

# TOSA NEWS

November 2011  
Volume 50 No.10

Price: \$2.00

**Saturday 12th November 2:00pm**

**Annual General Meeting**

**St Columb's Anglican Church Hall**

**Corner of Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave**

**West Ryde**

**Sunday 4th December 2:00pm**

**"The Christmas Show"**

**Tony Fenelon & John Atwell**

**Orion Theatre, Campsie**

# Directory

## **Patrons**

John Gorrie and John Atwell

## **President**

Geoff Brimley 6351 3122 *president@tosa.net.au*

## **Vice Presidents**

John Shaw 9543 3112  
Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)

## **Secretary**

Deirdre McMullan 4878 5179 (phone/fax) *secretary@tosa.net.au*  
230, Spring Hill Rd, Mittagong, NSW, 2575

## **Treasurer**

John Wall *treasurer@tosa.net.au* 9528 9158

## **Membership Inquiries**

6351 3122

## **Committee**

Barry Tooker 9744 1535  
John Weismantel  
Robert Gliddon *christieorg@bigpond.com*  
Ernie Vale 0415 626 064  
Christopher Waterhouse  
Craig Keller 0418 484 798

## **Research and Archives**

Vacant

## **TOSA NEWS Editor**

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## **Marrickville Players Convenor**

Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)

## **Orion Players Convenor**

Craig Keller 0418 484 798 phone or SMS

## **Ticket Secretary (Show Bookings)**

Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

## **Artist Liaison Officers**

Geoff Brimley 6351 3122

John Shaw 9543 3112

**Photography** Barry Tooker 9744 1535

**Publicity Officer** John Shaw 9543 3112

**Printing** by Rob Gliddon

# From the President



Don't forget – we need you at West Ryde Anglican Church (St. Columb's) Saturday 12th.

Happy organizing,

Geoff Brimley

## Editorial



As you are aware the AGM is to be held on Saturday 12th November. This will be a great opportunity to visit the new home for the Christie and, whilst the AGM will be in the church hall, it will be possible to later inspect the modern church.

A ballot for election of Committee persons is necessary. If you have not availed of the opportunity to cast a postal vote you will be able to vote in person up to the start of proceedings. This is your Society and I would encourage you to exercise your right to attend the AGM and have your say in the composition of the Committee. Opportunity will be given for members to address the floor; if you propose speaking I would ask that you be brief and concise. Also remember the meeting cannot vote on matters raised, rather they are referred to the next Committee meeting.

As advised previously, the Committee has been considering ways of streamlining the ticket sales. Craig Keller has researched various methods of ticket sales and a short audio visual presentation of what is proposed for next year will be on the AGM agenda.

I want to express my gratitude to all members of the Executive and Committee for their untiring efforts during this year. I count it a privilege to have worked with such a group.

In this issue there is an interesting article by Ian Hanson who recently visited the UK and went to the St. Albans Organ Museum.

TOSA have been invited to participate in the Marrickville Symphony Orchestra Free concert celebration of the Council's 150 years and the Wurlitzer will be played by our member John Batts.

Have you voted for the six members you would like on committee for the next twelve months?

A letter from long time member, Jack Lawson is included in this issue asking for members to contribute towards the cost of refurbishing and installing the Christie Organ.

A form is enclosed to enable members to contribute to the Christie Organ Fund and TOSA would appreciate any financial assistance that members wish to make.

Deadline for TOSA News is the 12th of the previous month.

Enjoy the music,

Ernie Vale

PO Box A2322

SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

*editor@tosa.net.au*

## From the Mailbox...



Thanks for your responses and please continue to email or write in, telling us what you think.

Where space permits we will do our best to publish your comments, but as space is limited, the editor reserves the right to edit any submitted comments and, as always, the views expressed by any individual may not necessarily coincide with the views of TOSA NSW Div.

Please submit all comments via email to:

The Editor [editor@tosa.net.au](mailto:editor@tosa.net.au)  
*or in writing to:*  
*The Editor - TOSA News (NSW Div)*  
PO Box A2322  
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

## New Members

TOSA welcome new members & wish them a long and happy stay

Dizzy Dizon  
Verniece Lobsey

## Season Ticket Proposal

Thank you to all those members who have indicated they are interested in purchasing a season ticket for next years TOSA shows.

