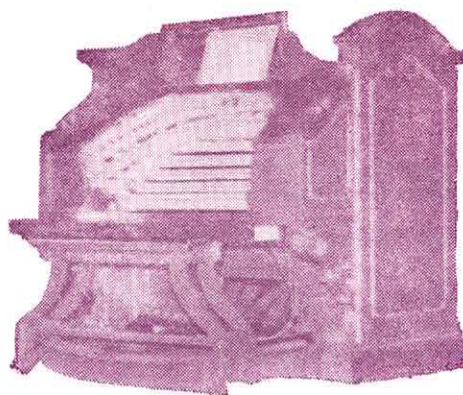


# T.O.S.A. NEWS

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PATRON - REGINALD DIXON MBE.

EDITOR - FRANK ELLIS

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA IN  
THE DIVISIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

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All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary,  
P.O. Box 108, Wentworthville, NSW 2145, Australia.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NEW SOUTH WALES IN APRIL.

### FAMOUS AMERICAN ORGANIST RETURNS TO GIVE CONCERT FOR TOSA.

By now, members will have received their invitations to attend the concert by the celebrated American theatre organist, JACK MALMSTEN, which is to take place at the Anzac House Auditorium, 26 College Street Sydney on Friday 5th April at 8pm. Most of our members will recall the excellent concert presented by this outstanding artist, at the Chevron Hotel, Kings Cross, on his previous visit to Sydney, three or four years ago. On that occasion, it was a packed house with standing room only, and all those present enjoyed a splendid programme of wide variety, interspersed with a very witty line of patter from this very friendly and good humoured artist. JACK MALMSTEN is the official recitalist and demonstrator for the Thomas Organ Company, and has given organ concerts and demonstrations around the world.

Admission is free, and by numbered invitation cards only. The cards are obtainable from our Secretary, John Clancy. Members should write immediately to him stating how many tickets they require and enclose a stamped self addressed envelope for the prompt return of their tickets. As each ticket will be endorsed with the name of the person for whom it is intended, please state the names of each person in your party, up to a limit of three tickets per family. This is another exciting musical event in our 1968 calendar, and one which should not be missed.

JACK MALMSTEN presented by the THOMAS ORGAN COMPANY at the ANZAC AUDITORIUM on FRIDAY 5th APRIL AT 8pm. WRITE TO THE SECRETARY NOW FOR YOUR TICKETS.

### SATURDAY 6th & SUNDAY 7th APRIL HAMMOND ORGAN CONVENTION.

Members are reminded of the forthcoming Hammond Organ Convention to be held in Newcastle on the above dates. A full write up on the weekend's festivities was given in last month's TOSA News, but for the benefit of those who may have forgotten the details, a timetable of events is given hereunder.

2.30pm Saturday - Newcastle Cathedral - a tour of the organ and recital.

The recital will be given by Cathedral organist, KEITH NOAKE

5.30pm Saturday Convention Dinner at the Civic Hotel

7.30pm Saturday CLARENCE BLACK recital with guest artists plus a silent film with organ accompaniment by KEITH SHAKESPEARE

SUNDAY MORNING. An "all in" jam session at Paling's Studios followed by a tour of Newcastle and a luncheon.

Cost of tickets for the full weekend Convention is \$5 per ticket including the dinner on Saturday night and the luncheon on Sunday. For tickets write direct to the Secretary of the Hammond Organ Society, David Pitts, 219 Morgan Street, Mereweather, Newcastle 2291 enclosing \$5 for each ticket. TOSA EXTENDS BEST WISHES FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE FUNCTION TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NEWCASTLE HAMMOND ORGAN SOCIETY.

### WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL - CHATSWOOD TOWN HALL.

PUBLIC CONCERT BY IAN DAVIES. On Wednesday 10th April at 8pm, TOSA, in association with the Willoughby Council, will present our ever popular Honorary member IAN DAVIES in a FREE public concert of popular organ music. IAN will be featured at the console of the new HAMMOND THEATRE ORGAN supplied by Paling's Pty. Ltd., for the occasion. This is the first occasion we have been afforded, of hearing Ian at the console of this latest model from Hammond. No tape recorders can be permitted for this function, but

IAN DAVIES CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT (Cont)

you may bring as many friends as you wish - this being a FREE PUBLIC CONCERT, in a continuance of our policy of bringing theatre organ music to as many of the public as we can possibly reach. SO ROLL UP AND SUPPORT THIS FUNCTION BY OUR HONORARY MEMBER - IAN DAVIES AT THE CONSOLE OF THE NEW HAMMOND THEATRE ORGAN.

ALSO IN APRIL - ORGAN PARTY AT THE MOORE RESIDENCE.

There will be an organ party at the home of our members, Mr & Mrs Merv. Moore of Normanhurst during the month of April. The Moore's have a large Conn organ installed. As the number that can be accommodated is limited, those who plan to attend should phone Merv at 48-5521 in order to find out the date of the function first, and secondly, to make their reservations for the evening. Mr & Mrs Moore are giving the party in aid of the P.E. Organ Fund, and to this end a charge of \$1 per person will be made.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Members of the Committee are reminded that the April meeting will be held on Monday 1st April at 7.15pm and the May meeting will be on Monday 6th May at 7.15pm

COMING EVENTS.

During the month of May, we shall once again be hearing the mighty Wurlitzer of Sydney's Capitol Theatre. Full details will be given in the next issue of TOSA News.

LOOKING BACK AT LAST MONTH.

Last month, there was a splendid recital at St. Andrews Cathedral, by the Cathedral organist, MICHAEL HEMANS. Mr Hemans played a programme of wide variety, ranging from the soft, delicately registered "Pastorale" to a tremendous technical display of organ mastery in "The Fantasia & Fugue on B-A-C-H. A concession to popular taste was "Three Movements From Concertos" (Felton-Wall) in which use was made of the antiphonal effects possible on this instrument, which actually consists of two organs, totalling seventy seven speaking stops and nearly 5,000 pipes. This makes it the largest church organ in Australia. Music calling for echo effects is excellently catered for by having two organs to answer one another.

The Society sincerely thanks Mr Hemans for the excellent recital, and extends its grateful thanks to the Cathedral authorities for the opportunity of hearing this very fine organ.

COL TRINGHAM'S ORGAN PARTY.

Our member Col Tringham entertained a happy group of members at an organ party at his home on Saturday 16th March. Among those who played during the evening were LANCE WELLS, Merv. Moore, Mrs Moore (showing remarkable progress in a few short months), Ian Choy, and of course the host himself. Members, Mr & Mrs Phillips were attending an organ party for the first time. During the evening, discussion on the various makes of electronic organs, took place and a most interesting time was had by all present. A nice supper was served and it was agreed that the evening had been most pleasant.

DON KINGSTON - CONN ORGAN CONCERT.

As the DON KINGSTON concert will take place several days after this issue has gone to press, a full coverage of this important concert will be given next month.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

The Society warmly welcomes the following new members with the wish that you will enjoy your membership to the full. Your Society is the largest organ Society in this country, with Divisions in most States, most of the famous name theatre organists are members and give concerts from time to time. As well, famous visiting organists are featured, last month we had DON KINGSTON and this month, JACK MALMSTEN. So its a friendly welcome to the following :- Mr Dekker of Queensland - Mr David Bell of West Australia - Mr Howes of Sydney - and Mr & Mrs Taubman of Sydney

New members from the Sydney metropolitan area should make themselves known to one of the Committee at the first function they attend, so that they may be introduced to other members, and thus be made feel "at home". See you soon.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF PRINCE EDWARD ORGAN FUND.

