

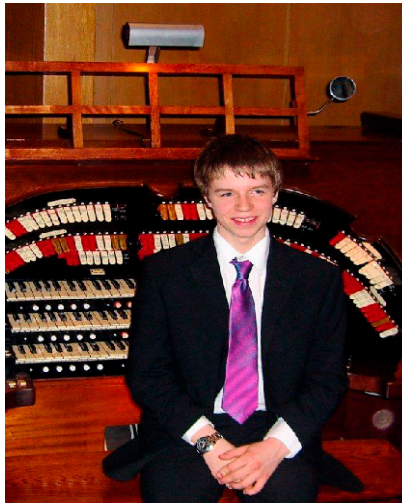
TOSA NEWS

August 2010
Volume 49 No.6

Price: \$2.00

50th Anniversary Year

SUNDAY 8 AUGUST 2:00PM
MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL
DAVID GRAY



**the Scottish Wizard Plays the
Prince Edward Theatre 2/11 Wurlitzer**

Please Note Membership renewal is due for 2010/11

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Printing by Rob Gliddon

From the President



Hello all,

Thank you to those members who have taken the time to renew their memberships. If you have not yet done so, it would be appreciated if you could arrange payment in the near future. As a not for profit organization we rely on a budgeted cash flow as our cash holdings are primarily reserved for restoration and maintenance. Membership fees have been maintained at the current level for some years, largely due to the excellent cooperation received from members.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to the show involving seven of our accomplished organist members. Being aware of the hours of preparation and rehearsal I believe this should be a great show. As you will be reading this after the event, I say "thank you" to those who attended and supported the Christie Restoration Fund.

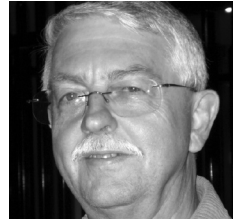
Don't forget to come to Marrickville on 8th August to hear David Gray. He's a young man who had his 20th birthday a few weeks ago and comes with glowing references and an assurance that there will be something for everyone in his presentation. Note the venue is Marrickville, not Campsie as previously advertised – more of that elsewhere.

Russ and Jo Ann Evans are known to many. They are residents of the USA and have over the years been most supportive of the Australian Theatre Organ scene with particular help in sourcing and shipping parts unobtainable in Australia. At the recent ATOS Convention they were made recipients of the ATOS Ron Musselman Member of the Year award. We congratulate them on this award.

Happy organising,

Geoff Brimley

Editorial



The commemorative fine bone china 50th Anniversary Coffee mugs were very popular with patrons who attended the great show with Ryan Heggie and Glenn Amer on Sunday 16 May at the Orion Theatre. You will be able to purchase them at each show this year.

Please ensure you renew your membership as soon as you read this issue of TOSA News so that you can enjoy the worthwhile savings by being a member of TOSA NSW Divn. There are some outstanding artists presenting another 4 shows for the remainder of the year.

This will be the last issue of TOSA News that you receive if you have not renewed your membership ASAP please.

I have included an article about the Spokane 3/20 Wurlitzer that was played by Dave Wickerham as part of the ATOS 55th Theatre Organ Convention.

I express TOSA NSW thanks to the Editors of the Journal of the American Theatre Organ Society for printing in the July August issue of Theatre Organ, the review of the 50th Anniversary week-end celebration of TOSA NSW Division.

Deadline for TOSA News is the 12th of the previous month.

Enjoy the music,
Ernie Vale
PO Box A2322
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235
editor@tosa.net.au

From the Mailbox...



Thanks for your responses and please continue to email or write in, telling us what you think.

Where space permits we will do our best to publish your comments, but as space is limited, the editor reserves the right to edit any submitted comments and, as always, the views expressed by any individual may not necessarily coincide with the views of TOSA NSW Div.

Please submit all comments via email to:

The Editor editor@tosa.net.au

or in writing to:

The Editor - TOSA News (NSW Div)

PO Box A2322

SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

New Members

TOSA (NSW) welcomes these new members and wish them a long and happy stay:

Mark Wentworth Gibbons

Michael Wansey

Keith Roy Beardsmore

Patricia McEldowney

John McEldowney

Marie McGrath - wife of John

New Service for TOSA

(NSW) Divn Members

*Theatre Organ Sheet Music
Collection & Lending Library*

Would you consider donating unwanted theatre organ sheet music (of any condition) to help get a new collection started? All genres, styles and complexities are welcomed.

