

# TOSA NEWS

June 2018  
Volume 57 No.4

Price: \$2.00

**Come join the party at the  
June 3rd Concert  
John Giacchi  
plays  
the  
Marrickville Wurlitzer  
Celebrating its 50th Year  
at Marrickville Town Hall**

You can renew your membership  
at earlybird prices at the concert as well

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**#tosansw**

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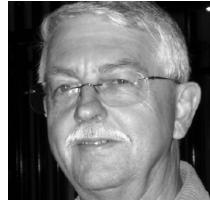
# President



I hope to see many of you on June 3 at Marrickville.

Regards,  
Craig Keller, President

# Editorial



Hello all – we’re really looking forward to the return to Marrickville for the year with John Giacchi once again playing for TOSA NSW. The Marrickville Wurlitzer is where he started his theatre organ playing and John is excited about returning to his roots.

This year is also the 50th anniversary of the opening of the organ at Marrickville so we’re going all out to make it an extra special event. Make sure you book your tickets soon so that catering planning can happen. Please contact your friends and family and even fellow TOSA members to encourage them to come along too. It should be a great afternoon of entertainment and socialising with your fellow TOSA NSW members and visitors.

In other news the restoration and installation of the Christie at St Columb’s continues. Thousands of hours of voluntary work have happened in the past seven or so years. Thanks to the small team for all their efforts so far – the expertise and enthusiasm they brought to the project has been invaluable. They’ve all learned new skills along the way too. The elders of the church community are excited about the organ “coming home” and they look forward to hearing it.

Hello Members,  
Remember this is the 50th Anniversary year of the opening of the former Prince Edward Theatre Wurlitzer in Marrickville Town Hall. Do come along to hear our World Famous Marrickville Wurlitzer in the hands of John Giacchi and you can BYO drinks and nibbles as well.

Please note the cabaret style seating arrangement for this concert as outlined in this issue. If you need advice on how to book a seat or table please contact Theo Langenberg on 0410 626 131 before 8:pm.

Thanks to Vice President Neil Palmer this issue begins a history of TOSA becoming the owners of the Prince Edward Wurlitzer and its installation in Marrickville Town Hall.

Thanks to playing TOSA Members David Badman and Tom Barber, I have started a segment titled “Down Memory Lane” which will contain articles from the early days of TOSA News commencing with May 1968 when the Late Frank Ellis was Vice President and Editor of TOSA News.

Please promote the June Concert to your friends.

Enjoy the music,

Ernie Vale  
PO Box A2322  
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235  
[editor@tosa.net.au](mailto:editor@tosa.net.au)

## From the Mailbox...



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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

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### Transport to concerts from Rail Stations

Your Committee are keen to assist members with transport from railway stations to concerts as well as to West Ryde Anglican Church for members days. It is proposed to ask members of TOSA if they would be prepared to pick up members at Sydenham Station for transport to Marrickville Town Hall

concerts, and from West Ryde Station for transport to West Ryde Anglican Church for members days and ultimately for concerts there. Ideally there would be more than one volunteer so that they can provide transport at either railway station.

Calling members to volunteer to pick up and drop off patrons at Sydenham Station for transport to and from Marrickville Town Hall for the June 3rd Concert please. This would be a great help to patrons using public transport.

Also calling for a member to act as coordinator for members to contact to arrange transport from and to the railway stations.

Please contact Theo Langenberg on 0410 626 131 to discuss.  
Thanks - the TOSA Committee.

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" My parents were very pleased that I was in the army. The fact that I hated it somehow pleased them even more."

*Barry Humphries, More Please  
1992*

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"You don't tell deliberate lies, but sometimes you have to be evasive."

*Margaret Thatcher*

## ***To Watch Out for***

**Concert artists and venues  
for 2018**

**3 June - John Giacchi  
Marrickville Wurlitzer  
50th Anniversary Year  
Concert**

**9 September - Scott Harrison  
Marrickville Wurlitzer**

**18 November -  
Simon Gledhill  
Orion Wurlitzer  
30th Anniversary Concert**

**9 December - Tony & John  
Orion Wurlitzer**

**Members afternoon at West  
Ryde Anglican Church.**

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The Executive & Committee have planned a get together for members at West Ryde Anglican Church on **Saturday 30th June from 2:00pm** to see out the 2017-18 financial year.

