



EDITOR.

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T.O.S.A. NEWS

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

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SYDNEY SOUTH 2000.*

*The Executive of the Society would like to wish all Members and
Friends:-*

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR ALL.

Thanks go to all people who have assisted in all the various ways that they have done in the many departments that make up the Society that we are. Without the assistance of these people and their valuable time the Society would come to a halt in a very short space of time.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1979.

The ballot was closed at the Annual General Meeting and the ballot papers were checked and rechecked by the Returning Officer, Mr. Rod Blackmore, and two Scrutineers and the results appear overleaf. Our thanks go to Mr. Blackmore for the many hours that he spent as Returning Officer in order that the Ballot be held with the legal precision that is required in these matters. Probably the only disappointing aspect of the Ballot was the low number of votes or ballot papers that were returned by the members. Members should take the opportunity to become involved with Society activities as far as they can be and the Officers for 1979 would welcome more member participation.

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1979.

Your Officers for 1979 are as follows:-

<u>PRESIDENT.</u>	Alan Misdale.
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS.</u>	Frank Ellis. Doug Smith.
<u>SECRETARY.</u>	Ernie Vale.
<u>TREASURER.</u>	Edna Smith.
<u>COMMITTEE.</u>	Ritchie Willis. Cliff Bingham. Robert Gliddon. Bill Schumacher. Ron Wilson. Ron Smith.

The Sub-Committee for the Capitol Organ Placement has remained unchanged at a vote taken at the Annual General Meeting. Our thanks go to these people who have worked very hard at reaching a settlement to this stage as the legal details are quite unique and the settlement for the Leasing of the organ have to be on a mutually acceptable basis. Any of the members who attended the Special Meeting that was called to discuss the situation to date will realise the implications involved.

We do hope to be able to publish more details at a later date.

T.O.S.A DIARY. 1979.

This is our Concert List for the first half of 1979, we are still waiting on confirmation from various artists for the Concert List for the second half of the year.

Sunday 25th February.

Peter Held is our first Concert Artist of the year. Peter is a brilliant organist with many years of experience behind him. Peter has given Concerts before, both for the Theatre Organ Society as well as Sutherland Civic Centre and for many years was resident organist at a leading R.S.L.

A good afternoon of music is assured. This Concert will begin at 2.30pm and is the first of the Free Concerts of the year.

Sunday 25th March.

This Concert will feature members Bill Schumacher and Cliff Bingham with Guest Artist Paul Maybury.

Bill Schumacher is the resident organist at the Burning Log Restaurant where he plays the 3 manual Thomas Palace organ. Cliff Bingham is a talented organist with 2 record albums to his credit.

This Concert will not be free and prices will be advised in due course. The Concert will begin at 2.30pm.

Sunday 29th April.

This Concert will be a Charity Concert and some of the details still have to be sorted out. Our new Vice President Doug Smith has been working on the details but the Concert will feature the Valda Lang Opera Singers as well as Guest Pianist Peter Held who will be playing on a Baldwin Grand Piano. More details as they come to hand. This Concert will begin at 2.30pm.

T.O.S.A. DIARY 1979. Continued.Sunday 24th June.

This Concert will feature Janice Wilson, Noel Smith, Richard James and Margeret Hall and will be the second free Concert for the year.

Janice Wilson needs no introduction as she has performed for the Society on a number of occasions. Janice and Noel Smith will be known to the members of the St. George and Sutherland Family Organ Club as they look after most of the details of this thriving Club.

Richard James is a young organist who plays very well and has a liking for Barry Manelows style of music.

Margeret Hall is the resident organist at the Mecca Theatre at Hurstville and is the only theatre organist playing on a legitimate theatre organ in N.S.W.

This Concert will begin at 2.30pm.

A SHORT BIBLIOGRAPHY ON PETER HELD.by Doug Smith.

A musical perfectionist, Peter Held became a child prodigy when he passed with distinction the Grade 6 of the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music, London, at the age of 8 years!

His musical career has progressed with the years by playing at the Theatre Royal, Dublin and then Ballroom and Vaudville Artist performing in England and Ireland.

Peter then went on to South Africa and toured with Chpperfields Circus for two years, as well as doing 30 broadcasts for the South Africa Broadcasting Commission.

