



## AMMPT WESTERN REGION (INC.)

# SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No.12 January 2014)

### MEMBERSHIP

By any measure AMMPT Western region is the most successful branch of AMMPT in Australia. Your continued membership is essential to this organisation's existence and activities. Membership renewals have been mailed to existing members and returns should be sent to: The Treasurer AMMPT, 14 Raeburn Road, Roleystone WA. 6111. Should you have an acquaintance interested in our activities or who perhaps has a curiosity about WA cinema and television give them a copy of this newsletter or direct them to the AMMPT website. Through a reciprocal marketing arrangement with Stirling Theatre Organ Productions as an added bonus AMMPT members receive a complimentary concert ticket to one of a series of Wurlitzer Organ concerts.

### AMMPT WESTERN REGION 2013 AGM

The AMMPT WR Annual General Meeting was well attended and concluded within 40 minutes. Office bearers elected for the next two years are: John Fuhrmann (President), Ian Stimson (Vice-President), Peter Foyster (Secretary), Agnes Foyster (Treasurer) with Peter Goodall, Bill Gaynor, Keith Rutherford and Jillian Carlson (all committee). The meeting agreed to the posting of committee minutes on the AMMPT website after they had been endorsed as accurate.

### CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN – 16<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY – 10.15am – CYGNET “AN AMERICAN IN PARIS”

Our first Classics of the Silver Screen presentation in 2014 is the 1951 MGM musical “An American in Paris”. The plot involves American World War II veteran Jerry Mulligan (Gene Kelly) now an exuberant expatriate in Paris trying to make a reputation as a painter. His friend and neighbor, Adam Cook (Oscar Levant), is a struggling concert pianist. A lonely heiress becomes a benefactor and love complicates the situation for all concerned. Music by George Gershwin includes I got Rhythm, S'Wonderful and I'll build a Stairway to Paradise. . If you have friends and acquaintances who might be interested in attending a 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).



### CHANGED STARTING TIME

Following a show of hands by the audience at the final Classics of the Silver Screen screening in 2013 a decision has been made to commence future shows at 10.15am. This is some 15 minutes earlier than previously and will provide Jillian Carlson more programming flexibility with films and featurette booking.

## **CYGNET WIN**

With the avalanche of change being thrust on today's Cinemas it was heartening to see the WA Heritage Council made a \$100,000 grant to the Cygnet Theatre for the upgrading of electrical wiring and the installation of digital projection equipment. This means AMMPT will have the opportunity of showing both 35mm and digital film product. At the grant presentation cinema owner Colin Stiles recognised AMMPT's use of the theatre.

## **SUNSET HOSPITAL**

Considerable progress has been made at AMMPT's Sunset Hospital location. At a December 2013 rent inspection the landlord was impressed with progress made at the facility. Tony Smith has inspected the inventory of 16mm projection equipment and found some 13 projector models are duplicated and available for disposal after contact with the donors. Much equipment has been placed on shelves and the technical library moved from Trevor Kelly's residence to its designated room at Sunset. Trevor now has an onsite computer which will assist in developing the library. Recent appointments to assist museum operations are Ross McDonald as "Accessions Officer" and Graeme Lacey as "Loans Officer".

## **VALE FRED CLAUSEN**

With some sadness the passing of Fred Clausen is reported to members. It has not been the practice to mention such matters in "Sight and Sound". In this case since Fred was one of the early members of AMMPT and had for a number of years generously allowed two sea containers full of cinema museum artifacts to be housed on his Herne Hill property his generosity of spirit needed to be recognized. Fred's daughter Sharon was very cooperative in giving AMMPT though Daryl Binning time to remove the containers. The two sea containers have been sold and the funds placed in general revenue.

## **AMMPT WEBSITE**

Former member Ken McKay continues to contribute to AMMPT Western Region activities through his recent update of information on the AMMP Website. Ken was also one of the organisers of last year's successful entertaining Novembers Sundowner with former employees of Channel 2, 7, 9 and 10 which attracted 100 attendees.

## **2014 IN FOCUS PRESENTATIONS – COMMENCING FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup>.**

The popular "In Focus" presentations which take place every third Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Fred Bell RSL Hall in Fred Bell Parade, St James have been organised this year by member Kim Le Souef. A brochure list of topics will be emailed to members and available at the Classics of the Silver Screen presentation. Our first presentation will be by member and committee man Peter Goodall. **The story of photomechanical film versus digitally recorded images OR making sense of the transition from celluloid to digital technology.** The March 19<sup>th</sup> presentation will be from new member Simon Robinson and is titled **Current and past changes in UK cinema.** Simon worked in UK cinemas for 17 years including the Odeon Leicester Square Theatre.

## **COMMITTEE ENERGY**

Your committee has been active during our recess. A submission has been compiled and sent to the Sunset Hospital Steering Committee proposing the venue be used for a **Diggers Campfire** film series in October as a contribution the centenary celebrations for World War1. The preferred month is October. Besides giving AMMPT lead-in time to prepare it would be a preliminary event before some special November celebrations associated with the huge Australian Navy contingent departing from Albany's King George Sound with troops for the War.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

There are a number of different activities and works being undertaken by AMMPT this year. Some are short term others require special skills. A couple of member hours here and there make the difference between success and a flop. If you have the time but are uncertain how you can help give Secretary Peter Foyster a call on telephone 9496 2802. You may be good on a broom or have database skills; either way on-the-job training will be attempted. Incidentally volunteers are covered by AMMPT's insurance policies. The President has learnt how to use a screw driver correctly. In all instances member's voluntary time is well spent in a convivial atmosphere with tea/coffee breaks observed.

## **BARRY' S GOLD - WA CINEMA LIST WILL CONTINUE NEXT ISSUE.**