*Please contact TOSA member
Graham Glendenning on
Tel: (02) 9680 3122
Mob: 0401 094 884
Email: gcglen@gmail.com*

Graham advises that a recent donation of a significant collection of music is a wonderful response to this request for music. Ed.

Vale Peter Seward

Peter passed away on 15 June this year aged 65. He was one of those clever musicians who played by ear and could never read a note of music. Ritchie Willis advises that he would play all day given the opportunity. He worked at David Jones in Sydney before moving to Melbourne where he passed away.

Members Change of Address

If you are moving house, or change your email address please advise the Membership Secretary of your new address and/or email address by phoning (02) 9524 7203 or email membership@tosa.net.au

To watch out for..

Saturday 31 July

10:00am - 12 noon

Members visit to

Wesley Centre, Pitt St. Sydney

*John Batts to entertain on the
Christie Organ plus open console*

Sunday 8 August 2:00pm

David Gray *Scotland*

Plays the Prince Edward Theatre
Wurlitzer

Marrickville Town Hall

(Please note the change of
venue)

Sunday 26 September 2:00pm

Simon Gledhill *UK*

Plays the Prince Edward Theatre
Wurlitzer

Marrickville Town Hall

"I have more out of Alcohol than
alcohol has taken out of me"

Winston Churchill

Some recent laws would indicate
the lawmakers not only passed the
bar but also stopped there.

Advertising

Rates in

TOSA News

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Small bubble = \$11.00

Quarter Page = \$24.75

Half Page = \$49.50

Full Page = \$99.00

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

**Members' Playing Events
2010 Dates**

**The Orion Campsie
2nd Thursday 1:30pm**

In view of the hoist being in
need of major attention before
the Orion Wurlitzer can be made
available for members to play
there will be no playing event at
the Orion until further notice.

To be sure there is no last
minute cancellation at the Orion
please ring Walter on 9716 0151

**Marrickville Town Hall
4th Monday evening at 7:30pm**

August	23
September	27
October	25
November	22

To be sure there is no last
minute cancellation at Marrickville
please ring Neil on 9798 6742 after
7:00pm

What's happened at the Orion Theatre Campsie?

A few days after our last show at the Orion we learned of a problem with the hoist.

Initially the fault was diagnosed as a broken seal and there certainly was a lot of oil in the liftwell.

However when the lift mechanics investigated further it was found that water had infiltrated the area and the resultant rust had created additional problems necessitating some repairs.

As most know, the building is owned by Council and the hoist is their responsibility. We have been in regular contact with their representative and until 21st July it was stated the repairs would be completed in time for our August show. Fortunately, as it happened, we did not share the confidence of the Council and had booked Marrickville Town Hall for 8th August, "just in case".

It has now been found that the cost of repair would exceed the cost of a new hoist and Council is awaiting receipt of quotes after which all those associated bureaucratic matters require attention.

We do not know how long the Orion Wurlitzer will be out of action but will keep you informed of developments as and when they occur. Meanwhile the Committee is investigating the possibility of some maintenance work on the orion

Wurlitzer during this period. The inconvenience caused to you, our members, is regretted and your understanding, appreciated.

President Geoff Brimley

Review of the Ryan Heggie and Glenn Amer show Sunday 16 May 2010 at the Orion Theatre

by Doug Grant

I don't wish to circumvent the role of the reviewer of the Ryan Heggie/Glenn Amer show at the Orion Theatre on Sunday 16th of May, but I would like to contribute my views on the two artists. I left the show-musically satiated, - that is to say that I felt that I had really enjoyed listening to two artists of a very high musical calibre.

Ryan's performance was superb in that he chose items from a wide range of musical styles and eras. He played with a musical sensitivity and craftsmanship that belied the fact that he is currently living in a country town not exactly blessed with Wurlitzer organs, and therefore doesn't have the opportunity to familiarise himself with the scope of the Orion's instrument.

His arrangements were simple yet elegant, and didn't depend upon the sheer level of sound of which the instrument is capable. His arrangement of Saint-Saen's "Clair de Lune" was simply delightful.



Glenn Amer's contributions to the program were similarly a delight. His piano playing was accurate and impressive without resorting to the inaccurate flamboyance so often demonstrated by lesser artists. Glenn's singing voice was likewise a pleasure to listen to, note perfect

and with just the right amount of phrasing variations to suit the particular piece.

