

# TOSA NEWS

July 2018  
Volume 57 No.5

Price: \$2.00

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**Come to the TOSA social day at  
West Ryde Anglican Church  
on New Years Eve** (Financial that is)

**June 30th**

**2:00pm to 4:00pm approx**

 Find us on  
**Facebook**  
**/tosansw**



**#tosansw**

# Directory

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Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)

## **Orion Players Convener**

Craig Keller 0418 484 798 phone or SMS

## **Ticket Secretary (Concert Bookings)**

Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131 before 8:00pm please

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Craig Keller 0418 484 798

**Photography** Barry Tooker 9744 1535

**Publicity Officer** Ernie Vale 0415 626 064  
**TOSA News** Ernie Vale, David & Margaret Badman

# President



Thanks to everyone who took the opportunity to renew their membership early. Response was excellent.

Talk about a return to Marrickville Town Hall! The concert on June 3 at MTH saw a wonderful return of Sydney native, John Giacchi, to where he began his theatre organ career. Again we were entranced by the abilities of our wonderful little Wurlitzer in the guidance of John's expert playing as he entertained us all in the first of two concerts celebrating Opus 875's 50th anniversary in its home.

The other return was the audience. I know it's not the heady days where hundreds of people would flock to MTH on a FRIDAY night to see and hear the likes of Lyn Larsen, Hector Olivera and others, but still it was great to see the hall look and feel "full". Survey results indicate that most appreciated the new layout, afternoon tea offerings, socialising and BYO ability. Thanks to the committee for their support in this change and particularly Margaret and David Badman for the extra effort they put in to make it work. The technical crew and front of house crew also went above and beyond for the day.

Another benefit of the new layout was that the acoustic liveliness of MTH was dampened a little.

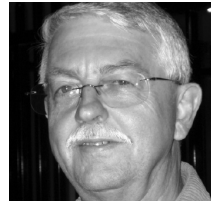
We have a social day happening at

West Ryde (St Columb's) on June 30. See inside for details. A chance to see the progress of the Christie and maybe hear a few sounds – no not a concert and no open console. Videos of concerts from other states may be shown too.

By the time you read this, Debra and I will be in the USA as we are going to the ATOS Convention in Pasadena – as are a number of other Aussies. Should be a great time! Our next concert is Scott Harrison (Melbourne) on 9 September at Marrickville. Looking forward to that one too!

Regards,  
Craig Keller, President

# Editorial



Hello Members,  
Remember this is the 50th Anniversary year of the opening of the former Prince Edward Theatre Wurlitzer in Marrickville Town Hall. Do come along to hear our World Famous Marrickville Wurlitzer in the hands of Scott Harrison and you can BYO drinks and nibbles as well.

Please note the cabaret style seating arrangement for this concert as outlined in this issue. If you need advice on how to book a seat or table please contact Theo Langenberg on 0410 626 131 before 8:pm.

Enjoy the music,  
Ernie Vale  
PO Box A2322  
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235  
[editor@tosa.net.au](mailto:editor@tosa.net.au)

## From the Mailbox...



### **Digital Lodgement National Library of Australia ISSN 2208-9098 (Online)**

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](mailto:editor@tosa.net.au)  
or in writing to:

The Editor - TOSA News (NSW Div)  
PO Box A2322  
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

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### **Transport to concerts from Rail Stations**

Your Committee are keen to assist members with transport from railway stations to concerts as well as to West Ryde Anglican Church for members days. TOSA ask any member if they would be prepared to pick up members at Sydenham Station for transport to Marrickville Town Hall, and from West Ryde Station to West Ryde Anglican Church for members days and ultimately for concerts there.

Also calling for a member to act as coordinator for members to contact to arrange transport from and to the railway stations.

Please contact Secretary, Simon Ellis on 0403 548 354 to discuss. Thanks - the TOSA Committee.

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TOSA Committee thank all those people who stayed back after the June concert to help put tables and chairs away and help with the general clean up.

We are very pleased with the number of members and friends and patrons who came for this celebration 50th Anniversary concert. In view of the positive feedback from people attending and in the survey that they liked the cabaret format we intend to repeat the cabaret style seating for the next 50th Anniversary concert with Scott Harrison on September 9th.