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## Emailing of TOSA News

If you would like to receive your TOSA News each month by email it will be in living color as a pdf file which makes it so easy to file.

Please advise the Editor on [editor@tosa.net.au](mailto:editor@tosa.net.au) that you wish to receive TOSA News by email.

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## Members Feedback Please

The TOSA Executive are interested to hear how those of you who attended Rob Richards' show at Marrickville enjoyed his program.

The Executive & Committee were very pleased with the number of members and patrons who braved the weather to come and hear Rob play what many of our overseas artists consider to be one of the liveliest and most enjoyable two manual Wurlitzers anywhere in the world to play.

**To Watch Out For**

**Sunday 4 December 2:00pm**

**Tony Fenelon &**

**John Atwell**

**Play the**

**CHRISTMAS SHOW**

**Orion Theatre**

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**Countdown to TOSA (NSW)**

**AGM**

The date for the AGM is Saturday  
12th November 2011  
at St Columbs Anglican Church  
Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave  
West Ryde at 2:00pm

Nominations for Office-Bearers  
and Committee closed on Sunday  
25 September 2011

St Columb's Anglican Church will  
be the location of TOSA's Christie  
Theatre Organ and by attending the  
AGM you have the opportunity to  
see where the organ will be in-  
stalled.

There is limited off street parking  
in the church grounds and plenty of  
on street parking.

The church is a short walk from  
West Ryde Train Station heading  
west through the shopping centre  
across the car park then up Dickson  
Avenue.

**Advertising  
Rates in  
TOSA News**

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Small bubble = \$11.00

Quarter Page = \$24.75

Half Page = \$49.50

Full Page = \$99.00

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

**Members' Playing Dates  
2011**

**The Orion Theatre Campsie  
2nd Thursday 1:30pm -  
4:30pm**

November 10th

Phone or SMS Craig Keller on  
0418 484 798

Players and listeners welcome.  
Please bring a plate of goodies for  
afternoon tea.

Tea/Coffee provided. Parking at  
rear off Shakespeare St.

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**Marrickville Town Hall  
4th Monday evening at 7:30pm**

November Monday 28th

To be sure there is no last  
minute cancellation at  
Marrickville please ring Neil on  
9798 6742 after 7:00pm  
the Friday before.

# From the Returning Officer for TOSA NSW AGM

213 Farnham Rd  
Quakers Hill 2763  
26th Sept 2011

Editor T.O.S.A News

Dear Ernie,

Following is a complete list of nominations that I have received prior to the closing date which was Sunday 25 th September 2011 at Rob Richards concert at Marrickville Town Hall.

President	Geoffrey Brimley
Vice Pres	John Shaw
Vice Pres	Neil Palmer
Secretary	Deirdre McMullan
Treasurer	John Wall

All of the above positions were unopposed.

Nominations for six committee members are,

Craig Keller  
Ernest Vale  
Barry Tooker  
John Weismantel  
Robert Gliddon  
Theo Langenberg  
Peter Held

As seven nominations were submitted this will mean that a Ballot will have to be held to eliminate one person.

**Have you voted for six  
Committee Members?**

## **Ballot to select six committee members for T.O.S.A NSW**

A ballot paper was enclosed in the October TOSA News for members to place a cross in **SIX SQUARES ONLY** against the name of the persons they wish to be on committee for the ensuing 12 months.

**All Ballot papers must be posted to:**

**The Returning Officer  
213 Farnham Rd,  
Quakers Hill 2763**

to reach him by the last post on Friday 11 November 2011  
or  
handed to him prior to the commencement of the AGM on Saturday 12 November 2011.

John J Lawson Returning Officer

THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF  
AUSTRALIA (NSW Div) Incorporated  
**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING 2010**

The Selwyn Theatre  
13 Rosemont Ave  
Mortdale NSW

Sunday 7th November 2010

1. **PRESENT:** Please refer to Meeting Attendance Book

2. **PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS:** President Geoff Brimley opened the meeting at 2:00 pm and welcomed attendees.

3. **APOLOGIES:** John Gorrie, Dorothy Kerr - Lansom, Walter Pearce, Craig Keller, Christopher Waterhouse, Kath Harding, John Batts, Tom Barber, Ross Wells, Ray Russell.

