

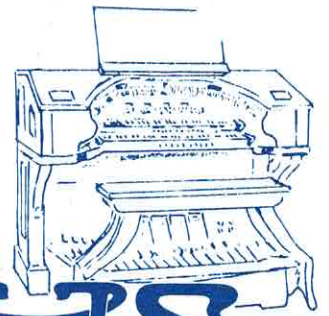
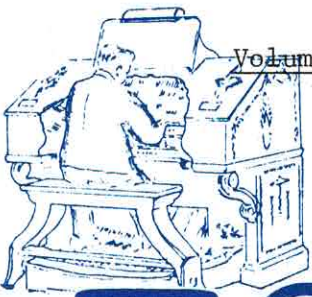
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EDITOR.

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T.O.S.A. NEWS

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

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REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PERIODICAL—CATEGORY B

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SYDNEY SOUTH. 2000.

DIARY NOTES:--

Sunday 29th October. Marrickville Town Hall. CONCERT.

This Concert will feature Patron Ian Davies playing the Wurlitzer and will begin at 2.30pm. This Concert is free and all members and friends are cordially invited. Mr. Ian Davies performed the very first public Concert on this organ in 1968.

Sunday 19th November. Marrickville Town Hall. CONCERT.

Australia's own Concert Theatre Organist Tony Fenelon will appear on the Wurlitzer beginning at 2.30pm. Tony is an exciting artist to listen to and enjoys playing on this instrument. This is not a free Concert and the admission prices are \$3.00 Adults and \$1.50 Children and Pensioners. A separate fact sheet and booking form are included elsewhere in this magazine.

Friday 1st December. Marrickville Town Hall. CABARET.

This evening is our Christmas Cabaret and once again will feature Patron Ian Davies at the console of the Wurlitzer and the evening will begin at 7.00pm. Don't miss this great night of dining, dancing, singalong etc., with a selected Club Act, Spot Dances etc.

CONCERT PROGRAMME 1979.

These details are still not fully finalised and we await confirmation with respect to some artists. Hopefully I shall have the complete list for the December edition. It is not that simple a matter to organise and confirm a list of events so that everything will follow without complications.

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DIARY NOTES:-- (Continued)

Friday 24th November: Tony Fenelon will be giving a Concert at Wollongong Town Hall. This will be Tony's first Concert at Wollongong and he will be featuring the magnificent Lowrey Model H4 Organ. The Concert will begin at 8.00pm sharp and the cost is \$3.00 Adults \$1.50 Students.

Booking enquiries can be made on 524 4186 or Lowrey Organ Cottage, Figtree on 042-291 261. If this Concert is good as Tony's Concert at Marrickville it will be a sell out so those interested would be advised to get in quickly for tickets.

Friday 8th December: Marrickville Town Hall. CABARET!!

The Sutherland and St. George Family Organ Club, run by Mr. Noel Smith and Miss Janice Wilson announce their first "Christmas Cabaret".

This will be held on Friday 8th December at Marrickville Town Hall, using the magnificent WurliTzer Pipe Organ.

Malcom and Heather Ross from Melbourne will be the special artists on this occasion. Malcom is a very accomplished theatre and classical organist and his wife, Heather, will be singing during the evening.

Also on the programme will be various organists in cameo spots including Noel Smith on the pipe organ.

For a special treat, the "Palm Court Orchestra" have been engaged for the dance music and the night will be full of surprises so don't forget to book early.

For tickets and enquiries please contact the Kingsway Keyboard Centre in Miranda on 524 4186, 9.00am to 5.00pm or after hours Janice Wilson on 759 6050.

The cost, including dinner, is \$10.00 per adult and \$6.00 Students and Pensioners. The evening begins at 7.00pm. Please bring your own liquid refreshments.

THIS WILL BE A NIGHT TO REMEMBER.

FROM THE SECRETARY. "The Good News and the Bad News."

The "Bad" News.

During the October Meeting of the Committee, it was seriously discussed as to whether the Membership Fees would have to be slightly increased during the ensuing year of 1979.

This subject arose, only after the realisation of the increases in costs, Hall hire, costs for Artists, (air fares, accomodation etc.), plus general stationery and many others too numerous to list here.

The Society's representatives are soon meeting the Marrickville Council officials for a Conference re the Town Hall costs, publicity etc., and we are hoping for a favourable result from this meeting.

However, it is apparent that one of the main and very obvious reasons for our original discussion was the lack of support from the members in attending Concerts, Functions etc.

The Executive and Committee that you elected to plan all these functions for you, go to no end of trouble to make them possible, (booking, planning, hiring, publicity, catering, seating, public address systems, ticketing etc., just to name a few), and they are often very dissappointed when all this effort is apparently taken for granted and members just don't show up in the numbers that are anticipated.

The "Good" News.

The good news is that fees won't increase at the present moment, and one of the main reasons is that our Editor, Mr. Chris Palmer has done a sterling job in keeping the T.O.S.A News production costs down to a minimum.

This situation however, can only remain if members give their full support to all of our functions, or as many as possible in the future.

In fact, if nearly all members came along with their friends to the various Concerts etc., we could possibly, (and only then), introduce Concession prices to Members, and this is something I would like to see eventuate.

