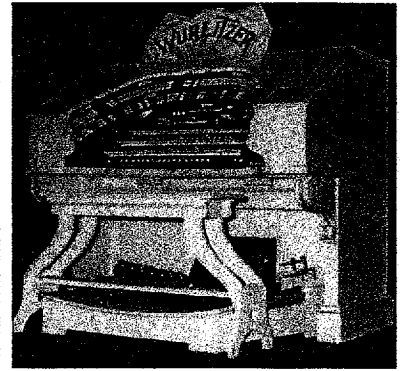


NOVEMBER, 2002

# TOSA



2/11 Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ  
Marrickville Town Hall

3/17 Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ  
Orion Centre Campsie

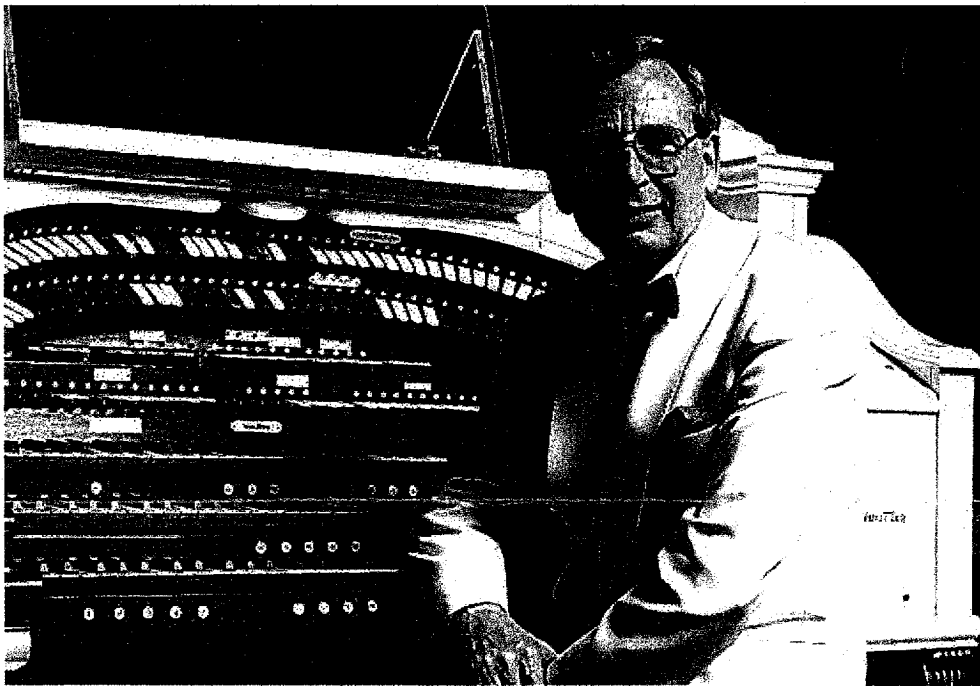
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## Ian Davies and Friends

Saturday 9th November at 1pm

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# Len Rawle



17th November at 2pm  
*Marrickville Town Hall*

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## AGM - 23rd November at 1.30pm

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Issue 10  
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# TOSA NEWS

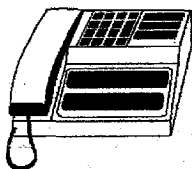
NOVEMBER, 2002

THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (NSW DIVISION) Inc.

For the smooth running of TOSA, please contact the right person :

General Business - SECRETARY  
Ticket Bookings - TICKET SECRETARY  
Membership, Renewals, Change of Address - MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY  
TOSA NEWS Items, Advertisements - EDITOR  
All numbers use the prefix 02

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## COMING EVENTS

## NOVEMBER

- Monday 4 at 7.30pm Committee Meeting
- Saturday 9 at 1.00pm Ian Davies and Friends  
Bondi Junction-Waverley RSL  
(See page 10 October *TOSA News*)
- Thursday 14 at 1.30pm Members' Playing Day  
Orion Centre Campsie  
Phone 9716 0151 to confirm
- Sunday 17 at 2.00pm Len Rawle Concert  
Marrickville Town Hall
- Saturday 23 at 2.00pm Annual General Meeting  
Margaret's Music Room  
Moxon Road, Punchbowl  
(See pages 3, 8, 9 and 10)
- Thursday 28 at 7.30pm Members' Playing Night  
Marrickville Town Hall  
Phone 9798 6742 to confirm

## DECEMBER

- Monday 2 at 7.30pm Committee Meeting
- Sunday 8 at 2pm John Atwell  
Christmas Concert  
Orion Centre Campsie
- Thursday 12 at 1.30pm Members' Playing Day  
Orion Centre Campsie  
Phone 9716 0151 to confirm

## JANUARY, 2003!!

- Monday 6 at 7.30pm Committee Meeting  
"Strategic Planning"
- Thursday 9 at 1.30pm Members' Playing Day  
Orion Centre Campsie  
Phone 9716 0151 to confirm
- Thursday 28 at 7.30pm Members' Playing Night  
Marrickville Town Hall  
Phone 9798 6742 to confirm

# From The President

I had not heard Dan Bellomy before our October concert, but he was certainly worth waiting for. Lots of rhythmic stuff and plenty of Jazz improvisation! I found it hard to believe that Dan and Laurie Bennett, the drummer, could get their act together in the short time they had scheduled for rehearsal, but they just seemed to click and away they went. Both very competent musicians.

Don't miss the Len Rawle concert at Marrickville on 17th November, then John Atwell plays Christmas at the Orion on 5th December.

There are seven people standing for the six places on your TOSA COMMITTEE, so you will find a voting form on page 10 of this TOSA News. Please exercise your vote.

Below, you will see several Motions that are to be discussed at our Annual General Meeting on Saturday 23rd November. Please come along and support your organisation. There is also opportunity for everyone to have their say or offer their suggestions to the Committee. It would be appreciated if some members could bring a plate of something for afternoon tea.