4. **CONFIRMATION of 2009 MINUTES:** (Printed in November 2010 TOSA News).

Moved and seconded that the 2009 Minutes be accepted.

Jack Rose / Jack Lawson Carried

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Presented and subsequently published in the December 2010 issue of TOSA News. The original is filed with the Minutes. Moved and seconded that the President's Report be accepted. Peter Held / Barry Tooker Carried

6. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Presented and subsequently published in the December 2010 issue of TOSA News. The original is filed with the Minutes. Jack Lawson / Ian Georgeson Carried

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Presented and members advised in the December 2010 issue of TOSA News that full copies were available on request.

Ian Georgeson / Ernie Vale Carried  
8. **MARRICKVILLE REPORT:** As published in the November 2010 issue of TOSA News.

Moved and seconded that the Marrickville Report be accepted.

John Weismantel / Peter Held Carried

9. **ORION REPORT:** As published in the November 2010 issue of TOSA News. Neil Palmer / Jack Lawson Carried

10. **NOMINATIONS OF PATRONS 2011:**

1st nomination - Neil Palmer nominated John Gorrie to be reappointed for the ensuing 12 months.

2nd nomination - Neil Palmer nominated John Atwell to be co-patron for the ensuing 12 months.

Moved and seconded by Jack Lawson Carried

11. **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR FOR 2011:**

Neil Palmer proposed that Charles Pitt be reappointed as TOSA Auditor for 2011.

Moved and seconded by Robert Gliddon Carried

12. **DECLARATION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2011:**

Jack Lawson officially declared the results of the nominations, all positions filled and unopposed.

(1) President Geoff Brimley

(2) Vice President John Shaw

(3) Vice President Neil Palmer

(4) Secretary Deirdre McMullan

(5) Treasurer John Wall

(6) Committee Barry Tooker

Robert Gliddon

John Weismantel

Ernie Vale

Craig Keller

Christopher Waterhouse

All of the above are elected for the

year 2011

### 13. **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Geoff Brimley: Organ tuners have changed at Marrickville, with costs up to \$700. In addition we now have to pay for our audit. The cost, which will be reflected in the 2010 - 2011 accounts, was \$1000.

We need to build up membership, as all expenses have increased.

New Committee members, Craig Keller and Christopher Waterhouse have had previous experience and are helping to produce a top class show.

This year TOSA has been invited by Marrickville Council to participate in two events and by Marrickville Symphony Orchestra to participate in their inaugural concert following their re-formation.

(1) Poverty Week concert for seniors and disadvantaged people; Cliff Bingham played and demonstrated the organ.

(2) Italian Event in May, John Batts presented a programme on the organ playing Italian music.

(3) Marrickville Symphony Orchestra, having been reformed after 65 years, invited TOSA to present the organ. Graeme Costin was able to play that evening, well received, with representatives from Council attending. Thanks to Cliff, John and Graeme for taking part and presenting the organ in a way that involved other people, it also showed an interest in what we are both doing.

Peter Held: Question: asked name of the tuners; Mark Fisher at Marrickville,

Darryl Pitchford at Orion.

Jack Lawson: Question: any possibility of showing school children the

organ chambers or a silent movie, with the view of reaching their parents and attending concerts.

The Orion is not practicable for tours; Marrickville is on hold due to interior work being carried out in the near future.

John Andrews: Suggestion re: Marrickville Symphony Orchestra; use the organ together with the orchestra as a "meet the kids" instruction for local schools; children to attend in school hours, age 12 and upwards.

Ian Georgeson: Question: Any possible interaction with Canterbury Council regarding the presenting and promoting the organ to school-children.

Doubt at this stage with their involvement.

John Shaw: Apology for lateness at AGM.

Robert Gliddon: Mentioned Marrickville Symphony Orchestra, a quality performance.

Peter Held: 1) It is pleasing to hear about our successes at Marrickville Town Hall and the Orion.

2) Suggested having another Fund Raiser for the Christie project.

3) Mentioned the sale of his CD's in TOSA News.

4) Presentation of concerts, especially the video, has been excellent.

5) Mentioned that the AGM is important for summarising future work.

6) Geoff thanked Peter for his ideas over the past years.

