

TOSA NEWS

October 2011
Volume 50 No.9

Price: \$2.00

Sunday 9th October 2:00pm

Home Organ Party at Michael's Place

13 Greygum Place, Gymea Bay NSW 2227

Saturday 12th November 2:00pm

Annual General Meeting

St Columb's Anglican Church

West Ryde

Sunday 4th December 2:00pm

"The Christmas Show"

Tony Fenelon & John Atwell

Orion Theatre, Campsie

Directory

Patrons

John Gorrie and John Atwell

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Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)

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From the President



Twelve months ago I wrote that a venue had been found for the Christie but that all the legal formalities were still to be worked through. At last I can report that all documentation and approvals have been finalized. As you know, work has commenced on restoration work. Chamber space was originally allocated for the organ when the church was built. Our first job at West Ryde is to provide "attic ladder" access to the chamber area which then requires flooring and walls for the chambers. Plan to be at the AGM to hear more.

Theo Langenberg is in the process of taking over from Kath Harding as Ticket Secretary. Kath has given valiant service for ten years in this job and I am sure that all members join me in thanking her for a job well done and at the same time welcoming Theo.

Bob Alleway has carried out the position of Membership Secretary for the last couple of years. He is heavily involved with other organizations ranging from managing a hockey team to delivering meals on wheels and has found it necessary to relinquish his position with TOSA.

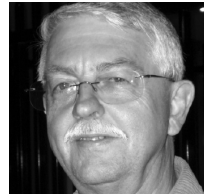
I thank Bob for his devotion to the job over the last two years particularly as he has coped with a new computer software program and a complete rearrangement of the membership numbers to facilitate postage of TOSA News at a

cheaper rate. Thank you Bob. Those at the September show will have noticed a new face at the Membership desk – that of Carolyn Wall. Carolyn has agreed to be the face of Membership. Thanks, Carolyn.

Volunteers are always needed to ensure the smooth running of an organization such as ours. It does not matter how much or how little time you have available – the question is "Are you able and willing to help?"

Geoff Brimley

Editorial



In this issue I have included two articles about the Trocadero Wurlitzer, where it was housed and where it is going to be installed in the Troxy Theatre, Stepeny.

The article about the removal of the organ from Edric Hall will bring back memories to those members of TOSA who were involved in the removal of our Wurlitzers from both the Prince Edward Theatre and Capitol Theatres in Sydney.

As there have been seven members nominated for Committee it is necessary to conduct a ballot to determine the six members required for committee positions and your Ballot Form is included with this issue.

Deadline for TOSA News is the 12th of the previous month.

Enjoy the music,
Ernie Vale
PO Box A2322
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

From the Mailbox...



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

or in writing to:

The Editor - TOSA News (NSW Div)

PO Box A2322

SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

New Members

TOSA welcome new members & wish them a long and happy stay

Martin Rowe

New Service for TOSA

(NSW) Divn Members

*Theatre Organ Sheet Music
Collection & Lending Library*

*Further information regarding the
collection is on www.tosa.net.au*

Emailing of TOSA News

If you would like to receive your TOSA News each month by email it will be in living color as a pdf file which makes it so easy to file.

Please advise the Editor on editor@tosa.net.au that you wish to receive TOSA News by email.

Members Feedback Please

The TOSA Executive are interested to hear how those of you who attended Nathan Avakian's show at the Orion enjoyed his program.

Thank you to members John Watts and Paul Ballard for your feedback on Nathan Avakian's show.

The Executive & Committee will consider your comments for future planning of TOSA shows.

To Watch Out For

Sunday 9 October 2:00pm

Home Organ Party

Michael's Place

13 Greygum Place,

GyMEA Bay NSW 2227

Countdown to TOSA (NSW)

AGM

The date for the AGM is Saturday
12th November 2011

at St Columbs Anglican Church
Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave
West Ryde at 2:00pm

Nominations for Office-Bearers
and Committee closed on Sunday
25 September 2011

St Columb's Anglican Church will
be the location of TOSA's Christie
Theatre Organ and by attending the
AGM you have the opportunity to
see where the organ will be in-
stalled.

