

Volume 20 Issue 6

June 1981

# TOSA NEWS

THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

N.S.W. DIVISION

P R O U D L Y P R E S E N T S

AT

MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL, ON SUNDAY 21st JUNE

AT 2.30PM

Price 40¢

Printed by TOSA press

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



# DAVID PARSONS

DAVID PARSONS IS WELL KNOWN TO SYDNEY THEATRE ORGAN CONCERT GOERS, THIS WILL BE YOUR CHANCE TO HEAR IN PERSON THE ARTIST WHO CLAIMED THE LARGEST CONCERT AUDIENCE EVER AT THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE RECITAL,

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$4.00 CONCESSION \$3.00 CHILDREN \$2.00

Ticket application form is enclosed in this issue.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARYA VISIT.....Saturday 13th June at 2.30pm

To St.Colombs Church,Bellevue & Dickson Avenues,West Ryde.  
Guest Organist: CLIFF BINGHAM playing the Christie Theatre  
Pipe Organ. (Donation \$2)

PAID CONCERT.....Sunday 21st June, M'Ville Town Hall at 2.30pm.

Featuring DAVID PARSONS at the Marrickville Wurlitzer...  
Booking forms inside this issue...

HOME PARTY.....Saturday 11th July at 7.30pm (95 1142 for bookings)

At the residence of Cec & Pat Cranfield,41 Dalmeny Road,  
Northbridge...Admission is \$2 for Gents and \$1.50 for Ladies  
who are asked to bring a plate towards supper.  
Special Guest Artist for the evening will be Valda Lang and  
two of her promising pupils,Jennie Shaw (14) and Damien  
Scott (11) who will be presenting small segments at the  
beautiful X66 Hammond Organ (one of the few brought into  
this country) and the Bechstein piano.

There will be plenty of time for anyone to have a play,  
so bring your music,do your practise and join in to help  
make this a great night for everyone. Ring immediately and  
book your place as seating is limited to 40 persons.

FREE CONCERT.....Sunday 26th July at 2.30pm

Featuring our two Guest Artist from the A.C.T..  
CLINTON WHITE and IAN McLEAN at the Marrickville  
Wurlitzer...Come to Marrickville and give these two  
Exciting artists a warm welcome...I can assure you that  
this will be a concert with a difference.

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BOOK NOW!

BOOK NOW!

BOOK NOW!

BOOK NOW!

COACH TOUR BUNDANOON & SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS 24/25th OCTOBER,1981

As advertised in the last two issues,this Coach Tour leaves  
M'ville Town Hall at 8am on the 24th and proceeds to  
Mnt.Kiera,then the Illawarra Range to Wollongong and on to  
the famous blowhole at Kiama.We stop at Nowra for lunch,then  
via Cambewarra Mountain to Kangaroo Valley and Moss Vale and  
in the evening we enjoy a comedy drama show at the Olde  
Time Music Hall at Bundanoon, part of our Motel.

After breakfast on Sunday we go to Historic Berrima  
and on to a sheep station for a BBQ lunch and tour of the  
property. We see sheep shearing and mustering demonstrations  
before returning to Sydney in the afternoon.

The cost of the Tour is \$70, which includes,Dinner,  
Show, Bed & Breakfast and BBQ Lunch on Sunday.The fare  
does NOT include morning or afternoon teas and Lunch on  
Saturday.

A Deposit of \$20 for EACH PERSON is required when  
making your bookings and payment of Final Balance MUST be  
made by 20th SEPTEMBER 1981. (Please make all cheques  
payable to TOSA.)

SPECIAL NOTE This Tour is available to TOSA members and friends,so  
book IMMEDIATELY by contacting: Mrs.Phil Wilson,  
120 Dennis Street, Lakemba 2195 or by phoning 759 6050.



T.O.S.A. "TREMENDOUS TENTH" CONVENTION, BRISBANEEASTER, 1981.Friday, 17th April.

A large number (approximately 270) delegates overcome industrial hold ups in travel and converged on Brisbane for an outstanding successful convention. Even New Zealand and New Guinea were represented.

Registration night at Kelvin Grove High School was notable for a very professionally presented revue, featuring the Christie Organ, the T.O.S.A.Q. singers, the "Two Jays"- John Ellis on piano and Judy Vale on the organ, a flautist, vocalist, pianist, three lady organists, the "Kazcade" band and teenage duo piano accordionists.

The highlights were the teenage piano accordion duo, Heather Nibloe and Bradley Voltz, who gave a sparkling display of musical virtuosity and of delightful personality. Lexine Bell, a 14 year old Gold Coast girl, showed great promise on the organ. This was a wonderful start for the convention.

Saturday, 18th April.