Ernie Vale: 1) Commented that we should spread the word about our existence.

2) President of OMSS Godlelieve Ghavalas has through an email, mentioned that Lorraine Goldman of



the Sydney Eisteddfod should and will be invited to our next concert. Jack Rose: Congratulated those in charge re: change of seating at Marrickville.

Jack Lawson: Visited John Fuhrmann and Ray Clements Wurlitzer Theatre Organ in Karrinyup Perth recently, the arrangement of seating in a semi circle worked well.

Ritchie Willis: TOSA member Cliff Callinan visited Melbourne Dendy recently, claims only 130 people attended.

John Shaw: 1) 50th Anniversary year has been a very busy, successful year and acknowledged all volunteers for helping.

2) The high standard of the Technical team was particularly mentioned, especially Neil Palmer for outstanding service.

3) Christie organ finding a home after 20 years, with a technical team to be involved in recruitment, re installation and maintenance.

Acknowledgment to John Andrews, Robert Gliddon, John Weismantel

and family, and Ernie Vale for help and support.

4) Orion hydraulic hoist disaster, back in the New Year 2011.

Robert Gliddon: Wished to acknowledge Geoff and Ruth Brimley also David and Deirdre McMullan for their support and dedication to TOSA.

14. CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN

On behalf of the Committee, Ritchie Willis was presented with a framed Certificate in appreciation of his generosity with his time and efforts in supporting TOSA over the years.

15. Close of Meeting: 3:12 pm

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You're still young if the morning after the night before still makes the night before worth the morning after.

*Bob Goddard*

## Show & Membership Prices

The following TOSA show ticket prices now apply:

	<b>All Artists</b>
Non-members	\$27.50
Non-member Pensioner/Senior	\$25.00
TOSA Members	\$20.00
Students 15-21yrs	\$10.00
Group Booking for 10 or more Adults	\$20 per person
Group Booking for 10 or more Students	\$8 per person
Child under 15yrs	FREE!

Annual Membership Fees are now: \$30.00 for Full membership, and \$20.00 for Concession, Country, Interstate & Overseas.

Membership enquiries Geoff Brimley (02) 6351 3122 [membership@tosa.net.au](mailto:membership@tosa.net.au)

Associate Membership for a spouse/partner is only an additional 50%

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING  
TOSA NEW SOUTH WALES  
DIVISION INC.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

St Columb's Anglican Church Hall  
Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave  
West Ryde

**Sunday 12th November 2011  
2:00pm**

**AGENDA**

1. PRESENT -
2. PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS -
3. APOLOGIES -
4. CONFIRMATION OF 2010 AGM MINUTES (printed in November 2011 TOSA News)
5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT -
6. SECRETARY'S REPORT -
7. TREASURER'S REPORT -
8. MARRICKVILLE ORGAN REPORT -
9. ORION ORGAN REPORT -
10. NOMINATIONS OF PATRONS FOR 2012 -
11. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2012-
12. DECLARATION OF OFFICE BEARERS and COMMITTEE FOR 2012 by the RETURNING OFFICER -
13. Demonstration of proposed on-line Booking System
14. GENERAL BUSINESS -
15. CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN and CLOSE OF MEETING -

Please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea.

Deirdre McMullan (Secretary)

**Marrickville Organ Report  
for AGM 2011**

The Marrickville organ has generally been in good order and condition throughout 2011.

I am pleased to report that one half of the Tibia manual chest secondary air motors were re-leathered last January. Scheduled use of the organ for the remainder of 2011 dictated that we could not commence work on the second half of the chest and we are hoping to start this later on in the month.

The Chrysoglott (tonal percussion) has been removed from the chamber and taken off-site where it has been setup in a home workshop for continuation of the modification which will enable it to produce a Vibraphone effect as well as still be- ing available as a Chrysoglott.

Apart from this there has been the usual maintenance visits throughout the year

I would like to pass on my thanks to John Weismantel, Robert Glid- don, Ernie Vale and Craig Keller for their assistance and special thanks to Graham Glendenning for volun- teering to repair the console's pad- ded dust cover.

Regards,

Neil Palmer

# Orion Organ Report for AGM 2011

Well an outstanding day of work at Campsie was accomplished in October. Thanks to everyone who was there - Margaret counted 12 people! Wow!