SEE NEXT PAGE.

FROM THE SECRETARY. Continued

How about coming along to our Cabaret this year, and showing Jack Lawson and his family who do all the work associated with the Cabaret for us, just how much their efforts are appreciated.

yours sincerely,
Doug Smith. Hon. Secretary.

FROM THE EDITOR.

The costing of the magazine was worked out as a result of inquiries by the Committee and it is interesting to note that we are still well within the advertised cost of each copy, 40¢. Without going into too much detail the actual production costs of the T.O.S.A News came to 26.6¢ per issue, Postage included. The overall cost of the magazine compares very favourably with what it did in 1972 making allowances for the spiralling cost of inflation. This is largely due to the fact that the magazine is a rather tight thing from planning right through to distribution. The magazine starts out by the Editor attending each Committee meeting and taking any notes necessary or requests etc.,. These are written up into an article or whatever and placed ready for the next issue. The advertised copy deadline is the end of the second week of the month and one hopes for articles and letters to arrive. This includes Concert Reviews, the various Home and Family Organ Club notes and so on. On arrival these are sorted out in readiness for the big moment. When all is ready, deadlines have closed and the Secretary consulted for any last minute additions etc, out comes the typewriter and the whole magazine is typed in one session. (It always seems to be at this time that someone rings up and talks for hours!!), during the typing the various bits and pieces have to be sorted into a general sequence so that they fit in as best as possible.

After all the typing has been completed the masters are checked and these are then taken to the printer and the printing run is decided upon, (usually 450), and the printer is usually able to do the job within a day or so. The actual printing is done on a high speed printing press and takes very little time to do each page. The various piles of paper are then taken back to the Editors and are placed into piles on a large table where the collation or stapling takes place. This is quite a lengthy process and is best done by one person. (I find that putting on a headset and listening to a cassette or two makes the time go quicker!), by the time the magazine has been collated it is usually past midnight and so the following morning the magazine is either taken to or picked up by Lance Wells where Marj does the wonderful job of folding and placing them into the envelopes which have been already run through the addressing machine. The envelopes are then put into bundles of 50 and go the Neutral Bay Post Office where they start their trip to your letter box.

As it can be seen, the whole operation is done as efficiently as possible, stocks of printing paper are kept a tally of as are envelopes and so on and orders are placed with the various suppliers when stocks run low.

The whole operation is done on the northside by some six people, Lance and Marj Wells, Distribution, Ross Wells also assists, Mrs Carol Palmer who drives the masters to the printer and usually collects the completed job, myself and the printer who is a member but wishes to remain anonymous for various reasons. Ron Wilson has also been a great help with publicity and most of the 'dodgers' that are given out at Concerts and simliar are done by Ron with sometimes the aid of Doug Smith on Ron's duplicator. This year has been a year of very tight knit co-operation and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those concerned.

Chris Palmer. Editor.

SPECIAL MEETING CONCERNING POSSIBLE LEASE OF THE CAPITOL ORGAN. Tuesday 31st October.

At the recent Quarterly Meeting a move was made for this Special Meeting to be held and was recorded in the minutes as being for Monday the 30th October. As the President was not at the meeting he was not able to make his thoughts known and as a result the date of the meeting was altered to Wednesday 1st November by the President. This brought about a considerable amount of discussion from various quarters and it was then decided to alter the date from Wednesday 1st November back to the original date of Monday 30th October. During the various date changes, all done over the phone and changed more than once!!, your Editor got lost and showed the meeting as being on Tuesday the 31st October at St. Annes, Strathfield. This was the information printed in the October edition of the News and the Committee quite correctly have decided to make the date of the meeting as the 31st October at St. Annes, Strathfield as indicated. A request was made for this to be made known. Please note that the meeting will take place as advertised in Octobers edition on Tuesday 31st October at St. Annes, Strathfield.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. Wednesday 22nd November Marrickville Town Hall. 8.00pm.

This Annual General Meeting was advertised in the TOSA News in September and evryone is urged to be there. The results of the Ballot will be known and announced and all relevant matters will be discussed and each and very member will have an opportunity to speak his or her mind. The public address system will be in use so that you will heard and there will be entertainment on the pipe organ by various artists during the evening.

As a result of the Quarterly Meeting, a Notice of Motion has been received that Tom and Anne Halloran be made Life Members of the Theatre Organ Society, N.S.W. Division. Tom Halloran in recognition of his long standing efforts and outstanding work for the Society and Anne Halloran for her patience during Toms long absences from home.

All benefits of Membership will be granted. Moved by Ernie Vale and Seconded by Rob Gliddon.

DRAFT REVIEW OF DAVID JOHNSTONS CONCERT.

Those who did not attend missed out on a very pleasant afternoon's entertainment. David played with great vitality and his sense of humour was very evident. The organ was also a credit to the maintainence team. There was not a single cipher and it was in excellent tune.

The Concert began with California Here I Come followed by Happy Birthday for our WurliTzer's 10th Anniversary at Marrickville. We then went Cruising down the River, and, to demonstrate the 'straight' sound of our organ with the tremms off, David gave us a beautiful rendition of George Blackmores "Festival Day" with good and prominent use of the post horn.

