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T.O.S.A. NEWS

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

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DIRECT FROM BRITAIN
LEN RAWLE



IN CONCERT
MARRICKVILLE
TOWN HALL
SUNDAY. 22nd
NOVEMBER
AT
2.30 PM

ADMISSION

ADULTS \$5.00

TOSA MEMBERS \$4.00

CONCESSION \$2.50

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR
PHONE ENQUIRIES 759 6050

TOSA PRESS.

2...

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Edna Smith (529 7379) PRACTISE CONVENOR: Chris Palmer (92 6534)

RESEARCH & ARCHIVES: Ian Cameron, RECORDING ENGINEER: Ray Garret,
(869 7247)

COMING FUNCTIONS

HOME ORGAN PARTY Sunday 1st November at 2.30 pm SELWYN THEATRE
13 Rosemont Avenue, Mortdale. Phone: 57 3581
Featuring: BEVERLY KENNEDY & BERNARD WALZ.

COMMITTEE MEETING Monday 2nd November at 7.30 pm St. Annes Church Hall
Beresford Rd., Strathfield.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Wednesday 18th November at 7.30 pm
MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL.

RAILWAY CABARET Friday 20th November at 6.45 pm, MARRICKVILLE TOWN
HALL. This enjoyable evening of Wine..Dine..Dance
is open to all TOSA Memembrs and friends at a cost
of \$21 a double or \$10.50 a single. Book IMMEDIATELY
with Mrs. Pam Tooker, 114 Mitchell Street, Croydon Park
2133. Please enclose Christian and Surnames of your
party to assist in preparation of name tags.
BOOK EARLY!!! Bookings close on Friday November 6th.
Please ring 74 1535 or 569 3775 for any enquiries.

OVERSEAS ARTIST Sunday 22nd November at 2.30 pm Marrickville Town Hall.
Special Guest Artist LEN RAWLE direct from the UK.
Booking form inside this issue.

HOME ORGAN PARTY Sunday 29th November at 2.30 pm at the home of our
two members: John & Jill Clark, 17 Second Avenue,
Berala. Admission: Gents \$2 & Ladies \$1.50 who are
asked to bring a plate towards afternoon tea. Please
ring Jill Clark after tea time on 649 7497 for bookings.

TOSA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday 9th December 1981 at 7pm at:
CANTERBURY LEAGUES CLUB. ALL TOSA members AND their
friends are cordially invited to attend this night
of getting together for fun and entertainment.

Special Menu: Entree: Prawn Cocktail

Chicken Vols-Au-Vent

Resident Guest Organist
FREDDIE MACK.

Main Course: Dory Fillets

New York cut beef, served
with crisp salad.

Sweets: Pavlova or Cheeseplate

Coffee & Mints.

Our Executive and Committee and Ladies are anxious
to be able to join you all for this happy end of year
Christmas gathering. Cost is \$12 per head.

See inside for booking details.

NEW MEMBERS A cordial welcome is extended to the following new members
for October 1981....John Love, Sawtell: Les and Elizabeth
Jackson, Narellan: Paq Macks, Hurstville.

LEN RAWLE

At the age of four, Len Rawle started on the long and arduous path of music by studying the piano in its serious form which continued until he reached the age of 18 when he was called to the Colours for National Service. Just prior to that fateful day in 1956, Len joined the Theatre Organ Club and Cinema Organ Society (he doesn't say which first!) because of an almost inherited interest in organ music gained from his father.

Music can do wonderful things for a man and certainly did for Len. Because of his prowess as an entertainer and accompanist, he was too good an asset for the powers-that-were at Aldershot to let him be drafted away. Thus he remained at Aldershot for all of the two years (some ex-soldiers might doubt the advantage of that!) organising and appearing in all the entertainments designed to keep the inmates from sinking deeper into the depths of despair, plus playing for church.

It was at Aldershot that Len first came into contact with a real live cinema organ — a seven rank Wurlitzer housed in the ABC Theatre there. He pestered the life out of the then manager to let him play and eventually, his determination and tenacity paid off. He immediately fell in love with what

is colloquially known as the 'Wurlitzer Sound' — a sound beloved by many enthusiasts. He became fascinated with its orchestral like qualities and spent a great deal of his leisure time (sometimes in the early hours of the morning) finding out just how many different sounds were obtainable — a trait which he retains to this day and one for which he is now famous. In Len's own words, he "dissected what it was all about."

Some time later, when he had finished his National Service, the Granada, Wandsworth Road, was flooded and he and his father bought the 3 manual 8 rank organ from there and installed it in Mr. Rawle senior's house.

