

# T.O.S.A. NEWS

incorporating **THE DIAPHONE**

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

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SOCIETY DIRECTORY

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<u>PATRON:</u>	Ian Davies		
<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	Tom Halloran, 66 Flinders Rd., Cronulla	2230	523 5077
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	Lance Jones, 8 Ulm Street, Maroubra	2035	34 7003
<u>TREASURER:</u>	Mark Gabriel, 27 Yarran Rd., Oatley	2223	579 2169
<u>EDITOR:</u>	John Atkinson, 46 Lily St., Hurstville	2220	587 3374

## WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

1st March, Saturday 8.00 a.m. STATE THEATRE-SYDNEY.

An early morning visit to the magnificent State Theatre has been arranged to take advantage of a visit by the South Australian organist, Ken Banfield. Ken will play the first half of the programme and the second section will be played by Ian Sommerville, the working party group leader... that band of men who spend the early hours of Saturday morning (after the final curtain on Friday night) endeavouring to over-come the ravages of water, time and indifference. As has been mentioned in previous issues, the State Theatre operated as a commercial cinema is a financial disaster for most of the time. The owners of the building would like to close its doors, pull the building down and replace it with an antiseptic plain, modern building, with multiple cinemas and office accommodation. They receive no encouragement whatsoever from either civic or government authorities to preserve the building as is - in fact - quite the reverse. If it wasn't for the National Trust classification and the Builder's Labourers ban we would have already lost one of the last and best remaining opulent, super cinemas in the world. So take advantage of this rare opportunity to visit the State Theatre and listen to the magnificent 4/21 Wurlitzer and at the cost of \$1.00 per head to help defray costs this is certainly good value for money.

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS TO ATTEND THE FABULOUS FOURTH CONVENTION  
IN MELBOURNE AT EASTERTIME .....

8th March, Saturday 2.30 p.m. A home 'get-together' featuring a barbecue in a carnival atmosphere, a quarterly business meeting, some film entertainment and honest to goodness 'Tooker hospitality'. The afternoon has been organised by Barry and Pam to start at 2.30 with a quarterly business meeting to take approximately three quarters of an hour and people attending will be entertained by Malcolm McKay's Carnival Organ. Please phone Pam and Barry on 642 6086 to reserve your bit of the hot-plate. The cost for attendance will be \$1.50 to assist with the preservation of our Capitol organ - the only spirits provided will be 'high' ones - for the other variety you are requested to...bring your own...

The address to go to for all this frivolity is 9 Blanche Street, Belfield and you are requested to bring a folding chair (if you have one available) to assist with the seating.

15th March, Saturday 8.00 p.m. A home organ party has been arranged by Ritchie Willis featuring Peter Held and Des Russell at the Console of Ritchie's Lawrence Welk model Thomas Organ. For those regular attenders at Ritchie and Norm's at Paddington, there is a surprise in store as they have moved to Mortdale - the new "Selwyn Theatre" is larger so consequently more members will be able to attend their delightful evenings. A donation to the Capitol restoration fund will be asked and we suggest you ring 57 3581 as soon as possible and come along to Ritchie and Norm's new address at 13 Rosemont Avenue, Mortdale, to enjoy the night's entertainment.

19th March, Wednesday 8.00 p.m. A charity organ concert, the proceeds of which will assist the Chatswood Hospital, will be held at the Chatswood Civic Centre in conjunction with the Willoughby Festival of the Arts. The Organist to be featured at the ex Arcadia 2/10 Wurlitzer will be our very popular 'master of the manuals' Eric Smith. During the evening Eric will be assisted by Robert Broughall and the Baritone, Keith Garrett. The programme will include the 'Rhapsody in Blue' and selections from an unknown musical called 'Miss Liberty', composed by Irving Berlin. This will be a great night's entertainment and a marvellous opportunity to hear another Wurlie sing! Admission is \$1.00 and a family ticket \$3.00

28th March - 30th March THE FABULOUS FOURTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

As most of the details for the National Convention, being held in Melbourne and featuring the American Theatre Organist, Bill Thomson have already been detailed in months - the only additional information that we have to add is that accommodation for interstate visitors (such as ourselves) has been arranged at the Savoy Motel, Brighton. For any further information regarding reservations please contact President Tom Halloran on 523 5077.

