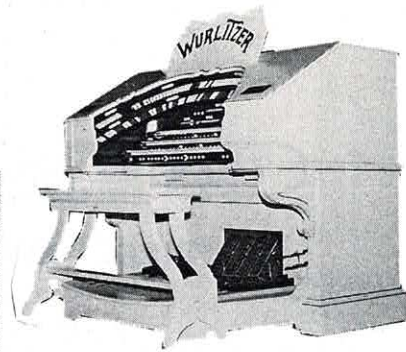


OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 1994



2/11 WurliTzer Theatre Pipe Organ
Marrickville Town Hall

TOSA NEWS



3/17 WurliTzer Theatre Pipe Organ
Orion Centre Campsie

AGM - Tuesday, 15th November

TONY FENELON'S Christmas Concert



Sunday, 11th December at 2pm
Orion Centre, Campsie

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TOSA NEWS

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 1994

THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (NSW DIVISION) Inc.

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COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

Sunday 9 at 2.00pm **Walter Strony
Concert**
Orion Centre Campsie

Monday 10 at 7.30pm **Committee Meeting**

NOVEMBER

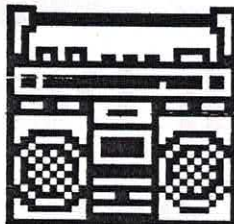
Monday 7 at 7.30pm **Committee Meeting**

Tuesday 15 at 8.00pm **Annual General
Meeting**
Orion Centre Campsie

DECEMBER

Monday 5 at 7.30pm **Committee Meeting**

Sunday 11 at 2.00pm **Tony Fenelon
Christmas Concert**
Orion Centre Campsie



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Editorial

Apologies to all members impatient to receive their latest issue of *TOSA News*, but this one has been delayed because our Assistant Secretary (and photocopying supervisor) has been overseas enjoying well-deserved rest and recreation. The next couple of issues may also be disrupted because of a two month overseas break for the Groves family. I know it can be annoying to have the *TOSA News* routine interrupted but we don't have vast numbers of ancillary or temporary staff to take over these voluntary jobs, but we all do our best to keep the members as happy as possible. Before a *TOSA* official is criticised or abused by members (and there are a few members, very few hopefully, quite ready and quick to do so, believe me!), these members should remember that the helpers are giving freely of their time and effort to help others to enjoy themselves more completely.

The Committee has recently been discussing the establishment of more complete historical, theatre organ documentation, hoping for example to create a complete record of all the theatre organs, organists, theatres and other related affairs. In future years researchers will certainly come to the Society expecting to find a complete record of the local theatre organ world as it existed in earlier times, and, at the present time, our archives are far from complete.

Considering the number of obituaries in this issue alone, it is obviously time to make a plea to relatives, on behalf of the Society, for any historical documents to be retained and donated to the Society's archives for future generations to study and research. There have been recent distressing incidents of valuable historic records being thrown away because it was considered that no one would be interested in them.

If you have photos, letters, articles, cuttings etc., that relate in any way to theatre organs but are of little interest to you, please consider keeping them and passing them on, as the Society would be most anxious to look through them to see what could be placed in our archives for posterity. Contact one of our executive committee members so that further arrangements can be made.

Best Wishes,
Colin Groves



From The Vice President

Two pieces of news from Vice-President, John Shaw :

(1) Building Fund

The Committee is delighted to announce that our **Building Fund** is now open and in operation. Many thanks to one member who donated \$200 to kick off the fund. Also thanks to the members who have spoken to me in relation to bequests. All the bequests, especially the small ones, still mount up over a period of time, so please do not think we are any less grateful for the small bequests than we are for the larger ones.

Should you require any further information, I would be pleased to hear from you.

(2) Ushers at Concerts

As we have been enjoying large attendances at our last few concerts (each over 500 people), we are in need of extra ushers to show people to their seats.

If you are able to assist with the ushering at the **Orion** from 1.30 - 2.00pm on any concert afternoon, I would be most pleased to hear from you on 759 5825.

John Shaw
Vice-President

Betty Bruderlin, long-time member and willing *TOSA* helper, has been ill, on and off, for some time now, although she always manages a cheery smile in spite of the problems. We hope that now, after surgical intervention, she is on the mend and will be feeling much better in the future.

Articles in this journal need not represent the views of the committee nor those of the editor.