Well done Ryan and Glenn and well done TOSA(NSW) for arranging such a successful pairing for the show.

HOME PARTY at BRONTE Sunday 30th May 2010

by Deirdre McMullan

On a fine afternoon, only hours before the forecast East-Coast low-pressure system arrived, a small but enthusiastic gathering of TOSA Members invaded the 7th floor of John Batts' unit at Bronte.

We were all attracted to the wonderful view and, of course, the Thomas Celebrity Royale A7181 organ. Since the organ had been behaving oddly John had welcomed the offer from Tom Barber to bring along his latest electronic portable keyboard — a Yamaha with additional external speakers. And this latter one performed flawlessly. In the course of the afternoon various organists warmed up the Thomas, coming to terms with some of its peculiarities. Those who dared were: John Batts, Tom Barber, Graeme Costin, Peter Robinson, Ian Georgeson and Deirdre McMullan

We were sometimes delighted to watch some "tame" and friendly visiting Rainbow Lorikeets who took seed from John's hand during the afternoon.

Various members also tried their luck with the Yamaha keyboard as a variation. The last musical items of the afternoon were a couple of numbers played as a duo (John & Tom).

Afternoon tea had started quite early, especially with those mem-

bers coming from Mittagong! They were most grateful for refreshment. And throughout the afternoon everybody enjoyed the appetizing food supplied by both members and hosts.

It was a lovely afternoon and we thank John & Rhonda for their hospitality and the use of their home for another TOSA home party.



Member John Batts



Member Tom Barber

**TOSA NSW Division
50th Anniversary
Commemorative Coffee Mugs**

The fine bone china coffee mugs have arrived and will be available to purchase at the Shows at Marrickville Town Hall on Sunday 8 August, Sunday 26 September and Sunday 14 November unless sold out prior to these shows.

The mug has a colour picture of the Orion Wurlitzer on one side and a colour picture of the Marrickville Wurlitzer on the other side. It has a double gold rim with gold lettering and gold music notes.

This momento of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia NSW Division's 50th Anniversary would look fine in any china cabinet.

As there is one of our Wurlitzer Theatre Organs on either side of the mug you may like to purchase two mugs so you can display each organ in your china cabinet.

There is a limited production of the mugs and they will be available to purchase only at our 50th Anniversary shows this year until sold out.

The price is \$25 per mug and they come in a special box.

Show & Membership Prices

The following TOSA show ticket prices now apply:

	Australian Artists	Overseas Artists
Non-members	\$25.00	\$27.50
Non-member Pensioner/Senior	\$22.00	\$25.00
TOSA Members	\$20.00	\$20.00
Students 15-21yrs	\$10.00	\$10.00
Group Booking for 10 or more Adults	\$20 per person	

Child under 15yrs accompanying an adult: FREE!

Annual Membership Fees are now: \$30.00 for Full membership, and \$20.00 for Concession, Country, Interstate & Overseas.

Membership enquiries Bob Alleway 9524 7203 membership@tosa.net.au

Associate Membership for a spouse/partner is an additional 50% only.

Rescue in the wind

Working on iconic instrument no grind for these experts

*from The Daily Telegraph,
Thursday, June 24, 2010
by Vikki Campion, Urban Affairs
Reporter*

It's sweet music to a chimney sweep's ears -- for the next three years they will be cleaning 8,756 pipes on one of the world's biggest organs.

About \$40 million of renovations to the Sydney Town Hall -- and 30 years of dust -- have left the soaring pipes of the Grand Organ dirty and falling out of tune.

A team of seven organ experts led by Peter Jewkes, the managing director of Pipe Organ Builders, Tuners and Restorers, will clean, tune and repair the pipes.

Some are as small as pencils while others stretch to 64ft tall (organs are measured in imperial, never metric).

Tuning the grand old lady has been diligently performed by 71-year-old Manuel da Costa for the past three decades and the City of Sydney council feared it would not be able to find a replacement [tuner] when he retired.

"We are only the fourth company to maintain it in 120 years, which is a nice little tradition," Mr Jewkes said.

"It did get grubby during the renovations -- this will keep it speaking properly. It's the loudest organ in Australia in sheer decibels and it has wonderful range. It can roar, it can whisper quietly."

Once "sounding first class again", Mr Jewkes will measure every pipe and digitally record every note.

"So if it did ever burn down, we could rebuild it," he said.

