

WILDFLOWERS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA TAKES TO THE SCREEN

Wireless Hill Museum and the 2019 Exhibition, **Picture Palaces of Perth** with its highly successful monthly weekend sidebar offerings has been a great stimulus for exhibition attendance. The monthly weekend events have been a golden opportunity for our organisation to display some of its many talents and to give greater exposure to our museum. The most recent event on Western Australian Wildflowers at the Wireless Hill Cottage Classroom was both timely and fortunate in that it has enabled us to show off some of our library's film gems, publicly and on a large screen using a vintage projector.



The evident delight of those who attended in viewing the 30 to 50 year old 16mm film prints on the big screen and appreciation of all who attended was most rewarding. Who said 16mm films were dead? Clearly our film library is one of our most valuable assets.

LEFT: Roy Mudge standing next to the 16mm projector which is not visible in the photo.



Above: Attendees viewing the short video portion of the presentation.

CINEMA SPORTING HISTORY



Curator Roy Mudge recently located this photograph of the Combined Theatres Cricket Team at Loton Park in November 1929.

Loton Park, in Lord Street Perth, originally a lake drained for a paddock by William Loton, was initially used for soccer, cricket and football. The Loton Park Tennis club was formed in 1916 and is still operating at the site which is also now the home of Perth Glory.

Back Row Left to Right

W. Green [Melrose Advertising]; Syd Smith [Capitol Theatre]; W.Lobascher [Film Ads]; Sir Thomas Coomb; J. Lambert [Prince of Wales Theatre]; Jimmy Stiles [Gaiety Theatre]; Ross Sowden [Scorer]

Front Row

W.Bellion [New Oxford Theatre]; C. O'Keefe [Pavilion Theatre]; Hamilton Brown [Prince of Wales Theatre]; Vern Binns [Majestic Theatre Fremantle]; R.Charnley [Lyceum Theatre]



**CLASSIC OF THE SILVER SCREEN
OCTOBER 28th - 10.00am
GRAND CYGNET CINEMA
PRESTON STREET COMO**

The next Classics of The Silver Screen will be the 1955 Warner Bros film "BLOOD ALLEY" starring John Wayne (who also produced the film), Lauren Bacall and Anita Ekberg. Ekberg won the New Star of The Year at the Golden Globe awards for her performance.

Merchant Marine Capt. Tom Wilder (Wayne) braves dangerous waters and pursuing red Chinese forces as he steers a boatload of Chinese refugees and a doctor's daughter (Bacall) along a 500 Kilometre waterway to freedom's shores in Hong Kong.

Filmed in Cinemascope and Warner Colour.

VICTORIA PARK'S THEATRES

Ken McKay has produced a very interesting article on the cinemas of Victoria Park. In this issue we look briefly at one of these cinemas, the Broadway Theatre.

Victoria Park is the eastern gateway to the City of Perth where three arterial roads: Albany Highway, Canning Highway, Great Eastern Highway, and the Causeway Bridge meet.

Settlement started in 1886, opposite the present location of the Broken Hill Hotel on Albany Highway, and a year later, subdivision commenced.

In the 1920s, cinemas started to spring up in the district.

The Broadway Theatre at 330 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, was opened in 1927, opposite the Broken Hill Hotel. The theatre was designed by architect Samuel Rosenthal. The Savoy Theatre also opened in 1927, located on the corner of Albany Highway and Mint Street, however the Broadway was the flag ship and certainly the most popular.



In 1929, the management of the Broadway and Savoy theatres held a plebiscite to ascertain public demand for talkie movies then, the following year, both theatres converted to sound movies.

The Broadway underwent alterations in 1938, where architect William G. Bennett gave the cinema an Art Deco style. It reopened as the New Broadway Theatre on 16th March 1938 with "Arizona Raiders" and "Green Light".

The New Broadway Gardens opened in 1948, behind the theatre.

The New Broadway Theatre and Gardens closed in 1964.

