



**AMMPT WESTERN REGION (INC.)**

# **SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE**

(No.48 July / August 2017)

## **16mm FILM RESCUE**

Keith Rutherford has identified 32 endangered films in the AMMPT film library. Many of the films deal with historic and significant Western Australian events and need to be preserved for posterity. Unfortunately AMMPT does not possess the facilities to ensure their continued existence. Film topics range from Western Australian bridges to Australia's role in WW1. It is intended to de-accession the films and an approach is to be made to have the films transferred to the State Library. Once there the films can be held in cold storage with the rest of the Library's collection. Normal practise will see a digital copy made with film access to occur in a similar manner to the existing State Library collection.

## **SAFETY FIRST AT SUNSET MUSEUM**

Action has been taken to comply with the required fire safety initiatives that will enable AMMPT to continue to use the facility. Curator Roy Mudge has arranged for fire extinguishers to be pressure tested and where necessary re-gassed. Electric exit signs have been installed by electrician Gerry Voutsinas with help from Graeme Lacey. In addition safety lines are to be marked with tape on the museum floor. Costs for people to undergo fire warden training have also been approved by the AMMPT committee.

## **MUSEUM CATALOGING**

Keith Rutherford and John Fuhrmann have been systematically trying to reconcile equipment donated to AMMPT with the organisation's donation records. The records go back for over a decade and in many instances donation forms are unsigned by either the donor or receiving officer. Some forms do not include the donor's name or date of donation and in other instances were an aspirational list of items that were never received. Where leads exist from people's memory, efforts are being made to track back the missing information.



## **CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN**

### **GRAND CYGNET CINEMA**

**MONDAY AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup> 10.00AM**

**DAVID BAILEY** Australia's most accomplished silent film artist will take you back to where theatre organ began with Buster Keaton starring on the big screen in **THE GENERAL**. One of Buster Keaton's most endearing comedy classics and one that's sure to bring out the train spotters in all of us. A live organ music performance.

**IN FOCUS PRESENTATION - - RSL Hall, in Fred Bell Parade, St. James – Wednesday August 16th - 7.30pm,** presented by **Roy Mudge** – “The Glamorous - The Exotic - The Forlorn and the Forgotten”. The story of four Perth picture palaces. Free tea coffee and light refreshments.

### **STIMMO’S VAULT**

From his vast collection on cinema and television memorabilia collected from around Western Australia Ian Stimson has generously donated to the AMMPT Museum an Australian made Austral projector head with Ampliphone soundhead commonly known as Toughtone. The soundhead was made in Perth in the 1930s by Frank Tough. See picture below. Thank you Ian.



### **SCIENCE WORKSHOP - AUGUST 20<sup>th</sup>**

Keith Rutherford is developing a hands on exhibition for AMMPT that will be user friendly for school children. The workshop is to be held at the Melville Wireless Hill Cottage. AMMPT’s focus is on the science, art and industry of moving pictures. Establishing the underlying principle of ‘persistence of vision’ and exploring the many optical and mechanical experiments and magical amusements that eventually became cinema and a whole new wave medium for

telling stories. The other three workshops are organised by the Radio & Gramophone Society, WA Hearing Centre, and NBN.

### **AMMPT LIBRARY**

Librarian Beth McKechnie reports progress is being made with the Sunset Museum library. Technical manuals and handbooks on subjects ranging from projectors to lens to cameras to amplifiers have been catalogued by brand name up to the alphabet “O”. This means the majority are in a filing cabinet and can be accessed. All books are on bookcases and although not catalogued are available for reference. There is a mammoth job still required to go through boxes of newspaper cuttings to scan and catalogue.

### **SPONSORS**

AMMPT is very grateful for the ongoing support received from both companies and individuals in our community. Without their commitment our organisation would find it difficult to continue as a not-for-profit group. In no particular order mention should be made of Denis Yagmich from Yagmich Wines who annually has made wine available for raffles. Similarly Julie McConnell from Julies Kitchen continues to make produce available for raffles. The Grand Cinema Company permits access to the Grand Cygnet Theatre in Como and the permanent placement of the Virtual Theatre Pipe Organ in that cinema which together with on-screen publicity underpin much of our activities.