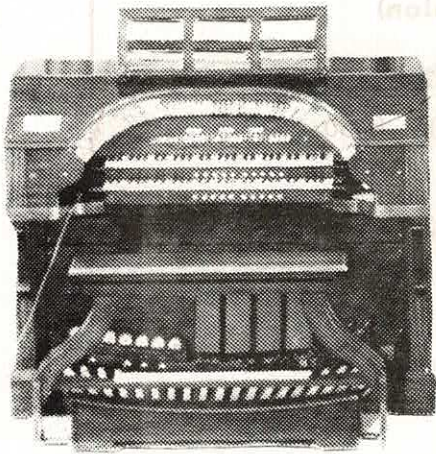


Volume 23 Issue 6 Price 40c June 1984

# T.O.S.A. NEWS.

*The Official Publication of the Theatre Organ Society  
of Australia, N.S.W. Division  
Address - Box A584 P.O. Sydney South, 2000  
Registered by Australia Post - Publication No. N.B.H. 1038*



## FREE CONCERT



SUNDAY 24th. JUNE at 2.00pm.

Marrickville Town Hall

Marrickville

**DIRECTORY****TOSA (N.S.W. Division)**

PRESIDENT Alan Misdale (525 5554) PATRON Ian Davies  
 VICE-PRESIDENTS Frank Ellis (649 7011) Doug Smith (750 0917)  
 SECRETARY Ernest Vale (570 4953 or 798 6816)  
 TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Mrs. Edna Smith (529 7379)  
 RESEARCH & ARCHIVES Ian Cameron  
 PRACTICE CONVENOR Jim Crombie (750 4294)  
 COMMITTEE Mrs Phyl Wilson, Ron Wilson, Bill Schumacher,  
 Robert Gliddon, Neil Palmer, Ron Smith.  
 TOSA NEWS EDITING & PRINTING Ron Wilson (759 6050) & Doug Smith  
 PHOTOGRAPHY Barry Tooker & Ron Wilson  
 CONCERT TAPES Neil Palmer (798 6742)  
 HOME PARTIES Ron Smith (529 7379)  
 Address all correspondence to: The Secretary,  
 TOSA N.S.W. Division,  
 Box A584 P.O.  
 SYDNEY SOUTH. 2000.

**NEW MEMBERS**

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members and we look forward to meeting them soon at our coming functions.

Robert McPhee, Andrea Harrison, Rex Bodkin, Mr.R.Cain, Laurie & Agnes Howdin, Pam Austin, Ernest & Norma Bleach, Marie Pollard.

**NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!**

One of the finest artists on the American organ scene today is the talented WALT STRONY and if things go right TOSA NSW should be presenting him in concert in Sydney during August this year. His first appearance will be on Friday Night, August 3rd at the Paddington RSL Club and then at the Marrickville Town Hall WurliTzer on Sunday August 26th.

WALT STRONY was Guest Artist for our Notable Ninth Convention over Easter in 1980 and his performance at this memorable concert received high acclaim from all our patrons. Be sure to keep the above dates free and whatever happens... DONT MISS!.....WALT STRONY.

All details will be advised as soon as final arrangements are confirmed.

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



## June

MONDAY 4th at 7.30pm

COMMITTEE MEETING at 120 Dennis Street, Lakemba.  
(Visitors are cordially invited to attend)

SUNDAY 24th at 2pm

FREE CONCERT at MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL  
Featuring: RICHARD JAMES in concert at the  
Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ.  
(The popular Richard James has been away from Sydney  
for almost two years and this concert will be a most  
welcome return to the Marrickville Console)

## July

MONDAY 2nd at 7.30pm

COMMITTEE MEETING at 120 Dennis Street, Lakemba.  
(Visitors are cordially invited to attend)

SUNDAY 15th at 2pm

(Capitol Fund  
Raising Function)

GARDEN PARTY at the home of Jack & Marie Stronach  
of 19 St.Elmo Parade, Kingsgrove. Inspect a huge  
range of Camelias in a perfect garden setting and  
relax for a pleasant afternoon of Socialising and  
perhaps some organ music as well. Ladies, a plate  
please towards afternoon tea which will be served  
in the garden. Admission is \$3 per person.  
Please ring 50 4171 for your bookings at once.

SUNDAY 29th at 2pm

PAID CONCERT at the Marrickville Wurlitzer featuring:  
RAY THORNLEY in concert.  
See inside this issue for booking details.

### PADDINGTON RSL CLUB

(opposite Paddington Town Hall in Oxford Street)

DONT FORGET!....INAUGURAL CONCERT....by TOSA Patron: IAN DAVIES, playing  
the new White & Gold Rogers Theatre Organ.

It's on..FRIDAY NIGHT..20th July and commences at 7.30pm.

This promises to be an exciting evening and ALL members are invited to  
attend. Patrons can obtain Dinner from either the Bistro Bar or the  
Dining Room after 5.30pm.

NEIL JENSEN IN CONCERT. MONDAY 4th JUNE.

The Warringah Organ Club is presenting Neil Jensen in concert at Mackeller Women's Bowling Club, Campbell Parade, Manly Vale at 8.00pm. Admission is \$3.00  
Neil will be playing the Hammond Elegante organ.

---

St. Stephens Uniting Church, Macquarie Street Sydney is presenting a series of lunch hour organ recitals every Friday during the month of June. As well as the standard organ repertoire, some recitals will include popular orchestral transcriptions, so there will be something for everyone.

The programmes will commence at 1-15pm. Admission is free, but donations toward the St. Stephens Music Foundation would be appreciated. Concerts conclude about 1-45pm. The recitals are as follows.

1st June..... Heather Moen - Boyd  
8th June..... David Parsons  
15th June..... Robert Ampt  
22nd June..... Eric Smith  
29th June..... Mark Quarmby.

LETTER FROM READER'S DIGEST

Pleasantville. N.Y.

In the past, we have made every effort to comply with customer requests to ship music albums overseas. However, import duties as well as contract restrictions prevent us from continuing this policy. Therefore, we are sorry to say that we are unable to fill future orders.

Perhaps we will have a future opportunity to be of service---- we hope so.

Sincerely,  
Carol Slater.

LYCEUM ORGAN RE-BUILT.

Following serious water damage after the fire in December 1982, the magnificent Christie Theatre Organ in the Lyceum Theatre has been fully restored.

Now returned to the full range of its former glory, it is the only one of its type in Australia today, played regularly on a weekly basis in the theatre where it was first installed in 1929.

Contained in two especially constructed temperature regulated chambers the two manual ten rank theatre organ was originally designed to give full orchestral like backing during the silent film era.

The ten ranks include tuba, clarinet, tibia, flute, together with two strings, two diapasons and a two rank mixture. Additionally the Christie Theatre Organ features 17 chimes, a glockenspiel (German for "Bells to Play") a chrysoglot (like a celeste), a xylophone and a vibraphone.

