

TOSA NEWS

September 2012
Volume 51 No.7

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Last mail Friday 21 September

Nominations close for TOSA (NSW)

Executive & Committee positions for 2012-2013

Sunday 4 November 2:00pm



Dave Wickerham

Plays the Wurlitzer at Orion Theatre

155 Beamish Street, Campsie

Directory

Patrons

John Gorrie and John Atwell

President

Geoff Brimley 6351 3122 *president@tosa.net.au*

Vice Presidents

John Shaw 9543 3112
Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)

Secretary

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Treasurer

John Wall *treasurer@tosa.net.au* 9528 9158

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6351 3122

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John Weismantel

Robert Gliddon *christieorg@bigpond.com*

Ernie Vale 0415 626 064

Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

Craig Keller

Research and Archives

Vacant

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Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)

Orion Players Convenor

John Batts 0420424103 phone or SMS

Ticket Secretary (Show Bookings)

Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

Artist Liaison Officers

Geoff Brimley 6351 3122, John Shaw 9543 3112

Photography Barry Tooker 9744 1535

Publicity Officer John Shaw 9543 3112

Printing by Rob Gliddon

From the President



Greetings,

We are again approaching our Annual General Meeting, preliminary details of which are elsewhere in this publication. I would like to emphasize three matters relevant to this.

First, please note that this year the meeting will again be on a

Saturday and will be at St. Columb's Anglican Church, West Ryde. This will permit members to see where the Christie is to be installed and inspect work to date on the chambers.

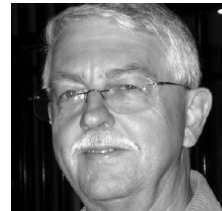
Secondly, our organization does require committed people to stand for election. Please see details elsewhere in this issue and give some consideration to nominating either yourself or someone you believe could benefit your Society. I would remind you that all positions are declared vacant and every financial member (at least 6 months) has the right to nominate for the ensuing year.

Thirdly, our Secretary, Deirdre McMullen, has advised that she will not be standing for re-election. The position requires a person who is computer literate, able to attend to correspondence and Minute taking and who has a genuine interest in the Society.

Apart from Executive and Committee persons, there is still the need for volunteers with virtually every aspect of the organization requiring some additional assistance. If you can help in any way or want further information, please talk to me at one of the shows or telephone me on 6351 3122

Happy organising,
Geoff Brimley

Editorial



See the comprehensive article from the technical team outlining how much work goes into setting up for a show to ensure that you have a high standard of entertainment every show.

The minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting are also included for your information.

We look forward to seeing you at the Dave Wickerham show. Please encourage your friends to come along.

There are already 88 seats booked for Jonas Nordwall at Marrickville Town Hall on Sunday 26 August. Hurry to book the best seats.

Deadline for TOSA News is the 12th of the previous month.

Enjoy the music,
Ernie Vale
PO Box A2322
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235
editor@tosa.net.au

From the Mailbox...



has been completed to a high standard and painting will be undertaken shortly. Floor covering is being sought to be laid after the painting is complete.

Thanks for your responses and please continue to email or write in, telling us what you think.

Where space permits we will do our best to publish your comments, but as space is limited, the editor reserves the right to edit any submitted comments and, as always, the views expressed by any individual may not necessarily coincide with the views of TOSA NSW Div.

Please submit all comments via email to:

The Editor editor@tosa.net.au

or in writing to:

The Editor - TOSA News (NSW Div)

PO Box A2322

SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

New Members

TOSA welcomes new members & wish them a long and happy stay

Mr Eric Burwood

Mr Michael Piquemal

The Christie Organ

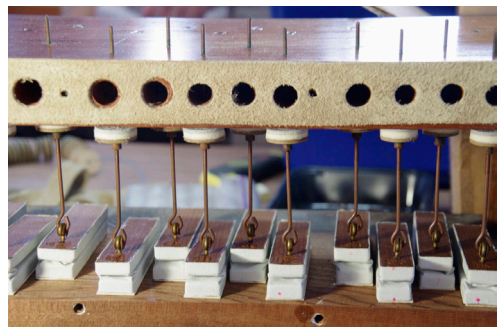
Funds raised to the end of July are \$6,149.70