There is limited off street parking
in the church grounds and plenty of
on street parking.

The church is a short walk from
West Ryde Train Station heading
west through the shopping centre
across the car park then up Dickson
Avenue.

Advertising

Rates in

TOSA News

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Small bubble = \$11.00

Quarter Page = \$24.75

Half Page = \$49.50

Full Page = \$99.00

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

Members' Playing Dates 2011

**The Orion Theatre Campsie
2nd Thursday 1:30pm -
4:30pm**

October 13th

November 10th

Phone or SMS Craig Keller on
0418 484 798

Players and listeners welcome.
Please bring a plate of goodies for
afternoon tea.

Tea/Coffee provided. Parking at
rear off Shakespeare St.

**Marrickville Town Hall
4th Monday evening at 7:30pm**

October Monday 24th

November Monday 28th

To be sure there is no last
minute cancellation at
Marrickville please ring Neil on
9798 6742 after 7:00pm
the Friday before.

**From the Returning Officer
for TOSA NSW AGM**

213 Farnham Rd
Quakers Hill 2763
26th Sept 2011

Editor T.O.S.A News

Dear Ernie,

Following is a complete list of nominations that I have received prior to the closing date which was Sunday 25 th September 2011 at Rob Richards concert at Marrickville Town Hall.

President	Geoffrey Brimley
Vice Pres	John Shaw
Vice Pres	Neil Palmer
Secretary	Deirdre McMullan
Treasurer	John Wall

All of the above positions were unopposed.

Nominations for six committee members are,

Craig Keller
Ernest Vale
Barry Tooker
John Weismantel
Robert Gliddon
Theo Langenberg
Peter Held

As seven nominations were submitted this will mean that a Ballot will have to be held to eliminate one person.

**Ballot to select
six committee members
for T.O.S.A NSW**

A ballot paper is enclosed for members to place a cross in **SIX SQUARES ONLY** against the name of the persons they wish to be on committee for the ensuing 12 months.

**All Ballot papers must be
posted to:**

**The Returning Officer
213 Farnham Rd,
Quakers Hill 2763**

to reach him by the last post on Friday 11 November 2011
or
handed to him prior to the commencement of the AGM on Saturday 12 November 2011.

John J Lawson Returning Officer

TOSA Members Events in September: Campsie (8th) and Marrickville (26th).

On the second Thursday of the month TOSA(NSW) members' afternoon was held at The Orion Centre, Campsie (8th September). This coincided with a school-holiday and so the gathering took on an unusual aspect with two grand-children coming along; so we had a good turn-out of players and a larger-than-usual number of listeners. Entering into the pleasurable nature of the occasion, Tania on behalf of the management produced balloons for one of the youngsters. The Wurlitzer behaved in exemplary fashion too; even the console hoist now seemed to have settled into moving with less protest.

Suffice it to say that a good time was had by all. The players who took turns on the Wurlitzer bench were: **Tom Barber, Ian Georgeson, Graham Glendenning, Venice Lobsey, Deirdre McMullan, Walter Pearce, Peter Robinson, and John Batts.** Among the listeners, we welcomed a first-timer, **Carmel Moore**, as well as seasoned supporters, **Dorothy Robinson** and **David McMullan.** One TOSA member who can be dubbed "listener perforce" was **Rob Gliddon** who had principally come along in part to consult on Christie matters. At one point young **Ethan** managed to sit on the bench while his grandfather played a party piece, while **Venice's** granddaughter appeared on balance to be more interested in balloons if not in having a sleep!

It was gratifying to see that some TOSA members contributed some food and thereby supplemented what **Deirdre** and **David** provided.

Later in the month the rains had subsided (just!) for the fourth Monday Members' evening at **Marrickville Town Hall** (September 26th.) For whatever reason there seemed to be some uncertainty as to the status of this event – maybe the fact that it was the day following Rob Richards' playing of the Wurlitzer or perhaps rumours of a working bee to be held! Some members had mentioned their inability to be present, but having a TOSA show the previous day may also have had a less than benign influence on attendance.