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19th April, Saturday. A silent film evening has been arranged by Robert Gliddon. An organ accompaniment will be a feature of the night - more details next month.

24th April, Thursday 1.10 p.m. A lunch-hour concert played by Eric Smith at the organ in the Great Hall of the Sydney University....Featuring light classical and popular music - any city commuters would be welcome to attend.

28TH MAY - CABARET NIGHT!!!!

### REVIEW OF ETHNIC GROUPS CONCERT - DECEMBER '74 - C.J.C.

The All Nations Folk Festival Concert was held in conjunction with TOSA in the afternoon of Sunday, 15th December, 1974 at the Marrickville Town Hall.

It was quite a pleasant day and with prospects of a very interesting and spectacular programme of folk singing and dancing, coupled with music on the Wurlitzer organ, one would have anticipated a good attendance, and about 100 people were present, including a few TOSA members. Those who made the effort were rewarded with a very vivacious and colourful concert of great variety.

Many ethnic groups in national costumes danced and sang their folk songs to fast and spirited music, interspersed with solo items by a Greek vocalist and novelty acts by juvenile Ukranian dancers.

Enthusiasts amongst the audience took the opportunity to set up flood lights to enable them to record colour movies of some of the more spectacular dance routines.

Our well known TOSA member Joh Congert was the organist and in addition to playing introductory music he gave two brackets of numbers interspersed half way through the first and second parts of the concert, which covered a wide variety of items.

Some that come to mind are the March from Sempur Fidelis, The Merry Widow Waltz, Vienna City of My Dreams, Wooden Heart, Mack the Knife, Funiculi Funicula, and as Christmas was less than two weeks away he included a most enjoyable medley of numbers suited to the occasion. The organ was played with great gusto and the selections moved along at a pleasant pace. During interval, the Mayor of Marrickville briefly addressed the audience and congratulated the organisers and performers on producing such an interesting type of concert and expressed the hope that it may become an annual event.

After further mixed items the concert finished on a note of good cheer with representatives of the various countries coming forward to convey Season's Greetings to those present in his, or her, national language.

The compere, Mr. Frank Ellis, in closing the programme thanked the audience for attending and the performers for a most colourful display of national costumes and folk lore and then with the combined cast assembled on stage Joh Congert began to play Jingle Bells on the organ and gradually everyone in the hall joined in singing chorus after chorus.

My only criticism was that the music accompanying the ethnic dance groups was amplified to such an extent that it was discomforting to many in the audience and should future concerts be contemplated this should be controlled to a more acceptable level.

Another matter which should be given attention is to arrange for more adequate publicity as it was ~~very poor~~ that after arranging such a fine concert only a hundred or so were there to enjoy it.

### VISIT TO MASTERTOUC

On 29th January, over 60 people crammed their way into the small premises of the Mastertouch Piano Roll Company in Canterbury. It was anticipated that two groups would be accommodated to inspect the machines and roll making set-up but the Manager and staff of Mastertouch had to take us through in four larger than foreseen groups!

During the visit we were shown the methods of production used by this unique Company to produce player piano rolls and were made to realise that the

labour intensive care taken to produce Mastertouch rolls together with Company taxation is gradually forcing this company out of business. We heard unique piano rolls recorded by artists long gone and we saw roll playing mechanisms fitted to modern pianos and a Yamaha electronic organ. We also had the opportunity to hear a Beale piano and a Steinway Grand fitted with Ampico reproducing action. The music from these instruments was absolutely enthralling as the action produces every nuance of the performers' original art. The inspection of Mastertouch premises proved to be so popular and such a friendly get-together of members that we must organise this type of inspection again in the future. If you have any ideas please bring them forward at a Committee meeting or to a Committee Member. At the end of the evening's entertainment Tom Halloran asked for a vote of thanks to Mr. Wright the Manager of Mastertouch and this can only be reinforced in these pages - it was fantastic.