The trade name Christie is synonymous with the Theatre Organ division of Hill, Norman and Beard, organ designers and builders from England. The Lyceum Theatre organ shares the same construction firm as the fine classical organ in St Stephens Uniting Church, Macquarie Street, Sydney.

There are only two other theatre organs in regular use of similar design in Sydney - both being Wurlitzers : One still installed in the State Theatre and the other, known to many from the old Prince Edward Theatre, now installed and operational at Marrickville Town Hall.

Some will say there is no substitute for the original theater organ and played by such a fine organist as Eric Smith, the Lyceum organ is a must for all music lovers and those who appreciate a fine instrument " with the touch of the master's hand." 'Music' is described in the dictionary as a "rhythmic combination of sounds affecting the aesthetic sense or the emotions."

Every Sunday afternoon and evening, you can experience the wonderful world of music which inspires, challenges, entertains and brings so much enjoyment to all age groups.

# LOGANS PIANOS & ORGANS

*proudly present*

an evening with

## ★ RAY THORNLEY ★

Performing at the new  
YAMAHA ELECTONE ORGANS

*Friday 8th. June at 7.45 pm.*



Concord R.S.L. Auditorium

Nirranda St. Concord West

ADULTS \$2.00 CHILDREN \$1.00

TICKETS BY BOOKING ONLY



LOGANS PIANOS & ORGANS  
250 Burwood Road, Burwood  
Phone 74-2400

CLUB NIGHT Wednesday 11th April.

A pleasant evening was had by the 100 people who attended this very good night. Committee man Bill Schumacher opened the evening with a 15 minute spot on the Wurlitzer and There's No Business Like Show Business set the guests in the right mood.

The TOSA TOUR slides then commenced and some 200 slides were viewed. These were an edited version of over 1000 slides taken during the trip and many thanks to those few people who spent countless hours choosing the right ones for us. A very descriptive commentary was given by Robert Gliddon and I'm sure many of us came away feeling sorry that we had missed the tour.



'First Timer' Daisy Katris gets a helping hand from Bill Schumacher.

Grateful thanks is forever extended by the Theatre Organ Society of Australia, New South Wales Division, to those very kind American friends and the various A.T.O.S. Chapters who overwhelmed our visitors with their generosity and friendly welcome. Their gracious efforts undoubtedly gave us one of the most exciting and rewarding American tours ever made from Australia. Thanks again.



Veteran Theatre Organist Lance Wells keeps his hand in at the Wurlitzer.

Club Night also gave about 12 people the chance to play the Wurlitzer and Bill Schumacher was on hand to help. Several young ones showed great promise and who knows? perhaps a cameo spot soon at a concert.

Tea & Coffee was provided by our Ladies and most welcome too!

---



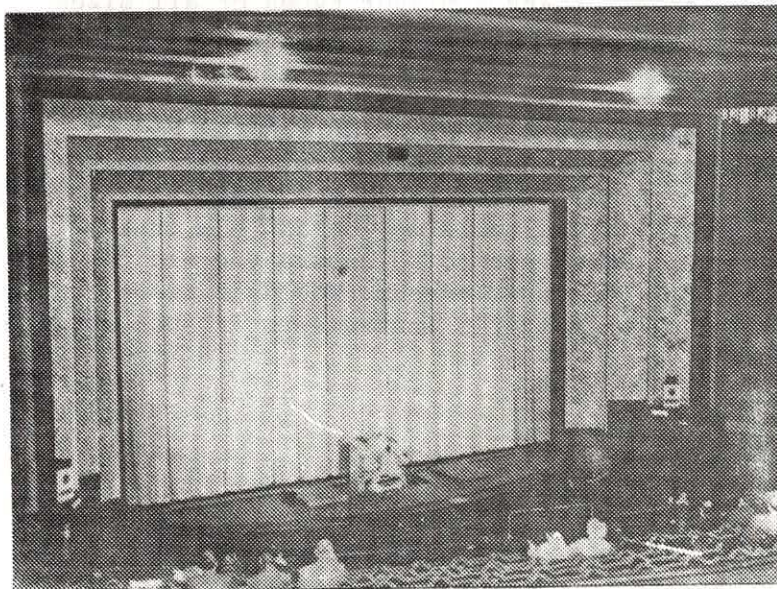
## L.A.T.O.S. GETS KIMBALL.

Pacific Theatres has donated the four manual, 37-rank Kimball Theatre pipe organ, formerly installed in the Los Angeles Wiltern Theatre, to Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society. Presentation of the huge instrument was made Wednesday, March 14, in the office of Harold Citron, Pacific official, who represented the theatre chain. L.A.T.O.S. President Ralph Sargent accepted the organ for the organ society by signing a letter of ownership and transferal. The brief ceremony was witnessed by L.A.T.O.S. members Cliff Schwander, Gene Davis and Tom B'hend, and Jay Swerdlow, of the Pacific Theatres management group.

Prior to the ceremony, it was pointed out by Harold Citron that he was very interested in the organ serving the needs of the young. "The old people have already made their lives. It is the young people who should benefit most from this instrument." he explained. He referred to the value of using the instrument for teaching as well as entertainment, although he noted that Pacific Theatres was pleased the Kimball will remain in the area and be heard by the general public

The Kimball will be removed from its present storage location, the scene dock of the Hollywood Pacific Theatre, and taken to the cavernous warehouse of Standard Industries in LaMirada, which is owned by Ross Reed, Vice-President of L.A.T.O.S. A moving date has not been set.

## CINEMA AUCTION.



REGAL, EDMONTON—The cavernous home of the famed 4/15 Christie organ recorded by Sidney Torch in the golden era. It has also been recorded by Robbie Cleaver and Doreen Chadwick on longplay. The cinema is now a bingo hall. leased to Rank Leisure. The building has been auctioned off and fate of the organ is unknown at present. Both chambers are concealed behind right side of proscenium arch.

Another large suburban cinema - this time in North London - the Regal, Edmonton has grabbed the national press with headlines like "Cinema Landmark Under Threat" and "Unusual Lot: A Cinema". Both headlines refer to the auctioning off of The Regal. With over 3,000 seats it was built by Abrahams Consolidated who built a circuit of many superb cinemas, many organ equipped like the "Regal", Marble Arch, one of the finest in London's West End. Also the Regals at Norwood, Uxbridge, Queens Forest Gate, London; Coronation, Manor Park - all leading London cinemas with organs and often stage shows. Generally they later leased them to other operators like Hyams Brothers, A.B.C. and etc. They also built or bought leading legit

houses in London's West End.

The Regal at Edmonton was made famous by Sidney Torch and its magnificent 4/15 Christie. Torch fanatics claim his finest records were cut there.

