

T.O.S.A. NEWS

INCORPORATING *The Diaphone*

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA, N.S.W. DIVISION

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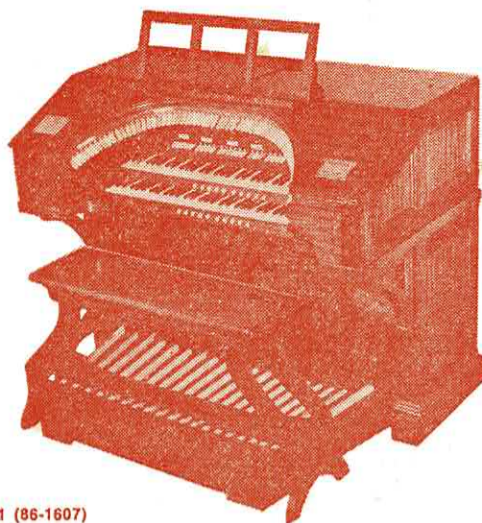
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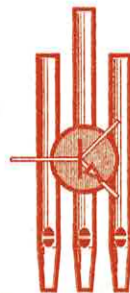
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PRICE
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JUNE 1972

FUTURE EVENTS

JUNE 9th. FRIDAY. CHATSWOOD TOWN HALL.

Members playing night

YAMAHA ORGAN FESTIVAL

Popular Classics and Sacred Music at St. Alban's Church of England Hall
- Pembroke Street, Epping.

Friday, 16th June - 7.45 p. m. presented by

DAVID PARSONS - organist

GRANT DICKSON - soloist (By courtesy of the
Australian Opera)

RON WINLEY - compere

Proceeds to British and Foreign Bible Society.

Tickets - Adults \$1.00 Children 50¢

Sponsored by Ern Logan - 85.1170

'Organ Centre' 580 Blaxland Road, EASTWOOD.

HAMMOND ORGAN SOC. No. 1 Chapter.

Friday, 23rd June - Duo organists John Hickman & Bob Ramsley
at the Drummoyne Civic Centre.

Ring 95-5755 for further details.

JUNE 24th. SATURDAY. HOUSE PARTY at the home of -

JOHN L. ROBERTS
5 WYLEENA PLACE,
PUNCHBOWL.

at

8 p. m.

Room for two guests

Phone - Home: 70.3650

Business: 74.9331

- Cliff BINGHAM will be guest organist -
(The Organ is a Lawrence Welk Model)

JULY 7th FRIDAY. THE HAMMOND ORGAN SOCIETY Present

Outstanding Melbourne Organist
EDITH DIZON

at Drummoyne Civic Centre
on a Hammond X77

Tickets \$2 from Vera Dusing -
25 Walter Street, Mortdale. 2223

JULY 8th. SATURDAY. - ORGAN PARTY
Colin Tringham.

16th. SUNDAY - SYDNEY TOWN HALL
Reginald Porter-Brown

19th. WEDNESDAY - CHATSWOOD TOWN HALL
Reginald Porter-Brown

AUGUST 2nd. WEDNESDAY - CHATSWOOD TOWN HALL
Don Baker on (Conn Electronic 50/50
(Wurlitzer Pipe Organ

15th. TUESDAY - ST. COLUMBS CHURCH, WEST RYDE.
Reginald Porter-Brown

19th. SATURDAY - ST. ANNES CHURCH HALL
Beresford Road, STRATHFIELD.
Ian Cameron's - Record Night.

ORGAN PARTIES

On APRIL 29th. Peter Irwin and his wife were hosts to about 40 people who gathered to hear recordings of Reginald Porter-Brown. Many were hearing Reg. for the first time and were only impressed by his playing. David Parsons also played on Peter's Compton Electrone - a new experience for some of those present, who included the manager of Clark Bricks, and visitors from the Hammond Organ Society and the Sydney Organ Society.

\$37 was collected for the Capitol organ fund.

Another \$35 was raised at Neville Wright's evening on May 19th. In addition to well-known BILL SCHUMACHER, who played an attractive, well prepared, programme on Neville's CONN, seven guests each played for ten minutes. All were greatly impressed by Eric Smith's pupil, 16 year old Peter Gillies and also Barbara Coxhead (19). Both will no doubt become known to all members before long!