The deadline for each edition of *TOSA News* is the 12th of the preceding month

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we welcome the following new members and wish them a long and happy association with our Society :

Mary Wilson - Hunters Hill

William Rafter - Belmont

John and Gwendoline Booth
- Wentworthville

Paul Ballard - Brewarrina
George Jefferies

- Sutherland

James and Judith Conolly
- Chatswood

Henry and Patricia Wood
- Mortdale

Tracey Parker - Hurstville

Betty Shearer - Campsie

Ian and Lynette Palmer
- Haberfield

William Thompson
- Riverwood

Mavis Robertson
- North Carlingford

Majorie Wells
- Neutral Bay

Helen Cosentino
- Buff Point

Gwen Piper - Yagoona

Janice Howle - Miranda

Brian Le Grice - Gordon



by Neil Palmer

PIPES PLUS

Charlie Balogh at the 3/31 WurliTzer in *Good Time Charley's Restaurant, Grand Rapids, Michigan.*

Tracks include: *Strike Up the Band, Hard Hearted Hannah, Lush Life, Waltz In Swingtime, Clair de Lune, In A Mellow Tone, My Romance*, plus more. Compact Disc - \$28.00; Cassette - \$18.00.

CLAP HANDS, HERE COMES CHARLIE!

Charlie Balogh at the 4/46 WurliTzer in the *Organ Stop Pizza, Mesa, Arizona.*

Tracks include: *Clap Hands, Here Comes Charlie!, Unforgettable, Maple Leaf Rag, Beauty and the Beast, Dizzy Fingers, If You Were The Only Girl*, plus more. Compact Disc - \$28.00; Cassette - \$18.00.

MUSIC, MAESTRO, PLEASE

Reginald Dixon : The Early Years, transferred from 78's recorded in the 1930's at the **Tower Ballroom, Blackpool.**

Tracks include - *You Can't Stop Me From Dreaming, Horsey, Horsey, Lights Out, In the Chapel in the Moonlight, Take Me Back to My Boots and Saddle, Bells Across the Meadow, The Desert Song*, plus more. Compact Disc - \$28.00.

ANY DREAM WILL DO

Robert Wolfe at the 3/19 WurliTzer, Thursford Collection.

Tracks include : *Our Director March, A Gal in Calico, Embraceable You, Somebody Loves Me, From a Distance, Andrew Lloyd Webber medley*, plus more. Compact Disc - \$28.00.

FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Robert Wolfe at the Thursford WurliTzer.

Tracks include : *R.A.F. Marchpast, Silver Threads Among the Gold, Parade of the Tin Soldiers, Songs My Mother Taught Me, Gold and Silver Waltz, Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart, Sanctuary of the Heart*, plus more. Compact Disc - \$28.00.

Available at TOSA Concerts, or by Mail Order from :

TOSA (NSW Division) Inc.
304 Parramatta Rd
ASHFIELD NSW 2131

Postage :

\$2.80 per CD;

\$2.45 for one Cassette;

\$2.55 for two Cassettes.



Walter Pearce of Croydon writes :

18/9/94

I was interested to read **Stephen Bosanquet's** letter in the September *TOSA News* and I respect his right to hold the opinion that "electric whiz-bangs" shouldn't be used with the grand old theatre organ.

But I'm sure classical-organ purists were offended in the 1920's and 30's when car-horns, klaxons, drums, percussive sounds, and whatever, were wired into the movie-house instruments. In other words, the tradition of theatre organ is to attach all sorts of whiz-bangs to the instruments. Maybe we should keep up that tradition and try some new ideas now and then?

I don't think I've dis-enjoyed any TOSA concert so far- am I too easily pleased? Let's hear all kinds of use and interpretation of the **Campsie** organ, with or without extras.

Walter Pearce

The opinions on Charlie Balogh's use of an electronic rhythm device were divided, but in fact he only used it a couple of times during his concert, so there was not a lot to object to!

Reg Cant of Shoalhaven Heads comments on a couple of recent items :

31/8/94

Reading the September edition of *TOSA News*, page 6, gave me the idea of sending to you a skit from an old **Ward Leopold** record, called "*Here's Hoo-ey*". It goes like this : "*He had a slight accident while "Chopin". At the time, it was thought he would have to have his "Rachmaninoff", but he is now well enough to take his "Mendelssohn" and it shouldn't be very long before he is "Bach" with us!*" He mightn't have had a "**Chopin Liszt**".

Frank Ellis mentioned on stage at the **Ray Thornley** concert the names of the last 4 original circuit organists. Included in those was **Bert Myers**. Bert is still kicking and teaching at 10 Penrose Drive, **Bomaderry**, 2540.