The Society gratefully acknowledges the following donations to the above fund, and sincerely thanks the donors. From member Al Hansen of USA \$2.62..... Noel Hansen of NSW \$4 ....Mr Tony Fenelon of Victoria \$10 (This is the proceeds of copying tapes of Tony's Sydney concert)... and from member Norm Stinson \$6. Can you help with either a donation or perhaps arrange an organ party at your home to assist the P.E. Organ Fund???

MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL WORKING PARTIES.

A working party will be held at Marrickville Town Hall, to work on our own Wurlitzer organ, on Saturday 4th May. There will also be another working party on Saturday 1st June. Those interested in joining in this fascinating project are welcome to come along and help. Working parties commence at 9am each day.

RECORD NEWS.CONCERT RECORDING'S "ORGAN OF THE MONTH" CLUB.

THIS MONTH'S RELEASE "HERE WITH THE WIND" Record No is CR 0023  
ORGANIST BOB VAN CAMP  
THE ORGAN MOLLER THEATRE ORGAN IN THE FOX THEATRE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA USA.

THE PROGRAMME Gone With The Wind, Summer Samba, Summertime, Winchester Cathedral, Georgy Girl, On The Trail, Strangers In The Night, Rhapsody In Blue, Spanish Flea, Alley Cat, Michelle, Baubles, Bangles & Beads, Lady Be Good, Don't Sleep In The Subway, Chapel In The Moonlight, & Deep Purple.

Your Editor, not having yet received his copy of this new release, is therefore not able to give you the usual review of same, however, this will be done in the next issue of the News. Both the Fox Theatre, Atlanta, and its Great Moller Organ, are famous - the theatre for its exotic atmosphere, and the organ for its mighty sound. The instrument is a 4 manual 42 rank installation with a most elaborate keydesk. Organist BOB VAN CAMP is a famous organist, with very wide experience in theatre work - he has given many recitals for theatre organ clubs in the USA.

THIS MONTH'S ALTERNATE RELEASE "NOTTINGHAMSHIRE" Record No is CR 0025  
THE ORGANIST JACK HELYER  
THE ORGAN 4 Manual 22 rank CONACHER Odeon Theatre Nottingham England.

THE PROGRAMME Serenade No 2, Ballet Egyptian Theme, March Medley, Waltz Medley, Cruising Down The River, Brush Off, Orient Express, Imperial Echoes March, & Operatic Excerpts.

In the above selections, the March Medley includes Bridge On The River Kwai, whilst the Waltz Medley includes Anniversary Song, Petite Waltz, Over The Waves, Skaters Waltz & The Merry Widow. The Operatic Excerpts comprise, Lohengrin, Aida, Mignon, Sampson & Delilah, Faust, Madame Butterfly, Pagliacci, Cavalleria Rusticana & Carmen.

This month's release and the alternate release offer a wide range of music to suit all tastes, and both feature large and famous organs. Both are recommended to you

SPECIAL LIMITED EDITION - COLLECTOR'S ITEM.

"NIGHT & DAY" VIC HAMMETT AT THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN HALL 3/10 WURLITZER ORGAN.

Produced in England, with the permission of T.O.P.S. Associates, as a limited edition, this record features the talents of famous English theatre organist VIC HAMMETT in a popular programme. VIC HAMMETT is the next celebrity organist to appear at the Dendy Theatre in Brighton, Victoria in the near future. The programme consists of Beyond The Blue Horizon, Begin The Beguine, I Love Paris, Wunderbar, Night & Day, Another Opening, Another Show, So In Love, Just One Of Those Things, Easy To Love, I've Got You Under My Skin, Anything Goes, True Love, Let's Do It, Rosalie, In The Still Of The Night, What Is This Thing Called Love, Don't Fence Me In, Finale, Beyond The Blue Horizon.