### **We need help to set up**

The Committee call upon members who are willing to assist in laying out the tables and chairs at Marrickville Town Hall on Sunday morning September 9th for the concert please. Lunch is provided for helpers. Access is from 9:30am and TOSA is required to set up & put away the cabaret style seating. Please contact Margaret Badman for details on 0417 971 212

## ***To Watch Out for***

**Concert artists and venues  
for 2018**

**9 September - Scott Harrison  
Marrickville Wurlitzer  
50th Anniversary Year  
Concert**

**18 November -  
Simon Gledhill  
Orion Wurlitzer  
30th Anniversary Concert**

**9 December - Tony & John  
Orion Wurlitzer**

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**Members afternoon at West  
Ryde Anglican Church.**

The Executive & Committee have planned a get together for members at West Ryde Anglican Church on **Saturday 30th June from 2:00pm** to see out the 2017-18 financial year.

Afternoon tea will be included with members invited to bring a plate of goodies to share. This will provide another opportunity to view progress on the Christie Cinema organ. There will also be access to magazines and a video projection.

*See details in this issue.*

## **Advertising**

### **Rates in**

### **TOSA News**

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Quarter Page = \$25

Half Page = \$50

Full Page = \$100

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

### **Members' Playing Dates**

**The Orion Theatre Campsie  
2nd Thursday Morning  
10:30am to 1:30pm  
July 12th**

Players & Listeners welcome

**Convener is**

**Craig Keller** on 0418484798  
will text you to confirm the day  
is available

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**Marrickville Town Hall  
4th Monday afternoon/evening  
at 1:20pm to 9:00pm**

**July 23rd**

**August 27th**

Players and listeners welcome.

**Convener is**

**John Batts** on 0420424103  
will email you to confirm the day is  
available or

Neil Palmer on 9798 6742 after  
7:00pm

**to confirm availability**

## **Urgent Update on the Orion Wurlitzer**

The new UNiflex 4000 system has now been installed at the Orion -

The purchase cost was just under A\$6,800.00 and thanks to more generous donations from members the donations for this important upgrade have now reached **\$4,234**. Thank you members for your contributions. Members, further donations towards this cost would be very much appreciated. Any amount, large or small, will be gratefully received. Donations can be made in any of the following ways:

1. Cheque or Money Order payable to TOSA and forwarded to:-

Treasurer, TOSA,  
26 Maple Crescent  
Lithgow NSW 2790

2. Direct Deposit to the Society's account through any branch of the ANZ Bank (there is no cost using this system) or Internet Banking  
Details required are:

BSB 012430, Account No. 2321 40985, Account name Theatre Organ Society of Australia (NSW Division). Reference 6800

3. Cash or cheque payment at the June 2018 concert - please see Geoff Brimley: a receipt will be issued.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely

Geoff Brimley, Treasurer

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## **Membership Renewal for 2018-19**

For those members who have not renewed before Friday 15th June a new Member Renewal form will be sent to those receiving TOSA News by mail, that has been populated with your member details to assist you in completing your membership renewal for the ensuing year. Those receiving TOSA News by email will receive the Membership Renewal form by separate email.

Prices have now increased slightly as set out on the form. TOSA would appreciate your early renewal please. We have Phil Kelsall - Blackpool Tower Ballroom - and Dave Wickerham booked for next year already.

## **New (Financial) Year's Eve Members' Club Event Saturday June 30th 2pm**

You are invited to join TOSA on Saturday 30th June, 2018, starting at 2pm at West Ryde Anglican Church, corner of Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave, West Ryde.

Parking is available on site – entrance from Dickson Ave - and on street near the church.

If you would like transport from West Ryde Station to the church please contact Theo Langenberg on 0410 626 131 before Friday June 29th to arrange pick up.

Tea and coffee provided. Please bring a plate of delicacies to share for afternoon tea.

TOSA would appreciate a \$5 donation (or more if you feel inclined) towards the afternoon.

This will be a good chance for members to socialise and inspect progress on the Christie installation. Speaking of the Christie: we propose to have a small section of the organ on wind and playable from the console for the event but please don't expect too much; we still have a way to go.

We also plan to show a DVD of portion of a recent concert on TOSA Q's Christie in Kelvin Grove State College, Brisbane.

The afternoon should conclude about 4pm.

TOSA look forward to seeing you there!

*John Weismantel*  
Vice President, TOSA NSW Inc

## **The Marrickville Wurlitzer - a brief history**

*continued by Vice President - Neil Plamer*

By the early 90's, most of the organs faults were occurring in the electro-pneumatic relays and we were starting to run out of spare wires in the main cable that connects the console to the relays. A decision was made to replace the ageing relays with a locally-built solid-state relay system.

The pneumatic stop action in the console was also replaced with electric action. During this work the opportunity was taken to revise the stop list on the console to make the best possible use of the organ's resources (unification). For this work, the console was moved offsite where the new stop actions were fitted and the manual and pedal keyboards refurbished. Some of the console's woodwork was replaced and it was repolished. The revised stop list was drawn up by John Atwell.

