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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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★ FREE CONCERT ★

*Featuring*

## IAN DAVIES



2 pm. Sunday 25th. September  
Marrickville Town Hall

Printed by TOSA Press



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TOSA NEWS EDITING & PRINTING: Ron Wilson & Doug Smith.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: THE SECRETARY  
TOSA NSW DIV.  
Box A584 P.O.  
SYDNEY SOUTH 2000.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

A sincere welcome is extended to the following new members...

Jade Tomlin (8 yrs.) June Bragg, Lorna & Rodney Rossiter  
Stella & Colin Ballard.

Please see if you can attend the Home Party during September and meet  
some of your fellow members..bring your music and have a play.

STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS.....

OPERA HOUSE CONCERT

BY

DAVID PARSONS

MONDAY 26th SEPTEMBER.....6pm to 7pm.

Concert Theme: ORCHESTRAL TRANSCRIPTIONS.

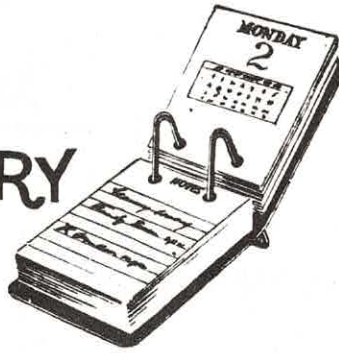
<u>PROGRAMME:</u>	Barber of Seville- Rossini.
	Peer Gynt Suite- Greig.
	Dance of the Hours- Ponchielli.
	Watermusic Suite- Handel
	Grand March Aida- Verdi.
	Anvil Chorus- Verdi.
	Zampa Overture- Herold.

GET WELL SOON.

Mrs.Flora Gliddon is now slowly recovering from a spell in  
hospital plus operation, and we wish her the very best from everyone at TOSA  
for a rapid and complete recovery.

Also Mrs. Marie Stronach is just getting over a severe bout of  
flu which has kept her confined for several weeks. We hope you're well now  
and singing again soon!

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



## SEPTEMBER

MONDAY 5th at 7.30pm.

COMMITTEE MEETING at 120 Dennis Street, Lakemba. Members are most welcome to attend.

SUNDAY 11th at 2.30pm.

HOME ORGAN PARTY at Cec & Norm Paddy's residence, 58 George Street, Penshurst. Please bring your music for a fun afternoon. Ring: 570 7525 for a booking. Gents:\$2, Ladies \$1.50 plus a plate please towards afternoon tea.

SUNDAY 25th at 2pm

FREE CONCERT at the Marrickville Town Hall Wurlitzer, Featuring TOSA PATRON: IAN DAVIES.

FRIDAY 30th at 7.30pm

SPECIAL INVITATION NIGHT to attend the Bondi-Waverly RSL Club..extended by our Patron, Ian Davies, to enjoy a night with the Rogers Organ. A most relaxing night with all Club facilities being available to visitors.

**Y.O.A.**  
**The Musical Youth Organisation**  
in association with

**The Musical Industry**

and

**The Musicians Union of Australia**

presents

**The Fifth Annual**  
**MUSIC ADVENTURE CAMP**

for youth 10-21 years

From Sat. 3rd September to Sat. 10th September 1983

**Naamaroo Conference Centre**  
**Lady Game Drive, Lane Cove N.S.W**

## THE FINAL NIGHT CONCERT

Book now for this memorable evening. You will witness Australia's best young keyboard players pitched against each other in fierce competition to take out trophies of achievement. City versus city, town versus town ... even the cheer squads are there.

On stage you will see and compare every leading brand of organ in Australia. You will be amazed at the standard ... some people comment "better than all the pros put together". If you cannot make it to anything else, don't miss this concert!

It all happens on Friday evening 9th September, in the heated big top at Naamaroo, and the battle commences at 7.00 p.m. Book early, otherwise you will be lucky to obtain a seat. Tickets are \$5 each or front stalls \$6 each. Due to popularity there are no concessions. Limited seats are held for door sales. The companies who put their keyboard instruments up to this test are Australia's best! Tickets available now by writing to Keyboard Spectacular P.O. Box 2427, Nth Parramatta 2151.

## OCTOBER

MONDAY 3rd at 7.30pm

COMMITTEE MEETING. Venue to be advised in next issue.

WEDNESDAY 5th at 5pm

CLOSING DATE for Nominations for 1984 Elections.

SUNDAY 16th at 2.30pm

HOME ORGAN PARTY at the Maennl's residence, 31 Tenth Avenue, Oyster Bay. It's always a great time at the Maennl's, so bring you music and have a play if you wish. Plenty of good talent to entertain us. Gents:\$2, Ladies \$1.50 plus a plate please. Ring: 528 6383 for bookings and be quick!

SUNDAY 30th at 2pm

CONCERT AT THE MARRICKVILLE WURLITZER (to be advised)





## Concert Review

TOM HAZLETON OPENS IN GRAND STYLE.

(by Doug Smith)

Wednesday evening August 3rd, visiting U.S. artist TOM HAZLETON commenced his 2nd Australian concert tour in fine form at the Marrickville Wurlitzer. Although a chilling wind and heavy rain prevailed, Tom's opener was It's A Great Day, and after hearing his thrilling sounds in selections from Brigadoon, a Duke Ellington Ballad and Love's Joy by Fritz Kreisler, the audience was quite convinced that it was indeed a great day.

A well chosen programme gave something for everyone and included a classic scherzo by Andrew Boex called Rustic Arch, perfectly suited for the Wurlitzer and beautifully played. After an insight into how the instrument was used in the twenties and a superb rendition of the well known Always, Tom ended the first half with the more current Copacabana by Barry Manilow.

Tom Hazleton makes it look so easy and plays the instrument with a minimum of fuss which is a sign of a top professional at work. All the action is taking place of course but with such great expertise it is hardly noticeable to the audience. Tom seems to coax the organ into doing his every wish and during the second half one could almost sense the unsung lyrics as Tom played exerps from the ever popular musical, My Fair Lady, very well received by all. Tom's good rapore with the audience is much appreciated and makes for a pleasant time for all.

Opening the second half with a catchy Cheek To Cheek, Tom moved on to It's Only A Paper Moon and then the My Fair Lady medley. A very moving All The Things You Are followed by a descriptive Burning Of Rome got everyone on their toes and Tom finished the evening with a soulful Thanks For The Memory and his signature tune I Left My Heart In San Francisco, receiving a big ovation from the audience. On the whole, a good start to his tour of Australia for 1983. His final concert for the tour will be at Marrickville on August 28th and I wont be missing this one for anything!

