



The Society of
**AUSTRALIAN
CINEMA
PIONEERS**

Founded 1933

**ANNUAL BULLETIN
SEPTEMBER 2024**



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IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 3 Staying connected with our Members
- Page 4 Message from President Lori Flekser
- Page 5 State Presidents and National Executive Committee
- Page 6-7 National Cinema Pioneer of the Year
- Page 8 Honour Roll - National Cinema Pioneers of the Year
- Page 9-20 State Pioneers of the Year
- Page 21 Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- Page 22 Financial Summary 2023/2024
- Page 23 Merchandise
- Page 24 Membership of the Society
- Page 25 New Members, November 2023 – June 2024
- Page 26 Vale Listing, November 2023 – June 2024
- Page 27 Past Presidents of the Society
- Page 28-29 91st Anniversary Dinner
- Page 30 Around the Branches
- Page 31 Members' Annual General meeting
- Page 32 AGM Proxies
- Page 33-35 Cinema Pioneers Card and Cinemas Listing

STAYING CONNECTED IN 2024

Dear Cinema Pioneers!

You have received this ANNUAL BULLETIN via email because we have your email address on our records, however we still do not have an email address for around 500 of our 3,000 members!

These members are sent a printed and edited 'hard copy' version in the mail, with the cost of printing and postage equating to thousands of dollars, a significant component of our annual expenditure.

As we are legally obliged to send our Annual Report and advice of the Members' AGM to all members of the Society, that is the only communication from the National Office that members without email receive each year.

From 2025, we are introducing a second bulletin which will be **emailed** each February. The February Bulletin will **not** be printed and posted.

Sending emails to our members costs us nothing.

So if you know any Cinema Pioneer who does not have an email address, perhaps you may be aware of a partner, son, daughter, friend or neighbour who would be willing to allow us to use their email address to receive our notifications on the Cinema Pioneer's behalf. If so, please send me their details and I will update their record.

They will immediately become more connected with the Society and their fellow Cinema Pioneers, as they receive our regular email notifications and newsletters, as well as the twice-yearly Bulletins.

Every email address we add will save the Society money.

Send to:



7 Keir Ave, Hurlstone Park, NSW, 2193
secretary@cinemapioneers.com.au

Thank you!



From Cinema Pioneers President, Lori Flekser

91 years ago, a group of 68 met at Tattersall's Club in Sydney for the first meeting and dinner of what was then called "The Old Timers Club". Since then, membership has grown to almost 3,000 people. There are branches in every State and Territory where terrific social activities are held, providing Cinema Pioneers with the opportunity to maintain and renew relationships with former friends and colleagues.

Since November 2023 I have been the very proud President of the Australian Cinema Pioneers and am very honoured to be part of the outstanding contribution the Society makes to the culture and camaraderie of our industry.

I would like to acknowledge the significant generosity of the Australian distributors and exhibitors, allowing thousands of Cinema Pioneers to use their cinema passes each year to enjoy movies on the big screen, and illustrating that membership is a true reward for us industry veterans.

Thanks to the members of the National Executive Committee (NEC) and the State Branch committee members for their ongoing dedication and service to the Cinema Pioneers. Their commitment to the Society, the skills and knowledge they bring and the chunk of time they volunteer is both appreciated and valued.

Three NEC members retired in August: Amanda Pearson, Sue Cohen and Mike Baard. Their contribution has helped enhance the reputation of the Society and taken it to another level of stability and effectiveness.

Sadly, this year, respected exhibitor David Simpson passed away. An esteemed member of our industry, David was also the President-elect of the South Australian branch of Cinema Pioneers and his support and knowledge will be missed.

The NEC welcomes new committee members Keith Stevens (President, Victorian Branch), Glyn Berry (President, South Australian Branch) and Janine Pearce, a legendary industry lawyer whose filmography includes an awesome number of classic Australian films, from *CHOPPER* to *RABBIT PROOF FENCE*

A very BIG thanks to our inimitable Secretary/Treasurer, Ross Barnard, who goes above and beyond. Ross is a wonderful administrator and a diligent treasurer who embraces his considerable workload with good grace and cheer.

129 new members joined the Society in the 2023/2024 financial year, up from 100 in the previous year. Sales of Cinema Pioneers "merch" – hats, pins, mouse mats – have been excellent, as has been the rate of replacement of the old Cinema Pioneer cards for the terrific new design.

Lastly, thank you to all the many Cinema Pioneers who have supported their local social events to celebrate and recognise the extraordinary contribution of those who have given 20 years or more of service to the Australian Cinema Industry.

STATE PRESIDENTS AND THE CURRENT NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The governance of the Society of Australian Cinema Pioneers is undertaken by the National Executive Committee (NEC), which meets twice a year in July and November.

NEC Meetings and the Members' AGM are conducted on Zoom.

The NEC comprises former National Presidents, State Branch Presidents and other Cinema Pioneers Members co-opted on an occasional basis.

The National Secretary/Treasurer is an ex officio member.

National President: LORI FLEKSER

Presidents of the Society's State branches

NSW/ACT	MIKE SELWYN	139 O'Sullivan Rd Bellevue Hill NSW 2023
QLD	CHRIS PITCHER	90 Nojoor Rd Mudjimba Qld 4564
SA	GLYN BERRY	24 Domain Common Highbury SA 5089
TAS	YURIK CZYZ	56 Forest Road West Hobart Tas 7000
VIC	KEITH STEVENS	PO Box 2632 Cheltenham Vic 3192
WA	ALLAN STILES	15 Bland Street Kensington WA 6151

Emails may be sent to all Presidents via the drop-down menu on the Cinema Pioneers Website Contacts page

Former National Presidents currently serving:

GREG DENNING TIM READ JOHN ROCHESTER MIKE SELWYN

Co-opted Cinema Pioneers currently serving

SANDRA ALEXANDER CATHERINE LAVELLE JANINE PEARCE
DEREK SCREEN KERRY WESTWOOD

National Secretary/Treasurer

ROSS BARNARD, 7 Keir Ave, Hurlstone Park NSW 2193

email: secretary@cinemapioneers.com.au

Website: www.cinemapioneers.com.au



Facebook: The National Facebook page is open to everyone
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/cinemapioneersnational>

The State Facebook groups are for members only. They feature information specific to each state.

All members may join any State Facebook group – click “Join” on the page of the Branch you would like to access and confirm that you are a member. Once verified by an Administrator or Moderator, you will be admitted to that group and be able to read and submit posts for consideration.

We are also on **INSTAGRAM** as CINEMA PIONEERS
and **LinkedIn** as AUSTRALIAN CINEMA PIONEERS (SOCIETY OF)

2024 NATIONAL CINEMA PIONEER OF THE YEAR DAVID STRATTON



DAVID STRATTON AM was born in the U.K. in 1939 and came to Australia in 1963. He was Director of the Sydney Film Festival for 18 years (1966-1983), feature film programmer for SBS TV, host of Movie of the Week and Cinema Classics on SBS (1981-2003), co-host with Margaret Pomeranz of The Movie Show on SBS (1986-2003) and At The Movies on ABC TV (2003-2014).

He reviewed films for the American trade paper Variety (1983-2003) and for The Australian (1990-2023). He has also contributed articles to The Age, The Bulletin, The Sydney Morning Herald, Cinema Papers and International Film Guide (UK).

Stratton has served as a member of the international jury at the Venice Film Festival (twice) and has also served on international juries in Berlin, Montreal, Karlovy Vary, Hawaii and Adelaide. He has been president of the FIPRESCI (International Film Critics) juries in Cannes (twice) and Venice.

He is a recipient of the Longford Award and the Chauvel Award, and is a Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters (France). He has an honorary degree from Sydney and Macquarie universities.

He lectured on film history as part of the continuing education programme at Sydney University (1988-2023).

He is the author of: **The Last New Wave** (1980), **The Avocado Plantation** (1990), **I Peed on Fellini** [autobiography] (2008), **101 Marvellous Movies You May Have Missed** (2018) and **My Favourite Movies** (2021). David's third book on Australian Cinema, **Australia At The Movies** will be published by Allen & Unwin in November.

