



# SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No.24 March / April 2015)

## BUSSELTON DRIVE-IN FAREWELL VISIT

A number of AMMPT members visited Busselton on Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> to have a farewell viewing of this iconic facility and support Ron and Valmae Jones as an era comes to an end. Members John Fuhrmann (and wife), George and Jane Robinson, Bill Gaynor (and wife) and Ian Stimson gathered for a farewell coffee with Ron to chat and share stories before the night's entertainment which commenced at 7.30pm. The film screened was the animated horror comedy film "Paranorman" a change necessitated by one reel not arriving for the scheduled film. This problem has undoubtedly occurred many times in cinemas across WA. The drive – in will cease screening on March 15<sup>th</sup>. AMMPT has arranged for a Sunday Times feature to be published to recognise the occasion.

## LOTTERIES GRANT APPLICATION

As members may know currently Keith Rutherford, Peter Foyster and sometimes a presenter will sometimes provide their own personal sound and projector equipment to enable "In Focus" topics to be delivered. At times the RSL public address system is also. Compatibility between the different sets of gear has been a problem, to the point when on one occasion a person was dispatched to the closest Officeworks at 7pm for a special connection cable. In attempt to improve the quality of visual presentation and overall sound a grant application for equipment has been lodged with Lotterywest. A decision is expected in around 4 months' time.

## CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN – GRAND CYGNET – APRIL.26<sup>th</sup> 10.00am "FOR ME AND MY GAL"

**For Me and My Gal** is a 1942 American musical film directed by Busby Berkeley and starring Judy Garland and Gene Kelly. Two vaudeville performers fall in love, but find their relationship tested by the arrival of World War 1. After the war, during a victory performance at the Palace Theatre, Jo sees Harry in the audience and runs to him. The two reunite on stage to sing "For Me and My Gal", the first song they ever performed together. The bundle of songs included in the film are performed as they might have been on the vaudeville stage. They include foot tappers such as "Oh you beautiful doll", "After you've gone", "It's a long way to Tipperary", "Pack up your troubles", "When you wore a tulip" and many more. Gene Kelly (pictured opposite) is seen at his dancing best.



**NOTE THE DATE CHANGE TO APRIL 26<sup>th</sup>.**

## CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN - SUNDAYS TO WEDNESDAYS

Film distributors require the Grand Cygnet to screen a specific number of weekend shows. This is not possible when AMMPT uses the cinema. Classics of the Silver Screen from April onwards will be on the **4th Wednesday each month at 10am** as follows:

Sunday April 19th	FOR ME AND MY GAL	<b>Now SUNDAY April 26th</b>
Sunday May 17th	DOUBLE INDEMNITY	Now WEDNESDAY May 27th
Sunday June 21st	7 BRIDES FOR 7 BROTHERS	Now WEDNESDAY June 24th
Sunday July 19th	GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES	Now WEDNESDAY July 22nd
Sunday August 16th	GOODBYE MISTER CHIPS	Now WEDNESDAY August 26th
Sunday September 20th	SHOWBOAT	Now WEDNESDAY September 23rd
Sunday October 18th	LULLABY OF BROADWAY	Now WEDNESDAY October 28th
Sunday November 15 <sup>th</sup>	FOLLOW THE FLEET	Now WEDNESDAY November 25th
Sunday December 6th	ROMAN HOLIDAY	Now WEDNESDAY December 9th

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and hope that we will still see you at future screenings.

## IN FOCUS PRESENTATION –APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> - 7.30pm - FRED BELL RSL HALL

Our 15<sup>th</sup> April “In Focus Presentation” features military historian Len Christie with the topic “Reflections on Gallipoli” an appropriate subject with Anzac Day celebrations so close. Len is Principal of Beechboro Primary School and has been a researcher on the forces and military campaigns for many years. He has visited Gallipoli and comes from a family heavily involved in military service.

## HOYTS CAROUSEL

Responding to a call from Hoyts Carousel staff, Museum Curator Roy Mudge and Equipment Officer Graeme Lacey were joined by George and Jane Robinson who live nearby to collect memorabilia of a different nature for the Sunset Museum. They took possession of various amounts of purple curtains that will be put to good use and a number of back lit poster boxes that will house the hundreds of film posters currently being flattened and catalogued by Keith Rutherford and Beth Mckechnie.

## WANTED TO BORROW

Small, easy to carry, carbon arc lamp (not in housing) for display only in a series of talks to be presented in July about the history of lighting technology, including lighting in the cinema. Contact Richard Rennie 9330 1636.

[rsrennie@lightandsound.net.au](mailto:rsrennie@lightandsound.net.au)

## DISPOSAL OF EXCESS EQUIPMENT

The following **16mm projector** equipment is surplus to requirements at the AMMPT museum and useful for parts. It is offered to members in the hope there will be a small donation to the museum’s activities. In most cases the item is incomplete and is offered in as is condition. Interested members should contact Graeme Lacey on 9275 6559.

Make	Model	Voltage	Sound	Condition
2 x Singer	Insta -Load	110	Yes	No transformer
Bell and Howell	601	110		No transformer
Bell and Howell	621 - S/N 34239	110		No transformer
Bell and Howell	622 - S/N 44500	110		No transformer
Bell and Howell TQ1	652 - S/N 520051	240		Worm gear u/s
Bell and Howell TQ1	652 – S/N 923980	240		Worm gear u/s
AMPRO	16mm Sound Projector S/N 23834			Unknown –not tried
Bell and Howell	12 inch extension speaker			Unknown – not tried

## INAUGURAL PATRONS PRESENTATION

Two members of different branches of the Stiles cinema dynasty were presented with certificates by President John Fuhrmann at the Classics screening on March 15<sup>th</sup>. James Stiles and Arthur Stiles were heavyweight contributors to the Western Australian cinema industry. Colin Stiles, son of James, who is currently Chairman of the Grand Cinema Company and Irene Stiles, who is the wife of Arthur and mother of Allan Stiles Managing Director of the Grand Cinema Company, were recognised at the intermission before Rear Window was screened.

Colin Stiles’ father, James, was a real estate agent and developer who built the Cygnet, Hurlingham and Gaiety Theatres in South Perth / Como in the 1930 / 40s and also ran a number of theatres in Perth including the Grand and Theatre Royal. The Cygnet which is owned by Colin and his sisters remains as the best suburban art deco cinema remaining in WA and is recognised as such by the WA Heritage Council.

Arthur Stiles, nephew of James and Irene’s husband was a much loved manager of many of Perth’s Line-drive ins and CBD cinemas and manager of City Theatres. Many of his former staff speak in glowing terms of his mentoring of them in the theatre industry. When a consortium of TVW and others bought out City Theatres they had no hesitation in retaining Arthur as manager.

Both Colin and Irene have been long-time supporters of AMMPT and the heritage of WA cinema which we are attempting to recognise and promote.