

Volume 17 No.8.

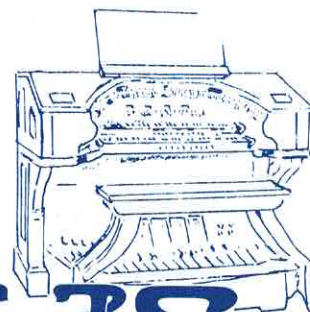
PRICE 40 cents

September 1978.

EDITOR.

CHRIS N. PALMER.

127 Ernest Street, CROWS NEST. 2065  
926-534.



# 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 FOR POSTING AS A PERIODICAL—CATEGORY B

Patron: Ian Davies.

President: Steve MacDonald. (599-7092)

Vice Presidents: Frank Ellis (649-7011), Alan Misdale. (525 5554).

Secretary: Doug Smith. (750 0917). Treasurer: Mrs. E. Smith (529 7379).

Membership Secretary: Ron Smith (529 7379), Practice Convener: Chris Palmer.

Advertising: John Atkinson. (587 3374) Research and Archives: Ian Cameron

Society Recording Engineer: Ray Garrett. (869 7247)

*Please address all correspondence to: The Secretary, P.O. Box A 584, Sydney South 2000.*

## DIARY NOTES OF COMING EVENTS.

10th Anniversary of Music!!!!

September 23rd and 24th.

Yes!, it is now ten years since the Mighty WurliTzer spoke at Marrickville Town Hall following the efforts of the faithful team that worked so hard what now seems so long ago. To celebrate this occasion we have a weekend of music planned with more details on the next page.

Sunday 29th October.

IAN DAVIES IN CONCERT.

Society Patron Ian Davies will be appearing at Marrickville Town Hall in Concert on Sunday 29th October at 2.30pm. Mr Ian Davies is a well respected organist and has been the Patron of the Society since it's inception and played the first public Concert in 1968.

Sunday 19th November.

TONY FENELON IN CONCERT.

Australia's own Theatre Organist, Mr. Tony Fenelon will be appearing at Marrickville Town Hall on Sunday 19th November. Tony Fenelon would probably be the most popular legitimate Theatre Organist in Australia and has received acclaim each time that he visits America. Tony is a most accomplished musician both on organ and on piano and has some very successful record albums to his credit. This Concert will begin at 2.30pm.

Friday Evening 1st December 1978.

CHRISTMAS CABARET.

Christmas Cabaret, Marrickville Town Hall at 7.00pm. Once again Christmas will be upon us and we have organised another popular Cabaret. Don't miss this great night of Dining, Danc-ng and Singalong complete with original Theatre Slides. There will be a selected Club Act, Spot Dances etc., and a great fun night will be had by all. These cabarets are a great success and give everyone a chance of getting to know another member and relax in what is a communal type of atmosphere amongst people with a common interest.

10th Anniversary Weekend of Music!!!!!!

Yes! Ten long years ago the Mighty Wurlitzer spoke again in Marrickville Town Hall after much negotiation, much hard work and a great deal of enthusiasm and a bit of help from Lady Luck. Ours was the first such installation in Australia and our Wurlitzer is one of the oldest. Well, ten years has now passed since Ian Davies played the first public Concert in 1968 and we have arranged a week end of music at three separate locations over the weekend of Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th September.

Details were given in the last issue of the T.O.S.A. News but we can go over them again for you.

The first event on the program is a visit to St. Columbs Church, Bellevue and Dickson Avenues, West Ryde, where you will hear a Christie Theatre Organ that is virtually complete and that will be played by a very respected organist, Mr. David Parsons. The specifications of this instrument were given in the last issue of T.O.S.A News, however, a member pointed out that the specifications were slightly inaccurate and we would like to reprint them in their correct form;-

Opus 2774, original installation 1928.

<u>Main Chamber.</u>		<u>Solo Chamber.</u>	
Vox Humana	8'-2'	Tuba	8'-4'
Flute.	8'-2'	Tibia	16'-4'
Viol d'Orchestre	16'-2'	Clarinet.	8'
Viol Celeste	8'	Diapasion.	16'-2'
Chrysoglott.		Bass Drum Tap.	
		Bass Drum Roll.	
		Cymbal Roll.	
		Cymbal Crash.	
		Triangle Tap.	
		Chimes.	

