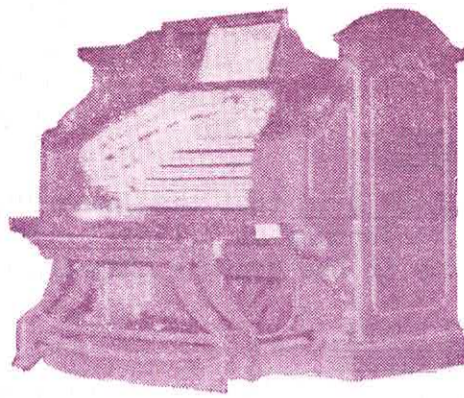


T.O.S.A. NEWS

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PATRON - REGINALD DIXON MBE.

EDITOR - FRANK ELLIS

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TOSA NEWS IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA IN THE DIVISIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA & WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

JANUARY - 1969
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All correspondence should be addressed to The Secretary
P.O. Box 108, Wentworthville, N.S.W., 2145, Australia.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NEW SOUTH WALES IN JANUARY.

WEDNESDAY 22nd JANUARY AT 7.45pm SHARP... ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ORGAN CONCERT.

The Annual General Meeting & Election of Officers for 1969, will be held on Wednesday 22nd January at 7.45pm SHARP. It will be held at the Wesley Auditorium, Pitt Street Sydney. Following the Business Meeting, there will be a concert which will feature our member JOH CONGERT at the organ with JANET KAYE, vocalist, as the associate artist. It is anticipated that the organ will be JOH's sensational three manual electronic organ which he has designed and built for use in the Club where he is resident. The Business meeting will be kept as brief as possible in order that the concert may start between 8.45pm and 9pm as scheduled.

The following nominations for office have been received, and further nominations will be welcomed and accepted up to the election. No member may stand for office unless he or she has been a financial member for at least six months. Patron - Reginald Dixon MBE, President - Tom Halloran, Vice-Presidents (2) - Frank Ellis & Des Russell, Secretary - John Clancy, Treasurer - Rod Blackmore, Committee (6) A. Byrne, W. Schumacher, W. Richards, B. Tooker, D. McDonald. (All are presently serving) Additional nominations for Committee are :- Malcolm McKay, , Brian Dowse, Kevin Clancy and Syd. Freeman. (Mr has also offered to serve the Society as Publicity Officer) The Diaphone Editor - Rod Blackmore TOSA News Editor - Frank Ellis Auditor - John Whitehouse Host - A. Byrne Hostess - open Electronic Organ Sub. Committee - Capitol Theatre Organ Sub. Committee - Ladies Social Sub. Committee - Marrickville P.E. Organ Maintenance Sub. Committee - Research Sub. Committee - Minute Secretary - open Returning Officer - open

RECORD OF COMMITTEE ATTENDANCES BY MEMBERS.

Twelve Committee Meetings were held during 1968. Hereunder is a list of attendances of each Committee member for the full year. T. Halloran 11 F. Ellis 12 D. Russell 11 J. Clancy 12 R. Blackmore 10 S. Holland 12 W. Schumacher 12 A. Byrne 10 D. McDonald 6 B. Tooker 7 (some of which were part-time) L. Wells 3 (retired owing to ill health) W. Richards 3 Mr Richards was co-opted to fill vacancy left by L. Wells)

IMPORTANT. Letters or reports intended to be read out at the Annual General Meeting must be submitted to the Secretary one week before the meeting.

PLEASE NOTE The Annual General Meeting will start at 7.45pm SHARP to be followed by member JOH CONGERT at the organ, in a special programme of requests. JOH has informed TOSA News that he is prepared to play a request programme of music in the popular field, and anyone who wishes to have a request played should phone JOH at 632-4522 before Saturday 18th January. This will give him sufficient time to prepare his programme of your requests. This is the first time that the Society has been able to offer members a "DIAL A SONG" programme. Phone JOH with your popular request and let's make this new idea a real "swinger"

COMING EVENTS.

The first concert on our Wurlitzer organ for the 1969 season will feature our Honorary member, REUBERT HAYES at Marrickville Town Hall in February. Full details next month. Watch for February TOSA News. REUBERT HAYES formerly of Hoyt's Regent Brisbane, Plaza Theatre, Regent Theatre Sydney in concert on TOSA'S OWN WURLITZER ORGAN.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Committee members PLEASE NOTE that the January meeting has been changed from 6th of January to Monday 13th January at 7.15pm. The February meeting will revert back to the usual first Monday in the month - that is Monday Febraury 3rd at 7.15pm.