The pipe chambers were completely re-wired. Some changes to the wind circuits also occurred: the two String ranks were provided with their own regulator and tremulant and two additional regulators were added for the bass offset chests.

Twelve pipes were added to the Tibia to extend it down to the 16' octave. The pipes and chest were sourced by member Russ Evans in Seattle and are actually a Robert Morton Major Flute but are of a scale that matches the 10" pressure Tibia at Marrickville. Usually only Wurlitzer organs of 15 ranks or more were provided with a 16' Tibia octave.

The chimes, sleigh bells and Vox Humana units were transferred from the main to the solo chamber (where they would normally be located in a standard Wurlitzer configuration of this size). When the Orion Wurlitzer acquired a Saxophone rank, the Krumet rank returned to Marrickville replacing the Kinura (which remains in storage).



The current layout at Marrickville is as follows:

## SOLO

Harmonic Tuba 16-4'  
Tibia Clausa 16-2'  
Orchestral Oboe 8'  
Krumet 8'  
Vox Humana 8'  
Harp (marimba) 49 notes  
Xylophone 37 notes  
Glockenspiel/Bells 30 notes  
Chimes 25 notes  
Sleigh bells 25 notes  
Traps & effects (drums etc.)  
Diaphone pipes

## MAIN

English Horn 8'  
Clarinet 8'  
Open Diapason\* 16-4'  
Salicional 8-2'  
Voix Celeste 8-4'  
Flute 16-2'  
Chrysoglott 49 notes

\*Bottom 12 notes metal

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### **TOSA need an A3 size scanner to digitise early copies of TOSA News**

Does any TOSA Member have an A3 size scanner they would donate to TOSA or do you know of anyone who has an A3 scanner they would lend to TOSA please? David Badman has volunteered to scan early TOSA News issues so they can be permanently archived and made available for members to read.

Please contact David Badman on 0408 230 337

## **Show & Membership Prices**

	<b>All Artists</b>
Non-members	\$35
Non-member Pensioner/Seniors Card holder	\$30
TOSA Members	\$25

**All Students FREE on confirmation of Student status**

**All Children FREE accompanied by an Adult**

Group Booking for 10 or more Adults \$22 per person

First time Adult \$20 cash by completed Voucher at Box Office

### **Annual Membership Fees 2018-19:**

\$50.00 Full membership, \$40.00 Concession, Interstate or Overseas \$50. \$5 discount if TOSA News emailed to you

Membership enquiries David & Margaret Badman

(02) 4776 2192 [membership@tosa.net.au](mailto:membership@tosa.net.au)

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

**Time to again Celebrate  
the 50th year of the Marrickville Wurlitzer  
at Marrickville Town Hall  
entertaining our TOSA Members  
and the Sydney Public.**

Following the success of the cabaret style seating at the June 3rd concert it is proposed to again use this format for the September 9th concert. Each table will be covered and have a modest amount of free snacks (chips, nuts etc), cups and drinking water provided. Audience members are welcome to BYO additional snacks and drinks if they wish and this can include wine etc if you wish. TOSA NSW will not be selling any alcohol items so we are in compliance with licencing laws.

For afternoon tea at interval we are also providing some enhanced options. To accompany your tea or coffee you will be able to select from some gourmet delicacies. For an additional afternoon tea ticket you can come back for seconds. A slight price increase will be in place to cover this enhanced service.