Our thanks to the two YOA members from Sutherland who assisted with ushering duties and over 30 people took advantage of the many free tickets distributed for Students young and old.

## TOM HAZLETON

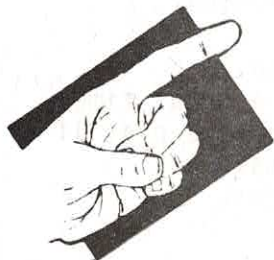
### Concert Date



Sunday 28th. August at 2pm.

Marrickville Town Hall

Enquiries 759 6050





BELMORE LODGE...KURRAJONG HEIGHTS.

The day set down for the TOSA visit is Sunday 18th September and people are asked to be there by 12 noon. We now have over twenty people booked in to attend but there is still many vacancies and if you wish to attend please phone Doug Smith on 750 0917 immediately.

The day consists of a huge lunch in Australian home-style country cooking which includes soup, roast pork, lamb or chicken, home made vegetable pies, fresh garden salads and sweets. Everyone later moves up into the music room for a concert with the grand piano and organ plus many other historic instruments, after which afternoon tea is served in the gardens. The cost is \$25 per person and if enough people book in with the TOSA party a reduction in cost will be granted.

NOTE FOR TRAVELLERS FROM SYDNEY: Do NOT turn left at the bottom of the mountain. Belmore Lodge is at KURRAJONG HEIGHTS, not at Kurrajong. Proceed up the rise on Bell's Line of Road towards Lithgow. When you get to Kurrajong Heights you will find Belmore Lodge just opposite the French Restaurant, Le Pressoir, to the left in Warks Road just past the opal shop.

All members of TOSA are invited to attend this visit to Belmore Lodge and a special musical programme is being prepared for the TOSA visitors. A good day is promised for all.

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FOR SALE

ONE ONLY BALDWIN Fantasia Console.

Urgent Sale..Music Teacher MUST sell.. Full Concert Sound.. 2x61 note manuals, 25 note pedalboard (polythonic), TWIN in-built Leslie speakers plus four channels..Random & Automatic Rhythm Box..In-built Synthesiser and many more features.

Hardly ever used..For quick Sale..Price Only \$3500.

Please ring 427 4960 during business hours or after hours 438 1768.

PRIVATE RECORD COLLECTION.

Mr.Peter Anderson of Gosford is putting his own private record collection up for sale and this gives organ buffs a first choice on many collectors items including George Montalba, George Wright, Jesse Crawford, Buddy Cole, Ethel Smith, Ken Griffin, Barry Hall, Ashley Miller and many others too numerous to list here.

Write immediately to Peter Anderson,  
Box 487 P.O.  
Gosford 2250.

ONE ONLY 130 LESLIE Tone-Cabinet

Complete with 7380 Adapter, new condition.

Price: \$600.00

Please call: 77 7818 after hours, Mr.Vic Evans.

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HAMMOND SPINET T212 model with draw bars. This organ is in excellent condition and comes complete with bench.

For full particulars ,ring Miss Cox on 869 2713 after hours or write to her at 6/17 Pembroke Street,Epping.

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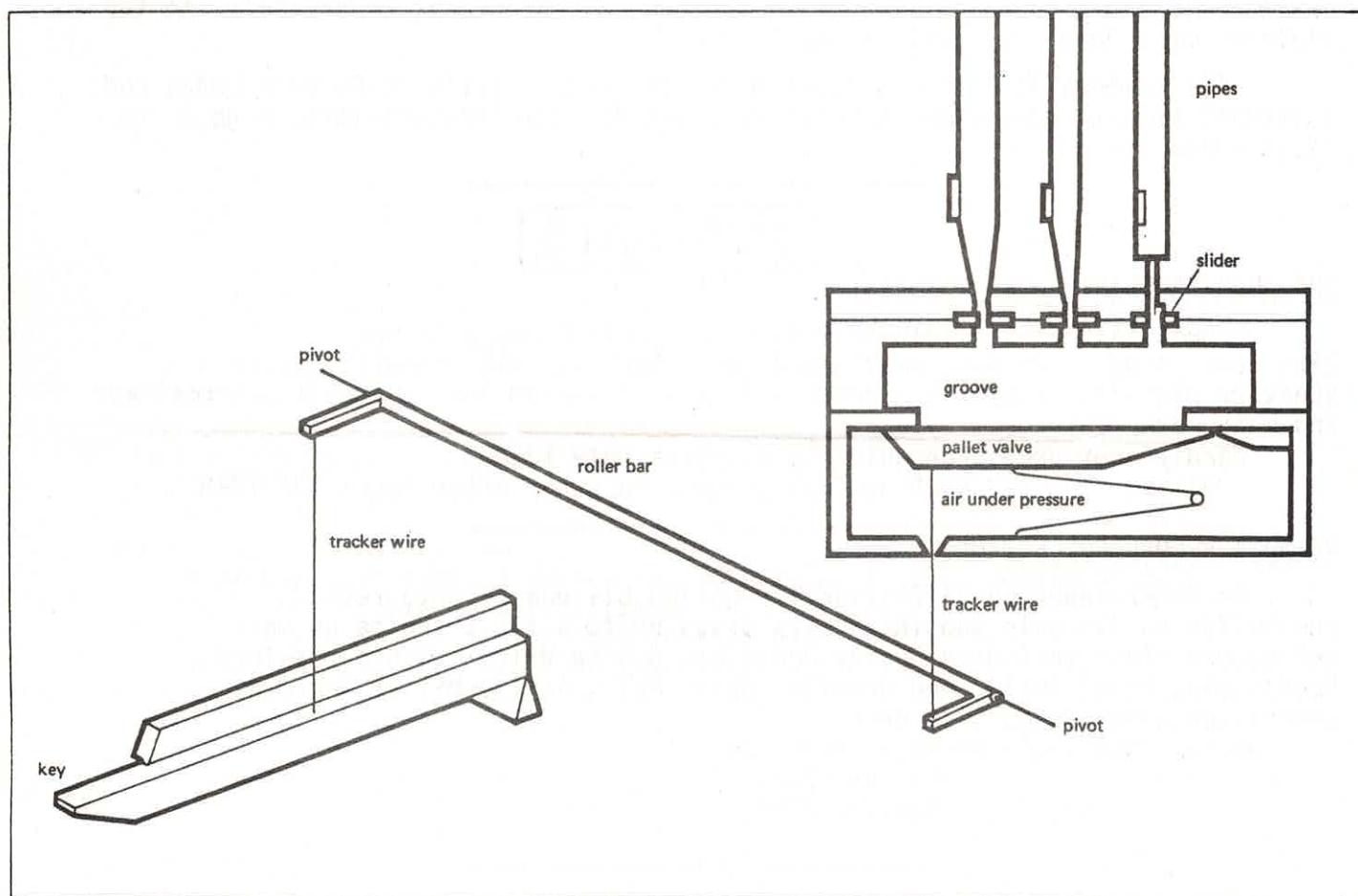
SPINET EKO organ with built in transposer and auto rhythm box included

PRICE... \$900.

