

T.O.S.A. NEWS

INCORPORATING *The Diaphone*

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

PATRON: REGINALD DIXON, M.B.E.

EDITOR: IAN C. GRIGGS

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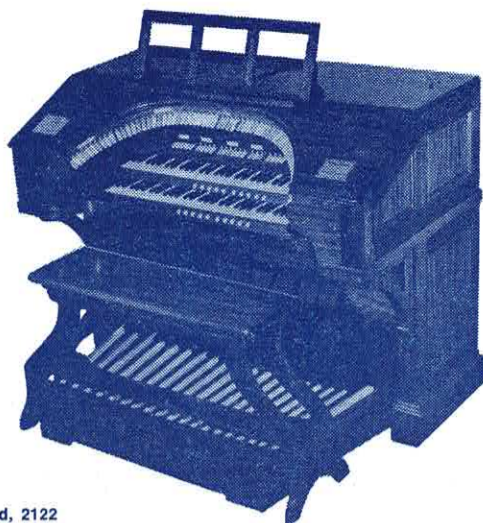
SOCIETY DIRECTORY:

General correspondence to the Secretary, Mrs. PHYLLIS DUNN, 1a Second Avenue, Eastwood, 2122

Financial correspondence to the Treasurer, Mr. OSCAR MOEN, 68 Shepherd Street, Ryde, 2112

TOSA NEWS correspondence to IAN C. GRIGGS, P.O. Box 447, Chatswood, 2067

President: NEVILLE WRIGHT, 67 Clarke Street, Peakhurst, 2210



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VOLUME 9 NUMBER 11

1st NOVEMBER 1971

NOVEMBER DIARY ...

6TH: WRIGHT'S ORGAN
PARTY & BARBECUE

7TH: REUBERT HAYES
AT KOGARAH VICTORY

18TH: IAN DAVIES AT:
BONDI R.S.L. CLUB

AN ORGAN PARTY WITH A DIFFERENCE

SATURDAY THE 6th NOVEMBER and the home of members Alan and Elaine Wright is the venue for our next Organ Party.

Not only an organ party, but a BARBECUE TEA AS WELL!!

Bring yourselves along to "Highlands", Wallgrove Road, Cecil Park, for a happy, relaxed country-style afternoon and evening, where you can bring your own meat and other goodies for tea before sundown, and later enjoy the music of the Wrights' Thomas Catalina DeLuxe Organ. A special guest will entertain you at the organ.

ANOTHER feature is the appearance of Malcolm Mackay and his TRAVELLING ORGAN. See last issue about this remarkable instrument.

The barbecue will start about 5.30 p.m., and the Organ Party about 7.00. The evening will be rounded off by supper at 9.30 so the distance won't make you too late home.

Ring Alan or Elaine Wright at 606 1063, and put your name down NOW for an organ party with a difference. Admission \$1.00. Tea or coffee will be provided with the barbecue, but BRING YOUR OWN MEAT.

HOW TO GET THERE

"Highlands", Wallgrove Road, Cecil Park. Going down Wallgrove Road, the property is on the right hand side about one and a half miles past the Horsley Road and Wallgrove Road intersection. Drive up the long driveway and park in the area around the house. If in doubt get Alan or Elaine to explain when you ring them.

SUNDAY 7th NOVEMBERREUBERT HAYES IN CONCERT AT THE KOGARAH VICTORY

A rare concert on the fine Conn electronic organ of this theatre will be given by TOSA Honorary Member REUBERT HAYES on Sunday 7th November, from 11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. A morning of light popular music in REUBERT'S distinctive style is assured. Members 80 cents, public \$1.00

HONORARY MEMBER IAN DAVIES ENTERTAINS

A most generous offer has been made by IAN DAVIES to members, of the opportunity of hearing IAN once again at his installation at the BONDI R.S.L. Club. Times to start at 8.00 p.m., admission is free, and a most entertaining evening is awaiting us there, on.....

THURSDAY 18th NOVEMBER

SUNDAY AFTERNOON 28th NOVEMBER 2.00 p.m.