It was in 1961 that Len heard that the Empire, Leicester Square was to be pulled down. That cinema had been the home of a 4 manual 19 rank Wurlitzer since 1927 when it had cost £35,000 to install. (Wonder what that would represent in our modern decimated currency?). This organ was reputed to be unique in that it was a 'special', particularly in its console design and percussion.

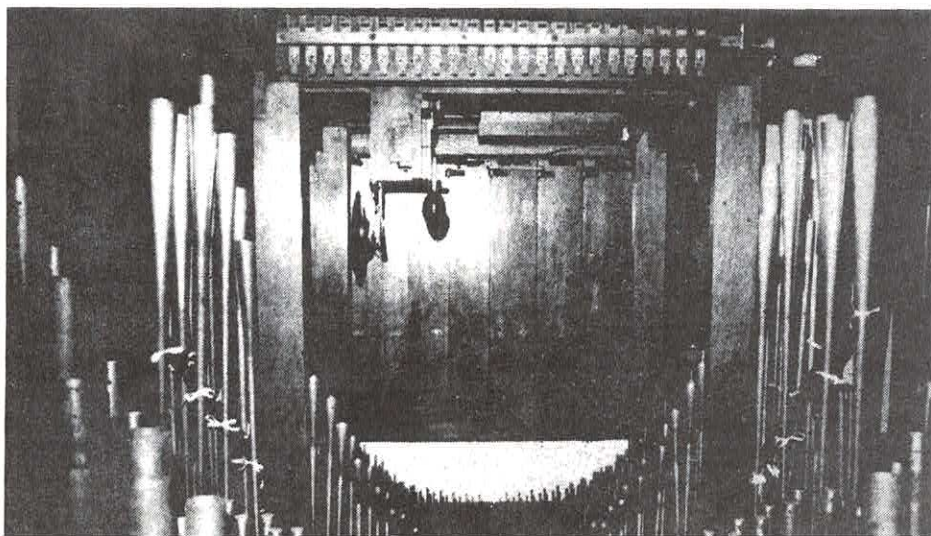
Len's bid was accepted because as he says, "The management were pleased that the instrument was to



be preserved in its entirety." However, there was a time limit of three weeks in which it had to be removed as the demolition squad were due to move in then.

At a time like that, you really find out who are your true friends and Len must have been thankful that he was so popular! Removing six 16ft ranks, alone, is not a job for the faint-hearted much less the manhandling of monstrous wind chests. But succeed they did with two hours to spare. Perhaps the most significant thing about the operation was that Len met a young lady named Judith who was to become his bride some three years later in 1964. He is quick to point out that Judith has been as involved as he has in the whole project. He must surely be the envy of many organ enthusiasts to have had marital co-operation to that extent!

Having removed the organ from the Empire, they were faced with the problems we mentioned at the beginning — what to do with it. For the next four years, all the bits and pieces were stored in Len's father's house in Northolt whilst a home for its re-installation was sought. There was almost a complete lack



PROFILE

(CONTINUED)

so there was only one thing to do — build a place. Fortunately for Len, his 'normal' occupation was that of being a surveyor so that building his own house was not as daunting as it might have been to a man with no connection with the building trade.

For the next two years, Len and Judith put on their overalls and physically laid 65,000 bricks, amongst other things, to make the unique two-part house — half for the organ and the remainder in which to live. One of the problems of designing such an emporium is to contain the sound within the pipe chamber. This needs to be done for two reasons — the more important being that if it were not well insulated, the swells would lose their effectiveness and second, all the sound, even with the swells wide open had to be more or less contained lest the neighbours objected. Success was achieved by building the walls of the chamber 18 inches thick and pouring the ceiling with concrete 11 inches thick. The ceiling had to withstand the unusual weight of the relay racks.

In all, it took two years to install the organ, during which time another five ranks were added making it the largest Wurlitzer in Europe, which task was a family affair although all the electrics and wind were done by Len alone. Then came the monumental task of balancing the organ. For this, recordings of the organ whilst at the Empire were used and Len claims, justifiably so, that it is now perfectly balanced. So good was the final outcome that the installation has become the yardstick by which almost all other home installations are compared and indeed the example upon which so many others are modelled. Visitors from every country in the world where theatre organs are known, have visited the house in Chorleywood to see how it should be done. These visitors have included manufacturers of electronic organs who have been in search of the authentic sounds in

ally.

It is interesting to note that the name of the house is 'Tonawanda' which all enthusiasts will know was the town in New York State where the famous Wurlitzer organs were built.