What quite will happen to this great organ now the Regal has been sold for 450,000 pounds (U.K.) is anyone's guess at the moment Rank (Odeon) are holding the lease as they inherited it from Gaumont British circuit, which they own. GB had it from Hyams Brothers whom they bought out in the mid-thirties. After Rank's lease expires, one can't say what will happen. It's a bingo house now and the structure was not "listed" for architectural merit.

OVERSEAS NEWS ... cont.

The huge stage was one of the best equipped for a cinema ever. Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald and Rod Stewart have all given live stage shows there. The Christie got mentioned in the papers also. As usual the press were pre-occupied with the "weight" - 10 tons!

ORGAN SHOP.

Unusual venues crop up for theatre organ now and again, and a music shop in the northerly environs of London has seen the installation of the organ formerly from the Ritz Cinema, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire now in Chestnut Organs Musical, a music store in Chestnut, Hertfordshire. Now enlarged to a 3-manual 7-rank, this Compton, which was opened on March 2nd, is owned by the Kidd family, who own the store and are starting their own organ club. Both Mr. & Mrs. Fred Kidd are enthusiastic organ fans and members of A.T.O.S. London Chapter.

MUSEUM ORGAN.

Another unusual venue housing a famous Wurlitzer is the Victorian Gothic church in Brentford, West London. This is the beautiful 3/12 and Grand Piano that once thrilled patrons of the A.B.C. Regal, Kingston-on-Thames. Played and recorded by all the greats like Torch, Ramsay, Foort, et al, it was saved for the National Musical Museum as their biggest exhibit. Much has been written about this marvellous collection of historic pianos, organs - player types of all sizes from the player Hammond to priceless reproducing pianos, Violana Virtuosos, Hupfeld Piano/Violin, player pipe organs - including an Aeolian Duo Art. All is housed in this redundant church and badly needing a proper home. Recent press coverage states the museum's founder, Frank Holland is hoping to get the former Luxor/Odeon, Twickenham, in West London. This early 30's cinema once housed a choice-sounding vintage 2/6 Compton, now owned by Ron Curtis in Bolton, Lancashire. Hopefully, Frank tells me, he and his trusty cohorts can find the enormous amount of money needed to secure the old Odeon which would be an ideal place for the music museum. Wouldn't it be great to hear the sound of these marvelous historic instruments in such a venue.

SYMPHONY BUYS SAN DIEGO FOX.

San Diego Symphony has purchased the Fox Theatre for \$7.5 million, it was reported this month. A total of \$12 million will be raised to renovate the 55-year-old structure and establish a cash reserve. The theatre has been operated by the Nederlander interests for presentation of Broadway musical shows. Fate of the 4-manual 32-rank Robert-Morton organ which was restored by local enthusiasts during the 1970's, and has not been played during tenure by the Nederlander group, is unknown, although it is assumed the instrument will be refurbished for use with the symphony.

DUTCH BUFFS START TWO PUBLICATIONS.

Nederlands Orgel Federatie, the Dutch Organ Federation, dedicated to theatre organ activities, has launched its own quarterly journal. Titled "Nofiteiten", it is a 24-page illustrated magazine. The group has also started a newsletter, "Nieuwsbrief", to cover most of the intervening months. Both publications are fashioned on the format of the British Cinema Organ Society's monthly "Newsletter" and "Cinema Organ" illustrated quarterly. Text, of course, is all in Dutch. Both periodicals are produced by Nederlandse Orgel Federatie, Postbus 189, 1000AD, Amsterdam, Holland.



# For Sale

...9

FOR SALE..... RODGERS ORGAN..... Private sale.

Trio model "B", 3 - 61 note manuals, 32 note concave and radiating pedal board, computer memory capture action (8 pistons) auto rhythm, 8 toe stud's, real glockenspiel.

This superb organ suitable for professional or home use, only 3 years old, big saving @ \$11,500 (as new model "C" is approx \$25,000). Could accept suitable cheaper organ as part payment. Phone 957 6788.

---

FOR SALE.

Kawai E650 console organ, beautiful sounds, 2 - 61 note keyboards and full pedalboard.

Approximately three years old. Price - \$5,500 O.N.O.

Also, very old Hammond L or M100 organ, cabinet knocked about, but organ plays well and sounds good. Valve model - tone wheel. Organ has 2 - 44 note keyboards and spinet pedals. Price \$500 including tone cabinet.

For all enquiries, contact Keith Milwain on 049 761 531.

---

FOR SALE.

TECHNICS V60 organ as new. 12 months parts and labour. Cost \$5300 take \$4000 neg. All enquiries J.Ward. Phone 798 8495.

---

FOR SALE.

KIMBALL SENSATION ORGAN.

This fine instrument would suit beginner or expert and features many fine voices, leslie speaker (slow and tremolo) and many solo voices. Three preset pistons give open flutes, flute ensemble and full organ which is a rich theatre sound. There are 14 (plus) automatic rhythms and an automatic magic chord and swinging finger section.

Unit is in new condition. Price \$4500 negotiable.....Parramatta. Phone 683 1371.

---

## HELP WANTED PLEASE

Our Membership Secretary (Ron Smith) recently sent a letter to Sylvia Pagels of 1/12 Prospect Road, Summer hill re membership renewal and a courteous but somewhat sad reply was received, part of which I will quote:

"The main reason is that although I am within walking distance of Marrickville Town Hall where I have enjoyed attending performances, I find that most of the venues are inaccessible to me as I do not have private transport nor a companion who could assist.

If you could remedy this problem for me I would be willing to contribute towards petrol and would happily renew my membership".

If there is someone out there who can help Sylvia Pagel with her transport problems please contact Ron Smith on 529 7379 and we will advise accordingly.

# Great British Theatre Organs

GRANADA THEATRE, KINGSTON-UPON THAMES.

- Ian R. McIver.

The ancient town of Kingston Upon Thames, now part of Greater London, has had organs in no less than four of its cinemas - a second-hand "straight" organ in the Elite, a Compton in the Odeon, and Wurlitzers in the Regal and Granada. Both Wurlitzers and the Compton survive, but only the Granada's Wurlitzer is still in the cinema.

It has had an interesting and varied history, as it was shipped to Britain originally on 1st. October, 1925, as "Opus 1169". It was one of Wurlitzer's standard 'Model F' organs, containing eight ranks of pipes with a two-manual console in panelled mahogany. It was installed in the Picture House, Edinburgh, opposite the Scott Monument, and was opened there by Reginald Foort on 23rd. November, 1925. He and the organ were an immediate success, and he remained there for some nine weeks. Other organists who played the organ at the Picture House included Mrs. Jack MacDougall, Nick Olsen and the final resident organist, from 1936 onwards, Richard Telfer. The theatre had by then been for some years a part of the Gaumont-British Circuit, which, in 1938 was planning, together with the Hyams Brothers, to build a new cinema in Kingston. It seemed that, after modernisation and enlargement the under-utilised organ at the Picture House would be suitable for this new venture, and it was removed by Wurlitzer.

