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TOSA NEWS

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TOSA NEWS

FREE CONCERT

DAVID PARSONS
IN
CONCERT

LOOK! at the console of the mighty **Wurlitzer** Theatre Pipe Organ

CONSOLE ATTRACTION
BEVERLY KENNEDY
AND
RICHARD JAMES

Sunday 24th, February at 2.00pm.
Marrickville Town Hall

TOSA NEWS

CONVENTION REVIEW

TOSA NEWS

Candi Carley

PERFORMER FROM THE U.S.A.
TOMORROW'S 125th NATIONAL CONVENTION OVERSEAS GUEST ARTIST
IN CONCERT
MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL, MARRICKVILLE
SUNDAY 15th APRIL at 2.00pm.

TOSA NEWS

Beverly Kennedy Richard James

★ TWO EXCITING YOUNG ORGANISTS
IN CONCERT
AT THE CONSOLE OF THE MIGHTY
WURLITZER THEATRE PIPE ORGAN
★ Sunday 24th, March at 2.00pm.
Marrickville Town Hall

TOSA NEWS

WARREN LINTON
IN CONCERT
MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL
SUNDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER
AT 2.00pm



We take this opportunity of wishing you
a Very Happy Christmas
and a **Prosperous New Year**

TOSA NEWS

LEN RAWLE
DIRECT FROM BRITAIN

MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL
MONDAY 5th NOVEMBER at 8.00pm - GREAT TOWN MEMORIAL at 7.00pm

TOSA NEWS

NEIL JENSEN
IN CONCERT
MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL
SUNDAY 18th JUNE at 2.00pm

TOSA NEWS

BILL SCHUMACHER
and
CLINTON WHITE
in concert

at the console of the Mighty Wurlitzer
Marrickville Town Hall
Sunday 28th, July at 2.00pm.

TOSA NEWS

Len Rawle
IN CONCERT
MONDAY 5th NOVEMBER at 8.00pm
MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL
MEMORIAL

Tony Fennell
IN CONCERT
SUNDAY 15th APRIL at 2.00pm
MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL

Christmas Party
SUNDAY 15th APRIL
MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL
SUNDAY 15th APRIL at 2.00pm

TOSA NEWS

Afternoon Entertainment "All FREE"

★ **DAVID SMITH**
at the console of the mighty **Wurlitzer** Theatre Pipe Organ

Associate Artists
★ Sherron Maerni
★ Damien Scott

Sunday 25th, August at 2pm.
Marrickville Town Hall

DIRECTORY

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

PATRON Ian Davies

PRESIDENT Alan Misdale (525 5554)

VICE PRESIDENTS Frank Ellis (649 7011) Ernest Vale (570 4953)

SECRETARY Barry Porter (533 1198)

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TREASURER Edna Smith (529 7379)

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COMMITTEE Norn Weismantel, Bill Schumacher, Neil Palmer, Robert Gliddon, Jack Lawson, David Cook.

MINUTE SECRETARY Russell Robertson

TOSA NEWS EDITOR

TOSA NEWS PRINTING Ron Wilson (759 6050)

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HOME PARTIES Ron Smith (529 7379)

ARTIST LIAISON OFFICER Ernest Vale (570 4953)

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The Secretary, TOSA (N.S.W. Division)
Box A584 P.O. SYDNEY SOUTH. 2000.

December

SUNDAY 1st at 1.00pm.

POOL PARTY AND B.B.Q. at the home of Barry and Roslyn Porter.
6 Waterside Parade Peakhurst.

Members are asked to bring their own steak etc and BYO. Ladies to bring a plate towards sweets please. Salads will be supplied.

Admission: Gents \$5.00 and Ladies \$4.00

Please book early by ringing 533 1198.

FRIDAY 13th at 7.30pm.

TOSA CHRISTMAS PARTY to be held at the new Orion Centre at Beamish Street Campsie.

Admission: \$18.00 per head. Note - Drinks are not included in the price.

For bookings, please ring Phyllis Wilson on 759 6050.

Bookings close Monday 2nd. of December.

SUNDAY 15th at 2.00pm.

TONY FENELON IN CONCERT.

MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL

Admission: Adults \$7.00 TOSA Member \$6.00 Concession \$ 5.00

Booking form in this issue. Please book early.

T.O.S.A. NSW DIVISION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1985
SECRETARY'S REPORT

It has been another year of progress for the Society in which we will have presented 9 Home Organ Parties, 8 Paid Concerts, 2 Free Concerts, a Charity Concert, a Christmas Cabaret at the venue for the 3/15 WurliTzer - the Orion Centre - and the very successful Silver National Convention at Easter. A new venture for the Society was the Spring Fete in October which proved to be a significant financial success raising some \$3500 approx. towards the Capitol Organ fund.

In this International Year of Youth it is interesting to observe that the Society presented several young artists at the Console of the WurliTzer - Andrea Harrison, Nerida Rossiter, Giancarlo Giachhi, Sharon Maennl and Damien Scott.