He taught me for over 7 years. Phew! What a job! I've had 2 years break and since started up again. He is a regular visitor at my place (boy, can he drink tea!) and we both have a sense of humour.

I've tried to kid him to come up to **Campsie** and "have another go". I'll continue to hound him. I would like him to come up with me for the **Members' Night**. Trouble is, he has morning pupils on Thursdays. That's his excuse, anyway.

He can still play well despite what he says. He's great on the piano, but makes all the excuses under the sun. He's good, believe me.

I wonder if one or two people from **TOSA**, with my help could talk him into playing some numbers on the **Wurly** at **Campsie** sometime. It might whet his appetite, so to speak. I'd love to hear him play on it. So would a lot of others, I bet.

Bert has been interested, in a small way, in model railway. Probably that is a small part of the attraction at my place, as I have a double garage full of "European" model railways. Do you know of any **TOSA** members interested in model railway? If so please advise me.

Reg Cant

If any members would like to follow up anything in Reg's letter, his address is 16 Bolt Street Shoalhaven Heads, 2535, and his phone number is (044) 48 7214.

LANCE WELLS

All members will be saddened to learn of the death of long-serving member, **Lance Wells**, who passed away in hospital on Monday, 22nd August.

Lance was resident organist at the console of the fine **Christie** organ in the **Kings Theatre, Gordon**, during the late 1940's. That particular **Christie** organ is now owned by the **NSW Division of TOSA** and is in storage until we find a new home for it.

Lance and his wife were tireless and loyal workers for our Society for many years - in fact, they were responsible for the time-consuming task of preparing and posting the hundreds of copies of **TOSA News** each month for a period of 15 years. They also maintained our membership records, and if information about a member was needed, a phone call to them quickly

got the required answer.

When the Society bought the **WurliTzer** organ from the **Capitol Theatre, Sydney**, a farewell concert was hurriedly arranged before the removal of the organ began, and 10 organists volunteered their services for the concert, with each organist playing a 20 minute segment. **Lance Wells** was the one chosen to bring the console up from the pit and play the first bracket of numbers on that historic and nostalgic Saturday morning occasion.

He had frequently taken part in our Saturday morning concerts at the **Capitol Theatre**, sharing the spotlight with 2 or 3 other organists who each played for a half hour or so.

He presented a full concert many years ago on our **WurliTzer** in the **Marrickville Town Hall** on a Sunday afternoon in the early days of that installation and received a very warm ovation from an audience, well-pleased

with his choice of musical items and his presentation of them.

Lance and **Marj** seemed to know nearly everybody in our Society and chatted with them in the foyer at our concerts. It was evident that their popularity with members was very high indeed, and that **Lance's** quiet and sincere manner endeared him to all those who knew him.

He will be greatly missed at our functions and on behalf of the Executive, the Committee and all **TOSA** members, I extend to his wife, **Marj**, and son, **Ross**, our deepest sympathy in their sad loss, and say, "Thank you, **Lance**, for the many services you so loyally gave to the members of **TOSA NSW Division**."

Au revoir,

Frank Ellis

Vice President



Lance Wells at the console of the Sydney Capitol's WurliTzer, which is now in the Orion Centre

Urgent! Help! No nominations have been received for the positions of Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. If you can help, please contact our President immediately. Please Consider !



NEWS FROM ALL OVER

St Joseph's College

On Friday, 14th October, St Joseph's College Chapel will host a "Rogers Showcase", featuring the awesome talents of well-known Sydney organist, David Drury. The organ is a Rodgers Model 905, 3-manual Classical organ.

St Joseph's College Chapel is located in Mark Street, Hunters Hill. The concert starts at 8pm and admission is \$5.00.

Members' Night

Wednesday, 14th September saw a good roll-up of members for their Playing Night at the Orion WurliTzer, with some members coming from as far away as Shoalhaven Heads, Nowra.

Those who entertained fellow members were Reg Cant, Bob Cornish, George London, Jim Coupland, Walter Pearce, Wendy Hambly, Chris Styles, Bruce Bisby, Tom Barber, Peter Held, Jack McDonald and Jim Booker.

Mastertouch

The Mastertouch Piano Roll Company is celebrating its 75th year in business this year, and they are having an afternoon "Tea Dance" at the Petersham Town Hall. This Silver Jubilee event will be held on 20th November, 1994, at 2-2.30pm until approximately 6.00pm.