Afternoon tea will be included with members invited to bring a plate of goodies to share. This will provide another opportunity to view progress on the Christie Cinema organ. There will also be access to magazines and a video projection.

*See details in this issue.*

## **Advertising**

### **Rates in**

### **TOSA News**

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Quarter Page = \$25

Half Page = \$50

Full Page = \$100

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

### **Members' Playing Dates**

**The Orion Theatre Campsie  
2nd Thursday Morning  
10:30am to 1:30pm**

**June 14th**

**July 12th**

Players & Listeners welcome

**Convener is**

**Craig Keller** on 0418484798  
will text you to confirm the day  
is available

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**Marrickville Town Hall  
4th Monday afternoon/evening  
at 1:20pm to 9:00pm**

**May 28th**

**June 25th**

**July 23rd**

Players and listeners welcome.

**Convener is**

**John Batts** on 0420424103  
will email you to confirm the day is  
available or  
Neil Palmer on 9798 6742 after  
7:00pm

**to confirm availability**

## **Urgent Update on the Orion Wurlitzer**

The new UNiflex 4000 system has now been installed at the Orion - see the Technical Report in this issue.

The purchase cost was just under A\$6,800.00 and thanks to more generous donations from members the donations for this important upgrade have now reached \$2,550. Thank you members for your contributions. Members, further donations towards this cost would be very much appreciated. Any amount, large or small, will be gratefully received. Donations can be made in any of the following ways:

1. Cheque or Money Order payable to TOSA and forwarded to:-

Treasurer, TOSA,  
26 Maple Crescent  
Lithgow NSW 2790

2. Direct Deposit to the Society's account through any branch of the ANZ Bank (there is no cost using this system) or Internet Banking  
Details required are:

BSB 012430, Account No. 2321 40985, Account name Theatre Organ Society of Australia (NSW Division). Reference 6800

3. Cash or cheque payment at the June 2018 concert - please see Geoff Brimley: a receipt will be issued.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely

Geoff Brimley, Treasurer

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## **Earlybird Membership Renewal for 2018-19**

In the April/May issue, for those receiving it by mail, there was a Membership Renewal form that had been populated with your member details to assist you in completing your membership renewal for the ensuing year at current membership prices. Those receiving TOSA News by email will have received the Membership Renewal form by separate email.

These prices apply until Friday June 15th after which prices increase slightly as set out on the form. TOSA would appreciate your early renewal please. You can renew at the June 3rd Celebration Concert in the foyer of Marrickville Town Hall prior to entering the hall. ***Please remember to bring the completed Member Renewal form with you on June 3rd.***

## **New (Financial) Year's Eve Members' Club Event Saturday June 30th 2pm**

You are invited to join TOSA on Saturday 30th June, 2018, starting at 2pm at West Ryde Anglican Church, corner of Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave, West Ryde.

Parking is available on site – entrance from Dickson Ave - and on street near the church.

If you would like transport from West Ryde Station to the church please contact Theo Langenberg on 0410 626 131 before Friday June 29th to arrange pick up.

Tea and coffee provided. Please bring a plate of delicacies to share for afternoon tea.

TOSA would appreciate a \$5 donation (or more if you feel inclined) towards the afternoon.

This will be a good chance for members to socialise and inspect progress on the Christie installation. Speaking of the Christie: we propose to have a small section of the organ on wind and playable from the console for the event but please don't expect too much; we still have a way to go.

We also plan to show a DVD of portion of a recent concert on TOSA Q's Christie in Kelvin Grove State College, Brisbane.

The afternoon should conclude about 4pm.

TOSA look forward to seeing you there!