Many artists in the younger age group of Theatre Organists were also presented in concert for your listening pleasure - they being Richard James and Beverly Kennedy, Candi Carley from the U.S.A., Cliff Bingham, Bill Schumacher, Clinton White and finally David Smith making a welcome return to the Console of the WurliTzer.

The year began on a high note with the superb concert performance by Tony Fenelon and Lyn Larsen at Marrickville where we were to see the best audience attendance for the year. The music of these two world class artists was a delight to hear and the additional magic of an evening performance put the icing on the cake.

David Parsons A.M. returned to Marrickville this year to present another of his interesting and well thought out programmes and the Society congratulates David on his award of the **Order Of Australia**. We were fortunate to present one of Sydney's foremost theatre organists - Jean Penhall - who has returned to live in Sydney after spending a number of years in the U.K. Together with Cliff Bingham, Valerie Hanlon and Leonard Lee, she played a most interesting concert to raise funds for radio station 2CBA FM. who broadcast the Society radio programme.

Warren Lubich from San Francisco was on his second tour 'down under' and played a very listenable concert for us with an interesting balance of music and relaxed presentation. We were surprised that there weren't more members in attendance.

We are delighted to have presented Len Rawle from the U.K. for your enjoyment and please ask your musical friends to come to his concert on 24th November. Len has an entertaining presentation and should not be missed.

Finally, we look forward to the closing concert for the year with that great ambassador of the theatre organ, Tony Fenelon.

The **Silver National Convention** was a very busy time for all those involved and the management of this Division are most grateful to all those who took part. I believe it was the highlight of a very busy year and all the artists are to be congratulated on a high standard of presentation. The featured artist, **Candi Carley** from Los Angeles, certainly showed her audience an individual style of theatre organ playing and was obviously well received.

In preparation for the Convention the Society was very fortunate to engage the services of George Stephens from Adelaide who, together with his apprentice Geoff Bails, spent a very full week regulating and adjusting the Marrickville WurliTzer resulting in obvious improvement to the response and balance of the organ. George had primarily come to Sydney to work on the Christie Unit Organ at the Epping Baptist Church which had been restored through many hours of work by Rob Gliddon, David Bruce and John Andrews with several other helpers from time to time. The organ was finished in time for the Convention and was very well received by all patrons. Our sincere thanks to the project leader, Rob Gliddon and his team for bringing another theatre organ to life for Sydney audiences. A most successful club night was held at Epping during the year.

The restoration work on the 3/15 WurliTzer has been progressing under the valuable leadership of Norm Weismantel. cnt'd..

SECRETARY'S REPORT cnt'd.

He has trained a group of members in various aspects of restoration and they have made a significant contribution to the program already. The console has been restored and re-sprayed in readiness for the installation of the key-desks and other hardware. The wiring of the electro-magnetic stop switches is well on the way. The swell pedals and piano pedals have been replated. The chambers at the Orion Centre are ready to accept the organ with the floor having been covered in vinyl. Work is proceeding to prepare the shutters for installation.

At Marrickville, the shutters nearest the procenium, were reversed in each chamber and the toy counter was mounted on the rear wall in the solo chamber to make room for the installation of an additional chest. Members involved in these most successful manouvres were Ron Wilson, Bill Schumacher, Neil Palmer, Ernie Vale, Bert Chamberlain, Doug Smith, Sam Bruderlin, Norm and John Weismantel, Merv Palmer and Rob Gliddon. The 'plumbing' requirements were supplied by our member Richard Rock.

Negotiations have continued throughout the year with Microset Pty. Ltd. for the manufacture and supply of the solid state relay system for the Society organs. A claim against the company has been lodged with the Consumer Claims Tribunal.

The **Spring Fete** held for the first time this year was successful beyond our expectations and the management of T.O.S.A. express our sincere thanks to everyone who worked for the Fete at the Fete and who made and or donated items for sale. The Capitol fund benefitted by some \$3.300 dollars.

The record bar continued to be popular throughout the year when a wide selection of recordings were made available. We thank our members for your continued interest.

The refreshments at our functions continued to be well presented and we thank everyone involved in the smooth running of this facility under the leadership of Phil Wilson.

The radio program on 2CBA FM has now been running over 12 months and is a credit to Frank Ellis for maintaining the interest in Theatre Organ through this medium. Each program takes considerable time in writing the dialogue, deciding on the items to be used and timing them in order that the total program time is not exceeded. The live content of these broadcasts would not be possible without the considerable effort of our two members Ron Wilson and Bill Schumacher who have been making high quality recordings on their own personal tape recorders and cassette deck for the past three years. As a result of their efforts the Society has been able to provide artists with a recording of their concert to assist them in development of their playing technique, registration of the organ and their concert presentation. In addition, members have been able to borrow tapes from the tape library thereby enjoying performances in the comfort of their home. The management sincerely thank Ron and Bill for making this significant contribution to the Society and its members.