The major attraction will be the very popular "Yellow Rolls Royce" orchestra. The afternoon will be catered with food and soft refreshments. Alcohol will be on a B.Y.O. basis. The cost is \$37.50 per head. You are assured of an afternoon of nostalgic

entertainment, coupled with good company in a fine setting.

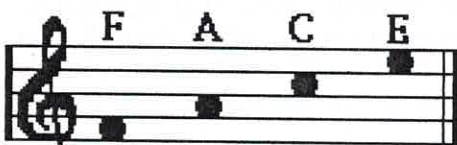
If you wish to attend or make up a party, you need to let them know by the 1st November, by phoning Mastertouch on 569 5128.

Manning Concert

TOSA members in the northern parts of NSW may be interested in the concert being presented by Berrigans Music, Yamaha and the Manning Organ Society at the Manning Entertainment Centre at 8.00pm on Wednesday, 16th November.

The organist will be Warrick Dunham and those who have heard him assure us that he will present a great evening of entertainment for all.

Further information and bookings can be made by phoning Manning Organ Society on (065) 53 1431.



THE MUSIC With Allan Tassaker

Allan Tassaker wants to know if any member can tell him why that great escape artist, Harry Houdini, insisted that an organ must be wheeled onto the stage at every performance.

Well, the answer is simple.

He needed all the "chords"!!

Members will be saddened to learn of the death on Wednesday, 7th September of long-time member and concert-goer, Mrs Nancy Shaw. Our condolences go to her family and friends.

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Vale **BARRIE BRETTONER**

On the morning of August 5th, 1994, another of the greats of the 1930's theatre organ fraternity passed away.

John Robert Baron Bretttoner, Barrie as he preferred to be known, was recognised for his exceptional musical talent at a very young age. Born in **Ossett, U.K.**, just prior to the outbreak of World War 1, **Barrie** started lessons on piano at age 4 under the guidance of his mother, learning to read music from charts made by her and, as described by **Barrie**, "with notes the size of teacups". He continued his studies and by age 12 had taken and passed all examinations, most with honours, culminating with the Graduate Diploma of the **National College of Music, London**.

Arriving in **Australia** in 1926, **Barrie** settled in the **Sydney** suburb of **Rockdale** with his parents. Continuing his studies in music saw him winning the Gold Medal for the "Highest Standard of Pianoforte Playing" for the Diploma of Associate of the **Victorian College of Music, London**. In 1929, **Barrie** was admitted as a Fellow of the **Trinity College of Music, London**. This achievement was especially precious to **Barrie**, for it was a very rare honour and one which was highly coveted by all musicians. Of even greater significance, however, is that **Barrie** was one of the youngest ever, at the time, to receive this great honour.

During the late 20's, **Barrie** first appeared on radio, broadcasting on stations **2FC** and **2BL**, playing piano.

It was also about this time that **Barrie** was desirous of entering the world of the Theatre Organist. Having heard **Horace Weber** play at the old **Victory Theatre, Kogarah**, **Barrie** soon found himself receiving tuition from his new-found friend on the **2/7 Christie** organ, and later at the once magnificent **WurliTzer** in the **State Theatre** with **Mr Weber's** appointment there.

On Saturday, December 10th, 1932, **Barrie Bretttoner** made his first major appearance at the "Silver

Toned **Christie**", as it was billed, at the **Palatial Theatre, Burwood**. Billed as "**Australia's Wonder Boy Organist**", **Barrie** was a sensation with the theatre-going public. He received rave reviews in the local press and wooed his audiences with offers of "write your request in a letter and I'll try to play them for you". This proved to be a very popular move, as many hundreds of letters arrived, many of which I have read, and were practised and played to a very satisfied audience.

Barrie went on to play just about all of the organs in **Sydney** theatres. He often spoke of his fond memories at the **Auburn Civic Theatre**, where he played several seasons on the **WurliTzer** organ now installed in the **Clancy** residence (**Sydney**), and of course his beloved **Christie** at the **Palatial**.

The **Roxy Theatre, Parramatta**, saw him playing a season on the **3/10 Christie** with **Freddie Bartholomew** in "**Tom Brown's Schooldays**", while **Clarence Black** played the organ at the **Astra**, just a few blocks away.