*John Weismantel*  
Vice President, TOSA NSW Inc

## **Christie report for May 2018**

Work done since last report includes:

Supports for Clarinet made and installed by John Parker and bottom octave of pipes planted to complete the set.

Manifolds for Tibia manual chests windline and tremulant completed and installed.

Ventils removed from all manual chests and blanking plates made & installed.

Wiring error from output board to Kimball Celesta corrected; tested ok from console.

Tibia Clausa all chests wired to Uniflex chamber output boards; sequence tested ok.

Vox chest wired to Uniflex chamber output boards and tested; some ciphers to be resolved, but wiring sequence tested ok.

Krumet chest restoration completed. Now tested and adjusted ready for installation.

Orchestral Oboe chest restoration is in progress.

Tuned Birdwhistle set moved from storage to Solo chamber ready for installation. Relay follower set made and installed. Connector socket fitted. Matching plug fitted to wires from Uniflex outputs.

Wiring ducts installed and wiring tidied in Solo chamber.

Swell and crescendo pedals wired to Uniflex input board.

Swell & crescendo pedal friction units are undergoing



re-felting.

Braces for 8' string pipe supports made and installed.

Relay follower units made for swell engines and installed alongside relevant Uniflex boards in Solo & Accompaniment. Electrically tested ok & Uniflex Definition File updated.

Effects unit in Solo wired to Uniflex output board.

Uniflex Definition File sent to Dick Wilcox for evaluation and comment.

Miscellaneous:

Orion Sand Block Unit modified to improve knife valve seating and cure ciphering.

New spring blocks made for Orion Piano pump regulator spring.

*John Weismantel, Vice President TOSA NSW Inc*

## **Show & Membership Prices**

	<b>All Artists</b>
Non-members	\$35
Non-member Pensioner/Seniors Card holder	\$30
Family 2 Adults incl children up to 19 yrs age	\$65
TOSA Members	\$25

**All Students FREE on confirmation of Student status**

**All Children FREE accompanied by an Adult**

Group Booking for 10 or more Adults \$22 per person

First time Adult \$20 cash by completed Voucher at Box Office

### **Annual Membership Fees 2018-19 until 15th June 2018:**

\$45.00 Full membership, \$35.00 Pensioner Concession, Inter-state or Overseas \$45. \$5 discount per membership if TOSA

News emailed to you

Membership enquiries David & Margaret Badman

(02) 4776 2192 [membership@tosa.net.au](mailto:membership@tosa.net.au)

**Time to Celebrate  
the 50th year of the Marrickville Wurlitzer  
at Marrickville Town Hall  
entertaining our TOSA Members  
and the Sydney Public.**

To help celebrate this special 50th year anniversary event and to try something our friends at TOSA Q in Brisbane have successfully used for some years, the hall will be laid out in cabaret style with tables and chairs. Each table will be covered and have a modest amount of free snacks (chips, nuts etc), cups and drinking water provided. Audience members are welcome to BYO additional snacks and drinks if they wish and this can include wine etc if you wish. TOSA NSW will not be selling any alcohol items so we are in compliance with licencing laws.

For afternoon tea we are also providing some enhanced options. To accompany your tea or coffee you will be able to select from a lamington, piece of slice or a gourmet biscuit. A slight price increase will be in place to cover this enhanced service.

Don't worry, even though the tables and chairs will be arranged "cabaret style" it will still be a theatre organ concert. There will not be dancing troupes, magic acts etc. All entertainment will be provided by John Giacchi from the console.