We wish to thank the membership for their support of the raffles that have been run for the Capitol organ fund and all members who have organised home organ parties for this cause.

We thank once again Ron Wilson for his long hours of work in preparing and printing TOSA NEWS to the high standard that it is presented every month. Ron has given many hours of his time to the compilation and production of the News and has had the full support of his wife Phil in keeping the information comprehensive and complete, hence making for interesting reading. There has been a willing group of helpers to put the magazine together each month and their assistance in this important role is very much appreciated. Doug Smith has filled an important role as assistant Editor by typing pages of the magazine, contributing articles and revues and chasing up information.

Ron has also spent many hours in preparing publicity for Concerts, printing tickets and Society forms and taking and developing photo's.

cnt'd..

SECRETARY'S REPORT cnt'd.

He is to be congratulated on the presentation of the Silver National Convention program in its entirety and also for doing a lot of the preparation of the audio visual publicity for the Convention. He was ably assisted by Barry Tooker, Rob Gliddon, Frank Ellis and Phil Wilson in that exercise.

Ron and Phil Wilson have saved the Society thousands of dollars in printing and production costs and for this very significant contribution the management is sincerely grateful.

Barry (flash!) Tooker has continued his good work as photographer. The Wells' have continued their important role in mailing out your TOSA NEWS each month.

The Palmers are doing a great job with concert bookings!

Frank Rohanek and his band of helpers have been looking after our Patrons in a most efficient manner at concerts.

The maintenance crew have confined their consistent task of looking after our most valuable asset - the Marrickville WurliTzer.

Frank Ellis continued his delightful role as compere of our concerts in his fluent and interesting style.

Jim Waters again tuned the organ for us during the early part of the year and made a very significant contribution in this way for many years. Norm and John Weismantel have done an excellent job of lighting at evening concerts.

To all these members and the many other helpers at all our functions we say many many thanks.

In closing I wish to thank Norm Weismantel for recording the minutes for me and Betty for typing them.

The management has had a very busy year and it has been an enjoyable year for the members I think, and the funds have grown significantly. We thank the members for their support throughout the year and look forward to another good year in 1986.

I have enjoyed my role as Secretary for the past 6 years in spite of the long hours required to keep the Society moving along. I wish my successors every success in their roles of Secretary and assistant Secretary and assure them that it is a very important role in the functioning of the Society.

Ernest W. Vale

Hon. Secretary.

HOME PARTY Sat.16th Nov. 1985

at the Bruderlin's residence, Peakhurst.

(By Doug Smith)

At least 60 people attended this very successful and happy event. Congratulations to our Hosts Betty and Sam Bruderlin who both put in every effort to make this big day so complete with all the finishing touches so necessary for everyone.

The weather stayed kind to us with a very humid beginning and we all thought we were in for a thunder storm but it blew over and the barbecue began in earnest.

The organ had plenty of use and the music was piped outside to the lawn and barbecue area where most people were seated.

We were graced with a surprise visit from the effervescent Dame Edna, dressed in all her finery and complete with all the cheeky answers and gladi's to throw to her admirers. Dame Edna was accompanied by a personal friend who had recently had a 'face-lift' job done and who still had the bandages on with only slits left for viewing, a rather unusual form to find wandering around I must say. Together they walked around the lawn area followed by T.V. cameras and various admirers. Alas it was all too soon when they had to hurry off for another engagement.

I felt sorry for Barry and Roslyn Porter who were absent while the visit took place and they missed all the fun! Never mind kids, next time perhaps!

During the evening we had a mini 'hoe-down' when a few younger ones danced away for their lives in the lounge room but the heat soon got everyone, including the organist and it came to a halt to allow everyone to cool off for a while.

President Alan Misdale thanked our Hosts for such a wonderful day and a good time was had by all. See you all at the next one.

FOURTEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

Well, its' preparation for "That" time of the year again. The National Convention for Easter 1986 is in Brisbane and as you will probably realise, accommodation if required, must be reserved well in advance.

We are holding a limited number of rooms at the Bellevue Motel (formerly Zebra Motel) and the central location and courteous staff make this good value at \$49.00 per room per night. Should you require accommodation for the Easter period, please contact Ron Smith on 387 3711(Bus) or 529-7379 (AH) for details or reservations.

SPRING FETE - 26th OCTOBER 1985

(By Ron Smith)

Maybe it was 'beginners luck', but despite somewhat dismal weather, our first attempt at a Fete proved socially and financially rewarding.

It is regrettable that rain prevented operation of the Dutch Street Organ on the day but thanks anyway to Craig Robson for his kind offer of this unique instrument.

The supreme efforts of all the helpers and stall organisers not only on the day but for the months prior to it was greatly appreciated.

Similarly to those people who donated merchandise - and there was much of it - we are indebted to you for your generosity.