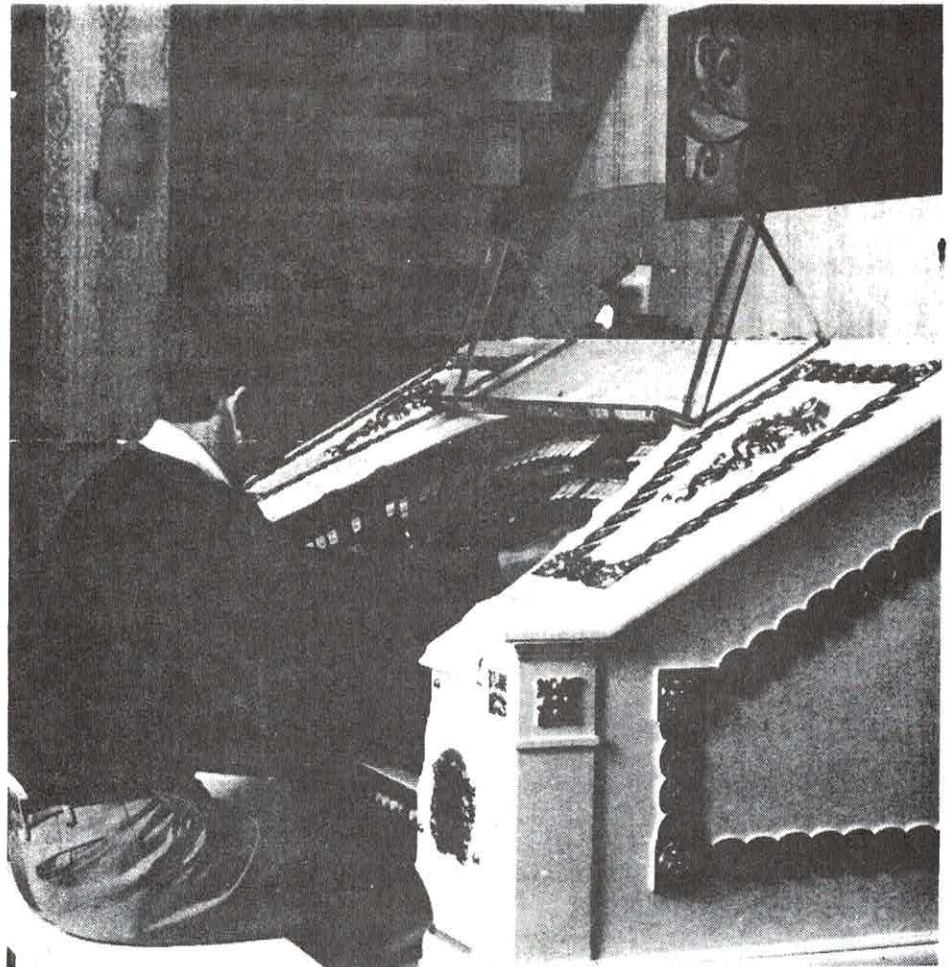
During all this pandemonium, the Rawle found time to raise a family which now consists of Elizabeth aged 12, Richard aged 10 and little Georgina who has yet to see her fourth birthday.

It was in 1967 that the installation was considered to be complete. Two years later, the organ, played by Len of course, was featured in the very first 'The Organist Entertains' programme presented by that biggest organ 'nut' of all, Robin Richmond.

Even the recording story is fascinating. At first it was E.M.I. who recorded the new installation

to be followed later on by Ad-Rhythm. Today, Len sets up his own tape recorder and becomes producer and engineer. The records are marketed by Tonawanda Sound (that name again!) and although they are not on sale in record shops, writing to Len (enclosing the appropriate sized cheque or postal order, naturally) will bring a prompt reply.

Three years ago, Len decided to leave the world of surveying and moved to become the Musical Director of Kemble/Yamaha, thus, as he says, what originally started out to be a musical hobby has now become his life. Changing professions at an age when he has the responsibility of a home and family has not worried Len who believes in his final quotation — "My life always falls into place as indeed did the organ."



T.O.S.A. CHRISTMAS PARTY

CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN LEAGUE CLUB LTD.

26 Bridge Road, Belmore,



Featuring the Ever Popular
FREDDIE MACK
as
RESIDENT ORGANIST/VOCALIST

Wednesday 9th December 1981 at 7 pm.

Cost \$12 per head.

DINING and DANCING

This GET TOGETHER night has been specially designed so that your Executive and Committee and our Ladies Committee can have the pleasure of mixing in with the members just for one night, and relax without doing any work and enjoy your company.

