

TOSA NEWS

June 2016
Volume 55 No.5

Price: \$2.00

**TOSA's World of Entertainment
brings you a rare opportunity to hear**

Chris Powell (UK)

playing

THE BEST of BRITISH

Sunday 5th June 2016

2:00pm - 4:30pm

**Orion Centre Theatre
Wurlitzer**



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www.tosa.net.au

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From the President



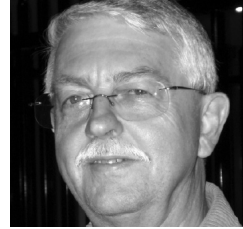
Thank you those members who have already renewed their membership. To those who have not yet done so, please remember that the discounted offer ends on 30th June after which the new scale of fees comes into effect. Thank you, too, for being understanding that these new charges are necessary due to substantially increased costs. Your Society is no longer able to absorb these additional costs and the Committee reluctantly had to act. Remember, the Society exists for its members but cannot exist without its members.

Barring any difficulties with Australia Post delivering this edition, you should receive it prior to Chris Powell's concert. We have indeed been fortunate in obtaining this "hard to get" Artist: it was purely a case of our good fortune was due to another group's misfortune. The result is "hear him now when you can." It is some years since we heard Chris which has been our loss - but read about him elsewhere in this edition; come along and enjoy an afternoon's great music; and bring a friend.

Best Regards,

Geoff Brimley

Editorial



Hello Members, There will be a slight change to arrangements for Orion Players Days from Thursday June 9th in that TOSA Members will have access in the morning so that a group of young organists can enjoy tutorials in the afternoon. *See information in this issue of TOSA News.*

Please continue to promote TOSA concerts to friends and acquaintances. TOSA needs your help to increase the membership. I hope to see many of you at Chris Powell's concert on 5th June at the Orion Mighty Wurlitzer.

In this issue there is a Marrickville Report to show you that Neil Palmer is ever vigilant in keeping our World Class 2 manual Wurlitzer in perfect condition for members to play. Also with the help of members on players day they were able to move the old relays in order to store the digital piano in a better location.

Members Marrickville Players Day Convenor, John Batts, is organising members to play at the fundraiser afternoon at Marrickville in November. More news on this event later.

Enjoy the music,

Ernie Vale
PO Box A2322
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235
editor@tosa.net.au

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

Member News

TOSA express our very best wishes to Jean Alleway who is in St George Hospital at the moment.

It is time to renew your membership before the 30th June please. The price rises from July 1st 2016.

Increase in Postage

Dear Members, the cost to post TOSA News has increased and the postal service has diminished.

To manage costs TOSA invite those who receive TOSA News by Post to consider receiving it by email.

The benefits of receiving TOSA News by email are that you see all the Photos in colour, you receive it directly and on time.

You can print it out if you have the facility for "Booklet Printing" on your printer.

You can also file the digital copy on your computer or external hard drive thereby saving storage space.

Please email the Editor if you are happy to move to TOSA News by email at:
editor@tosa.net.au

Thank you to all those members who have now switched to receiving TOSA News by email.

There are many humorous quotations which are not so much funny as resoundingly true, and rather than generating guffaws of laughter, produce in us a wry smile. As George Bernard Shaw said: 'My way of joking is to tell the truth.'

Politics -- the art of getting votes from the poor and campaign funds from the rich by promising to protect each from the other.

Oscar Ameringer

To Watch Out for

TOSA NSW accepts monetary gifts and bequests.

TOSA is very grateful for the gifts and bequests received from members and friends in recent times.

These gifts and bequests have enabled us to continue the maintenance, operation and presentation of our instruments and to provide a high standard of Musicians including overseas artists to play Theatre Organ for your enjoyment.

We are asking our membership to think seriously about long term support of the Theatre Organ art-form through Estate Planning by remembering TOSA NSW in your will.

When writing or updating your will, please consider including a gift or bequest to the Theatre Organ Society of Australia (New South Wales Division) Incorporated so that future generations may enjoy the theatre organ art-form that we all love.

TOSA NSW ABN 644369019

Please see details regarding the importance of membership of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia NSW Divn Inc elsewhere in this issue.

Your Executive and Committee are working on a program to encourage and develop some very promising young musicians in the art of playing the Theatre Organ/Unit Orchestra.

Your support through membership and introducing new members is very important for the future of the Society.

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

Thursday 9 June

**There will be no members
players day on Thursday
14 July**

**Simon Ellis has been
allocated the morning to set
up and practice before the
young Organists tutorial in
the afternoon**

Craig Keller on 0418484798

**Marrickville Town Hall
4th Monday afternoon/evening
at 2:30pm to 7:00pm**

**Monday 27 June
Monday 25 July
Monday 22 August**

Players and listeners welcome.