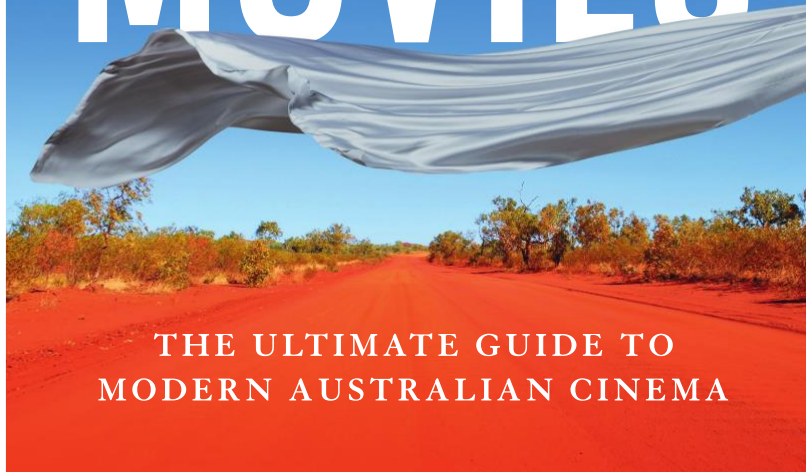
In 2017 he appeared in the feature documentary, *A Cinematic Life*, directed by Sally Aitken, and in the three-part TV spinoff, *David Stratton's Stories of Australian Cinema*.

David Stratton

AUSTRALIA

AT THE

MOVIES



THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO
MODERN AUSTRALIAN CINEMA



HONOUR ROLL OF NATIONAL “CINEMA PIONEERS OF THE YEAR”

This Award was originally known as the 'National Film Man of the Year' until 1994, when it was changed to 'National Film Pioneer of the Year'. In 1998 it was renamed again and has remained 'National Cinema Pioneer of the Year' ever since.

1 ST	1969	HERC C MCINTYRE	30 TH	1998	BILL CARTY
2 ND	1970	KEN G. HALL	31 ST	1999	ROY TUOHY OAM
3 RD	1971	ROC KIRBY AM	32 ND	2000	GRAEME HODGES
4 TH	1972	ARTHUR SMITH	33 RD	2001	MURRAY FORREST
5 TH	1973	BERT CROSS	34 TH	2002	PATRICIA LOVELL MBE AM
6 TH	1974	ERIC PORTER	35 TH	2003	ALLAN STILES
7 TH	1975	VIC WEBB	36 TH	2004	RUSSELL BOYD
8 TH	1976	DAVID WILLIAMS AM	37 TH	2005	JOHN REID
9 TH	1977	HERBERT HAYWARD	38 TH	2006	BOB MASON
10 TH	1978	COLIN JONES	39 TH	2007	ALAN RYDGE AM
11 TH	1979	ALF DAFF	40 TH	2008	ROBERT WARD
12 TH	1980	PHIL BUDDEN	41 ST	2009	BOB PARR
13 TH	1981	ANTHONY BUCKLEY AM	42 ND	2010	JOHN DANIELL AM
14 TH	1982	DARBY JEWELL	43 RD	2011	THEO/MARGARET GOUMAS
15 TH	1983	TOM NICHOLAS	44 TH	2012	NATALIE MILLER OAM
16 TH	1984	ARTHUR STILES	45 TH	2013	JILL ROBB AM
17 TH	1985	JOHN W. SMITH	46 TH	2014	BRUCE LEONARD
18 TH	1986	KEITH MOREMON	47 TH	2015	JOHN POLMEAR
19 TH	1987	DAVID JOEL	48 TH	2016	PETER FENTON OAM
20 TH	1988	GORDON PRESLAND	49 TH	2017	ZAREH NALBANDIAN
21 ST	1989	GREG COOTE AM	50 TH	2018	RUSSELL ANDERSON
22 ND	1990	JACK GARDINER	51 ST	2019	RON REYNOLDS
23 RD	1991	GRAHAM BURKE	52 ND	2020	JOHN CRONIN
24 TH	1992	TERRY JACKMAN	53 RD	2021	SANDRA ALEXANDER
25 TH	1993	PETER THOMPSON	54 TH	2022	TONY BURKE
26 TH	1994	LEN WEBB OAM	55 TH	2023	ANDREW MACKIE and RICHARD PAYTEN
27 TH	1995	GEORGE RUTTLE			
28 TH	1996	DAVID HANNAY	56 TH	2024	DAVID STRATTON
29 TH	1997	RICHARD PARTON			

2024 TASMANIAN CINEMA PIONEER OF THE YEAR

CAROL DIPROSE



Carol began her involvement with the cinema industry in 1980 employed at the West End Twin Cinemas in Hobart. Initially her role was working 3 to 4 shifts per week doing 3 hour split shifts in the candy bar area, in the days when it was cash only, no calculators - just do the sums in your head! Her shifts also required the inevitable choc top making. In 1989 the Twin Cinema expanded to 7 screens. Changes for efficiency now incorporated ticket-selling into the candy bar area of operations.

During Carol's 20 years at what is now known as Village Hobart, she became involved in various education and training programmes, comprising customer service, recruitment, setting financial targets and local area marketing. Consequently, with new skills learned, Carol was transferred to Village Glenorchy to assist with the opening of the new complex in November 2000. There Carol was heavily involved with successful recruitment and staff training to establish a team for the opening of the 4-screen complex, and barely four weeks later was also responsible for staff recruitment for the new cinema at Village Eastlands. During the next 9 years Carol was mainly employed at Village Glenorchy undertaking location management shifts. Whenever the opportunity arose Carol ran many local marketing promotions. In 2008 Carol was asked to relocate back to her original "breeding" ground of the Hobart location. After another 12 months there, Carol felt it was time to move on. She thoroughly enjoyed her 29 years working in the industry, particularly her interaction with cinema patrons and customers and of course has also made many lifelong friends.

2024 QUEENSLAND CINEMA PIONEERS OF THE YEAR

FREYA and GRAHAM TIENAN



Freya commenced as Secretary to the State Manager of Roadshow Film Distributors in January 1974, working originally with Tim Osborne, then Phil Stanley and lastly Tony Burke. Her role encompassed all secretarial and administrative procedures. In 1987 she transferred to the position of Personal Assistant to Richard Parton, General Manager and Director of exhibition chain Birch, Carroll & Coyle. Here she learned a new side of the industry, coordinating board meetings, conferences and travel requirements for board members, cinema managers and head office personnel.

She also became involved with the annual industry conference held on the Gold Coast, starting as a volunteer hostess and assisting Pauline Parker in administration and the gradual conversion of office procedures to computer.

In 1994, Freya transferred to the BC&C Cinema Operations department, where she assisted cinema managers to coordinate candy bar promotions, cinema cost management and analysis, and then the opening of several multiplex cinemas in SE Queensland.

After 26 years of full-time work in the film industry, Freya left in 2000 but continued to assist with the Movie Convention (now known as the Australian International Movie Convention) which had grown significantly in delegate numbers and attendances from across Australia, New Zealand, the USA and Europe.

Graham started working as a casual ticket seller, candy bar staffer and usher with Birch, Carroll & Coyle in Townsville in 1985, before being appointed as full-time Assistant Manager at the Twin Cinemas with John Morrison. Following John's retirement, Graham was appointed Manager.

In the early 1990s he transferred to Brisbane, taking up the position of Manager of the Carindale Multiplex. He then moved to the Indooroopilly 8 Cinemas.

During this time Graham was asked to assist in various aspects of the Cinema Operations division, and then invited to work from head office as a Regional Manager. Following rapid expansion of the group, he took on the role of Health & Safety Officer for the entire BC&C circuit, as well as Greater Union Cinemas and Rydges Hotels nationally.

With early career experience in regional radio, Graham was invited in 2000 to be the MC at the Australian International Movie Convention. He continued as a volunteer, working with Freya from their home office on all aspects of the registrations, trade show, agenda, marketing materials, volunteer coordination and administration...until joint retirement in 2016.

Graham was also Secretary/Treasurer of the Queensland Motion Picture Industry Benevolent Fund for 13 years.



2024 VICTORIAN CINEMA PIONEER OF THE YEAR

VINCENT PARISELLA



Vincent was born in Mondragone, Italy in 1953, which was also the year of his introduction to cinema by his father who was a projectionist and a jack of all trades, operating and maintaining two venues in their town - a hard top all year round, and during summer, an open-air cinema that also used to host live entertainment. For his first 6 years, the cinema and projection room were Vincent's second home. His mum disliked being home alone so would take Vincent to the cinema regularly to be with his dad. Dad would heat up Vincent's milk bottle in the back of the lamphouse. That's probably why he still glows in the dark!

Vincent was always fascinated with cinema and religiously attended the local cinema on Saturdays and at times on Sundays until his late teens. Years later, at the age of 26 Vincent got married and was employed by Motorola as an electronics and telecommunication technician, but after a number of years he felt that he needed to move on to something else. Thus the hunt for a new job began, and luckily he came across an ad placed by Village Theatre Supplies looking for a cinema technician – requirements were electronics training, reading and writing Italian and German preferred. He ticked all the boxes and thus he applied with confidence. Within a few days he had an interview with the great Rod Hailey, chief engineer at Village Theatre Supplies. He got the job, and his journey began. The year was 1981.