So here is the list of things we wanted to achieve with the outcomes:

Put the new wheel frame under the piano - DONE! And it is SO easy to move. Thanks Ken for a well planned and built frame;

Investigate the type of wheels needed to replace those under the organ platform - started - to be continued on Thursday at players day;

Replace light tubes in the chambers (particularly solo) - DONE;

Investigate putting new power and data cable into the lift platform - DONE;

Replace stopper plug tape in toy counter regulator - to be done;

Partially deconstruct Christie console ready for removal for refurbishment - partial? COMPLETE and removed to the workshop at Gladesville;

Clean/tidy TOSA storage spaces (archive room, garage, chambers etc) - DONE;

Check all tabs cancelling on console (reed switch settings) - DONE and some faults found with resolutions planned;

Rewire pedal board light transformer so that the t/f is inside the console - to be done;

Investigate/repair noisy pedal board (bushes and buffers) - investigated - more work required;

Clean console and surrounds - DONE;

Consolidate power transformers for computer board in cabinet - in planning;

Put better bolts and nuts onto lock assembly for computer cabinet - DONE;

Clean the area around our computer cabinet - DONE.

Regards,  
Craig Keller

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Wine is to be enjoyed  
"The wines that one remembers best are not necessarily the finest that one has tasted, and the highest quality may fail to delight so much as some far more humble beverage drunk in more favourable surroundings." *H. Warner Allen*  
from "A Contemplation of Wine"

## **Next Show**

**Sunday 4th December 2011 at 2:00pm**

### ***Featuring***

**Australia's Favourite Duo & International  
Keyboard Artists**

**Tony Fenelon & John Atwell**



**at the Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra & Grand Piano  
Playing**

## **"The Christmas Show"**

**Orion Theatre  
155 Beamish St Campsie**  
*(Disabled access available at the entrance in Beamish St)*

**Bookings: 0410 626 131**

**Visa & Mastercard accepted**

**for more information see [www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au)**

**Tony** has completed over twenty major concert tours overseas, performing on unit orchestra and piano. Since 1995, **Tony's** association with the Roland group of companies has seen him performing concerts throughout Australia, the United States, Japan, the United Kingdom, Canada, Hong Kong and Taiwan on Roland's extensive range of contemporary keyboard instruments. He has been invited 3 times to represent Australia in Roland's Organ Power Concert at the Karin and Richard Carpenter Auditorium at Anaheim, USA.

**Tony** strives to provide a tasteful balance between popular tunes and light classics and includes music from the films, stage shows, jazz, and great standards. As the piano has always been his first love, his extensive repertoire of piano classics now forms an increasingly large proportion of his concerts, a feature widely appreciated by his audiences and captured in his recently recorded CD "Collections".

Since 1986, **Tony** and his wife Noella have been able to enjoy the more exotic fruits of music as Tony entertains guests on board luxury cruise ships at some of the world's most exciting locations.

**John** receives repeat invitations to play concerts at theatre organ venues around Australia both as a solo performer, as well as in piano/organ duo combination with his long-time colleague and friend, Tony Fenelon.

**John** has also taken his talents overseas on several occasions, playing performances in the USA, Canada, the United Kingdom and New Zealand. **John's** musical activities have not been limited to theatre organs. He is an experienced classical organist and pianist, having played many classical organ recitals, participated in concerts for the 'All Stops Out' series on the Melbourne Town Hall organ, 'Music for the People' at the Myer Music Bowl and Melbourne Town Hall, and 'Carols by Candlelight'. **John** has also been accompanist to several Melbourne choirs. In 2004 **John** took part in the 25th Anniversary Concert on the organ at the Sydney Opera House, performing in conjunction with percussionist Sergei Golovko.

### **Tickets to the show:**

**Members \$20; Non-Members \$27.50;**

**Student (15 – 21 Years) \$10;**

**Non Member Concession/Senior \$25**

**Students under 15 yrs FREE**

**Group booking -10 or more adults \$20 ea person**  
**Group booking - 10 or more students (15-21yrs) \$8 ea person**

## **An Evening at St. Albans Organ Museum.**

*By TOSA Member Ian Hanson.*

During August, the writer had the pleasure of being invited to the St. Albans Organ Museum in Hertfordshire, just outside London. The district dates from Roman times with several relics still insitu, including the remains of an amphitheatre dating from 200 AD. It is also home to a magnificent cathedral dating from the middle ages.

