

t.o.s.o. news

incorporating

THE DIAPHONE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF
AUSTRALIA, N. S. W. DIVISION

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SOCIETY DIRECTORY

PATRON: Ian Davies

PRESIDENT: Tom Halloran, 66 Flinders Road, Cronulla, 2230 (523.5077)

SECRETARY: John Roberts, 5 Wyleena Place, Punchbowl, 2196 (70.3650)

TREASURER: Alan Misdale, 74 View Street, Gymea, 2227 (525.5554)

TOSA NEWS EDITOR: Cliff Bingham, 98 Old Berowra Road, Hornsby, 2077.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Wednesday, 28th November, 8 p.m. will feature David Parsons at Marrickville Town Hall for the fifth anniversary of the opening of this organ. Every member is asked to give his full support to this program so that a memorable evening of organ music can be assured. David's ability to judge the musical tastes of his audiences is a byword in the society and this, coupled with his wonderful technical ability will no doubt provide a very fitting fifth anniversary concert. Admission is \$2.00 per person, \$1.50 for members, 50¢ for children, students and pensioners. Come and bring a friend, several in fact.

Wednesday, 21st. November, 8 p.m. an organ party at the home of Ritchie Willis and Norm Read, 23 Selwyn Street, Paddington, Telephone 31-8883. Featured artist is our patron, Ian Davies who will be playing Ritchie's Thomas "Lawrence Welk" organ. Admission is \$1.00 for the Capitol organ fund. Seating is limited to 25 so reserve your spot by phoning Ritchie now.

Registered with the G.P.O. for posting as a periodical- Category B.

Saturday, 17th November, 8 p.m., a record, and tape night at the home of Barry and Pam Tooker, 3/78 Park Street, Campsie, Barry has one of the largest collections of theatre organ tapes and records, some of the tapes going right back to the early days of the society. A tremendously interesting evening is assured (ask anyone who has been before) so please support this function in aid of the Capitol organ fund. Admission is \$1.00 and reservations can be made by phoning 78.6713 all hours.

Saturday, 1st. December, in the Landsdowne Room, Bankstown Civic Centre, at 7.30 p.m. Our big TOSA Christmas Party. Plenty of good food, music and entertainment. Full details regarding bookings in last month's TOSA NEWS. Seating is limited so don't delay. Send in your application now!

THE 1973 ORGAN SPECTACULAR.

Sydney's Waratah Festival opened this year on Wednesday, 17th October and on the same evening, the Organ Spectacular was presented at the usual venue, Sydney Town Hall.

Owing to pressure of work arising from the Royal Visit and the Opera House Celebrations, our compere, James Dibble, was unable to be present and Vice-President, Frank Ellis, stepped in at short notice. This he did in his usual easy and efficient manner, introducing each artist in turn with a few remarks about his musical background. He also explained that the order of presentation of organs on stage and the sequence of playing were decided by ballot.

All six of the electronic organs were supplied from two power points and when all was ready, Pat Quinn took his place at the Yamaha. Everything had been left in readiness in the afternoon; but because an over-zealous Council attendant had turned off the power point, the organ would not play.

Frank Ellis came to his aid on the microphone only to find that he, too, was voiceless. Pat then went to the side of the organ, gave a few vigorous turns of an imaginary crank-handle, power was restored and the show got under way.

Pat was followed by Ian Davies, our genial Patron, on the Gulbransen organ, and Peter Held at the Wurlitzer organ with an interesting demonstration of its Synthesizer feature.

After a ten-minute interval, Len Thomas, a new artist to the Society, performed on the British-built Kentucky "Adventurer". Next came Ray Thornley at the Lowrey "Citation" and he was followed by TOSA News Editor, Cliff Bingham who concluded the programme on the new Thomas Monticello with Moog Synthesizer.

The high standard of performance of previous years was more than sustained; indeed the occasion was distinguished by the exceptional variety of numbers selected, each artist adding something of his own personality through his musical expression.

The audience responded as every enthusiastic audience does, warmly carrying with applause a vote of thanks proposed by Frank Ellis to the organists, the City Council and the retailers who supplied and installed the organs.

IS MY FACE RED DEPARTMENT.

I recently discovered that I hadn't reported on Ross and Gwen Adams' organ party last May. To these extremely keen and valued members, I owe my sincere apologies. This party could almost have been a non-party at the last moment when the featured organist could not appear due to an urgent interstate engagement. Also, Gwen's young son, Neil, suddenly took ill and was confined to bed.

Undaunted and with practically no sleep for the previous two nights, Ross and Gwen went ahead and put on one of the finest nights I have attended. Ian Somerville was the star of the night and I was honestly surprised at his repertoire and improved playing. This man has hidden talents.

Betty Randall, Doctor Dunlop and several other guests played and a most enjoyable night was had by all. Supper was excellent. Ross and Gwen raised \$35 towards the Capitol Organ Fund and to them we owe a tremendous "thank you".

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Proposed rule change to Constitution. Rule & Administration, change paragraph one to read "The Executive of the Society shall consist of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Vice-Presidents, and these shall have full voting powers".