Selections from 'My Fair Lady' were played with plenty of variety and varied from soft and delicate passages to strong fortissimo. 'Get Me to the Church on time' was accompanied with imaginitive use of the drums. In fact David appeared to make better use of the drums of the organ than we have heard for quite a long while. Just prior to interval David played 'Variations on the Honky Tonk Train', this was most descriptive with the imaginary train clattering and puffing along the track over sets of points and through cuttings, whistle and all.

Following interval came 'Ego Trip?' with excellent and fiery use of the post horn, also the "Sabre Dance".

DRAFT REVIEW OF DAVID JOHNSTON'S CONCERT. Continued.

Nostalgic memories of the 20's was introduced with 'Bye Bye Blackbird'. Then came Khachurian's 'Sparticus Ballet', better known in this day and age as the 'Theme from the Onedin Line'.

Other items in the Concert included:

Silvery Moon, Deep in the Heart of Texas, Booms a Daisey, Medly of three well known Australian songs, Jesus Christ Superstar with pedal solo and then came a novelty 'How to get lost in the Organ without trying'. During this item all sorts of music issued forth in surprising fashion ranging from Bach through to Sullivan and many others including the Sailors Hornpipe.

David was greatly appreciated by his audience and was called back for TWO Encores. For the first of these he played 'Sheep ma safely graze' and for the final piece of the afternoon 'Take Five'.

All in all a very well played and enjoyable Concert - Many thanks David and hope you'll come up again sometime.

Review by Peter Bidencepe.

MARRICKVILLE WURLITZER NEWS.

Construction is well under way on the chest which will house the Post Horn. I understand that this will be a pouch chest similar to a Christie design and it is hoped that this can be completed by the date of the Tony Fenelon Concert on the 19th November. If all goes well it will be installed in the Main Chamber and this would mean that the Kinura would go back to it's own chest and our instrument will then become a 2m/11r. By placing the Post Horn in the Main Chamber and putting back the Kinura into the Solo Chamber it is felt that the balance between the two chambers will be better also. There is always something being done to upgrade this instrument by a team of dedicated people who don't say much but just hop in there and do it and the construction of the chest seems to be mainly in the hands of Rob Gliddon. Ron Wilson is quite involved in the repair and only recently has been making special brackets to keep things out of the way and to prevent people from treading all over them whilst in the chambers. It is a long and often overlooked aspect, just keeping the Wurlitzer going. Something that a lot of members should think of is that all these mysterious faces that just get things going at all levels and keep them going whatever that may be pay the same subscription as everyone else does and they work like the devil, spending many precious hours in the process. In a lot of cases the work involves materials which they never put in an account for and it is this solid type of person that is doing their best for the average member that keeps our Society going.

PIZZA ORGAN SOLD TO AUSTRALIA.

Last month I published an article dealing with the St. Louis Noodle and Pizza Co. pipe organ. Further information has come to hand in this matter. The organ itself is a 3m/10r Barton and was the subject of a short article in the American edition of Keyboard World, May 1978. The organist at the Pizza restaurant was Andy Kasparian and it seems that the instrument was mounted around the walls as is the accepted feature of these installations. The practice is to make the organ as visible as possible by putting the pipes in glass enclosed chambers with glass shutters and leaving the percussions outside or unenclosed. The percussions are often duplicated and mounted around the wall or over the console on the roof and the organ becomes the central feature of the restaurant. **Original** installations such as we in this country know them have everything out of sight except the console and then only the least attractive part of the organist is largely visible. The location for installation is known but is best kept silent for the time being.

It was at the Los Angeles Million Dollar Theatre, and the big theatre orchestra was working towards a tremendous finish to Tchaikovsky's thunderous 1812 Overture. Full justice was being done to this Concert piece originally scored for mass cannon, military cannon and full orchestra and Henry Murtgah was seated at the four manual Wurlitzer awaiting a cue from the Conductor Constantin Bakaleinikoo to join in the final chord at full organ, including the 32' Diaphone. It was an electric moment for the audience in the full house as the organ added it's thunder to the great sound. The percussionist rose and poised his crash cymbal, a piece of hammered brass big enough to make a cover for a kettle drum. For a moment it hung on it's leather thong, shimmering in the spotlight as the tympani hammer was raised high for the final crash. Then it happened!!

Right on cue the hammer fell with a resounding crash, a mixture of strain and vibration which proved too much for the leather thong. It broke. The emancipated cymbal, free to chart it's own course, dropped to the floor and started to roll leisuerely across the floor of the orchestra pit. It passed between the podium and the organ console on it's noisy way, as musicians, music racks, and the pit lights scattered before the spinning juggernaut. The intended grand finale fell apart as the tremendous last chord dwindled to a thin cacophony reminiscent of pipes pooping out when the air is turned off. Henry Murtgah, fascinated by the whirling disc of metal, unconsciously lifted one finger after another from the manuals, and for a split second the only sound was that of ambient tintinabulation. Then the big disc wheeled up to the pit wall, struck with a resounding thunderclap and settled slowly to the floor in ever-quickenning rolls of sibilent stridency. For a moment there was stunned silence, but not for long.