Recorded on 11th July 1965, the record is in Mono only and sells at \$3.50. Those who are interested in owning a copy of the record should write to our Secretary John Clancy  
 (continued on page 4)

RECORD NEWS (CONT. FROM PAGE 3.)

enclosing \$3.50 plus postage. The records will then be ordered in bulk from Victoria, thus obviating damage in transit. Summing up this record, it may be said that the playing is indeed first class, Mr Hammett gets the most from this well installed Wurlitzer organ, and his programme is a very popular one, wisely chosen from standard songs that remain high in favour with us all. Also still available through the Secretary are copies of the 7" EP of the late STANFIELD HOLLIDAY at the Melbourne Regent Theatre organ. It is understood these are \$2 each.

LOCAL RELEASES IN THE COMMERCIAL FIELD.

The last recording made of the 4/36 Wurlitzer in the Paramount Theatre New York, now demolished. Played by ASHLEY MILLER, the record on Command label is titled "Showtime", and is well worth having for its historical interest alone. The programme consists of music from well known and loved shows. The playing is good and the sound of this huge organ is magnificent.

Also seen in the stores is "ORGAN MAGNIFICENT" Volume 3 played by GUNTHER BRAUSINGER. This is on Polydor label. For straight organ fans, it is recommended.

QUEENSLAND DIVISION NEWS.

Although we are later than usual going to press this month, the Queensland news despatch is not yet to hand. Your Editor, therefore, regrets the lack of news from the "sunshine state". I did hear a whisper however, that WILBUR KENTWELL will be the assisting organist during DON KINGSTON's Queensland tour. REUBERT HAYES, of course, is the associate artist for DON's Sydney Concert. It is also understood that REUBERT would be flying to Melbourne as associate artist for DON's Melbourne session.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION NEWS.

Word has been received from the South Australian Division that the Wurlitzer from the Adelaide Regent Theatre, now being installed in the College there, is making good progress toward its new future. The chambers have been completed, and the blower is in position. Plumbers are now working on the wind trunking. This is good news from Adelaide, and we in New South Wales, congratulate them on the splendid progress made so far. We look forward to the day when it will be once again be creating its own particular brand of magic organ sounds.

LETTERS FROM OVERSEAS.

NOREEN HENNESSY WRITES US FROM ENGLAND. TOSA News has received a fascinating six page letter from Noreen, full of interesting and exciting happenings. Last month, we published an extract from the South Florida Chapter of A.T.O.E. News sheet, which told of Noreen's visit to the Jureit residence where she played a concert to about 80 of their members and friends. Noreen gave further details of the organ, which she described as "gorgeous" and "has everything". Organists who played during the evening were, JOHN STEELE, RON WARD, BOB RHODES, DUKE DREIER, and BETTY LEE TAYLOR, and Noreen says they were all magnificent organists. She was given a great reception herself and autographed 15 copies of her Prince Edward organ record which were all they had. They could have sold a lot more.

Noreen makes mention of the high prices prevailing in America, such as 36 cents for a 1 pint carton of milk - 85¢ for a hamburger - 75¢ for a roast beef sandwich, and Sales Tax is added to everything, even a cool drink. As regards fashion, Noreen said that no women's frocks anywhere are as short as Sydney's - in America, frocks are longer and there are no low shoes with stubby square toes, they are now all very pretty with high heels. Noreen's clothes were greatly admired in America.

Crossing from America to England, the ship experienced the worst crossing of the Atlantic it had ever known during 48 hours of cyclonic weather, with snow, hail, rain and wind. Huge seas washed two lifeboats off the top deck, all children were confined to cabins, and adults advised to move around the ship with extreme caution using the ropes which had been strung all around the ship as a safety precaution. Despite the rough seas Noreen did not miss giving one performance on time. Crawling through the ropes which lashed the organ and grand piano down, she managed to use one hand plus both feet, for her playing, whilst holding on grimly with the other hand. The outside temperature was down to 10 degrees below zero, as the ship battled through at something like half speed. The lifts, printing press, and other items of equipment were out of action during the cyclone, but, to Noreen's great credit, the show went on, as scheduled.

