



THE Living **M**emory **A**ssociation **NEWSLETTER**

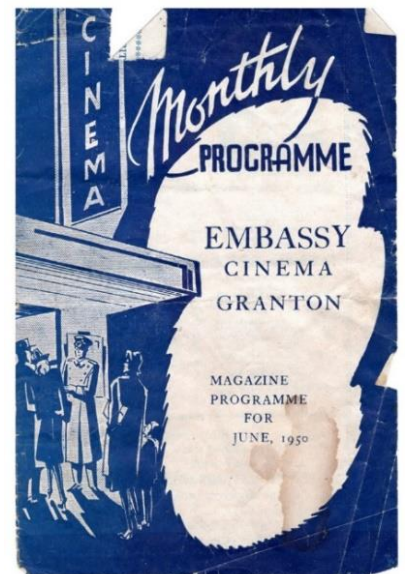
THELMA says, 'A night at the pictures?'



The Embassy was my local. It had a sweetie shop at either side. We'd go along for the matinee. It was mainly cowboys; Hopalong Cassidy and the Lone Ranger. There was Tarzan, too. We'd go upstairs and fill empty crisp bags with water and throw them over the balcony into the stalls. Great fun. **Says John Thomson.**



Couples would try to get the chummy seats. These were seats for two and didnae have an arm rest down the middle. You didnae go there to see the picture! **Says Mary Auld.**



We used to go to the Palace. They showed a lot of cowboy films. You got to an exciting bit and then it finished. To be continued... it said. You'd be back next week to see what happened to Tom Mix. **Says Bill Thorburn.**



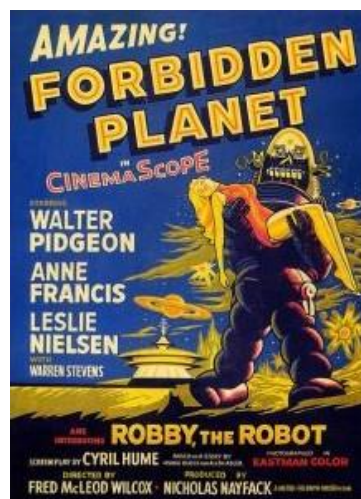
The Central Cinema in the High Street, Portobello. It opened in 1915 as the New Picture House. It was renamed the Central, then the George and then once again the Central, until it closed in 1961. The building was then used for Bingo and as a nightclub before being redeveloped into flats. This photo was taken in 1971.

Group portrait of the staff at the Capitol cinema in 1948.

Leith had plenty cinemas. There was the Capitol, Alhambra, Gaiety, Palace, the Laurie Street cinema, Eastway, the State and there was one in Henderson Street, I think. *Says Irene Montgomery.*



FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS





Willie Merrilees (centre) with husband and wife stars, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. Roy and Dale visited Dunforth Church of Scotland Children's Home. A little girl called Marion, who lived in the home, sang a song for them, 'Won't You Buy My Pretty Flowers?' which moved Dale Evans to tears. They adopted Marion and took her to America, where she grew up and married. **Says Merril Whalen.**

Every night of the week there were queues at the cinema. When television came people stayed in and didn't go out to the cinema as much, so a lot of cinemas closed down or became bingo halls. **Says Brian Hunter.**

We used to buy peanuts and broken biscuits to take into the pictures. **Says Cathy Wilkie.**



Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn.



Of all the gin joints in all the towns in all the world, she walks into mine.



Fasten your seatbelts. It's going to be a bumpy night!



A training session on a new cinema projector in the Capitol, 1948.

The Capitol had a Saturday morning club. It showed children's film foundation films. You always had a serial and sometimes cartoons. You had the Cappy concerts. Amateur performers would come on and sing or tap dance or play an instrument. People would throw money or sweeties or an ice cream if they didn't like it. **Says Stan Eadie.**



Stanley Vyner, Cine Page Boy aged 15. This picture was taken in 1928 in the Capitol cinema.



The Wee Museum of Memory

10am – 4pm Mon – Fri
 11am – 4pm Sat/Sun
 Ocean Terminal next to
 Royal Yacht Britannia

We are Open to visitors!

www.livingmemory.org.uk


Do you have memories, stories, or photos you'd like to share?

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