



SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No.19 August 2014)

MAJOR CYGNET THEATRE CHANGES

After a lifetime of screening films and providing enjoyment and entertainment to patrons and audiences in Australia and New Zealand, Cygnet Theatre Manager and AMMPT member Graham Kahn has decided to move into well-earned retirement. Graham has been a loyal member of AMMPT for many years and has thankfully agreed to continue his support for our organisation by acting as projectionist for the “Classics of the Silver Screen” film series.

As a consequence of Graham Kahn’s retirement The Grand Cinema chain will take on film exhibition responsibilities for the theatre. President John Fuhrmann has met with theatre owner Colin Stiles and Grand Cinemas Managing Director Alan Stiles to discuss ongoing use of the Cygnet by AMMPT. The 2014 advertised AMMPT “classics” program is to continue. Some auditorium improvements will be noticed after the theatre’s 5/6 week programmed closure commencing September 7th. Besides the electrical re-wire the improvements will include a new sound system, a replacement screen and connection of the AMMPT theatre organ to the existing back stage sound system.

Both Colin and Alan Stiles have indicated the unique heritage and architecture of the Cygnet and particularly the auditorium will be preserved in any additional long term developments on the surrounding land.

CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN - REMEMBER “GOODBYE MR CHIPS” SEPTEMBER 21st IS CANCELLED DUE TO CYGNET THEATRE UPGRADES.

EDGE DIGITAL GIFT

The company Edge Digital formerly located in Cockburn has the contract to service many of the projector installations in Perth cinemas. With the change to digital projection and demise of 35mm film projection a decision was made for the company to relocate to Belmont and downsize its work premises. Richard Bond rang our President on a Friday morning advising their shift of premises would occur at the weekend and all 35mm parts would be dumped unless AMMPT wished to collect them now. A frantic call to museum curator Roy Mudge who resides close by in Medina resulted in his collecting the parts. The parts are all new and include motors, gates, springs, sprockets, ignitors, blowers, mirrors and lamps. Roy estimates the worth of parts to be around \$10,000. They will be essential in refurbishing Cinemeccanica and Kinton projectors in the museum collection.

IN FOCUS PRESENTATION –SEPTEMBER 17th – 7.30pm FRED BELL RSL HALL

Our next In Focus Presentation will be from member Roy Mudge on “**The Wonders of TODD AO**” (Part2). Roy is one of a dwindling band of former projectionists involved with the major theatre chains operating in Perth and Fremantle 50 years ago. He amassed a mountain of memorabilia, equipment and films during his various appointments and can be relied upon to provide interesting anecdotes and pictures. This will be part 2 on the same topic commenced at our meeting on May 17th.

AGM ADVANCE NOTICE – OCTOBER 15th

The AGM will be held on October 15th and coincide with the “In Focus Presentation” by Richard Rennie and Tony Smith. Members with proposed agenda items should forward them to the Secretary Peter Foyster as soon as possible so they can be included in the circulated agenda by September 23rd.

MUSEUM NOTES

While the AMMPT National President is quietly undertaking paperwork and cataloguing equipment, other members of the Tuesday morning work team are assembling cinema projectors and a six plate flatbed film editing console. Much of the hard work has now been eliminated from lifting with the purchase of a hoist.



Clive Woodward recently snapped a photo of museum Curator Roy Mudge saving his back. An example of the value of the hoist was the lifting into position of the Japanese made Tokowa projector (left) onto a trolley. More recently a German made Philips projector which took six men to lift when it travelled to the museum from Rottneest Island was also moved easily by the hoist.

A number of projectors are under assembly including Cinemeccanica, Kinoton, Philips and Standard. A bundle of projector maintenance manuals were collected from Edge Digital and have assembly value.

One issue which has emerged is the “loss” of some bolts for the assembling of these machines. Any member with a cache of bolts which may have come from projector maintenance and are now sitting in that jam tin, unused in your workshop, are asked to contact Equipment Officer Graeme Lacey on 9275 6559.

Items held in storage by past member Daryl Binning are gradually being transferred to the museum. There are few theatres left in Perth with 35mm equipment left available for donation to AMMPT. It will be interesting to see when the first digital projector finds its way into the AMMPT museum.

FINAL BARRYS GOLD – The last listing is of WA regional theatre circuits for 1939.

- Bakers Circuit – Corrigin, Quairading, Kondinin, Kulin, Narembeen, Kununoppin, Koorda, Bencubbin, Wyalkatchem, Brooktown (in Brookton), Dumbleyung, Yealering, Tammin
- Kanzler’s Circuit – Brookton, Dumbleyung, Yealering, Tammin, Wyalkatchem, Koorda, Bencubbin, Kununoppin, Narembeen, Kulin, Corrigin, Quairading, Dowerin
- Rourke’s Circuit - Denmark, Tambellup, Kojonup, Gnowangerup
- Laverton Pictures – Laverton, Cox’s Find
- Allan Jones No. 1 – Busselton, Pemberton, Jardee, Palgarup, Deanmill, Northcliff, Dixvale, Manjimup
- Allan Jones No. 2 – Capel, Cowaramup, Margaret River, Nannup, Jarrahwood, Dunsborough, Witchcliffe, Boyanup, Karridale
- West Touring Talkies – Ballidu, Coorow, Carnarvon, Mullewa, Wongan Hills, Dongara, Dalwallinu, Northampton, Mingenev
- Star Talkies – Maddington, Kalamunda, Byford
- C.F. Legg – Hakes Find, Boddington, Wandering, Serpentine, Jarrahdale Mundijong,
- Perrie and Buckie – Bayswater, Queens Park
- Goldfields Pictures Ltd. – Greenbushes, Boyup Brook, Donnybrook
- R. Morris – Nungarin, Chandler
- J.A. Wilson – Lake Grace, Newdegate, Hyden, Pingrup, Pingaring
- Circuit Pictures - Mornington, Brunswick, Yarloop, Dwellingup