Barry Bailley played the Brisbane City Hall organ very competently in a presentation of lighter music. Ashley Miller, the U.S.A. concert artist then played several numbers on this classic type pipe organ in commanding style. They included an interesting "Trumpet Voluntary" by Wm Boyce, a colorful "Greensleaves" and the romantic "Toujours L'amour".

Five coach loads of happy people then were taken up north to the Glasshouse Mountains via Malemy and Mapleton to Nambour and lunch at the "Big Pineapple"- making a late afternoon return to Brisbane.

The Convention Dinner was held in the spacious "Greek Club" with cameo spot offerings on a Baldwin Cimema 11 organ by John Masson (Queensland) "Who Stole My Heart Away"; Bill Schumacher (N.S.W.)-"You Can't Stop the Music", Clinton White (A.C.T.)-"Consider Yourself", Edith Fitzsimmons (Victoria)- "Holiday for Strings" and Warwick and Marie Kitson (Ballarat) on piano and organ- "The Apartment". Our President, Allan Misdale, congratulated Queensland organisation and offered the thanks of N.S.W. and other delegates for a very fine programme. Dancing to the "Mississippi Mud" jazz band followed.

Sunday, 19th April

We commenced with a coach tour visit to the new Botanic Gardens and then to the Oxley home of Blair and Ellen Linnett.

An inspection and the first public performance of Blair's magnificent home installation of a 3 man. 6 rank Compton organ (ex Chester, U.K.- built in 1937) followed. Here was a remarkable achievement by one dedicated enthusiast.

The organ is housed in a modified garage and was played by Arthur Midgely in the real old theatre organ style with clean and pleasant melody and accurate timing and real feeling. He appropriately opened with "Happy Days are Here Again". This was truly a delightful experience.

After lunch at Anzac Park, a recital was given by the Church organist, John Stehben, in the Uniting Church in Albert Street, Brisbane- a magnificent old church and a beautiful organ very capably presented by its master, John Stehben. This organ was built in 1890, rebuilt in 1912, 1928 and finally 1951 to its present electro-pneumatic action.





ASHLEY MILLER.

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FEATURE ARTIST, QUEENSLAND "TREMENDOUS TENTH" CONVENTION 1981.

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John opened with "Now Thank We All Our God", added "Jesu Joy of Mans Desiring", "Trumpet Voluntary", "Crown Imperial", Boelman's "Gothic Suite" and Solemn Melody - Vidor Toccata and Fugue and finally and fittingly the Easter Hymn "Christ the Lord is Risen Today".

On Sunday Night at Kelvin Grove, Ashley Miller presented the Convention Concert on the Society's 3/8 Christie Organ. This organ came from Kent originally and was opened in Brisbane in November, 1975. It is a credit to all responsible for its present splendid condition and installation.

Ashley Miller is truly a great master of the theatre pipe organ and he gave a breathtaking display of registration mastery, keyboard finesse and fine musicianship. His conducting ability came through clearly as he called on almost every voice of the organ to colour his interesting selection of music.

His programme included:-

"Drums in My Heart" (Newman); "I Wish You Love" (Trenet); "The Best Is Yet to Come"-with remote piano involvement; "Moon River" (Mancini) beautifully presented; "Tchaikovsky's Opus 12 Humoresque - a Piano Transcription" showed Ashley Miller, the pianist. A medly of Cole Porter numbers and "What is This Thing Called Love?" and "Can This Be Love?" showed Ashley Miller's whimsical humour in introducing this clever arrangement. The Waltz "Bluesette" and ; "Toujours L'Amour" played as a contrast against the Saturday morning performance of it on the City organ. "Bolero" (Moskowsky) a spanish dance permitted a fine use of piano and percussion and a wonderful demonstration of the voice range of the Christie Organ.

In his second half, A. Miller gave us the lively Walt Disney "Jing-a-Ling" a dramatic "Stella by Starlight"- involving a very discreet use of crescendo followed with a smooth transition to soft voices from time to time. "Pretty Butterfly" (5/4 time); "You Needed Me"- a modern number for the young; the up-tempo "Something's Got to Give"; "Hello Young Lovers"; "I Feel So Good"; "When Sunny Gets Blue"; "It Had To BE You"; "Lullaby In Rhythm"; "On the Sunny Side of The Street"; "Always"; "My Dianne" and a magnificently orchestral "Granada".

The audience showed a most enthusiastic appreciation and were rewarded with encore numbers: "Stardust"; "Marching Along Together" and finally an unusual and brilliant Latin American styled interpretation of the "Fantasie Impromptu".

Ashley Miller was the ultimate in orchestral command of the whole of the organ giving a masterful display of tonal colouring and mood emphasis but always the melody came clearly through- an outstanding concert.

Monday, 20th April.

Ashley Miller presented a unique "workshop" session to a large group of enthusiasts.