I'm sorry there was no Players' Afternoon at either Marrickville or Campsie in October. We are not having a good run at all. So far November looks promising – but still phone ahead to check on the day.

If you were at the last concert you would have found a "Pro Organo" catalogue with some marvellous and wide-ranging traditional pipe-organ recordings. If you have the computer gear for it you can have a sample preview of the sound at [www.zarexaustralia.com](http://www.zarexaustralia.com). See their ad on page 11 of this TOSA News, or ask Neil for a copy of the catalogue at the next concert. And DONT MISS LOOKING at all the Theatre Organ CDs that Neil has on display.

I want to thank those people who have done good work in publicising TOSA in the past. And I want to encourage them to continue. Even bringing a friend to a concert is a great idea. However,

as you may have noticed in the numbers attending our concerts, we HAVE GOT to take some decisive action. There are many people out there who don't know about TOSA, and they would love it if they discovered our concerts. So – please note our big appeal (see page 11) for a "TOSA PROMOTIONS TEAM". Can you help?

Watch this space

Walter Pearce

## Editorial

You will find on page 7 of this issue of TOSA News the latest list of Cassettes and CDs available from our TOSA Record Bar. These items would, of course, make excellent Christmas gifts for the ardent Theatre Organ fan! They may be purchased at any of our concerts or by mail, if you are unable to attend our excellent concerts.

TOSA's AGM on Saturday 23rd November is at an interesting venue, Margaret's Music Room, and provides an entertainment segment as well as the more formal meeting-side of the event. More details are to be found on page 9 of this TOSA News. If you have any questions or comments to make, this is your opportunity to express your ideas for the benefit of the Society. Please, if it is convenient for you, bring something to share for afternoon tea.

Plenty of interesting TOSA action in November - check the *Coming Events* column on page 2. See you there!

Best Wishes,  
Colin Groves

## Notices of Motion

To be put to the membership of TOSA (NSW Division) Inc. at the AGM on Saturday 23rd November 2002 at 2.00pm :

1. Motion from Kevin Clancy reads:

"That our Model Rules be ammended – Part iii 'The Committee' - After Clause 11(b) to insert:-'Each member of the committee is, subject to these rules, to hold office until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the member's election, but is eligible for re-election. The president may be elected to that office for a maximum of three (3) successive terms, but may subsequently be elected as another office-bearer or ordinary member. A retiring president may be re-elected to the office of president only after six (6) years have elapsed.'"

2. Motion from Committee Meeting held 2nd September, 2002 (J.Shaw / P.Harding) reads:

"That the following people be made Life Members in recognition of their services to TOSA –

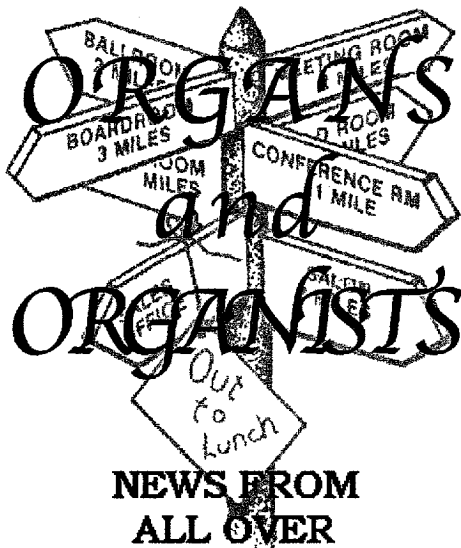
Ron and Phyllis Wilson  
Arthur and Mary Hall

Alan Misdale  
Marge Wells

Merv and Eunice Palmer  
Barry Tooker"

Articles in this journal need not represent the views of the committee or the editor

The deadline for each edition of TOSA News is the 12th of the preceding month



**NEWS FROM  
ALL OVER**

.....  
**"ON A SPRING  
NOTE" - #2**  
 .....

A themed variety concert, similar to the one staged in September at the Epping Baptist Church, will take place at St Mark's Anglican Church, The Mall, South Hurstville on Sunday 10th November at 2pm.

Featured artists include organists Margaret Hall and Tamara Rozek, saxophonist Owen Watkins, violinist Ann Nilsen, plus the Choir of St Mark's. A *Viscount* digital theatre organ will be specially installed for the afternoon and the church's *Walcker* pipe organ will also be played.

The concert has been organised to assist church fund-raising. Afternoon tea will conclude the 80 minute concert and admission is by program: \$10; Children under 16 years - free. Enquiries phone: 9584 2353

.....  
**ORGAN AND  
SAXOPHONE DUO  
ON CD**  
 .....

Well-known Sydney organist Margaret Hall and ragtime saxophonist Owen Watkins are currently recording a CD which features the *Christie* organ in the Epping Baptist Church. The tone of the 1932 *Christie* organ and the acoustics of the church ideally complement the 1930 *Selmer* alto saxophone for recording purposes. The result is a certain "period" quality which suits the ragtime and novelty repertoire of the jazz age - the musical focus of this recording.

The CD's working title is "*Elite Syncopations*" after a piece by Scott Joplin.

We'll keep you posted on the release data expected early 2003.

Margaret and Owen featured with such spectacular success at TOSA's Marrickville concert in June earlier this year.

**JOHN SENG**

*Allan Brooker of Belfield informed me of the death of well-known US organist John Seng, and Dan Bellomy, who played for us in October, announced the sad news on the Web :*

For those of you who have not heard, it is my incredibly sad task to let you know about the passing of one of the most incredible musicians I have ever had the pleasure of knowing and hearing - not to mention being able to call friend - John Seng of Chicago, Illinois, passed away in early September of a heart attack.