Delete words "no member of the Executive shall hold that office for a period of more than two (2) consecutive years". The second paragraph shall remain unaltered.

Moved - Barry Tooker; Seconded - Bill Schumacher.

Yours sincerely,
BARRY TOOKER.

AROUND AND ABOUT.

Good news from Perth. The Metro Wurlitzer has been purchased by Ray Clements and John Fuhrmann, both active TOSA members and is to be fully renovated before re-installation in an appropriate setting.

An apology to several people regarding the non-appearance of reviews, particularly reviews of organ parties. This problem is being rectified and acknowledgements of those parties held recently will appear next month.

A full review of the Wal Cook Benefit Concert played by David Parsons will also appear next month. Unfortunately, your editor was unable to attend due to illness and this has delayed the review until a suitable reviewer was found. It can be reported, however, that well in excess of \$400.00 was raised to help our member in his time of real need.

FOR SALE.

Organ pedalboard, 32-notes, radiating and concave. For price and condition, ring Alan Misdale on 525-5554 evenings.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our society:
Mr. and Mrs. V. Warren of Frenchs Forest.
Mr. and Mrs. E. Stone of Turramurra.
Mr. and Mrs. D. Pitman of Wagga.

Mr. and Mrs. R. French of St. Ives.
Mr. and Mrs. G. Turnidge of West Pennant Hills.
Mr. H. Allen of Doonside.
Mr. W. Brown of Arncliffe.

We look forward to your interest, support, and fellowship at our future functions.

John Gardiner ("Music Maker") advises that the following books dealing with electronic organs are available from the Technical Department of Dymock's Book Arcade, 324 George Street, Sydney.

AUTHOR - ALAN DOUGLAS

"Frequency Divider Organs for the Constructor".	\$5.50
"An Electronic Organ for the Home Constructor"	\$4.75
"The Electronic Musical Instrument"	\$10.50
"Transistor Electronic Organs for the Amateur".	\$4.50
"Electronic Music Production".	\$8.95

AUTHOR - ROBERT G. MIDDLETON.

"Electronic Organ Servicing Guide".	\$7.65
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OTHER FUNCTIONS.

Our member Eric Smith will be featured on the Chatswood Wurlitzer at "A Family Affair" Grand Christmas Concert with Anne Salisbury and Peter Colvill on 20th and 21st. December at 8 p.m. Seats are \$2.50 for adults, \$1.25 for children.

Eric will also play this organ for the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra's performance of the "Messiah" on the 6th and 11th of December.

STOP PRESS!

Rose Music, the Australian distributors of Yamaha pianos and organs are sponsoring an Australian tour for the young (22) Canadian organist Claude Dupras, winner of the 1972 Yamaha International Organ Festival. This evening, billed as "an exciting, keyboard experience", will be presented in the Hurstville Civic Centre on Friday, 9th November at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$2.50 and 50¢ for children, and are obtainable from Alex Britton, Hurstville, Riverwood Music Centre, Bankstown Yamaha Centre and Yamaha organ dealers.

WHAT'S NEW ON RECORD.

Great LP Record from Reubert Hayes.

The many fans of Reubert Hayes will be delighted to learn that he has just released a new LP record on his Corn Theatre Organ. The title is "Beyond The Blue Horizon" - the label is Parker - and the number is PRS008.

Having been a Reubert Hayes fan since I first attended the Regent Theatre Brisbane during the war years and heard him on that very excellent Wurlitzer installation, I looked forward to hearing this record for the first time. I was not disappointed - in fact, I can't remember hearing him sound better on any previous record or tape. His immediately recognisable style comes through with considerable warmth and presence.

Opening with the title song Reubert introduces it with a typical cinema organ fanfare to clearly establish the organ's cinematic background before continuing with Spanish Eyes, a selection of four songs from Kismet, Stranger On The Shore, and ending side one with Swanee. Side two features Old Comrades March, Estrelita, Begin the Beguine, My Way, I Don't Know How To Love Him, and ending with an unusually chorded and arranged We'll Meet Again.

Reubert gives a top class performance which is fully complimented by the superb quality sound captured on the disc, and it is obvious that more than usual pains were taken to ensure a faithful reproduction of each organ voice as well as a true stereo dimension. The cover notes by Neville Williams, Editor in Chief of Electronics Australia Magazine, recommend this record for use on a four channel stereo system, and to that remark I would add, "Watch out for the cymbal crashes", they are unnervingly real, as also are the other percussive sounds. In fact, it would be perfectly true to say that this record sets a new standard of fidelity in the recording of electronic organs, and that the thin, tinny percussion sounds we have been offered by many record companies in the past will not be acceptable as authentic cymbal and drum sounds, in the future. Recommend that you add this disc to your collection - you'll enjoy it. At music stores \$5.95.

TOSA members can obtain this record at a concession price of \$4.95 plus postage by writing to Parker Recordings, 9 Carmel Place, Winston Hills, 2153.

T.O.S.A. News, November, 1973. Page 6.