The organ was built to be the masterpiece in one of the finest buildings of the 19th century.

"It was a symbol of hope for the economy for old Sydney town, which was a big statement back then," Mr Jewkes said.

"It was built to play orchestral music, the music of the day."

VALE ROSA RIO

From the New York Times
By MARGALIT FOX Published: May 14, 2010

Rosa Rio, Organist From Silent Films to Soap Operas, Dies at 107

On Oct. 6, 1927, the day "The Jazz Singer" splashed noisily across American movie screens, Rosa Rio broke down and wept. Al Jolson was talking, and the very sound of him, she knew, would put her out of business.

But Miss Rio's fears went unrealized, and for the next eight decades

— until her final performance, last year — she built a career as one of the country's premier theater organists.

Miss Rio was undoubtedly among the very last to have played the silent-picture houses, accompanying the likes of Chaplin, Keaton and Pickford on the Mighty Wurlitzer amid velvet draperies, gilded rococo walls and vaulted ceilings awash in stars. She was also one of the few women to have made her way in a field dominated by men.

Miss Rio died on Thursday, less than three weeks before her 108th birthday. The death, at her home in Sun City Center, Fla., was confirmed by her husband, Bill Yeoman.

For the silents, Miss Rio provided music — often improvised — to set moods that images alone could not: the footsteps of a cat burglar, the sighs of young lovers and the dreadful roar of the oncoming train as the heroine flailed on the tracks. When silents gave way to talkies, she became a ubiquitous presence on the radio; when radio yielded to television, she played for daytime serials. The Queen of the Soaps, the newspapers called her.

In Miss Rio's career one can trace the entire history of entertainment technology in the 20th century. After all, she was alive, and playing, for nearly all of it.

Midcentury Americans could scarcely touch a dial without hearing Miss Rio. As the staff organist of

the NBC radio network from the late 1930s to 1960, and an occasional organist for ABC Radio, she provided live music for a spate of popular shows, including "The Shadow," starring a trim Orson Welles, and "The Bob and Ray Show." Her television credits include "As the World Turns" and the "Today" show.

In recent years, long after television dispensed with live organists, Miss Rio accompanied silent films at some of the nation's tenderly restored movie houses. She was most closely associated with the Tampa Theater in Florida, a lavish picture palace built in 1926.

Several times a year Miss Rio would rise from beneath the stage there, seated at the organ in sequined evening gown, diamond rings and gold lamé slippers. As she wafted majestically upward, the room shook with her signature tune, "Everything's Coming Up Roses," or, as she much preferred to call it, "Everything's Coming Up Rosa."

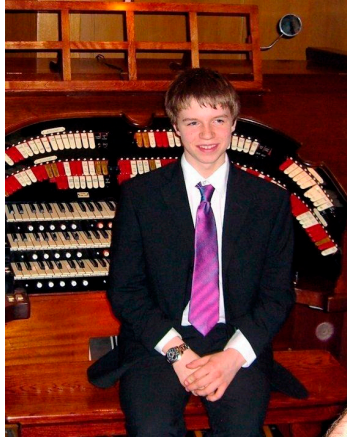
Borne on a wave of cinematic nostalgia, Miss Rio had come blissfully full circle.

Miss Rio was born on June 2, 1902. Her maiden name and birthplace have been lost to time; her given name was Elizabeth and she was reared in New Orleans. She began calling herself Rosa Rio — a name narrow enough to fit neatly on a theater marquee — early in her career.

Next Shows
Sunday 8th August 2010 at 2:00pm

featuring **Scottish Superstar**

David Gray



playing the former
Prince Edward Theatre Sydney,
Mighty Wurlitzer
*****Marrickville Town Hall*****
Marrickville Road, Marrickville

David Gray is possibly one of the most gifted young musicians to come out of the UK in many years.

An accomplished pianist, cellist and classical organist **David** first played Theatre Organ near his home in Scotland in 2004. Four months later he won 2nd place in a British Theatre Organ competition and the following year he won the international "Young Theatre Organist of the Year" competition in Los Angeles.

You won't be disappointed by this incredible young organist.