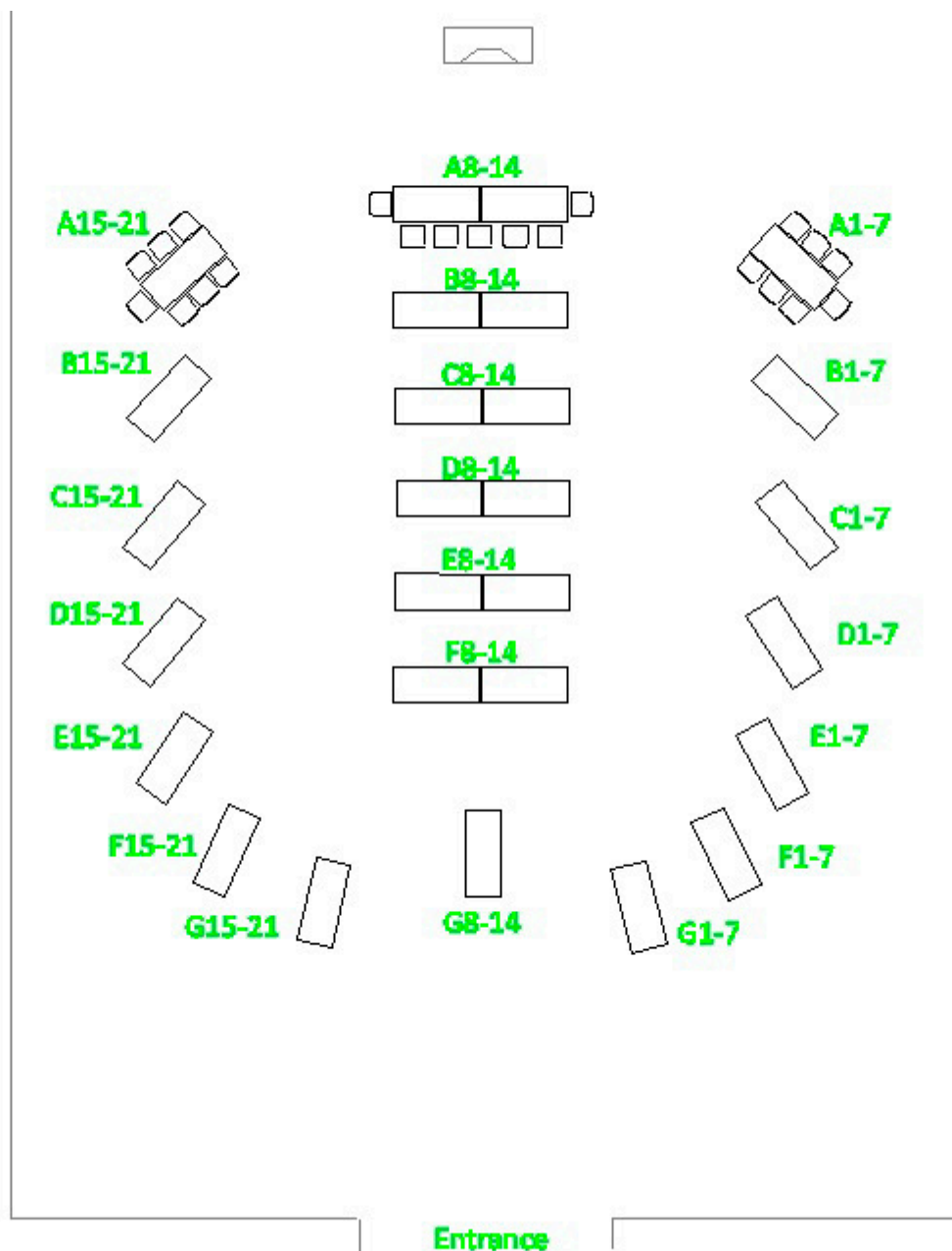
Part of the reason for the change to cabaret style is to provide some social interaction for members and audience. We also hope that this new layout will help absorb some of the lively audio reflection of the hall that has become more prevalent created by the new chairs and their non-padded shells .

The committee hopes that you and your friends will come along on June 3 to help celebrate and to welcome John Giacchi back to Sydney and Marrickville Town Hall.