Nonetheless, those who played and enjoyed more console time while the instrument was in good voice were **Graeme Costin, Deirdre McMullan, Walter Pearce,** and **John Batts.** Providing an audience was the indefatigable **David McMullan,** and two more "listeners perforce," **Rob Gliddon** and **John Weismantel,** who were observed (and heard!) assembling the wooden box that will eventually house the upright Beale piano at the rear of the Town Hall stage. The Piano tabs are already on the Wurlitzer stop-rail, so it should not be very long until this instrument will have an added attraction.

David and **Deirdre** once more provided refreshments. So, members, don't forget that you too can be part of these Events each month; as player or as listener you will be most welcome.

Remember when ?

*by John Davis, History Editor,
The Daily Telegraph*

Orchestral highlights at the movies

"You look like the man outside Hoyts" was something of a compliment, given he was the uniformed commissioner outside the Regent Theatre in George St. A tall man, well groomed and good-looking, he opened car doors and gave you directions on where to buy your ticket to the world of make believe, another of the joys of a night at the movies in Sydney in the 1950s.

Across the road was the Plaza. Apart from a bevy of Sydney's prettiest usherettes, Reubert Hayes entertained on the organ before the show. Down in the Haymarket was the Capitol, restored today to look as it did then. It also had organ music with the movies. Just leaning back in your seat, you could watch twinkling stars and artificial clouds on the ceiling.

At Market St's State Theatre, 50 years ago the manager in his dinner suit stood by his office door in the foyer each evening to welcome patrons. Tiny Douglas and his orchestra were warming up. The magnificent atrium with its dual staircases curved up to the Dress Circle. The gents toilet was called The Smoking Room, with carpet on the floor, leather lounges, animal skins and shotguns mounted on the walls and

fascinating animated pictures of waterfalls and bushfires. The decor of the ladies is a mystery but it was (and still is) called The Butterfly Room.

Another 3000-seat Sydney movie theatre, a little back from Martin Place with entrances from Elizabeth and Castlereagh Sts, was The Prince Edward. Sadly gone now, the Castlereagh St entry is well remembered for its vestibule arcade, huge vases of fresh flowers and a water fountain. Directions from a young woman in an evening gown had you in the theatre.

Wise to get there early, as Noreen Hennessy entertained on the organ until the lights dimmed and Reg Lewis and the orchestra took over.

No room at the Palace, Victory, Liberty, Lyceum, Mayfair, Embassy, Lyric and other smaller Sydney theatres for organs and orchestras but like the bigger places, a full night of pictures. Usually a newsreel, Pete Smith specialty, maybe *The Three Stooges*, a travelogue, and a cartoon. And as James A. FitzPatrick would say, "As the sun sinks slowly in the west and our ship pulls away from the shore we say farewell, to a night at the movies."

"A meal without wine is like a day without sunshine." *Louis Pasteur*

"The primary purpose of wine is to make food taste better."

Myra Waldo

For Sale

Compton 357 CS organ. Recently has stopped working and one of the rectifier valves in the power supply unit will need replacing. There is also some microphony that comes through the tone cabinet.



Compton 357 CS

\$200 o.n.o. and removalist fee.

Contact - Greg Murray

greg.murray@sydney.edu.au

0424 975001



Show & Membership Prices

The following TOSA show ticket prices now apply:

	All Artists
Non-members	\$27.50
Non-member Pensioner/Senior	\$25.00
TOSA Members	\$20.00
Students 15-21yrs	\$10.00
Group Booking for 10 or more Adults	\$20 per person
Group Booking for 10 or more Students	\$8 per person
Child under 15yrs	FREE!

Annual Membership Fees are now: \$30.00 for Full membership, and \$20.00 for Concession, Country, Interstate & Overseas.