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" WHEN IS AN ORGAN NOT AN ORGAN? "

Two full length recitals have now been played at Chatswood Town Hall. The first, appropriately presented by Willoughby Council, was a free concert by ex-Arcadia organist Penn Hughes.

For reasons beyond his control Penn had little chance to rehearse, but few of the capacity audience would have been aware of this. His varied programme was designed to please ex-Arcadia patrons. The spontaneous and enthusiastic applause after each number proved his success. The ABC recorded the entire programme and the ABC engineers were pleased with the result. No doubt Malcolm Patterson will be using part of this tape over the air soon.

Then, on May 6th, Wilbur Kentwell presented the first TOSA concert. His programme, introduced by compere Frank Ellis, was entitled "From Strauss to Broadway" - famous melodies which his fans associate with his long career. Wilbur gave a brilliant display of manual dexterity which left the organ gasping for breath. The gremlins were working overtime, too!

Some of the audience would have liked Wilbur to play all night, but to others three hours was sufficient.

Musically the numbers played by our member Heather Moen during a Sunday afternoon concert by the Willoughby Municipal band were just as interesting as the two evening recitals. At last she did play one item without tremors - "Minuet Gothique" by Boellmann, which contrasted well with a bracket of Beatles numbers and other popular songs. The fact is that the 2/10 WurliTzer is now in a dual-purpose hall and can actually be played as an organ. Nostalgic memories of it's "Arcadia" era do not have to be revived at every performance.

* ANS: when it's a cinema organ (pronounced as "SINNER MORE RORGAN)

COMPTON ELECTRONE FOR SALE

Model 357 C. S. Separate speaker box.
A real organist's console - 2 x 61 note manuals,
32 note radiating and concave pedalboard. 28
speaking stops, plus couplers.