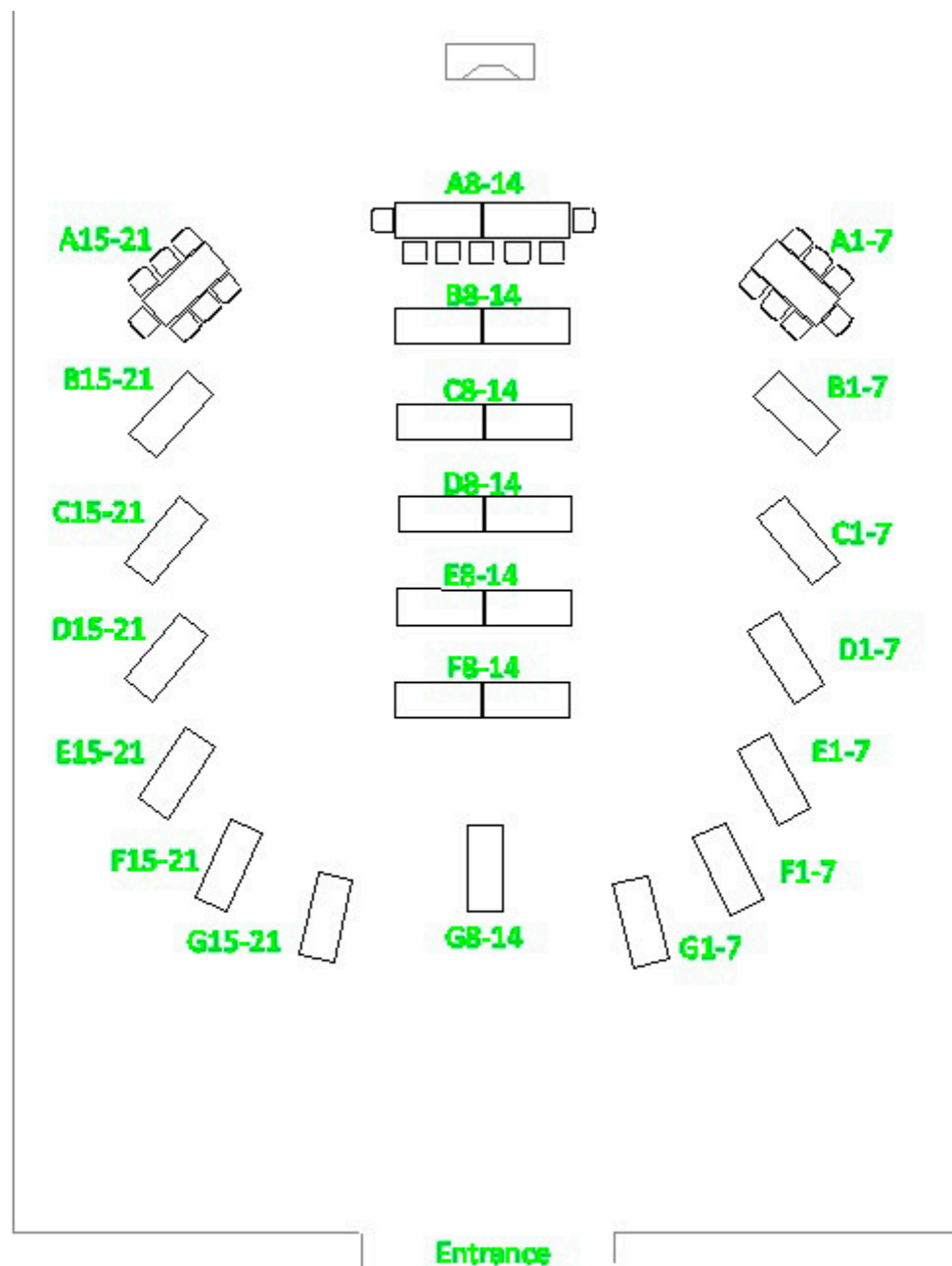
Don't worry, even though the tables and chairs will be arranged "cabaret style" it will still be a theatre organ concert. There will not be dancing troupes, magic acts etc. All entertainment will be provided by Scott Harrison from the console.

Part of the reason for the change to cabaret style is to provide some social interaction for members and audience. We now know that this new layout does absorb some of the lively audio reflection of the hall that has become more prevalent created by the new chairs and their non-padded shells along with reduced audience numbers in recent times. Thankfully the hall was full of members and friends on June 3rd which made for a most enjoyable social gathering of lovers of theatre organ music.

The committee hopes that you and your friends will come along on September 9th to help celebrate again and to welcome Scott Harrison from Melbourne to Sydney and Marrickville Town Hall.

*Craig Keller*  
President TOSA NSW Divn Inc

# Seating arrangement for the September 9th Anniversary Concert at Marrickville Town Hall



**TOSA's World of Entertainment Presents  
Another 50th Anniversary Year Concert  
of the opening of the Marrickville Wurlitzer  
in Marrickville Town Hall in 1968**

# **Scott Harrison**

*Watch this space for*

*Scott Harrison Photo*

**from Melbourne  
will play this celebration concert  
on  
Australia's World Famous,  
fabulous Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra**

**at Marrickville Town Hall  
Cnr Petersham & Marrickville Rds, Marrickville**

***Cabaret Style seating & BYO drinks & nibbles***

***Tea & coffee together with enhanced treats  
available at Interval for just \$3  
Sunday 9th September 2:00 – 4:30pm***

***Come and Join us - bring the grandchildren  
Bring your friends***

**This concert is at Marrickville Town Hall  
to continue the celebration of the 50th Anniversary  
year of the opening of the former Prince Edward  
Theatre Sydney Wurlitzer.**

**This 2 manual 11 rank Wurlitzer** is considered by musicians the world over to be one of the most outstanding 2 manual Wurlitzer installations in the world.