Special Menu Entree: Prawn Cocktail
Chicken Vols-Au-Vent

Main Course : Dory Fillets
New York cut Beef
served with crisp salad.

Sweets : Pavlova or Cheeseplate
Coffee & Mints.



PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE AND LADIES !!

COME ALONG AND MAKE THIS A HAPPY CHRISTMAS GATHERING,
AND DONT FORGET, MAKE UP A PARTY AND INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!!



STOP PRESS !!! STOP PRESS !!! STOP PRESS !!! STOP PRESS !!!

THE NATIONAL THEATRE ORGAN CONVENTION WHICH CANNOT TAKE



BRITISH MUSEUM Planning 50th Anniversary for former REGAL Wurlitzer.

On 15th February 1932, the late Reginald Foort opened the Wurlitzer organ installed in the Regal Cinema at Kingston, a suburb of London. On the same day, 50 years later, 1982, the organ will have an anniversary party in its new home, the Musical Museum in Brentford, London, it was announced last month. A booklet with colour photos has been published by the Museum about the organ. (This instrument is best known to Australian enthusiasts per medium of the many fine recordings made on it by Joseph Seal.)

RADIO STATION buys Wurlitzerised Tennessee Theatre in Knoxville.

Knoxville, Tennessee, U.S.A. Radio Station WIVK has purchased the Tennessee Theatre and Burwell Building. The purchase negotiations were completed during June. The theatre will be operated as a multi-dimensional entertainment facility, it was disclosed by the new owners.

Shows will include continuance of the old movie series, special films, various forms of entertainment and Broadway plays as well as rock concerts. The theatre has a Style 260 Wurlitzer pipe organ (same as our ex-Capitol) which will probably be included in the programming schedule.

MIDMER LOSH ORGAN Goes down with building.

A two manual Midmer Losh theatre pipe organ installed in the R.K.O. Theatre in Mineola, New York, apparently was destroyed when the theatre building was demolished recently. Details about the demolition are lacking, but it is believed the theatre chain razed the structure without advance notice in fear of having it declared as historical, or having local preservationists attempt to delay wrecking operations so that it might become a performing arts centre. These assumptions have not been confirmed.

OAKLAND PARAMOUNT'S Historical Posters.

Three attractive posters produced by the Oakland Paramount Theatre are available for collectors and organ buffs. The Paramount Plays Again is printed in colours on metallic silver and measures 16 x 19 3/4 inches. The Mighty Wurlitzer poster, measuring 13 1/2 x 25 inches, is printed in three colours on white background and advertises the premiere of the Mighty Wurlitzer with George Wright at the Console. The third poster has the Wurlitzer name at the top, a drawing of a man seated at the console and on the lower portion has three columns of text. One column is a brief history on theatre organs; the middle column explains the two organ installations in the theatre; Column three lists donors to the organ fund. Posters cost \$2.00 each, \$3.50 by mail, and any two by mail are \$6.00. Mailing tube and postage costs are expensive! Please identify posters wanted when ordering from:-

Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, California 94612.
(Any person wishing to order from Australia would need to add more for postage as rates quoted are for U.S. domestic destinations.)

OUR STATE THEATRE Featured in Console Magazine.

Sydney's State Theatre was the subject of a fine article in the July '81 issue of "The Console" magazine from the U.S.A. The cover featured a full page colour photograph of part of the proscenium and the organ console. The article was twelve pages in length and was provided by Peter Beames of the S.A. Division

OVERSEAS NEWS (Cnt'd)SIMONTON WURLITZER RESTORATION WORK NEAR COMPLETION.

Refurbishing of the four-manual 36 rank Wurlitzer organ in the R. C. Simonton residence, Toluca Lake, North Hollywood, will be completed this month and the organ will be ready for recording and concert presentations, it was disclosed by Steve Ross, who is associated with the work underway.

Reservoirs have been releathered and the manuals were sent to Pacific Piano for rebushing and adjusting. During the week of August 17th console pneumatics were being finished. Final voicing and regulation of the instrument will be started. It is the plan to recapture the original Crawford sound. The late, noted theatre organist wrote the specification for the Simonton organ. He also recorded his last albums on it. His hand-written combinations for the final album recording sessions are still on file at the Simonton residence.

JUNCHEN VOICING SAX RANK FOR GEO. WRIGHT.

Organman Dave Junchen will voice the brass sax rank in George Wright's residence organ. The work will be done in the chamber where it will play. Wright said that the in-chamber voicing will give the proper perspective with the rest of the instrument.