Vincent was very fortunate to have had Rod Hailey as his boss, mentor and friend and he owes him a lot. He was teamed up with Robert McKenzie - again very lucky for him, as Robert was a very smart and talented technician. Eventually Vincent was let loose on his own to deal with service calls, with his first installation being Doncaster Twin in 1983. Soon afterwards, multiplexes started to be built all over the country - it was indeed hectic times for Vincent.

Over the years that followed Vincent was involved in many installations - too many to name them all - but some of the most memorable are: Village Cinema Centre Bourke Street Melbourne with the first THX certified cinemas (he was trained and certified as a THX technician), the Regent Ballarat Cinema 1 THX (plus Cinemas 2 and 3), Knox, Geelong, Crown, the Regent Theatre Melbourne... There were many more, including 2 months working in Bangkok. Then the digital roll out began, with its challenges in the early days - on the road again for weeks on end, travelling around Australia as well as New Zealand. Vincent also managed to do some projection shifts along the way at the Geelong Twin and the Geelong West Pix, Airport West, and Village Cinema Centre Bourke Street.

Vincent eventually left for Atlab, and then joined MGS Theatre Installations for some years, returning to Atlab/Edge Digital Technology for a while, before deciding to move on as a subcontractor, and he's still going! - although now semi-retired with four grandchildren to regularly look after.

There was a lot of hard work, long hours and months on end away from home. He admits he could not have kept that up without the patience and support from his wife Teresa, always at home with their three children. And, of course, he has had the pleasure of working with many great people along the way...



2024 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CINEMA PIONEER OF THE YEAR

SHANE FULWOOD



Shane spent his teens during the 1980s in Mount Gambier. He had a couple of golden years when he was old enough to attend the Sturt Cinema on his own before it closed, a victim of the video boom. After finishing high school in 1988 he moved to Adelaide where the option to see multiple movies a day, at multiple theatres was a source of delight and a cinephile was born.

Mid 1991, at age 20 this passion took an unexpected turn, when having an 8mm film developed he noticed a poster in the shop window for *DANCES WITH WOLVES*, which was currently screening in cinemas only. Further enquiries revealed that it was possible to hire a 16mm print of a feature film, a revelation which set the ball rolling to launching a new exhibitor in Mount Gambier, **Landmark Pictures**, screening in the mostly unused TAFE Theatre on Wehl Street.

Everything was initially rented, of poor quality and it only took ten weeks for Shane and his partner to lose all their money. However, there were some notable successes in that period, *DANCES WITH WOLVES* sold out, even though it was second run behind the 35mm screening at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre. The differences that Shane introduced were those that he appreciated as an Adelaide resident - multiple screenings per day, holding films for more than one weekend, and the big hit - a candy bar, with Coke, lollies, chips and eventually popcorn. This created a cinema-going atmosphere that had not been seen since the mid 80s and slowly the effort was rewarded. With new partners Liz Noske and Jim Buckley the equipment was upgraded, and by mid 1993 the screenings at the TAFE Theatre were all in 35mm, with speakers that did not rattle when the wild buffalo thundered over the plains, which was particularly useful when *JURASSIC PARK* hit the screen there - the first movie to not be run after the Helpmann Theatre.

In 1992 after moving back to Mount Gambier, with the help of his brother Paul, he started 16mm screenings at the newly refurbished Naracoorte Town Hall (**Landmark Pictures Naracoorte**) and for a brief period at the Millicent Civic and Arts Centre. The Naracoorte Town Hall had 35mm equipment installed not long after the TAFE Theatre which marked the end of the 16mm screenings, and his 16mm projectionist license obtained in 1991 was filed away.

The business was growing and Shane had the privilege of some South Aussie guiding angels in Russell Anderson, Bob Parr, John Cronin and through the annual Movie Convention was exposed to many other colourful personalities and unique ideas.

In the mid 90s cinemas were back in vogue and at one point Mount Gambier had plans for up to four. Being the only fulltime operator in the city, Shane was fortunate that the developer behind one of the proposals wanted to keep things local and he approached Shane to build a twin. Shane thought four screens would be better but in the end space dictated three.

Two years after the initial approach (and not enough space on this page to detail all the trials and tribulations), in December 1997 **Landmark Pictures** at the TAFE Theatre had its last screening and the torch was passed to the **OATMILL CINEMA COMPLEX** which opened (just) with its first film, *TITANIC*. Again, Shane was in the right place at the right time and with *THE FULL MONTY* as bridesmaid he paid quite a few bills in the next few months and could finally breathe a sigh of relief that he probably wouldn't lose his mother's house after all.

From there the Oatmill enjoyed a golden period of films that audiences embraced enthusiastically, the *HARRY POTTER* series, *THE LORD OF THE RINGS*, *THE HUNGER GAMES* etc.

3D came (and mostly went) which was closely followed by full digital transition (and the VPF) which was the biggest operational change for generations. Shane tried his hand at outdoor cinema with the **Starline Outdoor Cinema** from 2018-2021, named as a homage to the Mount Gambier drive in where he had fond memories of experiencing *RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK* as a teen.

Shane contends that challenges caused by the pandemic and competition from streaming services have forced every cinema operator to exhibit a true Pioneer attitude in the last few years. Although Shane has enjoyed some memorable cultural experiences with some great audiences, by far the biggest highlight in recent years has been the privilege of working side by side with his children as they learn many life skills working in the family business. His youngest, at ten years old, is now a competent popcorn attendant, knows the tricks to folding boxes, can start up the projection hardware in the morning, is not too bad on a sweeper and enjoys the front of house atmosphere greatly. She also delights in taking her friends to all the secret spots in the building. I fear it could be in her blood now and she is adamant that the business will be hers one day. I'm not sure about that, we're in interesting times, but if she does, I think she too will have to show some Pioneering spirit.

The South Australian Branch of Cinema Pioneers would like to congratulate Shane on being this year's recipient of the Award for South Australian Cinema Pioneer of the Year.



2024 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CINEMA PIONEER OF THE YEAR – JOANNE McDONALD



Joanne writes...

I moved to Perth from a small country town in Victoria, called Nar-Nar-Goon, on 27th December 1977 with my best friend, Jenny. Not a cinema in sight in Nar-Nar-Goon.

We met Jeff Bassen and a few of the local HOYTS projectionists while out exploring the night life of Perth. Jenny and I were offered a position at HOYTS as usherettes at the Paris Cinema, in the Plaza Arcade in March 1978, which we kindly accepted as money was beginning to run a little low. We were given a quick tour of the site and then frocked up in floor length gowns to wear as our uniform, which we thought was very glamorous at the time. When the other experienced usherettes went on a dinner break, Jenny and I could hear a buzzing sound coming from the curtains intermittently in the foyer. We had no idea what it was and continued to do checks inside the auditorium. When the usherettes returned from their breaks, we asked what the buzzing sound was. They were horrified as it was poor Rosemary downstairs in the box office buzzing frantically to be relieved so she could go to the bathroom. Back then you had to wait until after the main feature had started, as usherettes did not sell tickets or handle the money over the counter. I do not think the managers at the time thought we were capable of this task. Poor Rosemary did make it in time that night - just. All the box office ladies back then developed great bladder control. Welcome to HOYTS, usherettes!

From the Paris Cinema, I moved around the HOYTS circuit going to Cinema 1 in City Arcade. I believe Max Reddin oversaw the opening of Cinema 1. I was there when it closed and remember the massive screen which was made up of hundreds of vertical strips to give its curved shape. 70mm films were always spectacular on the screen at Cinema 1. Moving onto Cinema 2 in Wanamba Arcade, which was divided down the middle to become a twin - "Cinema 2 and 3" with 400 seats each. The old, deserted lounge area of the Theatre Royal was next door and eventually became Cinema 4, a 600-seater. During my time at Cinemas 2, 3 and 4, which went onto be known as the HOYTS CENTRE, I was promoted to box office/cashier. Coral Wake, Fran Mappin and Yvonne Blewett were the box office ladies who taught me the ropes.

In 1986, I thought it may be time to move on to something else. I had a couple of weeks off before looking for another job. I was getting ready to go to an interview at another establishment when I received a call from Max Reddin. He did not wish to divulge the job offer he had for me over the phone and wanted me to come into his office at HOYTS CENTRE. I said that I was about to head off to

another interview and he could just let me know the offer as I did not want to waste his or my time. After some toing and froing, I cancelled my appointment for the other interview immediately. It was around this time that I met my husband to be, Macca. We married in 1990 and have two children Jake and Ella.

I managed HOYTS Centre with a young assistant, Gordon Hough, who Max referred to as Kid Eager. He was going to take on the world. Not sure what ever happened to Kid Eager. We had an array of projectionists there - Norm Carter, Kevin Mifflin, Dave Goddard, Wally Holden just to name a few.