TOSA NSW own this wonderful musical instrument and are very proud of the fact that it has been kept in excellent condition for members and the public to enjoy.

**Scott Harrison**

I'm Scott Harrison and I have been performing on Theatre Organs since 1987. I have been privileged to appear at many of the great theatre organ venues around the world including in Australia, New Zealand, the United States and England.

My first major gig was as 'City Organist' for the then City of Moorabbin (now City of Kingston), Victoria, Australia from 1987 to 1993, residing over their magnificent 4/21 Wurlitzer. During this period I also spent two years residing over the Theatre Organ Society of Australia (TOSA) Victoria's prize 3/15 Dendy Wurlitzer.

Some of the highlights of my regular Australian concerts include the opening celebration concert for the Warragul Wurlitzer along with the re-opening of the refurbished Kingston Wurlitzer in 2005. I was also the organist for the special City of Kingston concerts to celebrate the Kingston Wurlitzer's 80th anniversary (2009), and it's 40th anniversary at Kingston City Hall in 2010.

TOSA would appreciate you all telling as many people as you can about the significance of this musical instrument and the special occasion this presents. Please encourage people to come along whilst they have the opportunity to enjoy the sound of one of the finest 2 keyboard Wurlitzers in the world.

Tickets : \$ 35; Conc \$ 30; Members \$25

Adult Group of 10 or more \$22/person

First time attendance for Adults \$20 by voucher at the box office

Download a voucher from [www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au)

Students Free

## The countess who tried to teach cockatoos to speak Australian

7 May 2018 — 11:25am *from the Age*

London: The Dowager Countess of Harewood, who has died aged 91, was an Australian violinist and fashion model from Melbourne who once tried to teach cockatoos at her bird garden to say 'G'day mate.'

The dowager, also known as **Bambi Tuckwell**, became embroiled in the biggest royal scandal since the Abdication when she gave birth to the Earl of Harewood's son in 1964 while he was married to his first wife Marion (later Thorpe).

In today's more tolerant era, it is hard to explain the shock that this caused. Lord Harewood, grandson of George V and a first cousin of the Queen, was effectively banned from court for several years; the couple were forced to marry abroad (on account of the Royal Marriages Act); and only gradually was the new Lady Harewood accepted into the Royal family.

She coped with the situation with supreme dignity, giving the 7th Earl of Harewood half a century of great happiness until his death in July 2011. Reviewing the Earl's memoirs, *The Tongs and the Bones* (1981), the occasionally acerbic Alastair Forbes noted that "the name Patricia is repeated at every opportunity like a recurring Wagnerian love motif".

**Patricia Elizabeth Tuckwell** was born in Melbourne suburb of Prahran on November 24 1926. Her father, **Charles Tuckwell**, was a theatre organist who was forever on the move and the family lived in 30 locations in 20 years. He and his organ would rise out of the pit and Patricia's mother Elizabeth (née Norton) would put black boot polish on his bald spot because it was the first thing to come into view. In 1931 Patricia acquired a brother, Barry Tuckwell, who became a leading horn player.

She was educated for two days at Loreto Mandeville Hall in Toorak, but was considered too delicate for school and was then raised by a series of governesses until the family moved to New Zealand.

Aged 16, she gained a place as a violinist in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, where she was given the nickname Bambi by the flautist Neville Amadio.

Patricia and a friend were spotted by the magazine editor Iris Dexter, a former war correspondent, and she was soon on the cover of Woman's Daily. She was a favourite of the Melbourne photographer Athol Shmith (later one of Australia's most celebrated photographers), who posed her in Dior cocktail dresses and silk shantung evening dresses. They were married in 1948 when she was 21 and their son, Michael, was born the following year.

At this point Patricia gave up her musical career and opened the Bambi Shmith Modelling School. She also appeared in a number of television programmes for Melbourne's first television station, HSV-Channel 7, co-hosting Beauty is My Business with Mary Parker. The Shmiths divorced in 1958 and for some years Patricia was kept away from her son.

Her life was changed by a chance meeting with Harewood in the Air France terminal at Milan Airport in 1959 when both were flying to Paris, he following an unproductive meeting with the opera singer Maria Callas, and she having been delayed by a friend having a miscarriage. They had to take a bus to Turin. Harewood offered to carry her violin, but she would only let him carry her bag. As she related: "We got talking on the plane, and we've never stopped talking since."