John was a musical marvel at a theatre organ. Over the course of his career, he found sounds and did things musically that have wowed and amazed the most jaded of us. From the bench of the *Wurlitzer* at Mundelein to the *Yamaha* electronics he promoted for a period, John never failed to make the most of whatever instrument he was playing at the time.

*(John Seng's distinctive style was heard at the 1995 TOSA National Convention in Melbourne, when he played the Moorabbin Town Hall Wurlitzer)*

.....  
**FESTIVAL 2003**  
 .....

*In a letter to the Editor in the July/August 2002 issue of the Theatre Organ (USA) magazine, Shirley Clausen of Portland, Oregon, wrote to encourage US members to attend the Adelaide National Theatre Organ Festival next Easter :*

Though we live in Oregon, my husband Jim and I have attended several theatre organ conventions in Australia, and have become close friends of many of the wonderful folks down under. The conventions there are well-planned with fine artists, splendid theatre organs, and extra special activities as well. We would heartily recommend that ATOS members make

the trip down under. The featured artist at the Australian Theatre Organ Festival in April 2003 will be Lew Williams, and of course there are many fine Australian organists as well.

There have been at least eight young people from Australia who have won their division in the ATOS Young Organist Competition in the past ten years (five of these from Adelaide, including this year's Senior Division winner) and three of them have gone on to win the over all competition. Several have gone on to become world-class artists.

This is a golden opportunity to find out what they do in Australia to attract so many young folks and inspire them to become fine organists. The Capri Theatre in Adelaide, with its magnificent *4/29 Wurlitzer*, is one of the very few theatres wholly owned by the local organ club, TOSA(SA).

Those interested in further information may contact Bob Cornish at [rcornish@iweb.net.au](mailto:rcornish@iweb.net.au) or Graham or Gail Ward at [gward@adam.com.au](mailto:gward@adam.com.au). Graham is the President of the ATOS Australia Felix Chapter.

We have enjoyed the conventions in Australia so very much and we would like to see other organ lovers have this great experience also. Incidentally, the exchange rate is very much in our favor, which makes the conventions quite affordable, and the sightseeing opportunities are outstanding!

**DOROTHY VAN  
STEENKISTE**

*The S.A. TOSA NEWS of June 2002 carried the following tribute from Graham Ward to this well-respected lady who was responsible in recent years for the Young Organist Competition :*

Mrs Dorothy Van Steenkiste who lived in Detroit, USA, championed the American Theatre Organ Society's Young Organist Competition died on 5th May this year. Our members will know that in recent years many young members of TOSA from Adelaide and other cities of Australia have been successful in that competition and have won a trip to the USA conventions courtesy of ATOS.

It is with sadness that I have learnt of the passing of Dorothy.

Over the past twelve years the Australia Felix Chapter of ATOS has had contact with her as a most enthusiastic supporter of the theatre organ, especially to the younger generation of players in the promotion of the Young Theatre Organist Competition.

During that time we in Australia have had twelve winners of various divisions, including one in the *Hobbyist* division, and many have attended the ATOS conventions and met Dorothy. All of them have returned to Australia with glowing reports on her friendliness and helpfulness.

My wife Gail and I had also met her at several conventions and found her to be a most charming lady.

ATOS has been extremely fortunate to have such a hard worker as a member of the committee.

The results of her efforts continue to be heard around the theatre organ world.

Our condolences go to her husband,

Ray, and their family.

Graham Ward  
President,  
Australia Felix  
Chapter of ATOS

*The ATOS Young Organist section winners from Australia have been as follows :*

*John Giacchi in 1990;*

*Sean Henderson in 1992;*

*Chris McPhee in 1993;*

*Heath Wooster in 1994;*

*Kylie Mallett in 1995;*

*Ryan Heggie in 1997;*

*Heath Wooster in 1998;*

*Elizabeth Hanton and Sean Henderson in 1999;*

*Michelle Nicolle and Clayton Smith in 2000;*

*Mathew Loeser in 2001;*

*Robert Wetherall in 2002.*

*Chris, Ryan, Sean and Michelle have won the Overall competition in their year and been invited to return the following year to perform a one hour*

*concert.*

*Robert will fly to the USA in November this year to compete for the Overall winner's position.*

## ••••• Chatswood Wurlitzer •••••

A chance to hear the delightful ex-Arcadia Theatre, Chatswood, Wurlitzer is available at the end of this month:

Simon Ellis and Ron Sinclair will perform at the Chatswood Wurlitzer on Friday 29th November at 8pm.

Both will be playing solo and taking turns at the grand piano for organ/piano duets.

The programme includes a selection of Christmas favourites and the popular *Cornish Rhapsody*.

Opera Australia soprano Rachel Cunningham will return to perform a Christmas programme with tenor Dean Sinclair.

Booking details can be found in the advertisement below. Note that there is a special Seniors and TOSA Members' reduced price of \$12.

# Christmas at Chatswood

featuring

**Simon Ellis and Ron Sinclair**

at the *Wurlitzer* Pipe Organ and Piano

Associate Artists:

**Rachel Cunningham and Dean Sinclair**

(Opera Australia Soprano)

(Tenor)


