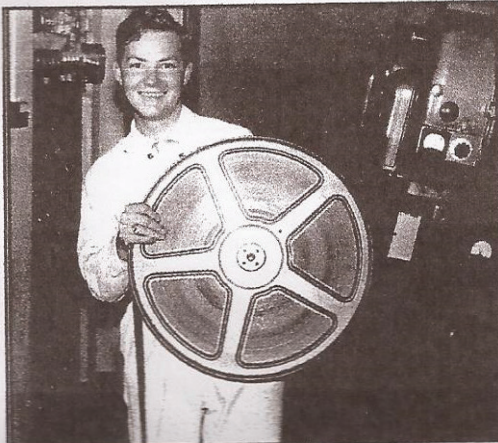




## Member Profile on ROY MUDGE

On the 28th of February 2004 family and friends gathered at Roy's Home Cinema for a screening of 'Charade' which celebrated 40yrs to the day when Roy commenced his motion picture career in 1964 at the Princess Theatre in Fremantle with the very same film.

Roy's interest in film started when he was 4yrs old in 1952 when his parents took him to a screening of the "The Cruel Sea" at Perth's Grand Theatre, a few years later the family had permanent seats on Saturday night's at the Mayfair Theatre in Bicton and Roy's interest in films was sealed.



17yrs old Roy at the Theatre Royal with a 70mm spool of "My Fair Lady"

In 1964 after leaving John Curtin High School in Fremantle Roy started at the Princess theatre as a assistant Projectionist he later transferred to the other side of Fremantle to the Oriana Theatre. Roy was thrilled to have worked at these theatres as he had often attended movies at both of them and never dreamed at the time that he would eventually work in them. In 1965 Roy was transferred to the Piccadilly Theatre in Perth for 6 weeks then moved down to the Grand Theatre, he then moved back and forth between the two for the next few months before being transferred to the Theatre Royal and "My Fair Lady".

Roy and "My Fair Lady" stayed together for 2 shows a day for the next 10 months. The final performance for Roy at the Royal at this time was the 'Vice Regal Premiere' of "The Fall Of The Roman Empire" after which Roy was transferred back to the Piccadilly for a return season of "My Fair

Lady" for 8 weeks. Roy then went back to Fremantle and the Princess Theatre for his first job as a Projectionist and to his horror his first film was "My Fair Lady".

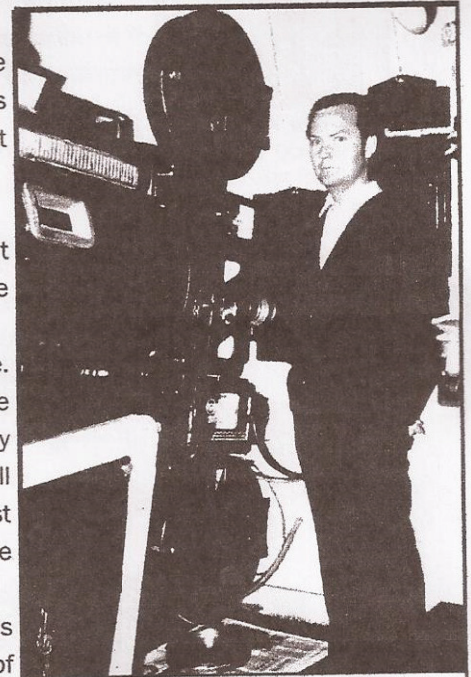
After 2 weeks Roy was transferred back to Perth where he remained for the next 12 months moving between the Royal, Grand and Piccadilly Theatres before being transferred back to Fremantle again as the permanent Projectionist at the Princess theatre.

Roy remained at the Princess for the next 10 months before jumping at the opportunity to transfer across to his beloved Oriana Theatre when the projectionist there resigned.