The spotlighted orchestra pit was a strange scene. Musicians were scampering back into the orchestra after seeking refuge in the laps of the front row spectators. Another was seen hanging from the edge of a box while at least two more were descending from precarious spots on the fluting of the proscenium arch - about ten feet up, too!

Bakalienikoff started to laugh. Throwing his baton to the floor he was soon alternately draped across the podium, then upright, only to collapse again with roars of laughter. A titter ran through the audience, and eyes focussed on on Henry Murtgah who was hanging on to the organ bench with both hands, while rocking back and forth in great gales of uncontrolled guffaws which boomed out like a chorus of ophicleides, Then the audience got into the act, building up slowly as the ridiculousness of the situation dawned upon one after the other.

About that moment, Henry Murtgah discovered the percussionist who had remained frozen in his best cymbal-beating stance, since the moment the thong broke. Pointing to the open-mouthed, staring countenance, Murtgah started all over again and so did the audience. For aperiod of of fully five minutes, there was complete pandemonium. Newcomers to the auditorium were greeted by the sight of ushers lying on their backs in the aisle, holding their sides with laughter, and the innocent wonderment on the faces of the newcomers only resulted in more merriment in the audience.

Eventually the gales of laughter boiled down to a small roar, but, meanwhile the manager had discovered the scene of wild disorder in his auditorium. Reacting as theatre managers are trained to do in the face of possible mass hysteria, he phoned the projectionist to get on with the show, the next item being Hnery Murtgah's organ solo. Henry, still shaking from the laughter pushed the spotlight button and went into his solo. But, being a master showman, he milked the situation to the hilt, further panicking the audience with cackling laughter on the Vox Humana! It was certainly the greatest, if most confused, organ-orchestra novelty this writer ever witnessed.

Hoyts Theatres Ltd., announced it's intention in early 1928 to build the Regent/Plaza Theatres and the Regent, with a seating capacity of 3,500, opened with a gala performance on 15th March 1929.

Originally, the area in the lower level of the building was to be a ballroom but was later changed, and opened to the public as the Plaza Theatre with a seating capacity of 1,200.

During the night of 29th/30th April 1945, a fire destroyed the Regent Theatre auditorium. The foyer areas of the Regent and Plaza Theatres were undamaged by fire but received damage from water. The Plaza Theatre itself was only damaged by water and was able to re-open in only a matter of weeks.

Amidst some controversy regarding the scarce home-building materials (after World War II), for an entertainment centre, the Regent Theatre eventually re-opened on the 19th December 1947.

In order to protect its Civic Square development west of Regent Place, the City Council, in April 1969, purchased the Regent/Plaza Theatres building, (which was then on the property market as Hoyts had developed it's Bourke Street Cinema Centre). The Contract of Sale gave the vendor the right to remove from the building, before the date of possession, all seating, fittings, furnishings and equipment.

The Regent Theatre closed on 1st July 1970, and the Plaza Theatre on 4th November 1970.

A Public Auction, on behalf of the Vendor, was held on 1st and 2nd December 1970, and all the seating, fittings and furnishings were sold and the majority of all removable equipment. The Council received possession of the building on 30th December 1970.

Letters received from Members.

Mr. Jack Gibbs, 21 Barunga Road, Engadine writes as follows:-

Dear Chris,

You know on Sunday 23rd July Ritchie Willis and Norm Read opened their home to the financial benefit of TOSA, I think to the sum of around \$70.00 and there has never been a mention of appreciation, thanks or "kiss my foot" in TOSA News, also the efforts again of Ron and Doug at Organ and Piano.

I think it is downright rude, and bad mannered that a Society should accept such a sum of money without publicly stating its appreciation and I hope a personal apology is forwarded to the people involved.

signed: Jack Gibbs.

Jack,

We have mentioned in previous editions the wonderful work done by Ritchie Willis and the Selwyn Theatre. Mention of this was made in both May and June and, once again, our thanks go out to Ritchie and Norm and all the other people who assist The Theatre Organ Society in it's fund raising activities. This would include home organ parties, the Ladies Auxilliary who serve the cups of tea at Concerts and so on. There are many others who simply give of their time and this is equally appreciated. I have given your letter to the Secretary Doug Smith for further attention.

Jack Gibbs also writes:-

I had the pleasure of attending the organ party at the home of Addie and Bill Osborne at Beverly Park. They are the proud owners of a Lowrey Citation Theatre Spinet organ.

So it was a night of music ably assisted by Doug Smith, Ron Smith and Richard James at the keyboards. Our hostess played a bracket of numbers after supper which was followed by a singalong led by Doug at the organ accompanied by words on the screen.

Letters received from Members. Continued.

Addie and Bill are fairly new members to T.O.S.A. So it was a splendid effort on their behalf that they collected \$50.00 for the night on behalf of the Society. My personal thanks for a most pleasant and sociable evening, and I'm sure that all who attended had a most rewarding night. Thanks also to Doug, Ron and Richard.

signed: Jack Gibbs.

REVIEW - DAVID PARSONS AT ST. COLUMBS-RYDE.

by Ron Smith.

For this, the first of our Anniversary Weekend functions, a dissappointingly small group of T.O.S.A. Members, supplemented by several of St. Columbs parishioners provided David with an audience much smaller than his vast talent and good nature justifies.