10th Anniversary Weekend of Music!!!!!!

The next event on the programme is a wonderful evening at Caesars Palace, Parraweena Road, Taren Point where Dinner will be served and the music will be provided by Mr. Ray Thornley an organist of considerable note and currently Keyboard Consultant for Rose Music. This evening will be an occasion to remember and begins at 7.00pm.

10th Anniversary Weekend of Music!!!!!!

Celebrated organist Mr. David Johnston will be the featured organist on the Mighty Wurlitzer at Marrickville Town Hall commencing at 2.30pm. David Johnston is a well known organist and was written up in last month's edition of T.O.S.A News.

A Special Package Price of \$14.00 Adults, \$12.00 Children and Pensioners, \$11.50 to Y.O.A. Members in uniform applies. Some of you may wonder at how this price is arrived but the most expensive component is the Dinner at Caesars Palace for which it is not possible to reduce the price. For those of you that feel you may wish to pass the Dinner then it is possible to order the individual tickets for each of the functions.

<u>VENUE.</u>		<u>Adults.</u>	<u>Children and Pensioners.</u>	<u>Y.O.A.</u>
St. Columbs.	(Donation)	\$2.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Caesars Palace.		\$10.00	\$10.00	\$9.50
Marrickville Town Hall.		\$3.00	\$1.50	\$1.00

10th Anniversary Weekend of Music!!!!!!

As mentioned, the price referred to for St. Columbs Church is a donation to the Church which covers tuning of the organ etc., and enables the Church Wardens to keep the instrument in the condition in which you will be able to hear it.

*Bookings for the Weekend of Music may be made direct with the Secretary, Mr. Doug Smith, 58 Rosebank Avenue, KINGSGROVE 2208. Please make Cheques etc., payable to T.O.S.A. and specify what you require as both package and single tickets are available.*

*SEE YOU THERE!!!!*

QUARTERLY MEETING.

As mentioned in the last edition of T.O.S.A News, the Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Annes Church Hall on Wednesday 13th September at 8.00pm. This will also be the first time that nominations will be able to be handed in, completed, to the Returning Officer, Mr. Blackmore who will be present for this purpose so if you have any questions you will be able to ask Mr. Blackmore after the meeting. All members are welcome to Quarterly Meetings as your opinions are required by Committee in order that your Society can be run properly for your benefit.

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE IN BY WEDNESDAY 11th OCTOBER WITH THE RETURNING OFFICER, BOX 124, P.O. PENNANT HILLS. 2120.

Any nominations received after that date must be disregarded no matter what the circumstances may be. Postal strikes etc., cannot be taken into account. Legally we must comply in all aspects with this requirement.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Well, once again this has been moved again, this time back to Marrickville Town Hall where it will be held in the main hall on Wednesday 22nd November at 8.00pm. At this meeting the results of the ballot will be made known and there will be entertainment on the WurliTzer.

FROM THE SECRETARY. Annual General Meeting.

Although it has been advised that this meeting was to be held at St. Annes Church, Strathfield. we have now been succesful in obtaining the use of Marrickville Town Hall for this important meeting. The date is 22.11.78. The meeting will begin at 8.00pm sharp.

- Agenda.
1. Election of Scrutineers to officiate at our counting of Ballot papers.
  2. Reading of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (two parts, 1976 & 1977)
  3. Announcement of the results of the Ballot.
  4. Current relevant matters to be discussed, also any suggestions (and complaints) by any of the members will gladly be heard in an effort to further the aims of the Society, and conducting the Society still further in the interests of it's members.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO SPEAK, THE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM WILL BE IN USE, SO YOU WILL BE HEARD!

5. Music from our WurliTzer Pipe Organ played in Cameo spots by our own competent Artists.  
Mr. Bill Schumacher, Mr. Cliff Bingham, Miss Margaret Hall  
Miss Janice Wilson and Mr. Noel Smith.

4...

FROM THE SECRETARY Continued.

I hereby extend a cordial invitation to all members to attend the Quarterly Meeting on WEDNESDAY 13th September at St Annes Church, Strathfield, at 8.00pm.