Please contact John Batts
0420424103 or Neil Palmer on
9798 6742 after 7:00pm

Show dates, artists and venues for 2016

- 3.Sunday 5 June - **2:00pm** at Orion - Chris Powell **UK**
- 4.Sunday 31 July - **2:00pm** at Orion - David Gray **UK**
- 5.Sunday 4 September - **2:00pm** at Orion - Chris McPhee **South
Australia**
- 6.Sunday 9 October - **2:00pm** at Orion - Martin Ellis **USA**
- 7.Sunday 4 December - **2:00pm** at Orion - Tony Fenelon and
John Atwell
both **Melbourne**

The dates, venues and artists have been confirmed to date. In the event of any change this will be notified on the TOSA web site, and to members through TOSA News.

Please keep the above details in a safe place and note your 2016 calendar and diary so you don't miss a Mighty Wurlitzer concert.

There are 7 concerts for the year and by becoming a member you save \$70 when attending all concerts, you receive 11 TOSA News full of very interesting articles to keep you up to date with current happenings in the Theatre Organ world – yes even overseas news. By attending just four concerts each year you have saved the cost of membership.

Where else can you enjoy 2 hours of wonderful music played by international standard musicians for the following prices.

Adult \$35; Conc \$30; Member \$25; Family of two Adults including at least one child under 19 yrs of age \$65.

A new member who joins TOSA NSW Inc any time before June 30th 2016 will have valid membership until June 30th 2017. Only \$35, Concession \$25 (excluding Senior Card Holders), Family \$55 (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19)

It is time to Renew Your Membership before the price rise from July 1st 2016

Thank you to all those members who have already renewed for the 2016-2017 membership year. Your support for the future of TOSA is very much valued and appreciated.

If you haven't yet renewed please remember that the price of membership increases from 1st July 2016 to **\$40 Full membership per person, Concession \$30 for Pensioner (excluding Senior Card Holders), Family \$60 (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19) and \$40 Interstate or Overseas for one member.**

Associate membership for a spouse/partner of a full membership is additional 50% of the membership fee.

As you see from the previous page there are two organists from the UK., one from the USA., Tony and John in December and Chris McPhee in September. What a great program of musicians for the rest of this year.

We are very close to finalising two overseas artists for 2017 who we know you will enjoy. Watch this space.

If you receive a green membership renewal form in this TOSA News that means you have not yet renewed for 2016-2017.

Work is progressing well on the Christie restoration at West Ryde Anglican Church and when finished it will give you a venue to hear this fine example of British Cinema Organ along with a venue to enable members to get together and socialise through their love of Theatre Organ.

ATOS Annual Convention *The In-Theatre Sound*
Cleveland 2016 USA

TREASURES OF THE WESTERN RESERVE II (PLUS 3!)

Overture - Sunday, July 3, 2016

Detroit Senate Theatre - *Richard Hills* at the 4/34 Wurlitzer
Stahls Automotive Museum, Chesterfield, Michigan -
Justin LaVoie at the 3/23 Wurlitzer

Monday, July 4, 2016

Cleveland Grays Armory - *Mark Herman* at the 3/15 Wurlitzer
Cleveland Masonic Auditorium and PAC -
Jonas Nordwall at the 4/28 Wurlitzer

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Cleveland Masonic Auditorium (PAC) -
Young Theatre Organist Competition
Cleveland Masonic Auditorium (PAC) -
Don Minervini at the 4/28 Wurlitzer
Mansfield Renaissance Theatre -
Jelani Eddington at the 3/20 Wurlitzer

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Sandusky State Theatre - *John Lauter* at the 3/8 Page
Lorain Palace Theatre -
Ron Rhode at an original 3/10 Wurlitzer installation
Connor Palace Theatre - *David Gray* at the 3/17 Kimball

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Members' Forum, Seminars, and Workshops
Canton Palace Theatre - *Nathan Avakian* at the 3/10 Kilgen
Akron Civic Theatre - *Jerry Nagano* at the 3/19 Wurlitzer

Encore - Friday, July 8, 2016

Marion Palace - *Donnie Rankin* at the 3/10 Wurlitzer
The Ohio Theatre - *Clark Wilson* at the 4/32 Robert Morton

For more information go to www.atos2016.org

Free to Enthusiast

Lowrey FL 220 organ with 2 x 61 note keyboards, 25 note detachable pedal dept., original bench and all stop switches. Heavier items stored nearby for ease of lifting;

Played in church and maintained next door until December 2014. Work notes and Schematics available.