We are delighted to report that all this hard work was far from fruitless as the net result on the day was a contribution of \$3,345-19 to the Capitol Organ Installation Fund and thats' an encouraging outcome. Once again, thank you to everybody concerned.

See photos on opposite page.

FOR SALE

Rodgers 3 manual 32 pedal board Model 321 Trio fitted with Yamaha keyboard for extra voices.

The organ has 8 toe pistons and coupled to matching external leslie cabinet.

Good condition and appearance.

PRICE: \$12,500 O.N.O.

Phone 043 242602

FOR SALE: One only Conn 652 3/Manual Theatre Organ complete with two sets of Model 145 pipes, left and right elevation, inclusive with one Leslie Tone Cabinet, model 255.

This instrument has a beautiful tone and is in showroom condition.

PRICE: \$13,000 (negotiable)

Please call Mr. J. Crewe on 639 5414 (24 hour sevice) for an appointment to inspect.

FOR SALE: Organ Hammond Concorde.

A1 condition, top of the range, full console 17 percussion voices, 4 sets of drawbars, real piano, rhythm section, in-built Leslie and External Leslie box, NR 720 270 watt, very nice set.

I paid \$13,500 - will sell \$4,950 O.N.O. Enquiries phone Mr. T. Van Arkel on (044) 212 457.

FOR SALE: Conn organ Trinidad 554 horseshoe model.

This organ is in excellent condition.

PRICE: \$5,500 O.N.O.

FOR SALE: Grand piano 5'-3" German.

Showroom condition - one owner.

PRICE : \$5,750

For further details please ring John Shaw on 759 5825.

NEW MEMBERS

(November meeting)

Ian Keir, Mr and Mrs R.D.Apps

IT'S MEMBERSHIP TIME!



CONCERT REVIEW

LEN RAWLE AT MARRICKVILLE

Wednesday evening 6th November 1985

(by Peter Bidencope)

This was a concert particularly memorable for its seemingly endless variety of registrations and new sounds; they had to be heard to be believed. Particularly noteworthy in my view were Len's Vox Humana choruses, discerning and effective use of tonal percussions and in places "Mantovani" strings.

Whilst Len did not hesitate to use the full power of the organ when required, he did not overlook some very light registrations of great delicacy. These, together with frequent use of the crescendo pedal, readily demonstrated the enormous dynamic range of the instrument.

Len opened his concert with considerable imagination; the first sounds were thunder and wind which gradually gave way to a wide combination of pieces under the general heading "No Business Like Show Business". This was so extensive it was almost a mini concert within itself.

Unlike most Marrickville concerts, where there are periodic introductions to set pieces, Len kept his comments to almost a minimum and devoted considerably more time to his creative playing. His introductory medley would, without doubt, have included more sounds than would normally be heard during an entire concert.

Towards the end of the first half, slides of London's well known tourist attractions such as St.Pauls, Westminster Abbey, The Tower, Buckingham Palace etc were accompanied by Len with Elgar's "Pomp And Circumstance No.1" on the WurliTzer.

Following interval, the second half began in Len's somewhat customary manner with his rendition of "Tuning The Orchestra". Items which followed included "Chatanooga Choo Choo" as well as "Blaze Away".

We also saw some slides of Len's home in the U.K. his family and his 4/25 WurliTzer installation, no doubt the envy of many!

This remarkable concert concluded with an encore - the "Maoris Farewell".

What a pity a greater number of members did not attend.

Well done Len Rawle!



SELWYN THEATRE CLUB

MORTDALE

THEATRE ORGAN RECITALS, 1986.

JANUARY 19th SUNDAY 2.15pm.

Simon Ellis

FEBRUARY 16th SUNDAY 2.15pm.

Richard James

MARCH 16th SUNDAY 2.15pm

Young Organists Show

(For Capitol Organ Fund)

APRIL 13th SUNDAY 2.30pm.

Valda Lang Show.

(Earlwood-Bardwell Park R.S.L.)

MAY 18th SUNDAY 2.15pm.

David Parsons.

JUNE 29th SUNDAY 2.15pm.

Cliff Bingham

Selwyn Productions 13 Rosemont Street

MORTDALE 2223

Telephone 57 3581.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

No.21 of a Monthly series by Frank Ellis.

During the early part of 1940, feature writer for Music Maker magazine, Ronald Roberts, interviewed a number of Sydney's leading theatre organists, regarding their views on the organ interludes they provided in their cinemas, and the difficulties they encountered in their profession. Among the organists he interviewed was singing organist Denis Palmistra, who had definite ideas to offer on the subject - ideas which, in my opinion, are just as valid today, so with my grateful thanks to Ronald Roberts and Music Maker magazine, I here reprint Roberts account of that interview.

