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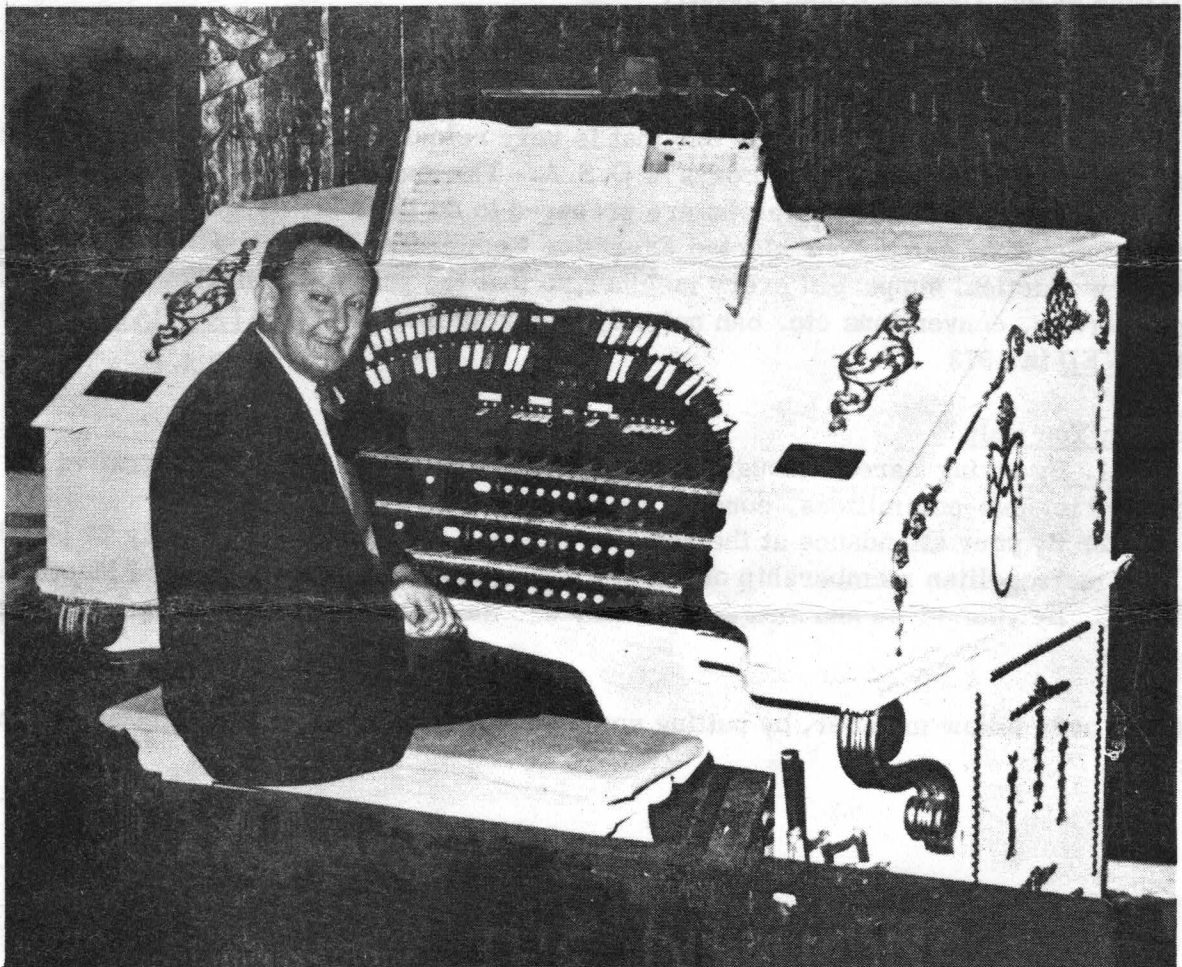
t.o.s.a. news

incorporating **THE DIAPHONE**

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

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SOCIETY DIRECTORY:

PATRON: Ian Davies.

PRESIDENT: Tom Halloran, 66 Flinders Road, Cronulla. 2230. (523-5077)

SECRETARY: John Roberts, 5 Wyleena Place, Punchbowl. 2196. (70-3650)

TREASURER: Alan Misdale, 74 View Street, Gymea. 2227. (525-5554)

T.O.S.A. NEWS EDITOR: Cliff Bingham, 17/26 Huxtable Avenue, Lane Cove. 2066.

EDITORIAL:

First, let me express my appreciation to those members who "unanimously" voted me into this position at the Annual General Meeting. I will do my best to present a lively, entertaining and informative magazine that will, I trust, help to promote the image and activities of the Theatre Organ Society.