The lining of the chambers

More pictures of the restoration



Glueing Secondary Motors in place



Many pieces recovered and gasket replaced

To Watch Out For

Sunday 4 November

2:00pm

Direct from the USA

Dave Wickerham

plays

The Orion Wurlitzer

Please come along to hear a
fine exponent of the Wurlitzer
and invite your friends and
family

Saturday 10 November

2:00pm

TOSA NSW Divn Inc

**ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**

**St Columb's Anglican
Church
Cnr Dickson Ave &
Bellevue Ave, West Ryde**

Easy access from West Ryde
Station and plenty of parking
near the church

Advertising

Rates in

TOSA News

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Small bubble = \$11.00

Quarter Page = \$24.75

Half Page = \$49.50

Full Page = \$99.00

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

**Members' Playing Dates
2012**

**The Orion Theatre Campsie
2nd Thursday 1:30pm -
4:30pm**

September 13th

October 11th

Phone or SMS

John Batts on 0420424103

Players and listeners welcome.

Please bring a plate of goodies for
afternoon tea.

Tea/Coffee provided. Parking at
rear off Shakespeare St.

**Marrickville Town Hall
4th Monday evening at 7:30pm**

September 24th

October 22nd

To be sure there is no last
minute cancellation at
Marrickville please ring Neil on
9798 6742 after 7:00pm
the Friday before.

**TOSA NSW Divn
Annual General Meeting**

**Saturday 10th November 2012, at
St Columb's Anglican Church
Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave
West Ryde at 2:00pm**

This is the location of the

installation of the TOSA (NSW) Christie Theatre Organ

Nominations for Office-Bearers and Committee are now open, see the nomination form in this issue of TOSA News.

Completed nomination forms must reach the **Returning Officer at Post Office Box 1242 EASTWOOD, NSW 2122** by the last Australia Post on Friday 21 September 2012.

Notice of any motions or special resolutions for the AGM should be sent to:

The Secretary TOSA NSW Divn, 230 Spring Hill Road, Mittagong, NSW 2575, and must reach the Secretary no later than Friday 21 September so that members can be advised in the October issue of TOSA News.

THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (NSW Divn)
Incorporated

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St. Columbs Anglican Church
Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave
West Ryde

Saturday 5th November 2011

1. PRESENT: 20 - Please refer to Meeting Attendance Book

2. PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS: President Geoff Brimley opened the meeting at 2:00pm and welcomed attendees. Jack Lawson, being unable to attend, David McMullan was substituted as Returning Officer.

Moved and seconded John Andrews/Barry Tooker **Carried**

Scrutineers - Michael Mortimer and Ray Russell

3. APOLOGIES: Jack & Betty Rose, Jack Lawson, Ernie Vale, Theo Langenberg, Sharon Weismantel, Bob & Jean Alleway, John Batts, Tom Barber, Ian Georgeson, Freda Thompson, Alma Jones, Basil Kaplin.

4. CONFIRMATION OF 2010 MINUTES: (Printed in November 2011 TOSA News).

It was moved and seconded that the 2010 Minutes be accepted.

John Weismantel/Peter Held **Carried**

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Presented and subsequently published in the December 2011 issue of TOSA News. The original is filed with the Minutes.

It was moved and seconded that the President's Report be accepted.

Craig Keller/Robert Gliddon **Carried**

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Presented and subsequently published in the December 2011 issue of TOSA News. The original is filed with the Minutes.

It was moved and seconded that the Secretary's Report be accepted.

John Andrews/Barry Tooker **Carried**

7. TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented and members subsequently advised in the December 2011 issue of TOSA News that full copies were available on request.

Moved and seconded by Neil Palmer/Peter Held

Carried

8. MARRICKVILLE REPORT: As published in the November 2011 issue of TOSA News.

It was moved and seconded that the Marrickville Report be accepted.

Moved and seconded by Craig Keller/John Weismantel

Carried

9. ORION REPORT: As published in the November 2011 issue of TOSA News.

It was moved and seconded by John Weismantel/Peter Held

Carried

10. NOMINATION OF PATRONS 2012:

1st nomination - John Shaw nominated John Gorrie to be reappointed for the ensuing 12 months.

2nd nomination - John Shaw nominated John Atwell to be co-patron for the ensuing 12 months.

It was moved and seconded by Neil Palmer/Ruth Brimley

Carried

11. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR FOR 2012:

Geoff Brimley proposed that Charles Pitt be reappointed as TOSA Auditor for 2012.