Membership enquiries Geoff Brimley (02) 6351 3122 membership@tosa.net.au

Associate Membership for a spouse/partner is only an additional 50%

Sunday 9th October 1:30 for 2:00pm

Home Organ Party at Michael Links' Place

13 Greygum Place, Gymea Bay NSW 2227

Lowrey Promenade with magic genie



**to book phone Michael on
(02) 95247835 Mob: 0405442005**



Rob Richards following his successful show at Marrickville Town Hall on Sunday 25 September 2011

Rob played a really enjoyable balanced program and the audience could see that Rob was enjoying the wonderful sounds available to him from what he described as one of the snappiest and jazziest 2 manual Wurlitzers he has played anywhere in the world. He played several Disney numbers including using a pre-recorded backing track to "The Circle of Life" from the movie The Lion King and it worked very well. Rob is of the opinion that some music when played on the Wurlitzer benefits from a rhythm backing. His mini version of Rhapsody in Blue was very well received by the audience as was his version of "Supercalafrajdulisticexpialidocious".

A highlight was Rob's own recorded backing track to The Phantom of the Opera accompanied to perfection on our biggest little Wurlitzer. Thanks heaps Rob for a great show.

Next Show

Sunday 4th December 2011 at 2:00pm

Featuring

Australia's Favourite Duo & International
Keyboard Artists

Tony Fenelon & John Atwell



at the Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra & Grand Piano
Playing

"The Christmas Show"

Orion Theatre
155 Beamish St Campsie

(Disabled access available at the entrance in Beamish St)

Bookings: 0410 626 131

Visa & Mastercard accepted

for more information see www.tosa.net.au

Tony has completed over twenty major concert tours overseas, performing on unit orchestra and piano. Since 1995, **Tony's** association with the Roland group of companies has seen him performing concerts throughout Australia, the United States, Japan, the United Kingdom, Canada, Hong Kong and Taiwan on Roland's extensive range of contemporary keyboard instruments. He has been invited 3 times to represent Australia in Roland's Organ Power Concert at the Karin and Richard Carpenter Auditorium at Anaheim, USA.

Tony strives to provide a tasteful balance between popular tunes and light classics and includes music from the films, stage shows, jazz, and great standards. As the piano has always been his first love, his extensive repertoire of piano classics now forms an increasingly large proportion of his concerts, a feature widely appreciated by his audiences and captured in his recently recorded CD "Collections".

Since 1986, **Tony** and his wife Noella have been able to enjoy the more exotic fruits of music as Tony entertains guests on board luxury cruise ships at some of the world's most exciting locations.

John receives repeat invitations to play concerts at theatre organ venues around Australia both as a solo performer, as well as in piano/organ duo combination with his long-time colleague and friend, Tony Fenelon.

John has also taken his talents overseas on several occasions, playing performances in the USA, Canada, the United Kingdom and New Zealand. **John's** musical activities have not been limited to theatre organs. He is an experienced classical organist and pianist, having played many classical organ recitals, participated in concerts for the 'All Stops Out' series on the Melbourne Town Hall organ, 'Music for the People' at the Myer Music Bowl and Melbourne Town Hall, and 'Carols by Candlelight'. **John** has also been accompanist to several Melbourne choirs. In 2004 **John** took part in the 25th Anniversary Concert on the organ at the Sydney Opera House, performing in conjunction with percussionist Sergei Golovko.

Tickets to the show:

Members \$20; Non-Members \$27.50;

Student (15 – 21 Years) \$10;

Non Member Concession/Senior \$25

Students under 15 yrs FREE

Group booking -10 or more adults \$20 ea person

Group booking - 10 or more students (15-21yrs) \$8 ea person

A Glimpse of Things to Come

by Graham Noble and John Abson

reproduced with the kind permission of John Leeming - Editor of Cinema Organ UK.

THE OPPORTUNITY to re-house the Trocadero Wurlitzer in the Troxy, Stepney is exceptional, as it will provide an acoustic environment close to that for which the organ was originally intended.

The Trocadero Wurlitzer was originally installed in two wide, shallow chambers on opposite sides of the proscenium arch, with the Main organ on the left and the Solo organ on the right. Each chamber had two sets of swell shutters side by side to control the volume of sound. This gave the organ a hallmark transparency and presence in the large 3,500 seat auditorium, a characteristic nowadays unachievable in any current UK theatre organ installation. As the Troxy is of comparable size to the Trocadero (3,520 seats when it opened in 1933) our expectation is that this will be recreated.

What has to be done

At the Troxy, the Main organ will be installed in two halves in the original organ chambers, one over the other, on the left side of the auditorium.