Free parking at both venues

(Disabled Access available at the entrance to both venues)

Sunday 26th September 2010 at 2:00pm

featuring **Direct from the UK**

Simon Gledhill



playing the former **Prince Edward Theatre** Sydney,
Mighty Wurlitzer
Marrickville Town Hall
Marrickville Road, Marrickville

Simon's first experience of the theatre pipe organ was hearing the late Ernest Broadbent play the Mighty Wurlitzer at Blackpool's Tower Ballroom. In 1982 he entered and won the Northern Young Theatre Organist of the Year competition. Nigel Ogden, presenter of BBC Radio 2's The Organist Entertains, was in the audience, and invited him to make some recordings for the programme on the BBC theatre organ at the Playhouse Studio in Manchester.

The broadcasts resulted in a flurry of concert offers, and **Simon** has since performed at all the major theatre organ venues in Britain, as well as touring in Germany, Holland, Australia, Canada and the USA. There have been 11 appearances at Annual and Regional Conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society.

Tickets to each show: Members \$20;
Non Member Pensioner/Senior Card \$25
Non-Members \$27.50; Student (15 – 21 Years) \$10
Group bookings for 10 or more adults \$20 per person
Bookings: (02) 9629 2257
Visa & Mastercard accepted

At 8, Elizabeth began piano lessons and immediately decided on a show business career. This, her parents made clear, was no fit occupation for a proper Southern girl.

She persevered, and her parents relented a little. Playing in church would be fine, they decided. So would the genteel life of a children's piano teacher. With these callings in mind, Elizabeth entered the Oberlin College Conservatory in Ohio.

She chafed there until the day she visited a Cleveland movie palace and heard a theater organ for the first time. Not long afterward, she transferred to the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, which had a program in silent-film accompanying.

Miss Rio's first marriage, to John Hammond, an organist, ended in divorce. She is survived by her second husband, Mr. Yeoman, whom she married in 1947; three grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. A son, John Hammond III, died several years ago.

In the 1920s, Miss Rio played in movie houses around the country before being hired by the Fox Theater in Brooklyn. Then came Jolson, and she found supplementary work as an accompanist and vocal coach. One of her clients was an unknown singer named Mary Martin, whom Miss Rio accompanied on her successful audition for the Cole Porter musical "Leave It to Me!" (1938), Martin's Broadway debut.

At NBC, Miss Rio played for as many as two dozen radio shows a week, often with just 60 seconds between shows to bolt from one studio to another. On Sept. 1, 1939, the day Germany invaded Poland, she was summoned to work at 2 a.m. For the next 10 hours, she performed somber music between news bulletins. After the United States entered the war, she had her own show, "Rosa Rio Rhythms," broadcast to American troops overseas.

Radio of the period was a rough-and-tumble world — a man's world. Miss Rio gave as good as she got.

As recounted in Leonard Maltin's book "The Great American Broadcast: A Celebration of Radio's Golden Age" (Dutton, 1997), she was playing a show at NBC one day when the announcer, Dorian St. George, crept up behind her, undid the buttons down the back of her blouse and unhooked her bra. Miss Rio, performing live before a gallery of visitors, could do nothing but play on.

When the music stopped, Mr. St. George stepped up to the microphone to do a commercial. As he intoned plummily with the gallery looking on, Miss Rio stole up behind him, unbuckled his belt, unzipped his fly and neatly dropped his trousers. Then, according to Mr. Maltin's book, she started on his undershorts.

What happened next is unrecorded.

2010 Seattle 55th annual ATOS convention

Seattle Washington June 28-July 4

For all those Theatre Organ enthusiasts from Australia who attended the convention in Seattle we had a wonderful feast of music, played at very interesting and varied venues. It was particularly great to see the Theatres that have been operating continuously since opening and being lovingly operated by members of their communities. I propose to include a series of articles about the organs presented at the convention.
Ed.

The First Church of the Nazarene 3/20 Wurlitzer, Spokane, WA

*from Tuba Mirabilis by Jonathan
Gradin*

Dave Wickerham -- artist-in-residence at the famed Milhous Museum collection in Boca Raton, Florida -- gave an excellent concert Monday afternoon, June 28, to a nearly full house. 214 people arrived from Seattle on the buses; several drove or took their own transportation from Seattle; many locals attended.

The organ behaved itself very well, considering the soon-to-be-replaced console; the only major problem --- which Wickerham deftly worked around --- was that the Solo Chrys-

oglott stayed on toward the end.

After opening remarks by Ken Double, ATOS President and CEO, Wickerham --- appearing resplendent in a black coat over a colorful vest and white shirt --- opened with a rousing medley of "Cheek to Cheek" and "I'm in Heaven." I was just short of the Pearly Gates, though, because my camera died just before he started playing and I didn't have a back up battery.