HOYTS took over City Theatres in December 1987 comprising Cinema City, Piccadilly, Perth Centre, and a variety of Drive-Ins. I worked at all the Perth locations, but none of the Drive-Ins. In 1988 I was promoted to Executive Manager based at Cinema City.

Then came the multiplexes. On June 28th 1990, HOYTS 8 Carousel Cannington was opened, adjacent to the shopping centre, with Paul Colreavy at the helm. Paul later moved into the role of Area Manager for the states of WA/SA/QLD. In October 1999 HOYTS 8 Cannington closed to make way for HOYTS Carousel Megaplex opening on the top level of the newly refurbished shopping centre, at that stage the largest shopping centre in WA.

Paul Colreavy had asked me if I would like to be the manager of this new HOYTS Megaplex at Carousel six months prior to opening. The reason for the lead time was that I lived north of the river, and he thought it may take some convincing for me to travel across the border each day! I was happy to take on managing the new shining light of Hoyts WA at Carousel & stayed there for the next 20 plus years.

Throughout my time at Cinema City and Carousel we held a variety of movie premieres, which I was always excited to be a part of and would go the extra mile to ensure our distributors were happy. In 2002 we had the Perth premiere of *DIRTY DEEDS* through HOYTS Distribution at the time. The theme was set - Holden Premiere car in the foyer, night club entrance to the cinema, one arm bandit slot machines with gangsters greeting guests with sledgehammers in hand, life size stills of all the characters leading from the front entrance through the foyer to the cinema entrance. Bryan Brown, the star of the film, attended the premiere, and wanted to know why Perth was the only cinema displaying these life size banners as he had been touring the country and had not seen them anywhere else before. Probably because I had them made up by a local graphic artist company! I was named the National Hoyts Manager of the year that year, winning a trip to the Movie Convention in Las Vegas. The *DIRTY DEEDS* premiere may have helped contribute to that award.

I'm now residing at HOYTS Garden City, an oldie but a goody, a little like me! Hopefully, I will see the revamp of HOYTS Garden City in the not-too-distant future. I have met some amazing people over the years. Many started at HOYTS and have gone onto become film distributors, filmmakers, film producers and much more. WA is unique in this industry, and even though our Exhibition competitor is the so-called "enemy", we always have time for a chat, to share ideas and support each other. I am immensely proud to be a part of the WA cinema industry.



2024 NSW CINEMA PIONEER OF THE YEAR

PAUL BRENNAN



Paul writes...

My life in film and cinema began at the age of five when I was taken by my crazy aunts and grandmother, all born between 1888 and 1894, to the CAPITOL THEATRE in Sydney to see a matinee reissue of *THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH*. An imaginative child encountering the Capitol's astounding interior with a starlit sky and fantasy garden décor gasped at the wonder of it all, especially with Cecil B. de Mille's Technicolor circus on screen and snoozing hobos scattered in faraway seats. "There used to be orange trees and clouds" bellowed Aunty Flo as a lemon meringue pie emerged from her massive handbag. "I was here when it was new in 1927" said Nanna Elizabeth. That was it. Brain damaged for life. I had to explore every movie theatre possible.

Locally in the Kensington/Mascot/Rosebery/Botany suburbs near home we had big stark theatres built in the 20s and more than a bit threadbare by the 60s. "The Fleapit" roared Flo when I wanted to see *MORGAN THE PIRATE* at a BOTANY EMPIRE matinee. I wanted to rescue the EMPIRE but alas it closed in 1965. I was heartbroken. The slightly more elegant 1300 seat MARINA at Rosebery had a big picture frame proscenium and wide stage area, with dressing rooms intact from 1927. In 1964 we had a school concert there. Teenage vaudeville lives! I was ecstatic, the theatre was packed but I couldn't understand why all the parents couldn't see how wonderful it was. But alas, the MARINA changed to Greek films in 1966, the KINGSFORD ODEON caught fire, the DONCASTER at Kensington became a theatre restaurant and all my walking distance cinemas were not mine anymore.

I had to venture further afield, into the big city to discover the PRINCE EDWARD, ST JAMES and REGENT. MGM METRO CINEMAS beckoned with a standard of Hollywood showmanship in chrome, neon, velvet and burgundy carpet which, just as puberty elevated the senses, confirmed for me just what a cinema should be. I was so lucky being 15 in 1969 with every major movie theatre still operating. I had the run of the city, watching great movies in all Sydney's luxury movie palaces. In June 1968 for my 14th birthday I was treated to *2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY* in first release in the Cinerama PLAZA. There was no turning back - I was a destined for 'the biz'.

MGM closed in 1971 just when I applied for a job there. Bad timing. And then the sheer horror of the demolitions started. I went to the ST JAMES auction to see it ripped apart. I felt I had to rescue something. My parents were furiously against my cinema aspirations. "It's a dying business" bellowed Dad, "Get a job in the post office". Or worse, Mum's Mr Chips fantasy for me of teaching in the Catholic Primary School Circuit. Luckily in 1973 after leaving school I landed a job at Chas E. Blanks Cinema Screen Advertising - writing copy, organising screen ad schedules and touring cinemas was my entrée into the cinema business on a professional level.

On a drive to the Central Coast in May 1974 I discovered the closed AVOCA BEACH THEATRE. It had been shredded by a huge cyclone that ripped through NSW coastal towns just a fortnight previously. The front awning had come down, the rain had left the theatre in an appalling state – 500 sodden seats, sagging screen, dripping curtains and rusting projectors. But it was up for lease – and I took up the challenge. The theatre had no cooling, no heating, no phone, no carpets, broken seats, not even a proper widescreen – we hung bedsheets on either side of the screen to accommodate Cinemascope. No flush toilets either, just big bins with wooden seats that were emptied each Sunday night, always full to the brim. Men and boys peed into the bushes beside the house next door. Women screamed or held on until they got home, or back to the caravan!

But with a projectionist mate we reopened it August 1974. Columbia's much lampooned family musical *LOST HORIZON* was the gala Saturday opening night: 180 in attendance and money in the till. The hint of a profitable business began to take shape – but only because for the first few years I was sleeping in the roof behind the haunted projection room...but that's another story.

AVOCA BEACH was also the ideal location for Surf Films - two sessions a night and 999 teens munching their way through them, yelling at the screen. The most obnoxious were served choc tops dipped in melted Laxettes – a special treat, Brennan's revenge! Being a holiday resort, and a wealthy one, I realised we should change programmes nightly. And for the next 17 years, countless improvements and renovations, AVOCA BEACH was my home. I sold the lease complete with foyer treasures in 1993.

I took on other orphan cinemas - the ROSEBERRY MARINA, my childhood theatre that I had always wanted to run. But with 1983's Home Video boom, and a ceiling collapse during a matinee of *BEDKNOBS AND BROOMSTICKS*, it was no longer viable to keep trying to make it work. I also renovated and reopened the gorgeous SCONE CIVIC 1988-1993, a beautiful theatre still standing today. 1988 saw the opening of the KINCUMBER RITZ near East Gosford. What a disaster. The brutal recession stymied attendance and this snazzy brand new 300-seater struggled. I sold it after just 12 months.

In the early 1990s, legendary Australian Producer/Director David Elfick had several excellent features whose releases I managed from his Palm Beach Pictures office. Other Australian Producers called with similar release problems and I found myself becoming a boutique distributor for quality films the major distributors refused to handle. *NO WORRIES*, *UNDER THE LIGHTHOUSE DANCING*, and even a reissue of the notorious *NUMBER 96* movie succeeded. The highlight though was re-releasing Hollywood classics - *CABARET*, *THE BOYFRIEND*, *STAR!*, *THE ODD COUPLE* and several others.