Now residing in Australia, Peter has played for T.O.S.A. in Sydney, Orange, Brisbane and Adelaide, and was the first Sydney organist to play a full recital on the Pultney Grammar School WurliTzer for the South Australian Division.

Peter has recorded two programmes for the A.B.C. on the Hammond Organ and has vast experience in Musicals for Touring Theatre Shows and playing for Clubs.

This is an excellent chance to hear a perfectionist at work, so don't miss this highly qualified Artist.

1979 Easter Convention - Melbourne.

Details as set out below were received from the Publicity Officer, Bill Lowden concerning costs of recommended accomodation for the National Convention, 13th to 16th April 1979.

Diplomat Motor Inn, 12 Acland Street, St. Kilda 3182 Tel: 03 94-0422.

Single Room; \$18 per night.

Double Room: \$25 per night.

The Victoria Hotel, 215 Little Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 Tel:03 63-0441.

Single Room: \$10 per night (without bathroom or T.V.)

Double Room: \$14 per night (without bathroom or T.V.)

Single Room: \$22 per night on a single booking basis and on Group bookings of 10 or more the rate drops to \$17 per night. These rooms come with bathroom and T.V.

Please see next page.

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1979 Easter Convention - Melbourne, Continued.

Double Room: \$30 per night on a single booking basis and on Group Bookings of 10 or more the rate drops to \$25 per night. These rooms include bathroom and T.V.
Triple Room: \$36 per night on a single booking basis and on Group Bookings of 10 or more the rate drops to \$29 per night. These rooms include bathroom and T.V.

Bookings should be made direct with these hotels as soon as possible, Bill advises that bookings are being received now for this period which is Easter. More details can be got from Ron Smith who is looking after things at this end and Ron can be contacted on weekends at 529 7379.

REVIEW OF CONCERT BY IAN DAVIES.

by Doug Smith.

Just over 200 people attended this Concert to hear our Patron, Ian Davies, and they weren't disappointed I assure you.

Ian's pleasant manner and relaxed style left no doubt that he is a true Theatre Organist from the old school, and the years of experience in the theatres showed through as the afternoon progressed.

Commencing with a Jolson medley started the toes tapping, followed by Strangers on the Shore, and a rousing Trumpet Voluntary. Ian then soothed the audience with What the World Needs Now is Love, The Sweetheart Tree, Dear Heart and Sailor.

To show us a true baroque sound he then played Prelude and Fugue in C Major, (Bach), ending the first half with a run of Evergreens from Bye Bye Blackbird to Beyond the Blue Horizon.

After a cuppa etc., the audience were welcomed with a stirring American Patrol, followed by Quiet Village and a good Latin-American rendition of Brazil and Quando Quando.

Fats Wallers St. Louis Blues was delivered in fine showbiz style which was received with a loud round of applause.

A lovely rendition of Carillon Sorte followed, then on to excerpts from Paint your Waggon, Bells across the Meadow, excerpts from Calamity Jane, Sleepy Lagoon followed by a selection of Country and Western which ended the programme except for two encores.

After these, Ian ended his programme with his well known signature tune, Cruising down the River to a roar of satisfied applause from the enthusiastic audience.

Although mainly nostalgic, I don't think I've ever spent a more relaxing afternoon listening to the Theatre Organ for a long time. Congratulations Ian Davies and Thank You. I sincerely hope that you'll be back again for us without the long break between performances.

A book called 'The Best Remaining Seats', subtitled 'The Golden Age of the Movie Palace', has been located on sale at Goulds Bookshop, George Street, Sydney. This book would represent without a doubt the most comprehensive book ever written about the American Movie Palace of which most of the Australian Movie Palaces were a copy to some degree or other.

It would not be possible to describe the pleasure you will derive from reading this 260 page book which has many, many excellent photographs with a well written text. There is a full chapter devoted to the Theatre Organ, with photographs and I consider this book very good value at \$12.95. Goulds are open seven days a week till 12.00pm midnight and are almost opposite the Regent Theatre. This book is becoming very hard to obtain and I thank Rob Gliddon in this matter.

CAPITOL ORGAN SPECIAL MEETING. Tuesday 31st October at St. Annes, Strathfield.

The purpose for which the meeting was convened was to discuss the proposed lease of the Society's WurliTzer Pipe Organ ex the Capitol Theatre, Sydney.

This meeting commenced at 7.45pm and a total of 31 members (a quorum), attended.