*Craig Keller*

President TOSA NSW Divn Inc

# Seating arrangement for the June 3rd Anniversary Concert at Marrickville Town Hall



**TOSA's World of Entertainment Presents  
A 50th Anniversary Year Concert  
of the opening of the Marrickville Wurlitzer  
in Marrickville Town Hall in 1968**



**John Giacchi**

**Award winning, musical talent  
will play this celebration concert  
on**

**Australia's World Famous,  
fabulous Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra  
at Marrickville Town Hall  
Cnr Petersham & Marrickville Rds, Marrickville**

***Sunday 3rd June 2:00 – 4:30pm***

***Come and Join us - bring the grandchildren  
Bring your friends***

**The next concert will be at Marrickville Town Hall to celebrate the 50th Anniversary year of the opening of the former Prince Edward Theatre Sydney Wurlitzer.**

**This 2 manual 11 rank Wurlitzer** is considered by musicians the world over to be one of the most outstanding 2 manual Wurlitzer installations in the world due in no small way to the live accoustical environment of Marrickville Town Hall.

TOSA NSW own this wonderful musical instrument and are very proud of this Wurlitzer and the fact that it has been kept in excellent condition for members and the public to enjoy.

TOSA is pleased to announce that former NSW resident and Theatre Organist, **John Giacchi**, will be performing this concert. **John** played the Marrickville Wurlitzer for the 50th Anniversary of TOSA NSW in 2010. **John** will also be playing the Wurlitzer of the Nethercutt collection in Los Angeles, California in July this year as part of the American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS) Convention.

TOSA would appreciate you all telling as many people as you can about the significance of this musical instrument and the special occasion this presents.

Please encourage people to come along whilst they have the opportunity to enjoy the sound of one of the finest 2 keyboard Wurlitzers in the world.

Tickets : \$ 35; Conc \$ 30; Members \$25  
Adult Group of 10 or more \$22/person

First time attendance for Adults \$20 each by voucher at the  
box office

Download a voucher from [www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au)  
Students Free

## JOHN GIACCHI

**John Giacchi's** style at the keyboards is distinctive and individual and reflects his affinity for the orchestral repertoire gained from an early age. It was obvious that the theatre pipe organ, as the original "**Unit Orchestra**" was the very vehicle upon which he found his musical home.

In 1990, **John** became the first of a slew of Australian young organists to earn a place in the Senior Division of the American Theatre Organ Society's Young Organists Competition which entitled him to perform at the national convention in Indianapolis that year. Since that time, he has played concerts on every major instrument on the Australian concert circuit, has performed in New Zealand, the United Kingdom and, more proliferously, the United States where he will return next month to perform at the American Theatre Organ Society's national convention in Pasadena, California.

**John** has released 5 commercial recordings to critical acclaim: *Nightmoods* (1991), *Beyond The Blue Horizon* (1995), both of which were recorded at the Wurlitzer in the Orion Centre, Campsie, NSW, *Journey Into Melody* (2000), recorded on the 4/29 Wurlitzer-hybrid in the Capri Theatre, Goodwood, South Australia, and *Xanadu* (2 volumes in 2001 and 2003) on the 5 Manual, 80 rank organ in the Salon de Musique at the Sanfilippo residence in Barrington Hills, Chicago – the largest residential instrument in the world.

By vocation, **John** is the General Counsel for a large rural organisation. Avocationally, he tends to an extensive garden at his residence in Mount Macedon, Victoria and regularly participates in the CrossFit sport. John is also equally at home in the organ chambers as he is at the keyboards, and created a pipe/digital hybrid instrument of some 48 channels and 8 ranks of pipes, all playable from a 4-manual Wurlitzer console from the Chicago Theatre, Chicago, synonymous with the famed organist, Jesse Crawford. Having sold that instrument in 2017, he plans on embarking on a larger purely acoustic instrument at his Mount Macedon home.