**Town Hall Chatswood**

**Friday 29th November at 8pm**

Reserved Seating: 9417 2987

Seniors and TOSA Members: \$12

Children under 15: Free



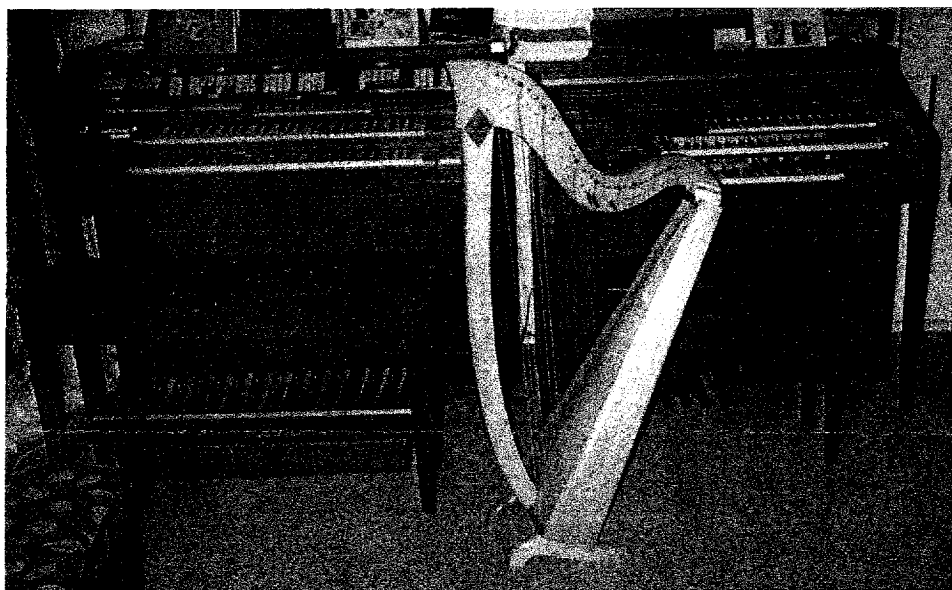
# From The MAILBOX

*Mrs Noëlle Andreatta of Cootamundra tells us of her interesting collection of musical instruments :*

11/9/02

Just writing to comment on Colin Adamson's marvellous organ. How lucky can one person be?!

I have enclosed a photo of part of my collection by way of a "country comparison"! On the left is a wonderful old *Wurlitzer* 4573 and on its right



a very new and smart *Yamaha* FS 70 which I call the "modern *Wurlitzer*".

Some of your members may remember Max Geddyes who belonged to TOSA for many years, both in Sydney and after his move to Stockinbingal. A gentleman who was always willing to play for people no matter the number. It was after I purchased the organ from his estate that, upon opening the stool, I found many TOSA papers.

Having been both a professional organist and pianist for many years I

was amazed that I had never heard of your Society before. In a funny way, Max took care of that, for as I delved into the seat, many were the delights I found there (even a spider!).

The *Yamaha* came about after a call to the Manning Organ Society. Again I was to take delivery of "an estate organ". This one was at Inverell and my husband drove up with trailer behind to bring it back, leaving Friday and returning Sunday. It has been well worth it!!

My Harp is refugee from Ireland and, although the air is drier here, her voice is just as sweet.

I have tried to start an organ group here, however the interest leans more to sport and the organists are fading away!!

I thought my treasures might show you that "country people" are keeping the organ alive (or trying to!!).

Best Regards,

Noëlle Andreatta  
(B.A. Musc. Sc.)

*Bettine Vallance writes in praise of the recent, entertaining concert at Epping Baptist:*

A delightful Variety Concert was presented to an appreciative audience on Sunday 22nd September at Epping Baptist Church.

Margaret, Tamara and Owen are such outstanding artists, it was a great pleasure to see and hear them perform in perfect harmony with each other, and their choice of programme was a joy.

It was an uplifting experience throughout and I sincerely hope there will be many more occasions to hear them, not only at Epping but at our TOSA concerts.

Bettine Vallance

## For Sale

*Wurlitzer* 4700

Concert Organ

2 x 61-note manuals, 32-note radiating/concave pedalboard

Solid state circuitry with rebuilt power supplies

Many solo string, reed and diapason voices

2-speed 'spectratone' (*Leslie*-type) speaker

A true general purpose organ, suited to both theatre and classical organ playing

Superb mahogany console with locking, folding lid

Owner's and complete Service Manuals included

In excellent condition

\$2,000 or near offer

Enquiries: Cliff Bingham

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Mobile: 0412 967 902

## For Sale

*Roland Atelier*

AT80 R Organ

Only 12 months old.

4 years warranty left

\$15,000 o.n.o.

Phone Jim:

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04 0238 7740

## FOR SALE

Near New *Hammond*

Model XE 1 Systems

5-Octave Single Manual Keyboard

Modern, Fun, Dynamic Sound

Retailed for \$9,000.00

Selling Price: \$5,500.00 o.n.o.