The Solo organ will be installed in a single tall chamber on the right side

of the auditorium, with the large manual windchests installed one over the other with the Solo Tibia, Vox Humana, Tuba Mirabilis and English Horn pipework uppermost. Due to the relatively small Solo chamber, it is planned to install certain of the percussions in a separate small chamber adjacent to the Solo chamber.

The organ will be equipped with two blowers, one for the Main and one for the Solo organ. This will obviate the need for a large and expensive wind duct crossing the building. The console will be stored when not in use and brought to a playing position in the stalls area when needed.

How we will do it

The project has a series of stages, the first being to completely refurbish the organ, with the exception of the console that was fully restored in 2001/2002. Whilst this occurs the necessary building work to allow installation of the instrument in the Troxy can be completed, permitting major structural parts of the organ to be installed as soon as they are restored. There follows a period where the wind supply to all the organ components is connected and then the complex task of wiring the instrument to the relays. Finally, the pipework is introduced, tuned and painstakingly regulated.

The diagram overpage provides a simplified view of the major tasks to be completed to reach a playing instrument, and these are explained in more detail next.

Negotiate agreement

This task has led to an agreement and signed contract to install and operate the organ that is mutually beneficial to all parties. This is the starting point for committing money to the project.

Building work (Main organ)

The building work needed to the Troxy's two original pipe chambers on the left side of the proscenium will include reinstatement of the original shutter openings, to allow the sound into the auditorium, and insertion of new walls to reduce the original chamber size. The new walls will assist in projecting the sound of the organ into the auditorium.

Console installation

To suit the present-day Troxy, the organ console will be placed on a movable platform and moved into a playing position for concerts and other uses. A secure storage 'garage' for the console, equipped with the control equipment for the organ blowers, wind supply for the console and connection to the relay system will be built.

Services

The main service required by the organ is 3-phase electricity for the organ blowers plus chamber power and lighting.

Below is the auditorium from the rear circle showing the organ chamber grilles (David Reed photo)



Building work (Solo organ)

The Solo organ will be installed in an existing void on the right of the proscenium, directly opposite the Main chambers. The void will form a single chamber and is 27ft 6in tall at its highest point. A large opening will be created for the swell shutters in the wall separating the void and the auditorium, and this necessitates structural engineering work to ensure the integrity of the building. Window openings and vents will also have to be blocked up and an internal steel stairway giving access to two plenum rooms replaced by fixed access ladders.

Refurbishment (Main and Solo organs)

The organ components - the windchests on which the pipes sit and which admit air to the pipes, the regulators and other components of the wind supply system, the organ percussions and other structural elements of the instrument - are 80 years old and were last restored over 40 years ago. Although in reasonable condition, all components require refurbishment and restoration to give another 80 years service to the standards required for this flagship installation. The pipework itself will also be cleaned and restored. New or modified parts will be made using traditional Wurlitzer designs and methods to assure authenticity.

Installation (Main and Solo organs)

Once the building work and the

refurbishment work is complete, installation of the organ can take place. This includes building the organ's supporting framework structure incorporating the main windchests and percussion units, installing the regulators and main wind distribution systems, and fabricating and installing the wind trunking that connects the many parts of the instrument. Next comes the electrical connection of the windchests, percussions, shutters and tremulants to the organ relay system; the organ is then functionally tested 'on wind'.

Once functional tests are complete, the pipework is 'racked in' (placed on the windchests). At this point the organ makes its first tentative sounds, but is not a playing instrument.

Finishing

Finishing consists of detailed adjustment to each pipe so that it is in balance with its neighbours and with the acoustics of the auditorium to create the best theatre organ sound.

Achieving the Programme of Work

The project is being planned in considerable detail using the latest computer based methods, which allow alterations to be made easily and the effect on the programme of work to be instantly assessed. The complex plan consists of over 200 separate activities that are inter-linked to lead to the conclusion of the project.