Difficult years followed. Harewood was still married and had young children. Happy though he was with Patricia - "the sheer joy of being in love" - he was riddled with guilt and despaired at finding an outcome. Additionally, he was a member of the Royal family, his mother, the Princess Royal, being aware of the affair and quietly disapproving. Marion Harewood was reluctant to grant her husband a divorce. So intense was the relationship that Harewood and Patricia had a child out of wedlock, Mark Lascelles, born in July 1964.

Eventually their divorce was set for January 1967 and Lord Harewood issued a frank statement to the press. Despite this, the couple were subjected to intense scrutiny. At a Privy Council

meeting on July 28 the Queen gave her cousin permission to remarry, with a carefully worded statement being issued to preserve her position as head of the Church: "The Cabinet have advised the Queen to give her consent and Her Majesty has signified her intention to do so." The couple were married in New Canaan, Connecticut, three days later.

Patricia had not been to Harewood before her marriage. It was a daunting experience and it took her two days to look around the house and its estate. There was, however, no line-up of servants - the Yorkshire butler greeted her: "Oh aye, you've come then." There were light moments, such as when the house carpenter warned her that a particular four-poster bed should not be used because it would collapse from any "undue activity".

She soon became what Lord Harewood described as "at least an honorary Yorkshirewoman". She settled in well, Cecil Beaton noting: "Patricia seems able to cope with the incessant flow of vitality, the over-life-size manners and on occasion the bullying." A neighbour, Lord Rayleigh, described her as "a sycamore, not quite a hardwood, not soft". She took to football, though at first resorted to doing newspaper crosswords during cricket matches.

She became patron of the Huntington's Disease Association and, after her husband's death, became club patron of Leeds United. She was also president of the Leeds Philharmonic Society and the Friends of Opera North. Patricia threw herself into running Harewood, aware how special it was, with its glorious Adam architecture and fine collections of Chippendale furniture.

Perhaps her greatest achievement was the creation of the bird garden. Advised by Peter Scott and Len Hill from Bourton-on-the-Water, she created not only a visitor attraction but also a centre for the re-establishment of rare breeds and bird conservation. It opened in 1970 and, as a result, visitor numbers to Harewood rose from 64,000 to 263,000. They soon had more Bali starlings than there are in Bali and were delighted in 2009 when their black palm cockatoos became the first to breed in Britain. She tried to teach them to say "G'day mate" or "No worries" rather than the Yorkshire "Hello luv".



Meanwhile, Lord Harewood was excluded from royal occasions. He was saddened not to be allowed to attend the funeral of his uncle, the Duke of Windsor, in 1972. Nor was he invited to Princess Anne's wedding, despite giving her a beautiful ruby and diamond stock pin.

By the time of the Duke of Gloucester's funeral in 1974 the Harewoods were gradually being re-integrated into the Royal family. In 1977 Patricia was given a Silver Jubilee medal and met the Queen publicly in Leeds. In July 2002, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh lunched at Harewood House during their Golden Jubilee tour.

Each spring the couple would visit their friend David Wynn, the vineyard owner, in Adelaide, Australia, where they acquired an apartment.

The Harewoods last went out together in June 2011 for the Duke of Edinburgh's 90th birthday service at St George's Chapel, Windsor, by which time Lord Harewood was in a wheelchair, a white-bearded figure with pale blue eyes. Their son Mark was due to get married on July 16, but Lord Harewood died five days before the wedding was scheduled to take place. The service went ahead and all agreed that was the right decision.

Patricia Harewood enjoyed malapropisms, a hospital patient having given a friend his "power of eternity" and a grandchild reassuring her: "You can have lots more lives after you're recarbonated."

She is survived by her two sons and by her three stepsons. The Dowager Countess of Harewood, born November 24 1926, died May 4 2018

**Telegraph, London**

*You may remember that Charles Tuckwell, Patricia's father, played the Marrickville Wurlitzer as part of the program of concerts for the opening of the organ in 1968. (Editor)*

## Pages from the Past

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### **THEATRE ORGAN RECORDING HAS A STREAK OF JAZZ**

It is something quite unexpected, with Olivera most sensitive in some variations of beauty.

Cassette review by Ron Roberts .

Hector Olivera

Hector Olivera was guest organist of the Theatre Organ Society last year and taped sections (on two cassettes) of portions of his recital last year at the Marrickville Town Hall, are now available. Olivera is a singular man, a highly talented musician, who at the age of five was Organist of the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Buenos Aires.

Admitted to the Conservatory at six to study harmony, counterpoint and fugue, from thence he went to the University and finally to New York's Julliard.

He is now known as a concert and theatre organist and has made many records, including one on the famous Hinze of 1742 in the Bovenkirk of St. Nicholass in Kampen, Holland.