He opened by playing "That's Entertainment", then invited and received a very wide range of questions on his techniques in registration, use of special effects, improvisation, chord accompaniment, modulation, chord relationships, use of crescendo, note holding, 2/4 time, second touch, use of the expression pedal, suspense chords, "Auto Rhythm", finale chord



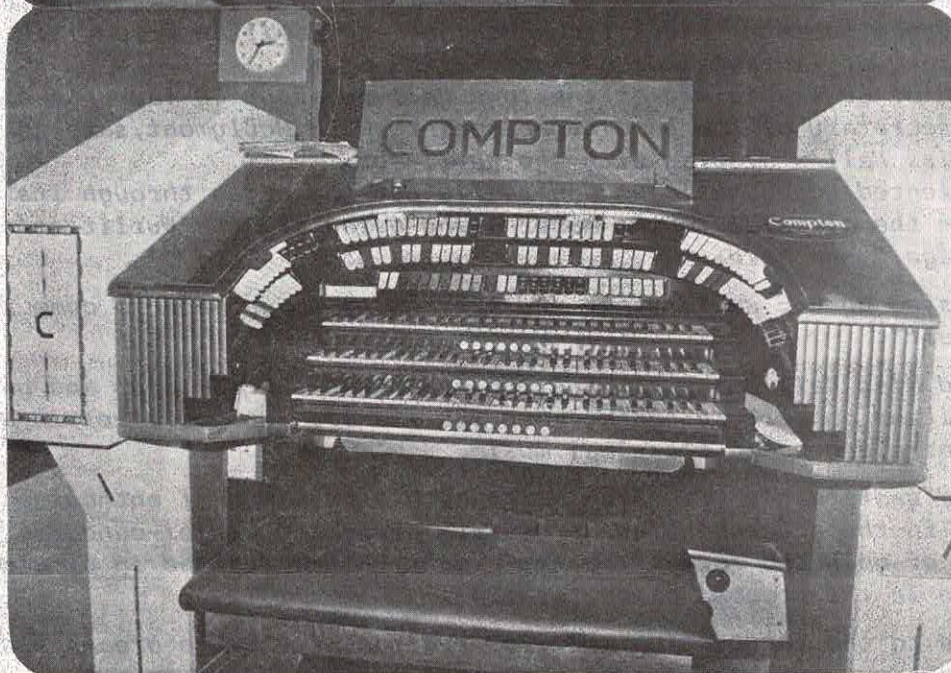
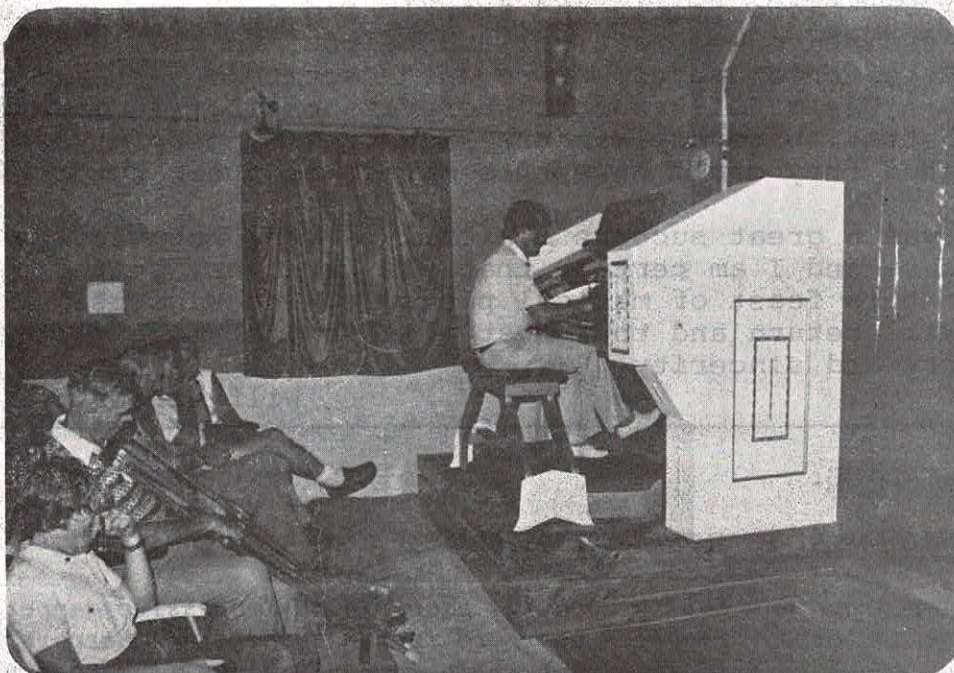


The above photograph shows Conventioneers and coaches at Mary Cairncross Park, Blackall Range. The phot was taken of the crowd going to inspect the fabulous Glasshouse Mountains.

The lower shows hungry Conventioneers lihing up for lunch at Anzac Park, Brisbane.