Please ring Mrs. Swanston on 747 4940.

TRACKER & PNEUMATIC ACTIONS.

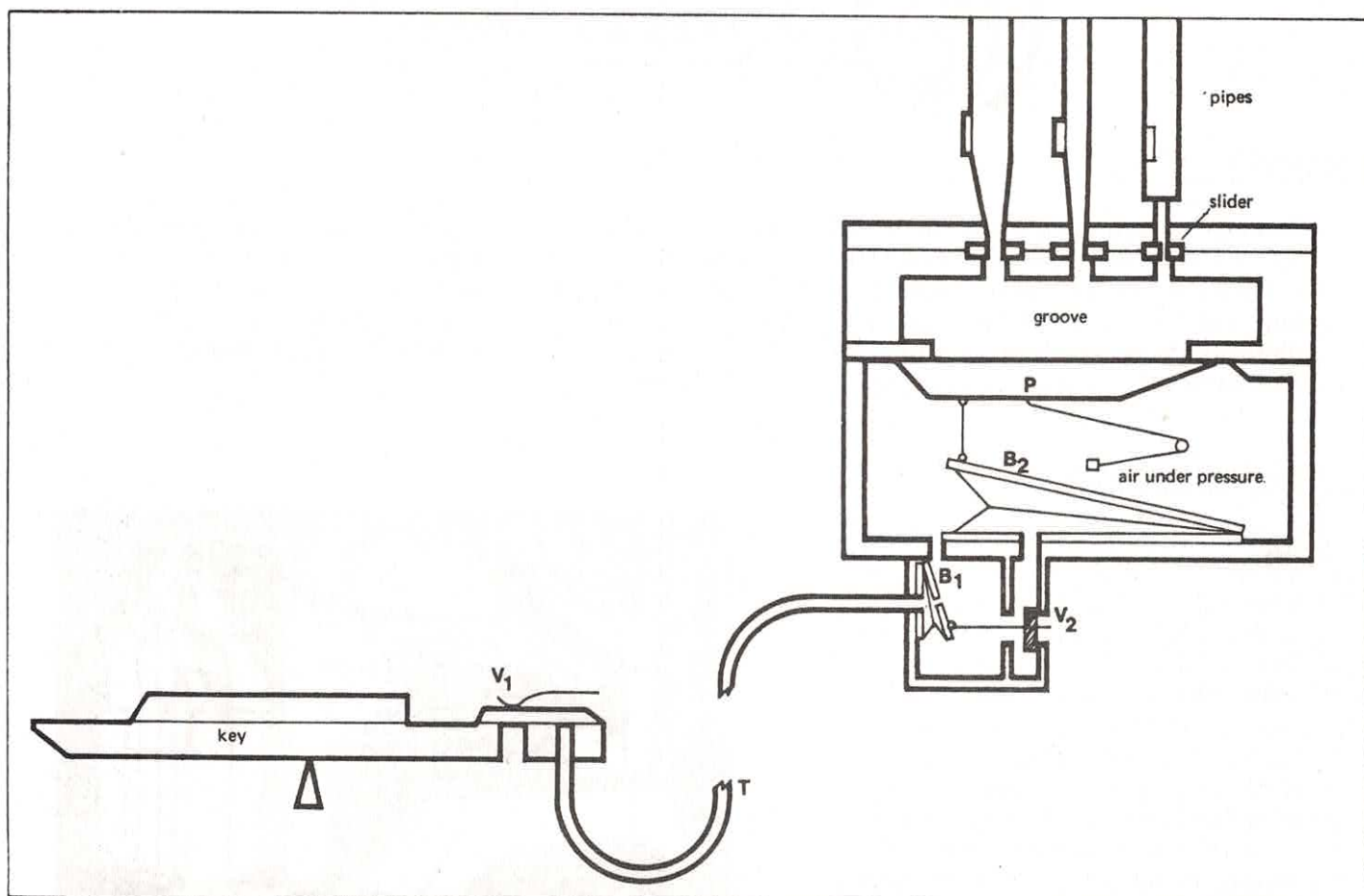
Finally, we must look more closely at the details of organ actions to understand the most recent developments. The earliest organs were of course mechanical, and had simple actions to that shown in fig.4. However, as the instruments became larger the space occupied by a rank of pipes was wider than the keyboard, and systems of levers, roller bars, and pulling tracker wires and rods were used to open the pallet valves beneath the pipes (6). This is called tracker action, and when well made it enables the organist to have light, accurate, precise, instant and sure control over his instrument. When made with modern materials which are unaffected by atmospheric conditions it is unsurpassed, and is now used whenever possible. It is however expensive and requires skilled craftsmen to construct it.



6 Tracker action

Tracker action was followed in the latter quarter of the last century by pneumatic actions which are very ingeniously designed, and represent an early application of pneumatic principles to a control system. The information was conveyed from the keys to the pipes along a bundle of pencil size lead tubes. One type of such action is shown in fig 7. When a key is pressed the valve V1 is opened, causing a small leather covered bellows to collapse under the air pressure since it is connected to the tube T. This bellows opens the valve V2 to the atmosphere causing the (larger) action bellows B2 to pull open the pallet valve P, enabling compressed air to proceed to the pipes. A small bleed hole in B1 enables the valve V2 to revert to the position shown when the key is released and V1 is closed. Although many such actions worked well, they tended to be sluggish and to give imprecise control.





7 Tubular pneumatic action

### ELECTRO-PNEUMATIC ACTION

It was a short step to replace the tube T by a thin electric wire and the bellows B1 by an electro-magnet to operate the valve V2. This resulted in the well known electro-pneumatic action which is still widely used today. The bellows B2 was still retained, and thus these actions were not as instantaneous as tracker action. To replace B2 by an electro-magnet and thus open the pallets directly has until recently been impracticable except for smaller organs owing to the large currents needed to be switched. However, with the use of solid-state switches this is now being done, but even so an explosive opening of a pallet by an electro-magnet does not give such good tonal articulation as with tracker action.