LOOKING BACK AT LAST MONTH.

The Society Xmas Party at the Stage Club on Wednesday 11th December was a pleasant evening indeed, with all those present enjoying to the full, the relaxed atmosphere offered by this rather unusual Club. Once a movie theatre, the building has been adapted for its new role as a Club, whilst retaining the stage more or less in its original form. Lighting of the stage and auditorium remains much as it was - bright and colorful on the former, and subdued in the latter. A very beautifully arranged Xmas tableau occupying the full stage, made a splendid backdrop to the Thomas Theatre Organ which was installed on a dais just below the footlights, the console having a spotlight focussed directly on it. Our member, BILL SCHUMACHER, resident organist at the Hawksbury Inn Roadhouse, was the featured artist, and he presented a programme which ranged from full theatre organ sounds to sophisticated and intimate club styling. His playing was smooth and polished with the emphasis on arrangements - and these were very good indeed. He did not make the mistake of relying too much on the many gimmicks of the instrument, they were used with restraint and imagination, enhancing the music, not dominating it.

He opened with a bouncy "That's Entertainment" and continued with Body & Soul - Dick Liebert's composition, "Come Dance With Me" - Mame - Theme From "A Man & A Woman" - a roaring twenties bracket of I Wanna Be Loved By You - It Happened In Monterey - and Mary, Won't You Wait For Me? - Stardust - Cheek To Cheek - What Kind Of Fool Am I? and from the team of Lerner & Lowe, I Talk To The Trees - Gigi - On The Street Where You Live - If Ever I Would Leave You - and Almost Like Being In Love. After a brief interval, BILL played Crazy Rhythm - Misty - I'm Confessin', then a bracket which included Summer Samba and Call Me, followed by Roger's & Hart's Falling In Love With Love, My Funny Valentine - and Where Or When. The Shadow Of Your Smile and a modern Xmas selection of Winter Wonderland, Santa Claus Is Coming To Town, and White Christmas brought us to the final item, "I've Got You Under My Skin", after which supper was served. We were delighted to have with us the President of the West Australian Division, Mr Jim Thompson, who was officially welcomed to Sydney's Xmas party, where he was kept busy meeting many of the members present at the function. As already reported above - it WAS a very pleasant evening, and we sincerely thank BILL SCHUMACHER both for his playing, as well as his generous action in donating his fee back to the funds.

Our second Xmas function, the dinner and concert arranged by our members George & Joyce Walker, took place in the Ryde Presbyterian Church Hall on Tuesday 17th December. About 30 members sat down to dinner which had been catered for by Joyce, after the catering firm had declined to cater for the small number involved. Undeterred by this setback to their plans, our hosts, with the assistance of the family and one or two friends, carried on and served a three course meal with all the aplomb and efficiency of professional caterers. Within minutes of the meal ending, the hall was transformed, rows of seats appeared, and the doors were opened to admit another 60 or so members and friends who had been unable to attend the dinner. President Tom Halloran then introduced our member DAVID PARSONS at the console of Oscar Moen's Schober organ, which, under DAVID'S talented fingers, revealed that it had some very authentic voices amongst its complement of solo stops. DAVID'S programme was divided into brackets of numbers, with each bracket having its own title and place in the scheme of things. Opening with a XMAS BRACKET the organist presented, Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer, White Xmas and Santa Claus Is Coming To Town. SHOW BUSINESS bracket - There's No Business Like Show Business and As Long As He Needs Me from "Oliver". SLOW BEAT bracket - The Girl From Ipanema, Born Free and Music To Watch Girls Go By. OLD FAVORITES bracket - Vilia, Ciribiribin, and Wandering The King's Highway. GERSHWIN bracket - Fascinating Rhythm and Liza. FATS WALLER CONCEPTIONS bracket - Strut Miss Lizzie, and How Come You Do Me Like You Do.