After welcoming all present the Chairman, (Mr. Alan Misdale), asked Mr. Tom Halloran of the Capitol Placement Committee to address the meeting.

Mr. Halloran then proceeded and outlined all the basic clauses of the lease. He advised also that our legal adviser, Mr Blackmore, had examined the lease, and that a few modifications had been made to comply with the requirements of the Society. Mr. Halloran then called for questions which resulted in several points - being explained to the satisfaction of all present.

Mr. Blackmore then moved that "That this meeting approves in principle, (subject to all the Society's requirements being made), the lease of the Capitol WurliTzer Organ to Skills and Resources Ltd., and directs the Executive to proceed with negotiations to that end."

This motion was seconded by Mr. B. Tooker, and was then put to the meeting.

A unanimous vote of YES was recorded.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

The Editor,

I shall be pleased if you would be able to find space in the next T.O.S.A News for the following:-

On two separate occasions, from memory, a plastic bag containing a quantity of sachets of 'Fine Australian Sugar', has been found in one of the afternoon tea boxes by the Ladies Auxilliary.

A word of thanks to the generous anonymous donor.

yours faithfully,

FLO LAWLER, 6/207 Penshurst Street, Beverly Hills.

The Editor,

As you know I attended the Concert at Marrickville Town Hall yesterday and wouldn't have missed the experience for all the world. I couldn't help but notice the number of people in the audience tapping their feet and swaying in the seats to the music and I thought to myself, "Here is the magic of the old master".

Ian Davies, your love of Theatre Organ and music is conveyed in your performance and we are fortunate indeed to know you as Patron of our Society. Thank you for a splendid afternoon of beautiful music and many fond memories, had the organ been a brush and canvas we would have beheld a work of art of great beauty because of it's simplicity and the artist's soul was in it's creation.

yours faithfully,

JACK GIBBS, 21 Baringa Road, Engadine.

SYDNEY TOWN HALL.

The Grand Organ.

Editor.

Recently we have been giving some mention to the Grand Organ, Sydney Town Hall, and I must say that this is a very impressive instrument. With the assistance of Mr. David Clark, Publicity Officer, Mr. Robert Ampt, City Organist, Mr. Roger Pogson and a few others I am now able to offer the complete stop list of this instrument.

Please see next page.

The Grand Organ in the Sydney Town Hall is one of the largest, finest and most powerful organs in the world, and represents the sum of all the mechanical and artistic skill in organ construction accumulated during centuries of patient labour and experiment, and is, moreover, an object of beauty in the great hall in which it is set.

The Organ is situated at the level of the uppermost tier of the orchestral platform, and is set in a elliptic cove about 68 feet long and 26 feet wide. In this recess are placed all the pipes. The front pipes are cased with bright spotted metal uncoloured and the organ case is finished in white and gold. The pipes number 8,672 ranging in speaking length from 3/8th inch to 64 feet and are controlled from the keyboard by tubular pneumatic action.

The Specification of the organ is as follows:-

Consisting of five manuals, with pedal organ, each manual has a compass of 61 notes from CC to C in altissimo, and the pedal organ has a compass of 30 notes from CCC to F. The number of speaking stops is 127, distributed as follows; Great Organ 28, swell organ 24, choir organ 20, solo organ 21, echo organ 8, pedal organ 26, which, together with 14 couplers, make a total of 141 registers.

GREAT ORGAN.

	<u>Name.</u>		<u>Material.</u>	<u>Pipes.</u>
1.	Contra Bourdon.	32 foot.	Wood	49
2.	Bourdon.	16 foot.	Wood	61
3.	Double Open Diapason	16 foot	Metal	61
4.	Open Diapason. No. 1.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
5.	Open Diapason. No. 2.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
6.	Open Diapason. No.3.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
7.	Open Diapason. No.4.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
8.	Harmoinc Flute.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
9.	Viola.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
10.	Gamba.	8 foot.	Metal	61
11.	Spitz Flote.	8 foot.	Metal	61
12.	Hohl Flute.	8 foot.	Wood.	61
13.	Rohr Flute.	8 foot.	Woodand Metal	61
14.	Quint.	6 foot.	Metal	61
15.	Harmonic Flute.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
16.	Principal.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
17.	Gemshorn.	4 foot.	Metal-	61
18.	Octave.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
19.	Twelfth.	3 foot.	Metal.	61
20.	Fifteenth.	2 foot.	Metal.	61
21.	Mixture, 3 ranks.		Metal.	183
22.	Cymbal, 4 ranks.		Metal.	244
23.	Sharp Mixture, 4 ranks		Metal.	244
24.	Furniture, 5 ranks		Metal.	305
25.	Posaune,	16 foot.	Metal.	61
26.	Posaune,	8 foot.	Metal.	61
27.	Trumpet.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
28.	Clarion.	4 foot.	Metal.	61.
<u>SWELL ORGAN.</u>				
29.	Double Open Diapason	16 foot.	Metal...	61
30.	Bourdon.	16 foot.	Wood..	61
31.	Open Diapason.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
32.	Viola de Gamba.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
33.	Salicional.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
34.	Dulciana.	8 foot.	Metal.	61.