12. DECLARATION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2011-12:

Michael Mortimer officially declared the results of the nominations, all positions filled and unopposed.

(1) President	Geoff Brimley
(2) Vice President	John Shaw
(3) Vice President	Neil Palmer
(4) Secretary	Deirdre McMullan
(5) Treasurer	John Wall
(6) Committee	Barry Tooker.....42
	Robert Gliddon..... 43
	John Weismantel.....43
	Ernie Vale.....40
	Craig Keller.....43
	Theo Langenberg.....31

All of the above are elected for the year 2012

13. DEMONSTRATION OF PROPOSED ON-LINE BOOKING SYSTEM

Presented by Craig Keller

How it will be used.

When it will be used.

Where it will be used.

Why being used.

14. GENERAL BUSINESS:

John Andrews - Mentioned income, including donations and suggested we cancel the Building Fund and incorporate any money into the Christie Restoration Fund.

John Shaw - Suggested that donations and bequests in previous years were structured to the Building Fund but now could be used in the Christie Restoration Fund.

John Andrews - Asked the question - how much in the fund - answer - \$44,284.

Robert Gliddon - Mentioned that the project at the present time has no firm budget.

John Andrews - Suggested that we canvass those members who had made donations to the Building Fund, to ensure they had no objection to

Show & Membership Prices

The following TOSA show ticket prices now apply:

	All Artists
Non-members	\$27.50
Non-member Pensioner/Seniors Card holder	\$25.00
TOSA Members	\$20.00
All Students and Children	FREE
Group Booking for 10 or more Adults	\$20 per person
Annual Membership Fees are now: \$35.00 for Full membership, and	
\$25.00 for Concession, Country, Interstate & Overseas.	
Membership enquiries Geoff Brimley (02) 6351 3122	
<i>membership@tosa.net.au</i>	
Associate Membership for a spouse/partner is only an additional	
50%	

the change of Policy.

Geoff Brimley - Mentioned Season Tickets and described the laminated card.

Graham Glendenning - Suggested a shorter version of the On-line Booking procedure at the next show.

Phillip Bongers - Congratulated TOSA for moving the Christie back to St. Columb's Church.

Robert Gliddon - Showed a display of selected parts of the organ and commented on the past year.

John Andrews - suggested we need a Budget for the Christie project.

Robert Gliddon - Replied that alterations come first.

Heather Finch - Contributed to General Business with reference to the local area.

15. CLOSING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN

Geoff Brimley thanked everyone for being present, being interested and becoming involved as a member. We have a hard working friendly Committee who is tight knit and enthusiastic, wanting to get things done and determined to having an A1 TOSA Christie organ in Sydney. Thank you for coming.

16. MEETING CLOSED at 3:37 pm

**As advised to members in this edition of TOSA News
Nominations are open for
Office Bearers and Committee for 2013**

Secretary required

The Secretary, Deirdre McMullan, advised the Executive and Committee at the August Committee Meeting that she would not be standing for any positions for 2013. Deirdre has held the position for the past 6 years and was thanked by President Geoff for doing a great job in the position. As Deirdre lives in the Southern Highlands she has made the long drive to and from meetings in Sydney over the past 6 years and finds it is time to have a break.

The position of Secretary is not an arduous one and gives the position holder an insight into the running of TOSA. It would be preferable for any nominee to possess computer skills, have the ability to take concise and relevant minutes, and have an enthusiastic interest in the Theatre Organ environment and promoting the well being of TOSA NSW. Once the Christie Theatre Organ is installed in West Ryde Anglican Church the society can provide even more variety of entertainment for members and patrons.

This is an important and essential role for your society - Members if you have the ability to undertake this interesting position please give serious consideration to nominating for Secretary.

As President Geoff mentioned in his column - all positions are vacant for nomination and if you have been a member continuously for the past 6 months you are eligible to nominate for any position on Executive and Committee.

Following the planning meeting in May this year we have another exciting program arranged for 2013 with two overseas artists, one from the United Kingdom and another from the USA.

There are eight (8) shows plus some members activities so you are assured of plenty of variety.

Have you had a look at the new TOSA NSW Facebook site

Our TOSA Web manager has created the TOSA NSW Facebook site at

<https://www.facebook.com/tosansw>

Wow!!! has this site generated some interest. There is a lot of historical photos and comments by people who have been involved with TOSA NSW over many years.

