



AMMPT WESTERN REGION (INC.)

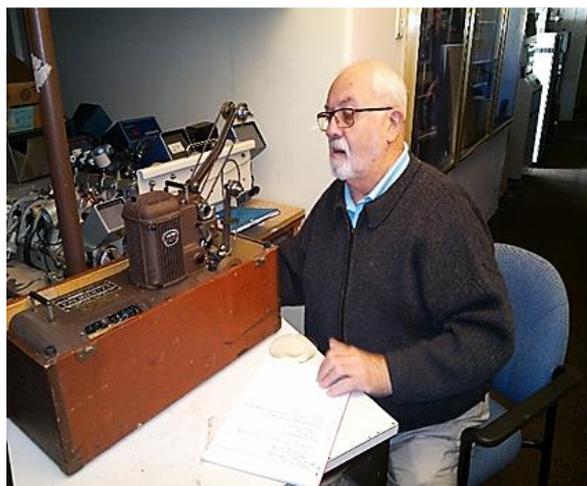
SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No.47 June/July 2017)

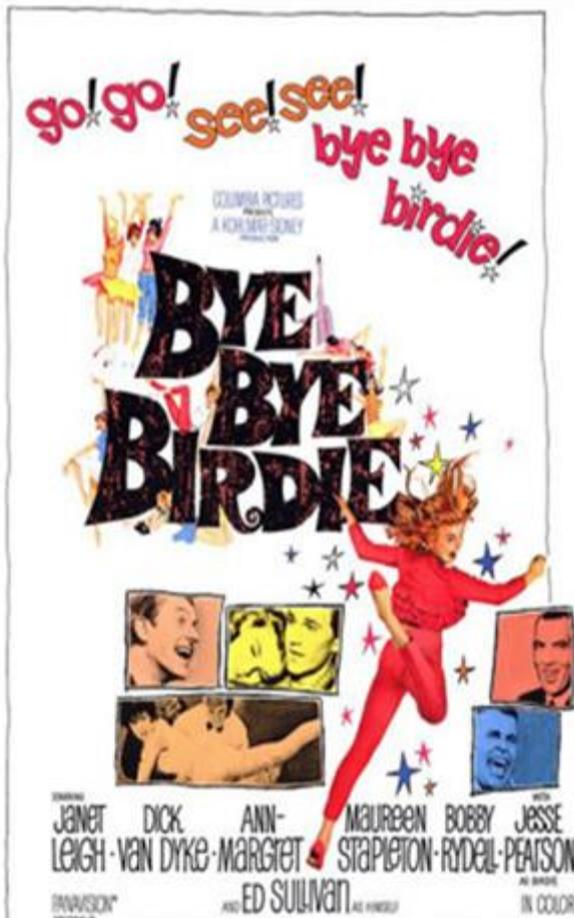
NEW VOLUNTEER WORKERS WELCOME

Although the Tuesday morning work team can number as many as ten people it is not often that all people attend at the one time. Holidays, sickness and family commitments eat into the availability of workers. Curator Roy Mudge is always pleased to see more help. A recent addition to the team is Damon Staples – see opposite.

No particular technical skills are required. These skills can be learnt on the job from the “old timers” in attendance, who are only too happy to share their knowledge and reminiscences with anyone. Incidentally volunteers will also be very welcome in the area of administration for AMMPT. Persons with graphics skills or computer skills and time to undertake marketing and publicity are much needed. Museum workforce on the job (see below).



Top L-R: Shauna Dean (poster cataloguing), Graham Kahn (amplifier soldering), Keith Rutherford (16mm equipment and film assessment), Clive Woodward (conservation), Barry Goldman (storeman), Graeme Lacey and Gerry Voutsinas (projector assembly).



CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN

GRAND CYGNET CINEMA

MONDAY July 24th 10.00AM

“Bye Bye Birdie”

Our next Classics of the Silver Screen presentation is the 1963 Columbia musical film *Bye Bye Birdie* starring Janet Leigh and Dick Van Dyke. The story was inspired by the phenomenon of popular singer Elvis Presley being drafted into the United States Army in 1957. The film plot involves a popular rock and roll star, who receives an Army draft notice, devastating his teenage fans across the nation. Albert Peterson (Dick Van Dyke) is an unsuccessful songwriter, and music is the family business, although he has a doctorate in biochemistry. The film is credited with making Ann-Margret a superstar during the mid-1960s, leading to her appearing with the real Elvis in *Viva Las Vegas*. The film has box office takings of \$13.1million

IN FOCUS PRESENTATION - - RSL Hall, in Fred Bell Parade, St. James – Wednesday July 19th - 7.30pm – “Recurring themes in stage and screen” presented by Ken Mckay (first half) - followed by intermission and supper – then Tony Smith with Graham Kahn – “Cutting an audio disc the practical way (second half). For the uninitiated “what comes round goes round”.

SURPRISING DISCOVERY

Some time ago member Terry Duke facilitated the donation to AMMPT of 16mm films shot in the 1920 to 1940 period by Mr Oswald Darch formerly General Manager of the Shell Oil Company in Australia. Members will remember the Shell Oil Company held a 16mm film library which was available for use by community groups. Mr Darch had a personal interest in the art and craft of film making and captured his world travels on 16mm B&W and colour film. Like so many of those who could afford to travel he took his camera with him and carefully documented the scenes that he captured. No doubt he delighted in showing his films to family and friends. The Australian Museum of Motion Picture and Television is fortunate to have been given his projector and immaculately preserved personal film library. Among the fifteen catalogued global shot sequences are some historical glimpses of an 1929 ANZAC day procession in Melbourne, Sydney Harbour Bridge in the 1930s, a mid-thirties Pembroke timber mill and much more.

With a full research of this early amateur private cameraman, here is a story worthy of proper presentation in our museum in the context of Amateur Film Making which was an highly important aspect of the history of our engagement with home entertainment and the story of moving images.