

Evidence of an exasperated projectionist found at Kyogle!



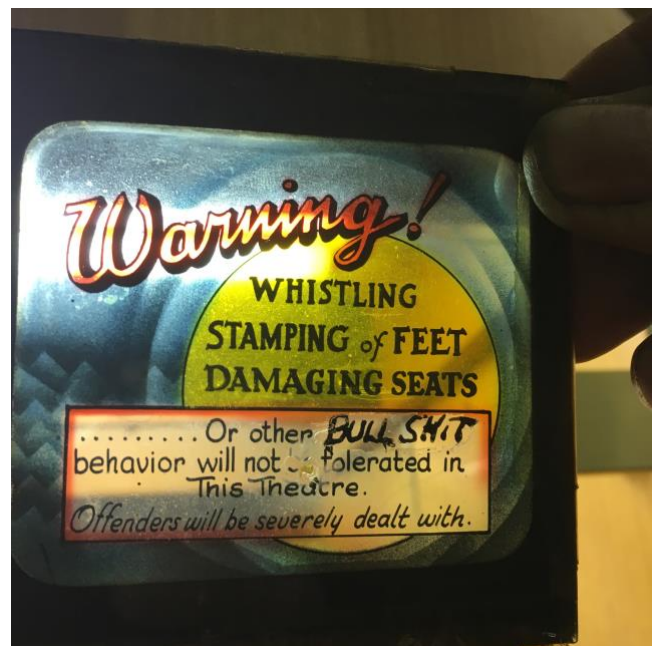
The Chatham-Paxton biunial lantern and some slides from the Fairymount Flicks Cinema Museum collection

It was a pleasure to visit Stuart Everett's 'Fairymount Flicks Cinema Museum', which is situated at the Kyogle Cinemas in Northern New South Wales. Unfortunately Stuart Everett passed away in 2015, but the flame is kept burning brightly by his son, Peter Everett, who along with his brother, Bruce, and sister, Helen, maintains the museum's collection. Besides being a cattle breeder, surfer, sailor and motor sport champion, Stuart Everett was also a cinema enthusiast and a collector of early cinema technology, particularly projectors. In 1999 he opened his own cinemas at Kyogle, and a year later won a Churchill Fellowship to study early cinema overseas, visiting Paris and other centres. The museum collection he subsequently built is centred around a fine selection of cinema projectors from the early twentieth century, including a working 1905 Pathe projector, and two fine magic lanterns from the 1890s, a Chatham-Paxton biunial lantern and a Chatham-Paxton single chamber lantern. Stuart Everett got the lanterns working, and for several years demonstrated them

to visiting tour groups, projecting a comprehensive selection of mechanical slides he had acquired. Some of his easy-going performances were videoed by his daughter, Helen. Peter showed us around the museum which includes several other magic lanterns as well as other apparatus from early screen culture, such as a Kinora reel, which is like a circular flip-book. Peter and Martyn Jolly were even able to project some of the museum's magic lantern slides through the Chatham-Paxton lanterns. Stuart Everett collected for the museum internationally, nationally and locally. But it's the local slides that give the museum its distinct flavour. They include, for instance, a fine advertisement for a Kyogle wedding boutique from the 1950s. Another highly unusual but quirkily delightful find amongst the slides seems also to have been sourced locally. It was a theatre slide warning patrons to behave. Such slides are not uncommon, but this one had been modified, perhaps by an exasperated projectionist at the end of his tether!



A theatre advertising slide Fairymount Flicks Cinema Museum collection



A hand-modified theatre slide from Fairymount Flicks Cinema Museum collection