Anyway, the song went well and displayed the theatre organ ensemble and reed sounds that have been coming together very nicely recently with tonal finishing by Ron Mitchell and Lyn Larsen.

"[The organ] gave me a big hug!" Dave said. In honor of Hoopfest, held over the weekend, Wickerham played "Sweet Georgia Brown," theme song of the Harlem Globetrotters. This jazzy tune allowed the exhibition of many of the organ's percussion and solo voices; Dave is a master at jazz-band style playing.

Ken and Carol Fuller, Spokane First Nazarene's organist and pianist respectively, celebrated 50 years of playing for First Nazarene last year. Dave honored their commitment with two of their favorites in a medley: "My Funny Valentine" and "Moonlight in Vermont," both of which were ecstatically received by the (mostly) above -50 crowd.

Next a demonstration of the Tuned Doorbells, excuse me, Saucer Bells followed in a sprightly 1920s song

"Playmate," the chorus of which sounded remarkably similar to another old favorite, "Red Wing." The other bells received a workout.

To show how well suited the instrument --- with its more orchestral voicing --- is to liturgical use, especially with gospel/old-time hymns sung by the Nazarenes, he played a medley of "His Eye is on the Sparrow" and "Great is Thy Faithfulness," the former of which he had used as his offertory on Sunday. This brought a great reaction, particularly from the church members and leaders, who are growing more appreciative of the organ.

Wickerham changed pace with "Midnight in Mayfair" rendered a la British organist Sidney Torch. While technically and harmonically very interesting, it was very easy listening, not an example of "ear aerobics" as some TPO showpieces seem to be.

First Nazarene organ curator, Clint Meadway and his wife will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary next month, so Dave graced them with a smooth, flowing medley of "Moon River" and "Always," which was followed by a very snazzy, extremely well received medley that included "It's De-Lovely."

The highlight of the concert was a multifaceted arrangement of the "Bells of St. Mary's," originally composed in 1914, the same year the organ was built, then featured some 30 years later in a Bing Crosby film of the same name. Wickerham's rendition included

some tasteful uses of the bells, as well as many of the original, more classically oriented voices of the instrument. Starting quietly almost prayerfully like a chapel organ at twilight, it grew in grandeur and majesty until --- against a massive string-vox chorus in the right hand and fairly powerful pedal --- the stately, round, smooth off-trem Tuba Mirabilis came sounding forth in the tenor range, a sound which sent chills up and down my spine. This, and some of the other Hope-Jones-influenced ranks, makes this instrument unique in the world of theatre organs. While capable of producing sounds like most theatre organs, the original Hope-Jones sound has not been lost, testament to the renovation crew.

Wickerham appropriately ended his concert with an Americana medley that opened with a pipe-and-drum-band cadence. The full range of registrational sounds, from pure theatre to classical/symphonic, were displayed, particularly in the last two songs, "America the Beautiful" and "America."

Wickerham's encore was DeSilva, Brown and Henderson's perennial favourite, the "Varsity Drag." This upbeat, rousing finale provided an excuse to use the Klaxon/Ooga Horn and Siren on the newly restored toy counter, as well as showing off the snappy reeds. The 32' Diaphone was also featured at the end, showing off the range and sheer power of the organ.

Sunday August 8 2:00pm

Marrickville Town Hall

Marrickville Road, Marrickville

David Gray

*plays on the fabulous
ex Prince Edward Theatre 2/11
Wurlitzer*

*Come along and bring your friends to
hear this outstanding young
Scottish Musical star of the Theatre
Organ*

on his first tour of Australasia

More Free parking for patrons attending TOSA events at Marrickville Town Hall has now been agreed by Council.

The vacant fenced area for parking is accessed from Livingston Road just before the traffic lights at Marrickville Road next to the hospital.

Members Play the Prince Edward Theatre Wurlitzer to raise funds for the Christie Organ Restoration Fund Sunday 25 July

Reviewed by Ernie Vale

TOSA extend our thanks to all those members and friends who came to the fund raising afternoon to hear seven of our members play the Wurlitzer in Marrickville Town Hall. There was over 100 music lovers in the audience who were treated to a feast of musical styles and interpretation of the numbers presented.