It will be the commencement for the nominations to be received for the all important positions in your Society for Executive and Committee for 1979. The closing date for nominations will be October 11th 1978.

All nominations must be forwarded to the Official Returning Officer, Mr. R. D. Blackmore, P.O. Box 124, PENNANT HILLS 2120.

I appreciate the fact that the general membership wishes only to be entertained and not concerned with the technicalities of running the Society. The Executive and Committee however are not in that happy position.

They are, in effect, the Board of Directors of a concern which has assets valued at thousands of dollars, has a large financial turnover and enters into many important business transactions, and must abide by the rules under which it operates on behalf of its members.

I appeal to you carefully to consider any person that you may wish to nominate, as someone who has a well founded policy interest in the Society and its members. These persons will be responsible for the future of the Society, and, (thinking only of your interests), will help to further our activities and keep us together as a happy, going concern.

All persons nominated must sign the nomination in the space provided, indicating their willingness to act on your behalf.

All persons nominating and seconding must also sign their names in addition to printing them on the nomination forms.

Nomination forms appear at the end of this issue of T.O.S.A. News.

PLEASE SEE PAGE 10.

FOR DETAILS OF ELECTED POSITIONS.

yours. Doug Smith. Hon. Secretary.

CAPITOL ORGAN WORKING PARTY.

Hard working and enthusiastic Committeeman Ernie Vale advises that the next working bee will be held at 'The Organ Loft', 49 Boomerang Street, Haberfield on Saturday 16th September at 2.00pm. A cordial invitation is extended to all members, both new and long standing to both help restore this instrument and also to learn something of the workings of these rather intricate organs. This is our second instrument and for anyone that is not familiar is a 3m/15r organ which is larger than our Marrickville Wurlitzer which is a 2m/10r. These afternoons are always enjoyable as one is in company with friends with mutual interests and the value of the work done could not be calculated in monetary terms. Your efforts are required. You may think that only experts are required. You are wrong. Our organisation began when a few who knew a bit decided to have a go at what then seemed a very large and formidable task. The result is the Marrickville Wurlitzer which was the first such re-installation in Australia.

---

TOM HAZLETON CONCERT REVIEW.      Sunday 30th July      Ernie Vale.

Those people who were able to be at the Concert were amply rewarded with one of the best performances we have heard for a long while by one of the most proficient and versatile artists we have been privileged to hear at the Wurlitzer and he did not hesitate to use his sheet music.

Tom showed great feeling for the instrument and was most aware of the acoustic qualities of the hall using excellent and frequent changes in registration. He quite frequently played one chamber against the other with separate use of the swell pedals. Tom's programme was delightful in that it showed us the many moods of the organ with a smattering of classical numbers to which the organ and the acoustics of the hall are particularly suited. We were in for a real treat when Tom's wife, Anne Marie sang beautifully without the aid of a microphone. She was heard to comment that she would like to take the hall home with her because the acoustics were so suitable.

We have indeed been very fortunate to have heard such an accomplished musician in Sydney at the console of our 2 manual Wurlitzer about which Tom made some very complimentary remarks. It was quite evident at all times that Tom enjoyed playing the instrument and needed little encouragement to play some most appropriate encores. He has won our hearts, I'm sure, and I hope that he returns to thrill us again with his musical talent.

TOM HAZLETON CONCERT.

This Concert was recorded by the Society Recording Engineer, Mr. Ray Garrett (869 7247), and the Concert is available on Reel to Reel at \$17.00 and on 2 x C90 Cassettes at \$11.00. Both prices include postage and it would be an idea to tell Ray if you require Dolby On or Dolby Off in the case of the Cassettes. Don't forget to print your name and address in a legible fashion and enclose a Cheque/Money Order/Postal Note or whatever for the appropriate amount. The address of Ray Garrett is 36 Callistemon Close, Epping 2121. It was suggested that a separate form be done for this, but already we have enough enclosures with the magazine as it is. If you have any query just contact Ray and he will answer any questions. PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT THE COST IS JUST ENOUGH TO COVER THE CASSETTES AND REELS OF TAPE. THE BEST QUALITY TAPES ARE USED AND IF THERE IS ANYTHING LEFT OVER IT GOES TO THE SOCIETY.