We have now come to expect from David a most enjoyable and variety packed programme and this was certainly no exception covering popular, classical, Gospel, musicals and a couple of Orchestral arrangements. To mention just a few items, we had - I write the Songs, Intermezzo from Cavilliera Rusticana, What a friend we have in Jesus, Dance of the Hours, Die Fledermaus and a medley of songs incorporating Rivers in their titles.

The organ performed faultlessly and this was the first occasion since the 1976 Easter Convention on which we have heard this sweet sounding Christie. Our sincere appreciation for the afternoons entertainment was expressed to both David and the Pastor of the Church by our Secretary, Doug Smith.

NEW MEMBERS. Includes September, October and November.

Mr & Mrs Fowler, Toronto, Ron Carson, Ryde, Mr & Mrs Cosentino, Willoughby, C.J. Styles, Cremorne, Richard Harrington, Parramatta, Mr & Mrs J. Burke, Caringbah, Paul Archer, Birmingham Gardens, John Robinson, North Ryde, Mrs & Mrs D.C. Mitchell, Picnic Point and Ken Collins, Blackheath.

GRAND PIANOS.

Normally regarded as full size in the grand piano field is a piano measuring 9' in length with an 88 note keyboard and this has been the case for many years. Recently however the Bosendorfer Piano Company brought out a new model. Called the Bosendorfer 'Imperial', this piano is 9'8" in length and features a 97 note keyboard. The extra nine notes are at the bottom end and this starts the keyboard off on C instead of the traditional A. Oscar Peterson mentions this piano in an article he wrote but points out that the bottom notes are too low and have too many overtones in them and are too loud and for this reason he doesn't use them. The piano was in Sydney last year for the Piano Competition but doesn't seem to have attracted too much attention with regard to it's being so unusual. At this stage I have not been able to get any figures on production runs etc, and therefore cannot say if this model will go into full scale production or the few that have been completed may be all that is envisaged.

POINTS TO PONDER.

Middle age is that time in life when the narrow waist and the broad mind begin to change places.

ELECTIONS FOR OFFICE 1979.

The nominations have closed on Wednesday 11th October and these results you can see as follows:-

Alan Misdale, President Elected Unopposed.

Vice Presidents. Doug Smith, Frank Ellis, John Weismantel.

Secretary. Jack Lawson, Ernie Vale.

Treasurer. Edna Smith. Elected unopposed.

Committee: Ernie Vale, Ritchie Willis, Cliff Bingham, Rob Gliddon, Rob Weismantel, Jack Lawson, Bill Schumacher, Ron Wilson, Ron Smith, Pam Tooker.

Minute Secretary: No nomination received.

Congratulations are offered to Alan Misdale and Edna Smith, both of whom are at present serving on Committee and Executive.

Some details of the various contenders are set out below, not in any order and, with the exception of two, none of the nominees sent any material about themselves to the Editor for publication. One of the nominees is overseas and he was going to put some material in the post but this has not arrived to date.

DOUG SMITH.

Doug is just another organ lover who would like to be allowed a further opportunity to try and serve the members and the Society. Doug has been Secretary of the Society for the current term, has always been available at any hour to assist in any matter. Doug Smith is a nominee for Vice President for 1979.

FRANK ELLIS.

Frank Ellis has been a Vice President for the last 9 years, was Editor of the TOSA News for 6 years, has acted as Master of Ceremonies at all Concerts and has been a member since the inception of the Society. Frank is a nominee for Vice President for 1979. Frank is currently Vice President.

JOHN WEISMANTEL.

John has been an active member for many years, previously served as Committee member and Vice President for a number of years. John regularly conducts visitors on tours of the chambers of the WurliTzer after Concerts at Marrickville. Active member of the ex Capitol Organ restoration group. John has provided lighting effects for T.O.S.A. Functions. John actively promotes T.O.S.A. at every opportunity. John is a nominee for Vice President for 1979. John holds no current position in Office.

JACK LAWSON.

Jack Lawson works in the Railways and has done for 35 years and is now an Express Driver qualified to drive all types of State and Interstate Express trains. He has held the position of Branch Secretary of the large metropolitan branch of the Enginemen's Union for 16 years. He joined T.O.S.A. in 1969 and has served for 2 years on Committee where he has been particularly active. He has worked for over four years on the State and Capitol Organs and is currently a member of the Sub-Committee concerned with the placement of the ex Capitol organ. The organisation and successful running of our cabarets has been guaranteed by his meticulous attention to detail. Jack is a nominee for the position of Secretary for 1979. Jack holds no current position in Office.

ERNIE VALE.

Ernie Vale has been a very active member of T.O.S.A for many years, he has a quiet, efficient manner about him and has the ability to be able to work out a solution to the most insurmountable problems with a quiet, purposeful dedication which is evident at all times. Ernie is convener of the Capitol Organ restoration group and he has supplied storage for a large number of parts of the organ as well as providing the space for the workers and refreshments. For quite a period he assisted in the production of the T.O.S.A. News and has largely been instrumental in the repair of the printing press which is almost completed. Next Page.

ERNIE VALE. Continued.