### BAROQUE REVIVAL

In England since the early 1950's there has, fortunately, been a come-back of the smaller baroque type of tracker organ, with its sureness of control and great precision of attack, and also its immense clarity and cohesion of its choruses. Mostly however some tonal compromise is made in introducing some of the better romantic stops and devices such as the swell box. The resulting increase in standards of organ playing and immense revival of interest in the organ is quite remarkable.

This review has given but a very brief glimpse at an immense and vitally interesting subject. Many problems still remain to be solved, for instance why do pipes mature and old pipes sound better than new ones? Much recent effort has been put into providing cheap electronic substitutes to the pipe organ, but at the moment they are in no more danger of superseding the true pipe organ than the computer is of replacing the human brain. One is sure that the next two thousand years of development will be as exciting as the first and that in the end the pipe organ will still reign supreme.

End.



## TORCH IS 75!

Sidney Torch, who celebrated his 75th birthday at the end of May, was honored by the B.B.C. radio putting on a spectacular, featuring an evening of his compositions and arrangements with a large orchestra and singers, etc. So you can see how well known Sid Torch is over here. It's not for the organ these days, but as conductor and arranger of the B.B.C. Concert Orchestra mostly the general public recall that magical name.

## TWO FOR THE PLOUGH.

Another organ in the western suburbs of London, near Heathrow Airport, is the sleek Odeon Cinema, Hounslow. Built in 1937, it has survived so long, but it's now time for the chop say Rank. What was amazing is that its splendid organ survived, too, all this time - a 3/8 & melotone Compton featured by all the big names in the past and filmed a great number of times for those shorts made for showing in cinemas. Reg Foort made many films here of "interludes".

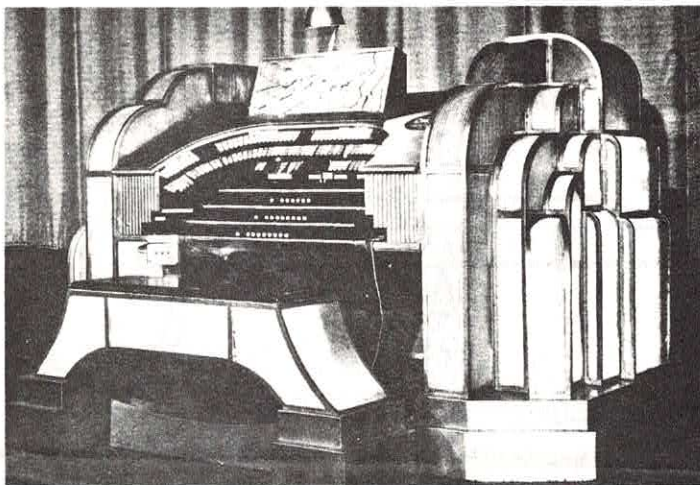
Fans had got it playing well, but we are now glad to

report that it will have a splendid new home. The new owners of that famous country pub, The Plough at Great Munden in Hertfordshire, have bought it. The pub, of course, has one of the finest late model 3/11 & Melotone Comptons from the Gaumont Theatre, Finchley that previous owner Gerald Carrington installed in a specially built bar. After Gerald's death his family sold the pub to a member of the Cinema Organ Society and his wife - Tony and Margaret Merridale.

They are to rebuild the barn and extension behind The Plough and put in a restaurant housing the Hounslow Compton. Two late style Comptons together, and real beauties, too. They want the "Cascade" surround of the Odeon job on a lift, too, if possible. This organ has a grand piano as well.

## LOST AND FOUND.

It seems fascinating to discover that an organ long forgotten can be discovered intact and hopefully will get a new lease on life. Such is the case of two West End agents Mark Burgess and Nicholas Hepple. With some big stage names on their books they still have time to mess around with organs, electronic and theatre, and have high hopes of taking over a major West End London theatre and equipping it with an organ.



**NEXT PLOUGH ADDITION** is the former Odeon, Hounslow 3/8 Compton organ. Tony and Margaret Merridale, who now own the Plough pub at Great Munden, north of London, will build a restaurant adjoining the elbow bending room and install this instrument there.



OVERSEAS NEWS ... cont.

After a tip off, they found a house in North London where stood a late style 3/7 & Melotone Compton partially erected many years ago and mysteriously never completed. It came from the ABC Ritz at Cleethorpes, near Grimsby, in Eastern England.

Intact except for the Melotone unit, it was otherwise there, incredibly. So Mark bought it - wooden Tibia, Krumet, Diapason, double String rank and Flute with its beautiful "Dewdrop" console glass intact.

Then he bought eight ranks of the famous Warner Brothers Cinema in London's Leicester Square. Warners donated this 3/10 and Melotone Compton 20 years ago to Christchurch Teachers Training College Chapel in Canterbury, Kent. There it was stripped of its Melotone, Tibia and Vox and that most handsome and beautiful circular console. Now they have an Allen church job and Mark plans to turn the eight ranks back into a theatre organ again. Let's hope it all comes off. Nice to think another theatre organ or two, in fact, are saved.

SECOND TIBIA ADDED.

The most famous Compton of all, the celebrated Odeon Leicester Square organ "The Duchess" got herself another Tibia not too long ago. Now the venerable organ has a 19th rank - a second Vox Humana, from the same organ as the second Tibia, the Odeon Twickenham Compton. A lovely set of pipes of spotted metal which will contrast nicely with the later period set in the Solo side. Fancy "The Duchess" growing again at her age! Ron Curtis and his assistant are doing the work, so nobody complain that this British organ is not lush with two Tibias and Voxes!

Christopher Dearnley, chief organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, is absolutely "thrilled to pieces" with the Odeon organ. He "just had to make his latest L.P. on it" and it's his first ever on a theatre organ.

GRANADA, TOOTING.

Another Wurlitzer, really one of the most famous and finest here, was the Granada Cinema, Tooting in Southwest London. A fabulous house, "An acre of seats in a garden of splendour" was its catchphrase back in 1931. This very ornate Gothic super cinema has been London's largest bingo hall - sad, but it pays the rent. It was "listed" by the government so they can't pull it down. The organ was installed like most here - under the stage. And one dark and stormy night there was a flood and "bingo" - two friends were warned and rushed to pull pipes and save the venerable organ, a 4/14. Now they have started putting it back gently and are getting the wind on again. The big trouble is that the layout of the front stalls area was changed and the console was buried under it all. Let's hope this famous organ can play again before too long.