SEATTLE PARAMOUNT OWNERS TO SPEND \$500,00 ON RENOVATION & RESTORATION.

Volotin Investment Company has acquired the Seattle Paramount Theatre for \$1,400,000 (US) and will spend about \$500,000 to renovate and refurbish the once lavish structure. It is planned to reopen the former movie palace in October under a new programming policy which will have six concert artists each playing a week's date and special attractions during the holidays will be offered on a subscription basis. Refurbishing will be done in three phases - recapeting, reupholstering seats and reconstruction where necessary. The 4/20 Wurlitzer organ will be retained, it was declared.

MARIA KUMAGAI AT SAN GABRIEL CIVIC AUDITORIUM WURLITZER, LOS ANGELES.

Maria Kumagai, recognized as an international organist, both in the classical and theatre concert fields, comes to San Gabriel Civic Auditorium, Sunday, Sept 13. During August she appeared in concert at Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris and also in another classical programme in Amsterdam. On November 28th, she will appear in concert at the Ohio Theatre, Columbus. It will be her first programme at the Ohio.

MILLER TO OPEN KINGSTON ORGAN.

Ashley Miller was scheduled to perform the Grand Opening Concert on Canada's largest theatre pipe organ on Sept. 17th in Kingston, Ontario. The Concert climaxes four years of effort by a local group of theatre organ devotees to bring live theatre organ music to Kingston. These members of the Kingston Theatre Organ Society heard their first musical sounds from the organ just over a year ago and since last Fall, the organ has been used at regular church services in its home, the Church of the Redeemer.

The Kimball is a three-manual, 21-rank instrument plus piano and six tuned percussion ranks. The console contains 256 stop tabs and 70 combination pistons. It was originally installed in a theatre in Youngstown, Ohio. It has been rebuilt completely with advice from a number of top performing artists and technical experts, including the use of solid state technology. Miller, as a leading theatre organist, and, at the same time, an accomplished classic organist, is uniquely suited to showing off the capabilities of the Kimball. His programme consisted of popular, light classic and classic works. Organman Allen Miller has been in Kingston, Ontario, since August 1978.

OVERSEAS NEWS. (cont.)THEATRE ORGAN IN CONTINUOUS RENAISSANCE.

On July 22nd, George Wright was engaged by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer to play three different organs for a major motion picture. He performed on the 20th Century Fox Music Stage 3/18 Wurlitzer and two electronic organs. He was heard by other producers who had been notified about Wright's participation in the feature film. They were on hand to hear him record the Wurlitzer and out of this session came an offer to consider playing the organ to record full opening title music for a film that is already "in the can". The feature, a comedy, is set in the thirties. Wright reported that negotiations are underway, but nothing could be confirmed at this time.

Allied with the obviously excellent exposure that will be given to theatre and entertainment-type organs in the film, pipe organs broke into the news in, of all places, the Los Angeles Times' Calendar Section published Sunday, August 16th, under the jazz pages. The boost for theatre organ was written by Leonard Feather. He named Lee Erwin, Dick Hyman and Keith Jarrett, who have recorded albums on pipe organs. Fats Waller's name is also brought into play.

Wright's playing was for the sound track of "All the Marbles", a story of two lady mud wrestlers. MGM's music department specified that the organ playing be of the type heard in arenas and stadiums.

"MGM didn't stint on money," Wright said, "Their own music studio building was torn up for remodeling and arrangements were made with 20th-Century Fox to use the Wurlitzer. It is in fair condition and was fully suitable for the role. I think it is wonderful that it was used!" he added. Frank Devol did the score for the feature and requested that Wright be engaged to do the playing.

Another important thing to come out of this unique experience centred around the personnel in MGM's music department. "I was particularly grateful to learn that young people in their twenties are in charge of the music department. They researched and discovered that the organ was used extensively in such places that are depicted in the film and specified this type of music.

- - News sources courtesy of "Console Magazine".

YAMAHA ORGAN FESTIVAL

On Saturday 5th December the Yamaha Organ Festival is to be held in the Lidcombe Hospital Recreation Hall, commencing at 7 pm. Leading stars of the Yamaha Organ and Keyboard Musical group plus electric organ champions and regional finalists to play.

Yamaha have kindly organised this recital to raise funds for Disabilities Unlimited in the year of the Disabled and it should prove a very entertaining evening. Admission is: Adults:\$4, Pensioners:\$3, Children 12 yrs & under:\$2. Tickets are available through: Disabilities Unlimited, P.O.Box 251 LIDCOMBE 2141. Ring 649 1000 for enquiries.