Ernie has a great love of the Theatre Organ, is always accessible and willing to give his time and attention to detail.

Ernie Vale is a nominee for the position of Secretary 1979 and is currently in Office and has chaired some of the meetings during the year.

ROB GLIDDON.

Rob Gliddon is an Airline Officer with Qantas. He has musical training in Piano and Organ and is part owner of a theatre pipe organ which he is currently restoring and enlarging. He has toured and inspected numerous overseas theatre organs both in the U.S.A. and in the U.K., taking particular interest in technical aspects. He has had extensive experience in organising T.O.S.A. Functions and was an effective member in the organising committee of "FUNTASTIC", the 5th National Convention staged in Sydney in 1976.

Rob is a nominee for the position of Committee and is presently serving on Committee.

BILL SCHUMACHER.

Bill Schumacher is a City Representative for a well known international distilling company. He has had extensive musical training being now a professional musician in which he has concertised extensively at formal and informal functions both here, in other States and in the U.S.A. He has made four trips to A.T.O.S. Conventions where his appreciation of tonal and technical aspects has been enhanced. He has been a member of T.O.S.A. for 16 years, 15 of them of which a most useful member of Committee. Bill was a long standing member of the Hammond Organ Society No. 1 Chapter during which he served on Committee and Concert Committee. He was for some time Musical Director of that Society.

Bill is a nominee for the position of Committee for 1979 and is presently serving on Committee.

RON SMITH.

Ron Smith has been a member of T.O.S.A. for over 10 years, has served on Committee during 1978 and as the Membership Secretary since 1975. During this period he has come to know a large percentage of the members personally and his aim is further promote our social activities while still assisting with the maintenance work on the ex Capitol Organ. Ron owns two electronic Theatre Organs and occasionally plays socially at home meetings. He is Consultant with the Wales Travel Service and as such has handled arrangements for the 1977, 78 and 79 Interstate National Organ Conventions.

Ron is a nominee for the position of Committee for 1979 and is presently serving on Committee.

RON WILSON.

Ron Wilson is a Company Director and has been an active member of T.O.S.A. for over 10 years. He was formerly a member of the Concert Committee and Activities Committee when it was in existence but Ron still is a great help to the Committee in the promotion of Concerts, is one of the active members who maintain the Marrickville WurliTzer and his services have been invaluable in engineering matters. Ron has held quite a number of home parties for the Society and is always accessible when required. Ron also looks after quite an amount of printing for the Society with the exception of the T.O.S.A. News but all of the publicity material that is done for the Concerts that is handed out at the door is largely the work of Ron Wilson.

Ron is a nominee for the position of Committee for 1979. Ron is not presently serving on Committee.

ROBERT WEISMANTEL.

Robert Weismantel has been an active member for many years, previously wrote T.O.S.A. Concert reviews for the News. Robert is an active member of the ex Capitol restoration group. Rob has assisted in providing lighting effects for T.O.S.A. Concerts, regularly attends TOSA functions and actively promotes TOSA at any opportunity. Robert is a nominee for position of Committee for 1979. Not in office at moment.

CLIFF BINGHAM.

Cliff is Sales Manager for a well known firm of electronic organ retailers. He has been a member of T.O.S.A for the past 14 years, for some of which he was a Committee member and Editor of T.O.S.A. News. He is aware of the organ scene and has visited NAMM (National Association of Music Merchandisers) in 1975 and is a regular Concert artist having performed for T.O.S.A. in N.S.W, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia and Tasmania at both formal and informal functions. He has made several succesfull recordings and is Organist/Choirmaster at the East Lindfield Baptist Church and has a 2/26 Pipe organ built largely to his design. Cliff is a nominee for the position of Committee for 1979. He is presently serving on Committee.

RITCHIE WILLIS.

Ritchie Willis has been an active member of TOSA since 1963 and has served on Committee for 1 year. Although not a player Ritchie is a very keen listener to organ music. Ritchie operates the 'Selwyn Theatre' Group at Mortdale presenting a featured organist each month. The profits from these functions are shared out between T.O.S.A and the various charities and Ritchie has contributed in excess of \$600 to T.O.S.A funds to date.

Ritchie is a nominee for the position of Committee for 1979. He is not presently serving in Office.

PAM TOOKER.

Pam Tooker is the wife of Barry Tooker who has served on Committee in the past. Pam has been a member of the Society since 1969, is a qualified ladies hair-dresser and is the only lady to stand for Office. Her father is Jack Lawson who is also a nominee but for the position of Secretary. Pam would like to see more younger people involved and ladies working with Committee. Pam is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Pam is a nominee for the position of Committee for 1979. Pam has never held a position of Office.

This completes the brief descriptions of the various nominees. Left out have been Alan Misdale and also Edna Smith, both of whom have been elected unopposed.

CHRISTMAS CABARET.

On Friday 1st December the Annual Christmas Cabaret will be held in Marrickville Town Hall. Sherries will be served from 6.45pm to 7.00pm. Dance to our organ in the capable hands of Ian Davies. A three course meal will be served at 7.30pm. You will be entertained by a top line club act and there will be a singalong to genuine theatre slides in a Segment from Yesteryear.