Barrie made a few friends along the way, and at one stage resided with the **Dodd** family in a very large Art Deco home in **Blakehurst**. **Mr Dodd** installed some of the organs in theatres in **Sydney** on behalf of the importer, **W.A.(Bill) Crowle**. Like **Mr Crowle**, **Mr Dodd** had a pipe organ, much of which was **WurliTzer**, installed in his home. **Mr Crowle**, naturally, had a complete and very fine **WurliTzer**. **Barrie** was very grateful for the time he spent with the **Dodds**, learning the mechanics of the instrument he had so well mastered.

The next few years saw quite an important boost to **Barrie's** career. On November 30th, 1934, **Barrie** commenced a season at the incredibly beautiful, Turkish-style **Civic Theatre, Auckland, New Zealand**. Here he played the **3/16 WurliTzer** organ which boasted a 16' Post Horn and a French style console. It also had the habit of scaring most organists as they discovered that they were perched on the highest organ lift in existence. **Barrie** enjoyed his stay at the **Civic** and a season on the **Delux, Wellington**,

and **Regent, Auckland, WurliTzers**. Many a favourable newspaper article was written about his **New Zealand** engagement, indeed the **New Zealand Observer**, April 24, 1935, wrote..."I am sure that his performances are equal to, if not better than, those of **Paul Cullen**. What's more, he has more personality and his broadcasts from **1ZB** with the **Civic Band** have shown that he merits being broadcast on higher power. It's these little things that count."

During 1936, **Barrie** succeeded **Nicholas Robins** at the **Arcadia Theatre, Chatswood**, and then it was off to **England**. **Barrie**, recently married, arrived with his new wife and was very soon offered the opportunity to become one of "**Ramsay's Raiders**". **Harold Ramsay**, Chief Organist and Musical Director for **Union Theatres**, engaged **Barrie** to play as part of a team that included such greats as **Robinson Cleaver, Sidney Torch, Alex Taylor, Joseph Seal, Phil Park, Neville Meale** and **Andre Conti**. 1937 proved to be a very big year. Touring the country playing **Comptons, Christies** and **WurliTzers**, **Barrie** was very popular wherever he went.

On the 18th January, 1938, and at the direction of **Major Wright**, the **WurliTzer** representative to the **U.K.**, **Barrie** opened the **WurliTzer** theatre pipe organ in the **Palladium Theatre, Denmark**, in the presence of members of 4 European Royal Families. In April, **Barrie** returned to the circuit, taking up residency at the **WurliTzer**-equipped **Ritz Theatre, Hastings**.

Barrie, his wife and son returned to **Australia** at the outbreak of World War 2.

On Saturday, June 1st, 1940, **Barrie** took up residency on the **2/10 WurliTzer** at the **Savoy Theatre, Hurstville**. He often remarked that this was the most beautifully balanced and voiced **WurliTzer** that he had played.

[Cont'd on page 8]

Later **Barrie** went on to play at the **Burwood Palatial** and **Auburn Civic Theatres**, as well as a return to the **Arcadia, Chatswood**, as its last resident organist during the 1950's.

Following his retirement from theatre organ playing, **Barrie** taught piano and organ, and played for church services on some fine instruments, including the beautiful **William Hill** organ in the **Hunter-Baillie** church, **Annandale**. **Barrie** also took a keen interest in encouraging young talent in ballet. He sponsored several young people and freely gave his time and whatever money he had, often going without in order to pay for some kid's tuition. For this he was affectionately known as "**Uncle Barrie**" to many children and to aspiring members of the **Australian Ballet** where he was a frequent and welcome visitor to the Green Room at the **Sydney Opera House**.

In 1984, **Barrie** suffered a stroke, leaving him paralysed on the right side. He recovered slightly, but after several more strokes and a battle with diabetes, **Barrie** passed away peacefully. It was his wish that no funeral was to be arranged, and no memorial left.

*Two historic photos of **Barrie Brettoner** - on the right at the console of the **Palladium Theatre, Copenhagen, Denmark**, and below, at the console of the **Burwood Palatial***





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Former local organist dies in Scottish crash

By REBECCA WILLIAMS

Clive Gunning, a well known organist and former Lithgow resident, was tragically killed in Scotland this month.

A car accident on a Scottish highway claimed the lives of Mr Gunning and his wife Margaret on Thursday August 4.

For many years Mr Gunning was organist for the Hunter Baillie Presbyterian Church in Annandale, Sydney. While in Sydney Mr Gunning worked as an engineer and a draftsman.

A move to Lithgow with a job at the Small Arms Factory about 10 years ago saw Mr Gunning then play organ for the Lithgow Catholic Church.

