Theatre closed in December 1939 after the Mayfair Theatre opened on 4th August 1939.

In 1949/50, serious consideration was given to converting the Lyric Theatre as the new Bunbury Town Hall and plans were drawn up. However, the proposal did not go ahead. The theatre and shops were sold to William Brown in 1962 for use as a furniture store. Brown installed the staircase to the mezzanine floor in the 1980s – apparently the staircase came from the Cottesloe Picture Theatre.



The building was purchased by Michael Honeybell and co-owner Stewart Binnie in 2015 and redeveloped with the help of a \$100,000 grant from the State Government's Heritage Grants program for restoration of the exterior. It now houses various speciality stores and creative group, Maker + Co.

The building was recognised as a finalist in the 2018 State heritage Awards

THEY ALSO SERVED

When World War Two started some movie stars became real Hollywood heroes.

These are some of the stars who served;

Alec Guinness operated a British Royal Navy landing craft on D-Day.

David Niven was a Lt. Colonel of the British Commandos in Normandy.

James Stewart was a Colonel in the Army Air Corps and led over 20 missions over Germany.

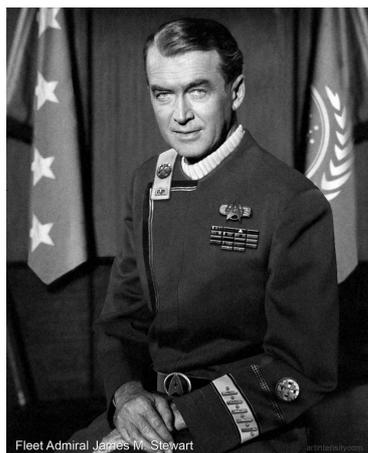
Clark Gable was a Lieutenant in the US Army Air Corps and flew operational missions over Europe in B-17s.

Ernest Borgnine was a U.S. Navy Gunners Mate.

Charles Bronson was a tail gunner in the Army Air Corps.

Lee Marvin was a U.S. Marine in the Battle of Saipan.

Robert Ryan was a U.S. Marine who served with the O.S.S. in Yugoslavia.



Left: James Stewart



Above: David Niven