However, I feel prompted to put some thoughts to you the members, for your careful consideration:

The word "Involvement" is one that is very relevant in today's world and it is a word that is equally relevant to today's T.O.S.A. The society cannot function without the active involvement of people who are prepared to do their bit (large or small) in whatever way they can. Your elected Executive Committee (hard-working body that it is) needs the practical support of every member so that the present high standard of concerts, organ parties, conventions etc. can not only be maintained but SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED in 1973

How Can You Help?

1. By giving careful thought to any request to serve in any administrative capacity, ie. sub-committees, concert committees etc.
2. By your attendance at the various T.O.S.A. functions (N.B. only 77 people out of a metropolitan membership of 280 were present at the Annual General Meeting.)
3. By your ideas and suggestions for, and the constructive criticism of, T.O.S.A. functions.

Think it over fellow member, by putting something into it, you may even get something out of it.

COVER PHOTO- Our newly-elected Patron, IAN DAVIES, at our newly-acquired ex-Capitol Theatre Wurlitzer Organ.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH.

On Tuesday 6th March, at 8P. M. in the Chatswood Town Hall, T.O.S.A. members Heather Moen and Cliff Bingham will be featured at the Wurlitzer in a 50/50 organ concert sponsored by the society in conjunction with Willoughby Municipal Council. This promises to be a most interesting evening, as Heather's program will consist entirely of classic organ music while Cliff will deal with the lighter side. Associate artist is popular soprano Julie Madden, who has sung for T.O.S.A. on a number of occasions. Your support will ensure an interesting program from three very accomplished musicians. The compere will be Sydney T.V. personality (and T.O.S.A. member) James Dibble.

Tickets are \$1.00 with the proceeds going to the Chatswood Community Hospital.

Thursday 15th March at 8 P. M.

There will be an Organ Recital held at the Chatswood Main Town Hall, Civic Centre Victoria Avenue, Chatswood, sponsored by "The Lowrey People", in conjunction with the Spastic Centre.

The visiting overseas artist will be RICKY PONCE DE LEON and he will be featured at the Full Lowrey Theatre Console.

Ricky has starred in concerts throughout America where he proved tremendously popular and has recently appeared in Melbourne where he enjoyed the same success. The program to be presented will appeal to all organ enthusiasts.

Advance Tickets are available at Rees Wills, 57 York Street, City and their Northside branch "Organland" cnr. Pittwater and Barrenjoey Roads, Mona Vale.

The cost of the tickets will be: Adults \$2.00 Children and Pensioners \$1.00

T.O.S.A. members \$1.50 on production of membership card.

Friday 16th March at 8 P. M.

An organ concert, sponsored jointly by the Society and the Concord Wesley Young Adults Club will be held in the Concord Wesley Church, corner of Concord Rd and Sydney Street. The organist will be Cliff Bingham and he will be featured at the console of the Aeolian Pipe Organ (with several interesting "theatrical" additions.) The program has been designed to suit all tastes and an evening of light organ music with a difference is assured.

Admission by donation of \$1.00 for adults, 40cents for children.

Saturday 24th March at 8 P. M.

Another of our ever popular organ parties will be held at the home of members Phyl & Ron Wilson. 120 Dennis Street, Lakemba. (Canterbury Rd end) The Wilsons have a Thomas "Celebrity" full console theatre organ and a fun night of good music amongst good friends is assured. (see Organ Party review elsewhere in this issue.)

Featured organist for the night is Lance Wells.

Admission charge in \$1.00 per person (or more if you like) with the proceeds going to our Pipe Organ Purchase Fund. There is a limit of 60 persons so please reserve your place by ringing Mrs Wilson on 759-6050.

ORGAN PARTIES NEEDED.

Speaking of Organ Parties, if you are in a position to host an organ party and thus actively support our Pipe Organ Fund, our secretary John Roberts is anxiously waiting to hear from you. Please phone him at home 70-3650

"CONVENTION 73"

TOSA'S SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION

- Saturday 21st April
- 7.30a. m. State Theatre - Opening Ceremonies and 1st Concert featuring Cliff Bingham and Bill Schumacher at the 4/21 Wurlitzer. (Coffee shop near theatre will be especially open for morning tea.)
- 11.00 a. m. Bondi Junction R.S.L. Club - 2nd Concert featuring Ian Davies at the Rodgers Electronic Theatre Organ. Refreshments and lunch available.
- 2.30 p. m. Marrickville Town Hall. Selected cameo spots featuring 8 surprise guest organists at the 2/10 Wurlitzer. This program should be of tremendous interest if some of the names whispered to me are featured.
- 5.00 p. m. St. Brendan,s Hall, Annandale. Four - course Convention Dinner - fully catered; savouries and sherry on arrival.
- 8.00 p. m. Marrickville Town Hall. - 3rd concert featuring Bill Thompson, one of America's top theatre pipe organists. Your opportunity to hear our 2/10 Wurlitzer "stood on its ear"
- Sunday 22nd April
- A free morning. National Executives meeting only.
- 2.00 p. m. Lyceum Theatre. - 4th concert featuring Ray Thornley and Eric Smith at the 2/9 Christie organ with guest soloist, T. V. personality Anne Salisbury.
- 8.00 p. m. Chatswood Town Hall - 5th Concert featuring Wilbur Kentwell at the 2/10 Wurlitzer.
- 10.00 p. m. Coffee and Farewells in the foyer.