#### MEMBERS' CORRESPONDENCE

(On the opposite page is a photograph of the scene during the most successful Christmas Cabaret and the insert shows our Patron Ian (Martha Lake) Davies doing his, her or it's thing...as only he knows how. The photograph is an expression of the mood of our first letter and was supplied by John Weismantel and Barry Tooker.)

1974 TOSA's Christmas Cabaret was said to be the greatest yet and most, if not all of those members lucky enough to have attended left no doubt of their approval.

When such a social function results in such a high degree of success it is generally due to the careful planning plus a great deal of work by a determined group of people. It is here that I feel the Lawson-Tooker family should be recognised, not only for the amount of their effort but also for their positive approach to the desirability of this type of entertainment for acceptance by the general membership. Many requests have been made for a second similar function in 1975 to be held in the cooler weather and your committee is now making the necessary arrangements.

Dancing to the sound of the Wurlitzer was a new experience for most of the members and it is now easy to understand why the Blackpool installation has been so popular over the years. Few organists possess the ability to successfully play ballroom music and on the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ. It is quite rare certainly in Australia. However, our Patron, Ian Davies must surely be one of the greatest in this field.

Our thanks also to the other organists who provided Ian with a break long enough to get his second wind and thus continue playing until around midnight. We now eagerly await our next Cabaret night and feel confident that those members who were not able to attend the previous function due to other Christmas engagements will now be able to enjoy the experience which is quite unique in this part of the globe.

Des Russell

Ed. Note: There have been several letters this month from members containing Bouquets which modesty will induce us to refrain from printing but the letter that follows contains a message to some of our members and is therefore copied in its entirety.

Dear Sir, I would like you to accept my thanks for the prompt delivery of the news, and to say that I think that the February issue was one of the best I have read.



I am sorry that I wont be able to continue my membership, this year, as circumstances wont permit, but my thoughts and best wishes will always be with you.

I wonder if you could give me a few lines in next months news to let all my friends down there know where I am, and always glad to see anyone coming up this way.

I would also like to mention that my friend Pat Flood who used to attend the society's functions with me passed away last August. Those who knew her will no doubt be sorry to hear this.

I hope you will be able to do this for me and I would be most grateful if you will pass on my best wishes to all.

Yours faithfully,  
John Lock

John's new address is 23 Burnet Street, Ballina 2478.

#### CAPITOL ORGAN REFURBISHING WORKING BEE

Pam Tooker informs us that she will arrange work parties at her home to repair the various chests etc. so that when the installation arrangements are finalised the Capitol Organ can be installed with the "Minimum of fuss". It is proposed by Pam that she will arrange one night per fortnight and volunteers who offered previously to help in the covering of motors etc. please contact Mrs. P. Tooker, 9 Blanche Street, Belfield or phone 642 6086. This type of working party could be worth thinking about by those people able to organise small groups and who know the method of rejuvenating pipe organ pneumatic motors and it certainly will make our mutual investment operable sooner. Please give it some thought and if you cannot be an organiser then come along and be a team-member - join the fun.

#### NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to 14 new members this month and also the hope that as they come to join in our activities you will all personally welcome them to our society, they are :- John Radford, Ashfield; Steve McDonald, Rockdale; Alan Smith, Sylvania Heights; Mrs. Anne Mapstone, Jannali; Richard and Patricia Eldridge, North Rocks; Richard Bickhoff, Lawson; Ronald and Gloria Northrop, Nth Ryde; Anne Wickenden, Guildford; Joseph & Grace Laczko, Castle Hill; and Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Sheppeard, Lupston.

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'FLASHBACKS'- Ian Cameron

This month sees the continuation of the article started in February covering the reinstallation of Christie from the King's Theatre Gordon into St. Columba's Anglican Church, West Ryde.