At Newcastle City Hall, TOSA HONORARY MEMBER DAVID PARSONS in concert with associate artist DAVID PITTS. Proceeds to the Newcastle Lions Club Kidney Unit Appeal.

ALSO IN NEWCASTLE

DON'T FORGET

CLIFF BINGHAM
CLIFF BINGHAM IN CONCERT SATURDAY 13th, 8.00 p.m.
CLIFF BINGHAM

At....Mara-Lynne, Broadmeadow

Sydney Morning Herald, 23rd October 1971

O B I T U A R Y

" Mr. Sidney Thomas Noad, 77, who for more than 40 years was responsible for the tuning and maintenance of Sydney Town Hall's organ, died in hospital on Thursday. During his long career as an organ builder and tuner, Mr. Noad built scores of organs now in churches and public halls throughout N.S.W. He had been at work as usual until Tuesday when he became ill on his way to the Town Hall. "

With the passing of Sidney Thomas Noad, one wonders as to the fate of at least one instrument which he maintained - the Grand Organ of Sydney Town Hall.

Against cruel criticism, hopeless conditions and stupid opinions expressed by egomaniac Sydney organists he worked on what amounted to a labour of love on this instrument, ensuring its best possible condition for all recitals. We know it had its shortcomings - in fact there are many who consider that the tender for its erection should never have been accepted - and age, weather and general Aldermanic apathy have taken toll over the years, but against all this Sidney Thomas Noad carries on undaunted.

With his passing we lose a kind, patient, quietly-spoken man whose co-operation will be remembered by countless organists and Church authorities. His memory will remain also in the many fine little organs he built in N.S.W. churches. Sydney's musical world has lost one of the last of the "old" organ builders; another link with an era is broken.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS OF N.S.W. DIVISION

Ron and Phyllis Wilson, Lakemba; Doug Taylor, Miranda; Al and Shirley Mandelberg, Avalon Beach; John Fraser, Broadmeadow; Jennifer Davey, Lidcombe; Mrs, Vera Crane, Bundeena; John and Marjorie Watts, St. Ives; Phillip D. Snider, Point Piper; Adrian and Marjorie Holmes, Eastwood.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday 1st Nov, 6th December.

TOSA NEWS DECEMBER DEADLINE

Friday 19th November.

DAVID PARSONS IN CONCERT ON YAMAHA

Members of TOSA and their friends are invited to a pleasant Sunday afternoon to be held in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 118 Penshurst Street, Penshurst, on Sunday 7th November at 3.00 p.m. DAVID PARSONS will give a recital on a Yamaha E3, provided by courtesy of Alex Britton Music Centre of Hurstville. There will be a collection for the Parish Building Fund.

MEMBER ON TOUR

Our member Mr. Syd Spence, proprietor of Spence Music Centre, Avalon, and Vice-President of Warringah Organ Club, reports having received wonderful hospitality from members of the Cinema Organ Society during his recent 2-month visit to the U.K. He had special invitations to the homes of the famous Rawle Families; at Thomas Rawle's Northolt residence (house name "Wurlitzer Lodge"), he saw and played the 3/19 Wurlitzer recovered from the Granada Theatre Wadsworth, London, and later was taken to the home of Thomas' son Leonard, at Chorleywood, Hert. Len, now in his early thirties, himself designed and built his home (named Tonawanda) specially to accommodate the mighty theatre organ he has there. Formerly in the Empire Theatre, Leicester Sq., and originally a 4/20, this instrument is now a 4/25 and is Europe's largest Wurlitzer installation. Len is a brilliant player, and has made frequent public appearances in stage shows, solo concerts, church, B.B.C. radio and T.V. and has made three L.P.s. His latest of these is titled "Sounds of Tonawanda" and he kindly autographed a copy of this recording for Mr. Spence. Well known organists Gerald Shaw and Vic Hammett are close friends of the Rawles, and frequently play his instruments. The former has christened Len's 211 stop instrument "The Empress"; as the record cover says.... "Like all Wurlitzers she was born in Tonawanda and although now away from her intended home she is saved from the scrap yard, and her faultless standard of construction and re-installation ensures a long career still.

over

Continued from P. 3

Members of the Cinema Organ Society from many different parts of Britain whom Mr. Spence met showed great interest in the activities of our Theatre Organ Society in Australia, and asked him to convey greetings from them to their Australian counterparts.