"Denis Palmistra favours the Medley or Selection, wherein all manner of items are presented. In this way, he says, it is possible to please each section of the audience. It enables one to play for each of the "brows", so to speak - high, low and middle. It is a well known fact that what one person admires, another cannot tolerate. So, in playing a medley, it is practically certain that each and every one of the audience will hear at least one piece that he whole heartedly enjoys. Continuing, he stated that the ultimate success of such a policy rests upon how a selection of numbers is made, a combination of taste and judgement being essential. For instance, it would be foolish to play a combination of three bright and noisy items together, or to go to the other extreme and play a bracket of quiet pieces. Variety is the keynote of success or otherwise.

Palmistra then discussed interpretation. The most vital thing, he said, was to see that the number played received proper treatment. In this it is necessary to see that the character of the selection is strictly adhered to, and no radical departure made from it. Round up in this question, also, is the point of musical training. He considers that a sound and very thorough musical education is something no cinema organist can afford to be without. A solid background of such training helps a great deal in overcoming the trials which are part and parcel of the game.

From personal experience, he learned that the type of audience governs the choice of music to be played, and the type of program screened, in turn, governs the class of audience to be expected. One is not long on the console without learning the reactions of the people listening. It is not difficult to tell whether they are with you, against you, or just merely indifferent to your efforts.

I questioned him as to his attitude toward singing. His reply was that he has no wish to make the song the presentation, and that as far as possible he kept the proportion of song numbers down to about 15% of his total program. But there is one big advantage in being able to sing - that is, that it makes a more direct contact with the public and adds quite a personal touch to the program. When the powers that be decide to change the organists around you might have to leave the organ but you can take your voice with you.

Summing up the position as regards presentation, he said. Always make it short and snappy and always aim to leave the audience in the frame of mind that they haven't had quite enough." End of article. I would say that they were wise words from Denis Palmistra whose career took him into most of Sydney's major cinemas.

During that same month in 1940, Ronald Roberts received a short note from Reubert Hayes, then being featured at the Regent Theatre in Brisbane. Reubert said, that he would shortly be passing through Sydney, but didn't say where his destination would be. My guess is he was just on a short holiday. Jim Williams was, at that time, relieving Owen Holland at the Sydney Regent whilst Owen took a couple of weeks holiday. Les Waldron was still in residence at the Plaza at that time too.

Would anyone believe that Saturday night audiences in the suburbs would accept an organist playing Wagner? Of course not, you'd probably say, but Barry Brettner played an arrangement by American organist, Emil Valesco, (formerly of the Roxy, New York) of The Pilgrim's Chorus. Here indeed was class with a Capital "C".

DOWN MEMORY LANE cnt'd.

First he played it straight and then in rhythm style. Some folk may throw up their hands in horror at such sacrilege taking place, but Barry did it very well indeed, and the audience lapped it up and applauded enthusiastically, and after all, audience approval is the name of the game in cinema organ playing.

That same month, Denis Palmistra came up with one of his best presentations. He featured Poet and Peasant and Liszt's Leibestraum, and his careful interpretation was outstanding. His use of the swell pedal was said to be an object lesson other organists could well take heed of. Those are not my words dear reader, but those of Ronald Roberts.

June the 1st that year, saw Western Suburbs Cinemas make the usual six-monthly swop around of their organists. Knight Barnett went to the Civic Auburn, Barry Brettner to the Savoy Hurstville, Ray Chaffer to the Enfield Savoy, Denis Palmistra to the Roxy Parramatta, Paul Cullen to the Burwood Palatial, Clarrie Black to the Strathfield Cinema, and Norman Robins to the Astra Parramatta. Reubert Hayes went on holidays and was relieved by Reg Case, and as the clouds of war gathered, Charles Tuckwell of the Melbourne Regent enlisted in the services. Ron Boyce gave up his newly renewed contract with the Vogue Double Bay and joined up too. Len Davis was then at the Hammond of the Albert Park Theatre in Melbourne and had been accompanist to American Negro singer Bob Parrish, then a singing sensation in Melbourne.

Radio 2GB started a recorded session of organ music on Sunday nights but the Gremlins got into the works and fouled one of the broadcasts up properly. Several records, about 3 or 4 I think, played by Reginald Foort were announced as having been played by Reginald Dixon. That would have caused some red faces at the station.

Well, that's it once again - more bits and pieces in the next issue which will be the Jan-Feb one. Compliments of the Season to all "Memory Laners".

BRISBANE'S BEAUTIFUL REGENT
THEATRE

(By Frank Ellis)

Hoyt's Regent Theatre in Queen Street Brisbane was undoubtedly the most beautiful of all the Company's chain of Regent Theatres in Australia's capitol cities. Whilst not as large as the Melbourne Regent, it was more elegant, and certainly completely surpassed the Regents of Sydney, Adelaide and Perth.

The auditorium, finished in tonings of gold and bronze, had a metallic sheen to it which responded perfectly to amber or coloured lighting, and surrounded one with a feeling of luxury.