Once the blue-print stage had been completed and the knowledge of the team had been organised for the long job ahead, new problems arose. One was storage of all the parts at West Ryde while the work was in progress. The material, when collected for removal, filled three furniture vans. The long sixteen-foot pipes were too tall to fit under the roof in the space allotted at the rear of the church. Their shape had to be altered before they could be properly accommodated.

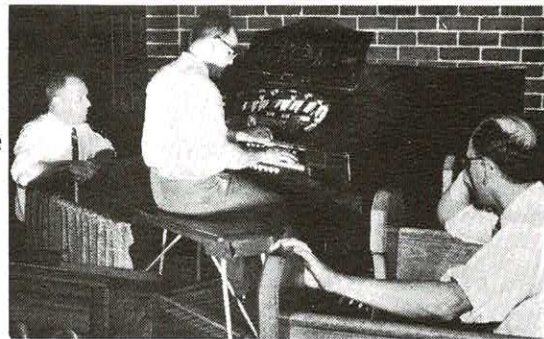
Rewiring was another time-consuming task. Fifteen miles of wire were used before it was completed. To keep costs to a minimum, various manufacturers were approached to scrap lots. As a result, the expenditure on materials used in the whole project was kept down to £100.

At the end of the first twelve months, the basic layout of the new organ was completed. The work then settled down to a steady process of giving new life to neglected materials and restoring their mechanical and electrical vim. This was a tedious period of trial and error when the skill and judgment of the three men directing the work were put to severe tests. Their enthusiasm, far from diminishing, was communicated to other people who readily came to their assistance with various special tasks. Excitement increased as the work progressed to the stage where the first experiments to test its efficiency could be made. After moments of suspense, three elated men heard the first notes issue from the



Noel Stokes makes tuning adjustments to some of the smaller pipes of the organ. Complete tuning is done every three months, but minor adjustments are made more often.

Seated by the church organ are its builders (from left) Tom Raynsford, Ken Jordan and Noel Stokes. The mechanism and mass of pipes are built into the rear of the church.



reconstructed organ. It worked. They knew then that they would accomplish the job they had set out to do.

There was only one minor relay fault in the construction. Otherwise the organ was a perfect example of what pride in craftsmanship, co-ordinated skill and endless patience and enthusiasm could produce.

Much still remained to be done. Tuning and adjustment had to be carefully carried out, pitch and mechanical aids had to be corrected, and complete and instantaneous response to touch on the keyboards had to be assured.

There was too much air in some bellows, and not enough in others. The ranges of sound intensity between very soft and very loud had to be adjusted, and the air pressure in the pipes had to be regulated to ensure smooth, flowing harmony.

The organ responded to all this gentle and persistent coaxing and, after almost three years, the men who had restored its music were satisfied.

The dismantled piles of wood, steel and lead, covered in a theatre's back-stage dust, were a thing of the past. In their place was a rich-toned musical instrument.

Before the organ project was completed, many features of church atmosphere had been missing from St. Columb's. Good deeds, however, seldom pass unnoticed, and the news that the church was to have an organ stimulated other people to acts of generosity. Somebody thought the floor needed sanding and polishing and unobtrusively had it done. Then, one day, a new carpet appeared in the aisle. The Sanctuary was redesigned, and delicately scrolled fretwork added a touch of artistry to the rear wall.

In these sacred surroundings, the reconstructed organ was dedicated by Archbishop Gough of Sydney on October 2, 1960. As its pealing notes led the worship of the congregation, three satisfied men stood quietly by..

#### PROFILE FOR MARCH - Knight Barnett

Knight Barnett is remembered for his residency at the Adelaide 'Regent' where he was featured at its 3/15 WurliTzer from 1949-1967; an engagement lasting 18 years. He was the last of the 'full-time' Theatre organists in Australia.

At the age of 10, having learned piano, he commenced taking lessons on the pipe organ. When only 11, he was appointed as organist at St. Luke's Church of England in the country town of Wagga Wagga. He continued his career and played at various Churches over the next few years, which included a long engagement at St. Peter's Neutral Bay.

