

SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No. 72 February/March 2020)

IN FOCUS PRESENTATION

The first In-Focus meeting for the year attracted a large gathering of television personal.

Hosted by John Quicke and presented by Richard Rennie, the presentation was about the evolution of video tape recording in television from the earliest experiments to today. The second half of the programme dealt with the transition of cinema from film to digital in both production and projection. Ken McKay provided the content from his vast collection of television history.

Frank Benedetto, ex TVW7 video and telecine operator, flew from the USA for the presentation and meet up with Kevin Campbell, former TVW7 Managing Director and Ron Reddingius, programme producer for Seven.



Frank Benedetto [left] Kevin Campbell [centre] Ron Reddingius [right]

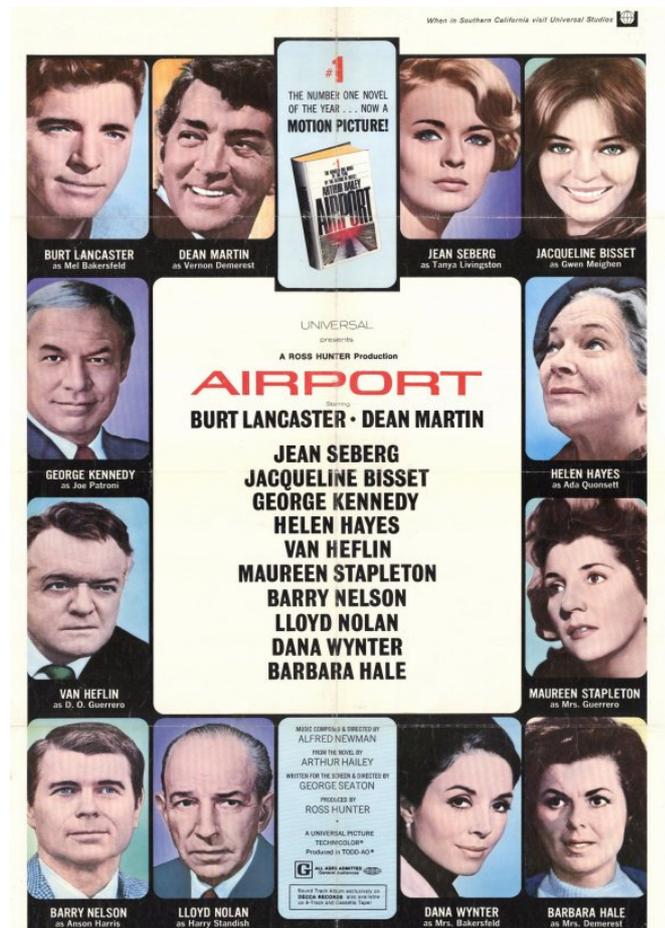
**CLASSICS OF THE SILVER SCREEN
MARCH 23rd 2020 - 10AM
GRAND CYGNET CINEMA
PRESTON STREET COMO**

The next Classics of the Silver Screen at the Cygnet Cinema Como will be AIRPORT on Monday 23rd March at 10.00am.

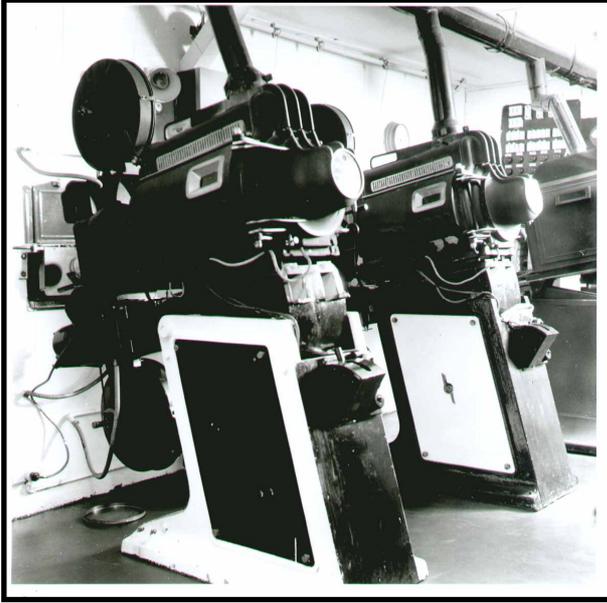
Burt Lancaster and Dean Martin head an all star cast in this classic disaster film, for which Helen Hayes received her second Oscar.

On the ground manager (Lancaster) juggles lover Jean Seberg and wife Dana Wynter while coping with a blizzard.

In the sky, Captain Vern Demerest (Martin) must maintain control of a 707 with a sly stowaway and a bomb –toting maniac aboard.



CINEMAS OF YESTERYEAR



Hoyts Fremantle opened on August 4th 1938 with “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs”. The projection equipment was Simplex heads from the Majestic Theatre Fremantle and brand new Raycophone Panophonic soundheads with amplifiers and speakers. In 1949 the equipment was changed to Centrex projectors, RCA English soundheads and amplifiers and speakers. With the installation of Cinemascope on October 8th 1954 with “Three Coins In The Fountain”, a Westrex Four Channel Magnetic sound system was installed.

In 1960 Hoyts sold the theatre and it was renamed the Oriana and in December 1971 the theatre closed with the WA made film “Nickel Queen”. The Oriana was demolished in February 1972. The projection equipment is

now in the collection of Pictures In Motion.

TV HISTORY

The small OB van pictured on the right is an old International utilised by TVW in the 1960s and 70s mainly for videotaping the Speedway etc. and was being used for the 1963 award winning manhunt for murderer Brian William Robinson. TVW staff milling around the small OB van used during the manhunt were Jim Healy, John O’Callaghan, Darcy Farrell, Bob Cribb and Paul Kinna. Colin Gorey is seated on the bonnet whilst Ross McDonald and Cedric Woods are on the roof. Seven reporter, the late Bob Cribb, became quite famous in journalism for his comment “the man dog killer is holed up in this bush”. This led to the police trying to seize TVW’s huge TRT-IB videotape machines and the associated videotapes as evidence. Needless to say, the police abandoned taking the machines after realising the difficult logistics of doing so. Ken McKay, who provided the above information, was a videotape operator during this incident.



Darcy Farrell briefing his news team in this old Seven news pic



LEFT: Ken McKay at TVW with one of the TRT-1B videotape machines in 1962 and again in 2016. This videotape machine is now an exhibit in the AMMPT museum collection