(Photos by courtesy of Bill Schumacher)





Member Bill Schumacher doing a Cameo Spot on the 3/6 Compton Theatre Organ at the home of Blair & Ellen Linnett, Oxley.

This Compton organ was originally installed in the Regal Cinema at Chester, Cheshire in 1937.

The instrument remained in the theatre until 1969 when it was removed and purchased by Mr. Linnett. The organ was in storage from 1972 till 1975 and the installation was begun in the garage of the Linnett home, this took some four years and the organ took till 1977 to get into playing order. Between 1977 to 1981 there was further installation to completion of all ranks.

The Compton was opened by Arthur Midgley at the T.O.S.A Tenth Convention.

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TOP PHOTO: Bill Schumacher at the Compton Organ.

BOTTOM PHOTO: Closeup of the console of the Compton.

(Photos by John Weismantel).



He answered all questions freely and frankly and came over as completely sincere in his desire to be practical and helpful to all in a very generous way. He offered useful advice on "Practice" - "Choice of Music, Piano or Organ"; "Use of Glissando". Wherever possible he gave a practical demonstration to explain his answer. Many people were heard to say they wished they could have this master as their tutor.

The convention was a great success musically, a very happy event in terms of social pleasure and I am certain that all were very grateful to have been present at this feast of musical pleasure. One sincerely hopes that Ashley Miller will return and tour Australia so that more people can enjoy his mastery and sincerity.

Wilf Leeder.

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NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND.

"TALENTED YOUNG MUSICIAN GIVES IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY"

Tauranga's Wurlitzer organ was put through its paces in an impressive manner by a young Australian organist yesterday. Eighteen year old former Sydneysider Margaret Hall came to Tauranga to play the ~~Town Hall Wurlitzer~~ while members of the Kiwi Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS) from Auckland and Hamilton were visiting members of the Home Organ Society of Tauranga.

The visiting party of 60 was joined at the Town Hall by about 40 Tauranga organ enthusiasts. The secretary of the home organ society, Mrs M. McClymont, said the finale for the day was Miss Hall's display with the Wurlitzer.

"She is a very talented young musician and really put the organ through its paces, - playing items from the classics to the moderns and using all the Wurlitzer's sound effects to advantage," she said.

We were all impressed by her performance and are hoping to get her to come to Tauranga for a public concert".

Mrs McClymont said Miss Hall began playing the organ when she was nine and gave her first public Wurlitzer concert in Sydney when she was 13. She now lives in Auckland and is studying for a degree in classical music.

Mrs McClymont said yesterday's programme began with a workshop of enthusiasts round the Wurlitzer and in the afternoon four organists presented a mini-concert. The Tauranga Wurlitzer was one of only two former theatre organs in New Zealand in playing condition though others were in the process of restoration.

"ATOS is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of theatre organs and Tauranga is fortunate to have one that is in such excellent condition" she said.

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MORE NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND      By Ritchie Willis.

On our recent tour of the North Island of New Zealand, we visited the Southward Transport Museum at Paraparaumu, north of Wellington. The museum has on show a selection of vehicles from one of the largest and most comprehensive privately owned collections of veteran and vintage cars in the Southern Hemisphere. The collection comprises some 250 vehicles, approximately half of which are on show at any one time.

In addition to vintage and veteran cars, dating from 1895, the collection includes traction engines, motor cycles and a wide variety of stationary engines, working models early motoring curios and a model railway. Set in six hectares of park-like surroundings the museum looks out over a man-made lake and bush walk. At the rear of the site is a fully equipped engineering workshop where the work of restoring vehicles continues.

(cont-)



The hall covers 4,400 sq. metres and has perfect natural light for indoor photography. The museum has also theatre and conference facilities incorporated in the building to provide opportunities for a wide range of uses. The main auditorium has seating capacity for 400 and can be used with the floor either level, or tilted at an angle to provide better viewing.

Featured in the auditorium is the Wurlitzer organ which was formerly installed in the Civic Theatre in Auckland. The organ has been completely restored and has a three manual console, painted white and gold, which comes up on a hoist, and looks magnificent.

The organ has 16 ranks of pipes, and we were lucky enough to have on tour, Jim Birkett, who played the organ for us, so as we could hear the great sound of this wonderful Wurlitzer. There are 120 lighting circuits for live theatre and 16mm arc projectors.

If you ever go to Wellington, make a visit to the Southward Museum a must, and give yourself plenty of time to see it all, to advantage.