A local businessman, the late Mr. Charles Hart (who ran a successful building enterprise) dabbled in 16mm film hire and children's amusements with permanent sites in a number of towns. Mr. Hart had a long interest in mechanical organs when travelling fairs visited his home town.

In the 1960's, he discovered that many fairground organs were being discarded, but the conservation of such iconic instruments was rather problematic as such organs were considered to be too loud, if it was to be housed internally. Mr. Hart came across a quieter type of organ, the Belgian dance organ and so began a life long passion for conservation of such instruments. Mr Hart visited Belgium several times visiting a specialist organ builder and restorer, Oscar Grymonprez. Over time he acquired some 40 instruments in various states of disrepair and these were shipped from Belgium to St. Albans . The largest of these was the 121 key Decap "Nethe", renamed "England's Pride".

Several other musical instruments were acquired including the 95 key Bursens Café organ, Musical boxes, reproducing pianos, a Mills Violano, organettes to name just some of the amazing musical instruments housed at the museum.

Mr. Hart also had a great love of theatre organs and in 1969, he became the new owner of a Wurliitzer organ, which was about to be disposed of from the Granada Theatre at Edmonton, North London. A second theatre organ, a very rare Spurden-Rutt instrument was purchased in the early 1980's. This organ was originally housed at the Regal Cinema in Highams Park, also a suburb of London.

Mr. Hart established a Charitable Trust to administer the museum in 1978 and make it accessible to the public. A purpose built auditorium was constructed to house the collection including provision for the two theatre organs and a select number of mechanical organs.

Adding atmosphere to the décor was the provision of several cinema light fixtures from the demolished Granada at Edmonton. Mr. Hart passed away in 1983 at the age of 87, but his generous legacy continues to the present day.

Many, many years of painstaking work came to fruition on Sunday, 24th May 1987 when the 3 manual 8 rank Spurden – Rutt organ was opened by American Organist , Dennis James.

The mighty Wurlitzer was also recommissioned on Saturday, 25th July 1992. After a very long and meticulous restoration. The opening performance was given by Len Rawle and Bryan Rodwell. The Wurlitzer is a 3 manual 10 rank instrument with a distinctive "French" style console.

The writer was indeed fortunate to be present at the Organ Museum to hear Len Rawle play both of these instruments during August. The concert firstly commenced with Len at the Wurlitzer. This was followed by a short recital on an equally historic vintage Hammond organ. If that was not a feast in itself, we also heard Len play a few tunes on the Spurden-Rutt organ with its impressive illuminated glass surround feature with ever changing colours during the recital. The Rutt organ has a pleasant and distinctive sound. It was built by a company in England which manufactured a very few of this type of theatre organ.

At the interval, some of the other preserved café organs were utilised to provide interval music. This included a few tunes on the 121 key Decap organ "England's Pride". This magnificent instrument was the subject of a major overhaul a few years ago in Antwerp, Belgium. This was by far the biggest restoration undertaken by the Museum. The organ being returned to St. Albans in 2008.

The Organ Museum in St. Albans is a rare find anywhere in the world. The museum relies solely on the ever depleting numbers of volun-

teers. It must be said that this is an awesome task, given the special nature of some of the work required.

The museum (or more correctly the organ theatre) is open on Sundays from 2.00pm to 4.30pm. Regular recitals by organists on the theatre organs are held regularly on Saturday evenings at least once a month.

The writer can well recommend a visit to this most unique attraction. The day to day running of the St. Albans Organ Museum relies solely on that ever depleting resource, volunteer support. And what a magnificent effort all of those volunteers undertake to both house and maintain the collection, at the same time making it accessible to the general public.



