

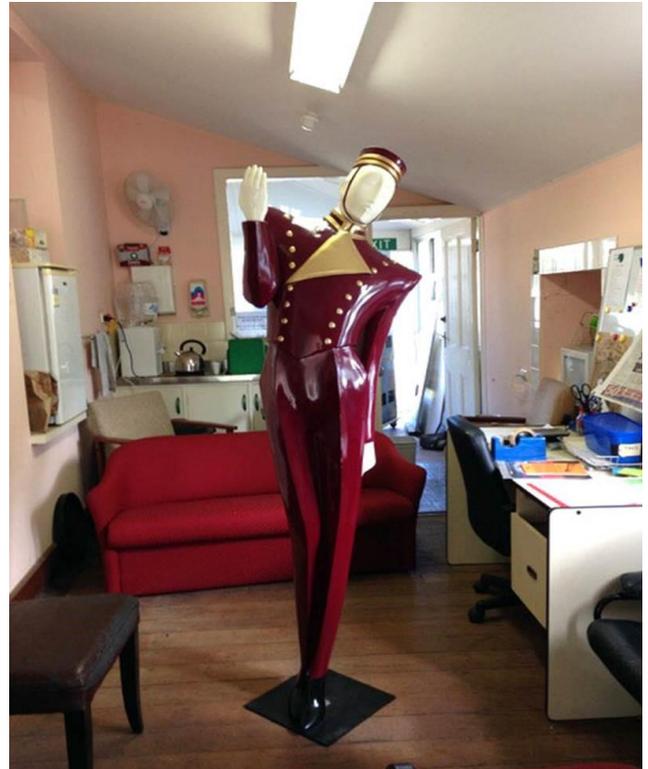


# SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No.46 May/June 2017)

## UNUSUAL DONATION

Many AMMPT members would be aware that for many years Vice-President Graeme Kahn was the leasee and operator of the Cygnet Theatre in Como. Whilst at the theatre an unusual art deco statue of a bell boy or theatre lolly tray boy was given to him but never placed in the Cygnet. On retiring he made certain the statue was delivered to AMMPT for inclusion in the exhibition at the Sunset museum. The statue photo (opposite) was taken in the museum's volunteer lunch room. In the 1950s at the Saturday-Arvo flicks, kids couldn't wait for the movies mushy bits. Just as the music swelled and Clarke Gable took Ava Gardner in his arms for the climatic embrace, as their eyes closed and their lips locked for the fade out a handful of hard lolly ball Jaffas would be rolled ratter clatter down the wooden aisle.



## CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN GRAND CYGNET CINEMA MONDAY June 26th 10.00AM *“Kismet”*

Our next Classics of the Silver Screen presentation is the 1955 MGM musical film *Kismet* starring Howard Keel and Anne Blyth. The production was released in Cinemascope and Eastman colour. A silver-tongued poet and self-proclaimed "King of the Beggars" (Howard Keel) searches old Baghdad trying to find a rich bachelor to marry his dreamy daughter, Marsinah (Ann Blyth). Along the way, he poses as the renowned sorcerer Hajj and associates with an elderly thief. According to MGM records the film earned \$1,217,000 in the US and Canada and \$610,000 elsewhere resulting in a loss of \$2,252,000. Music is adapted from a composition by Alexander Borodin and became a hit titled "Stranger in Paradise".

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY RAFFLE** - The AMMPT annual “Christmas in July” raffle is to be conducted at the June In Focus Presentation . The raffle first prize consists of a traditional Christmas hamper which includes plum pudding, ham, Christmas cake, wine and jams etc. Second prize is a very heavy delicious Julies Kitchen fruit cake and third prize a very good vintage red wine from Yagmich Wines.

### **SUNSET MUSEUM TOURS**

Keith Rutherford has been collecting names of people interested in viewing the AMMPT Sunset Museum progress. He has been presented with a hurdle by the Sunset Hospital managers who have advised they will require a fire compliance report on the building and any short comings addressed before the tours can proceed. At this time Keith is waiting for a consultant appointed by the managers to view the facility. AMMPT has already implemented earlier requirements such as the mounting of fire extinguishers on the walls. Librarian Beth McKechnie is keeping a list of names of persons interested in a tour who have responded via email on [WARegion@ammpt.asn.au](mailto:WARegion@ammpt.asn.au)

### **MEMBERSHIP**

There was a good response to membership invoice reminders – thank you. Also a welcome to new AMMPT member John Quicke who has a background in cinema and television.

### **OPERATION NORTH YUNDERUP**

Since the last edition of Sight and Sound a trio of Graeme Lacey, Graham Kahn and Barry Goldman has made a 170km return trip with trailer to collect AMMPT items stored at Ian Stimson’s property in North Yunderup and transport them to the Sunset museum. Some of the equipment was collected years ago from the Lake Grace Drive-In. Items new to the Sunset collection are a South Australian made Benbo Projector and an Austral projector head with West Australian made Tufftone sound head.

### **CAPITOL CAPERS**



Perth’s 1929 built 2,250 seat Capitol Theatre was barely successful as a cinema due to its size in a small population city. It had limited space backstage for operation as a live theatre. When built the theatre had provision made for a Wurlitzer Organ with two pipe chambers one on either side of the proscenium. The organ was landed at Fremantle wharf but not installed because entrepreneur Dr A. J. Wright experienced financial difficulties. Note the 8 piece stage orchestra. Orchestra members from the Capitol, Ambassadors and Metro Theatres formed the nucleus of the WA and ABC Symphony Orchestras.

**IN FOCUS PRESENTATION - RSL Hall, in Fred Bell Parade, St. James – Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup> - 7.30pm - “The Dying of the Light” -- presented by Roy Mudge.** A documentary on exploring the history and craft of motion picture presentation through the lives and stories of the last generation of career projectionists. This is a candid reflection on life in the booth both humorous and melancholic and reveals a world that has largely gone unnoticed and is now at an end. Expect a loving tribute to the art and romance of the movies and to the unseen people who brought the light to our screens.