Make up your party now, tables will seat 16 and, should you exceed this number we will make up adjoining tables. The cost of this evening is \$17.00 double and \$8.50 single and all you need to bring is yourself, companion and your own liquid refreshments. Dress is optional and bookings should be made with Mrs. Pam Tooker, 9 Blanche Street, BELFIELD 2191, on the attached form.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/POSTAL NOTE IS MADE OUT TO T.O.S.A. AND NOT MRS TOOKER!!

Bookings will close on Friday 24th November, please include all the Christian names of your party in addition to the surnames of all members of your party to assist in the preparation of name tags.

If you require confirmation would you please enclose a self addressed stamped envelope. Phone enquiries to Mrs Tooker, 642 6086 or Mrs. Lawson on 569 3775.

PHOTOGRAPHS IN THIS ISSUE. (viewed right way up).

Top Left: David Johnston at the Console at Marrickville Town Hall.

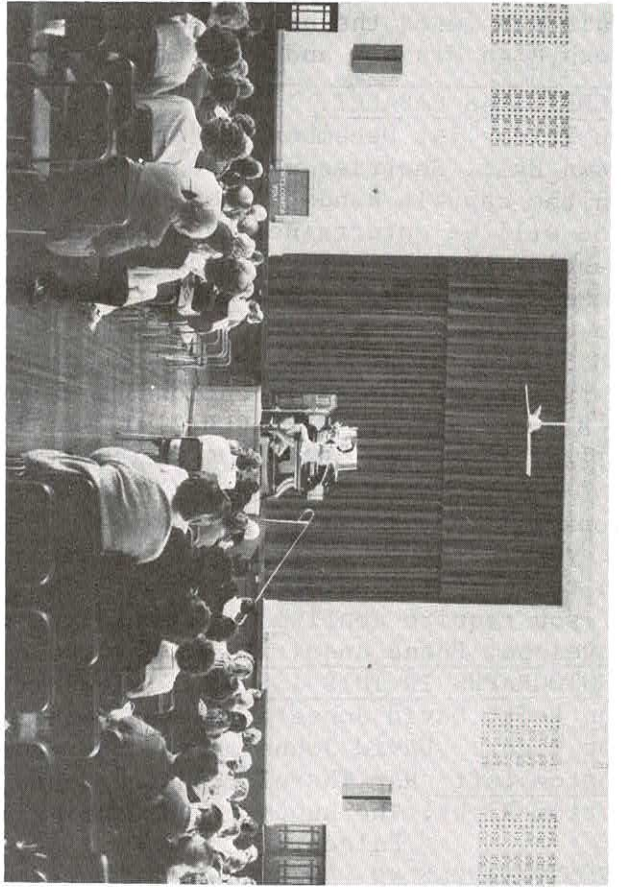
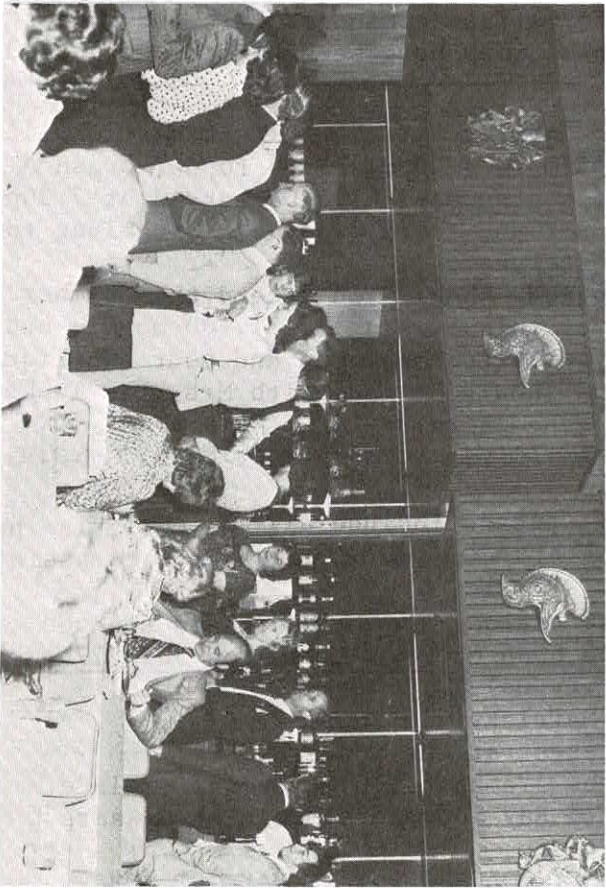
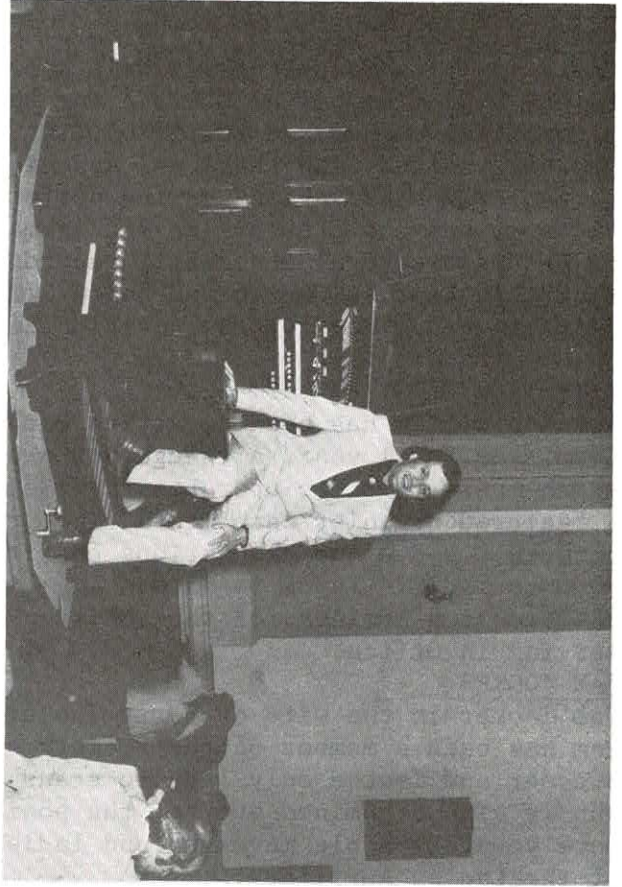
Top Right: David Johnston and the crowd present at the Concert.