The plans for the "State" theatre, Kingston, dated June 1938, and February 1939, show that the building would have incorporated an auditorium seating 1963, complete with organ, and that there would have been a restaurant over the vestibule. The scheme also included four shops. However, events often changed quickly in those days of speculative cinema-building, and Granada submitted a set of plans for the theatre which stands there to-day (which was to seat 1975) on 24th May 1939. These plans were prepared in somewhat of a rush, and the rumour has persisted that the projection box was forgotten until the very last minute! By this time, the additional parts ordered for the 'State' organ were already on their way from America, and somehow managed to acquire a separate job number - "Opus 2229", the highest of any Wurlitzer in Britain.

These bits and pieces were added to the organ from Edinburgh in Wurlitzer's British factory in Kentish Town, London, and what emerged was a 3-manual, ten-rank instrument, complete with grand piano attachment. The console had been rebuilt from the original one, and to this day, inside the white and gold console shell can be found much of the original mahogany.

The opening of the new Granada Theatre was delayed by the outbreak of War and did not take place until 3rd. November, 1939. It was the last new theatre to be built by the circuit, which at that time comprised 35 cinemas, and the Italian Renaissance style auditorium, designed by Komisarjevski, was virtually identical to several other Granadas.

In the years just before the War, Reginald Dixon used to spend the winter seasons, when the Tower Ballroom, Blackpool, was closed, touring the Granada circuit as a special guest organist. He was chosen to open the Kingston organ, and during his three weeks' stay there he recorded two 78 rpm records on it for Regal-Zonophone (MR3162 - "Dixtontime No. 2", a medley of early Wartime song hits, and MR3211 - "Sanctuary of the Heart / Land of Hope and Glory"), both eagerly-sought collectors' rarities today.

GRANADA THEATRE, KINGSTON - WURLITZER.

As was circuit policy, a different organist then played the organ virtually every week, and the following are just a few of the organists who played there during the early War Years: Robinson Cleaver, Lloyd Thomas, John Madin, Donald Thorne, Harry Farmer, Harry Croft, Neville Meale, Dudley Beaven, Nelson Elms, Leslie Simpson, Sidney Torch, Robin Richmond, Cecil Chadwick, Jackie Brown and Ray Baines. It was Ray Baines who gave the first broadcast on the organ (27th November 1941); it was not heard over the air again for nearly 29 years.

The organ was featured, somewhat sporadically at the end, until 1955. Its rather scratchy and thin, stringy sound did not endear it to organists, despite the promise of its specification. After 1955, it languished virtually unheard for over ten years, while its mechanical condition deteriorated, partly as a result of the cinema's proximity to a gas works and a power station, each of which emitted fumes injurious to the organ's leatherwork. It was tuned regularly, but eventually the firm responsible for tuning reported that its general condition had become so run-down that this was a pointless exercise.

News of this reached Ted Beckerleg, an organ-lover who had the technical knowledge necessary to rectify the instrument's many faults. He recruited a team of assistants, including the writer, who got everything working again and relocated the blower air intake so that it drew in heated air from the organ chamber, not cold air from the atmosphere, which was one reason why the instrument had never stayed in tune properly.

An attempt was also made to restrain the more objectionable aspects of the organ's overall sound. As installed, the sound was directed by the swell shutters straight into the circle, where some of the audience were only a few feet from ten very loud ranks of pipes. The organist heard the sound after it had passed around the auditorium, and thus was inclined to forget the devastating effect of full sounds on those in the circle. By reversing the direction of the shutters, the sound was directed towards the organist, who received full benefit of registrational excesses loud and clear, and the stage, where the curtains dampened much of the overpowering brilliance; the audience thus hear now a better-controlled and more mellow organ. This work took some five years, and another major triumph was the reinstatement of the grand piano attachment, which had not been in the theatre for many a year. The organ was now back fully on the concert circuit, was becoming known to radio audiences and was again being featured during film performances with some frequency. Stage one of the work was now finished: the organ was fully operational and sounding better, literally, than ever.

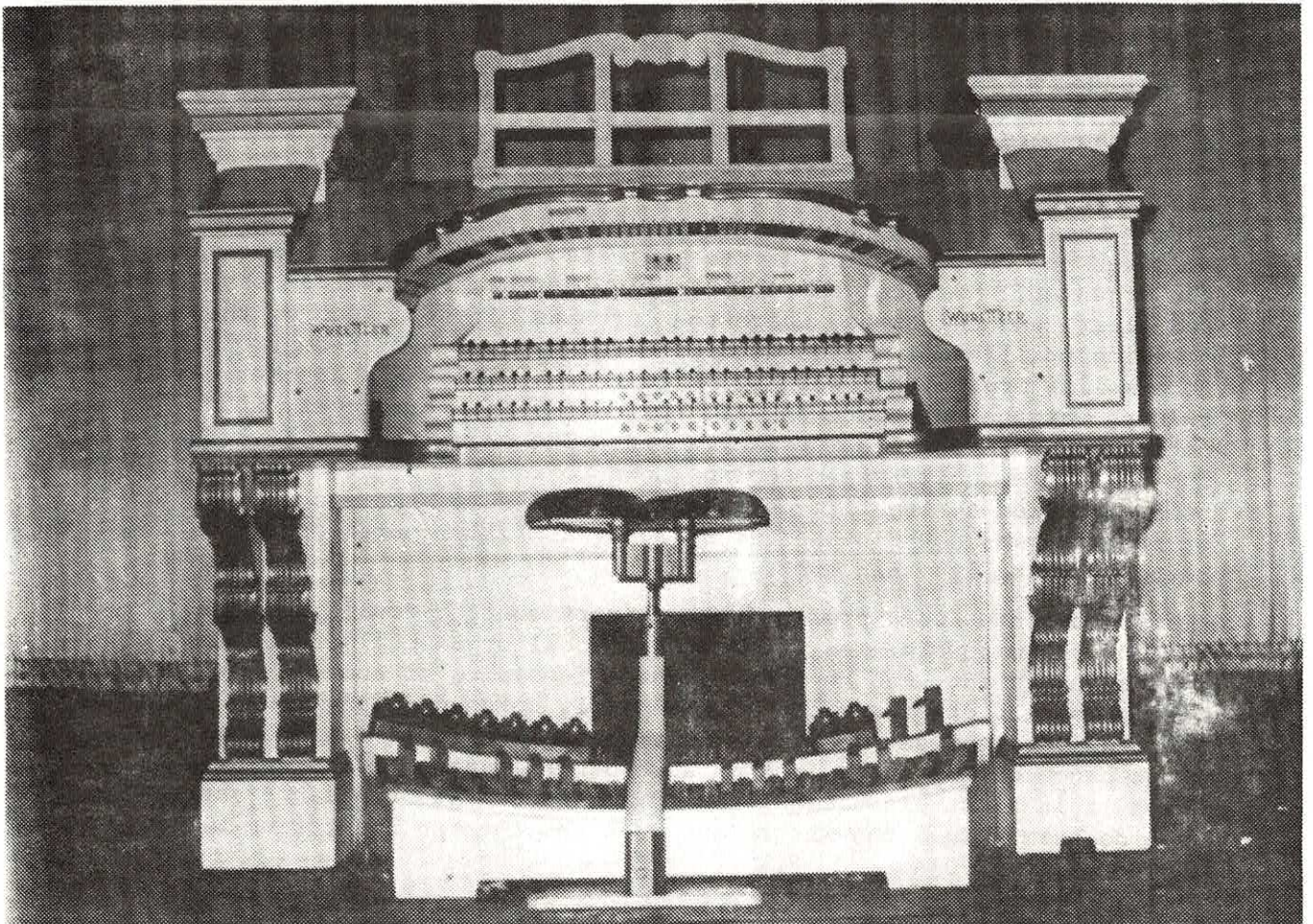
It was now time for a professional to sort out the tonal inadequacies of some of the pipework. Ted interested a local organ builder, Dennis Coffin, in the instrument, and he undertook the revoicing of some of the pipes, replacement of others which had been badly botched during the 1939 rebuild and regulated and set the whole instrument. Dennis is responsible for all maintenance on the organ, and on some other Granada organs as well, and keeps it in first-class condition at all times. His vigilance saw to it that no harm befell the instrument when the theatre auditorium was tripled in the early 1970's.