Roy was glad to be back at the Oriana as it was always his favourite theatre. He previously spent 14 happy months there as an assistant under Ernie Thompson who passed on all his knowledge to Roy. Within weeks of Roy commencing as the Projectionist at the Oriana plans were drawn up to install a big giant screen forward of the old proscenium. On the 4th of August 1968 the Theatre celebrated its 30th Anniversary with the installation of the new screen.

In 1969 Roy moved on to be the relieving Projectionist in the Drive-Ins before moving back fulltime to the Grand Theatre. In 1970 after 5yrs of employment with City Theatres Roy left to work for Hoyts as chief of staff at the Ambassadors Theatre. After 6 months at Hoyts Roy left and rejoined City Theatres as projectionist at the Skyline Drive-In. Roy stayed at the Skyline for 12 months before being transferred to the Theatre Royal.

Roy was promoted to Assistant Manager under Norm Garner at the Piccadilly Theatre but not before he did one final 4 week job as projectionist at the Oriana Theatre prior to its close and subsequent demolition in 1971 which devastated Roy.



Roy at the Oriana prior to its closer in 1971



Continuing from Page Four

## Member Profile on ROY MUDGE



Roy Mudge with managers, Lester Brown, Roy McPherson, Allan Sinclair with Bunnie Brooke and Pat McDonald at the Premiere of "Number 96" at the Piccadilly Theatre.

Roy was appointed manager of the Grand Theatre in 1972 where 20yrs earlier as a 4yr old he saw his first film. While at the Grand Roy celebrated its 57th birthday and was involved in various promotions such as "Charlotte's Web" and "Number 96"

In 1974 Roy installed 4 track magnetic sound and assisted in the installation of sensurround sound for the season of "Earthquake" at the Grand.

To further his career Roy left Australia for England and joined the

Rank Organisation as Assistant Manager at the Odeon Marble Arch in the west end of London. Among the many celebrities he met were the ex King and Queen of Greece, Tommy Steele, Terry Thomas and Robin Askwith.

On returning to Australia Roy rejoined City Theatres in time to become Opening Projectionist at the new Port Cinema in Fremantle in December 1976 and became the manager of both the Port and the Daleline Drive-In in Armadale in 1980 for the next two years.

Roy left the city to work in Geraldton at both the local Drive-In and Radio Theatre as Manager Operator for three years. In 1987 Roy returned to Perth and started working for Peter Thomson at the Capri Cinema and then moved to the new Essex Street Cinemas in Fremantle with Peter. At the opening of Queensgate Cinemas in 1990 Roy transferred across as one of the Projection Team.

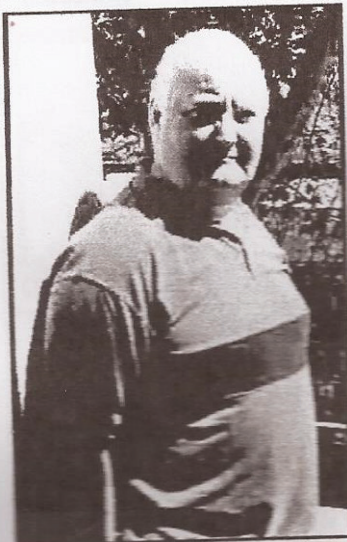
In 1991 Roy became the Chief Projectionist at the new Rockingham Cinema Complex. In 2000 Coastal Cinemas sold out to Hoyts Theatres where Roy still remains as the senior

projectionist.

In 1982 Roy formed R.G.M. Theatres and until 2002 toured around screening films in Town halls and Drive-In's from as far a field as Dongara in the north to Gnowangerup in the south. Roy has been collecting Cinema Memorabilia since 1964 of which a lot of it has been installed in his 36 seater Home Cinema.



Roy Mudge with Assistant Manager Queenie Lenon and film star Robin Askwith at the Odeon Marble arch



Roy Mudge in 2005



Roy's Home Cinema called "Princess Theatre"

In February 2006 it will be Roy's 42nd anniversary and he is already looking forward to his 50th. Throughout Roy's long career his love of movies has never ceased and his appointment as AMMPT curator of exhibition western region is well deserved.