

SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No.61 February / March 2019)

AMMPT DINNER

Forty people attended the November 2018 biennial dinner held at the Fred Bell RSL Hall in St James and enjoyed a tasty meal. One dinner table which included John Parker who won the main raffle and warm up prize scooped the pool with many other prize gems. Attendees included Patrons Irene Stiles and Colin Stiles with his wife Emma. Vale John Parker.



Irene Stiles accepted a Patrons certificate on behalf of her son Allan Stiles who was unfortunately unable to attend. The certificate presentation was made by President Agnes Foyster. Allan is the Managing Director of the Grand Cinema Company which makes the Grand Cygnet Theatre available to AMMPT one morning a month to show our “Classics of the Silver Screen” series. He is also chairman of the Motion Picture Benevolent Fund.

Agnes Foyster (L) with Irene Stiles - (Photo courtesy Clive Woodward)

Roy Mudge with assistance from John Fuhrmann (also MC) was responsible for organising the function – thank you.



CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN FEBRUARY 25th – 10.00am GRAND CYGNET THEATRE PRESTON STREET, COMO.

The next Classics of the Silver Screen will be the 1934 MGM musical *The Merry Widow*. The film stars Maurice Chevalier and Jeanette MacDonald. The film is an adaptation of the operetta of the same name by Franz Lehár. The plot revolves around a playboy who is ordered by his King to court and marry a rich widow (Jeanette MacDonald) who owns a large portion of the kingdom. The musical score includes gems such as *Girls Girls Girls*, *Vilia* and of course *The Merry Widow Waltz*. The success of this 1934 operetta led to remakes of the film in 1952 and a decade later in 1962. The worldwide box office of \$2.8 Million almost doubled production costs.

ADDITIONAL CURTIN UNIVERSITY DONATION

Last year Curtin University made a generous donation of equipment to the AMMPT television equipment which would enable the construction of a working studio. This has recently been added to by the collection by Clive Woodward of a Sachtler Studio Vario-ped 275/video60+ pedestal an item which matches the requirements of studio and OB daily life. AMMPT would like to acknowledge Curtin University, Associate Professor Mike Kent, Acting Head of the School of Media, Creative Arts and Social Inquiry, and Professor Alan Dench, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Humanities for their ongoing support for our community initiative.

WA HERITAGE AWARDS SUBMISSION

Librarian Beth McKechnie recently compiled a seven-page submission on behalf of AMMPT to the WA Heritage Council. The submission detailed our history and commitment of

volunteers to preserving the history and significance of the cinema and television industries. The magnitude and significance of donated museum equipment and memorabilia and support received from the commercial sector was noted. Museum functions of cataloguing and library resources and commitment to student research and community education initiatives were mentioned. AMMPT is most appreciative of Beth's mammoth task.



AMMPT 30-person volunteer Christmas function at Beth McKechnie's – (Photo courtesy Harry Smith)

EXTENSIVE AMMPT LIBRARY

The text-based section of library holdings through the work of Beth, and Trevor Kelly continues to expand and has acquired slightly more space at the Sunset museum. Persons wishing to acquaint themselves with aspects of the cinema or television industries can delve into the collection as follows:

- General books and donated collections:
100 or more books by various authors plus over 160 books comprising the Lyn Giblett collection.
- Books on or about film:
Over 150 books on film – autobiographical and biographical.
- User and Workshop Manuals and Trade brochures:
Over 500 manuals and related literature on individual machines and equipment.
- Magazines:
22 separate magazines with varying issues of each. Some magazines are complete.
- Printed Cuttings, Articles, Essays etc:
Ten scrap books of media articles.

IN FOCUS PRESENTATION – FEB. 20th 7.30pm – FRED BELL HALL - St JAMES

Richard Rennie presents Professor Schwarz and his VIORAMA - For several years he toured around Western Australia's cities and country towns, and entertained the audiences with music, comedy, science and his Viorama. Equipment will be displayed.