Phone: 02 4446 0099

# Recordings Available From TOSA NSW

Items available at the time of writing - 9/10/02

- BAKER Barry, *A Barry Baker Concert*. Wehmeier Wurlitzer, Ohio. CD \$33.00
- BAKER Barry, *For the Very First Time*. Wehmeier Wurlitzer, Ohio. Cass \$18.00
- BALOGH Charlie, *Pipes Plus*. Good Time Charley's Wurlitzer, Grand Rapids. Cassette \$18.00
- DOUBLE Ken, *20 Long Years*. The Long Centre Wurlitzer, Lafayette, USA. CD \$25
- EDDINGTON Jelani, *Discovering the Unit Orchestra*. 3/66 Dickinson Kimball, USA. CD \$29
- EDDINGTON Jelani, *Paramount*. The Paramount 4/38 Wurlitzer, Wichita. CD \$28.00
- ELLIOTT Chris, *Shuffle Off To Buffalo! vol II*. Shea's Buffalo Theatre Wurlitzer. CD \$27.00
- FENELON Tony, *Collections On Atelier*. Roland Atelier Orchestral Keyboards. CD \$25
- FOORT Reginald, *Plays the (famous travelling) Moller Theatre Pipe Organ 1938-1940*. CD \$28
- GLEDHILL Simon, *Kavalkade*. Dickinson High School 3/57 Kimball Organ, Wilmington, USA. CD \$29
- HALL Margaret, *Kitten on the Keys*. Orion Centre Wurlitzer, Sydney. CD \$20.00
- HAZLETON Tom, *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*. Dickinson High School Kimball. CD \$29
- HENDERSEN Sean, *Plummer's Pipes*. Plummer Auditorium Wurlitzer, USA. CD \$25.00
- HILLS Richard, *Hills in the Fens*. The Holbeach Studio Compton Theatre Pipe Organ, UK. CD \$25
- LARSEN Lyn, *Good News*. Wurlitzer at the Organ Stop Pizza Restaurant, Arizona. CD \$31
- LARSEN Lyn, *San Sylmar the Musical Tour*. The San Sylmar Wurlitzer. CD \$31
- LARSEN Lyn, *Tribute to George Wright*. The Hollywood Philharmonic Organ. CD \$29
- LOXAM Arnold, *At the Consoles*. Compton Theatre/Concert organ, Southampton Guildhall, UK. CD \$25
- NORDWALL Jonas + Donna Parker + Tom Hazleton. Kimball Pipe Organ + Midi. CD \$25.00
- NORDWALL Jonas, *In a Persian Market*. Berkeley Community Theatre Wurlitzer. CD \$36.00
- POWELL Chris, *Crazy Rhythm*. Roland Atelier AT80R organ. CD \$28
- POWELL Chris, *Piping Hot Down Under*. The Karrinyup Community Centre Wurlitzer, Perth. CD \$28
- PRESIDENTS ON PARADE, Free Trade Hall Wurlitzer, Manchester. William Davies & others. CD \$28
- SENG John, *The Mundelein Organ Revisited*. 4/19 Theatre Pipe Organ, USA. CD \$23
- SHARP Brian, *Sharp's The Word*. Christie Theatre Pipe Organ, Sandford Park UK. CD \$25
- STRONGY Walt, *Encores Vol 1*. Walt Strongy plays three different Wurlitzers in the USA. CD \$28
- TOMLIN Keith + John Barnett, *Wurlitzer Wonderland*. Wurlitzer Pipe with rhythm accomp. CD \$27.00
- TUDOR Stanley, *Powder Your Face with Sunshine*. Gaumont Wurlitzer, Manchester. CD \$28
- VALLIANT Brett, *Lyric Wurlitzer*. Little River Studio Miller Theatre Wurlitzer, Wichita. CD \$ 28
- WILSON Clark, *Upstairs Downstairs*. The Paramount Wurlitzers, Wichita. CD \$28.00
- WRIGHT George, *Flight to Tokyo/Encores II*. Vaughn Studio 5/21 Wurlitzer. CD \$26
- WRIGHT George, *Girls! Girls! Girls!* The Hollywood Philharmonic Pipe Organ. CD \$33
- WRIGHT George, *Let George Do It*. The Legendary Pasadena Studio Organ. CD \$26
- WRIGHT George, *More GW/The Genius of GW*. Vaughn Studio 5/21 Wurlitzer. CD \$27
- WRIGHT George, *Paramount Organ Premier*. Paramount Theatre Wurlitzer, Oakland USA. CD \$33
- WRIGHT George, *Plays the Chicago Theatre Organ* 4/29 Wurlitzer. CD \$33
- WRIGHT George, *Plays the Mighty Wurlitzer / GW Encores*. Vaughn Studio 5/21 W. CD \$33
- WRIGHT George, *Radio Days*. Vollum Studio Wurlitzer, Portland, Oregon. CD \$27
- WRIGHT George, *Tribute to Jesse Crawford*. Wurlitzer Pipe Organ. CD \$28

Available at TOSA Concerts or by Mail Order from:

TOSA (NSW Division) Inc., 304 Parramatta Rd, Ashfield, NSW, 2131

Phone enquiries: 02 97986742 after 7pm. Fax: 02 97986742 E-mail: <npalmer@compassnet.com.au>

Postage: Single Compact Disc \$1.95; Single Cassette \$3.40; Two Cassettes \$3.50

Make Cheque / Money Order payable to TOSA NSW



# THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (NSW DIVISION) INC.

MINUTES OF TOSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT  
MASTERTOUCH ROLL CO., PETERSHAM, SUNDAY, 25th NOVEMBER, 2001

**PRESENT:** 34 members as per attendance book.

**APOLOGIES:** Cliff Bingham, Margaret Hall-Nelson, Robert Nelson, Peter & Kath Harding, Ron Ivin, Robert Weismantel, Sharon Weismantel, Frank Ellis, Ritchie Willis, Norman Read, Harold Duffell.

**OPENED:** Meeting opened at 2.05 pm by *President* Walter Pearce. *Scrutineers* Norm and John Weismantel were appointed to work with *Returning Officer*, Rod Blackmore, counting the ballot papers.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM - 18.11.00:** Read by *Secretary*. Moved that the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting be accepted as the approximate record of that meeting.

B. Tooker / A. Caldwell. Carried.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Given by Walter Pearce. Copy handed to *Secretary* for records. Moved that the *President's Report* be accepted.

P. Held / B. Weismantel. Carried.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Given by Bill Schumacher. Moved that the *Secretary's Report* be accepted.

D. Marschall / B. Tooker. Carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Given by Geoff Brimley. Members were requested to ask any questions about our finances if anything was not clear to them. Moved that the *Treasurer's Report* be accepted.

R. Mosman / F. Lewis. Carried.

Moved that the Annual Statement Form 12, as required by the Associations Incorporation Act 1984, be signed by the *President* and *Treasurer*, confirming these accounts were presented at this Annual General Meeting.

G. Brimley / N. Palmer. Carried.

**MARRICKVILLE REPORT:** Published in *TOSA News*. Moved that the *Marrickville Report* be accepted.

G. Brimley / P. Held. Carried.

**ORION REPORT:** Published in *TOSA News*. Moved that the *Orion Report* be accepted.

J. Pearce / B. Weismantel. Carried.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:** Moved that *Patrons*, Mr Ian Davies and Mr John Gorrie be re-appointed for the year 2002.

R. Marschall / P. Seward. Carried.

Moved that Mitchell & Partners be re-appointed as *Auditors* for the year 2002.