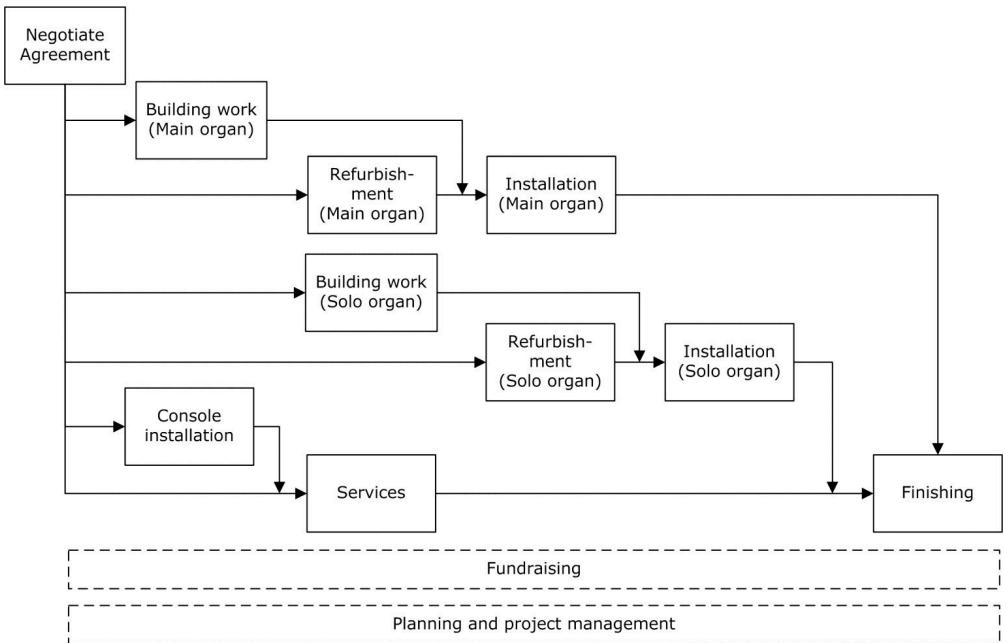


Diagram showing the major tasks to be completed to achieve the result of a playing organ

The planning tool not only considers how long each task will take but also its cost, and provides an instant view of the cash flow over the duration of the project. This is an important input to fundraising.

At present, fundraising is the most important task the project must complete in order to 'put the fuel in the tank'. The cash flow plan indicates when and how money will need to be spent, in particular that there will need to be substantial expenditure early in the project. Consequently, to make sure that work begins on a completely firm financial basis, the magnificent £100,000 already raised needs to be doubled before it is put to use.

To allow work to begin in earnest as soon as possible, preparations are being made to seek funds from a variety of sources. Meanwhile, for more information about the project and for the latest news visit the Trocadero Wurlitzer Trust website at: www.trocadero-wurlitzer.org

The project team are ready for action; all we need to start major work is to put more fuel in the tank of *Trocadero to Troxy!*

A Fantasy Comes True

By Robin King

from the Winter 2010-11 Cinema Organ

Robin King was one of the team who dismantled the Trocadero Wurlitzer and removed it from the theatre in 1960s. As his long-term dream moves towards reality, Robin reminisces about those days, and adds a few thoughts on recordings for good measure.

I have often thought or even fantasised that the removal of the Trocadero Wurlitzer from Edric Hall offered a once-in-a-lifetime possibility: a world class reinstallation in an auditorium with acoustics as close as possible to the Trocadero's. I've even voiced those thoughts on these pages in the past. I must have been psychic!

Funny, I've known since the '60s that the Troc had a twin (it even had the same architects), namely the Troxy. In fact I remember the original organ being removed. So all that time, there were the 'dots', but I'd never joined them up. It's curious that the 'Troc' was endowed with a glorious 4/21 (in ideal chambers on both sides of the proscenium) and the Troxy had to make do with a much smaller job on one side only....looks like the money must have run out.

I've been following the T2T developments with particular interest, as I was a member of the team that wrenched the organ out of the

Trocadero back in the early '60s. I was the youngest, and therefore carried the lion's share down the labyrinth of narrow stairs to the street! Rumours over the (many) years have implied that we didn't know what we were doing. Quite right, we didn't ... but we learned *fast!* I had earlier helped the late Jim Crampton remove the Compton from the Carlton, Norwich - but that was a 2/5, not a huge 4/21!