# The Marrickville Wurlitzer – a brief history

*From Vice President – Neil Palmer*



When the **Prince Edward Theatre**, Sydney opened in November 1924, among its features was the then new-to-Sydney **Wurlitzer** pipe organ with its curved stop-rail console. The Wurlitzer model chosen was a style H 'special' consisting of a two-manual (keyboards) console and ten ranks (sets) of pipes. Its opus number is 875 (the 875th Wurlitzer theatre organ off the production line). What differed to the standard style H model in this instance is that the pipes were to be installed in three chambers as follows:

## **SOLO**

Harmonic Tuba 16-4'  
Tibia Clausa 8-4'  
Orchestral Oboe 8'  
Kinura 8'  
Xylophone  
Glockenspiel/Bells  
Traps & effects  
Piano (possibly unenclosed)

## **MAIN**

Clarinet 8'  
Open Diapason\* 16-4'  
Salicional 8-2'  
Voix Celeste 8-4'  
Bourdon/Flute 16-2'

## **ECHO**

Vox Humana 8'  
Chrysoglott  
Cathedral Chimes  
Sleigh bells

(\*Bottom 12 notes metal Diaphone pipes)



As it transpired, the Echo chamber space was not provided for so the Echo chamber contents were installed in the Main pipe chamber. Additional relays were provided for a roll player unit but it is unknown whether this was ever utilised. An unusual feature is that this was **one of five Wurlitzers** imported into this country that were voiced high-pitched.



The console was placed on a fixed platform to the right of the stage. American organist **Eddie Horton** was brought out to open the organ and, it was claimed, to also supervise its installation. Other American organists to grace the console were **Leslie V. Harvey** and **Julia Dawn**. The first of the Australian organists at the Prince Edward was **J. Knight Barnett**. He was followed by **Leslie Waldron** then **Kurt Herweg**.

But it was **Noreen Hennessy** who is the best remembered of all the organists who appeared there, no doubt due to her 19 1/2 year residency at the theatre commencing in August 1944 until February 1964. The organ then fell silent except for the occasion when it was played by **Bill Schumacher** for the premier of the



film Becket in September 1964.

After TOSA NSW had negotiated purchase of the Wurlitzer, It was presented for one final time with **Noreen Hennessy** at the console in August 1965.



### **Foyer of the Prince Edward Theatre - The Theatre Beautiful**

Removal of the organ then commenced. It would appear that the piano and roll player unit had previously been removed as they were not in the theatre when the organ was removed and the disused piano stops had been converted to inter-manual couplers i.e. Solo to Accomp at various pitches.

After negotiations with the then Marrickville Council had been successful, the organ was installed at Marrickville Town Hall over a three year period where it opened on 27th November 1968.

**Noreen Hennessy** had been invited to open the organ but after initially trying it, declined. The acoustics in Marrickville Town Hall were so different to what she had been used to at the Prince Edward. Former Hoyts organist **Ian Davies** opened the organ with associate artists, the **St Bridget's (Marrickville) Ensemble** and **Julie Carr** (Soprano). Proceeds went to the Children's Medical Research Foundation. As part of the opening celebrations, organist **Charles Tuckwell** was featured the following Sunday.

It soon became apparent that there was sound loss from the Main (right) pipe chamber down the stairwell and through a window, particularly from the bass registers. This was rectified by walling in the back and one side of the pipe chamber with several thicknesses of plasterboard. This meant that the electro-pneumatic relays were now segregated from the pipe chamber and it also provided some welcome workshop space.

During the mid 70's the pitch of the organ was lowered to the universal A=440 so that it could be used alongside other instruments, particularly a piano. This work was undertaken by **George Stephens** of Adelaide. As a workaround to the problem of the high-pitched percussions, the tonal percussions from the then stored Capitol Wurlitzer were installed at Marrickville.



**Jonas Nordwall**

**Jonas Nordwall** (USA) performed on the Marrickville Wurlitzer in 1974. On his return visit in 1976, he recommended changes to some of the winding circuits. For example, the Tibia, Oboe and Kinura ranks originally shared the one regulator and Tremulant but it was now desirable for the Tibia to have its own regulator and Tremulant (on Wurlitzer instruments of 15 ranks and greater, the Tibia has its own Tremulant.) This was achieved on the eve of the 1976 Convention concert with **Jonas** directing and physically helping with the changes. Also all 16' bass extensions were put onto a steady wind supply as previously they had been affected