CONVENTION TICKETS

Tickets for the convention are available from our Convention Treasurer and can be obtained by mailing the enclosed application form. (with your cheque of course.) Hurry, Do It Now. You would never forgive yourself if you missed out on a two day feast of good organ music from seven top organists, four theatre pipe organs and a big Rodgers electronic theatre organ.

TRANSPORT NEEDED

If you are planning to travel between Convention functions in your own car, any spare seats you have available would be greatly appreciated for the use of interstate and country visitors. If you can help ring Frank Ellis after hours on 649-7011.

1973's FIRST ORGAN PARTY A SUCCESS

This year's first organ party held at the home of our secretary John Roberts was a huge success and the sum of \$33.00 was raised for the Pipe Organ Fund. It was a happy night despite the fact that Sydney's rather abnormal "big wet" continued unabated outside, but inside the Robert's home it was all music, music, music, and loads of friendship and hospitality. John explained that his wife's absence from the party was due to arrival of a son and heir and that both were very well indeed. He received warm congratulations from all those present. If he appeared at all nervous when he played the organ, well who could blame him in the circumstances. His place at the console was taken by Mrs Wilson then Lance Wells and Jim Birkett all of whom played very nicely indeed. David Parsons then delighted his fans with his usual sparkling performance. After playing his arranged program he asked for requests from those present. One of David's many talents is his ability to play requests on demand without music, and as on many previous occasions, he did exactly that. No request was refused and all were played with his customary expertise.

An excellent supper was then served by Pearl Lawson and Pam Tooker who hostessed the evening very ably in the absence of Mrs Diane Roberts. Toward the end of the supper unexpected organ music provided a nice background and the organist was found to be Cyril Haines.

Later, Stan Hogarth entertained at the console before David Parsons returned to play a final half hour or so for us.

Around Midnight the party ended but not before three of those present had offered to hold organ parties in their homes in the near future.

It could be said that the evening was a huge success in more ways than one - three more in fact. See you at the next one. ?

Sincere thanks to John and Diane Roberts. (F. E.)

MEMBERS' ADS.

BOOKS FOR SALE

T.O.S.A. member Colin Tringham has the following Organ books for sale at bargain prices. Although some of these are slightly dated now, they still contain a wealth of useful information. Titles are:-

"The Electronic Musical Instrument Manual" by Douglas, fourth edition. \$2.50

"Frequency Divider Organs", by Douglas, \$1.50

"Transistor Electronic Organs for the Amateur" by Douglas and Astey, \$1.00

"An Electronic Organ for the Home Constructor" by Douglas, \$1.00

"Electronic Organ Handbook" by Anderson, \$2.00

"Servicing Electronic Organs" by Pittman & Oliver, \$2.00

"Electronic Musical Handbook" by Crowhurst, \$1.00

If any one member wishes to purchase all seven books, these are available for \$10.00. Phone Colin Tringham at 98-7947 after 6.30 p.m. or 759-8844 during office hours.

ORGAN -

YAMAHA E3R, ten months old, \$2,650.00. Phone 798-3127 business hours.

SCHUMACHER SHINES AT MARRICKVILLE

The 1973 Marrickville season got under way with a swing on Wednesday 21st February when Bill Schumacher with the help of the Wurlitzer, paid his tribute to the music of the world's movie capital in a splendidly-selected program entitled "Hooray for Hollywood". Bill's opening number "I Feel a Song Coming On" set the mood for a feast of beautifully arranged and registered songs.

The program included the title song "Hooray for Hollywood", "As Time Goes By", "On the Good Ship Lollipop" (with effective use of the 4' Tibia and Glockenspiel) a beautiful "Lara's Theme", "Buttons and Bows" and a well-played "March of the Siamese Children".

At this point, compere Frank Ellis, introduced Bill's associate artist, soprano Moira Barber who sang four numbers - "With a Song in my Heart", "At Last", "Serenade in Blue" and "Impossible Dream". From the reception she received from the enthusiastic audience, it was clear that her well modulated voice and clear pronunciation were greatly appreciated.

The first half of the program concluded with the theme from "Love Story" a well presented Henry Mancini selection, "A Foggy Day" (which was the highlight of the program for me because of the arrangement, registration and the very adept second-touch Tuba counter-melody) and a stirring "Dream of Olwin."