On Friday evenings we used to gather at Geoff Osman's place at Cobham, and spend an sombre hour or so listening to some of Mac's unique Troc 78s (many of which have still not been transferred to CD or even cassette - making a complete nonsense of the tedious Foort/Maclean debate) then we'd be off in the van to the Troc to work through two nights.

At the time we were warned by Rank that the theatre could close at any moment and demolition start (actually that happened much later, but we didn't know at the time). So, we reasoned that we would salvage as much of the organ that we could in the limited time available, if only the pipes - in other words the sound of the organ, and the sounds captured on those 78s.

We feared that we would be overtaken by events and that much of the organ would be lost. Every weekend from Friday night until Sunday afternoon we would toil in the filth through the night. We even left bread at the back of the stalls for the rats - to keep them away from us!

Every single pipe was carefully removed and stored. They were sacred. And yet rumours circu-

lated that "someone" (Geoff?) stole some. I hope Geoff comes back to haunt whoever started the rumours! In the November 2010 Newsletter I read that the inlet filter of the blower never made it from the Troc to the South Bank University. Let me make it absolutely clear: as the weeks went by and the Troc - surprise, surprise - was still showing films, we toiled away at night removing the entire organ piece by piece. With the exception of a length of main cable embedded in several feet of cement and concrete through the proscenium arch - it would have taken weeks to drill and chisel it out - everything was removed.

Once the theatre had closed to the public, we returned to remove and store the shutters. I remember standing in the empty chambers, looking out into the auditorium and watching a man dismantling the seats. He was listening to a tiny transistor radio but the acoustics of the building were so good that I could follow the programme clearly at a distance of 100 feet. I will never forget the sadness and bitter frustration I felt on the last day, knowing I would never see this magnificent auditorium again or experience its unique acoustics. I was 19 at the time, and very sad and very angry. As a matter of principle, I got down on the floor and went through all the chambers picking up the very last screws, etc. still lying about. Nothing of the Wurlitzer was to be left behind! 50 years later I am as upset now as I was then. With those unique acoustics and facilities it could and should have become one of the

foremost performing arts centres in the country.

So, unless embedded in concrete, **everything** was removed from the Troc. A decade or more later the organ passed through several organ builders' hands and the original installation at Edric Hall was (and sounded) an amateurish 'lash-up'. This would have been the period that anything went missing, not earlier. As the years went by, the organ was of course tweaked into a reasonable playable state; although when I visited it about 10 years ago with John Smallwood we still finished up wriggling under a 5 rank chest wrestling with an errant regulator!

While on the subject of the Troc, perhaps I can offer a few thoughts on Maclean recordings that have not made it to CD. I wonder if these could be put on the COS or TWT website? Since no one seems interested or willing to risk further Mac CDs, how about gradually developing an extensive free online archive of Troc recordings? This could be in three parts: 1. The 1930s (i.e. Mac); 2. The post-war Troc years (including for example the BBC Bill Davies recording, and extracts from the final COS 'meeting' (especially George Blackmore's contribution); 3. Highlights from the Edric Hall years (three samples are already on the TWT site).

I'm not a computer whizz but understand that cluttering a site with too much audio can slow it down. However, sites like www.archive.com manage to have thousands of items - even including complete movies - presumably parked separately on a 'cloud', accessible via

the site. So an extensive archive online *is* possible.

Some time ago I compiled, for my own amusement, a CD comprising some of those Mac 78s *not* on the Sterndale CD. These were from Frank Hare's cassette, the EMI album, and my own 78 collection. Mac is said to have made over 50 78s (three of which were released only outside the UK and apparently "lost"). Sterndale's and "my" CD account for 30+. This still leaves another 20 or so - enough for a theoretical third CD. All of the recordings are gems, especially his emotional farewell: the last 78 (23 May 1939), 'Everybody's Opera', recorded just before he and his wife left for Canada never to return. He was just 43.

