

## AMMPT WESTERN REGION (INC.)

# SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

No. 80 March/April 2021

## **CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN RETURN**

The first Classics of the Silver Screen for 2021 is on Monday  $22^{nd}$  of March at the Cygnet Cinema Como with the new start time of 12.00 noon.

The movie is "Has Anybody Seen my Gal" starring Rock Hudson, Piper Laurie and Charles Coburn.

Samuel Fulton [Coburn] decides to leave his fortune to the family of his late long lost love. Fearing the family will spend the money the wrong way he visits them under an alias. With the new found wealth the family unravels with much hilarity.

Set in the 1920s with the music of the times, "Has Anybody Seen My Gal" is a Technicolor laugh riot.

# The HAPPY DAYS. The MAD FADS... The MAD FADS... The GREAT SONGS The GREAT SONGS The GREAT SONGS TWENTIES Piper LAURIE ROARING Piper LAURIE Rock HUDSON Charles COBURN Gigi PERREAU LYMN BARI - WILLIAM REYNOLDS SERTIE BIRDLE SHI- WILLIAM REYNOLDS

## **TV HISTORY**

The first variety show on Channel Seven was broadcast on opening night and was called 'Spotlight'. Further editions that followed were screened on Thursday nights from 10:00 to 10:30pm.



Phillip Edgley, Brian Card, Dianne Briggs, Judy Schonell, Dorothy & Bert Shaw and Reg Whiteman

It was a half hour variety show written and produced by Coralie Condon, directed by Beverly Gledhill and compered by Phillip Edgley. Phillip came from the well known theatrical family going back four generations.

Acts on the show included four local dancers known as Guys and Dolls, which consisted of Dorothy and Bert Shaw and Judy Schonell and Reg Whiteman. Judy married actor Ron Graham and their son Marcus Graham became a well known actor too. Reg Whiteman, who was a founding member of the WA Ballet, is well known for

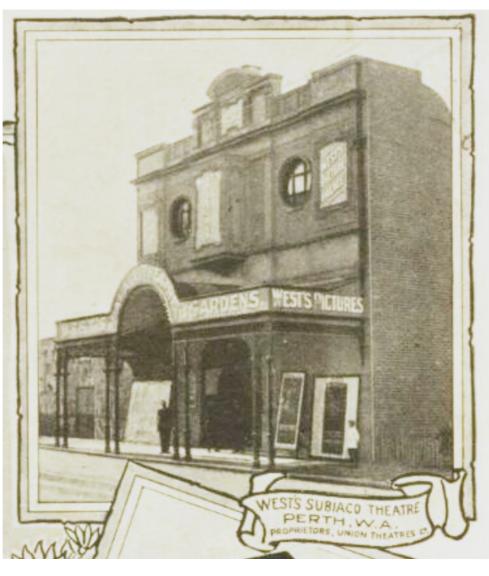
his long association with Fat Cat.

Dianne Briggs and Brian Card were another act who, along with compere Phillip Edgley, presented many song and dance numbers on the show.

TVW decided to discontinue the show after sixteen episodes.

### WEST'S PALACE THEATRE

The former West's Palace Theatre of 1911 in Subjaco is under threat of being demolished due to a 12 storey development application. It is located in Hay Street opposite the Subjaco Hotel. West's was absorbed into the Union Theatres group with the amalgamations which formed that company, and West's Theatre and Gardens in Subiaco was purchased by Ted and Mary Coade in early 1928 when extensive remodelling was carried out. The Coade's granddaughter, playwright Dorothy Hewett describes the theatre as ornate late- Edwardian with copies of classical statues and a frieze of leaping cherubs around the walls. The gardens were sumptuous with artificial roses twining around trellises



and plaster statues holding up lights. In 1929 Austratone sound equipment was installed in the theatre, but the gardens continued with silent movies for a while longer. In 1935 the Hewett and Coade families purchased the site of the Coliseum Gardens across the road from West's. The



Coliseum was demolished and the Regal was built on the site. Then West's was leased to the Police Boys Club, to ensure that it could not be used as a theatre again. Finally the Regal Gardens was built on West's Gardens site.

The West's Palace Theatre is one of the last West's Co Ltd theatres left in WA and deserves State Heritage protection.