SYDNEY TOWN HALL. The Grand Organ,		Continued.		
Name.		Material.	Pipes.	
35.	Viox Angelica	8 foot.	Metal	49.
36.	Hohl Flute.	8 foot.	Wood.	61
37.	Octave.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
38.	Gemshorn.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
39.	Harmonic Flute.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
40.	Rohr Flute.	4 foot.	Wood and Metal	61
41.	Twelfth.	3 foot.	Metal.	61
42.	Fifteenth.	2 foot.	Metal.	61
43.	Piccolo.	1 foot.	Metal.	61
44.	Mixture.	4 ranks.	Metal.	244
45.	Furniture.	5 ranks.	Metal.	305
46.	Trombone.	16 foot.	Wood and Metal.	61
47.	Bassoon.	16 foot.	Metal.	61
48.	Horn.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
49.	Vox Humana.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
50.	Oboe.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
51.	Cornocean.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
52.	Clarion.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
<u>CHOIR ORGAN.</u>				
53.	Contra Dulciana.	16 foot	Metal.	61
54.	Open Diapason.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
55.	Gamba.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
56.	Dulciana.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
57.	Flauto Traverso.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
58.	Hohl Flute.	8 foot.	Wood.	61
59.	Leiblick Gedact.	8 foot.	Wood and Metal.	61
60.	Octave.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
61.	Violino.	4 foot.	Wood.	61
62.	Voix Celeste.	8 foot.	Metal.	49
63.	Leiblich Flute.	4 foot.	Wood and Metal	61
64.	Twelfth.	3 foot.	Metal.	61
65.	Fifteenth.	2 foot.	Metal.	61
66.	Dulcet.	2 foot.	Metal.	61
67.	Dulciana Mixture 3 Ranks.		Metal.	183
68.	Bassoon.	16 foot.	Metal.	61
69.	Trumpet.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
70.	Clarinet.	8 foot.	Metal.	61.
71.	Oboe.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
72.	Octave Oboe.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
<u>SOLO ORGAN.</u>				
73.	Carillon Bells	2 foot.	Metal.	
74.	Bourdon.	16 foot.	Wood.	61
75.	Open Diapason.	18 foot.	Metal.	61
76.	Violin Diapason.	8 foot.	Wood.	61
77.	Flauto Traverso.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
78.	Doppel Flute.	8 foot.	Wood.	61
79.	Stopped Diapason.	8 foot.	Wood.	61
80.	Viola.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
81.	Octave.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
82.	Flauton Traverso.	4 foot.	Wood.	61
83.	Harmonic Flute.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
84.	Harmonic Piccolo.	2 foot.	Metal.	61
85.	Contra Fagotto.	16 foot.	Metal.	61
86.	Cor Angelais.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
87.	Corno Di. Bassetto.	8 foot.	Metal.	61

SYDNEY TOWN HALL. The Grand Organ, Continued.

88.	Orchestra Oboe.	8 foot.	metal.	61
89.	Harmonic Trumpet.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
90.	Octave Oboe.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
91.	Contra Tuba.	16 foot.	Metal.	61
92.	Tuba	8 foot.	Metal.	61
93.	Tuba Clarion.	4 foot.	Metal.	61

ECHO ORGAN.

94.	Viol d'' Amour.	8 foot.	Metal.	61
95.	Unda Maris, 2 ranks.		Metal.	140
96.	Leiblich Gedackt.	8 foot.	Wood and Metal.	61
97.	Viol D'Amour.	4 foot.	Metal.	61
98.	Echo Dul. Cornet, 4 ranks.		Wood and Metal.	244
99.	Glockenspiel, 4 ranks.		Wood and Metal.	196
100.	Flagelet.	2 foot.	Metal.	61
101.	Basset Horn.	8 foot.	Metal.	61

PEDAL ORGAN.