SOME CONVENTION NOTES

CONVENTION AFTERNOON AT CAHILLS' VINTAGE BISTRO

A record number of Conventioneers booked into Cahills for the afternoon organ feast and Convention dinner. DAVID JOHNSTON was quickly introduced at 2.30 p.m. and soon introduced us to a spinet model Baldwin organ wheeled in shortly before by Bert Moody of Baldwin Organs (Australia). Familiarising us with the organ's features, David continued with the "teach-in" part of the programme, answering questions and demonstrating aspects of organ technique, including registration, the use of automatic rhythm, modulation in the course of a number, the uses and abuses of vibrato, and syncopated rhythm. SUE WHITEHOUSE (from Queensland) and HEATHER MOEN both volunteered to play for the purpose of having David give constructive criticism. The playing of both was of such a high standard that criticism was difficult, but everybody managed to learn extra pointers for the improvement of their own techniques.

David's wife and parents were present, and a small presentation was made to Mrs. Johnston by Phyllis Dunn. David generously played the afternoon "teach-in" and the evening concert without fee other than the expenses of coming from Melbourne.

A rendition by David of "Tea for Two" brought the afternoon to a coffee break!

ALAN TRANTER (at very short notice upon the illness of BILL SCHUMACHER) took over the 63 Hammond console (with Leslie) kindly supplied by Palings', and treated us to a mini-concert including 's-Wonderful, Harry Lime Theme, Somewhere over the Rainbow, Lover, Nola, California, here I come, & Anything Goes, played in his own delightful style.

Honoured guests at Cahills' were Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Aiken & son Bruce from Tokoroa, New Zealand. After those attending had had their fill of their choice of chicken or beef and dessert, Frank Ellis spoke at length outlining Eddie's achievements as "Mr. Wurlitzer of New Zealand", and Tom Halloran presented Eddie with an "illuminated address" (which had been signed by Conventioneers) and spoke of his personal knowledge of Eddie & his work. In reply, Eddie recalled many famous names of theatre organists heard by radio from Australia in New Zealand over the years and spoke of the need to encourage the younger generations in developing a technique which will keep theatre pipe organ alive for many years to come.

(Roc.B.)

DAVID JOHNSTON IN CONCERT AT MARRICKVILLE

And what a marvellous concert it was. A brilliant performer, David had the audience spellbound with many of his arrangements, but more especially, I was impressed by things which displayed a very thorough classical training, like "Love is Baroque", and the cacophony of sounds he called the "Organist's Nightmare". How I wish he had played the Widor Toccata complete, for, surprisingly, it sounded very good on the Wurlitzer, which only goes to show that classical music CAN be played on a theatre organ IF YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING. Highlighting the concert were beautiful selections from "Oliver" and "The Boyfriend", a collection entitled "Nostalgia", an absolutely breathtaking "Caravan", and some Jazz numbers played as only DAVID JOHNSTON can, "Take Five", "Fly me to the Moon" etc etc. Thanks to DAVID for coming up from his home, the Dendy, to play the evening concert for our 1971 Convention; a wonderful concert, which really capped off perhaps our best Convention yet.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

CHRISTMAS PARTY.....10th DECEMBER, at "Coolibah", Campsie.

FROM THE COMMITTEE

The 1972 Annual Business Meeting will be held on 24th January 1972.

Nominations for Executive and Committee to close 6 weeks before; i.e. on Wednesday 8th December.

All nominations to be signed by two financial members as proposer and seconder, and by nominated and financial member - to indicate his willingness to be nominated.

Subscriptions for 1972 will be received at the TOSA Christmas Party. All subs received on or before the Christmas Party will entitle the subscriber to a free lucky ticket for an Organ L.P. record, to be drawn at the party.

Nominations for Honorary Membership to be submitted in writing, and these to be voted on at the Annual meeting.

Among the positions to be filled are those of the Secretary, Minute Secretary, and TOSA News Editor. So start thinking, time's running out!!!