- - - News source "The Console" Magazine, June 1983.

TOM HAZLETON

Sunday 28th. August  
at 2pm.



MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL



DID YOU KNOW THAT ?

(by Frank Ellis, Vice-President)

At the peak of the theatre organ's popularity from about 1938 to 1948, there were in Australia about 29 or 30 cinemas which possessed a 'mighty' theatre organ. These were distributed mainly in the capital cities although Sydney had quite a number in the larger and more important suburban houses, many of which were the equal in lavishness to their city cousins.

Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide each boasted two theatre organs. In Melbourne there was six or seven and Sydney had six in the city theatres with a further eleven or twelve in the suburbs. In Tasmania, as far as I know, there was one, making a total of about 30 give or take one or two.

These theatres created a permanent full time career for about 30 full time organists and a number of theatres employed an assistant organist for the intermediate sessions, keeping their star organists for the de-luxe sessions. Also a few relief organists were around to take care of holidays and illnesses etc. and whilst these could not be said to be earning their living from the profession, they most certainly did supplement their incomes from the theatre organ. It would therefore appear that there were around 40-45 theatre organists in this country in the hey-day. When the theatre management permitted, a number of organists accepted pupils, so there was also a large group of budding theatre organists who had little hope, if any, of ever becoming a resident organist unless someone either died or left the country.

When compared to Great Britain, the theatre organ scene in Australia was very small indeed. The British Isles had about 380 theatres which had organs, so one can safely assume there existed around 500 full time or deputy and relief organists in the profession. It is not surprising to learn that they had their own Association to look after their interests plus a Benevolent Fund to assist the members who fell on hard times. Australian theatre organists had no independent voice being merely members of a general musicians union, and as their numbers were few, they were able to be exploited by managements hungry for profits without fear of industrial muscle being used against them. When television decimated theatre attendances, organists were reduced to one show per day with a corresponding 50% cut in their salaries. This was later reduced to one or two nights per week only, and eventually even this came to an end and some were dismissed without notice and their careers ended traumatically.

To return to the English scene, a theatre organ magazine published around 1948 gives some fascinating figures to ponder upon. Seventy-nine theatres had Christie organs. One only was of four manuals, 22 had three manuals and 52 had two manuals whilst four of them were not described. Compton organs either with or without the Melotone feature, were installed in 203 cinemas and these were split up into 13 with four manuals, 109 with three and 79 had two manuals. The American built WurliTzer organ was chosen by 100 theatres and of these 6 were of four manuals, 43 had three, and the remaining 51 had two manuals. The fact that over 200 Comptons were chosen by theatre managements showed a decided preference for that make of instrument. Whether this was dictated by a lower price bracket is beyond my knowledge.

The largest Compton was installed in the Town Hall at Southampton and this was a 4/32 with two consoles. The Pavillion Theatre at Bournemouth was the largest theatre installation which was a 4/20. The Davis Theatre at Croydon and another Pavillion Theatre at Shepherds Bush each boasted a 4/19.

The largest WurliTzers were in the Empire Theatre London, the Trocadero Elephant & Castle and the Odeon Manchester which each had a 4/21 whilst the Odeon at Leeds had a 4/19 and the State Kilburn (probably the best known of all because of the recordings of Sydney Torch and other famous organists) had to make do with a 4/16. The Gaumont Manchester had a 4/14 and the rest of the WurliTzers in Great Britain ranged from five to twelve ranks.



During the war, quite a number of cinemas received direct hits from enemy bombs and whilst some instruments were saved and placed in storage for the duration, several were totally destroyed.

The largest Christie organ was installed in the Regal Cinema Marble Arch and this was a gigantic 4/37. In those days, radio stations in Australia and Great Britain devoted a large amount of air time to the theatre organ both in live broadcasts and using specially made recordings played amongst the many commercial gramophone recordings then available. A few Australian organists made some commercial 78rpm discs but in England there was an enormous market for popular organ records and a large number of artists produced regular releases.

A catalogue of recorded music available in Australia in 1942, which is one of my prized possessions, consists of 632 pages and cost the princely sum of sixpence (5c). It lists 46 records of Reginald Dixon, 23 of Sydney Torch, 12 by Henry Croudson and 9 by Al Bollington among many others. It also lists a staggering 117 records by the singer Bing Crosby. Oh for the golden days of 78rpm records which started from the lowly price of 2/6 or 25c in today's money.

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#### T.O.S.A. TAPE LIBRARY

The following is a list of tapes now available to members.

Vic Hammet	Easter 1970	Ashley Miller	8th Sep. 1982
Jonas Nordwall	Easter 1976	Ashley Miller Workshop	1982
Maria Kumagai	12th June 1977	Bev. Kennedy - Neil Palmer	1983
Tony Fenelon	19th Nov. 1978	Neil Jensen	20th March 1983
Ian Davies	24th Feb. 1980	Valda Lang-David Parsons	April 1983
Walter Strony	Easter 1980	Tony Fenelon-John Atwell	May 1983
Jonas Nordwall	21st Sep. 1980		
Jonas Nordwall	19th Oct. 1980		
Len Rawle	22nd Nov. 1981		
Patricia Guthrie - Beverly Kennedy			
Neil Palmer	21st Feb. 1982		
John Atwell	March 1982		

Address to apply (for Country members only) is:-  
 TOSA NSW DIVISION  
 304 Parramatta Road,  
 ASHFIELD. NSW. 2131.

NOTE Library tapes MUST be returned within one calendar month.

Phone enquiries 798 6742

LIBRARY TAPES ALWAYS REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF TOSA NSW DIVISION.

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#### NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND

The Wurlitzer Theatre Organ Group of Auckland finds patron in Tony Fenelon. After the great support shown towards the Wurlitzer in the Hollywood and the group responsible for the restoration by Tony Fenelon, it was decided to approach him regarding the office of patron of the newly formed W.T.O.G.A. Tony was very surprised and slightly overcome by our request, but readily accepted our offer and has said that he will endeavour to do everything possible to further the cause of the Group and to promote the Hollywood Wurlitzer. We are indebted to him for accepting the office of Patron and we hope that with the name of Tony Fenelon at the top of our members list, it will help us to always promote a high and acceptable standard of music and performance, on the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ in the Hollywood Theatre.

(News source "Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ Newsletter")



# TOSATOUR of the U.S.A. (continued)

THURSDAY, 16th JUNE.