His performance on the Marrickville Wurlitzer is more classically orientated than popular, the lighter music being mixed with the Scherzo from Vierne's 2nd Organ Symphony, the Toccata of Dubois, the delightful Durand Waltz in E Flat and the Sinfonia from Bach's Cantata 29. He sounds on occasions as if he would like to be playing a Cavaille-Coll or at least one of those 1840 Hill organs.

He plays two major improvisations, with one using the thematic line of Lloyd Webber's, I Don't Know How To Love Him as a principal melodic line over Bach's Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring as a accompaniment, the Bach finally taking over from the Webber. Nothing of the essential nature of the Bach chorale is lost and the

Lloyd Webber piece becomes more meaningful than it usually is.

His other extended improvisations are on variations of the tunes of *Over The Rainbow* and the *Trolley Song*, starting with a quiet version in cinema organ style on *Rainbow* and he finishes up close to modern classical organ music and treating the *Trolley* in something the same way before winding up with a Bachish fugato section.

Olivera reveals a real jazz streak to his nature in *Sweet Georgia Brown* borrowing from a swing band arrangement, where the members of the band whistle the main theme. Olivera does the whistling part on the upper manual using the upper octave of the 8' Tibia and/or the 2' Piccolo on the same manual.

Olivera shows the real substance of jazz as no other organist has ever played on record, the beat is there, his use of xylophone reminds us a bit of the Hampton touch on vibes, and in a similar way too, the great drum solo at the end is not just a exhibition of the organ's "toy shop" department, but has its roots in the drumming of Gene Krupa. Remarkable also, is the pedal work, which would seem to be done on the pedal 8' clarinet. Actually, his various choruses correspond with solos by front line lead reed players in a band.

Other light music well played are *Moonlight Serenade* in a quite reflective version and a Jerome Kern medley, including *Old Man River* and *Thank Heaven for Little Girls* from *Gi Gi* with a Gershwin introduction, and interpolations.

The other side of Olivera's musical inclinations is shown in his playing of three organ classics, the *Dubois Toccata*, the *Vierne Scherzo* of the second organ symphony, the *Bach Sinfonia* from *Cantata 29* and a work arranged for organ, the *Waltz in E flat* by Auguste Durand. The impression left by Olivera makes it quite difficult to believe that the instrument played is a Wurlitzer.

The *Vierne Scherzo* is finely shaped, with some degree of success with registration to give a French sounding tonality to the work by the use of the organ's reeds and flues. His playing is lively with a perceptive reading that calls for a recording by him of the full organ symphony.

The strong rhythmic character of the Dubois Toccata is firmly handled in a well articulated performance containing many excellent qualities. Here the Wurlitzer shows up far better than some church installations.

Olivera's performance of the Auguste Durand Waltz in E flat, seems to overlook its essential nature as a piece of salon music. His playing tends to over expand it giving it an importance that it does not warrant. A more authentic reading was done by Tony Fenelon in the Christmas concert at the Marrickville Town Hall.

The Bach Sinfonia from Cantata No 29 is a brilliant bit of Bach playing, splendid, triumphant, and while possibly somewhat different than E. Power Biggs and his Flentrop, still worth recognising as a nice piece of Bach playing, though it would have been immeasurably improved had the tempo been a little more moderate.

*Reprinted by kind permission of the Catholic Weekly, May 25, in which this review first appeared.*

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## **THE KING'S CINEMA**

By Colin Tringham.

T.O.S.A. members will be interested to know that a new cinema has opened in Sydney with an item of special interest. The cinema is called the Kings Cinema, but don't bother to look in the newspapers for the programme as it never changes, and you probably won't find the Cinema listed there either!

This new cinema seats only 50 people. I hope I have your interest, because the Kings Cinema is a part of the Powerhouse Museum. It has three sessions daily, but the item of most interest is the old photoplayer - one of only five of its type in existence in the world.

The photoplayer is basically a much modified Player Piano with many sound effects added - all controlled by pull cords or push-buttons PLUS two ranks of organ pipes. The additional components are housed in a separate box, slightly larger than the piano itself. The piano features a dual roll-playing mechanism