Adaptable to "Virtual Organ" concept.

Location: Clemton Park

Phone Peter Held on 02 9759 5174

"An invitation to 'come over for a glass of sherry' promises a relaxed communion of friends, comfortable shoes, an old sweater, an occasion that no one will be using as part of life's strategic game plan."

Gerald Asher

Show & Membership Prices

	All Artists
Non-members	\$35
Non-member Pensioner/Seniors Card holder	\$30
Family 2 Adults incl 1 child 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 \$15 cash by completed Voucher at Box Office

Annual Membership Fees paid by June 30th 2016:

\$35.00 for Full membership, Family \$55 and

\$25.00 for Pensioner Concession, Interstate or Overseas \$35.

Membership enquiries Geoff Brimley (02) 6351 3122

membership@tosa.net.au

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

Marrickville Organ Report June

from Neil Palmer

Team Leader Organ Maintenance Marrickville

To do list:

Investigate partial cipher string celeste offset pipe .

Investigate/temporarily block-off persistent cipher oboe pipe (Monday 30/5).

Items pending:

Non-working Auto Horn (silent movie effect) removed and taken home for investigation.

Completed:

Adjustment of hammer travel for some notes on the Chrysoglott. I also had to add an additional thin layer of felt between the bars and the frame for a couple of notes as the bars were hitting against the vibraphone discs in their open position.

Investigate leaking valve on Marimba-harp. Valve stem had unscrewed from secondary motor. Fortunately I was able to screw it back in without any major disassembly. This Harp has a 3-stage action (non-Wurlitzer).

Solo manual C below top C binding on guide pin - adjusted.

Main relay stack re-positioned to make room for storage of digital piano/keyboard as reported in separate email.



Digital piano in storage at Marrickville

Popular British Theatre Organist

Chris Powell (UK)

plays

The Best of British



*Majestic music from The Blackpool Sounds
through to The Best of the Proms*

on our World Class Mighty Wurlitzer

Sunday 5th June 2016 2:00pm - 4:30pm

at the air-conditioned for your comfort

**Newly refurbished Orion Theatre
155 Beamish St., Campsie**

“**Chris Powell** was born in Manchester in 1971. At the age of 2, his parents emigrated to live in Christchurch, New Zealand where he first became exposed to organ music as a pre-schooler at the Cathedral Boys Grammar School in this most ‘English’ of cities. By the age of 16, he was already giving concerts as well as playing for dancing around East Lancashire and West Yorkshire and had his first Club Residency during this time. Growing up in North West England, it was perhaps not surprising that it wasn’t to be long

before the family made an outing to the world famous *Blackpool Tower* for a visit. Upon entering the hallowed Ballroom there and hearing the Wurlitzer, Chris remarked to his parents that he would “play in here some day!”.... Although met with some wry laughter at the time, he did indeed do this and at the age of 18, he was successfully auditioned to join the team of organists there as a relief player during the winter of 1990. A happy 5 year connection ensued, playing both the Wurlitzer and also electronics within the complex.

His time at Blackpool saw him playing in front of some fairly prestigious figures including former Labour Party Leader, Neil Kinnoch and also Princess Anne. It was during this time that invitations started to come in from far and wide for him to play for both concerts and dances alike. 1991 saw his debut for Sceptre Promotions at the Keyboard Cavalcade Festival in Blackpool, with his name now firmly established with the keyboard loving public from then onwards. 1994 saw an invitation to return to New Zealand to play a series of theatre and electronic organ concerts in the land that was once home to him and his family. The 4 week sell-out tour saw him performing to capacity crowds from Dunedin in the South right up to Auckland.

Chris remains one of the most popular performers on the UK concert circuit with a full diary of dates stretching some 2 years ahead.”

***Remember if it is your friends first time
they only pay \$15 by completing a voucher
available on www.tosa.net.au or***

at the door on the day of the concert

Tickets : \$ 35; Concession \$ 30; Members \$25

Family ie 2 Adults including 1 or more children \$65

Adult Group of 10 or more \$22/person; Students up to 25 years Free on confirmation of student status.

For the best reserved seats you can book securely on trybooking.com by going to www.tosa.net.au then Events, click on the Artists name/show title then scroll down to buy your ticket, click on it, select your preferred seat/s and complete the purchase. Visa & Mastercard accepted.

Christie Organ Report June 2016

From Project Leader Rob Gliddon

Here's the latest shots of the magnificent Christie Tuba rank. Although it has been a costly exercise to bring this eighty-eight year old rank back to in "as new" condition I'm absolutely certain the expenditure will be worth it when the instrument is completed. Thankfully this is the last rank to be restored and it will be the crowning glory of the organ.