The organ's ten ranks are unusual in that they include two with brass resonators - the Trumpet and Saxophone, which stand behind the large solo chamber chest and present a breathtaking sight when one enters that chamber - two double rows of gleaming brass pipes. The other reeds are a very lovely Tuba Horn, an orchestral-oboe like Krumet (which is unusually available at 4ft. on the Accompaniment and 16ft. TC. on the Solo manuals, as well as the usual 8ft. pitches) and a Vox Humana, which is adequate, but no more.

GRANADA THEATRE, KINGSTON - WURLITZER.

The Saxophone is very full and round, though, and more than compensates for the deficiencies of the Vox Humana. The other flue ranks are a Diaphonic Diapason, which although tonally excellent, used to have the volume and penetration of a medium-powered Tuba, until Dennis reined it in a little, a very fine Tibia Clausa, dripping with schmaltz, and available at the relatively unusual pitch of 1 3/5 ft on the Solo manual, a pair of strings which were opened out by Wurlitzer in 1939 from Violins to Gambas, so coarse and unrestrained that they spoiled the whole tonal balance of the organ, but as a result of Dennis' work they are now much better behaved - the 4ft. Gambette no longer cuts through full organ - and, possibly the finest and most distinctive rank on the whole organ, an absolutely delightful Concert Flute which bubbles and sparkles with tremendous character.

NOTE: This article was written in 1980. The Granada closed in 1981, and the organ has now been removed and is privately preserved. The sound of this organ can be heard on an L.P. disc MFP 50118 "Mighty Wurlitzer" played by William Davies - issued 1974.  
Full Stop-List of this interesting Wurlitzer appears overleaf.



3/10 WURLITZER, GRANADA THEATRE, KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.

STOP-LIST - 3/10 WURLITZER PIPE ORGAN.GRANADA THEATRE, KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.

<u>PEDAL.</u>		<u>ACCOMPANIMENT.</u>		<u>SOLO.</u>		<u>MANUAL III</u>	
Ophicleide	16'	Trumpet	8'	Ophicliede	16'	Trumpet	8'
Diaphone	16'	Tuba Horn	8'	Diaphone	16'	Tibia Clausa	8'
Tibia Bass	16'	Open Diapason	8'	Tibia Clausa	16'	Saxophone	8'
Bourdon	16'	Tibia Clausa	8'	Bourdon	16'	Glockenspiel	
Tuba	8'	Krumet	8'	Contra Gamba tc	16'	Octave Coupler	
Open Diapason	8'	Saxophone	8'	Krumet tc	16'	Solo Unison to	
Tibia Clausa	8'	Gamba	8'	Saxophone tc	16'	Manual III	
Cello	8'	Gamba Celeste	8'	Vox Humana tc	16'	Piano	8'
Flute	8'	Flute	8'	Trumpet	8'		
Bass Drum		Vox Humana	8'	Tuba Horn	8'		
Kettle Drum		Piccolo	4'	Open Diapason	8'		
Crash Cymbal		Krumet	4'	Tibia Clausa	8'	<u>TREMULANTS.</u>	
Crash Cymbal Reit		Gambette	4'	Krumet	8'		
Cymbal		Gambette		Saxophone	8'	Main	
Piano	16'	Celeste	4'	Gamba	8'	Trumpet/Tuba	
Accomp.to Pedal		Flute	4'	Gamba Celeste	8'	Vox Humana	
Solo to Pedal		Vox Humana	4'	Flute	8'	Tibia Clausa	
Pedal effs. first		Piccolo	2'	Vox Humana	8'	Saxophone	
or second touch		Chrysoglott		Clarion	4'	- - -	
		Sleigh Bells		Octave	4'	Vibraphone	
		Snare Drum		Piccolo	4'	Vibraphone	
		Tambourine		Gambette	4'	Damper	
		Castanets		Gambette			
		Chinese Block		Celeste	4'		
		Tom Tom		Flute	4'		
		Sand Block		Vox Humana	4'		
		Octave Coupler		Twelfth (Tibia)	2 2/3'		
		Piano	8'	Twelfth (Flute)	2 2/3'		
		Piano	4'	Piccolo (Tibia)	2'		
		Mandolin		Piccolo (Flute)	2'		
				Tierce (Tibia)	1 3/5'		
		<u>ACCOMP. 2nd Touch</u>		Tierce (Flute)	1 3/5'		
		Trumpet	8'	Cathedral Chimes			
		Tibia Clausa	8'	Xylophone			
		Saxophone	8'	Glockenspiel			
		Piccolo	4'	Chrysoglott			
		Cathedral Chimes		Piano	16'		
		Triangle		Piano	8'		
		Solo Octave to		Piano	4'		
		Accompaniment		Sub Octave Coupler			
				Unison Off			
				Octave Coupler			

10 Pistons each to Accompaniment and Solo (also work Manual III stops)

3 Pistons to Pedal

6 Pistons to Effects

Push Button to Doorbell

3 Swell Pedals

1 General Crescendo Pedal

Switches to set Solo and/or Main Shutters on Piano (3rd) Swell Pedal, which also has Sustainer Button inset.