by the Tremulant. The Tremulants were all adjusted for depth and speed. The Tibia, which had previously been available at 8 & 4' pitches was now available at 16' (to tenor C) 8, 4, 2 2/3, 2 and 1 3/5 pitches on the Solo manual. Twelve borrowed pipes were used to extend the Tibia to 2'. The inter-manual couplers were re-wired to provide the more useful intra-manual couplers: Solo Sub Octave, Unison off, Solo Octave, Solo to Pedal, Accomp Octave. Apparently to those who attended the 1976 convention, the improvement to the sound of the organ was quite dramatic. It was also during this time that a Christie Orchestral Trumpet rank was trialled to give the organ more "bite". This eventually led to the organ acquiring its own English Post Horn rank which started out as a church organ oboe but was modified into the English horn by **George Stephens**.

While the ex Capitol Wurlitzer remained in storage, its Marimba-Harp and Krumet rank were temporarily used at Marrickville (Krumet in place of the Kinura). Organists who played Marrickville during this time noted how much more versatile the Krumet rank was compared to the Kinura.



**The Marrickville Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra plate on the console**

Once installation of the ex Capitol Wurlitzer commenced at the Orion Theatre, Campsie, Its Marimba and Krumet were returned for installation there. This also meant that the other percussions on loan to Marrickville had to go to the Orion. The original Marrickville high-pitch percussions had their pitch lowered to match the pipe work and were installed. A Marimba-Harp from the USA was acquired for Marrickville sometime in the mid 80's and was paid for by the generous donation of a member.

*TO BE CONTINUED*

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## **Down Memory Lane**

*Articles from TOSA News May 1968*

### **TOSA NEWS MAY 1968**

#### **PATRON REGINALD DIXON MBE**

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NEW SOUTH WALES IN MAY  
WEDNESDAY 15th MAY AT 8pm. There will be a recital by member **DAVID PARSONS** at St Johns Church of England located in King Georges Road Penshurst. This is the largest electronic church organ installation in Australia. The installation was designed and supervised by our Honorary member **REUBERT HAYES** who will be present to give a commentary on the features of the installation which is a Conn Classic organ. A charge of 50c will be made to enable the Society to make a donation to the Church funds. Members may bring their friends to this function. All welcome.

SATURDAY 25th MAY AT 8am AT THE CAPITOL THEATRE There will be another of the very popular "Four Star Surprise Jam Sessions" featuring the mighty WurliTzer organ. The show commences at 8am, Admission will be a nominal 50c per person to cover costs and current membership cards **MUST** be produced at the door, The Society reserves the right to refuse admission to anyone unable to produce a current membership card. The Society hires the theatre for the benefit of TOSA members, and it is for this reason that membership cards must be shown at the door. A membership card covers the member, his wife, and student children.



SATURDAY 25th MAY AT 8pm. There will be a special demonstration of a Schober Concert organ in the Presbyterian Church Hall, 74 Bowden Street Ryde. Bowden Street crosses Victoria Road about half way between West Ryde and Top Ryde. The organist will be our member **LEN BADMAN** who will provide a variety programme of both popular and classical music including some vocal items. Every effort is being made to equip the Schober with the Schober Reverb-a-tape unit for the occasion. Admission is free, this is another FREE night for our members and tape recorders and cameras are welcome.

FRIDAY 5th APRIL THE JACK MALMSTEN CONCERT.

Presented by Steadfast Enterprises, The Winton Music Centre, and the Thomas Organ Co., **JACK MALMSTEN's** concert, at the Anzac Auditorium, was also played to a packed and enthusiastic house. **MR MALMSTEN**, the Company's official recitalist, was in Sydney for a few days only, during a globe-trotting tour on behalf of Thomas organs.