**Wurlitzer Console formerly used in a London Cinema**

*See over page for more pictures of the Organ Museum and of the instruments*

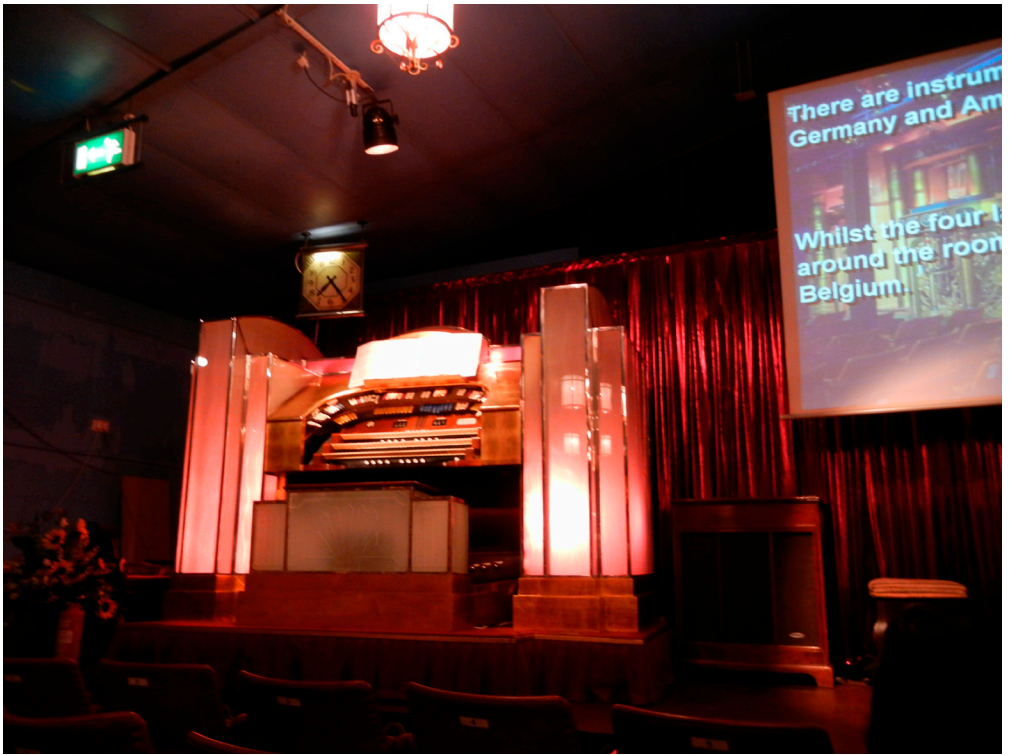


**The Spurden-Rutt is on the left and the Wurlitzer is on the right**



**121 key Decap "Nethe", renamed "England's Pride".**





**The Spurden-Rutt organ was originally housed at the Regal Cinema in Highams Park, a suburb of London**



**Another Belgian Dance Organ**

## **HOME PARTY at GYMEA BAY 9th October 2011**

A very successful afternoon took place at Michael & Gale Links' residence at Gymea Bay with 20 members attending.

Apart from the Lowrey organ taking pride of place, two pianos were nearby. Our host, Michael commenced the afternoon programme playing the Lowrey Promenade organ followed by Jim Burkett, Deirdre McMullan Jean Alleway and Peter Robinson.

The fine Spring weather enabled us to enjoy a lovely afternoon tea supplied by the host and members, with background music played from both pianos. It was a happy afternoon and we thank Michael & Gale for their hospitality and the use of their home for another TOSA home party.

Deirdre McMullan



**Michael Links opens the music  
on the Lowrey Promenade**



**Jean Alleway at the Lowrey**



P

**Jim Birkett at the Lowrey**



**Peter Robinson at the Lowrey**



**Deirdre McMullan at the Lowrey Promenade**



# **Marrickville Council Celebrating 150 Years**

Marrickville Library  
Marrickville & Petersham Rds  
Marrickville Ph: 9335 2173  
Dulwich Hill Library  
12-14 Seaview St  
Dulwich Hill Ph: 9335 2182

## **A Dance to the Music of Time**

Touching the Past with the Marrickville Symphony

Join Marrickville Council to celebrate Marrickville Council's 150th Anniversary with a free concert performed by Marrickville Symphony Orchestra.

Recalling the heyday of the 1930s, an assortment of musical highlights, including Beethoven's Eroica Symphony, and Winter from Vivaldi's Four seasons, will make this an astonishing night of music and entertainment.

When: Friday 4 November, 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start

Where: Marrickville Town Hall, Marrickville Road Marrickville

RSVP: Bookings are essential. Call 9333 2222.