Double-Touch Drum Pedal

Double-Touch Full Organ Pedal

Console on Lift in Orchestra Pit.

HOME ORGAN PARTY.

Another very successful home party at Cec and Norm Paddy's residence on the 13th May, (Mother's Day), helped to boost the Capitol Organ Fund by a further \$134. During the afternoon, mirth and merriment was the order of the day when Andrea Harrison and Barry Porter, accompanied by Doug Smith on the organ, entertained with a song and dance routine.

Alan Misdale moved a vote of thanks to Cec and Norm for their wonderful effort in making the afternoon a great success.

Alan also thanked all those who took part in making it a musical afternoon. The raffle, (donated by Cec and Norm), was won by Norma Smith.

(see photos on page 15)

PRESS RELEASE.MUSIC EXHIBITION OFFERS SOME 'SOUND' PRIZES!

This year's 7th Australian Music Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Showground, in Sydney and sponsored by the Australian Music Trades Association will be the biggest exhibition of musical instruments and equipment ever shown in Australia.

And visitors will not only have the chance to see and try their hand at whatever interests them they'll have the opportunity to win thousands of dollars worth of their favourite brand names. This year all of the major suppliers will be exhibiting many with new releases from overseas.

The exhibition will be held from Friday August 10th to Sunday August 12th. All exhibition space has already been sold with a waiting list of companies unable to participate. The Show will spread through the huge Royal Hall of Industries building and the adjacent Mazda and Ford Pavilions making it bigger than last year.

Exhibition organiser, Mr. Bryan Humphris of Exhibitions and Trade Fairs Pty. Ltd. said a record 16,000 visitors had gone to last year's exhibition and this year's was already shaping up to attract even more. It will be the last opportunity for the people of Sydney to see the Exhibition until 1986 as it moves to Melbourne for 1985.

Special trade only hours have been organised and the music industry should write to: Exhibitions and Trade Fairs Pty. Ltd., at 102 Chapel Street, St. Kilda. Vic. 3182, to obtain Complimentary Trade Passes and details of the Trade Industry Dinner.

Editors: For Further information

Mr. Bryan Humphris  
(03) 534 0267

David Ellis Associates  
(02) 57 3406

**Organiser:** Exhibitions and Trade Fairs Pty. Ltd.  
102 Chapel Street, St. Kilda, 3182.  
Telephone: (03) 534 0267 Telex: AA 37528

**Patron:** Australian Music Trades Association



Andrea Harrison and Barry Porter.



Barry Porter, Andrea Harrison and Doug Smith.

## MELBOURNE - EASTER 1984.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Registration commenced at the Village Cinema, Reservoir (a northern Melbourne suburb) at 3 p.m. on Good Friday afternoon. Eleven different organists were scheduled to perform a twenty minute segment each at the organ with a twenty minute break each hour for coffee and conversation. The idea being for Conventioneers to arrive whenever they could - stay as long as they liked - and leave when they pleased, not such a bad idea as people were arriving from many parts of Australia. Some of the New South Wales contingent had rather much of a nightmare trip down the Hume Highway due to the rain, and extensive reconstruction of the road surface. (not the greatest road even under ideal conditions!!!)

The artists listed to appear included Jeff Arnett, Gail Dibben, Paul Noble, Jackie Lye, Bill Glasson, Peter Seward, Carole Pinches, Peter Hurley, Atilla Sipisori and John Parker.

This reviewer must confess that all my time was spent outside in the large foyer area catching up with friends and acquaintances within our own and other divisions of T.O.S.A. A most enjoyable fish, chip and salad light meal was served at about 6 p.m. and I am sure this was much appreciated by those who had travelled a long distance that Friday. Coffee and conversation flowed freely at all times in the foyer and for supper we were treated to Hot Cross Buns and coffee - an original touch for sure.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Most of the Conventioneers returned to the Village Cinema for an "Australasia Wide Concert". Our first artist for the morning was Richard Hore from New Zealand. Richard handled the Blackett & Howden/Wurlitzer/Christie organ like he'd been playing it for years, a remarkable feat indeed for this young blind organist. His beautiful rendition of the tune "If" which featured the large scale unenclosed Aeolian Harp was most tasteful and his selection of New Zealand melodies concluding with the "Maori's Farewell", was much appreciated by the large audience. Margaret Hall most ably represented the New South Wales division, opening with "From This Moment On", continuing with "Twelfth of Never", "Pineapple Rag", "Our Waltz", "Theme from the Love Boat" played as a samba and concluding with "Darktown Strutters' Ball". Margaret's performance showed just how much further her playing has matured in the last couple of years and I feel sure it won't be too long before interstate concert bookings are coming her way. Richard Larritt, Adelaide organ builder and Vice President of the South Australia Division of the Society was next on the programme representing his State. Richard played "Autumn Leaves", "For Your Eyes Only", "The Second Star to the Right" from Peter Pan, "Stars Fell on Alabama", "Serenade in Blue", "As Long As He Needs Me" and "Tie a Yellow Ribbon" - an enjoyable performance from Richard. Bill Fraser represented the A.C.T. and Queensland Divisions, amongst his choices were a "Southern Melodies" selection, "Waggon Wheels" and "Anniversary Waltz". Lack of a suitable pipe organ on which to practise in Canberra must be a decided disadvantage - this problem should soon be rectified with the commissioning of their Compton organ. David Johnston played on behalf of the Victorian Division and gave his usual happy performance which is always popular with the audience. David played "Good Old Bad Old Days" & "Pirates of Penzance" Selection. His choice of registration and use of percussions in "A Policeman's Lot" was a great favourite with the listeners. David's jazz variations on "It Had to Be You" proved just how good a musician David is when he takes care with his performance. The conclusion of David's offering was some of the lesser known music from the stage show "Barnum".



...17  
**TWELFTH  
NATIONAL  
CONVENTION**

**MELBOURNE  
EASTER 1984**

**April 20th until April 24th**



*Margaret Hall*



*David Johnston*



*Richard Larrit*



*Lance Luce*



*Neil Jensen and Ray Thornley*

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

During the basket lunch, N.S.W. Division had the chance to show some of the venues we have planned to visit for next Year's Convention and also to announce the name of our featured artiste Candi Carley. Thanks are due to Peter Bidencope for his fine photography - the slide show certainly started people talking about coming to Sydney next Easter.