Bottom Left: Ray Thornley photographed at the 'Yamaha' E70 at Caesars Palace.

Bottom Right: The happy crowd dancing away to Ray Thornleys Music at Caesars Palace.

UNFORTUNATELY NO PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN AT ST. COLUMBS BUT WE MAY GET SOME AT A LATER DATE FOR THE NEWS.

Photographs by Barry Tooker.





TONY FENELON, SOME NOTES ON HIS BACKGROUND.

Concert, Marrickville Town Hall, Sunday 19th November 1978.

At 37 years of age Tony Fenelon is a figure of world renown in one field and is rapidly acquiring similar status in another.

By the time you hear this Concert, Tony will have completed his fourth major Theatre Organ Concert tour of the U.S.A. Tony is recognised as one of the best and is one of the most recorded Theatre Organists of all time.

Tony Fenelon's other spectacular rise is in the field of Medical Electronics. His authoritative papers in this area have gained him wide attention in this highly spectacular field. In 1959 he commenced a combined Science and Music study at Melbourne University.

During the years 1959-1963 he obtained the Exhibition for Associate Diploma in Piano, the highest marks ever awarded for Licentiate Diploma in Piano, and received his Bachelor of Science. In 1964 he commenced working for the Royal Melbourne Hospital as a Bio-Medical Scientist in the field of Medical Electronics. This was to be his life's work outside music.

It was also in 1964 that Tony began playing the Mighty WurliTzer Pipe Organ. He was always interested in popular music both on Piano and Electronic Organ but, this was his first experience in the sound of pipes.

His first Theatre Organ performance was on Christmas Eve of 1964 at the Hoyts Regent Theatre Melbourne to a large and very receptive audience. So successful was the appearance that in March 1975 he was appointed Resident Organist at the Regent. His performances were soon noticed and he began his first tour of the U.S.A. in 1969, a rare privilege for any Australian organist indeed!! He played numerous Concerts throughout the United States; probably no other Theatre Organist in history made such an impression on the American public as Tony Fenelon. He held his audiences spellbound for over 2½ hours each evening and received a standing ovation for every performance.

Tony Fenelon comes to Marrickville Town Hall direct from his fourth American Concert Tour.

This Concert on the 19th November should not be missed as anyone who was at the last Concert that Tony gave at Marrickville will remember just what a treat we all got.

SEE YOU AT THE CONCERT AND REMEMBER THAT IT BEGINS AT 2.30pm SHARP!!

FREE ORGAN RECITALS.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SYDNEY IS PRESENTING A SERIES OF FREE CONCERTS ON THE GRAND ORGAN, SYDNEY TOWN HALL (Described briefly in the last issue of T.O.S.A. News), as follows:-

Thursday Evenings. 6.15pm - 7.00pm.

12th October
19th October
26th October
2nd November
9th November

Sunday Afternoon. 2.30pm - 3.00pm.

5th November

CHRISTMAS ORGAN CONCERT.

Thursday 14th December 6.00pm - 7.30pm.

Robert Ampt. City Organist.

Robert was born in Victoria in 1949 and studied Music at the University of Adelaide. He graduated with a Bachelor of Music, with honours, in 1970 and later on, in 1974, gained his Master of Music Degree.

Robert left Australia in Mid 1973 to study under Professor Anton Heiller in Vienna, Austria, where he also gained considerable experience studying with Mr. Peter Planyavsky, Organist at St. Stephens Cathedral Vienna.

During his 4 year stay overseas Robert gave Concerts in various countries including Austria, Germany, Holland, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America.

Robert believes in the old entertainment adage of "performing what the audience wants to see and hear" and he looks forward to the challenge of meeting the various "organ requests" that will be encouraged during the series.

The Concert on Thursday 9th November will be quite interesting as this will be a programme of requests and will include Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor as well as one of Vidors Toccatas and Fugues and this will be the final evening programme and promises to be excellent.

(Information reprinted largely from leaflet handed out at function and with permission of Mr. David Clark, Entertainment Officer).