While in Auckland we visited the beautiful Civic Theatre, where the Wurlitzer in the transport museum was formerly installed. Long a landmark in Auckland a tourist attraction to visitors, the Civic is one of the last remaining 'Super Cinemas' in the Southern Hemisphere. It was originally built in 1929 at a cost of approximately \$400,000. The interior is noted for its colourful design of two ancient cultures - Indian in the foyer, and Turkish in the auditorium. The stars still twinkle in the ceiling and the theatre is famous for its Buddahs and elephants. In 1975 the theatre closed and a million dollar refurbishing scheme took place. Underneath the theatre there was once the Wintergarden dance area, and this has now been made into a small cinema seating 360.

The new cinema which was appropriately named the Wintergarden is decorated in a style in keeping with the overall atmosphere of the Civic. Its construction in no way interfered with the existing building and the entrance is through the front foyer of the Civic.

A visit to Auckland, I feel is not complete unless a visit is made to the fantastic Civic Theatre.

We also had the pleasure of seeing the Hollywood Theatre in the suburb of Avondale and in this theatre a group are installing the 2/8 Wurlitzer organ formerly installed in the Regent Theatre, Auckland in 1926. Three ranks are now playing and we heard Margaret Hall, who now lives in Auckland, playing a few tunes for us. John Parker who heads the team of workers told us they intend to install another four ranks to the organ. The organ comes up on a hoist and there are hopes it will be completed later this year, a wonderful achievement.

I read with awe the very interesting and informative report written by Vice President Doug Smith, in the May issue of TOSA News, on the recent restoration programme on the Marrickville Wurlitzer. As an organist I feel moved to express my sincere gratitude to that sturdy band of unsung heroes who devote so much of their time freely and willingly to keep the organ in such splendid condition.

The mind boggles at the intricacies of the mechanism.

Having had the opportunity of contributing to the seasonal programmes of Sunday afternoon concerts during the past few years, and having also spent many happy hours playing the Wurlitzer in private, I wish to pay a personal tribute to this extremely dedicated and highly skilled group of workers.

Yours sincerely,  
Valda Lang.



THE MIGHTIEST WURLITZER OF THEM.

By Chris Palmer.

Last month attached to the News was a brochure which was supplied to us by Wurlitzer which gave details of their large 5/69 Wurlitzer which is the largest that was built by the Wurlitzer Company and also the last.

Further details have now come to hand on this instrument which were received too late for the inclusion in the May issue.

Console.

5 Manuals - 305 keys  
32 note pedal board.  
6 Expression Pedals plus crescendo.  
61 Combination pistons.  
6 Toe studs, 2 piano type pedals.  
329 Stop tablets.

Stop tablets by Division

Pedal	39
Accompaniment.	47
Great.	81
Bombarde.	31
Orchestral.	32
Solo.	30
Back Rail.	69

Total 329

Pipes by Chamber

Foundation.	657
Main.	1303
Orchestral.	1170
Brass.	938
Solo.	621
	<hr/>
	4689

Ranks by Chamber

Foundation.	9
Main.	19
Orchestral.	18
Brass.	14
Solo.	9

Total 69

Percussion Chamber

15 Traps, (untuned percussions)  
16 Toys (sound effects)  
14 Tuned percussions.

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45 Total.

Rank Analysis

Tibias.	5
Flutes.	7
Strings.	16
Reeds.	26
Diapasons.	15

Total 69

The organ is located in the Wurlitzer Hall, De Kalb, Illinois, which measures 71½ ft. wide, 84 ft. long, (including chambers), and 41 ft. high.

The instrument is blown by four Spencer Turbines totalling 32½ horse-power at 5200 c.f.m. on 15 inch wind pressure. Three 'Orgelectra' D.C. Power supplies totalling 300 amps at 12 volt D.C. supply the electricity for the seven standard Electro-pneumatic Relays feeding the 9 switch stacks.

There are 21,000 feet of 100 strand telephone type cable, 2,100,000 feet or some 397 miles of single strand wire used to connect everything up. The organ was built to preserve the art form of traditional theatre organ building and was undertaken when Wurlitzer moved into its Corporate Headquarters in De Kalb, Illinois. In 1976 Wurlitzer began acquiring components for the building of this instrument and one of the requirements was that all the parts be genuine and representative of the period and the instrument is authentic in that there is no digital circuitry, capture action, rhythm unit or anything that was not in the original type of installation.

All of the parts were manufactured between 1926 and 1928 in the Wurlitzer factory, North Tonaawanda, New York and the parts selected had been used in organs all over the country, even the console is a 1926 model which was originally a four manual unit.

(cont)



In this, the Mightiest Wurlitzer, is pipework of five distinct types of original instrument, large theatre, small theatre, church, residence and broadcast. Even the gold leaf was found in an old vault at the North Tonawanda factory.

One of the few modern concessions on the instrument is that all the cymbals were personally hand selected by Mr. Zildjian. The organ is fully playable and can be played by visiting organists and was opened in 1979 but to date has not been recorded.

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#### OVERSEAS NEWS

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##### ORIENTAL THEATRE CHICAGO.