G. Brimley / N. Palmer. Carried.

Frank Lewis asked who determined the order of names on the ballot. *Returning Officer* advised the meeting that the names appeared on the form in the order that they were received by himself.

John Batts spoke about grants to TOSA. It was explained the Committee had made approaches to the State and Federal Governments but without success. John Batts will make some more inquiries. John also spoke about our declining concert audiences and what they are doing in Canada to attract more people.

Peter Sheldon thought that we needed more variety at concerts.

Robert Gliddon advised the meeting that audience numbers had started to fall when we lost our weekly theatre organ program on 2CBA-FM.

Peter Held addressed the meeting.

Geoff Brimley spoke about GST and advised that the Committee was working through changes.

There was a show of hands re leaving concert tickets at the current prices. One dissenter - Peter Held.

Rod Blackmore advised the meeting of the results of the ballot. There were 77 votes and 2 were informal. The results are Vice-Presidents: Neil Palmer and John Shaw. Committee Members: Peter Harding, Ron Mosman, Robert Gliddon, Richard Marschall, Amy Caldwell, and Cliff Bingham.

**MEETING CLOSED:** The *President* thanked the members for attending the AGM and closed the meeting at 3.04pm. Afternoon tea followed. Then Barclay Wright took the group on a tour of the *Mastertouch* premises.



# Organ Reports for Annual General Meeting

## Saturday 23rd November 2002

The Marrickville *Wurlitzer* has served the Society well over the last 12 months for both concerts and member's practice.

No major repairs have needed to be undertaken. The instrument is thoroughly checked the week prior to a concert and any necessary repairs carried out.

To aid in tuning stability, small oil-filled column heaters have been installed in the chambers to keep a constant temperature in the days between tuning and the actual concert day.

Neil Palmer

The Orion *Wurlitzer* has continued to give good service at our concerts, though we restrict the number of concerts at Campsie because of the high rental.

Early in the year we had the usual problems of access to the instrument for service but over the last few months we have been able to get in on Saturdays, even though we are not always free to bring the console up to auditorium height on the hoist. However we have adapted the wiring so that the organ can be played and tested from the console even while it is still below in its "garage".

The hoist has become a continuing and seemingly endless problem. It is at present very difficult to get it properly fixed and we have had to be very careful and patient to see that the upstairs "safety" fence is safe to use – that's when we can get it to go at all. We are presently in correspondence with Canterbury Council and the Orion Management to try for some action.

It appears that the Orion Management have renewed the lease with Council, but nothing has changed to our advantage. This is yet to be confirmed. Wish we could have the Council back as our landlord!

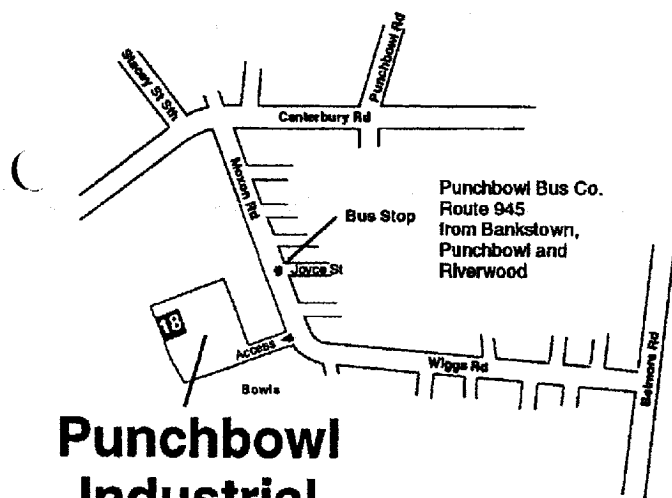
Walter Pearce

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# TOSA's 2002 AGM

will be held at *Margaret's Music Room* on Saturday 23rd November at 2pm  
(doors open at 1.30pm)

With entertainment by Margaret Hall and friends



**Punchbowl  
Industrial  
Complex**

**Unit 18/59 Moxon Rd,  
Punchbowl  
Enter via access road  
beside the  
Bowling Club**

The venue is air-conditioned and there is plenty of parking. Getting there by public transport is easy - it's just a five minute walk from the bus stop at Joyce Street on Punchbowl Bus Co. *Route 945* from Bankstown, Punchbowl and Riverwood. See map above!

Following the business meeting a short break will be taken during which cool refreshments will be served. Then Margaret Hall and guest artists will present a 50 minute program featuring the *Allen ADC 4600* theatre organ. Items will include popular organ solos, piano and organ duets, a sing-a-long, plus a few surprises!

Please bring something along to share for afternoon tea, which will conclude the entertainment.

# BALLOT PAPER

## ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

*[NSW Division] Incorporated*  
for the year 2002-2003

This ballot will be conducted at the Annual Business Meeting to be held at *Margaret's Music Room*, Unit 18, 59 Moxon Road, Punchbowl, on SATURDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER, 2002, at 2pm

**HOW TO VOTE** : PLACE A "X" AGAINST THE  
NAME OF EACH CANDIDATE  
FOR WHOM YOU WISH TO VOTE  
*[Vote for SIX candidates ONLY]*

- Peter HARDING \*
- Ron MOSMAN \*
- Robert GLIDDON \*
- Barry TOOKER \*
- Richard MARSCHALL \*
- Peter HELD
- Cliff BINGHAM \*

*[ \* An asterisk against a candidate's name indicates that person is a current serving member of the Committee seeking re-election.]*

[Candidate Peter HELD has requested in accordance with the Rules to make the following statement:  
"As one who has worked as a full-time professional organist, I feel in a position to inject fresh thinking into the Society."]