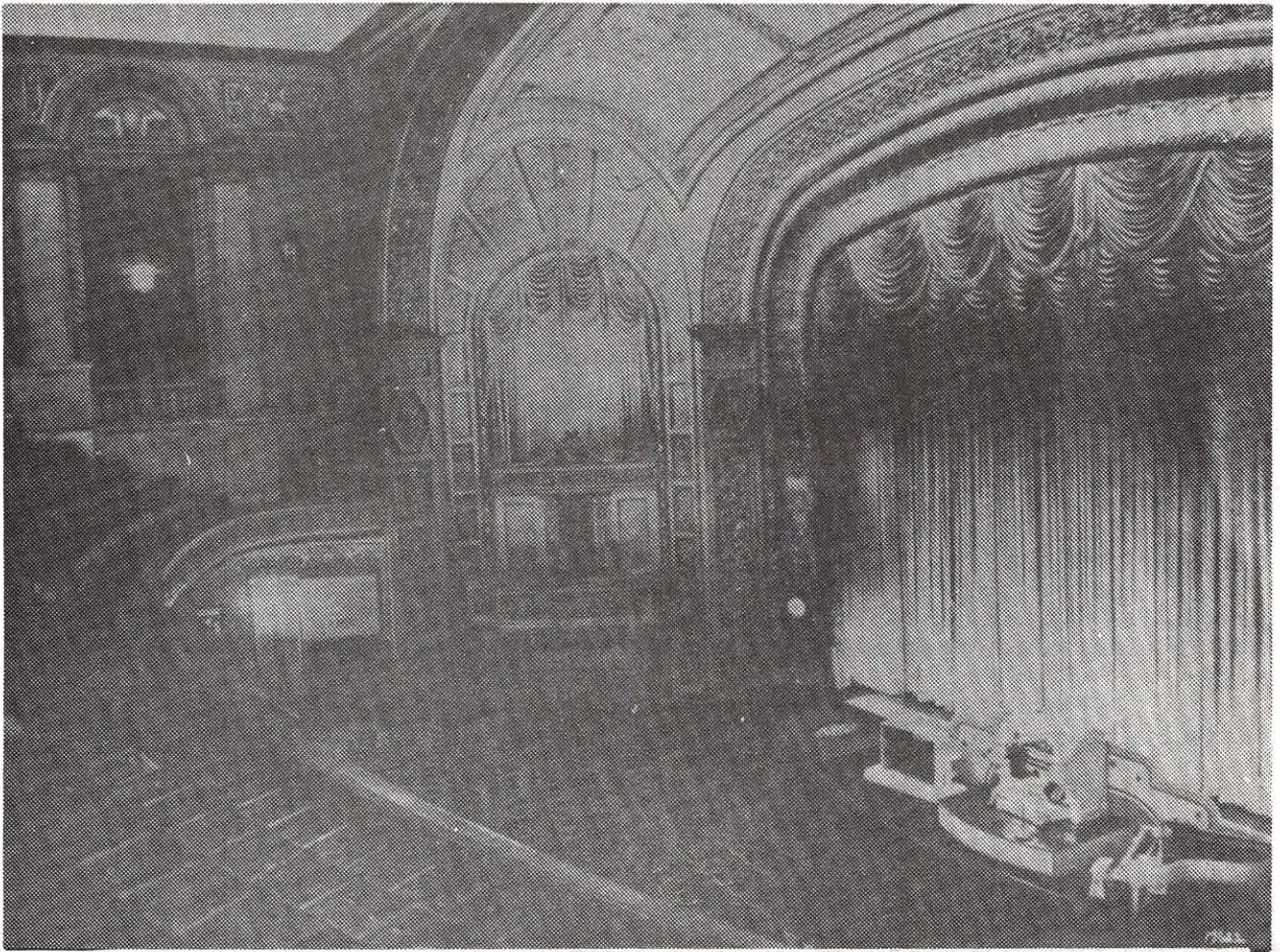
Its 3/15 Wurlitzer organ was a superb example of the theatre-organ builder's art, and, during the war years, was the most widely heard Wurlitzer in Australia, being broadcast by Reubert Hayes both nationally and to the military forces in the South Pacific. The program called "Forces Sing Song" went to air at the prime time of 6.30pm each Sunday on the ABC.

The Entrance Lobby, 20 feet wide and 75 feet deep, opened into a Grand Lobby 40 feet wide and also 75 feet deep, which was luxuriously carpeted and furnished. The theatre accommodated 2587 patrons in air-conditioned comfort and the proscenium arch was claimed to be the widest of any theatre in Australia at that time.