After a refreshing intermission (thanks to the efforts of the Lawsons and the Tookers in running the candy bar) Bill returned to the console for the remainder of the program which included "Something's Gotta Give", "Somewhere over the Rainbow" (memories of Lyn Larsen) "Again" and the theme from "Summer of '42". Moira Barber then presented a lively "June is Bustin' Out all Over", a beautifully arranged "I Loves you Porgy" and a wistful "Pieces of Dreams".

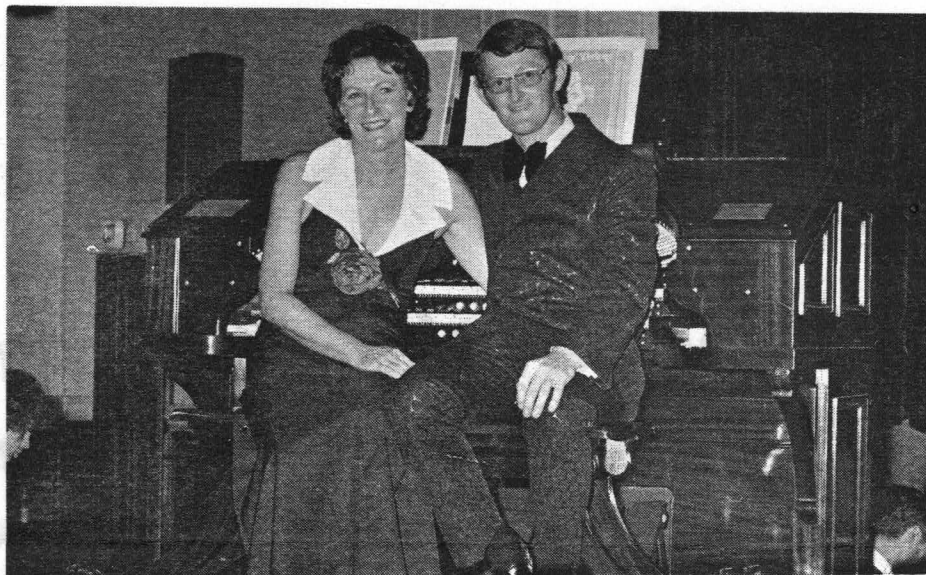
Bill's final offering finished with a selection of music from the Walt Disney Studios. The enthusiastic applause from the audience guaranteed an encore and Bill responded appropriately with "I've Got You Under my Skin".

Summing up, a well-balanced, carefully-prepared program that was thoroughly enjoyed by the disappointly small, but very receptive audience. Bill's second-touch, counter-melody work, and his "thumbing" between manuals should be noted by all students of organ playing. If you ever get tired of listening to Bill's right hand, listen to his left - it's just as interesting.

This only leaves me to say that if you were among the absentee's from this concert believe me, the loss was entirely yours.

ADVANCE NOTICE

A pleasant Sunday afternoon of organ music will be held at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Penshurst Street, Penshurst on Sunday 8th April at 3 p. m. The Organist is our member David Parsons, who will be featured playing a Conn "Rhapsody" organ, kindly made available by Alex Britton's Music Store, Hurstville. Afternoon tea will be provided.



MARRICKVILLE PREVIEW AT A. G. M.

Bill Schumacher gave us a preview of what to expect at his Marrickville concert, by playing a very smooth mini-concert after the Annual General Meeting on 31st January. Playing in his customary polished style, Bill gave us "It's a Great Day," "Lover Come Back to Me", "Waves" (a haunting new number that Bill brought back from his U.S. trip) "Tea for Two", "The Most Beautiful Girl in the World", "Serenata" and "Come Back to Me". Our thanks to W.H. Paling & Co. for providing the H300 Hammond organ and Leslie 122RU tone cabinet.

ORGAN PARTS NOW SAFELY STORED

On Saturday 17th February members Ross and Gwen Adams once again came to our aid in helping remove and in storing all the remaining ex-Capitol organ pipes, blower, etc. from Noad's premises. Although the weather was extremely wet, we had a very successful move, thanks to the willing efforts of our work party. A big pat on the back to the "boys" involved.

Ross, as well as supplying the truck and making storage space available, also assisted greatly in the loading and stacking; a very able and willing TOSA worker.

Special thanks also to Gwen who provided a very welcome morning tea and lunch for all concerned. These energy-reviving meals were greatly appreciated, as work had started at 6 a.m. that morning.

Once again, many thanks to all concerned.

STOP PRESS!

LOOK FOR A MAGNIFICENT
FULL-COLOUR, TWO PAGE SPREAD
ON THE "STATE" THEATRE IN
THE "WOMEN'S WEEKLY"
DATED 7TH OF MARCH,
INCLUDING A BEAUTIFUL SHOT
OF THE 4/21 WURLITZER.
MAKES A MAGNIFICENT SOUVENIR!