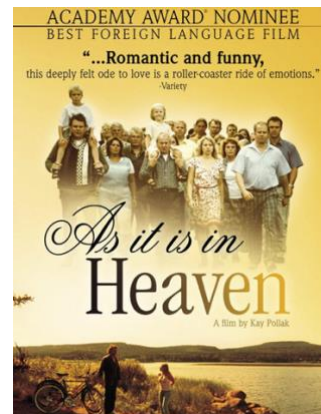
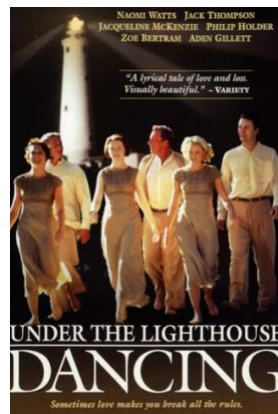
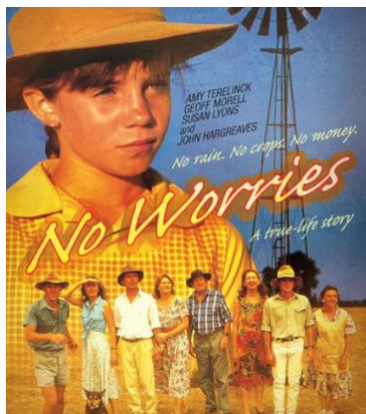
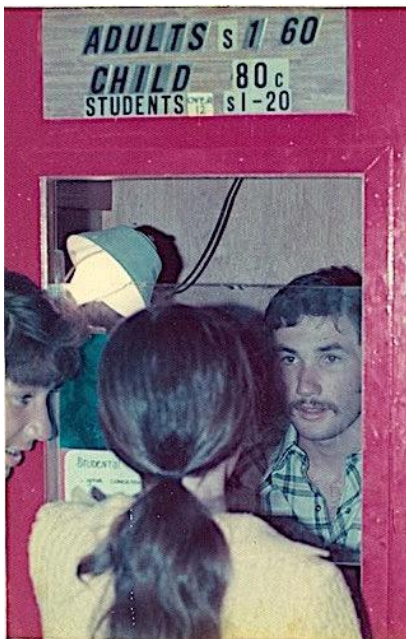
Releasing a large number of documentaries and small Aussie features was very satisfying. An association with Paul Dravet at The Cremorne Orpheum saw us handling the Swedish drama *AS IT IS IN HEAVEN* which broke box office records for over 12 months - its success earning me a trip to Sweden courtesy of the Swedish Ambassador.

A fortuitous discovery of the thought-to-be-lost 1929 Technicolor Talkie, *MAMBA*, in an Adelaide garage led to my advocating its restoration by the UCLA Film Archive, after which I presented the film to enthusiastic audiences in Europe, New York and Los Angeles, a trip that even included a serendipitous lunch meeting with Mel Brooks!

A joyful nine-year contract with Event followed, firstly managing the Universal Pictures Centenary festival at the State, then ensuring their older cinemas in Canberra and Newcastle remained viable to their dying day. Since 2020 my website www.ptbscreen.com.au has offered advice and guidance to younger Aussie Creatives for the release of their features and docos.

Soon the story of the magnificent lost SUMMER HILL (Grosvenor) THEATRE as a book and documentary will be told – a collaboration with industry insiders, those who were there, and the Inner West Council. See www.cinemadoco.com.au or our Facebook pages.

Looking forward to the next 50 years when I can celebrate my own Centenary in Showbiz!



NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

MEMBERSHIP

129 new members joined the Society this year, up from 100 the previous financial year. Recent years have seen a shift in the make-up of our new members: 55% have come from the Production sector, 35% from Exhibition and 10% from Distribution.

90th ANNIVERSARY DINNER 2023

The National Anniversary Dinner was held on 29 November at Rydges World Square – 185 people attended. Congratulatory video messages were received from Bryan Brown, Natalie Miller, Damian Keogh, Murray Forrest, Brian Pritchett, Elizabeth Trotman, Sharon Strickland, Stephen Basil-Jones, Gillian Armstrong, Mike Baard, Andrew Mackie and Richard Payten.

Raymond Bannerman, Odyssey Media, produced a stunning animated video logo and Composer Nerida Tyson Chew created and recorded a wonderful fanfare. Our Master of Ceremonies was Ian Sutherland, and photographer Alex Brown documented the occasion brilliantly, with links to his photos added to the National Facebook page.

All Branches celebrated the Society's 90th Anniversary with special functions in 2023.

MERCHANDISE

In the 2023/2024 year we have processed, packed and posted:

129	Membership Certificates and Cards to new members		
216	Orders for new logo Membership Cards		
70	Membership Pins	75 Cinema Pioneers Caps	50 Mouse Mats

Since introducing our small range of Cinema Pioneers merchandise in 2021, we have issued:

700	Membership Pins	535 Cinema Pioneers Caps	400 Mouse Mats
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The introduction of a new membership card featuring our redesigned logo in February 2023 has proven very popular with our members, with 858 issued up to 30th June 2024, and sales continuing strongly. These will remain available indefinitely, and both versions of the Cinema Pioneers Membership Card will continue to be recognised by cinemas.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

In March this year, the Society updated our national bank accounts at Westpac. Our new National operating bank account details are:

THE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN CINEMA PIONEERS LTD
BSB: 032-066 Account #: 134 606

Please use this account for Anniversary Dinner bookings, card and merchandise purchases. State Branches have separate accounts, so do read Branch newsletters carefully, and make sure payments are made into the correct account for Branch functions.

Combined National and Branch initiatives of the Society resulted in a trading loss of **(\$2,079.70)** for the year. Last year, the trading profit was **\$6,741.78**. However, previously unreported term deposit accounts in the Victorian and WA Branches totalling \$ \$19,574 resulted in an overall increase in the Society's funds of \$17,494.30. \$60,000 of our reserves was transferred to a term deposit, due to generate \$2,585 interest on maturity in February 2025.

Income Statement

The Society Of Australian Cinema Pioneers Ltd For the year ended 30 June 2024

INCOME	2024 \$	2023 \$
Annual Dinner – National Ticket Sales	15,145.00	11,060.00
Annual Dinner – National (President's Appeal Sponsorship)	15,000.00	9,700.00
Annual Functions – State Branches	36,709.58	23,157.55
Bank Interest Income	577.98	416.65
Card Purchases – New Logo	4,320.00	9,340.00
Contributions	1,424.00	2,669.00
Merchandise Sales	7,340.00	2,755.00
Miscellaneous Income	913.00	1,521.08
New Members	38,700.00	30,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	120,129.56	90,619.28
EXPENSES	2024 \$	2023 \$
Accounting and ASIC Fees	4,670.60	3,949.00
Annual Bulletin	2,665.53	2,790.72
Annual Dinner Costs – National	19,318.96	20,164.31
Annual Functions Costs – State Branches	48,595.68	25,799.46
Bank Fees	190.00	67.14
Cards & Certificates	5,552.75	6,181.49
Corporate Expenses (incl fees)	6,367.86	1,595.00
Insurance	4,501.20	3,625.00
Merchandise and Merchandise Postage	4,856.17	194.00
Office & Stationery	2,102.47	1,370.03
State Branch Expenses	1,426.03	-
Superannuation	1,980.00	1,575.00
Telecoms & Web Expenses	1,212.25	1,097.00
Trophies & Presentations	769.76	469.35
Wages & Salaries	18,000.00	15,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	122,209.26	83,877.50
TRADING (LOSS)/PROFIT	(2,079.70)	6,741.78
Add previously unreported funds in WA and Victorian Branch Accts:	19,574.00	-
NET INCREASE IN OVERALL FUNDS	17,494.30	6,741.78

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Our branded items of Cinema Pioneers merchandise may be ordered at any time. Every sale contributes a few dollars to maintaining the Society's financial viability.



CAPS: \$25 plus \$10 postage



MEMBER PINS: \$15 inc. postage



MOUSE MATS: \$15 inc. postage

Payment to: Society of Australian Cinema Pioneers Ltd
BSB: 032-066
Acct #: 134 606

Place your order and confirm your mailing address via email to:
secretary@cinemapioneers.com.au

MEMBERSHIP

We encourage all Cinema Pioneers to talk to friends in the industry about joining the Society, and to direct them to our website, www.cinemapioneers.com.au for full information about membership eligibility, benefits and lots of other news of interest to members.



FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

20 YEARS OR MORE IN THE
AUSTRALIAN FILM INDUSTRY?

BECOME A CINEMA PIONEER

For membership application information,
or to find out more about the Society

www.cinemapioneers.com.au

☎ 0423 339 287 ✉ secretary@cinemapioneers.com.au

@cinemapioneers 📘 cinemapioneersnational

🌐 [australiancinemapioneers](http://australiancinemapioneers.com.au)

NEW MEMBERS (NOVEMBER 2023 – JUNE 2024)

Our 79th National President, Lori Flekser, welcomes all new members who have joined the Society in the past eight months.

Our February Bulletin will list those new members who join from July – December 2024.