102.	Double Open Diapason.	32 foot.	Wood.	30
103.	Double Open Diapason.	32 foot.	Metal.	30
104.	Contra Bourdon.	32 foot.	Wood.	30
105.	Open Diapason.	16 foot.	Wood.	30
106.	Open Diapason.	16 foot.	Metal.	30
107.	Violine.	16 foot.	Wood.	30
108.	Gamba.	16 foot.	Metal.	30
109.	Dulciana.	16 foot.	Metal.	30
110.	Bourdon.	16 foot.	Wood.	30
111.	Quint.	12 foot.	Wood.	30
112.	Octave.	4 foot.	Metal.	30
113.	Prestant.	8 foot.	Metal.	30
114.	Violincello.	8 foot.	Wood.	30
115.	Bass Flute.	8 foot.	Wood.	30
116.	Twelfth.	6 foot.	Metal.	30
117.	Fifteenth.	4 foot.	Metal	30
118.	Mixture, 3 ranks.		Metal.	90
119.	Mixture, 4 ranks.		Metal	120
120.	Mixture, 2 ranks.		Metal.	60
121.	Contra Trombone.	64 foot.	Wood.	30
122.	Contra Posaune.	32 foot.	Metal.	30
123.	Posaune.	16 foot.	Metal.	30
124.	Trombone.	16 foot.	Wood and Metal.	30
125.	Bassoon.	16 foot.	Metal.	30
126.	Trumpet.,	8 foot.	Metal.	30
127.	Clarion.	4 foot.	Metal.	30

The components may be summarised as follows:-

Great Organ.	28 stops	40 ranks	2,428 pipes
Swell Organ.	24 stops	31 ranks	1,879 pipes
Choir Organ.	20 stops	22 ranks	1,330 pipes-
Solo Organ.	20 stops	20 ranks	1,220 pipes
Echo Organ.	8 stops	15 ranks	855 pipes
Pedal Organ	26 stops	32 ranks.	960 pipes

The Couplers are as follows:-

1. Great to Pedal	6. Swell Super Octave.	11. Swell to Choir.
2. Swell to Pedal	7. Swell Sub Octave.	12. Solo to Choir.
3. Choir to Pedal.	8. Solo to Great	13. Echo to Pedal.
4. Solo to Pedal.	9. Solo Octave.	14. pedal Stops to Great Pistons.
5. Swell to Great.	10. Choir to Great.	

ACCESSORIES.

8 Combination Pistons to Great Organ Stops.

8 Combination Pistons to Swell Organ Stops.

7 Combination Pistons to Choir Organ Stops.

7 Combination Pistons to Solo Organ Stops.

3 Combination Pistons to Echo Organ Stops.

6 Combination Pistons to Pedal Organ Stops.

1 Pedal Piston Great to Pedal, on and off.

Tremulant to Choir Organ.

Tremulant to Swell Organ and Solo Reeds. Pedals to Choir, Swell and Solo Organs.

2 Press Button Bells.

The 6 combination pedals to pedal organ are independent of and additional to the 8 studs which, at the will of the performer, (by drawing No 14 of the Couplers), operate upon the "pedal" as well as upon the "great" stops.

The famous 64 foot reed, which has proved a signal success, was an innovation. Since the completion of the organ there have been many minor changes in the instrument, notably the alteration of the louvred shutters to the swell organ and the conversion of the ordinary swell pedals into balance pedals, operated by pneumatic action. The choir and solo swell boxes have been altered slightly.

An addition has been made by the fixing of a carillon in communication with the keyboard.

The blowing plant consists of three modern 'Duplex' organ blowers, driven by 1 20hp and 1 10hp Bull motor. These blowers are installed in the Lower Hall of the Town Hall and the wind is conveyed to the reservoirs through five zinc conveyers.

The organ has been proclaimed a perfect specimen of tonal and mechanical excellence and has earned the highest encomiums for the builder from such organists as the late Mr. W.T. Best, Dr J.F. Bridge, Mr. Hoyte, Mr Jecyll, Mons, Wiegand, Mr.E.H. Lemare., and Mr. Alfred Hollins. The Organ, which was built by Messrs. Hill and Sons, opened by the great organist, Mr. W.T. Best, Liverpool England, on 9th August 1890 having been commenced in 1886. The total cost of the organ was \$32,600.