Leaving our hotel by tourist coach we were driven through some most picturesque countryside, with large strawberry growing areas in addition to several other berry type crops, on our way up through the delightful timber country to visit Mount Hood with a height of some 3,400 metres (11,245 ft.). Mount Hood is covered with snow the whole year and is the only area where year round skiing is possible in the United States. Apparently several other peaks are also snow capped throughout the year, but are for some reasons not suitable for skiing. On arrival at the Mount Hood snow line we were able to inspect their National Historic Landmark, Timberline Lodge which was dedicated in 1937. This accomodation building has been constructed of local stone and hand hewn and hand sawn timber. It was originally planned and instigated as a project to train unemployed people during the great depression of the 1930's. During our visit, American Olympic skiers were practising on the upper slopes.

On our return drive back from Mount Hood, our driver took us past many orchards started by Japanese Americans prior to World War II. Stops were also made on the way back at Bonneville Lock and Dam where visitors are able to view migrating salmon as they swim vigorously upstream via the 'fish ladder'. This consists of a series of relatively small steps in a by-pass stream beside the main dam. This enables the salmon and other migrating fish to swim and jump their way to rejoin the main river above the dam where it is approximately 15 metres (50 ft.) higher. Visitors are also able to watch the migrating fish through glass windows in the side of the fish ladder.

Other landmarks visited on the way back to Portland were Multnomah Falls the second highest waterfall in the United States and Vista Lookout with its extensive view of the Columbia River Gorge.

On return to Portland it was straight to the 'Organ Grinder' the Pizza Parlour with its famous 4 manual 41 rank Wurlitzer. Here we were able to enjoy our first American pizza and listen to the organ. As Jonas was absent the organ was, on this occasion, being played by Paul Quarino, however due to the high conversation background and sundry other noises, he played it almost flat out, together with extensive use of the un-enclosed percussions; quite a noisy performance. For T.O.S.A. members the organ would have been more appealing had a private recital been possible. As it was, we shared it with the locals and heard it just as they and their children do. Incidentally, American pizza servings are considerably larger than those we had hitherto been used to. Their 'small' is about equivalent to an Australian 'large' size pizza.

FRIDAY, 17th JUNE.

A welcome uncommitted morning for individual activities, followed by an optional visit in the afternoon to two interesting organ installations at the homes of Don & Arlene Ingram and Bob & Laura Burke. Both instruments had their pipes and percussions in basement chambers with sound chutes and grilles at floor level. This arrangement allowed the instruments to speak up into the lounge area above. In the Ingram home, the organ was a modest 2 manual 8 rank Wurlitzer with but a single swell pedal in its small white console, the organ had begun life as a mere 2/4. It was notwithstanding its size, a very pleasant instrument to hear and Bill & Neil were also invited to try their hands at the console.





One of the many scenic viewing areas at the Grand Canyon



John Weismantel... Its been a very long day.



Ray and Muriel's Wurlitzer home installation



Castro Theatre - San Francisco



Judy and Peter Bidencope



Flo Lawler-Vi Dagleish  
Norm Weismantel



Flo Lawler



FRIDAY, 17th JUNE ... cont.

The Burke's home installation, although generally similar so far as installation procedures were concerned, was a 3/12 Wurlitzer with polished console. In the average sized lounge area it sounded very similar to a theatre installation.

In the evening it was our second opportunity to hear a pizza parlour installation, this time at Uncle Milt's Pipe Organ Pizza Co., in what was a rebuilt church. Once again the percussions, or at least many of them, were outside the chambers and located high up on the walls at either side of the restaurant. This instrument is a 3/18 Wurlitzer which was originally installed in the Orpheum Theatre, Seattle.

SATURDAY, 18th JUNE.

Following a late (11.30 a.m.) start, as our Greyhound Bus had mistakenly been directed to another Red Lion Inn on the other side of Portland, we travelled up Interstate 5 freeway to Seattle approximately 160 km. (100 miles) south of the U.S. - Canadian border, arriving about mid afternoon. For the most part the drive was through very attractive countryside with many large Douglas Fir and Hemlock forests adjoining the freeway.

In Seattle we were met by Puget Sound A.T.O.S. and T.O.S.A. (N.S.W.) member Russ Evans who, in his very practical, businesslike and thoughtful way had arranged the hire of a school bus - this was to be our means of transport whilst in his area. Apparently, during school holidays it is possible to hire the otherwise unused school buses.

At 4.15 p.m. we were met at our hotel by Russ for a quick tour of local points of interest including Lake Washington, which we crossed via two floating concrete bridges. We were also taken to the Government Locks for shipping travelling between the salt waters of Puget Sound and the higher level fresh water of Lake Union. Beside the locks was another fish ladder for salmon swimming upstream to their original spawning grounds.

The day concluded memorably as we dined at Ivar's Salmon House on the beautiful shores of Lake Union. Here there was a delicious menu with soups and salmon dishes to please the most discerning palate. Most of us chose the barbecued salmon and, as we dined, we were also able to enjoy the twilight view of the city skyline including Seattle's famous Space Needle.

SUNDAY, 19th JUNE.

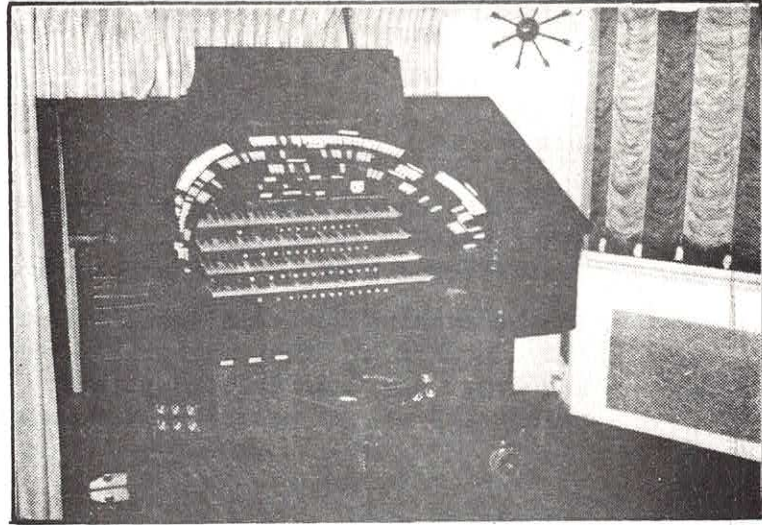
At 9.40 a.m. Russ with his bright yellow school bus arrived to take us the short distance to the Seattle Paramount, a 3,000 seat theatre built in 1927 and still complete with its original 4 manual 20 rank Wurlitzer, plus a few additions. Everyone interested and capable of playing had ample opportunity to try their hand at the great console and the organ responded with majestic sound, just right for the large theatre. Once again we were able to take a general look behind and under the stage to see the workings of the theatre, however access to the chambers was restricted due to severe space limitations and very high vertical steel access ladders.