After retiring, the Gunnings moved to Ka-

toomba and commissioned Orange organ builder Roger Pogson to build a small organ for his new home.

Mr Pogson said he had known the Gunnings for about 25 years after they met at an

'He was what you would call an organ fanatic, he just lived and breathed them.'

organ society function in Sydney.

"He was what you would call an organ fanatic, he just lived and breathed them," Mr Pogson said.

The Gunnings often visited Mr Pogson and his family in Orange.

Before he took possession of the organ built by Mr Pogson,

Mr Gunning heard the richness of its tones during a choral festival in the Orange Civic Theatre five years ago.

Mrs Gunning was Scottish and three years ago the couple moved to Scotland and leased the organ to St James Presbyterian Church in Orange.

Mr Gunning was also one of the foundation members of the Sydney Organ Society and while in Scotland became the vice president of the Scottish Organ Society.

Music co-ordinator for the Orange Music Association Narelle Nelson said although Mr Gunning was not a long-term resident of the region he had had a long association with the Central West community and his passing was a great loss.

"We were all a bit stunned when we learnt of his death," she said.

Aside from leaving his organ in the hands of an Orange church Mr Gunning donated a collection of sheet music to the Orange Regional Library sheet music collection.



Organ builder Roger Pogson with the organ he built for the late Clive Gunning. Photograph by NEIL POPPITT.

Bill Schumacher passed along this item from a local newspaper about the sad death of Clive Gunning, an organist known to many TOSA members

A Review of **RAY THORNLEY's** Concert

by COLINTRINGHAM

Sunday, 28th August

Orion Centre, Campsie

This is the third review of this concert, but I'm still not quite happy with it. It is very difficult to write a review when each piece seems to be another highlight. I had some concerns that **Ray** may have tried to re-create the electronic sound of the **Yamaha** Organs he frequently plays, but he stuck to traditional Theatre Organ music and styling. The result was absolutely wonderful and it is very hard to continue this review without using yet more words of praise.

The console rose to a rousing march medley played in strict time and with a wonderful selection of stops. The second item was a *My Fair Lady* selection, with some great stop selections and just enough chord changes to re-juvenate this rather over-played show.

The telemovie, *Sarah Dane*, used a semi-classical theme and with the most effective use of tremulants this sounded wonderful.

Next, *Waltz Time* from **Lehar**, with the *Gold and Silver Waltz*. Time for a piece of spectacular playing and *Granada* from

Rhapsody Espana fitted the bill beautiful.

Into the more modern pieces and a very wistful rendition of the **Bette Midler** piece, *From A Distance*, was really lovely.

Novelty time and *The Little Red Monkey*, made famous by **Jimmy Edwards** and his euphonium, took us all back a few years.

The first half concluded with a delightful version of *Moonlight in Vermont* and *The Dance of the Comedians* by **Smetana**.

The second half of the concert commenced with an **Eric Coats** tune from his *London Again Suite* - this time with a piece called *Oxford Street*. I'd like to hear more from this series of pieces (which were written when his first series became so popular).

The *Showboat* selection received a great hand from the audience and clever use of the crescendo pedal added a lot of interest. A couple of jazzy type pieces with *Georgia On My Mind*, making great use of the piano. Then on to *In The Mood*, with the

lighting effects as usual helping to add to the enjoyment of this piece.

Ray played *Charmaine* as a tribute to **Lance Wells** and his family. Then followed a semi-classical set of three dances written by **Henry the 8th** (who must have been a rather jolly monarch judging from his music).

Ray dedicated his next piece, *When You Wish Upon a Star*, to his wife and family.

To conclude we heard a march from the opening celebrations of the **Sydney Harbour Bridge**. This was called *The Triumph of Industry*, and was a piece which deserves to be heard more often - or was it just the superb playing of **Ray Thornley** which made it sound good?!

Apology : This review is rather a poor apology for the magnificent playing, but as I listened to all the music it was difficult to break off to make notes, etc. I guess if you want to know how the concert sounded then you should not miss the next concert by this talented player.

Please come to the AGM !!

Recent meetings have been pleasant, friendly social evenings - a chance to get to know fellow members and also to ask questions or to make suggestions about the running and activities of the society. Bring a plate to share for supper. (Remember, too, we need a Treasurer and an Assistant Treasurer to keep the Society running for the next year.)

Tuesday, 15th November, at 8pm (Orion Centre)