Although the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts were successful in helping to save the Chicago Theatre, it appears that the Oriental Theatre is doomed. According to "Variety" Magazine, the place is to be closed before May 3rd. The owners sought and received the green light to terminate the lease with the operators who have been showing a steady diet of martial art films and others. Also, dissatisfaction over the run-down status of the house - poor cleaning, rats in the balcony, etc., was another reason for closing.

The 3,200 seat Oriental was opened in 1926. Future plans for the first two stories conversion into a shopping mall. Above this would be a 1,600 seat theatre which would retain the Oriental's fancy interior (Shades of our "Roxy Theatre" Parramatta- Ed.) Rumors have the Wurlitzer going into a hotel ballroom which has chambers but never an organ.

##### GEORGE WRIGHT PLAYS PIZZA ORGAN, REPORTS ON HIS HOME INSTALLATION.

George Wright playing a pizzeria gig? Unusual but not without precedents. George's February 9th concert was held at Mike Ohman's Great American Wind Machine Pizza Parlour in Reseda, California (Los Angeles suburb). Because of limited seating (340), admission was a whopping \$10.00 a seat. Customer resistance was nil; the place was packed. George, looking more robust than we've seen him of late, and attired in his almost white suit, had some surprises. George, Mike and others had reworked the organ to sound like the type Jesse Crawford preferred. This gave George an incentive to play some of his recreations of Jesse's famous 78 r.p.m. recordings. It also brought George into close proximity with his audience. They literally surrounded the console platform. This gave him an opportunity to banter with his audience members, something he does well.

During the course of the evening George announced that he had been selected to premiere the Oakland Paramount's organ probably in November (The Oakland Paramount has been completely restored and is now the headquarters of the Oakland Symphony. Millionaire businessman J.B. Nethercutt donated an almost exactly same style instrument for re-installation to replace the original 4/20 Wurlitzer which was removed many years ago. (Ed) He also mentioned that his developing home instrument has been winded and like all first windings it sounded mighty sour.

Then he told his audience that Mike Ohman had donated all concert receipts to further the Wright home installation (he's been hit by inflation, like all of us). His closing number was his famous arrangement of the "Stars and Stripes Forever", complete with Piccolo tweets during the Trio.

##### AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY CONVENTION.

The American Theatre Organ Society will hold its Annual Convention this year in Seattle, Washington from 1st. July until 5th July. Organs featured will include the Seattle Paramount 4/20 Wurlitzer; Benson High School, Portland 3/manual Kimball; Organ Grinder Pizza 4/41 Wurlitzer in Portland plus 3 different 3/17 Wurlitzers installed in Pizza Parlors around the Seattle area. Some of the artists to be featured include; Tom Cotner, Andy Crow, Tom Hazleton, Jane Johnson, Sheri Mael, Ashley Miller, Billy Nalle, Jonas Nordwall and others.

(cont.)



Sounds like a really good line up of artists and instruments. Feel like packing your bags for Seattle now ??? Any enquiries regarding this event can be answered by you contacting the Secretary. Oh, and by the way the cost of the five days---- a mere \$172 U.S.

#### DEATH OF FORMER RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL ORGANIST.

The death is reported of Dr. C.A.J. "Cass Parmentier - a name not familiar to Australian Theatre Organ Audiences but very well known to U.S. enthusiasts. Dr. Parmentier (Mus.Doc) was born and educated in Belgium and came to the U.S. in 1916. He held numerous theatre positions before the opening of the famous Kimball organ at the now gone Roxy Theatre, New York. The other notable milestone in the career of Dr. Parmentier was his opening along with Richard Liebert of the world's largest Wurlitzer Theatre Organ in New York's famous radio City Music Hall. Frequently heard in recital even during his latter years when he was 80 plus this reviewer recalls a performance heard live where the organ was less than co-operative and one whole note on the organ ciphered, Dr. Parmentier then proceed to play various improvisations on the "Three Blind Mice" around the stuck note until the fault was rectified!! A great musician, he will be greatly missed in the U.S.

#### YET ANOTHER PIZZA PARLOR SUCCESS STORY.

Success is its own publicity agent, and the unqualified popularity and prosperity of Indianapolis Paramount Music Palace (Pizza Parlour) has been broadcast far and wide. The famed food emporium attracts no less than one million patrons yearly, and people still wait in line for two hours on Saturday nights, two years after opening. This feature of attraction recently brought a group of investors from Cincinnati (Ohio) According to information released by Robert MacNeur, an official of Paramount Music Palace, the investors concluded agreements that pave the way for another Paramount in Fairfield in what is known as the Tri-County Area, a fast growing location. the new eatery is scheduled to open in about eighteen months and will have a composite four manual organ of about 30 ranks. This instrument has been in storage for many years. The addition of the Paramount will complement both the Wurlitzerized Emery Theatre and Shady Nook Steak House Restaurant. Shady Nook is an entirely different type of operation where the patrons get excellent prime rib steak, in a luxurious theatre setting, the Emery, of course, provides week-end classic films with Wurlitzer theatre organ concerts. (When will someone come up with the idea of setting up a Pizza Parlor, organ equipped of course, in the Sydney area???)