DAVID PARSONS will be giving a recital at St. George's Anglican Church, Minnamorra Avenue, Earlwood, on Friday 27th November at 7.45 pm. Tickets are available at the door but please ring 553171 and advise your attendance, so suitable catering can be arranged.

WARRINGAH ORGAN SOCIETY will be presenting Dennis Bedson and Len Thomas in concert on Monday 16th November, at 7.30 pm at the Narrabeen RSL, Nareen Parade, Nth Narrabeen. They will be featuring two Technics (National) organs, one of which will be a 400 just released. All members are welcome to attend to hear

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1981.

THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA N.S.W. DIVISION.

The Committee has met on the first Monday of each month to conduct the business of the Society and the attendance of Executive and Committee has been excellent. Further meetings have been held for programming for the year 1982 as well as discussion on organ maintenance and restoration. Further meetings will be held very soon for several important projects considered necessary to the advancement of the N.S.W. Division.

MEMBERSHIP: As at the end of September the membership stood at 365 metropolitan and 80 country, interstate and overseas making a total of 445 members. This is a very encouraging number of members to support the role of the Theatre Organ in N.S.W. and we look forward to exceeding the 500 mark in the near future.

TOSA NEWS: Members will have seen a considerable change in the format and content of our NEWS during the year which has been due to the hard work and generation of ideas by committee member Ron Wilson and his wife Phyl and committee member Doug Smith. The purchase of a platemaking machine has enabled better reproduction of typed material and the ability to dress up the magazine. All publicity and tickets are prepared by the Society and all printing work is now done on the Society's own printing press thanks to Ron, Phyl and Doug.

PROGRAMME: By the end of the year we will have arranged 7 home organ parties, 4 club nights, 3 free concerts, 3 paid concerts, one of which will be the English Organist - LEN RAWLE -, and 2 charity concerts in the INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE DISABLED - one for The Spastic Centre of N.S.W. and one for the Handicapped Childrens Centre of N.S.W. Members will have visited Bondi Waverley RSL Club on 2 occasions at the invitation of our Patron, Ian Davies, and they will have enjoyed a coach trip to Bundanoon. Finally there will be the Christmas Party at Canterbury - Bankstown Leagues Club Ltd. where we can "All Get Together" to round off the year after a total of 23 functions during the year to provide members with a variety of entertainment and activities. Of course there was the very successful National Convention in Brisbane at Easter which was enjoyed by over 40 members from our Division. It's been a very good year.

RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE : At the close of 1980, the Marimba Harp from the former Capitol Theatre Wurlitzer Organ was rebuilt and installed in the Solo Chamber at Marrickville and over the Christmas break the 4 rank chest from the Solo Chamber was completely overhauled and rewired together with improvement of the pallet action and replacement of all pallet arms with the spooned design. Electrical contacts have been purchased for the 3/15 console and negotiations are in progress to have the keyboards done up. Discussions are currently being held in connection with replacement of the main cable at Marrickville. Replacement of the organ enclosure at Marrickville is also receiving close attention. The chrysoglott from the Marrickville organ was completely overhauled during the year with excellent results. At first this overhaul looked like a simple task which should take about two weekends, however the replacement of the valves and felts was a slow and steady job together with the re-assembly of the magnets complete with new gaskets. The whole task took some 7 weeks

EX CAPITOL THEATRE 3/15 WURLITZER: Negotiations have continued throughout the year with several Council's and with the Powerhouse Museum, for the placement of this organ. The development at Ashfield did not provide for a large enough auditorium and has therefore been eliminated. There has been another move of the components of the organ to the homes of some members of the Society for which we are most grateful. As mentioned earlier, new contacts have been purchased for the stop rails and the keyboards are to be done up.

IMPROVEMENTS: The Society has purchased it's own microphones to ensure consistent presentation and less handling for the organist. As mentioned, we have purchased a platemaking machine to speed up the printing process and considerably broaden the possibilities for printing. The printing press is operating like clockwork now, thanks to the attention given to it by our committee member , Ron Wilson, during the year.

CONCERTS: All concerts have run smoothly thanks to the full support of all the members involved in the presentation of them and the co-operation of all the artists. The refreshments have been most enjoyable thanks to the band of helpers under the capable organisation of Phyl Wilson. The demand for refreshments has increased during the year in proportion to the increased attendances at our concerts which are most encouraging to the committee and we look forward to seeing even more members at concerts next year, for which we have arranged an exciting programme. The interest shown in the recordings for sale has also been encouraging and we will continue to provide one of the largest selection of Theatre Organ Recordings in Australia from which to purchase. The two Charity Concerts this year raised approximately \$1,800 in total, which was a significant contribution to the IYDP. The appointment of John Clarke as Publicity Officer during the year has resulted in many interesting ideas being used in concert promotion and a lot of work being done on advertising through the media. Promotion is a time consuming activity and we are extremely grateful to John for his contribution.