NOREEN HENNESSY REPORT.

In Acapulco, Noreen saw extremes of poverty and great wealth - poor families living in squalid conditions in little more than holes in the ground, with filth, disease and vermin making up a large part of their lives, whilst the wealthy enjoy luxury hotels and magnificent homes. Of Suva, she said there were many lovely beauty spots, but here too, there was filth and poverty. Sales people in America, were, generally speaking, not as friendly and polite as their counterparts in Sydney, and the F.B.I. and Police officials, Noreen found to be officious, arrogant and rude. Summing up her remarks, Noreen made it abundantly clear that Australia will do her as a place to live. Even Sydney beaches received mention as being among the best she has seen anywhere during her travels.

As well as being ship's organist, Noreen is Musical Director of the orchestra, a five piece group of Australian musicians. Programmes on board ship show the listing as "Noreen Hennessy & Her Australians"

TOSA News sincerely thanks Noreen for taking the time to let us know all her news.

CANADIAN LETTER.

Member Sydney Berne of Canada has written saying how much he looks forward to receiving TOSA News and our quarterly publication, The Diaphone. He wishes all success to the Society, and hopes we all continue to enjoy the many functions presented.

AMERICAN REPORT.DIRECT FROM LAURA THOMAS - TOSA'S SPECIAL AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT.

The former New York Paramount Theatre's 4/36 Wurlitzer was sold for a new civic auditorium in Kansas, and was moved there, to be installed on completion of the building. On February 25th, vandals broke into the lower level of the building, and set fire to the organ as it lay in storage. It was at first thought that the organ was a total loss, but now it seems that only the console, both pianos, and six wooden pipes were destroyed. The vandals set off other fires simultaneously in the building. Fortunately, there is ample insurance to cover the damage, and a new console will be built to the exact specifications of the old one.

JOHN MURI played a great concert last month on the Rochester Theatre Organ Society's 4/21 Wurlitzer, and afterwards, came back home with us, and we had some of the bunch in, for an evening of fun and music. It has been announced that GEORGE WRIGHT is to play a concert for the Rochester T.O.S. Another recent recitalist at Rochester was England's famous REGINALD FOORT.

Laura Thomas.

LOCAL NEWS.

It has been announced by the Organ Institute of NSW, that the first recital in their 1968 series, will be held at Christ Church St. Lawrence, Railway Square Sydney, at 5.55pm on Tuesday 9th April. Admission will be 50¢. All welcome. The Institute is proposing to concentrate, in future, on organ music with a wider appeal to the general public, and this is the first concert to embrace this change of policy.

FOR SALE NOTICE.

For Sale - Lowrey (transistorised) Holiday Spinet...Latest ...for \$800

Phone 635-0425 and ask for Eric Miravitch

ORGAN INSTALLED IN NEW NIGHT SPOT.

A new theatre console Electronic organ installed in a place of public entertainment, makes news to organ enthusiasts. The one we're talking about now is a new Thomas 811 fitted with a new model Leslie Tone cabinet (301) and boosted by the latest dynacord equipment. Brilliant American organist, ART KAUB, now residing in Sydney, opened at the Premier Room at the new Crest Restaurant, Sydney's newest nite spot located in the Crest Hotel, Kings Cross, on the last day of February last.

Art will be appearing nightly from 7.30pm until midnight Wednesdays to Sundays, with his wife Helene in a show titled, "Two of US from the US". If you like good food and the tops in organ entertainment then visit the Crest soon.

QUEENSLAND DIVISION NEWS.

An indication of the very tight printing schedule maintained by TOSA News is given by the announcement on page 4, that there is no news from the Queensland Division. In the last half hour, your Editor has received the wanted news bulletin from President Bob Smith, so here, despite our previous apologies, is the Queensland News.