President Geoff Brimley gave an update on the search for a home for the Christie Organ advising that a number of possibilities have been explored to date. A venue that is currently under proposal is looking promising however TOSA know from experience that we have to move one step at a time and hope for a positive outcome in this instance.

The funds raised on the afternoon will enable TOSA to start budgeting for the various aspects of the restoration project.

Christopher Waterhouse opened the show by giving some background to the purpose of TOSA and the desire to keep the theatre organ art form alive. He introduced each player by outlining their background in learning to play music and where they are involved in the music scene. All the members who played love

the Marrickville Wurlitzer and take every opportunity to keep their skills honed by attending the players evenings at Marrickville.

Tom Barber opened the show with a number from the movie "Top Hat," - "Cheek to Cheek." Then his program included "Dreaming", "Vienna, City of my Dreams", "Dancing Tambourines", and a medley of English tunes including - "Lets All go Down the Strand."

Craig Keller then entertained with "If I Were a Rich Man" from Fiddler on the Roof. Then being a country boy living in the big smoke of Sydney he played "Far From the Home I Love" followed by "Anything Goes" and "We're in the Money."

Ron Ivan, dressed for the part with check jacket and felt hat, opened with "That's Entertainment" followed by a medley of Harry Warren numbers, then "Chatanooga Choo Choo", "One Day When We Were Young", "When You Wish Upon a Star" intermingled with "Somewhere over the Rainbow", "Irish Eyes", "On the Road to Gundagai" finishing with "Till We Meet Again."

Graeme Costin opened with the Toccata in D minor "Three Blind Mice" then changed the mood to play themes from television shows and movies which reminded me of the ABC's popular show "Spicks and Specks" quizzes. He played the theme from "Dad's Army", "Who do you think you are Mr Hitler", the theme from "Gilligan's Island", and themes from "F-Troup", "The Mickey Mouse Club", "Pink Panther"

with some very clever pedal work, "Mash", and "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly." He concluded with the Hallelujah Chorus.

During intermission the audience had the opportunity to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit whilst chatting with friends and looking over an excellent display of photo's and news articles about the Prince Edward Theatre and the Capitol Theatre.

In addition there was information about the next shows at Marrickville Town Hall on August 8th with the Scottish master of the Wurlitzer, David Gray and on 26th September with the UK wizard of the Wurlitzer, Simon Gledhill.

Following intermission, Christopher welcomed **John Batts** to the console to play "Spanish Gypsy Dance" (1932) a "Paso Doble" ... Pascual Marquina. A theatre-organ classic, as well as being a nod to the recent World Cup winners, Spain. This time heard without the pain of vu-zuzelas! A fast and exciting "paso doble". Then "Everything I Have Is Yours" (1933) ... Burton Lane. A reminder of that time of year! By title this ballad is the Tax-man's song. Otherwise, a romantic ballad with heart-tugging sentiments calling for the use of the Wurlitzer's "sobbing Tibias."

This was followed by "El Cum-banchero" (1943) Raphael Hernandez and "Dream a Little Dream of Me" (1931) Gus Kahn & Milton Adolphus. By contrast, a gentle, emotive ballad popularised by The

Mommas & Pappas (Cass Elliott). Another piece of music to explore the gentler sounds of the theatre organ.

A swing number: "It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got that Swing" (1922) Ervin Mills & Duke Ellington. A jazz standard from the Twenties with plenty of current appeal. A toe-tapping piece of music. This piece was a great success for an English organist who recorded it on a Christie theatre organ, Sidney Torch.

Then Film Music: "East of the Sun" (1935) [Use Surf & Birds] "evocative" ... Brooks Bowman. I hope to remind you that the theatre organ's resources can transport the listener, evoke moods etc. This music has a haunting melody and reminds me that not everything has to be played at a hectic pace.

A Piano Novelty: "Dizzy Fingers" (1923) Zez Confrey. A flurry of notes in the tradition of piano novelties – an occasion for "busy fingers -- & feet" i.e. about 100 seconds of agreeable musical madness.

Peter Held was then introduced by Christopher and opened with a trio of Irish Tunes followed by the "Festival Toccata" then the Overture "Morning, Noon and Night in Vienna." Through his selection **Peter** was able to contrast the program by demonstrating that the Wurlitzer was quite capable of playing classical music as well as modern theatre styles.