CONCLUSION: The year has seen further progress in this Division of T.O.S.A. and we look forward to next years programme with enthusiasm. The Executive and Committee have worked well together and express their appreciation to the many other groups who perform various tasks behind the scenes to ensure that this Division runs smoothly, maintains a high standard, and makes progress. I wish to thank Norm Weismantel for taking the minutes for me during the year and both Betty and Norm Weismantel for typing and preparing the minutes for distribution.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 7:30 P.M. MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE N.S.W. DIVISION WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL FOR THE DECLARATION OF THE POLL OF OFFICERS FOR 1982. ALL FINANCIAL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND CAST YOUR VOTE. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND PLEASE FORWARD YOUR VOTE BY POST AND PLAY

85 Duffy Avenue
THORNLEIGH 2120
8th October, 1981


The Secretary
The Theatre Organ Society of Australia
N.S.W. Division.

Nominations for office for 1982

At the close of nominations on 7th October, 1981,
the following had been received:

<u>PRESIDENT</u>	Alan Misdale	(unopposed)
<u>VICE- PRESIDENTS</u>	Doug. Smith Frank Ellis	(Unopposed)
<u>SECRETARY</u>	Ernest Vale	(unopposed)
<u>TREASURER</u>	Edna Smith	(unopposed)
<u>MINUTE SECRETARY</u>	Norm. Weismantel	(unopposed)
<u>COMMITTEE</u>	Robert Gliddon Bill Schumacher Chris. Palmer Ron. Wilson Peter Held John Weismantel Phyllis Wilson	(ballot required to select six)

Ballot paper for printing attached.


(R.D. Blackmore)
Returning Officer.

THE LUCKY FORTY

I would describe the forty or more members who attended the Slide Night presented by Ian Hanson on Wednesday 30th September, as " the lucky forty " for they were priviledged to enjoy a sentimental journey through Australia's cinemas, ranging from the most lavish capital city house to the simple cinema found in every suburban shopping centre and country town.

Alas, most of these, unfortunately, have long since been demolished or have been put to other uses, but through Ian Hanson's amazingly comprehensive slide collection, they came back to us in all their fprmer glory.

Ian's years of research during his pursuit of cinema photos and slides was revealed in his quite extensive knowledge of the subject, and resulted in a fascinating commentary which gave us the maximum information with the minimum amount of chatter as we viewed cinemas in all States from Western Australia to sunny Queensland. Those theatres which had been graced with the " King of Instruments" received special attention and we saw some fine close - ups of the various organs.

Our warm thanks to Ian for his time and effort, to Tony James for operating the slide machine and to Warren Wood for the loan of the giant screen which did so much to enhance the colorful slides.

To those members who did not attend the function, my deep sympathy - YOU MISSED A WONDERFUL NIGHT OF PURE NOSTALGIA.

Frank Ellis.

CHARITY CONCERT, Marrickville Town Hall, Sunday 11th October.

Obviously dedicated to the cause of Handicapped Children, Valda Lang, well known to TOSA audiences arranged and played a full afternoon of fine organ music supported by that well known Operatic and TV personality, Marie Tysoe and Judith Kramer.

It was thrilling to hear the powerful and clear mezzo-soprano voice of Marie Tysoe rendering such numbers as Waltz of the Heart, Shall we Dance etc and afterwoods some memories of Gladys Moncrieff.

Valda Lang really worked the organ over in an excellent rendition of the fairy tale, Peter and the Wolf, a very difficult and demanding task. This story was narrated by Judith Kramer, a powerful personality whose narration was crystal clear and skilfully timed. Judith also sang some children's songs, The Ugly Duckling, The King's New Clothes and Give a Little Whistle, with full audience participation!!

The concert ended with the three gracious ladies in, 'I'll See You Again' and we most certainly hope so!

As a result of the concert, the Handicapped Children's Centre (along with Government subsidies) now has another \$5000 of purchasing power, a very rewarding amount indeed. Our sincere thanks to Valda Lang, Marie Tysoe and Judith Kramer for an afternoon of very enjoyable entertainment.

OPERATION

Well known member Norm Reid went into the Pacific Private Hospital at Brighton on the 11th October for removal of his gall bladder after the usual discomfort preceding such operation. We wish Norm a good recovery soon, and better health to follow.