The following numbers were recorded; Abba Dabba Honeymoon, Selections from South Pacific, You light up my life, Velia, Leonard Bernstein's Rabble Rowser Overture Kandee, Basin Street Blues, The Stripper, Plopp Plopp Fizz Fizz, Dream, and two Encore Items by George Friedrich Handel including the Hallelujah Chorus with a unique punch line to it, also some numbers on our sister City, San Francisco and also I left my heart in San Francisco.

GLENN DERRINGER IN CONCERT.Editor.

Noted American Organist Glenn Derringer appeared in Concert at the State Theatre on Thursday 17th September in the course of releasing the new Wurlitzer Model 950 Console.

This new model by Wurlitzer represents their latest manufacturing and design techniques to date. The instrument is quite impressive and there is no doubt about Glenn's technique as he made maximum use of just about everything that was to be found on the organ. His pedal technique is very good and he has the ability to entertain the crowd. A quite sizeable attendance was noted, with most of the stalls section of the Theatre taken. There were three organs on stage and these were there from the Dealer Convention which had taken place during the day. One small thing that I noticed was not entirely common to Wurlitzer but can be found on other console organs such as Yamaha and Gulbransen, why is it that a manufacturer can spend so much money on design and come up with nice little lights all

6...

GLENN DERRINGER IN CONCERT REVIEW. (Cont).

around the stoprail and then not include the music desk??. I notice that on these instruments there is not the slightest reason why this cannot be done. How many of us go and buy an instrument such as a large console unit and pay a small fortune for it, notice the lovely lighting around the damm stoprail and then go out an buy a seperate music lamp that either sits on top of or clips on to the organ?. Only one model that I know of has a music light and that is the large Hammond. We sit in our living rooms or whatever, practising our music on a large instrument and then have to make do to be able to read the music. This is not good enough from the manufacturers in this day and age.

One thing that was quite upsetting was the fact that the State Theatre appears to have now joined the long list of silent Theatres around the world as, at the time of Glenn Derringer at least, the Theatre is not being used at all.

---

NEW MEMBERS.

The Society takes this opportunity of welcoming the following to it's ranks:- Jack and Betty James Engadine, Richard James, Engadine. John and Elaine Burke from Caringbah, Paul Archer from Birmingham Gardens, John Robertson from North Ryde, Richard Harrington from Parramatta, Chris Styles from Cremorne, Joe and Helen Cosentino from Willoughby and Mr & Mrs Don Mitchell from Picnic Point.

---

HOME ORGAN PARTY. Saturday 7th October.

Following our request for people to consider opening their homes for Organ Parties we were advised by Mrs. Osborne, 92 Harslett Crescent, Beverly Park, Phone 587 6776 that seh would like to make her home available for this purpose. Members who attended the recent party at Ron and Phyl Wilsons will remember what a great time was had there and it is events like this that bring everyone together in an informal atmosphere. The price for this evening is \$2.00 for gents and \$1.50 for ladies. Ladies are asked to please bring a plate as this will help Mrs. Osborne out with the catering a bit.

---

THE 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. There will be a sing along to genuine Theatre Slides in a segment from Yesteryear.

Make up your party now, table will seat 16 and, should you exceed this number we will make up adjoining tables. The cost of this evening is \$17.00 a double and \$8.50 a single and all you need to do is bring yourself, companion and grog as liquid refreshemnts are not supplied. Dress is optional and booking should be made to Mrs. Tooker, 9 Blanche Street, BELFIELD 2191, on the attached form. *PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER/POSTAL NOTE IS MADE OUT TO T.O.S.A. and not Mrs. Tooker PLEASE!!*

Bookings will close on Friday 24th November, please include 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.

---

COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Some time ago it was decided to hold Committee Meetings at alternate locations of Marrickville Town Hall and St. Annes Church Hall Strathfield. This has now been changed and all Committee Meetings will be held at St. Annes at Strathfield beginning at 8.00pm sharp. All members are welcome to visit at these meetings and it gives everyone a chance to see what happens at one of the quite interesting meetings. Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of each month.