In the afternoon we visited Bert and Georgie Lobberegt's private museum. This housed an amazing array of working mechanical musical instruments and restored vintage cars as well as sundry other memorabilia. Following the museum inspection we were invited into their home to hear and play the organ, a hybrid 2 manual 10 rank comprising of mainly Wurlitzer and Wicks pipework. Of all the instruments we saw during the trip this was the only





Russ Evans and his bright yellow school bus



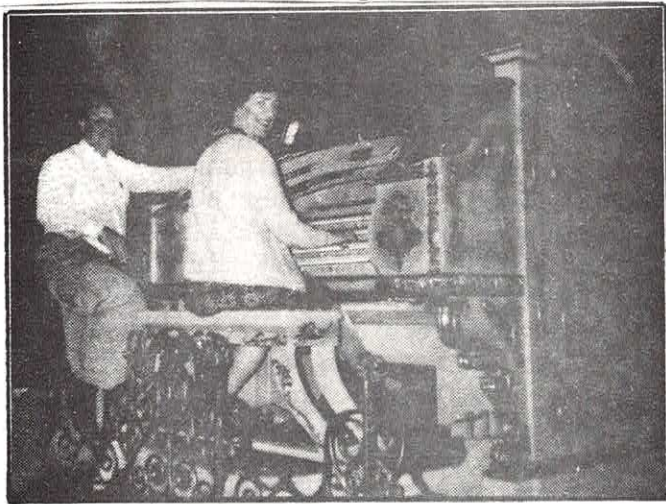
The Simonton studio 4/36 Wurlitzer



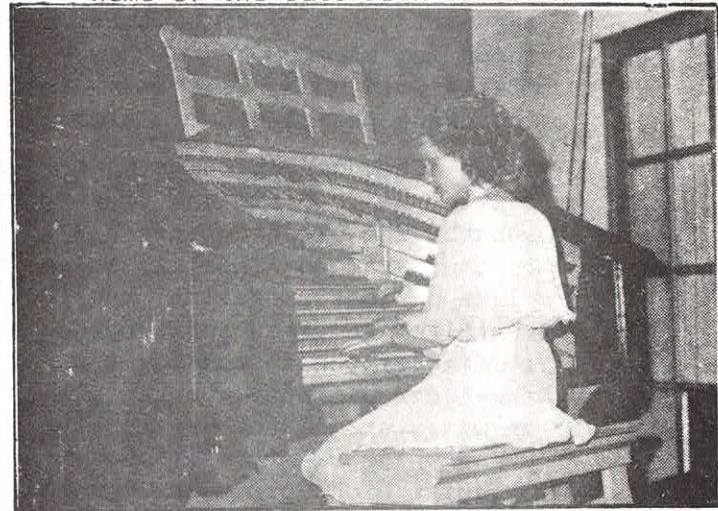
Russ Evans and Phyl Wilson enjoying a visit at Bert Lobberegt's museum.



Chris Elliott entertaining at the home of the late Dick Simonton



Seattle Paramount 4 manual 20 rank Wurlitzer



Candi Carley playing the 4 manual 36 rank Fox Special Wurlitzer at the Lanterman home



JoAnn Evans at home



Supper at Russ and JoAnn Evan's home.



SUNDAY, 19th JUNE ... cont.

one which spoke DOWN into the lounge area through the ceiling and like the other private installations, this organ sounded just as pleasant despite its assorted pipework and unorthodox layout.

In the evening Russ and JoAnn Evans entertained us in their home where we met a number of other members of the Puget Sound Chapter of A.T.O.S. There was great and memorable hospitality plus plenty of music from the volunteers at the piano and Yamaha electronic organ.

MONDAY, 20 JUNE.

Departure by Grayline bus for a pre-planned visit to inspect the Boeing Facilities at Everett, north of Seattle, where final assembly of Boeing's 747 and 767 aircraft is carried out in what is claimed to be the largest single storey building in the World. On arrival we attended a screening of a film describing the development and rigorous testing of 767 aircraft. One of the most amazing tests to see was the test bending, with wing tips being deflected upwards some 5 metres (17 ft.) without structural damage. In the second film, taken with time lapse photography we saw the greatly speeded up assembly of 767 aircraft so that the whole process from start to finish was completed in approximately 10 - 15 minutes.

A short conducted tour of the enormous assembly building followed, then a bus drive around the apron area outside where many newly completed aircraft awaited final testing or minor adjustments prior to handing over to their new owners, including one new 767 for Ansett.

On our return to Seattle our bus tour concluded with a visit to the older parts of the City of Seattle. Here we had a chance to visit some old shops and some took the chance to see an interesting film on the great Alaska Gold Rush. Seattle is the most important sea port on the Alaska run being the closest mainland U.S. port to the 49th State.

About afternoon tea time we were again aboard the yellow bus with Russ driving us to Pizza and Pipes restaurant at Greenwood, an inner northern suburb. The organ here is a 3/17 Wurlitzer which was originally installed in the Paramount Theatre, Salem, Massachusetts in 1930. As is customary in pizza parlour installations, its pipes, chests, regulators and tremors are installed in glass surrounded chambers with swell shutters between the ceiling of the restaurant and the top of the glass wall facing the eating area. Percussions, such as sleigh bells, chimes, cymbals etc. are highlighted on walls around the dining area. This installation also included a grand piano which sits beside the console from which it is played. Resident organist Dick Schrum entertained us before permitting interested visitors to try out the instrument for themselves. Another interesting feature of this installation were the performing animated figures (puppet style). These were activated by air motors controlled from the console so that the figures danced in time with the music when this was required. After about one hour here, Russ took us to Bellevue, an eastern suburb on the other side of Lake Washington. Here we dined at another Pizza and Pipes restaurant with a 3 manual 17 rank Wurlitzer. This one had in 1926, been installed in the Academy of Music Theatre, New York City. Generally speaking this installation was similar to the previous one except for an upright piano in place of the grand. Another feature common to virtually all pizza parlours with organs is the periodic screening of old silent movies with organ accompaniment.





*Ralph Sargent and Alan Stark home.*



*Refreshments around the pool*



*Ty Woodward playing the 2/18 Wurlitzer in Ralph and Alan's home.*



*San Sylmar.*



*Picturesque countryside of Mount Hood.*



*Bill Schumacher*



MONDAY, 20th JUNE ... cont.