#### MORE THEATRE CLOSURES SEEN DUE TO VIDEO CASSETTES.

Theatre business will be fractionalized by the competition from home viewing of television on tape cassettes, and marginal theatre owners will be forced to close over the next few years. This is the outlook expressed at the annual convention of Theatre Owners held recently in New Orleans. The ones who will be affected by the problems were advised to seek pay television franchises in their own communities, Broadcasters face their own problems from the new wave of home entertainment, and the theatre owner has now moved next in line with those hurting from the expansion of cable, pay television and cassette availability of full length feature motion pictures for home use. The prediction: Anything less than first-run may mean no running to get in line by the paying public.

Overseas news sources courtesy A.T.O.S. Magazine "Theatre Organ" and "The Console"

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#### NEWS FROM VICTORIAN DIVISION:

Thursday 4th June 8.00pm. Dallas Brooks Hall. AUSTRALIAN POPS ORCHESTRA, conducted by Barry Bignell. Guest Artist will be Tony Fenelon at the piano. Admission \$8.00.

Tony confided to the audience at his March 25th concert at Moorabbin that at last he is about to fulfil an ambition -- to play the famous Liszt Scherzo accompanied by a 60 piece symphony orchestra.



FOR SALE

THOMAS PLAYMATE organ, 1300 series. Includes orchestral presence, fancy voice and music scanner. This instrument is only Two years old. PRICE: \$2200 (or nearest offer)

All enquiries to:

Mrs J.Penny, 25 Abingdon Road, Roseville 2069 or ring 46 3203

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PHOTOGRAPHS used in this edition of TOSA NEWS are by courtesy of members, Bill Schumacher and John Weismantel.

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THE FOLLOWING PUZZLE is re-printed by courtesy of S.A.Division.

The case of the LOST THEATRES, STOPS & ORGANISTS

H U M A N A N L A T O N Y V A R D	Find in the group of letters:
C A P I T O L E H F M T R O N E I	<u>Stops</u> <u>Theatres</u>
V I O L N P X G A E E I A X T X A	Flute                      Orphiam
A L O B O E I E F N T Z Y P H Y P	Piccolo                      Rialto
H E C T O R I D O E R H P T O O A	Vox                      Capitol
P P P H W E V A X L D A E N N R S	Humana                      Theatre
I L X O A G O C M O N R L A Y K D	Gedact                      Metro
A A R R Z E S T A T E O G L T E H	Organ                      Fox
N Z I N O N O L I V E R A A T R A	Oboe                      State
O A A L P T A Y L O R P F Q N L E	Piano                      Plaza
T N L E V E R E T T N O U R S E A	Viol                      Rex
A O T Y F E N E L O N A F L U T E	Tab                      York
B F O R P H I A M P I C C O L O N	

AND THE LOST ORGANISTS: Tony Fenelon, Anthony Taylor, Hector Olivera, Ray Thornley Everett Nourse, G.Wright.

(When you've finished sorting this out,..borrow a typewriter and type it! just for some further fun)

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This organisation acknowledges financial assistance from the N.S.W. Government through the Premier's Department, Division of Cultural Activities.

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HOME PARTY VENUES.

We are still in need of venues for our Home Parties. If you think that you would like to have a Home Party at your residence then please ring our Secretary, Ernie Vale (after tea) on 798 6816 and discuss it with him.

Home parties are a great help to our activities, and bring the members together with their common interest and see and hear a different organ from their own. Think about such fun as a Hawaiian Night, a Japanese Night, Come in Bad taste or a Roaring Twenties Night and perhaps a Fancy Dress could bring out some hidden talents and clothes.

Ring Ernie Vale and get his advice. Your Committee will help in any way possible and assist with your plans.

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DIRECTORY

PATRON: IAN DAVIES

President: Alan Misdale (525 5554)  
Vice-Presidents: Frank Ellis (649 7011) Doug Smith (750 0917)  
Secretary: Ernie Vale (798 6816) Treasurer & Membership Secretary:  
Mrs. Edna Smith (529 7379) Practise Convenor: Chris Palmer (92 6534)  
Research & Archives: Ian Cameron, Recording Engineer: Ray Garret:  
(869 7247)

Address ALL correspondence to The Secretary, TOSA, NSW Div.,  
P.O.Box A 584 Sydney South  
2000.

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NEW MEMBERS: A sincere welcome is extended to the following  
new members: Mavis Higgins of Greenacre and Philip Gee  
of Putney.