The rank is currently set up in its chest in John Parker's workshop at Ermington.

All photos courtesy of Organ Builder John Parker



Tuba pipes racked



Pipes boxed for transport









Above: Note the excellent condition of these Tuba pipes
Above Left: Note the high quality of soldered joints and seams
Below Left: Could this be the work of an apprentice?

A few words from organ builder John Parker:-

Today's photos of progress on the Christie Tuba. Tim Gilley has made a great job of the repairs. The 'straightening' of two pipes in the bottom octave have allowed for sensible support, as this rank of pipes was 'never' intended for a chest set out for such a large scale rank - another typical HN&B screw up.

Don't you love the "indecisive" stamping on Tenor F???? I've got no idea what a "Harmonic Vox Tuba" is supposed to be :)



The completed Tuba Rank racked

Change to Orion Player Day arrangements

The committee has recently been working in cooperation with OMSS (Organ Music Society of Sydney) members and Sydney area pipe organ teachers to encourage young organists to experience and learn about theatre pipe organ. This has been successful and we now have five young and skilled organists who have had initial sessions at the theatre organ and now wish to learn more.

To better accommodate these organists' availability, the TOSA NSW Committee agreed to change the arrangements for Orion Player Days. From June 9th the Player Days will still be on the 2nd Thursday of the month but the time will change – commencing at 10:30am and concluding at 1:30pm for TOSA members. The young player session will then run from 1:30pm to 4:30pm under the leadership of Simon Ellis.

The young player sessions will be run as tutorials and as such will not be open for participation or viewing by others. Regular players will be requested to leave the premises so that the tutorials may commence. We trust that the members of TOSA NSW will support this change as a way of fostering new players into the world of theatre organ so that the art form may continue.

Your Membership of TOSA is very much appreciated because being a member you:

- 1.Support the Art Form of Theatre Organ now and into the future
- 2.Help to spread the good news about Theatre Organ to younger generations
- 3.Support the development of young Theatre Organists for the future
- 4.Support the maintenance of TOSA organs & pianos
- 5.Enjoy concerts with top Australian & International Organists at discount prices.
- 6.Are able to play the society's Theatre Organs at Players Days
- 7.Will be able to have social/club nights/afternoons when the Christie Cinema Organ comes on line, in addition to Marrickville

- Town Hall picnic afternoons
8. Receive TOSA News and keep up to date with Theatre Organ News world wide
 9. Have the opportunity to assist with arrangements for concerts
 10. Can help to grow TOSA Membership by promoting the unique sounds of Theatre Organ/Unit Orchestras that we all love and enjoy so much

Please Help Grow TOSA Membership

TOSA Annual Membership runs from
July 1st to June 30th each year.

If you introduce a new person to TOSA and they sign up as a member before June 30th 2016 your membership renewal will be the same cost as their new membership which will be \$35 full membership, \$25 Pensioner, \$55 Family membership (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19) ***which will take you and them through to June 30th 2017.***

If as a TOSA Member you renew your membership for 2016-17 **before** June 30th 2016 your renewal is \$35 full membership, \$25 Pensioner, \$55 Family membership (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19) and \$35 Interstate & Overseas.

If as a TOSA Member you renew your membership for 2016-17 **after** June 30th 2016 your renewal will be \$40 full membership, \$30 Pensioner, \$60 Family membership (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19) and \$40 Interstate & Overseas.

New member sign ups after June 30th 2016 will be the same prices as membership renewal post June 30th 2016.

*Associate Membership for a spouse/partner is an additional 50%.
"Associate Membership is encouraged as a means of supporting the Society."*

A Membership Renewal form has been enclosed for your convenience.

Members Diary

**Saturday 9th July Promotion Workshop
8:30am - 4:30pm**

**St Columb's Anglican Church, West Ryde
Home of the Christie Cinema Organ**

Sunday 31st July 2016

2:00pm - 4:30pm

David Gray UK

plays

Our World Class Mighty Wurlitzer

**at the air-conditioned
Newly refurbished Orion Centre Theatre
155 Beamish St., Campsie**

Try and bring a friend or two

Book at www.tosa.net.au - Events **Or
Contact Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131 Before 8:00pm**

Radio FINE MUSIC 102.5 "Colours of the King" (program of the Organ Music Society of Sydney) 2nd Saturday of each month, 6pm till 7pm
***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.theatreorgansaustralia.info (history of cinema organ installations in Australasia)

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

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SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235 www.tosa.net.au **Renew your membership before June 30th**

