

34th PRESIDENT'S REPORT – 2022/2023 Year
MEETING HELD AT THE SUN THEATRE, YARRAVILLE – 27 AUGUST 2023

I am pleased to present the 34th President's report for the 2022/23 CATHS year. As I will not be standing for Presidency in the 2023/24 CATHS year, this will be my final report after 7 years as your President.

I have found the position both rewarding and enjoyable, made all the more so by the strong support given by the current Committee, comprising Royce Harris as Vice-President, Mike Trickett as Secretary, Cameron Hall as Treasurer, and general committee members Keith Gulliver, Ian Smith and Tony Tibballs. I am also grateful for the service given by former committee members Judith Gulliver, Earl Martell and Shane Moore.

Membership:

During the 12 months to June 30 2023, we welcomed 15 new members:

John Seit (Returning Member)

Ross Hendy

Doug Louden

Nicholas Renwick

Jing Zhang

Steven Slater

James Hevey

Chris Mitchell (Returning Member)

Deborah Edward

Richard Wynne-Yorke

Don Tadixz

Eddie Beyrouthy

Deborah Towns

Heath Kirby

Broderick Street.

Deaths:

During the 12 months to June 30 2023, we regretfully announced the death of the following members:

Brian Wearne (Echuca, Vic) - (26 December 2022)

Barry Hodges (Sale, Vic) - (15 February 2023)

Eric Reed (Brighton, Vic) - (26 February 2023)

Mike Shaw (Canberra, ACT) - (13 May 2023)

Membership Status as at 30 June 2022:

As at 30 June 2022, our membership was made up of the following:

284 Financial Members (Includes 2 Patrons and 1 Life Member)

6 Contra Memberships (CTA, NZ Film Buffs, Art Deco Society, Dress Circle Magazine, PPT, TOSA).

3 Complimentary Memberships (PMI, Sun Theatre, Royal Historical Society).

2 Legal Requirements²

My thanks to:

Our Patrons, Frank Van Straten (AM) and Pete Smith (OAM) who have always shown great support for CATHS.

To Mike Smith, owner of the Sun Theatre. We are forever grateful for his generosity in allowing us to have use of this venue for our meetings, especially in these hard times being experienced by theatre proprietors as a result of financial trying times. Mike has always shown us a high degree of flexibility in coordinating his commercial needs in running this successful cinema, with the occasions of our meetings.

To the Sun Theatre's projection team for ensuring that on-screen presentations and other technical support during our meetings is provided with a high degree of professionalism, and for spending the additional time in uploading screen presentations provided by Mike Trickett to the digital projection equipment in the Sun Theatre.

To Royce Harris for his input as Vice-President as well as leading activities at our Archive. Royce has spent many hours at the Archive, meticulously maintaining the high standard set by our previous President and Archivist, the late Gerry Kennedy, as well as contributing greatly to our photographic collection whenever he travels. His passion for collecting old advertising material has also been of great help in determining the actual dates of theatre/cinema openings and closings.

To our long-standing Secretary of 23 years, Mike Trickett, whose knowledge of our Rules and other administrative matters has provided me with the support needed to carry out the role of President during the past CATHS' year. Special thanks must also go to Mike for his preparation of on-screen material we see here at the Sun after the conclusion of the business section of our meetings. Mike also makes special trips to the Sun Theatre to deliver the digitised programs for uploading to the Sun's projection equipment.

To Treasurer, Cameron Hall, for his meticulous record keeping throughout the year, and for his reporting on all matters financial.

To my fellow Committee members Keith Gulliver, Ian Smith and Tony Tibballs for their support and assistance during the past CATHS' year. It has been a privilege to have this group of members provide their valued advice and guidance.

To Ian Smith, for his enthusiastic leadership of the Research Group, and to all its members for their input during the past 12 months.

To all volunteers at the Archive. Over the past CATHS' year, participation by these volunteers has amounted to approximately 1530 hours. Not only is the collection being effectively maintained and augmented, but the fellowship experienced by those attending is rewarding in itself.

To Steve Maggs, our Queensland Co-ordinator and Publicity Officer, for his highly effective input in both of these roles. Steve's tireless promotion of CATHS' aims and ideals, as well as his organisation of tours and inspections and his participation in a number of radio interviews, shows great dedication to our Society.

To all those members and others for their generous donation of books, photographs, cinema and theatre memorabilia and other items.

To the Prahran Mechanics Institute, who provide space within their building at 39 St. Edmonds Road to house our Archive, and with whom we have a beneficial two-way relationship.

During the past CATHS' year, our cross-promotional sponsorship with Madeleine Swain's program "Madeleine at the Movies" on Golden Days Radio (GDR) continued successfully, whereby GDR is publicized in CinemaRecord and our mailouts. In return, Madeleine and GDR run generous on-air promotions of CATHS.

Finally, to all of our members for your continued support of the Committee and for your contributions, criticisms, suggestions and attendance at meetings and events.

On-Screen Programs at General Meetings:

Each General Meeting featured a highly entertaining and varied program of on-screen shorts. Members are aware that these programs are put together by our Secretary, Mike Trickett, from his private film collection. However, what is not so evident is the time and effort put in by Mike in transferring each short film from celluloid to digital format, editing same, then combining all these items into one program, and conversion to a format capable of being shown by the Sun Theatre's digital projection equipment. The delivery of the program to the Sun Theatre usually occurs during the week prior to each meeting, involving Mike's time and personal expense in making the trip from Geelong to Yarraville. For this sterling effort, my thanks go to Mike.

CinemaRecord Magazine:

Four editions of CinemaRecord were produced over the past 12 months. As Editors, Mike Trickett and I have derived a great deal of satisfaction in assembling and publishing articles of interest as provided by many of our members. My thanks go to those members, as well as a number of non-members, who have contributed those articles, regardless of whether in full, or as "bare-bones" documents for which we have been able to provide the additional research, editing and images to complete the contribution for publication. During this last year, we have received articles by members from all corners of Australia, as well as from New Zealand. However, we still need more contributions to ensure that supply exceeds demand.

Cine Collectors Fair 2023:

The Cine Collectors' Fair was held on Sunday 7 May 2023, netting \$567 for our Society. Many thanks must go to those members who donated films, projectors and other items to be sold at the Fair

PMI Book Sale 2023:

On Saturday 13 May 2023, CATHS took part in the annual Book Sale at the Prahran Mechanics Institute. With most of the buying activity taking place before lunchtime, approximately \$42 worth of our surplus books and magazines was sold.

Tours and Inspections:

On Sunday 21 May 2023, 11 CATHS members participated in a tour of the Palais Royal in Geelong. Palais' General Manager, Meg Deyell conducted the tour, pointing out many of the historic features of the building as well as making all areas available for inspection. Following the tour, Barb and Mike Trickett hosted an informal lunch at their home for tour participants, after which a 35mm screening of "Red Dog" took place in Mike's home cinema.

On Monday 19 June 2023, 18 CATHS members attended a tour of the National Theatre St. Kilda. All reports from attendees were extremely complimentary on the way in which the tour was arranged, many saying it was the best tour they had been on. The tour was conducted by Rob Hornbuckle (National Theatre Production Manager) and Stefan Treybaud (National Theatre Marketing Manager), with access given to all areas. Of particular interest was the projection room, with projectors still in place. At the conclusion of the tour, participants were addressed by the National Theatre CEO, Sarah Hunt.

Overall, the 2022/23 CATHS year has been successful and satisfying.

I take this opportunity to wish the new President and Committee the very best for the 2024 CATHS year.

Richard Twentyman,
President.

1 July 2023