



He looks back with great fondness at Telethon and also the Christmas Pageant.

“It (the pageant) started off being held on a Saturday morning but all the shops in the city complained because no one went shopping. So it was moved to the afternoon.” That suited everyone — people shopped, then took the kids to the pageant.

There’s the Bob Hope story, too: TVW knew that they could never afford to bring major entertainers to Perth, so they offered such things as fishing holidays — anything that didn’t cost money. There were few takers.

They offered Bob Hope a golf tour with some of the country’s top pro golfers, the invitation backed up by a letter from the premier. To their surprise, he accepted.

But he didn’t play golf at all. He’d accepted the offer as a means of making a cheap trip to Australia so he could make his annual NBC special — this time called Bob Hope Down Under. It cost him nothing to bring his 40-strong crew to Perth.

Mr Bostock was at TVW for 21 years, as musical director/producer, production manager, station manager, general manager, chief executive and associate director. **7**

Far left: Max Bostock

Above left: Miss Universe contestants are helped from the stage after it collapsed.

Above: A promotional poster from the event.

Right: Kevin Campbell and Sir James Cruthers.

TVW Kevin

The history of TVW is full of instances of employees working their way up from the ground floor.

Kevin Campbell is one of them. He did a technical cadetship with the Postmaster-General’s Department, then joined Seven as a technician. By the time he left, 35 years later, he had been managing director of the Seven Network (1988 to 1991) and chairman and managing director of TVW Enterprises from 1991 to 1999.

That’s a fair journey in anyone’s book, made more effective by the skills he acquired on the way up. His experience in engineering, for instance, made him a hard man to fool. If production told him something couldn’t be done, he was in a fine position to argue the toss, and often did.

His later career took him through the turbulent ownership periods of Robert Holmes a Court’s Bell Group and the post-Christopher Skase period, when the network was in receivership and “the screws were really on”.

Mr Campbell is also an example of the long list of family groupings common at TVW. Many marriages in Perth have their genesis at the Tuart Hill studios.

Mr Campbell’s wife Joy, and her twin sister, were secretaries in the days when the women wore matching uniforms of a heavily regulated length. They were not permitted to wear trousers. **7**