---

FAMILY ORGAN CLUBS AND HAMMOND CHAPTERS. It was decided at the last Committee meeting to encourage the various organ clubs and Chapters etc., to supply us with their newsletters in order that we may publish and try and bring together the various groups. We supply these same societies, clubs etc., with our news in the hope that they will inform their members so that we may all benefit to the ultimate benefit of all concerned. What has to be remembered is that of all the population, there are a certain group of people interested in the organ and these people will be found in all the various groups. Many of the artists who perform will play for one group one week and another the next and some of the members may wish to be able to hear the artist in question appear at both places.

On a trial basis, it has been decided to ask the Hammond Chapter 1 and 3, the St. George and Sutherland Family Organ Club, the Warringah Organ Club and the Family Organ Club of Parramatta initially and we will devote a portion of our magazine to this end. Some of the members may feel that this is not a wise move but in the long run it is felt that the more assistance given to others the more beneficial this will be to our own Society. It must be understood that dates of Concerts etc., which conflict with the Society will be left out as would be expected.

As all of the abovementioned groups have not yet been contacted and/or replied, we are able to publish only the following:-

HAMMOND NORTHSIDE CHAPTER NO. 3.

Meets at the Kendall Coomunity Centre, Warwick Avenue Cammeray on the third Tuesday of each month. Enquiries should be made with Miss Carmen La Motte on 439 2821. Your Editor is also a member of this Chapter and can assure anyone in the area that they would be most welcome and these meetings are very informal and most friendly.

ST. GEORGE AND SUTHERLAND FAMILY ORGAN CLUB.

This Family Organ Club is run by Miss Janice Wilson and Mr Noel Smith and the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th September at Caesars Palace, Parraweena Road, Taren Point, (where one of our Weekend of Music functions will be held), and the next function will feature Cliff Bingham playing the Rodgers Trio Model 321A accompanied by Mr. John Crawford on the piano. A buffet dinner will be served prior to the nights' entertainment and everyone is welcome. For bookings and enquiries please phone the Keyboard Centre at Kingsway on 524 4186, or, more correctly the Kingsway Keyboard Centre.

PARRAMATTA FAMILY ORGAN CLUB.

This family Organ Club meets at the Baptist Church Hall on the fourth Tuesday of each month and inquiries can be made through Flanagan and Winter on 630 8550. Tuesday 22nd saw Yarpie Kruige from Wadsworths Music demonstrate his musical ability on the new WurliTzer Model 650. Yarpie is a talented musician who excells in the more classical music. The next concert will feature the Young Organists

8...

PARRAMATTA FAMILY ORGAN CLUB. (Cont.)

who will be competing in the City of Sydney Eistedfod on the weekend of 23/24th September. The concert on 24th October will feature your Editor and the Young Organists from the Chatswood Chapter so this should be quite interesting.

---

Unfortunately on 22nd August there were two interesting evenings, both of which we had had not enough notice to publish, our member Peter Held gave a Concert in a Church at North Sydney on a Classic Baldwin Organ as well as the Family Organ night mentioned above.

This is one of the reasons why we are trying to get this information from all sources, we also could not publish the details of the Glenn Derringer Concert time for release.

---

Unfortunately we are not able to publish the photographs that were taken at the Tome Hazleton Concert as they were taken in Colour and as many of you may know, at the moment we are using a commercial printer and also a commercial platemaker and the cost of making suitable black and white from colour would add considerable cost to the magazine production costs. Our previous platemaker is not now available and this is one reason why we have not had that many photographs this year.

---

A LAYMANS DIGRESSION ON THE TONE OF THE CHRISTIE ORGANS.

Rod Blackmore.

I can't tell you much about the difference in the actions of the Christie and WurliTzer organs - others who have worked on these organs can do that - but I have listened to and played on most of the Christie organs which were installed in Sydney, I've done a little research, and think I can point to some interesting facts.

What's in a name anyway? As most of us know, Christie organs were built by the organ firm of Hill, Norman and Beard. Wm Hill & Son (builder of the 5/127 Grand Organ of Sydney Town Hall), was founded on the business of one John Snetzler in 1755. In 1916 Wm. Hill and Sons amalgamated with Norman and Beard Ltd. In 1923 on the death of Dr. Arthur Hill, one John Christie became chairman of directors of the company, and it was his name that made their cinema organ famous.