A quick drive from Reservoir into Central Melbourne for our next recital at the Melbourne Town Hall, and its fine 1929 Hill, Norman & Beard Concert Organ. Whilst this instrument does have some theatrical characteristics (e.g. a floating orchestral division which may be coupled to any manual and containing Strings and Tibias etc, a glockenspiel, harp, chimes and several non-tonal percussions) one could not describe it as a truly dual-purpose instrument such as the Hill, Norman & Beard organ of the Dome, Brighton or the Compton organ of the Guildhall, Southampton. It is still not easy to play typical theatre organ style music on this organ, let alone register for popular music on a drawstop console (!) therefore Gordon Hamilton and Tony Fenelon are to be congratulated on their effort.

For his first portion Gordon played "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" - an arrangement by Nigerian organist and one-time theatre organist in England, Fela Sowande, "Gallop Comedians", the very descriptive English piece "Fleet Street" which was well suited to the Melbourne Town Hall Organ. Gordon concluded this selection with "Just the Way You Are" and a very British version of "Lulu's Back in Town". Tony Fenelon was then featured at the Yamaha grand piano playing "Eccosais" - Chopin, "Arabesque No. 2" - Debussy, the spectacular "Black Note Study" - Chopin, "Claire de Lune" - Debussy, "Tonight I Celebrate My Love for You", "Andante & Rondo Caprisio in D" - Mendelsohn. As one would expect Tony played his usual performance at the piano and the audience responded accordingly.

After a short intermission Gordon returned to the organ playing "Theme from Mairnet", "Dancero", "Love is a Many Splendid Thing". Tony then took the organ bench to conclude with "Grand March from Aida", "Muskrat Ramble", "Star Wars" selection, "Cumana", and Rossini's "The Thieving Magpie". An encore would have been in order but for the fact that the group had to vacate the Town Hall by 4 p.m.

SATURDAY EVENING.

The Convention Dinner-Dance was held at the Tivoli Reception Centre, Ascot Vale. The music from Theresa and Winston Filmer provided an excellent background for dinner and dancing with several guest spots for dancing from the ever-popular Cyril Pearl. The Dinner, whilst plentiful in quantity, was bland and uninteresting and a great disappointment. Many Conventioneers elected not to come to the Dinner due to what they thought was its high cost (\$27.00). All I can think is they don't eat out too often, the price would have been reasonable had the food been more tasty!

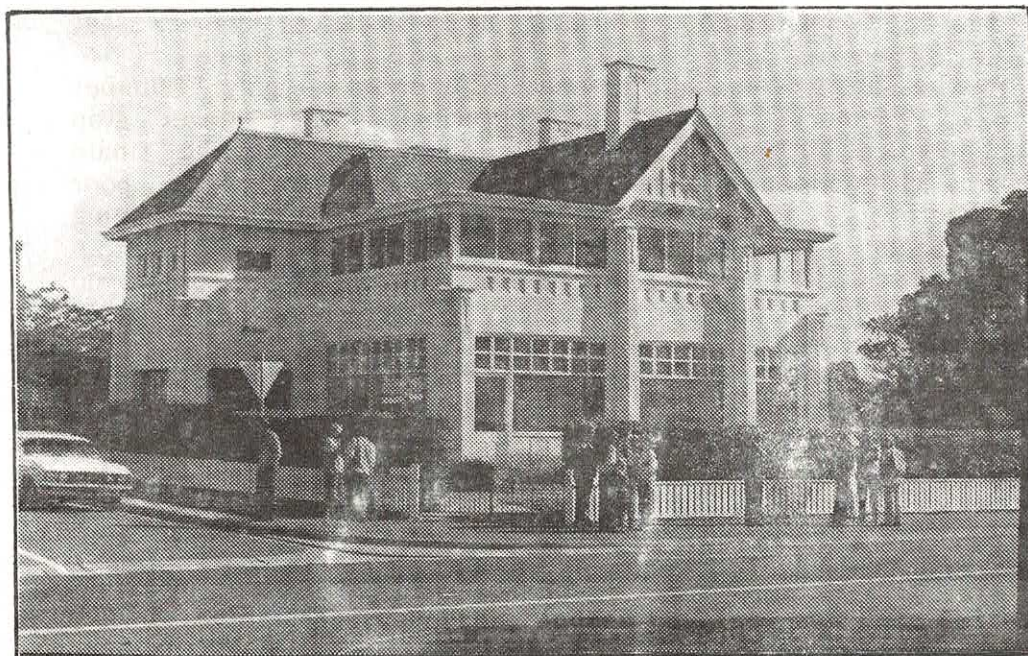
SUNDAY MORNING.

This morning was programmed for a visit to the the Melbourne Concert Hall to hear the new Casavant organ played by John Atwell. Members of the various interstate divisions met for their Annual Executive Meeting in another location. One important decision made was not to hold these meetings in future when there was another part of the Convention in progress elsewhere.



*Blind organist Richard Hore being congratulated by Albert Fox after a great performance at Darnum Musical Village.*

*Albert Fox demonstrating one of the many small string instruments from his collection.*



*The Hearne residence in Geelong.*

SUNDAY MORNING ... cont.

This morning brought us the dual opportunity of not only hearing John Atwell in classical format at Melbourne's controversial Casavant organ but also inspecting the new Concert Hall and the latter, in particular, truly is magnificent. Unfortunately, neither the organist or the console are visible from the auditorium, however a large video screen on stage keeps the audience informed on what's happening behind the scenes.

Naturally theatre style programming was not possible on this instrument but John's selection of light classics was nevertheless well received by his audience.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

By 2 p.m. everyone was seated in the fine Dallas Brooks Hall, Melbourne Masonic Centre to hear the hybrid theatre organ installed therein. This particular instrument was assembled over many years by the late Arthur Esgate and was installed in two different homes he owned in Wahroonga N.S.W. Some two or so years prior to his death Arthur sold the organ to the Masonic Centre. George Stephens had the unenviable task of installing the organ and altering same to make it appropriate to the large auditorium location. Only approximately half of the instrument was installed before the funds allocated were exhausted, since this time only one more rank (a Compton Harmonic Tuba) has been installed. In spite of all the foregoing problems the organ sounds remarkably good, the Hall acoustics are superb, one day when the organ is finally complete it should be just great.

Neil Jensen opened the first half of the programme with "Another Opening, Another Show", followed by "Trish Trash Polka" which suffered from being played too fast and also a small relay fault showed up momentarily. Neil's arrangement of "My Funny Valentine" was excellent, then "Jealousie", a fine version of "The Waltzing Cat", "Masquerade", "Georgia on My Mind", "Comedian's Gallop" and gallop it did, "Embraceable You" with a nice counter melody and "Hooked On Classics".

Ray Thornley was the other artist featured in this concert and it was distinctly noticeable how much Ray's approach to his performance has matured. Ray opened with "Serenade" from "The Student Prince", followed by Psalm 19 "The Heavens Declare" by Marcello. "Taming the Tenor" though a piece written many years ago I have not heard at a theatre organ concert before this was refreshingly new material which I hope Ray repeats at his forthcoming Marrickville Concert for those who did not attend the Convention. Ray concluded with "Moonlight in Vermont" with snatches of "Claire de Lune sneaking in, and the pipe performance finishing up with "Poet and Peasant Overture".