Following dinner we were driven the short distance to Ray and Muriel Whelpley's home where we were able to inspect the almost complete and immaculate organ installation. Ray had undertaken the almost impossible task of hand building a replica 3 manual and pedal relay and switch-stack. This was indistinguishable from a brand new Wurlitzer relay. Notwithstanding this he had also more than successfully converted a 2 manual single bolster console into a 3 manual double bolster 120 stop key desk. The only work remaining to be carried out was the completion of the piston action in the console and addition of the toy counter to the extremely well equipped chamber. All in all his dedicated workmanship had to be seen to be believed. Even though the installation was not quite complete we were still able to enjoy hearing it played that evening by Greg Smith, who incidently had spent most of that day helping Ray with final adjustments for the evening performance. Visiting T.O.S.A. members and others interested were also given full opportunity to try their hand at the newly enlarged console, as well as on the Yamaha piano or the Hammond X66 upstairs. The evening concluded with somewhat mixed feelings and farewells to the Puget Sound organ folk following their wonderful hospitality and busy few days in Seattle. A special thank-you must be said to Russ and JoAnn Evans for the great deal of time and effort put in to arranging the programme.

TUESDAY, 21st JUNE.

This morning was the last opportunity we would have for sightseeing or shopping in Seattle prior to departure by bus at 11.30 a.m. for the Airport and the United Airlines Boeing 727 flight to San Francisco.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd JUNE.

Our last day of arranged sightseeing in the United States. We were taken by small bus to see the city sights including:- the new Roman Catholic Cathedral and its very impressive Ruffati organ with several imposing ranks of en chamade pipes. Unfortunately, this had to remain a visual inspection only as their organist was not present. Other sights included a drive through Chinatown and several main street with all their 'varied' sights, then it was over the main part of the Oakland Bay suspension bridge to Treasure Island, Golden Gate Park, the Japanese Garden and Twin Peaks Lookout before having a crab cocktail lunch at Fisherman's Wharf.

It was back to the bus in the afternoon for a drive over the Golden Gate Bridge to Muir Woods, a small protected area of giant California Redwoods still surviving. They are indeed a magnificent sight.

The return trip to the City was by way of Sausalito, a picturesque northern bayside township. Here we left the bus for some souvenir shopping and caught the ferry boat back to Fisherman's Wharf. En route we were able to see the former Alcatraz Prison (now a National Monument) on our left and the Golden Gate Bridge on our right.

In the evening we enjoyed our final dinner together, with Alan Misdale making a small presentation to Rob on behalf of T.O.S.A. travellers in appreciation of his unstinting efforts behind the scenes in arranging this most enjoyable holiday.



THURSDAY, 23rd. JUNE.

Our last day in the U.S.A. This was a free day for individual exploration or last minute shopping, whilst several keen Committee Members chose to spend the time inspecting the Castro Theatre and its Wurlitzer. At present this is a 4 manual 16 rank installation, but the final tally of ranks will be 26. Our special thanks to Tom Hazleton who came direct to the theatre after arriving from Indianapolis on an early morning flight to demonstrate the instrument and to Dick and Ray Taylor owners of the organ for making us so welcome.

In the late afternoon it was time to assemble at the hotel in readiness for the bus to the Airport and the long flight home in a QANTAS Boeing 747, with short stop-overs at Honolulu and Brisbane.

FRIDAY, 24th JUNE.

This was omitted for us as we crossed the International Date Line.

SATURDAY, 25th JUNE.

Sixteen somewhat weary T.O.S.A. travellers arrived at Sydney Airport to be greeted by friends or relatives, all will have wonderful memories of a great trip with many unforgettable experiences and a deep gratitude to all our U.S. hosts and hostesses.

The seventeenth member of the party John Shaw had booked a more leisurely return, with extra days in San Francisco and Honolulu.

Peter Bidencepe.

Those on tour were:-

Peter & Judy Bidencepe	Neil Palmer
Vi Dalgleish	Bill Schumacher
Robert Gliddon	John Shaw
Flo Lawler	Norm & Betty Weismantel
Roy & Ivy Madill	John Weismantel
Alan & Coletta Misdale	Ron & Phyl Wilson

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Has anyone a good piece of timber (1inch or 25mm thick) to replace the seat of our ex Capitol Organ bench?  
The piece of timber must be good enough for a top grade paint finish - an old table or sideboard top???

Please contact Alan Misdale on 525 5554





BRUCE NETTEN plays SENTOS Marr & Colton Wednesday and Saturday nights at the Jane Pickens Theatre, Newport, Rhode Island. Club owns and installed the instrument.

—photo by George Steele

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## Club Installs Organ In Newport Theatre

At this time every three years the eyes of the World turn towards Newport, Rhode Island, U.S.A. for it is here that the trials are underway to determine which Country will challenge the U.S.A. for the America's Cup Yacht race. Here is a timely story of theatre organ activity in the same township. This article is reprinted from the July issue of "The Console" magazine.

Members of South Eastern New England Theatre Organ Society and the public are now enjoying theatre organ music in the Jane Pickens Theatre, Newport, Rhode Island. Member Bruce Netten, pictured above at the console of the club donated 2/8 Marr & Colton organ is playing to "very appreciative audiences" every Wednesday and Saturday nights from 6.30 to 7 and 9 to 9.30 before the two evening performances.

The console sits to the left of the stage and has been refinished in antique white and gold. It is lit up under a spotlight with changing colours.

Built in 1926 for installation in the Capitol Theatre, New London, Connecticut, it is one of the "Symphonic Registrator" models produced by Marr & Colton. This feature is a line of separate stops with tabs named for moods used frequently during the silent film era - i.e. love, anger, hatred, jealousy, etc. It is believed there may have been as many as 20 registrator models turned out by the organ firm. Four are known to be in existence to-day.

The organ was last played in the Capitol during 1935. S.E.N.T.O.S. purchased and removed it to storage from the theatre in 1977. Seven weekends during the summer were required to dismantle and remove it. The organ had extensive vandalism and water damage. Every part of the instrument was torn down and rebuilt. Completely restored to its 1926 condition, the "Symphonic Registrator" stops are exactly as the Marr & Colton factory set them.

The only addition to the instrument is currently in process - - grand piano tablets have been installed on the console and a small Wurlitzer relay to control the piano is wired in and operating. The piano will be finished to match the console. It is planned to place it on the right side of the stage with its own spotlight.

There are a total of 608 pipes in the organ, as it is currently installed in its new home.