It was now **Christopher Waterhouse's** time to entertain us and he showed us his theatre styling when playing "Somebody Stole My Gal", "Strangers In the Night", "I'll See You Again", a medley of tunes (Black-pool Style) - "I'm Looking Over a Four Leaf Clover", "Baby Face" & "Five Foot Two." **Christopher** closed the show with "Three Coins in the Fountain" and "Side By Side."

There was something to please everyone in the selection of music played and TOSA thank sincerely all the members who played for the show. They had all prepared well. A special thanks to TOSA Committee member Craig Keller for proposing the idea of members playing a show and to Marrickville Council for making practice time available for them.



L to R: Ron Ivan, Christopher Waterhouse, Craig Keller, Graeme Costin, Peter Held, Tom Barber, John Batts

Colours of the King

(Programme of the Organ Music Society of Sydney)
Prepared and presented by Andrew Grahame.

2MBS FM 102.5 2nd Saturday of each month, 5 – 6 pm

The Theatre Organ

Prepared and presented by Andrew Grahame

In view of the relocation of the studio to temporary premises whilst new studios are built, Andrew has had to postpone preparation of further Theatre Organ programs until the new studios are completed.

TOSA NSW

* 2010 - OUR 50TH YEAR *

Contact Kath Harding on (02) 9629 2257 for details of shows and bookings or go to www.tosa.net.au

TOSA South Australia

Tuesdays and weekends TOSA (SA) members play the 4/29 Wurlitzer in their Capri Theatre, Goodwood Road, Goodwood (08) 8272 1177

TOSA Western Australia

John Leckie Music Centre 3/12 Compton

Contact: Pat Gibbs (08) 9450 2151 patgibbs@tadaust.org.au.

September 12th Matthew Loeser

October 17th John Atwell

TOSA Gold Coast

Club Musical Afternoon on the 3rd Sunday of each month (except December)

Contact: Des Gutterson (07) 5524 6607

TOSA Queensland

Secretary: Mike Gillies (07) 3279 3930

Stirling Productions

Karrinyup Community Centre, Perth, Western Australia

* 2010 - Our 28th Concert Year *

August 22nd Ray Clements and John Fuhrmann

October 3rd Simon Gledhill (UK)

November 7th Martin Ellis (USA)

November 14th Cabaret Xmas Party

All concerts are on Sundays at 2pm. Prior bookings are essential with John Fuhrmann on (08) 9447 9837

TOSA Victoria - mto

50 years 1960-2010 September 10 - 12

Emailing of TOSA News to Members

If you would like to receive your TOSA News each month by email it will be in living color as a pdf file. The TOSA News looks very nice in color and it makes it so easy to file.

Please advise the Membership Secretary on *membership@tosa.net.au* with your name and membership number with a copy to the Editor on *editor@tosa.net.au* that you wish to receive TOSA News by email.

Membership Renewal

To those members who have renewed their membership for the next 12 months we thank you for your prompt attention to renewal.

TOSA understands that some members may have overlooked renewal in view of the fact that the last TOSA News issued to you was a combined June July issue.

As mentioned by the President in his column, TOSA values your support through your membership of the Society which enables the continuing presentation of shows for your enjoyment.

This will be the last issue of TOSA News sent to members who have not renewed by mid August. Please consider the cost savings available to you as a member when booking/attending shows.

TOSA look forward to your continued support.

Members Diary

July 2010

Sunday 31st 10:00am - 12 noon

Members visit to the Wesley Centre

Come and hear John Batts play the Christie Theatre Organ
& bring your music for open console

August 2010

Monday 2nd 7:30pm

Committee Meeting Burwood RSL

Sunday 8th 2:00pm

**** David Gray Show****

Marrickville Town Hall

**Note this show has been moved
from the Orion Theatre to Marrickville Town Hall
owing to major work required by Council on the Hoist used to
raise the Console for shows.**

September

Sunday 26th 2:00pm

**** Simon Gledhill Show****

Marrickville Town Hall

Radio.

Radio 2MBS-FM 102.5 "Colours of the King" (program of the Organ Music Society of Sydney)

2nd Saturday of each month, 5pm till 6 pm

Radio 2MBS-FM 102.5 "The Theatre Organ" 3rd Saturday of each month, 6.30 – 7.00 pm

Web Sites of Interest:

www.tosa.net.au

www.theatreorgansaust.info (history of cinema organ installations in Australasia)

www.sydneyorgan.com (our sister society, the Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)

TOSA NEWS

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Please Note: This will be the last edition of TOSA News
if your membership is not renewed by 30 June 2010