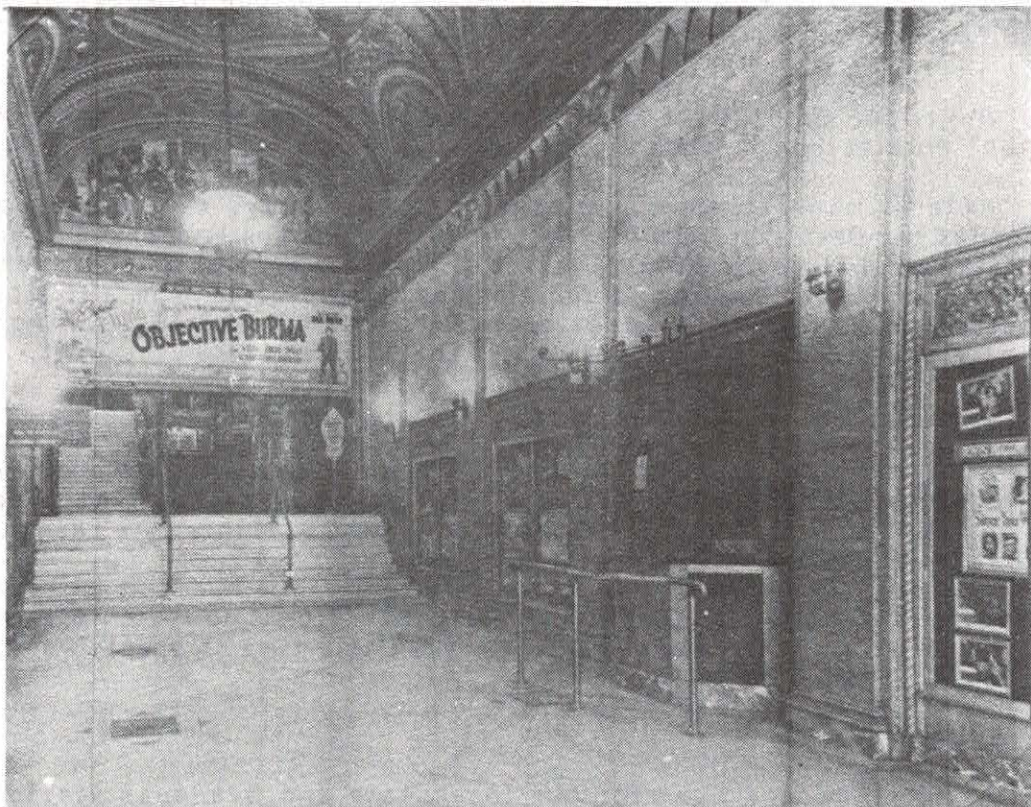
After the management discontinued the orchestra, the Wurlitzer was removed from its own lift on the left, and placed in the centre of the very large orchestra lift, with a grand piano on the right of the console and some percussive instruments on the left. The photo with this article shows the organ on the orchestra lift, and is a very very rare photo indeed. The other photo shows the grandeur on the Entrance Lobby.

Sadly, the theatre is no longer in its original state, having been turned into a cinema centre housing four cinemas in December 1978.

See photos on opposite page.



The magnificence of the mighty BRISBANE REGENT is very obvious in this photo.



BRISBANE REGENT: View of the entry lobby and detailed ceiling. Taken around 1945.

----- CONVENTION UPDATE -----

Here is the information you've all been waiting for - the details of our Fabulous Fourteenth Convention activities for Easter, 1986. PLEASE NOTE: Bus transport will be provided to full convention ticket holders only, from a central pick-up area. All venues requiring bus transport will be marked "b.t."

FRIDAY, 28TH MARCH.

With a first class Brisbane welcome, registration starts at Kelvin Grove High School, Victoria Park Rd., Kelvin Grove at 8.30 p.m., and carries through until 5.30 p.m. when a light tea will be provided. Our Grand Opening "PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ" Concert starts at 6.00 p.m. We have a great variety concert lined up to set the mood and era for THEATRE PIPE ORGAN MUSIC.

SATURDAY, 29TH MARCH.

We will enjoy a concert and tour of St. Andrews Uniting Church, Creek St., with it's magnificent pipe organ which has recently been restored, (b.t.), then on to a tour of our new Cultural Centre to wander around both the Queensland Art Gallery and the Performing Arts Centre (b.t.). Lunch and entertainment on the electronic organ awaits in the Albert Park Amphitheatre (b.t.).

After a scenic drive we will make our way to Blair Linnett's home installation of a Compton Theatre Pipe Organ and enjoy a mini concert. (b.t.)

Tonight it's back to Kelvin Grove for the major concert, presenting our Feature Artist RICHARD HORE, our visitor from Christchurch, New Zealand. Although blind, Richard has mastered the techniques of all organs, and his music shows a vast depth of feeling, as his many audiences would testify. His talents will be displayed as Richard puts the Christie through it's paces.

SUNDAY, 30TH MARCH. (b.t.)

We will depart Brisbane at 10.30 a.m. for the Gold Coast. On arrival it will be "anchors aweigh" on the "Sir Bruce" River and Canal Cruise. This delightful cruise of the magnificent water-ways will include glimpses of some millionaires' luxury homes. A Devonshire Tea and lunch will be served on board.

Next, our Gold Coast TOSA members will treat us to a concert by local talent on electronic organs.