NOVEMBER 2023

JOCELYN THOMAS *NSW*
ANNETTE BOWDEN *NSW*
MARK MATES-BILLS *QLD*

RUSSELL ALLEN *NSW*
EDEN PORTER *VIC*

SIMON OZOLINS *NSW*
LAURA SIVIS *NSW*

DECEMBER 2023

TARA AUCOIN *NSW*
YULIA AKERHOLT *NSW*
VINCE VALITUTTI *QLD*
KRISTEN VOUMARD *NSW*

MICHELLE WEIR *NSW*
DESMOND SYLVESTER *SA*
ANDREW WEIR *NSW*
TODD CARMODY *QLD*

LINDA SCHNEIDER *NSW*
SUZY WHITEFIELD *QLD*
MICHELLE PIZANIS *NSW*

JANUARY 2024

KATHERINE BROWN *QLD*

SAMANTHA LANG *NSW*

MARCO SINIGAGLIA *QLD*

FEBRUARY 2024

STACEY SMITH *QLD*
PAUL MULLER *NSW*
BENJAMIN CLAY *VIC*
MARK JEFFREY *VIC*
MATT DAY *NSW*
DANIEL DE SILVA *VIC*
DYLAN KIAZIM *NSW*

MICHELLE COLES *SA*
STEPHEN DAVIS *VIC*
NAOMI CLEAVER *VIC*
KRISTIAN CONNELLY *VIC*
ROBERT OLIVE *NSW*
MEGAN LE HUITEMA *SA*

ROGER COLES *SA*
JAMES HARVEY *VIC*
ANNA STEEL *VIC*
ROBERT KLENNER *NSW*
ANDREW COLE *NSW*
RICHARD CHONG *QLD*

MARCH 2024

PRUE SAUNDERS *QLD*
SIMON KILLEN *VIC*

MATTHEW HATTON *NSW*
WILLIAM WARD *ACT*

CHRISTIANE PETERSEN *NSW*
CHRISTOPHER BRUCE *NSW*

APRIL 2024

JASON ROWLING *QLD*
SHANE O'DOWD *NSW*

ANNETTE GARLAND *QLD*
PETER WILLIAMS *SA*

SCOTT DOBBIN *SA*
SOPHIE NASH *NSW*

MAY 2024

ELIZABETH TACEY *NSW*
THOMAS NURSEY *NSW*
OLGA SEARLE *NSW*
CHRISTINA POZZAN *VIC*
GLENN BROOKER *QLD*

ANDREW AUSTIN *NSW*
ANDREW LINLEY *QLD*
LAURENCE BRIGGS *WA*
ARON DYER *WA*

STEPHEN JOHNSON *NSW*
MICHAEL WRENN *NSW*
SUSAN KENNETT *SA*
PETER HOWARD *NSW*

JUNE 2024

REY ADIA *NSW*
LUKE NAISMITH *SA*
KATH SHELPER *NSW*

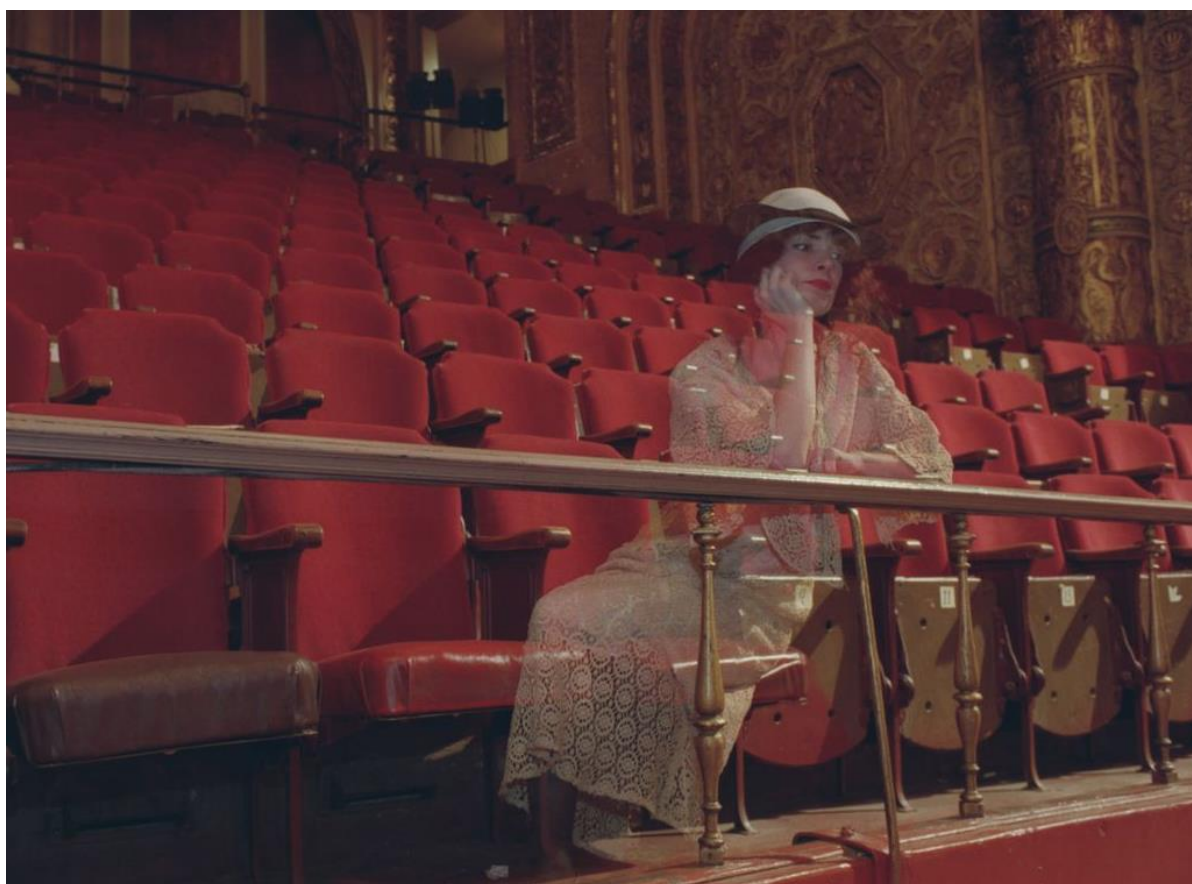
MELINDA DORING *NSW*
SIMONE TURNBULL *NSW*

COLIN McDOUGALL *NSW*
PAUL CORNELIUS *QLD*

VALE (NOVEMBER 2023 – JUNE 2024)

Honouring those Cinema Pioneers who have left us since October 2023, as advised during the past eight months. Our February Bulletin will list those whose deaths we learn about between July and December 2024.

TED ANNAND <i>QLD</i>	HAROLD ASPINALL <i>VIC</i>	GILDA BARACCHI <i>NSW</i>
GRAEME BEST <i>NSW</i>	REG BOULTER <i>VIC</i>	BOB BRAINWOOD <i>NSW</i>
EDWARD BRIDGHAM <i>NSW</i>	ALLAN BROWN <i>SA</i>	BILL COGHLAN <i>NSW</i>
KELVIN CRUMPLIN <i>NSW</i>	ROBIN DUNN <i>SA</i>	FABIAN FITZGERALD <i>VIC</i>
CAM FORD <i>NSW</i>	DAVID GODDARD <i>WA</i>	WILLIAM GRAY <i>NSW</i>
SANDRA GUNTER <i>SA</i>	WILLIAM LAMBERT <i>NSW</i>	BRYAN OEHM <i>VIC</i>
GRANT PAGE <i>NSW</i>	BRIAN PEARSON <i>SA</i>	GRAEME PLATT <i>WA</i>
CHRIS SAVIDIS <i>VIC</i>	JAMES SHERLOCK <i>VIC</i>	DAVID SIMPSON <i>SA</i>
RONALD SMITH <i>VIC</i>	DALE TURNBULL <i>NSW</i>	KEITH WALTON <i>VIC</i>
CHRISTOPHER WEBB <i>NSW</i>	LES WILLIAMS <i>VIC</i>	JIM WILSON <i>VIC</i>



PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

1934	GEORGE CLEMENTS	1984	FRED CROUCH
1935	STANLEY WRIGHT	1985	LAURIE RUSSELL
1936	BILL SZARKA	1986	DAVID JOEL
1937	GUS MCINTYRE	1987	JOHN MERRIN
1938	ALAN WILLIAMSON	1988	STANLEY FITZ-ALAN
1939	CHARLIE MUNRO	1989	MERVYN JONES
1940	ALF BESZANT	1990	JOHN W. SMITH
1941	DAN CARROLL	1991	MURRAY FORREST
1942	ARTHUR GREGORY	1992	BRUCE HAWKINS
1943	MONTE SIMMONS	1993	JOHN REID
1944	ARCHER WHITFORD	1994	KEITH MOREMON
1945	CLAY REID	1995	RON McEWAN
1946	JOHN FULLER	1996	LES WOODS
1947	TOMMY GREAVES	1997	BILL PALMER
1948	STAN CRICK	1998	NORMAN SHEEDY
1949	HERC MCINTYRE	1999	ALAN RYDGE AM
1950	TED JOHNSON	2000	ALLEN MYERS
1957	GORDON ELLIS	2001	WENDY PATERSON
1958	DAN CASEY	2002	ANTHONY BUCKLEY AM
1960	MEL LAWTON	2003	RICHARD PARTON
1961	DOUG LOTHERINGTON	2004	NOEL COLLIER
1962	FRANK BARRETT	2005	IAN SANDS
1964	COLIN H.C. JONES	2006	PAUL JOHNSON
1966	HORRIE NAGEL	2007	TOM JEFFREY AM
1967	TOM CADWALLADER	2008	JOHN ROCHESTER
1968	PHIL JONES	2009	ALAN RYDGE AM
1969	KEN G. HALL OBE	2010	ROSS ENTWISTLE
1970	HERB HAYWARD MBE	2011	JOHN KIRBY AM
1971	KEITH MOREMON	2012	ALAN FINNEY OAM
1972	RON MICHAELS	2013	SUE MILLIKEN AO
1973	ROB MCLEISH	2014	MIKE BAARD
1974	PHIL BUDDEN OBE	2015	MIKE SELWYN
1975	DARBY C. JEWELL	2016	ROBERT SLAVIERO
1976	BILLY MOLONEY	2017	TIM READ
1977	JOHN P O'CALLAGHAN	2018	TIM READ
1978	WES LONEY	2019	TIM READ
1979	DAVID WILLIAMS AM	2020	RUSSELL ANDERSON
1980	WAL GRANGER	2021	RUSSELL ANDERSON
1981	ALLAN LEWIS	2022	GREG DENNING
1982	ROD GURR	2023	GREG DENNING
1983	JOHN NEAL	2024	LORI FLEKSER



**91st ANNIVERSARY DINNER
FRIDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2024, 7pm**

(Arrivals from 6.15pm)

\$85 per person for Members and Guests

Tables of 10 - \$800 (if paid in one transaction)

Please confirm your booking via email, and transfer payment to

Society of Australian Cinema Pioneers

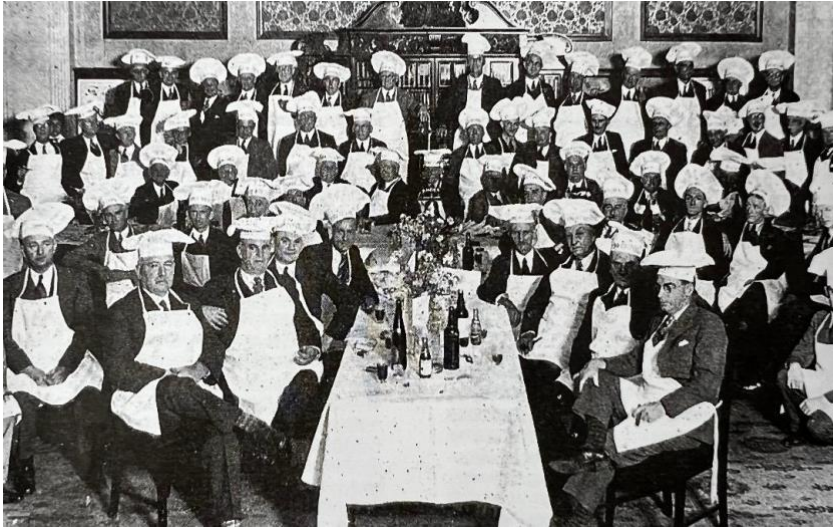
BSB: 032-066 Acct #: 134 606

swissôtel
SYDNEY



**Glass of bubbly on arrival * Two-course dinner * Complimentary drinks on every table*
* Celebrate our Cinema Pioneer of the Year * Catch up with old friends *
* A grand night of jollity and gaiety for everyone! **

The first 'Old Timers' Dinner – 29 November 1933



And the second, a much more formal affair...



...but they did have dancing girls!



Photos from June 1995 Australian Theatre Historical Society 'Kino' magazine, courtesy Member Tim Gunn

AROUND THE BRANCHES

VICTORIA BRANCH

Tuesday 3rd September, 6pm: Kingpin Bowling, Crown Casino

(enter via Crown, or from 8 Whiteman Street, Southbank)

A fun bowling night – open to Exhibition, Distribution and Production

2 games for \$45 – drinks and snacks, pay as you go

Sunday 10th November, 1.30pm: Screening at the Capitol Theatre, free to all members, to celebrate the Capitol's 100th Anniversary. (Film to be advised)

Wednesday 20th November, 6pm for 6.30: End-of-year Dinner

2-course meal, complimentary drink

Presentation to the Victorian Cinema Pioneer of the Year, Vincent Parisella

Presentation of certificates to new members

Friday 13th December: Casual Bistro Luncheon – venue to be confirmed.

Full details of all these functions will be included in Branch Newsletters sent to all Victorian members

WESTERN AUSTRALIA BRANCH

END-OF-YEAR LUNCHEON 7th NOVEMBER

ROYAL PERTH GOLF CLUB, LABOUCHERE ROAD, SOUTH PERTH

Full details to be advised soon.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

LUNCHEON FRIDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

12 noon, BRISBANE BRONCOS LEAGUES CLUB

2-course lunch with complimentary drink

(house wine, beer, soft drink, coffee)

MEMBERS AND GUESTS \$45 EACH

To book email qldcinemapioneers@gmail.com

SOUTH AUSTRALIA BRANCH

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER

12 noon for 12.30pm, HIGHWAY HOTEL, 290 ANZAC HWY, PLYMPTON

3-course lunch * Complimentary drink on arrival – other drinks to be purchased at the bar

MEMBERS & GUESTS \$60 EACH

See your branch newsletter for booking details.

TASMANIA BRANCH

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON THURSDAY 12th DECEMBER

12.30pm, SEAGRASS LONG POINT RESTAURANT

19 Beach Road, Sandy Bay, Hobart www.seagrasstasmania.com

Members receive a \$10 subsidy off their meal

RSVP essential to yurik@bigpond.net.au / 0362 310 360

By Monday 9th December



MEMBERS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As an incorporated not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, we are required under the rules of the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) to hold a Members' Annual General Meeting for the Society of Australian Cinema Pioneers,
ACN: 629 564 012

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of
The Society of Australian Cinema Pioneers Ltd (the Society)
will be held as a Zoom meeting at 3.30pm AEDT on Friday 15th November 2024.

A reminder email, and link to participate via Zoom
will be sent to all members with an email address on 1st November 2024

Topic: CINEMA PIONEERS 2024 MEMBERS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Time: Friday 15th November 2024, 3:30pm AEDT

AGENDA

ORDINARY BUSINESS

1. To receive and consider the National President's report on the activities of the Society during the financial year ended 30th June 2024.
2. To receive the Secretary/Treasurer's financial report.
3. To confirm the members of the National Executive Committee to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of the Society.
4. To announce the 2024 National and State Cinema Pioneers of the Year.
5. To receive and consider Members' questions or comments, if any, concerning the management of the Society, in accordance with section 250s of the Corporations Act 2001 (Commonwealth).

DATED at Sydney this 31st day of August 2024.

BY ORDER of the National Executive Committee



ROSS BARNARD
NATIONAL
SECRETARY/TREASURER
0417 404 103



PROXIES

- (a) A Member is entitled to appoint another Member as a Proxy.
- (b) No Member (other than the chairperson) may hold more than five (5) proxies.
- (c) The proxy form must be signed by the Member.
- (d) To be effective, a signed proxy form should be either:
 - posted or delivered to The Secretary, 7 Keir Avenue, Hurlstone Park, NSW 2193
 - or emailed to the Secretary of the Society: secretary@cinemapioneers.com.au so that it is received by 3.30pm on Wednesday 13th November 2024
- (e) Should a Member wish to direct the Proxy how to vote, the Member should complete the proxy form accordingly. Otherwise, the Proxy may vote as they think fit or abstain.
- (f) The notice appointing the Proxy shall be substantially in the form of the Proxy Form template below and may be written as an email to The Secretary.

I, Name: _____

Of Address: _____

being a member of The Society of Australian Cinema Pioneers Ltd, hereby appoint:

Name of Proxy: _____ also a member of the Society,

as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf at the AGM of the Society held at 3.30pm on Friday 15th November 2024 on Zoom, and at any adjournment thereof.

If no details are completed above, then I appoint the Chairperson of the meeting to act as my proxy.

Item 1: To receive the President's report on the Society for the financial year ended 30th June 2024

Item 2: To receive the Secretary/Treasurer's financial report for the same period

I authorise my proxy to vote as follows:

For [] Against [] Abstain [] As they choose []

Signature of Member appointing Proxy: _____

CHIPS RAFFERTY



Update your Cinema Pioneers membership Card!

Email a digital passport-style photo to secretary@cinemapioneers.com.au
and transfer the \$20 replacement card fee to
Australian Cinema Pioneers Consolidated Account
BSB: 032-066
Acct #: 134 606

THE CINEMA PIONEERS ID CARD

On presentation of your Cinema Pioneers ID card, the following cinemas will issue two complimentary admissions – for yourself and a guest – with the following provisos and exceptions.
Please read them carefully.