One of the basic tonal differences between the Christie and the WurliTzer is the fact that Christies are founded more strongly on Diapasion stops, whilst the WurliTzer has the strong Tibias. WurliTzers have their Diapasions too, and Christies have their Tibias, but the emphasis are different.

Let me illustrate. That well known 2/8 Christie now at St. Columbs Church, West Ryde, has no less than two diapasion ranks - 2 out of 8 isn't a bad predominance! - labelled on the stops as Open Diapasion 1 and Open Diapasion 11. Open Diapasion 1 is a true Open Diapasion and is situated in Chamber No.1., whilst Open Diapasion 11 is a Geigen Diapasion and is situated in Chamber No 2., (The Geigen Diapasion is a stringy-toned Diapasion). The Christie of the Lyceum Theatre began life as a 2m/8r instrument in 1930 with one Open Diapasion. Let me digress historically; the Lyceum dates back to the last century, when it was a large Theatre with two galleries. It was purchased and settled on the Central Methodist Mission in 1908, since when it became the church-in-a-theatre on Sundays. It was later modernised with a single balcony and for many years until destroyed by fire early in 1964 was known as the New Lyceum. Now of course we have a new, new Lyceum.



A LAYMANS DIGRESSION ON THE TONE OF THE CHRISTIE ORGANS. (Cont.)

What prompted the Mission to buy a theatre organ I have not been able to ascertain, nor have I read of or heard of the names of any famous organists of yesteryear being associated with it's use in theatre programmes. Manny Aarons, however, was conductor of the orchestra at the Lyceum in the early thirties and no doubt used the Christie as a grounding for his later theatre organ career. Instead of having right and left hand chambers, the Lyceum Christie had one chamber on top of the other and placed at the back of the stage. In the mid-thirties on L.C. Smith was the manager of Hill, Norman and Beard, (locally), and had some bright ideas of his own; for instance, the pipe organ in the Wesley Chapel, (both swell and great), being on the left hand side of the church, but on the right hand side over the console, is a single rank in it's own swell box - a "Flute D'Amour"; that organ also had stop switches, arranged like drawer stops, but consisting of a mechanism which when depressed lit up to indicate that the stop was 'on'. All very well until the bulb fails and you don't know what stop is on or off!, and later replaced by stop tablets. About the time Hill Norman and Beard, (per Smith), added a further Diapason (Open) rank to the Lyceum Christie; this added stop was completely unenclosed and largely formed the exterior of the organ "case" which on Sundays gave the theatre stage a more churchy look. At the same time the shutters were removed from the lower chamber, leaving unenclosed the Clarinet and Flute ranks. So we had one Diapason anclosed, and one unenclosed. When the organ was re-installed in the rebuilt Lyceum Theatre of to-day, and with it's new 'straightened' console, part of the organ remained unenclosed. An interesting but typical Christie story.

The Ritz (Concord)-Melba(Strathfield)-C.B.A. 2m/8r Christie had a 'Phonon Diapason'. This is said to be a 'very powerful diapason made by leathering the upper lip of a thick metal, large scale open stop and increasing the wind pressure'. William Summers book 'The Organ' says, "The stop is associated with the name of Hope-Jones. It is difficult to think it has any artistic value". The Burwood Palatial Christie had a 'Violin Phonon'; you can work that out for yourself.

I digress again. The Victory, Kogarah, Christie had a Violin Diapason. In earlier articles in "TOSA News", I have seen this organ referred to as possessing 7 ranks. My records say 8 ranks: Bourdon Tibia, Violin Diapason, Celeste, Clarinet, Tuba, String, Flute and Vox Humana. Perhaps Alan Tranter will set us straight.

Well all these Diapasons sounding forth are why it seems that Christies make a better transition from a theatre to a Church, than a Wurlitzer does, if that is what must happen to a disused theatre organ. Compare the Uniting Church Wurlitzer to see if you agree.

Whilst the purists look down on the 'gimmickry' of the unit or extension organs, using one rank where four or five 'should do' Christies have exploited the potential of getting the utmost out of a small organ more so than Wurlitzer.