### **WHERE TO VOTE** :

**Hand** to the Returning Officer between 1.30 and 2pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2002,  
at *Margaret's Music Room*, 18/59 Moxon Road, Punchbowl

**OR**

**Post** to the RETURNING OFFICER, 85 DUFFY AVENUE, THORNLEIGH, NSW, 2120  
(*Postal vote must reach the Returning Officer by 5pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2002 and must be identified by your name and address on the back of the posted envelope.*)

### **Special note to members with partners entitled to separate vote:**

*If you have a dual membership with payment of the additional subscription enabling both partners to vote, please either photocopy this form or contact the Returning Officer [Rod Blackmore, phone 9484.2663] and you will be sent an additional form. Voting eligibility will be checked against membership records on return of votes.*

## **PRO ORGANO CD'S**

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or write to 184 Balmoral Road, Port Pirie, 5540  
View [www.zarexaustralia.com](http://www.zarexaustralia.com)

**THE FUTURE OF TOSA DEPENDS ON PEOPLE LIKE YOU –**

**TOSA has a unique musical experience to offer and  
there are LOADS of people out there who would love it.**

**IF ONLY THEY KNEW ABOUT TOSA!!**

**It depends on people like you and me  
to find ways of getting them to just ONE concert**

**Your TOSA committee is asking YOU to join a new**

**TOSA PROMOTIONS TEAM**

..... to seriously work as part of a group who meet the challenge of  
keeping TOSA alive. It is absolutely clear RIGHT NOW that we need a  
team who work together and keep up the morale!

If you are willing to do your bit, and to join in the cause:

Phone John Shaw at 9759 5825 or Bill Schumacher at 9985 7318

**Welcome  
To New  
Members**

*TOSA (NSW) is always pleased  
to welcome new members and we  
wish the following new members  
a long and happy time amongst  
our ranks :*

Jean & Ray Hanlon - Blue Haven  
Thomas Lowe - Dundas  
Dorothy Rickman - Eastwood

**Wanted**

Margaret Hall is  
looking for the organ-  
arrangement music of

***In A Persian  
Market by  
Ketelby.***

If anyone can help,  
would you please phone

Margaret on :  
**9584 2353**

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advance!***

# Dan Bellomy Concert Report

Orion Centre Campsie

Sunday 6th October 2002

by Cliff Bingham

When Dan Bellomy plays theatre organ, he breaks all the rules; or should I say, he writes a new rule book. His approach is bold, aggressive, even brash and, above all, exciting. Dan is to the theatre organ what Oscar Peterson or George Shearing are to the piano.

With a solid grounding in traditional theatre organ stylings, Dan has branched out very widely into the unlimited field of jazz, with spectacular and sometimes startling results. His concert at the Orion Wurlitzer demonstrated a mastery of the traditional, the ballad and the jazz idioms.

The console rose to the strains of *Così Cosa* from the Marx Brothers' movie classic *A Night at the Opera*. Played in traditional upbeat theatre style, this number has become synonymous with Dan (I hesitate to use the old phrase 'signature tune'.)

He followed up with a beautiful reading of *I Don't Know Why* in which he introduced a feature of his playing that certainly intrigued this writer - that of a very clever simulated string bass used with great effect throughout the program.

For the next four numbers, Dan introduced a guest jazz drummer, Laurie Bennett, whose understated accompaniments complemented Dan's jazz arrangements perfectly in *I'm Beginning to see the Light*, *Lullaby of the Leaves*,

*Falling in Love with Love* and *Tangerine*.

Dan revealed a hidden talent for composition when he played his own piece, *Quiet Time*, a beautifully melodic ballad and backed it up with *Open Your Eyes*.

To bring the first part of the program to an end, he played a great arrangement of a Billy May original, *Brassman's Holiday*. I first heard Dan play this number over 25 years ago during a *Thomas* organ (remember them?) promotion concert at Hurstville Civic Centre on his first major tour as a product specialist for *Thomas Organs*. He has lost none of that wonderful, youthful ability and indeed it has refined and matured.

After interval, *It's Time* from *Mame* brought the console back up and followed with another wonderfully-constructed ballad from *Miss Saigon*, *Sun and Moon*.

Now that Dan has left Sydney, I can reveal another aspect of his career that does not appear in his CV - that of orchestral conductor. Some years ago, Dan spent considerable time in London during which he was offered the position of assistant conductor in the Cameron Mackintosh production of *Miss Saigon* and was privileged to conduct a significant number of performances 'without any major disasters'.

Drummer Bennett returned

for the next three jazz numbers: *Teach Me Tonight*, Fats Waller's *Ain't Misbehavin'* and George Shearing's *Lullaby of Birdland*. Lots of no-tremulant registrations interspersed with 'big band' full ensemble sounds were a feature of these arrangements.

Two contrasting ballads followed *A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square* and *Willow Weep for Me*.

For the final piece, Dan re-introduced Laurie Bennett and together they improvised on the great jazz number, *C Jam Blues*, which also featured a too-short (for this writer anyway) drum solo which allowed Laurie to "strut his stuff".

Prolonged applause brought Dan back to the console for an encore - *Something Wonderful* from *The King and I*.

While Dan's programs may not be to everybody's liking (and may well be a tad short), the sheer musicianship of this talented organist cannot be disputed.

Some people may possibly prefer a little less of the jazz idiom; some suggested that the drummer was a little too understated and could have played a little louder!

Most people this writer spoke to, as a sort of exit poll, thoroughly enjoyed the variety in the program and expressed the opinion that it was a change to hear our *Wurlitzer* sounding 'not like another *Wurlitzer*'.

# OUR NEXT ARTIST : Len Rawle

With a family name that is synonymous with the very heart of the organ scene here and overseas, Len Rawle has the benefit of a family steeped in the tradition of theatre organ preservation. More than 40 theatre organs have passed through the 'saving' hands of the Rawle's! He is currently refurbishing the *Wurlitzer* in the Granada, Harrow.