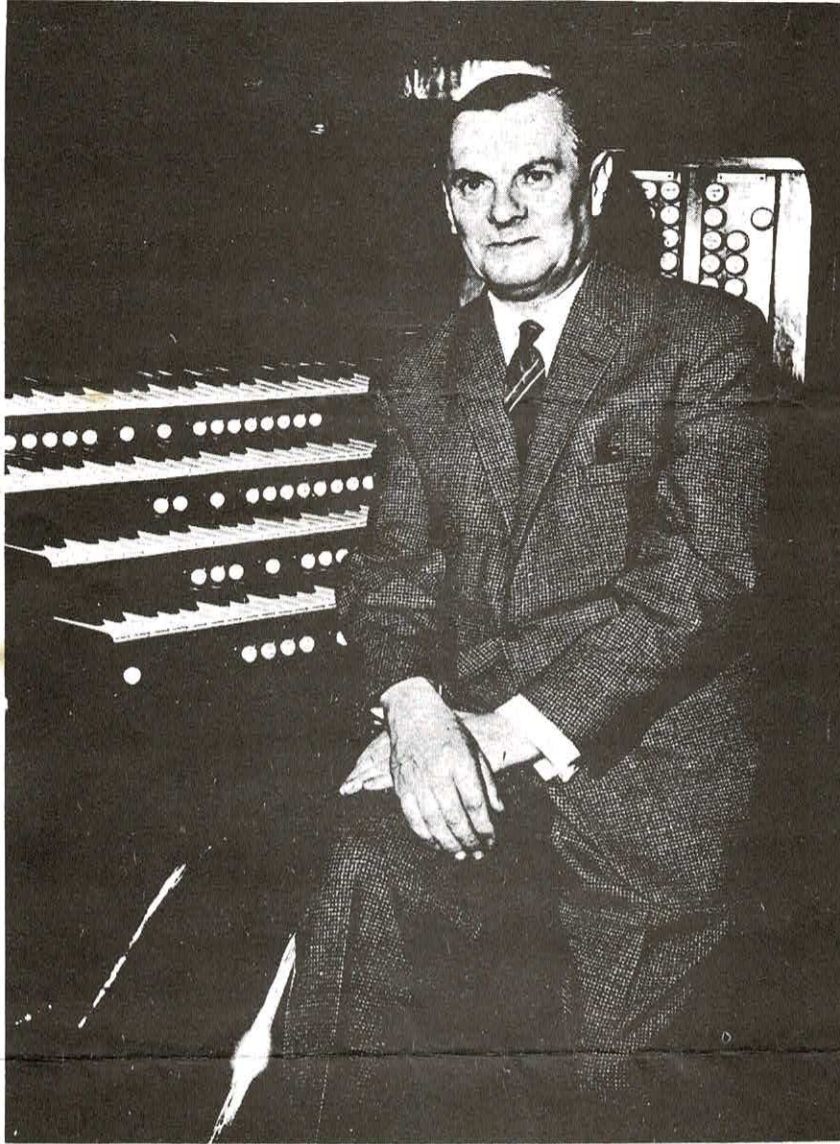
Phone - Ron Mapstone - 502.1524

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor is pleased to acknowledge letters of support and criticism. However they seem equally divided so until December he will play it by ear. A long letter by Peter Held was particularly welcome. One paragraph is worth quoting:-

"The success of TOSA News does not depend on the members alone. The members need the leadership of a committee that operates as a dedicated unit, with the members of such putting personal prejudices etc. aside from the performances of their duties. I think that the future of this division is in jeopardy, and that members are becoming apathetic.

To keep the majority of members content a new approach will have to be conceived with a diversification of ideas, regardless of those ridiculously narrow terms of reference in the Society's constitution. "



"Oh! Mr. PORTER" is the signature tune of Reginald Porter-Brown. The brilliant, versatile, widely experienced musician who will be touring Australia soon. He is shown here at one of the two consoles of the Compton organ in Southampton Guild Hall. This console controls the orthodox stoplist of the instrument. The theatre-style console will be shown next month.

Readers are reminded that the concession tickets to Reg's Sydney Town Hall Concert at \$2 can only be booked through our Secretary prior to JUNE 15th (as announced last month).

REPORT ON CAPITOL THEATRE ORGAN "NEW HOME" QUEST

The Committee has received inquiries, mainly requests for information, regarding the Capitol Theatre Organ.

1. Avalon Theatre, AVALON. (Verbal Offer)
No action initiated - The area is rather remote from Sydney.
To be retained for future consideration.
2. Strathfield Town Hall. (Verbal inquiry)
A letter is to be written to this Council advising that an inspection indicated that the seating capacity (approx. 400) was considered rather small and that difficulties existed in the placement of Pipe Chambers. The Council has been invited to advise the Society of any developments.
3. Hurstville Civic Centre (Verbal inquiry)
A letter is to be written to this Council advising that information re structural requirements and a general basis have been handed to the Council's Engineer.
The Council is invited to advise the Society whether the proposal is of interest to the Council.
4. Weroona Theatre (near Wollongong) (letter of inquiry)
A letter is to be written acknowledging the inquiry.
The area is rather remote from Sydney. No action initiated.
5. Astra Theatre - Drummoyne (Verbal inquiry)
Investigations have been made re acquisition of the Theatre by a private Syndicate for re-fitting as an Entertainment Centre. Discussions have been on a general basis only pending finality re acquisition.

Inquiries have been made into the possibility of utilisation of former Theatres.

- a) Civic Theatre - Auburn.
Investigations indicate that future road widening will take the front of the Theatre and that re-construction would be expensive.
- b) Palatial Theatre - Burwood.
A newspaper article reports this Council's intention to retain the site as part of a shopping development, and denies that the building would be used as a Town Hall. Unofficial inquiries indicate that the building will probably be demolished.

It's never too late (An extract from "Wireless World" Sept. 1970)

**M.O.S. Arrays
for Electronic Organs**

Two m.o.s. arrays specifically designed for electronic organs are available from WEL. Array type MA70 is a $^{12}\sqrt{2}$ divider giving true semi-tones. Array type MA60 is a six-stage binary divider giving six outputs each one octave apart. (An electronic organ can be made with four MA70 circuits and twelve MA60s.) For organ designers requiring a free-phase system 30 MA70s could be used. Prices are about £3 10s. for the MA70 and 25s for the MA60 (for quantities in excess of 1,000 pieces). WEL Components Ltd, 5 Loverock Road, Reading, Berks.

WW 320 for further details

Another TOSA engagement.

PAT MOEN to our member, LAWRENCE DUNK.

PAT & LAWRENCE met at a TOSA function.

After the May issue went to press, Miss HEATHER MOEN was invited to present a full-length concert at Marrickville on June 28th - which is after this issue goes to press!