Many cinemas now require a 'gold coin contribution' from Cinema Pioneers using their Photo ID Cinema Card. Monies raised support various charities, including Cinema Industry Benevolent Societies. As it is at the discretion of the Exhibitor and therefore no standardised rule for this, some cinemas charge differently, so we urge you to check before attending and have a few coins in your pocket just in case.

The President and Executive Committee are grateful for the privileges extended to our members, and thank all cinemas involved.

The following major exhibitors generously honour the Cinema Pioneers card, and we gratefully acknowledge their support:

Hoyts Cinemas, Event Cinemas, Birch Carroll & Coyle Cinemas, Village Cinemas
and **Palace Cinemas** all charge a 'gold coin' contribution
for Cinema Pioneers presenting their membership card at the box office.
Carefully note EXCEPTIONS listed below.

Please check the policy with the following Cinemas before attending:
Reading Australia * Wallis Cinemas (SA) * United Cinemas * IMAX Melbourne

EXCEPTIONS:

- Always check session listings for the 'No Free Tickets (NFT)' descriptor against certain titles, generally in the first few weeks of release. Comps are not available for these sessions.
- The card cannot be used on Saturday evenings after 6.00pm, on Public Holidays, or for Premium Seating and Special Programs (e.g. Special Previews and Premieres).
- Cinemas may not accept the card for certain other sessions on occasion, such as special events, co-sponsored film festivals, Q&A screenings.
- HOYTS has advised that exceptions also extend to HOYTS LUX, HOYTS Daybeds and HOYTS DBox.
- EVENT and VILLAGE Gold Class, V-Max and 4DX Cinema sessions are excluded.
- EVENT's IMAX THEATRE in SYDNEY is also excluded.
- READING Titan Luxe Cinema sessions are similarly excluded.

To the best of our knowledge, the following **Independent Cinemas** continue to honour our Membership Card, but sometimes their policy may change. Always check beforehand. Please advise the Secretary if a cinema no longer recognises the Cinema Pioneers Card, or if you discover if one not listed also recognises Pioneers cards.

NSW and ACT

Boolaroo (Newcastle) - the Lake Cinema
Canberra City Dendy Cinemas
Ettalong Cinema Paradiso
Griffith City Cinemas
Metro Cinemas at Bathurst and Lake Haven
Narooma Kinema
Nelson Bay Cinema Complex
Nowra Roxy Cinema Complex
Randwick Ritz
Roseville Cinemas
Tuggeranong (Canberra) Limelight Cinemas
Regional Cinemas Australia - Port Macquarie, Nambucca Heads, Inverell, Kempsey, Sawtell

Bowral - Empire Theatre Complex
Cremorne Orpheum (Hayden Orpheum)
Great Lakes Cinema 3, Tuncurry
Merimbula - The Picture Show Man Twin
Mount Victoria – Mt. Vic Flicks
Narrabri Crossing Theatre
Newtown Dendy
Orange Odeon 5
Richmond RAAF Theatre
Tamworth Forum 6
Wagga Wagga Forum 6 Theatre

QUEENSLAND

Bribie Twin Cinemas at Bribie Island
Hervey Bay Cinemas
Limelight Cinemas at Ipswich
New Farm Cinemas
Warrina Cineplex at Townsville
Cineplex Australia at Hawthorne, Balmoral, Redbank Plains, Southbank, Nerang and Victoria Point.
Gold Coast Arts Centre Cinema
Ironbark Theatre at Chinchilla
Moncrieff Entertainment Centre at Bundaberg
Summergarden Twin Cinemas at Bowen

VICTORIA

ACMI - The Australian Centre for the Moving Image offers complimentary admission to a Cinema Pioneer and one guest subject to availability. However, this offer does not apply to external partner film festival events.

Arts Centre, Warburton
Bairnsdale Sun Cinemas
Carlton Nova Cinema
Dendy Cinemas Brighton
FOMO Cinemas Brunswick East
Kino Cinema Collins S
Metro Cinemas Boronia,
Mornington Cinemas (Rosebud and Warragul)
Sun Theatre Yarraville
The Memorial, Healesville
Wonthaggi Cinema
Showbiz Cinemas, Swan Hill, Ballarat and Portland

Astor Theatre St. Kilda
Cameo Cinemas Belgrave
Classic Cinemas Elsternwick
Dromana 3 Drive-In
Hamilton and Port Fairy Cinemas
Lido Cinemas Hawthorn
Mildura Deakin Cinema Complex
Sale Cinemas Centre
Swanpool Cinema
Wangaratta Cinema Centre
Yarram Regent Theatre

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Capri Theatre - Goodwood
Kadina Cinema – Kadina
Oatmill Cinema - Mount Gambier
Cinema Augusta - Port Augusta
Lincoln Cinema - Port Lincoln
Regal Theatre - Kensington Park

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Ace/Hoyts - Midland Ace - Rockingham Luna Cinemas - Perth and Fremantle

TASMANIA

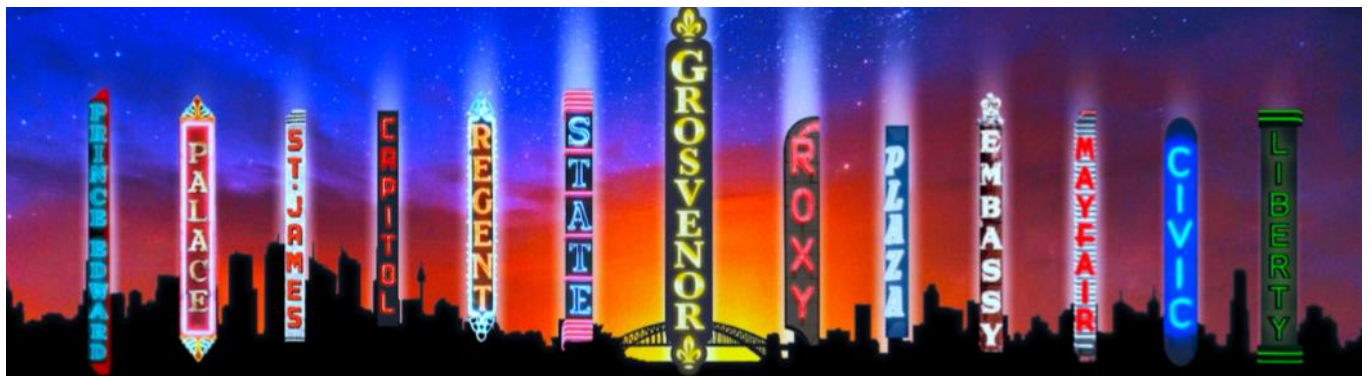
Metro Cinemas at Burnie Star Theatre, Launceston State Cinema North Hobart



Support your local cinema...



it may not be there tomorrow!



Bulletin compiled and edited by Cinema Pioneers Secretary Ross Barnard, with thanks to all contributors

Support the Cinema Industry's own Charity



WHAT IS THE MPIBS? www.mpibs.org.au

It is quite different from Australian Cinema Pioneers. It's a registered charity offering tax-deductibility for donations and is the Cinema Industry's primary benevolent society. Founded in 1931 by people working in the motion picture industry, the Society provides financial and emotional support to currently employed, or retired, members of our industry – exhibition, distribution, production or post-production – who have fallen on difficult times and have a genuine need.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

The Society relies on donations from industry enterprises and individuals, particularly those who make regular yearly donations. However, as generous as these contributions are, the current level of annual donations needs to increase in order to meet the continuing call on the Society's funds.

WHAT IS THE LEVEL OF SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE MPIBS?

There is no set yardstick or formulae. It all depends on the circumstances of each individual. In addition to individual needs, the MPIBS provides annual "Winter Comfort" and "Christmas Cheer" payments to beneficiaries.

HOW DOES THE SOCIETY ASSESS AND SUPPORT BENEFICIARIES?

Assessments are undertaken in the strictest confidence by the MPIBS Chairman of Investigation & Relief, who recommends to the MPIBS Council a level of support appropriate to the particular needs of the individual. Financial assistance only supplements government pensions, and may include a quarterly subsidy for utilities and provide 'in kind' support by way of essential medical aids, such as wheelchairs or breathing apparatus, heaters or Vital Call alert buttons.

HOW LONG DOES THE ASSISTANCE LAST?

For as long as is needed. Beneficiaries are reviewed carefully and confidentially every 18 months to 2 years to ensure that there has not been any significant change to their circumstances. Depending on how they are going, their relief payments can be increased, decreased or left at existing levels.

There are other State-based Cinema Industry Benevolent Funds which may operate differently to the MPIBS – contact your State Branch President to enquire and support.