Ray then moved to the latest Yamaha Electone FX20 organ to play "Trumpet Concerto" by Haydn, "Memory" from 'Cats' featuring a very clever stop imitating the human voice singing a solo. Neil joined Ray for the finale at piano and organ with "Rhapsody in Blue" which was marred by poor placement of the microphone for the piano and some passages again being played too quickly. From my point of view when there is a pipe organ in the room I'm not at all interested in hearing an electronic organ no matter how good it is - but I guess the majority of people probably would not necessarily share my sentiments.

SUNDAY EVENING.

The main concert of the Convention was held at the Moorabbin Town Hall featuring the 4-manual 22-rank Wurlitzer played by young Detroit organist

SUNDAY EVENING ... cont.

Lance Luce. Lance is currently resident organist at "The Organ Grinder" Restaurant, Toronto, Canada. For someone so young, only 24 years of age, his playing and attitude to the same shows remarkable maturity.

At one Convention some years ago one artist (again imported from the U.S.A. for a once only performance) gave us either 17 or 18 numbers only. People quite justifiably complained they didn't get their money's worth - such was not the case this night. Lance came to play not to talk. (hooray!) Every number he played was enjoyable - nothing was rushed or careless. Several critics mumbled something about several chord progressions being left unresolved - I must admit I didn't hear them - perhaps I was just enjoying the concert so much.

Lance's opening a suitable "Strike up the Band", followed by "Espana Cani", a medley of "What I Did For Love" and "One", "Buglers' Holiday" compared favourably with Lyn Larsen's now famous rendition. A medley of "Falling" and "They're Playing Our Song", "What Are You Doing the Rest of Your Life" and that favourite novelty piece "Dainty Miss". Lance's interpretation of "A Fifth of Beethoven" was just great and sped along with a controlled, driving rhythm. "St. Louis Blues" is a perennial favourite and one of the most recorded pieces of all time, "Tico Tico" a popular favourite since Ethel Smith made it famous years ago, "Over the Rainbow", "Ease on Down the Road", a medley of "Here's that Rainy Day" and "Singin' in the Rain" and "You are my Sunshine" - a most timely musical comment on the Melbourne weather during this Easter weekend! The first half concluded with a dazzling rendition of Smetana's "Dance of the Comedians"

The second half opened with "Applause" which I thought was one of the best pieces that evening. "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue", "Sophisticated Swing", "It Might as Well be Spring" and "Brazilian Sleigh Bells" followed. A medley of tunes from the Lionel Bart's 'Oliver' - "Who Will Buy?", "As Long As He Needs Me" and "Consider Yourself". A fine rendition of "Dancing Tambourine" was in contrast to "Can You Read My Mind", a medley of "Puttin' on the Ritz" and "Alexander's Ragtime Band". Lance was then asked to draw the raffle, he's obviously much more experienced at playing the organ than he is at drawing raffle tickets out of a barrel! Our own Cec Paddy was the lucky winner of the third prize a telephone/clock radio. The concert concluded with "Galloping Comedians", Liszt's "2nd Hungarian Rhapsody", The encore numbers were "Pine Top Boogie", and a medley of "Amazing Grace" and "Waltzing Matilda". To sum up a really great concert, and I feel sure we'll be hearing more of Lance Luce in the not too distant future!

MONDAY.

To-day was planned for a visit to "Montana" - the Hearne Residence at Geelong, there was an article published recently in "T.O.S.A. News" so we won't go over the detail of the installation. Alan and Pat Glover now own the home and they made the 150 people who booked for the day most welcome and to them both we are most grateful for sharing their home with us. Alan's sister Dorothy kindly provided the introductions for the pieces which Alan played on the Wurlitzer and these covered a broad spectrum from the classics through theatre organ favourites to contemporary pieces. We visitors just made ourselves comfortable on the chairs provided or on the stairway which proved to be a good place to listen to the organ. At the conclusion of Alan's necessarily brief recital we were treated to a demonstration of the Wurlitzer Double-Roll Player which has just been reconnected to the organ after having been out of service for about the last forty years! Pat Glover very kindly provided Morning Tea for everyone and was assisted in serving this by some of the ladies from T.O.S.A. (Vic).

MONDAY ... cont.

The day trip to Geelong concluded with a bus trip to various local places of interest and a most enjoyable lunch. It is great that so many people have now been able to see and hear the Wurlitzer "which started it all" for Australia way back in 1917.

TUESDAY.

Because Anzac Day fell on the Wednesday following Easter it was planned as an extra bonus to have a trip to Warragul to see the new "West Gippsland Arts Centre". What a superb auditorium this is - it only lacks one thing and that, of course, is a theatre pipe organ, but who knows maybe one day soon? For second best David Johnston brought along the latest "Technics" organ and proceeded to do one of the things he does best - demonstrate electronic organs.

After David's recital we moved into the function area downstairs for an excellent smorgasboard lunch before proceeding to Darnum Musical Village for the final event of the Convention. At Darnum we were able to see many interesting and historic pianos and organs as well as hearing some of our artists from the Convention play the Lowrey organ in the Auditorium. Whilst the collection was of great interest I do feel that the "Mastertouch Collection" of historic instruments is of higher quality and the restorations are much better. The trip concluded with Afternoon Tea and then everyone said good-bye until next year.

THE SELWYN THEATRE, MORTDALE.

Theatre Organ Recitals, 1984.

Sunday	July 22nd.	2.15pm.	Bernard Walz
Sunday	August 12th.	2.15pm.	David Parsons
Sunday	September 23rd.	2.15pm.	Ian Davies
Sunday	November 18th.	2.15pm.	Bill Schumacher
Saturday	December 15th	8.00pm.	David Parsons

A TOSA PROJECT.

Sunday            October 14th.            2.15.pm.

The Selwyn Theatre is holding a TOSA function in aid of the Capitol Organ Fund featuring the following artists.

Valda Lang, Margaret Hall, John Shaw and Ron Smith.

All proceeds will go to the Capitol Organ Fund, so support your Society and give Ritchie Willis a ring.

All the above functions may be booked in advance by phoning Ritchie Willis on 57 3581. Selwyn Productions, 13 Rosemont Avenue, MORTDALE. 2223.

READERS PLEASE NOTE.

Owing to this special Easter Convention edition of TOSA NEWS, Down Memory Lane, a monthly feature by Frank Ellis, will continue in the July issue.

IF YOU DON'T REQUIRE THE ENCLOSED BOOKING FORM, PLEASE PASS IT ON TO A FRIEND.