COL TRINGHAM'S ORGAN PARTIES 24th and 25th September.

Colin Tringham had the house full sign up very early for his house party. In fact, due to the demand, a second night was held, and despite the limited accomodation, the sum of \$39 was raised towards TOSA funds. On Friday Night Colin gave a brief demonstration of the Organ and showed some of its effects; Joyce Walker, Jim Bass and Des Russell tried their hands on the instrument, followed by David Parsons. Bill Schumacher then performed for the guests in his usual fine manner. The Gulbransen sounded really great and drew several complimentary remarks from the assembled guests. At ten o'clock supper was served and quite a pile of food very soon disappeared. Bill played until nearly midnight, and the evening was voted an enormous success. Saturday, the repeat performance was held. This was a good night for those who wanted to try their hands at the horse-shoe console. Lance Wells, Herb Wyatt, Cyril Haynes, Shirley Nott, and Bett Randall performed. The ladies had quite a lot of fun playing "duets" with one playing the keyboards, and the other trying out all the stops-there are 55 stops and buttons on this instrument. Colin would particularly like to thank all those who brought a plate along, as this considerably lightened the load on Mrs. Tringham-Colin's mother. All in all another good TOSA function, and one which will be repeated next year if at all possible. (C.T.)

FOR SALE.... ONE CONN Minuet 541 Electronic Organ. First class condition
Forced sale due to illness. Bargain at \$1000.00. Ring George
Hughes 20944 x 2531 or 80 3589 for further details.

NEWS FROM CHATSWOOD

Here is the news we've all been waiting for. Chatswood Town Hall will be opened in the first week of February 1972. The date for the first recital on the new installation of the Arcadia Theatre 2/10 WurliTzer is expected to be released very shortly. By the time you get this issue, would you believe that parts of the organ will already be installed in the chambers? The console has been re-polished and looks very nice. The Willougby Council spent \$88 in having two identical copies in brass and red, green and black enamel infill, made of the nameplate off Marrickville, to replace the two stolen in 1961. Might I dare to hint that the first TOSA concert on this organ will take place sometime in March, and we have someone really great lined up. (All being well.) THE SOUVENIR BOOKLET IS NOW AT THE PRESS. THE COUNCIL HAS ANNOUNCED THAT 200 COPIES WILL BE GIVEN TO V.I.P.'s on the Opening Night, and the remainder (800) will be sold for 50 cents a copy. I already have 100 reservations from TOSA members, so please hang on to your 50 cents and I'll let you know later how you can pay for and collect your copy.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Old Rectory,
37 Rectory Road,
Farnborough,
Hampshire,
England.

25th September 1971.

Dear Mr. Griggs,

Reference T.O.S.A. NEWS Vol 9 No. 8 1st August 1971.

Page 6 Letter from T.P. Irwin.

1. Forum, Southampton. Methinks that Reginald Porter-Brown has been misquoted and misunderstood. This organ is very much a pipe organ. The "all-electric" refers to the Compton "direct-electric" action as opposed to the Wurlitzer "electro-pneumatic" action. "All-electric" is not a term meaning a pipeless electronic instrument.

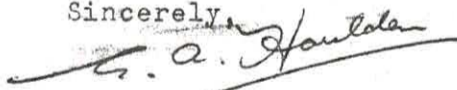
The Forum Compton was installed, I believe, in the 1930s and is most certainly not the first all-electric organ in the world. If the term "all-electric" refers to the action then the instrument concerned is ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ difficult to pin-point inasmuch as "electric" or "all-electric" were terms applied to instruments which were in actual fact "electro-pneumatic".

Wicks in the United States and Compton in England used genuine "all-electric" actions.

Since the 1930s "electric" in regards to organs has become entangled with pipeless electronic instruments.

2. As far as I am aware Horace Finch is still alive and well.
3. Mr. Irwin mentions his own "Compton electric organ". Does he mean a pipe organ with electric action or a pipeless electronic instrument?

Sincerely,



E.A. Houlden

There will be the remainder of the Convention notes next month. Meanwhile, ~~don't forget to attend~~ our functions.....have a look at the front pages to refresh your memory. See you there

Till next time,



24.10.71