After interval, during which more refreshments were served, guest artist HEATHER MOEN came to the console, and played several items mainly in the pop music idiom, which revealed her quite considerable technique for one so young. She was given a very enthusiastic reception. DAVID PARSONS returned to the organ, and after playing, Prayer To Our Lady - Gothic Suite, by request, resumed his theme with a GILBERT & SULLIVAN bracket, followed by a RAGS bracket of Twelfth Street Rag & Ivory Rag. Then came an ODDS & SODS bracket consisting of Mr Sandman, We'll Gather Lilacs, Birth Of The Blues and St Louis Blues. Next a bracket from The Vagabond King and Rose Marie and finally, a CLASSICAL bracket. Prolonged applause induced DAVID to play one more number which was the Beatles tune, "It's Been A Hard Day's Night". Perhaps the significance of that title was an expression of how DAVID felt after playing for a couple of hours - however, it didn't apply to the audience, who very obviously found the listening to have been "a very easy day's night" The profits from the function, \$50.25, have been given by

our hosts to be divided between the Pipe Organ Purchase Fund and the Electronic Organ Fund. The amount for each fund being - Pipe Organ \$25.25 and the Electronic Fund \$25. The Society sincerely thanks George and Joyce for the function and the profits from same.

STATE THEATRE'S PREMIERE DURING DECEMBER.

For the second time this year, members of the NSW Division of TOSA were the guests of the management of Greater Union's huge State Theatre for the Australian Premiere of a new film, and, as on the previous occasion, there was a personal appearance on stage of the star of that film as well. The film was "Shalako" starring Sean Connery who also introduced his lovely wife Diane Cilento from the stage.

For TOSA members, the most exciting thing was that the State's Wurlitzer made one of its rare appearances before the public. Featured organist for the occasion was TOSA's Honorary member, IAN DAVIES, and the theatre management invited our Society to enjoy an organ concert by IAN for half an hour before the doors opened to the public, after which our members remained as guests of the management for the Premiere. It is indeed gratifying to TOSA, that when the management decide to use the organ for a Premiere, they feature one of TOSA's professional theatre organist members at the console, and very generously invite the Society to come along and enjoy both the organ, as well as the movie fare and the excitement of such a splendid occasion.

At 7pm precisely, after an introduction from your Editor, IAN brought the huge four manual console up to stage level, and gave us half an hour of nostalgic delight as we listened to, and feasted our eyes on Sydney's largest Wurlitzer. The organ was in better shape than at the previous Premiere, thanks to organ man, Pete Rowe's good work, and IAN managed to get a surprising variety of tonal colour considering what was "off" and what defects he had to play around. Use of the organ for the Premiere brought life to the theatre, and there is no doubt that the excitement generated by a well-timed Trumpet Fanfare from a Wurlitzer organ cannot be achieved by "canned" music. Much of the success of personal appearances by stars can be attributed as much to the work of the organist as to any other factor, and the "stars" entrance and walk off do not become an anti-climax to the bally-hoo of publicity which has preceded the event. The Society sincerely thanks the Greater Union Organisation for the opportunity of being a part of this important occasion and sincerely thanks IAN DAVIES for his concert for us before the show began.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

We are very happy to welcome two new members this month and trust that you will enjoy the friendship of the many other members you'll meet at various functions. Its "hello" to Eric Byrne and G.F. Christmas both of Sydney.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF PIPE ORGAN PURCHASE FUND.

We thank the following people for help to the above fund, and hope to see further donations swell the amount this year. From member Russel Lyons \$2. From Mr & Mrs George Walker \$25.25. And from an anonymous member the sum of \$20 to cover the cost of installing a music light on the P.E. organ at Marrickville.

Whilst we are thanking people for helping the above fund, it is opportune to thank our Committee member Stan Holland for having made it possible for the Society to purchase the best quality microphone for our amplifying equipment to be used at various functions. This will ensure all the announcements by comperes and organists will be clearly heard.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF ELECTRONIC ORGAN FUND.

Thanks are extended to members George & Joyce Walker for the sum of \$25 to the Electronic Organ Fund.

QUEENSLAND DIVISION NEWS.

We regret that the news bulletin from the Sunshine State has not arrived as yet. This is probably due to a delay in the mails caused by the heavy demands of Xmas.

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 1969.

Members who have not yet renewed their subscriptions for this year are reminded that our year commences on the 1st January, and in order to vote or stand for office at the Annual General meeting, members must be financial. Under the Postal Regulations, we are only permitted to send our publications to bona-fide members.

T.O.S.A. PRESENTS BIG CHEQUE TO FUND.