He studied Public Accountancy, and in the golden era of the Theatre, played organ and conducted orchestras in many of Sydney's theatres. He joined the staff at Radio 2BL, and among many other duties, conducted the Studio Light Orchestra and assisted as announcer.

In 1929, Knight became assistant to American, Fred Scholl, at Sydney's 'Capitol' 3/15 WurliTzer. From there, he went to the 'State' as assistant to another visiting American, Price Dunlavy; residing at its 4/21 WurliTzer. Later on he was featured as resident Organist at both of these Theatres. Knight then undertook a successful tour of the suburban theatres and succeeded the American, Eddie Horton at the Kogarah 'Victory' 2/8 Christie, and later, at the 'Ritz' Concord which boasted an instrument of similar specifications. When Julia Dawn left the 'Prince Edward' Theatre, Knight took over and resided at its 2/10 WurliTzer for the next two years. He left the 'Prince Edward' in 1933 and successfully toured the New Zealand scene; appearing at the 'Regent' Auckland WurliTzer and Dunedin's 'Empire' Christie.

Returning to Australia, he joined the Western Suburbs Cinema Circuit and played at the 'Palatial' Burwood, which had a 3/10 Christie; Auburn's 'Civic' 2/13 WurliTzer, the Parramatta 'Roxy' 3/10 Christie and at Hurstville's 'Savoy' 2/10 WurliTzer. In 1941, he left the Circuit to joining the A.I.F. On his return from the War, Knight joined the Hoyt's Theatre Circuit, and after residency at many of the former theatres, moved to Adelaide in 1949 to take up a post at the 'Regent'.



Over the many years that followed, Knight regularly broadcast from the Theatre over Radio 5CL on the Weekly programme 'Melody Land'. His wife, an accomplished violinist, regularly appeared with the S.A. Symphony Orchestra during this period. Knight recorded several 78's for the Regal-Zonophone label and was a prominent broadcaster from the 'Civic' Auburn Wurlitzer. Prior to the closure of the Adelaide 'Regent' Knight recorded an LP for Moonlight Records. He played the 'Final Curtain' performance from the Adelaide 'Regent'; an occasion which was marked by the stage appearance of many performers who had starred at the Theatre in its past days. Although in his seventies now, Knight Barnett is still active in musical circles and has continued to render many thrilling performances in recent years.

#### READER'S SERVICE

Following is a list of musicians who teach organ techniques, it is taken in alphabetical order and is probably incomplete. If you are also a teacher and would like the possible advantage of your name appearing in these pages please contact the editor and we will run a further listing.

Iris Begley	Gosford	81 2753
Robert Broughall	Sydney	61 2863
Bruce Carr	Bankstown	736 1092
Joh Congert	Burwood	747 4055
Ernie Davidson	Bankstown	70 6326
Chris Gorman	Liverpool	602 7993
David McDonald	Kirrawee	221 4138
Albert		
Mandelberg	Avalon	918 3912
David Parsons	Beecroft	871 8007
Mavis Patrick	Penrith	21 5647
Eric Smith	Sydney	61 3176
Leon Wotton	Ramsgate	529 9584

#### ANOTHER THEATRE ORGAN INSTALLATION TAKES SHAPE

In the new members list this month appears the name, Steve McDonald. You will be interested to learn that Steve owns the organ built up by Cec Taylor and Steve together with a small band of helpers is installing the organ in the Star Theatre at Padstow. The installation is at a very advanced stage and Steve would like some more helpers for the final finishing of the instrument and if you can assist he can be contacted on 599 4436.

#### ADDITIONAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A meet the organ night is being arranged at Marrickville Town Hall for members to get to know their Wurlitzer Organ more intimately and the date set aside is 23rd April ... more details next month.

An organ spectacular similar to those held in Sydney Town Hall is being arranged for 3rd June at the Bankstown Civic Centre once again ... more details next month.