FOUNDATION MEMBER

We recently learned that a foundation member of the Society had passed away. The late Norm Stinson lived in Blayney and was a financial member for 22 years. Norm was Vice-President in the years, 1960,61,62,63. The Society extends sincere sympathy to his family.

EDITH ROHANEK

We were sorry to hear that Frank's wife Edith had an unfortunate accident in which she injured her ankle and has been confined to 'light' duties whilst recuperating. This has hindered her practise on the organ and we do hope that she is soon able to play both keys and pedals again soon.

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY is extended to Phil, Alan, Ross Davies and family and to John and Jill Clark in their recent bereavments.

NEWS FROM THE QUEENSLAND DIVISION

"We have decided to undertake a 'Convention Tour' of New Zealand during March 1982. We would be very happy if other Divisions would join us in a visit to our neighbours and enjoy hospitality with our New Zealand counterparts.

Tours can leave from both Sydney and Brisbane at times arranged so that we would all meet up in Auckland. The tour from Brisbane is currently quoted at \$812 return for a minimum coach load of 44 people and we are sure a similar price could be obtained for a second group departing from Sydney. Kirklands Overseas Travel can do all bookings for the Society as a National Body and thus keep prices at the absolute minimum, due to a larger group...A suggested draft itinerary is attached:-----

Warren H.White
Hon. Secretary.

Day 1	Friday 5th	Brisbane/Sydney to Auckland	5 Pyrope Street
2	Saturday 6th	Auckland : Local sightseeing	Camp Hill Qld. 4152.
		Evening function with Local Organ Society	
3	Sunday 7th	Auckland to Tauranga	
4	Monday 8th	Tauranga : Lunch hour concert in conjunction with the Home Organ Society of Tauranga.	
5	Tuesday 9th	Tauranga to Rotorua	
6	Wednesday 10th	Rotorua : Sight seeing	
7	Thursday 11th	Rotorua to Napier - evening function	Hawke's Bay O/
8	Friday 12th	Napier to Wellington	
9	Staurday 13th	Wellington : Sight seeing - Afternoon Theatre Organ concert	
10	Sunday 14th	Wellington to South Island by Air	
11-15	Monday 15th to Friday 19th	Tour of South Island, including: Mount Cook, Southern Lakes etc.	
16	Saturday 20th	Chrishchurch : Sight seeing	
		Evening Function with Christchurch Organ Society.	

14...

A HIDDEN ARTFORM?

For some strange reason, I have recently been getting an influx of messages in verse. I dont know whether people are too shy to write or whether music is effecting their soul and switches them on to poetry...perhaps it's a hidden talent been bursting for years to get out!! Here's one that I thought worth mentioning....

To TOSA..Marrickville. (by Marie Pike)

The organ concerts you present
Are well and truly, an 'event'
You really must feel satisfaction
To know they're Sydney's "Main Attraction"
This news floats from the radio
when CH says..be up and go
To Marrickville Town Hall to-day
For entertainment, bright and gay
The standard's high..right to the end
So just make sure that you attend!
It really makes one feel delighted
To know that they have been 'invited'.

Thanks indeed to Marie Pike for this poem which I'm sure expresses the sentiments of us all. I feel sure that it will be an inspiration to all our members.

A NEW POLICY DECISION

At a recent Committee Meeting a decision was made that any member who is a bona-fide pensioner and who practises on our Wurlitzer Organ, will do so, FREE of charge. This will take effect immediately.

D.T.Smith
(Hon.Vice-Pres.)

This organisation acknowledges financial assistance from the N.S.W. Government through the Premier's Department, Division of Cultural Activities.

STOP PRESS!!! STOP PRESS!!! STOP PRESS!!! STOP PRESS!!!

THE NATIONAL THEATRE ORGAN CONVENTION WHICH CANNOT TAKE PLACE IN ADELAIDE NEXT YEAR HAS NOT BEEN FORGOTTEN BY OUR N.S.W. DIVISION!!

WATCH YOUR NEXT ISSUE OF TOSA NEWS FOR A BIG ANNOUNCEMENT!!

HELP PROMOTE YOUR SOCIETY!!

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THE ENCLOSED PAMPHLETS TO YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS!!!!!!

DONT FORGET,...

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE AT THE END OF DECEMBER, NEXT MONTH'S NEWS WILL CONTAIN A SUBSCRIPTION FORM, PLEASE ASSIST BY PAYING YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IMMEDIATELY. THIS WILL SAVE ENDLESS