After a magnificent day on the coast we arrive at Morans Wharf Restaurant, at the Beenleigh Rum Distillery, for our "Banana Benders' Banquet". You can discover 100 years of rum making tradition, and, of course, sample the gold medal rum. Our banquet is served smorgasbord style from a life boat. It will delight and satisfy all appetites. After all this wining, dining and dancing, it's back to Brisbane (snoring all the way!).

MONDAY, 31ST MARCH.

A leisurely day spent at Kelvin Grove High School, with a Mini Concert including Cameo spots by our overseas and interstate representatives, leading on to an open console. Lunch will be provided. For some this is a chance for the final farewells ('til next time).

This is our official closing of the Convention. However, for those who find it hard to say goodbye, and still have a little time to spare, we would like to suggest -

TUESDAY, 1ST APRIL.

A trip that is a must for our Interstate and Overseas visitors - Queenslanders of course can do the trip any time, but how much better to do it in the company of our Conventioneers - a cruise to sub-tropical Moreton

Island, with a magnificent Smorgasbord lunch at the Tangalooma Resort, and time to unwind with friends made at the Convention.

The trip over and back is on board the "Tangalooma Flyer", a large, high speed twin hull launch that can seat everyone in comfort. Once on the island, you may like to book in for the "Desert Trip" to see the Coloured Sands and try your hand at sand-tabogganning down one of the tremendous sandhills.

We hope to include a Tangalooma brochure with this issue of Tibia to give you fuller information. Please note, there will be an increase in prices before the end of the year - adults will increase to \$25.00, and children (3-14 incl.) to \$13.00. The Desert Trip is \$4 per person. A 10% discount applies on the cruise for groups of 20 or more adults. Interstate visitors may like to make a bulk booking to take advantage of this. Bookings, with payment enclosed, should be made directly with Tangalooma Island Resort, Moreton Island, Q. 4004. Bookings for the Desert Trip are made at the Resort office on arrival on the island. As this is a busy time for Tangalooma, the Resort advises that you should make your bookings early in the New Year at the latest. Would you also advise them if you wish to be picked up by the Courtesy Coach, which leaves the Crest International Hotel (our recommended accomodation) at 8.30 a.m.

We hope we've whet your appetite enough. SO REMEMBER - Be an early bird and BOOK NOW, especially accommodation. The prices quoted for the following hotels and motel are special ones for TOSA, and are conditional on a certain minimum of rooms booked. When making your bookings, don't forget to mention TOSA.

RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION

For the benefit of our overseas, interstate and country readers, here are the details of our recommended accommodation.

1. THE CREST INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

This is the closest hotel to our bus pick-up point.

\$58.00 per room (single, twin or double)
Ph. 07 229.9111 or Tlx AA41320 or write to
Crest International Hotel,
King George Square,
BRISBANE. 4000

SHERATON HOTEL BRISBANE

\$70.00 per room (single, twin or double)
\$82.00 per room (triple)
Ph. 07 835,3535 or write to
Sheraton Hotel,
Central Railway Complex,
Turbot St.,
BRISBANE. 4000.

VIRGINIA PALMS MOTEL (Suburban)

One coach load is already booked in here, leaving only 10 rooms still available at time of printing.

\$40.00 per room
Ph. 07 265.7066 or Tlx 44135 or write to
Virginia Palms Motel,
91 Zillmere Rd.,
BOONDALL. 4034.

HAPPY HOLIDAYING!!

THE ABOVE CONVENTION DETAILS HAVE BEEN REPRODUCED FROM NOVEMBER ISSUE OF QUEENSLAND'S NEWSLETTER 'TIBIA'.



TOSA CHRISTMAS PARTY



FRIDAY 13th. DECEMBER 1985 at 7.30pm.

to be held at the new

ORION CENTRE

B.Y.O.

CAMPSIE

B.Y.O.



FOR TOSA MEMBERS AND THEIR FRIENDS

COST \$18.00 PER HEAD

(Cost does not include drinks)

FIVE PIECE DANCE BAND

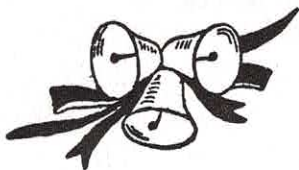
PLUS

HAMMOND ELEGANTE ORGAN

Please organise your party and tables

NOW

There will be a prize for the best decorated table.



Christmas Party Bookings,
120 Dennis Street,
LAKEMBA. N.S.W. 2195

BOOKING FORM

Please forward me _____ tickets @ \$18.00 each for the TOSA CHRISTMAS PARTY to be held at the ORION CENTRE - CAMPSIE FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER at 7.30pm.

All bookings must be made through Mrs Phyllis Wilson at the above address or by phoning her on 759 6050. Please make all cheques payable to T.O.S.A.

Please print your name and address clearly and include stamped addressed envelope for the return of your tickets.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POST CODE _____

PLEASE NOTE. Cost does not include drinks.