Three City Organists have been appointed by Council since the installation of the Organ; the first being the late Auguste Weigand, the Belgian Organist; followed by Mr. Anthur Mason. of Sydney, and finally, Mr. Ernest Truman, A.R.C.O. Leip,R.C.M., who retired in April 1935, after 25 years service.

To allow the use of the Grand Organ in conjunction with an orchestra, and in order to bring the pitch into line with that now universally accepted the pitch of the Organ was reduced in 1939 to C 522 vibrations.

Reproduced by permission.

The above information was reproduced from the archives of the Sydney Town Hall with the co-operation of Mr. David Clark, Publicity Officer. It is not known when the above was written but since then we have the appointment of Mr. Robert Ampt as City Organist with Mr. Mark Bensted as Assistant City Organist. The stop list as given above is correct and the only couple of points which may be of interest are the order of the manuals, from the bottom, CHOIR, GREAT, SWELL, SOLO, ECHO, the pedalboard being in the obvious place. Another point that is often mentioned often is that the 64 foot reed was disconnected because it was too powerful, this is not so, it is working on almost it's full range at the moment. The 64 foot reed vibrates at 8 cycles per second on low C. Another point that is sometimes raised is that the organ was once fitted with traps and percussions, according to the organ builder, Mr. Roger Pogson, the only trap that the instrument ever had was a length of iron that was suspended from the ceiling on a bit of rope and was worked by one of the press buttons on the console, the other press button was to summon the engineer to start the gas engines in the early days of operation. Both the bell buttons are now inoperable and the iron was removed. Several people have mentioned that the instrument was fitted with traps and up to a point this was heard as several devices were placed inside the organ from

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SYDNEY TOWN HALL. The Grand Organ. Continued.

behind the casework which had another person reading the score and operating them. For instance, there was a rain machine which consisted of a 44 gallon drum with blue metal in it which was fitted with a sort of a paddle and, on cue, was agitated furiously by the second operator. This type of effect would not be regarded as part of the organ in the true sense but in the minds of the people listening the effect would appear to be most real indeed.

By the time everyone receives this magazine there will have been several lucky people who have seen this instrument and if there are any members who would like an inspection and a conducted tour please write accordingly to the Editor. Tours can be arranged but we need to know many and so forth. The date is not known and will be subject to availability of the Town Hall. Any member wishing to do so may play the instrument for a short time at the time of the tour which will be conducted by Mr. Roger Pogson and Mr. Robert Ampt.

I can assure you all that this is a most thrilling instrument to both play and see and one should take the most of an opportunity to see the largest instrument in the Southern Hemisphere. The only other instrument with a 64 foot stop is in Atlantic City, America. The Grand Organ will be out of Commission during 1980 as the console will be removed for very, very essential work.

A Concert will be held in the Sydney Town Hall on Thursday, 14th December featuring Robert Ampt, City Organist assisted by Mark Bensted, Assistant City Organist and will also feature the Choir from St. Andrews Cathedral and the Willoughby Municipal Band. This is a free concert and will be the last for the year and will begin at 6.00pm and run till 7.30pm. Admissi~~on~~ Free.

Member Fred Wallis has very kindly given me the specifications and photographs of the organ located at Atlantic City and this seven manual instrument is simply mind blowing, just imagine, 1225 speaking stops and 33,000 pipes ranging from 3/16 " to 64 feet.

I hope to be able to bring you this article in 1979 with photographs.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE.

Please see the attached subscription form attached to the magazine and post it now while you think of it.

Please note that Student Membership is available to any interested Student who should furnish details of his educational establishment etc., Student Membership is available for \$4.00 per year and could be quite an advantage to members of the Young Organists Association who presently only get to hear of our activities on a second hand basis. Any Member is entitled to apply for practice on the WurliTzer at Marrickville and this also applies to Student Members. Instead of going over with the Y.O.A. they could go with their parents at a regular time. Please contact Ron Smith for details of Membership and Chris Palmer for details on Practice.

As your Editor I would like thank all the various members that I have come to know for their efforts during the year, I would like to see more members submit articles for publication during 1979 and in general I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Chris Palmer.