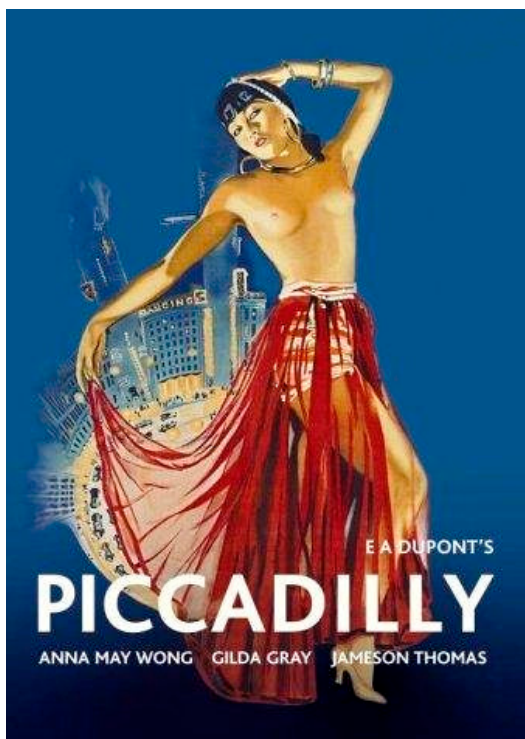
so that as one roll finishes, the second can be switched in so that the sound is continuous.

These units were used to accompany silent movies in the smaller picture houses and can be considered to be the pre-cursor to the Theatre Organs.

At each session of the cinema, a brief demonstration of the Photoplayer is given, followed by a part of a silent movie with the photoplayer accompanying it. Then a few shorts of early Australian sound features are shown, followed by a short early movie. Best of all, admission is FREE.

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**ART Gallery NSW**  
**Domain Theatre in the Art Gallery of New South Wales**  
**PICCADILLY (1929) a silent film restored by the B.F.I.**  
**Live accompaniment by John S. Batts**  
**(Technics digital piano)**



One of The Starburst series of films this winter showcases the career highlights of the 1930s screen icon Anna May Wong (1905-61).

Los Angeles-born Anna May Wong forged a career as Hollywood's first Chinese-American superstar. If you think of Silent Films as exclusively comedies, Piccadilly will force a complete reappraisal. The narrative is well paced and involves not only song & dance of the Twenties but also a variation on the eternal triangle plus both a murder and a who-dun-it sub-theme. London's West End and the depressed suburb of Limehouse feature as this film reflects racial and class tensions. The music to be heard is drawn from contemporary popular songs as well as photo-play compositions of the era.

Piccadilly -- Dir: EA Dupont, 1929 (UK); 109 minutes; 35mm B&W (tinted).  
Unclassified Starring: Anna May Wong, Gilda Gray, Jameson Thomas

"One of the pinnacles of British silent cinema, this stunning art-deco noir evokes the spirit of jazz-age London. Wong plays Shosho, a scullery maid whose dance moves catch the eye of nightclub impresario Valentine Wilmot (Thomas). Overnight, she becomes the star attraction of the grand Piccadilly dance-hall. Jealousy, erotic obsession and revenge play out across both the fashionable West End and Shosho's working-class neighbourhood of Limehouse. In 1928, Wong fled Hollywood in search of more fulfilling work in Europe. With Piccadilly, she landed a coveted leading role in a film which doubles as a snapshot of 1920s multicultural London.

Beautifully restored, colour-tinted 35mm print courtesy of the British Film Institute."

Admission: free      Wednesday 11 July 2018 2:00 pm – 3:50pm  
   Wednesday 11 July 2018 7:15 pm – 9:05pm  
   Sunday 15 July 2018 2:00 pm – 3:50pm

Please note: No advance bookings. Films start at the advertised time. Doors open 30 minutes before. Tickets are issued at the Domain Theatre one hour before. Latecomers not admitted. Babes in arms not permitted.

Art Gallery Road, The Domain 2000, Sydney, Australia  
Info line 1800 679. Open daily (Closed Good Friday & Christmas Day)

## **Members Diary**

Next Committee Meeting - Monday August 6th at 7:00pm

West Ryde Anglican Church

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**Sunday 9th September 2:00pm**

**Come to the Party  
to celebrate with**

**Scott Harrison**

**playing the Marrickville Wurlitzer  
in its**

**50th Anniversary year  
at Marrickville Town Hall**

**Cabaret style seating**

**if you wish to reserve a seat and or a table and  
to assist with catering please contact  
Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131 Before 8:00pm please**

More details inside this issue

[www.theatreorgansaustralia.info](http://www.theatreorgansaustralia.info) (history of cinema organ installations in Australasia)

[www.omss.org.au](http://www.omss.org.au) (our sister society, Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)  
[www.ATOS.org](http://www.ATOS.org) American Theatre Organ Society

***\*Theatre Organ Magic\** on RNB - FM from Sydney, NSW, Australia.**

88.7 FM and 90.3 FM 12 noon first Sunday of the month for one hour

**Web Sites of Interest:** <https://www.facebook.com/tosansw>

[www.ATOS.org](http://www.ATOS.org) American Theatre Organ Society

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