Marrickville Symphony Orchestra have kindly invited TOSA to participate in this performance with the Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra.

The MVSO plays to a high standard as enjoyed by TOSA's Editor on a previous occasion. The concert is Free but bookings are essential. As the MVSO performances are usually well attended you are advised to make a booking.

## **TOSA NSW**

\* 2011 - OUR 51ST YEAR \*

Tony Fenelon & John Atwell at Orion Theatre, Campsie  
Sunday 4 December at 2:00pm  
details in this issue or go to [www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au)

## **TOSA South Australia**

Tuesdays and weekends TOSA (SA) members play the  
4/29 Wurlitzer in their Capri Theatre, Goodwood Road,  
Goodwood (08) 8272 1177

## **TOSA Western Australia**

John Leckie Music Centre 3/12 Compton  
Contact: Pat Gibbs (08) 9450 2151 [patgibbs@tadaust.org.au](mailto:patgibbs@tadaust.org.au).

## **TOSA Gold Coast**

Club Musical Afternoon on the 3rd Sunday of each  
month (except December)  
Contact: Rosa Free 5575 3295

## **TOSA Queensland**

Executive Secretary: Brett Kavanaugh 0412 879 678

## **Stirling Productions**

Karrinyup Community Centre, Perth, Western Australia  
All concerts are on Sundays at 2pm. Prior bookings are  
essential with John Fuhrmann on (08) 9447 9837

## **TOSA Victoria - mto**

Contact Margaret Sutcliffe on (03) 9891 7227

## **Warragul Theatre Organ Society**

Events Contact: Bee Mellor (03) 5122 2131

**TOSA NSW Divn  
Annual General Meeting**

Saturday 12th November  
2011

at St Columb's Anglican  
Church

Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue  
Ave

West Ryde at 2:00pm

Come along and see where  
the Christie Organ will be  
installed. Please bring a plate  
of goodies to assist with af-  
ternoon tea.

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Enjoy an afternoon of  
entertaining music with

***David Parsons***

organist

at the recently restored  
pipe organ

***Hornsby Uniting Church***  
*(24 William Street)*

***Saturday 5th November***  
***3pm***

Donation \$15

**A LETTER OF APPEAL TO  
TOSA MEMBERS**

Regarding the Christie Organ

Long time members will remem-  
ber when we finally got a home  
for the Capitol organ, funds  
were needed to refurbish same.

At a members meeting, which  
were held quarterly at that time,  
I was on committee and sug-  
gested that members be asked  
to contribute what they could  
afford to enable the refurbish-  
ment work to be carried out as  
soon as possible.

My late wife and I were the first  
to contribute to the fund and it  
worked. Others followed suit.

Now that we have a home for  
our Christie organ I am asking  
you the current members to do  
the same thing as lots of money  
is required to refurbish this  
organ.

With this letter I am enclos-  
ing \$100.00 to start the fund  
off hoping some of you are in a  
position to help.

Thanking you in anticipation,  
Organically Yours

John J Lawson

## **Members Diary**

**November**

**Monday 7th Committee 7:30pm Burwood RSL**

**Saturday 12th November 2011 2:00pm**

### **TOSA NSW Divn Annual General Meeting**

at St Columb's Anglican Church Hall

Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave

West Ryde

You can take the train to West Ryde Station, alight on the western side of the Station, walk through the shopping centre, across Market St., then up Dickson Ave one block to the church.

**December**

**\*\* Sunday 4th 2:00pm Orion Theatre, Campsie\*\***

## **THE CHRISTMAS SHOW**

**with**

**Tony Fenelon & John Atwell**

**Monday 5th Committee 7:30pm Burwood RSL**

Radio 2MBS-FM 102.5 "Colours of the King" (program of the Organ Music Society of Sydney) 2nd Saturday of each month, 5pm till 6 pm

#### **Web Sites of Interest:**

[www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au)

[www.theatreorgansaust.info](http://www.theatreorgansaust.info) (history of cinema organ installations in Australasia)

[www.sydneyorgan.com](http://www.sydneyorgan.com) (our sister society, the Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)

[www.ATOS.org](http://www.ATOS.org)

# TOSA NEWS

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