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GET WELL SOON,

We are sorry to hear of Mrs. Sims recent illness and  
hope that you are now well on the way to recovery.

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SELWYN THEATRE GROUP (Programme for the latter half of 1981)

Theatre Organ Recitals

July 19th	Sunday	2.30pm	Chris Crist.
August 23rd	"	"	David Parsons.
September 27th	"	"	Richard James.
October 18th	"	"	Reg Black.
November 15th	"	"	Valda Lang Show.
December 12th	Saturday	8.00pm	Bernard Walz Show.
December 19th	Saturday	8.00pm	David Parsons.

Film Nights

July 11th	Sat.	8.00pm	"Australia & Fiji" (Peter Riley)
August 8th	"	"	"Selwyn, Nth Island Tour" (Ritchie W)
September 5th	"	"	"East & West" (Cyril Hagger)
October 10th	"	"	"Ramble in Europe" (Noel Thorpe)
November 7th	"	"	"Asian Journey" (Harry Whaite)
December 5th	"	"	"Here & There" (Peter Sage)

ALL the above functions may be booked in advance by phoning  
57 3581.

Please Note: Any cancellations must be notified at least  
one week in advance.

Coach Tours and Hikes to be advised.

Selwyn Productions,  
13 Rosemont Avenue,  
Mortdale 2223.

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TOSA (GOLD COAST CHAPTER) is a small division of the Society who  
meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month at St. Pauls Church Hall,  
Palm Beach Avenue, Palm Beach (Gold Coast) at 7.30pm.

Visitors are always most welcome and particularly from  
other Divisions. The President is Peter Kingsbury and can  
be reached on 35 2921 (local Number)





DAVID PARSONS

Commencing piano lessons at eight years of age, David started organ lessons at twelve, learning from his father who had a Licentiate Degree from the London College of Music. David has been a Church organist for many years and is currently organist & choirmaster at St. Mathew's Church, West Pennant Hills.

As a member of the Theatre Organ Society since 1967, David has given many concerts on Theatre Pipe Organs. He played the Capitol Theatre 3/15 Wurlitzer for the 1967 Convention and part of the final concert before it was removed from the theatre; the State Theatre 4/21 Wurlitzer for two concerts which included the National Convention in 1977; The Lyceum Theatre Christie and of course the Prince Edward Theatre 2/10 Wurlitzer now installed in the Marrickville Town Hall. His first recording called "Long Live The Wurlitzer" was made on this magnificent instrument. He also recorded the large Conn 3 manual custom built electronic pipe organ in the Great Hall of the Newcastle University.

A more recent highlight of his career was the invitation by the Sydney Opera House Trust to give an inaugural concert on the New Grand Organ on the 28th June, 1979. So successful was this concert the Sydney Morning Herald wrote on its front page the next morning, "An audience, claimed to be the largest ever for an Opera House Concert assembled in the Concert Hall to hear the Grand Organ. Yesterday, 3000 people crammed into the hall which seats 2,700 to hear a concert by David Parsons, whilst another 1,000 watched it on video screen in the foyer".



THANK YOU..

Thanks indeed to those kind members who offered a table in response to our request. Members John Shaw, Frank Hickson and George Smith all offered to supply us with a suitable table and the table from George Smith was chosen as the one most suitable.

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TWILIGHT CONCERTS at SYDNEY TOWN HALL

Thursday 4th June from 6.15 to 7.00 pm Artist: David Parsons.  
 " 2nd July " 6.15 to 7.00 pm " "

As the Console of the GRAND ORGAN is at present undergoing a complete re-furbishing, David Parsons will be playing a large Electronic Organ.

David has had to contend with a change of makes for his last concert. Recently after hearing a recital on one particular make, a member of the audience went round to the suppliers and bought it!

Admission to all these recitals is FREE FREE FREE

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CLUB NIGHT

Club Night on Wednesday May 6th consisted of a brief quarterly meeting with an outline of the night's activities. A report on the Tremendous Tenth Theatre Organ Convention held in Brisbane followed and this event proved to have been most enjoyable.

Our M.C. Frank Ellis then called upon members to play the Wurlitzer and the response was excellent, and included some members of the North Shore Organ Society who were visiting us on this occasion and their playing was most enjoyable.

Inspection of the organ chambers was conducted during the playing session. I believe the evening resulted in several enquiries for membership of TOSA.

Following the music, we were shown a series of colour slides of numerous Theatre and Home installations in America and England, which were excellent and we thank Bill Schumacher and Rob Gliddon for the interesting commentary and the opportunity to see their slides.

Supper followed the slides and we were entertained by Bill Schumacher at the Wurlitzer followed by Peter Held to round off the night. It was encouraging to see such a good roll up, and we look forward to more members at the next Club Night which will be held on Wednesday 19th August at Marrickville Town Hall.

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