President Tom Halloran and Committee man Stan Holland were the guests of Sir Lorimer Dods and Mrs Beth Conolly at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children a few days before Christmas. Sir Lorimer is the Chairman of the General Committee of the Children's Medical Research Foundation and Mrs Conolly is the Public Relations Officer. They entertained Mr Halloran and Mr Holland at morning tea, during which President Halloran presented the Society's cheque for the sum of \$1071.10. This was the proceeds of the opening concert on our WurliTzer at the Marrickville Town Hall held in November. In thanking Mr Halloran, Sir Lorimer said that it was a magnificent effort to have raised such a large amount from just one function, and he wished the Society all success in its future activities. They were then given an inspection of the hospital.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION NEWS.

Reported by Ray Clements

While NSW members were attending the opening night of the P.E. organ at Marrickville, we, here in the West, were the guests of the A.B.C. to watch a private screening of the Weekend Magazine feature on TOSA which showed the State Theatre WurliTzer, the Clancy residence WurliTzer and the Marrickville installation. The evening was hurriedly arranged by the Secretary following a phone call from President Jim Thompson who was in Sydney. Though the film was of only short duration, it was greatly enjoyed by us all, and the ABC technicians very thoughtfully ran the film through twice for us.

We were pleasantly surprised at the November 20th meeting, by the arrival of country members, Mr & Mrs Peter Fry who had travelled just on a hundred miles for the meeting, not to mention the hundred miles back again after midnight. We thank them for making the effort, their presence was much appreciated. The meeting was held at the home of Ray Clements, and we were honored at having talented Perth organiste Rheta Weston whose items were enthusiastically received. Later in the evening, Peter Fry had a go at the Thomas organ, and proved to be very capable at the console indeed. Others who played were Max Bell and Ray Clements.

METRO THEATRE CONCERT - OUTSTANDING SUCCESS. An enthusiastic crowd of over 450 people turned out to attend Perth's first theatre organ concert. Some of Perth's top organists were on hand to play no less than five organs. TOSA was well represented as four of the musicians were TOSA members. The standard of performance was first class right through. The most pleasing feature of the concert was the overwhelming feeling of audience appreciation. If any members would like a recording of the concert please contact the Secretary, 3 Riviera, Eric Street, Cottesloe, 6011, Western Australia. Send your own tapes plus \$2 towards the W.A. Funds and we will put the recording on for you. Next meeting is on Thursday 23rd January at the home of Max Bell, 46 Alexander Road, Dalkeith.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION NEWS.

The only news to hand from Sth. Australia is that they have purchased the WurliTzer organ from the Plaza Theatre in Melbourne, and will commence the removal operations early this month. We in New South Wales, sincerely and heartily congratulate them on their purchase and wish them the success they deserve with this fine instrument.

WORLD FAMOUS THEATRE ORGANIST'S ALPHABETICAL PRIMER OF ORGAN STOPS

American Theatre Organist DEL CASTILLO has written an Alphabetical Primer about Stops of the organ. This was first available at last year's A.T.O.E. Convention in the USA, where it was rated as one of the highly popular features of this Annual organ wing-ding. Packed with fascinating information about the Stop, and the origins of its name, it is written with DEL CASTILLO'S bubbling humour coming through every line. Reading it, for me, became a real "laugh and learn" session which I thoroughly enjoyed. To quote one example for you: DEL starts off the "K's" with the following, funny bit. KINURA, KRUMET, KRUMHORN pronounced (Canoe-ra, Crumb it, Crumb Horn) The Ku Klux Klan of the organ world. The Ku Klux Klan is characterized by a snarl. So is the Kinura Krumet and Krumhorn. The Ku Klux Klan is disapproved of by the church. So is the Kinura, Krumet and Krumhorn" That is just a sample of the funny bits, but the information which follows is comprehensive. Sold at \$2 in the USA, DEL has informed your Editor that he will allow a limited number to be sold to TOSA members for \$1.50 each. I would advise you not to miss this little Primer if you are an organ lover - its a gem. Write to Secretary John Clancy enclosing \$1.50 for your copy.

TOSA NEWS WISHES EVERY MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY A HAPPY NEW YEAR. MAY WE CONTINUE TO GROW IN MEMBERSHIP IN 1969. LET'S MAKE IT OUR GREATEST YEAR EVER.

RECORD REVIEWS.