Finally, to my knowledge Mac made no commercial recordings in Canada, unless you count the posthumous album thrown together from test tapes. There are recordings of two CBC broadcasts Mac made in the 1940s on the Wurlitzer at Shea's Theatre, Toronto. They're transferred from scratchy and somewhat damaged acetates but include stunning performances, for example of the Overture to 'The Bronze Horse'.

With thanks to John Leeming for sending a series of "Cinema Organ" from the UK by air so TOSA NSW can share current UK news with our members and Nationally with other Divisions and Organ Clubs.

Enjoy an afternoon of entertaining music with

David Parsons

organist

at the recently restored pipe organ

Hornsby Uniting Church
(24 William Street)

Saturday 5th November
3pm

Donation \$15

Organ Concert

ST. JAMES ANGLICAN
CHURCH
25-27 BYRON ST. WYONG

Sun 23rd October 2pm
DONATION \$10

ORGANIST

Ian Sell

A Balanced programme of Theatre & Classical Music on newly digitised organ with authentic Pipe Organ Sounds

TICKET SALES PHONE ROS
ON 4392 5003

TOSA NSW

* 2011 - OUR 51ST YEAR *

Tony Fenelon & John Atwell at Orion Theatre, Campsie
Sunday 4 December at 2:00pm
details in this issue or go to www.tosa.net.au

TOSA South Australia

Tuesdays and weekends TOSA (SA) members play the
4/29 Wurlitzer in their Capri Theatre, Goodwood Road,
Goodwood (08) 8272 1177

TOSA Western Australia

John Leckie Music Centre 3/12 Compton
Contact: Pat Gibbs (08) 9450 2151 patgibbs@tadaust.org.au.
October 17th John Atwell

TOSA Gold Coast

Club Musical Afternoon on the 3rd Sunday of each
month (except December)
Contact: Rosa Free 5575 3295

TOSA Queensland

Secretary: Mike Gillies (07) 3279 3930

Stirling Productions

Karrinyup Community Centre, Perth, Western Australia
All concerts are on Sundays at 2pm. Prior bookings are
essential with John Fuhrmann on (08) 9447 9837

TOSA Victoria - mto

Contact Margaret Sutcliffe on (03) 9891 7227

Warragul Theatre Organ Society

Events Contact: Bee Mellor (03) 5122 2131

TOSA NSW Divn Annual General Meeting

Saturday 12th November
2011

at St Columb's Anglican
Church

Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue
Ave

West Ryde at 2:00pm

Come along and see where
the Christie Organ will be in-
stalled.

Please bring a plate of good-
ies to assist with afternoon
tea.

Rob Richards Show at Mar- rickville Town Hall Sunday 25 September

The rains came down in buckets just before the start of the show and continued for at least half an hour. However that did not dampen the spirits of the patrons who came along to hear Rob. He opened the show with Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head instead of his usual signature tune "Hooray for Hollywood". Rob played a nicely balanced program with several Disney favourites including "The Circle of Life" from Lion King.



Cecil Cranfield at the Civic
Auburn Wurlitzer



*Both photos are at the Civic
Auburn. My apologies for the
incorrect caption in the Sep-
tember issue of TOSA News*

"A man who could sit under the shade of his own vine with his wife and his children about him and the ripe clusters hanging within their reach in such a climate as this and not feel the highest enjoyment, is incapable of happiness."

James Busby

Members Diary

October

Tuesday 4th Committee 7:30pm Burwood RSL

Sunday 9th October 1:30 for 2:00pm

Home Organ Party at Michael's Place

13 Greygum Place, Gymea Bay NSW 2227

Lowrey Promenade with magic genie

to book phone Michael on

02 95247835 Mob: 0405442005

November

Monday 7th Committee 7:30pm Burwood RSL

Saturday 12th November 2011 2:00pm

**TOSA NSW Divn
Annual General Meeting**

at St Columb's Anglican Church

Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave

West Ryde

Radio 2MBS-FM 102.5 "Colours of the King" (program of the Organ Music Society of Sydney) 2nd Saturday of each month, 5pm till 6 pm

Web Sites of Interest:

www.tosa.net.au

www.theatreorgansaust.info (history of cinema organ installations in Australasia)

www.sydneyorgan.com (our sister society, the Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)

www.ATOS.org

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