JULY 15th - 20th, 1975.....AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY  
NATIONAL CONVENTION ----- SAN FRANCISCO

A virile role combining romance with fast action. One of Valentino's best pictures, and his last, 1926's *Son of the Shiek*.



YOU'VE ASKED FOR IT!

IT'S NEARLY HERE

Rudolf Valentino and Eric Smith together for the first time in an evening of "flicker-fingering Fun".

"Son of the Shiek" is one of Valentino's best films and the print you will be watching has been carefully restored in glorious small Screen Black and White!!!!!!!

Watch next month's issue for full details as to where this memorable event is to take place.....

#### DEADLINE

The Deadline for the April issue of TOSA News is 17th March, 1975 so get your pencils, pens, typewriter's and thumb-nails dipped in tar and let us hear your news. The standard of the articles being supplied is, as you can see improving every issue so why not let us have your contribution to add.....



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## RECORD REVIEWS

(Interstate Editors, please copy)

We have news from the agent for Concert Recording Company in Australia that the Australian recordings available from them are becoming rare items and soon will be in the 'sold out' category. One particular recording that should be a must for every member of the society was made by Ian Davies at the "Capitol" 3/15 Wurlitzer and is titled 'Australian Style'. There is a booklet which comes with the disc of 20 or so pages, the photographs and information contained therein was compiled by Barry Tooker, Frank Ellis and John Clancy. This record alone is worth an enquiry from every member that doesn't at present own a copy. Telephone No. 631 6189.

### "Out of a Dream" -Lyn Larsen;

If you are a dyed-in-the-wool enthusiast of elegant theatre organ playing, being especially fond of subtle tone colours and sophisticated arrangements, then this disc is for you. After a rolling crescendo on the crash cymbal introduces a rousing version of YOU (from the 1936 film, "The Great Ziegfield") the Marr & Colton Tibia and Vox Humana croon to SONNY BOY. This 'tear-jerker' originally created in jest by Henderson, Brown and DeSylva, was sung by Al Jolson in the 1928 film, "The Singing Fool", and Lyn delivers it here on bended knee.

From 'Sesame Street', RUBBER DUCKIE is a bit of fun featuring the unusually loud 8' Kinura and a playful toot on the comedy whistle; followed by a moving version of the Swedish Folk Tune, HOW GREAT THOU ART.

The STUDENT PRINCE SELECTIONS are a grouping of favourites from Sigmund Romberg's 1924 operetta. The OLD PIANO ROLL BLUES is a not-so-old (1950) tune which gives the organ piano a chance to bang out a few notes. The Jazzy LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME, from 'Whoopee' (1928) makes use of the brush cymbal and back beat snare drum.

The Tuba Horn introduces Lyn's own ballad, THERE'S A PLACE IN MY HEART FOR YOU, which expresses the artist's sentiment musically. ME TOO, a 1926 novelty briefly features a synthetic Posthorn effect. George Harrison's beautiful SOMETHING contrasts the organ strings and Flute mutations against the Flute and Vox Humana, with solo passages on the Tuba Horn and a Tibia Clarinet combination, while brush cymbal maintains an easy dance beat. Then on to another dance the TARANTELLA, combining two traditional Italian dances in 6/8 time. All the traps are part of the organ and are played from the console.

YOU STEPPED OUT OF A DREAM begins with a Clarinet solo and contrasts Beguine rhythm on the untremmed Flute with the melody on two different Tibia Vox Humana combinations.

The Thomaston Opera House 3manual 10 rank Marr & Colton Theatre Organ was originally installed in the Palace Theatre, Danbury, Connecticut. In 1967 Conn. Valley Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society purchased and removed the instrument from the theatre. For a period of five years members of the Society re-built and re-installed the organ in the historic Thomaston Opera House.

In this recording we hear the results of the work carried out by yet another ATOS Chapter. Lyn Larsen's undoubted talent shows off the resources of this fine instrument to great advantage. It is not often we hear anything of Marr & Colton organs here in Australia so here is an opportunity to add a recording on this make of instrument to your collection and it is available from John Atkinson (587 3374) and Robert Gliddon (869 2083).

### MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

You may have read last month that our membership was over the 400 mark. However, this figure has now dramatically changed since the old year has been closed off and the figures for the new membership year are emerging. As at 13th February, 1975 we have 212 Financial members.... just over half last year's membership.

ARE YOU FINANCIAL????????

### THE CAPITOL WURLITZER ONCE AGAIN ON THE MOVE

Since the time of the removal of the Capitol Organ from the Theatre much of the bulk of the organ has been stored - due to the kind assistance of Mrs. H. Harrison. The circumstances under which the organ was stored in Mrs. Harrison's home have changed and a new storage area has to be sought. Our grateful thanks are extended to Mrs. Harrison and her family for their tolerance in allowing the use of the storage space for such a lengthy period.

Does any member know of storage space available for use that may be suitable, if so please contact President Tom Halloran.

### ATOS 20TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

Celebrate 20 years of theatre organ history next summer in San Francisco, 'everybody's favourite city!' You'll hear Gordon Kibbee at Joe Chadbourne's "Myrtle," recreating the sound of our very first national meeting; and visit the incomparable 'Pizza Joynt,' where a whole theatre organ tradition was born. Pizza organs of all kinds are featured, including an instrument built only this year.

But don't think we haven't any in-theatre organs in these parts! San Francisco's standard-bearer of the silent screen, the Avenue, and its 3 manual Wurlitzer are on the ticket; as is the 4 manual Orpheum Robert Morton, one of the largest and most unique progeny of California's only real organ builder, and the last theatre organ on Market St. A journey inland will include Grant Union High School, where will debut its famous Wurlitzer with an all new Balcom & Vaughn replica console.

At Grace Cathedral, a special program will present the fabulous John Fenstermaker at San Francisco's most exciting organ, the 5 manual Aeolian Skinner, personally voiced by the legendary G. Donald Harrison. This event alone would make a trip to San Francisco worthwhile.

But best of all - better than Morton, Better than Wurlitzer, Better even than a 'Pizza Joynt' pizza-will be San Francisco itself: 'the Paris of the West'.. 'the City that knows how'... 'the cool grey city of love' to list just a few appraisals. It's a city of contrast, where last century's cable cars run but a few feet from BART the subway of the future; it's a city of romance where the streets of Chinatown still teem with the mystery of the Orient and it's the "air conditioned city" where summer temperatures seldom rise above 65 degrees, and the fog is your constant companion; but most of all, its a city for having fun.

So come early and stay late! Come for music, for friendship, for superlative food, for great shops, in short, for the time of you life!!

THAT'S IN SAN FRANCISCO .....JULY 15 - 20, 1975.

### SICK LIST

We had news during February that our well-known and popular member Warren Robbins had a heart attack-after a period of hospitalisation Warren is now at home and doing very well but naturally having to take things very quietly for a while. Our best wishes and hopes for a speedy recovery.

### RECORD COLLECTION FOR SALE

Fred and Sylvia Coxhead have undertaken to sell the late Jack Lucre's Record and Tape collection. Jack had a very large and comprehensive collection of records and tapes of nearly every concert and home organ party held by the Society so there should be items there to suit all members and may give some the opportunity to buy discs and tapes no longer available.

For any information contact Fred or Sylvia Coxhead of 90 Lambeth Street Panania, Phone No. 775888.

### OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIPS

As a further reader service we include this month the information that membership to the American and British Theatre organ Societies is available at the following addresses:-

Cinema Organ Society,  
Hon. Treasurer, Len Hudson,  
22 Oakwood Close,  
Chase Rd.  
SOUTHGATE. LONDON N 144JY  
(monthly newsheet & Quarterly  
Journal £ 2.75p. U.K.)

American Theatre Organ Soc.,  
P.O. Box 1314,  
SALINAS.  
CALIFORNIA. U.S.A. 93901.

(Bi-Monthly Journal \$10.00 U.S.)

### SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Tickets for the Sydney Film Festival to be held from 1st to 16th June at the State Theatre, Market Street, Sydney, are now available for application from Box 4934 G.P.O. Sydney, 2001, Telephone 660 3909. (Usually some time during the film festival the State 4/21 Wurlitzer is used.)

### THEATRE ORGAN MUSIC BROADCASTS

During the month in the Malcolm Patterson Theatre Organ segment on the ABC the organ which was recently removed from Darwin by the South Australian Division of the Theatre Organ Society was discussed during an interview and the previous owner Mr. Mike Pfitzner. Recordings of the instrument were played during the programme including one by Lyn Larsen which was recorded during one of his visits to Australia.

The programme is worth listening to - it usually runs for about 10 minutes or so and it is scheduled for inclusion in the ABC's Saturday evening broadcast between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. on 2 BL.

### NEWCASTLE CONCERT

In the February edition of N.O.S. News, just to hand, and during recent telephone conversations with Mr. Peter Lankshear this has also been confirmed that on 31st March (Easter Monday) a concert has been arranged to take place in the Civic Theatre in Newcastle at 7.45 p.m. featuring the American Organist, Bill Thomson. The organ to be used will be the \$26,500 Rogers. Bookings at Rodgers Organ Centre, phone 52 4132 or a.h. 33 4079 STD 049. Also D.J.s Newcastle.

HAVE YOU CONTACTED MARK GABRIEL FOR YOUR COPY OF THE DICK SCHRUMM

RECORD - SEE LAST MONTH'S ISSUE FOR DETAILS

#### ITEMS FROM RECENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Following the visit to the Bijou Theatre the previous month the last Committee heard details of the possible usage of the Theatre at Balmain as an alternate site for the Capitol 3/15 Wurlitzer Organ. Since the December 1974 edition of TOSA News members of the printing committee have been printing all of the TOSA News Sheet including photographs envelopes and even stationery. We now have a cheap method of production for the Newsheet and this advantage which we have gained can only be made use of if we have photographs and articles to reproduce. So it is the responsibility of every member of the Society to assist with the publication of items of interest to the membership.

#### FOR SALE

Ross McGregor at 587 7946 has a Lowrey Holiday De-Luxe, 2 manual spinet about 3 years old, for sale. If you are interested then contact him as above.

#### THE OPENING OF CINEMA NORTH

We have been advised in the latest edition of Vox that the opening of Cinema North took place on 23rd February. Unfortunately the information arrived too late to give advance notice to the New South Wales division however, I do of at least one member from Sydney who was in attendance and from whom we may be able to obtain some impressions for next month's issue.

#### POET OF THE ORGAN - WIZARD OF THE MIGHTY WURLITZER

We have at last received correspondence confirming shipment details regarding the book and also disc of Jesse Crawford. Apparently there is a great deal of renewed interest in the 'Poet of the Organ' in America and this will no doubt also apply in Australia. In America there is a new book just released together with a double album record set which will both be available in Australia and it is hoped that next month we will be able to include details of both these items and who to contact for your copies.

#### DEMONSTRATION OF RODGERS ELECTRONIC ORGANS

During the month we have had telephone calls from Peter Lankshear in Newcastle suggesting the possibility of a visit by the Sydney Society to Newcastle to inspect the Rodgers Theatre and Classic Organs which they now have in their organ centre in New Lambton. It was hoped that more details would be available for inclusion in this month's edition but to date they are not to hand. So more news next month.....

NOW THAT YOU HAVE READ YOUR NEWSHEET COVER TO COVER TURN BACK TO PAGE TWO AND MAKE YOUR PHONE CALL TO PAM AND BARRY FOR THE QUARTERLY MEETING AND BARBECUE TO CAP THEM ALL!!! REMEMBER HOW GREAT OUR PREVIOUS QUARTERLIES HAVE BEEN??? THE FUN AND FELLOWSHIP PLANNED FOR THIS OCCASION IS WHAT JOINING A SOCIETY IS ALL ABOUT ----- RIGHT !!!!!

SEE YOU ALL THERE