<u>TITLE OF RECORD</u>	"THE MIGHTIEST WURLITZER"	RECORD NUMBER	CR 0019
<u>THE ORGANIST</u>	EDDIE WEAVER		
<u>THE ORGAN</u>	3/17 WURLITZER IN MOSQUE THEATRE, RICHMOND USA		
<u>THE PROGRAMME</u>	Dance Of The Hours - Secret Love - Georgy Girl - Stumbling Its Alright With Me - Somewhere My Love - I Ain't Down Yet Hungarian Rhapsody - I'll Go Home With Bonnie Jean - Some- thing Stupid - Thoroughly Modern Millie - Impossible Dream Sweet Georgia Brown.		

Concert Recording's release, aptly titled, "The Mightiest Wurlitzer", has a mighty sound, and on hearing the disc, those not in the know, would be excused for thinking that they were in fact, listening to one of the world's largest Wurlitzer organs. Though far from being the largest, having only 17 ranks, it is nevertheless, one of the largest in sound, due to the magnificent acoustics of the Mosque Theatre, and the installation of the pipework in triangular shaped chambers which really throw the sound out into the auditorium. Solo voices are brilliantly live, and the total sound is breath taking.

EDDIE WEAVER is one of the world's great exponents of the theatre organ, and his handling of this superb instrument is exciting in the extreme. "Dance Of The Hours" and "Hungarian Rhapsody" both display MR WEAVER'S talent for the classics, and, by way of contrast, "Georgy Girl", "Stumbling", "Something Stupid" and "Thoroughly Modern Millie" reveal his up to the minute approach and technique with their modern arrangements and driving rhythms. "Secret Love" and "Somewhere My Love" are splendid examples of how romantic numbers can be given an irresistible appeal even to those who are not normally fond of the theatre organ.

Due to re-furbishing of the Mosque auditorium, the 5,000 seats and all the draperies were removed, and it was during this period that advantage was taken by Concert Recording to make this disc under unique conditions seldom prevailing in normal circumstances. It is doubtful if the Mosque Wurlitzer has been recorded under such ideal conditions, ever before. EDDIE WEAVER'S great artistry needs no introduction to organ fans, and his registrations are carried out flawlessly, each change being smoothly integrated and entirely suitable to what is being played. Strongly recommended to you.

RELEASED LAST MONTH BUT NOT YET REVIEWED.

<u>"THE YOUNG SOUND"</u>	RECORD NUMBER IS	CR 0038
<u>ORGANIST IS</u>	JEFF BARKER	
<u>THE ORGAN</u>	4/23 ROBERT MORTON THEATRE ORGAN EX LOEW'S VALENTIA THEATRE LONG ISLAND.	

Concert Recording's "The Young Sound" is very obviously aimed at interesting the hitherto almost untapped section of record buyers, the teenagers, in the magic of the theatre organ sound. It has all the ingredients for success - a young organist, an excellent instrument, and a programme of music most favored by this section of the community. Organist JEFF BARKER handles the instrument competently, and the quality of the recorded sound is well up to the high standard we have come to expect from Concert Recording Coy. This disc is for the young, and perhaps, the "young at hearts", and the "oldies" may not find the programme to their taste. There is little to inspire or challenge any organist in the songs chosen. To sum up - interesting.

THE VALUE OF PUBLICITY.

The recent opening of the Society Wurlitzer in the Marrickville Town Hall, when just over 1,200 people jammed the auditorium to witness this historic event, proves beyond all doubt, the value of publicity. The Society is very grateful to the three or four radio stations who gave us free plugs for the event, and in particular to Mr Allan Toohey of 2GB, and Mr Bob Rogers of 2UE for their valuable assistance. As well, we thank TV Channel 7, who through the Children's Medical Research Foundation, gave President Halloran and your Editor the chance of a 15 minute interview on the Sunday before the opening. Being just three days before our opening night, it was a great help. Finally, the splendid feature about the Society and the P.E. organ which appeared right round Australia on the A.B.C.'s Weekend Magazine programme at a peak viewing time, did a tremendous job of letting the public know of the existence of TOSA. To all those involved, the Society is deeply grateful. In particular, we would mention ABC TV personality JAMES DIBBLE who not only played the State Theatre Wurlitzer for that film, but handled his commentary in a way which held viewer's interest from first to last.

THE EDITOR.