Born in Tonypany, South Wales, in 1938, Len's classical training, starting at age 4, came from the London College of Music in Cardiff. Later, when his parents moved to London he studied piano under concert artist Martin David of the Guildhall School of Music and organ under George Metzler at St. Stephen's, Walbrook.

Len developed his own style of playing entertainment music, first during National Service, at the small *Wurlitzer* in the Ritz Aldershot, then at the larger *Wurlitzers* in Ritz Richmond and Regal Kingston-upon-Thames. This was aided by close contact with several notable theatre organists, in particular George Blackmore, Joseph Seal, Gerald Shaw and Vic Hammett. He was also fortunate in having the UK's first residence *Wurlitzer*, in the family home.

Eventually he purchased the famous manual *Wurlitzer* of the Empire Theatre, Leicester Square, which became the centre piece of his self-built home at Chorleywood. Described by many, as the finest residence *Wurlitzer* in the world, he has savoured its rich golden tones for over thirty years. "To this day it remains a privilege to play," he says. He has recorded, broadcast and televised this, the largest *Wurlitzer* in Europe, many times. Two particular highlights were, appearing on the very first the 'Organist Entertains' programme (plus many subsequent ones), also in the much celebrated and often repeated Sir John Betjamen BBC TV documentary 'Metroland'. He also appeared in Carlton TV's 'The Mighty Organ'.

Len was Musical Director for Yamaha UK for 17 years. As 'Mr

Yamaha' he helped establish the UK electronic organ market. He also structured a network of over 190 music schools, trained 400 teachers which in turn led to over 11,000 students being taught on a weekly basis!

Among others, he coaches Catherine Drummond this year's outright Winner (in both the UK and America) of the 'ATOS International Young Organist of the Year' competition.

His skills at teaching, lecturing and writing, in addition to his concert schedule on both pipe and electronic instruments, keep him at the forefront of the organ scene. In the UK he has been described as 'The Rembrandt of the Organ' and in Holland 'The Sound Magician' as he invariably produces a wide variety of new sounds from the instrument at hand.

Len's musicality is called upon from time to time when theatre organs are transplanted or upgraded. He has a passion for organ tone and has acted as consultant for pipe and electronic installations both here, on the Continent and even in Australia and the USA. He is proud of having been invited to help inaugurate several re-installations of theatre organs, in particular, the *Wurlitzer* in Hobart, Tasmania, the LTOT Granada Studio Tours *Wurlitzer*, Manchester, the famous 'Torch' *Christie* at Barry, the Sheffield *Compton*, the St Alban's Organ Museum *Wurlitzer*, the Ashorne Hall *Wurlitzer* and the new Woking *Wurlitzer*. He is currently refurbishing the Granada Harrow *Wurlitzer*, one of the handful of theatre organs still in their original venue.

Len has given numerous concerts and 'workshop sessions' in the USA, Australia and Europe. One rather special 'Educational programme' for children in Buffalo USA saw no less than 69 busloads arrive at the spectacular Shea's Theatre. 'Len's finest hour' comprised more than 2,500 youngsters, all of whom were absorbed in a one-of-a-kind presentation which introduced 10-15 year olds to the organ for the first time.

Over 30 recordings illustrate his ability to change his style to suite a very diverse range of recording organs.

His latest CD/cassette, 'Magic Melodies', is the first to be made on one of the few theatre organs in Germany. 'At Sundown', recorded on his much travelled Yamaha HS-8 is a big seller alongside two albums on *Wurlitzer*, 'Riverside' and 'One More Time'. For 2002 he has requests to record three other instruments.

Happily married with three children and two grandchildren, he has an interest in full-size and large model aviation and has obtained his private pilot's licence. Len is keen on swimming and to "get away from it all" he simply hitches up his touring caravan.

Len has been honoured by a number of Organ societies. He is a Past Patron of the Theatre Organ Club and is a Vice President of the Lancastrian Theatre Organ Trust. He is also President of several other societies, including the Windsor Organ Society, the Ipswich Organ Music Society, the Dunbar Electronic and Theatre Organ Society, the Pinner Organ Society and the Theatre Organ Society of Australia (WA Division).

He also aided the setting up of the Aylesbury Organ Society and the Netherlands Organ Federation.

Len enjoys his role as a trustee of a number of Organ Trusts. He is also Musical Adviser of the American Theatre Organ Society in the UK, and is author of a widely read and long running column 'Len's Notes' in the monthly 'Organ and Keyboard Cavalcade' magazine.

When his fingers are free, he edits the UK's ATOS Newsletter, just for the fun of it!

Len is one of those much sought after specialist artists who enjoys playing for the love of making live music in general and the many sounds of the Theatre Organ in particular. Each concert he has but one aim before going on stage as he says to himself, "Tonight will be my finest performance ever".

# BOOKING FORM

Post to: **The Ticket Secretary**  
18 Acres Rd,  
KELLYVILLE  
NSW 2155

Seats cannot be reserved unless payment is received in advance. If your booking and payment are received too late for tickets to be posted, they will be held at the Box Office - but we ask your help in booking early

**LEN RAWLE CONCERT**  
**MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL**  
Sunday, 17th November, 2002, at 2.00pm

Phone Enquiries & Bookings:  
Mrs Kath Harding : (02) 9629 2257

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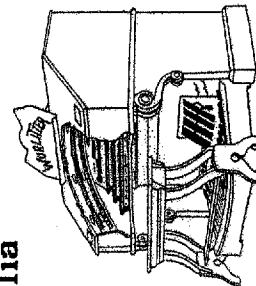
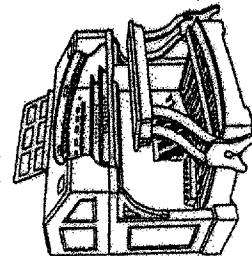
# TOSA NEWS

# NOVEMBER, 2002

Theatre Organ Society of Australia  
(NSW Division) Inc.

# TOSA NEWS

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