Let's illustrate that statement by referenec again to St. Columbs. Here you will find a Solo stop labelled 'Alto Saxaphone'. This single stop really performs the function of two stops, operating the Tibia and Clarinet ranks together. Of course, if you already have the solo Tibia and Clarinet 'on', then you don't get anything extra by using the Saxophone. This is a fairly common ploy with Christie organs.

Whilst the 'Mighty Wurlitzers' like the Capitol, Regent and State organs have their genuine massive 32ft. pipes, Christies were not to be outdone. Even a comparatively small organ (like St. Columbs), boasts a 32ft. pedal stop, but has no 32ft. pipes!

(over)-

10...

A LAYMANS DIGRESSION ON THE TONE OF THE CHRISTIE ORGANS. (Cont.)

This is a 'harmonic' or 'acoustic' bass, a device whereby a resultant 32ft. effect is obtained by playing a sixteen foot open pedal with a corresponding fifth usually obtained from a rank of Bourdon pipes; sometimes the effect is obtained from a single rank of bourdon pipes by taking the note of the interval of a fifth above or a fourth below the given note which is to be 'quinted'. In the St. Columbs instrument the Open Diapason and the Bourdon ranks are controlled by the 'Harmonic Bass 32' ' stop to give this effect. Sumner, (spoilsport), says.. "the resulting 32 foot effect lacks the subtlety of the genuine stop... The effect is usually not good and tends to destroy the pedal line."

Wurlitzers provide stop pitches of 32'16'8'4'22/3'2' and 1 3/5'. But have you ever seen a 3' or a 6' stop? Christies had 'em!. Just think about that for a while! The Roxy (Parramatta) Christie had 6' Quint stops whilst the Palatial (Burwood) had both 6' and 3' Quint stops. I must confess to being perplexed; a true "Quint" is usually 5 1/3' stop on the manuals, or a 10 2/3' stop on the pedals. Perhaps someone will enlighten us. Incidentally there was one Sydney Wurlitzer which had other pitches, but by way of modification rather than standard: it was the Regent organ. The upright piano had been disconnected from the organ and was in fact helping the Arcadia (Chatswood) Wurlitzer along quite nicely behind it's own little grille. During Reupert Hayes' reign at the Regent he rewired the unused piano stops to provide Tibia pitches at 10' 5 1/3rd' and 2/2/3rd' to both Great and Accompaniment manuals. This resulted in the most beautiful Tibia chorus, being available at 16' 10' 8' 5 1/3rd' 4' 2 2/3rd'., not forgetting the Octave and Sub-Octave couplers..

Having now cyphered at length, I will apply the Ventil - a truly useful Christie device!!

Rod Blackmore.

---

Photographs.

Top Left: The 2m/8r Christie console at the Victory Theatre, Kogarah as it was in 1962.

Top right: The 2m/10r Christie console ex Palatial Theatre, Burwood photographed in the Seventh Day Adventist Church, Wahroonga in 1962.

Bottom Left: The original 2m/9r Christie console at the Lyceum Theatre, photographed in 1963. This console now controls TOSA's organ at Cinema North, Reservoir Victoria.

Bottom right: The 2m/7r Christie console, ex Odeon (Duke of York Theatre), Eastwood, photographed in the Baptist Church, Epping in 1961. A much modified organ.

FROM PAGE 4.

NOMINATIONS FOR POSITIONS OF OFFICE.

*The positions for which nominations are called for, in strict accordance with the Constitution, are as follows. President (1), Vice President (2), Secretary (1) Treasurer (1) Minute Secretary (1) Committee Members (6). This makes a total of 12 elected positions. Positions such as Patron, Membership Secretary, Editor, Practice Convener etc., are generally more or less decided by elected Office holders as indicated above, or the decision can be made by a majority present at the Annual General Meeting.*

FOR SALE: Member Graham Rees has a Yamaha E10 with a Leslie 710 Tone Cabinet. The instrument is described as being in good condition and is a full console model with presets, rhythm unit, piano, vibraphone etc., stops and the instrument would suit a discerning musician. Graham will separate the two at \$3600 for the organ and \$600 for the tone cabinet or \$4200 the lot. Please contact Graham in business hours on 632-5655.

---

Bye f6r now - Editor.