No less than five models of the Thomas range were on stage, and **JACK** featured each one, in turn. For the most part, he chose to play the theatre model, 811. Having attended the concert given for the Society, during his last visit here three or four years ago, we knew that **JACK MALMSTEN** was a most gifted performer indeed, and that we might, therefore, expect to hear some very fine playing on this occasion. We were not to be disappointed, In the years between, his dazzling technique has been even further tended, so that it may safely-be said, that his ability to exploit the many improvements and gimmicks, added to the Thomas organ during the last few years, has more than kept pace with these new developments. As well, his presentation technique has undergone a sucking up treatment, resulting in a more pithy, and crisper line of patter, that was as entertaining as it was informative. To carry off a recital such as this one, the artist needs enormous ability, musically and technically allied to the witty line of patter one expects from a TV compere, and **JACK MALMSTEN** revealed that he had both these qualities. Under his deft fingers, the 811 was revealed as a most versatile instrument, capable of a wide range of theatre organ sounds, straight organ tones, and also as a gimmicky instrument, more than usually adaptable to combo work, Bandleader, **Lawrence Welk** uses one in his orchestra for this purpose.

The Society extends its thanks to Mr Bruce Myers of Steadfast

Enterprises, The Winton Music Centre, and to the Thomas Organ Company, who brought JACK MALMSTEN to Australia. We greatly appreciated the opportunity of hearing this brilliant artist, who is so very able to bring forth from the Thomas organ, the best of which it is capable. The Society hopes to be included in any future visits to Sydney by JACK MALMSTEN. It was very obvious from the delighted applause of the audience, that this artist is a most popular one with members of the Society’.

#### THURSDAY 11th APRIL NOREEN HENNESSY SLAYS 'EM AT STATE THEATRE PREMIERE.

At very short notice (a couple of days only) our Honorary member, **NOREEN HENNESSY** as engaged by Greater Union Theatres, to play their 4/21 Wurlitzer organ for the Australian Premiere of the film, "*How To Save A Marriage And Ruin Your Life*". The occasion was distinguished by the personal appearance on stage, of one of the film's stars, **Miss Stella Stevens**, and Greater Union turned on a Hollywood style premiere, to make it the glittering occasion that it was.

A Royal Australian Navy band played outside the theatre, under a battery of Kleig lights. The red carpet was rolled out to the kerbside, police controlled the milling excited crowds, and every nook and cranny of the Stat's enormously long foyer was densely packed with moviegoers. A guard of honour, consisting of about a hundred lifesavers, all dressed in swim suits, and carrying their club's banners and pennants, lined each side of the red carpet right through from the street to the Mezzanine foyer, making this one of the most colourful premieres yet seen in Sydney.

The theatre's management had invited members of TOSA to have an organ concert in the theatre from 6pm until 7pm, after which members of the Society were to remain in their seats as guests of Greater Union for the Premiere at 8pm. This wonderful gesture by the Management, gave our members a wonderful night's entertainment for free, and the Society expresses its deepest thanks for such an exciting evening. And exciting it really was, with the great ivory console up from the pit no less than 4 times during the show. Despite the fact that the announcement of this Premiere was made only the night before at the **IAN DAVIES** concert at Chatswood, there were at least 150 of our members and friends, present in the theatre at 6pm for our special concert by **NOREEN HENNESSY**.

## **Members Diary**

Next Committee Meeting - Monday June 4th at 7:00pm

West Ryde Anglican Church

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**Sunday 3rd June 2:00pm**

**Come to the Party  
to celebrate with**

**John Giacchi**

**playing the Marrickville Wurlitzer  
in its**

**50th Anniversary year  
at Marrickville Town Hall**

**Cabaret style seating**

**if you wish to reserve a seat and or a table and  
to assist with catering please contact  
Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131 Before 8:00pm please**

More details inside this issue

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

[www.omss.org.au](http://www.omss.org.au) (our sister society, Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)  
[www.ATOS.org](http://www.ATOS.org) American Theatre Organ Society

***\*Theatre Organ Magic\** on RNB - FM from Sydney, NSW, Australia.**

88.7 FM and 90.3 FM 12 noon first Sunday of the month for one hour

**Web Sites of Interest:** <https://www.facebook.com/tosansw>

[www.ATOS.org](http://www.ATOS.org) American Theatre Organ Society

# TOSA NEWS

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