As reported in the last issue of TOSA News, the Annual Meeting of the Division was held in January. (list of those elected was published last month - Ed.) Immediately following the formal business, a musical programme was provided by members Peter Johnstone and Charles Clark, on a Yamaha organ. To add variety, a lady soloist, Miss Glasscock, sang some very well received songs. The organ was kindly loaned by King & King Ltd., Peter being the organ manager of the firm.

A very fine pipe organ has recently been installed in the Scots Church Clayfield, and was played by city organist ARCHIE DAY at the Dedication service. TOSA members had been invited by Archie to a recital on the same afternoon, and many had accepted his invitation to the church. It was arranged to hold the March meeting at the Scots Church, and this took place on Monday March 18th. The resident organist, Tom Gilmont, his choir, and member Charles Clark, treated members and their friends to a feast of music. The meeting was advanced a week so as not to clash with the recital to be given by DON KINGSTON of the USA, and our own WILBUR KENTWELL. This function is to be held at the Milton Tennis Courts Clubhouse on Thursday 28th March. It promises to be a night to be remembered, and I am informed that Whitehouse Bros, the Conn distributors, may be hard pressed to accommodate all who have accepted invitations.

The April meeting is to be held at the residence of new members MR & Mrs Pottingel of Indooroopilly, who have purchased a theatre model Wurlitzer electronic organ, the first in Queensland. Two of our younger members, Rodney Ainsworth and Stephen Smith, have been playing a Conn spinet at the Telegraph Homes Exhibition at Brisbane Showground.  
(Bob Smith)

"PROFILE" FEATURE ARTICLE.

Once again we apologise for no "Profile" story. It was unavoidably delayed last month, but your Editor expected that it would be waiting for him on his return from holidays this week, however, the material has still not arrived. Better luck next month...

During my visit to Melbourne, I had the pleasure of attending the final LYN LARSEN concert at the Dendy Cinema. The associate artist being of course, TONY FENELON. This was a magnificent concert in every way, the artists and the organ being superb. A packed and enthusiastic house gave both artists a wonderful ovation, proving once and for all, that the Cinema organ IS a drawcard if properly presented, as it was. I spent several hours, by courtesy of TONY FENELON at the Regent Theatre listening to him playing this fine instrument, and had a very pleasant chat with ARNOLD COLEMAN who sent his best wishes to all his Sydney friends, especially IAN DAVIES. Together with lots of hospitality from my Melbourne friends, the time went all too quickly, and it was soon time to return.

ARNOLD COLEMAN has given me a long letter from his friend FRANK LANTERMAN in America, and as Arnold says there is nothing private in the letter I will publish some extracts from it. FRANK LANTERMAN ( a U.S. Senator these days) is well remembered as being the first organist at the Melbourne State Theatre, with Arnold Coleman as the Deputy. It is very obvious that Mr Lanterman has a high regard for the talents of Arnold. Quote. "I shall never forget your fine rendition of Ketelby's Monastery Garden at the State Theatre years ago. You brought the house down just before the orchestra overture one night. In fact, you were too good, and the regular show was an anti-climax as far as audience response was concerned. My 4 Manual, 36 rank Wurlitzer removed from the now demolished San Francisco Fox Theatre is about 85% installed in a large music room which I added to my home. The organ is located in front of a Diaphone pit which is 42" across, 6" deep, and 30" tall at the highest point. There are three main chambers on the lower level containing the Solo (left), Main (center), Foundation (right). Overhead there are two percussion chambers opening into the Diaphone chamber. The organ has three Tibias instead of two, 4 Voxes instead of one, and two Brass Trumpets instead of one, and nine strings from Solo string to Dulciana. It also has a Krumet and a Musette which cut through the butter of the Tibias in great style." Unquote. Space will not permit of further details of the Frank Lanterman organ at this stage.

Until next month,  
Organically yours,  
THE EDITOR.