I highly recommend you have a look at this Facebook site. *(Editor)*

A SENSORY PLEASURE

"There is nothing like wine for conjuring up feelings of contentment and goodwill. It is less of a drink than an experience, an evocation, a spirit.

It produces sensations that defy description."

THOMAS CONKLIN
From "Wine: a Primer"

The next show

Sunday 4 November, 2012, 2:00pm – 4:30pm

Direct from the USA



Dave Wickerham

plays the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ (Unit Orchestra)

Orion Theatre

155 Beamish Street, Campsie

Free parking behind the theatre

Wheelchair access at the entrance

Dave Wickerham was born in Encino, California in 1962. He began playing the electronic organ at the age of four and had his first pipe organ experience at age 10. His musical education started at age 7.

When he moved to Arizona in 1976, he became Associate Organist at the famous Organ Stop Pizza Restaurants in Phoenix, Mesa and Tucson. While in Arizona, he continued his musical studies with Roseamond Crowley, one of the few remaining descendants of the Louis Vierne line of organists. He attended the University of Arizona in Tucson on a full scholarship, pursuing classical organ studies for six years with Dr. Roy Johnson.

In 1984, **Dave** moved to the Chicago area to become Staff Organist at Pipes and Pizza in Lansing, Illinois. In addition to his performance there, he concertized frequently, as well as ministering musically and serving at various churches.

August of 1990 found the Wickerham family – **Dave**, his wife and two young children - moving to Wisconsin, where he was one of the featured Staff Organists at the Piper Music Palace in Greenfield, a position he held for 10 years.

In the spring of 2000, **Dave** ushered in the new millennium with a limited special engagement, as a featured organist at "Roxy's Pipe Organ Pizzeria", part of a \$26,000,000 expansion phase at the FIESTA Casino and Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. The **Wickerham's, Dave, Rhonda, and now three great kids**, spent a year and a half there before returning back home to Wisconsin in August of 2001... For the next three years, **Dave** resumed his position at the Piper Music Palace and was also the Principal Organist at Williams Bay Lutheran Church in Lake Geneva, WI.

He enjoys concertizing frequently to many audiences including various chapters of the American Theatre Organ Society. **In April of 1999, he took great pleasure being a feature artist in Melbourne, Australia for the convention of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia for which he received rave reviews.** He returned "Down Under" for a six-week concert tour in New Zealand and Australia during the summer of 2003 and has been asked to come back to repeat the same complete tour in October of 2012.

Dave also enjoys recording and has recently "sold out" his fourth CD "Sounds of Music" recorded on the famous 5 Manual, 80 Rank Theatre Organ at the Sanfilippo Residence in Barrington, IL. There are two NEW recording projects that are soon to be completed and released.

After seven years as Organist - Curator with the legendary Milhous Collection in South Florida, Dave and his family currently enjoy living in Upper Michigan where he has accepted the position of Organist in Residence at Crystal Theatre in Crystal Falls. This venue is a regional Performing Arts Center and houses a 3 manual, 21 rank Moller theatre organ that **Dave** also looks after.

Tickets : Members \$20;

Non Member Pensioner/Seniors Card \$25

Non-Members \$27.50;

All Children & Students: FREE entry by phone booking a ticket prior to the show

Group booking for 10 or more adults \$20 per person

for the best reserved seats

book early and securely online at trybooking.com

Visa & Mastercard accepted

*Go to www.tosa.net.au click on Events, then the artist name, then scroll down to **trybooking.com** and complete your booking by selecting your preferred seat*

or

book by phone to Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

Visa & Mastercard accepted

If this will be your first visit to a TOSA show: Free entry by phone booking a ticket prior to the show or download the Free Ticket form from www.tosa.net.au and post it to 14 Warrah Place, Greystanes 2145

TOSA Technicalities 2012

In the past few years the use of technology in TOSA (Theatre Organ Society of Australia) NSW shows has increased so as to enable a better quality presentation to all our audiences. The Technical Team thought you might appreciate knowing the technology in use and what happens to set up a TOSA public show.

Both our Wurlitzers already have technology embedded in them – and they always have had. Many may know that Wurlitzer theatre organs have always had relay stacks behind the scenes that provide the connection between the console (keyboards) and the pipes and percussions in the chambers. Some years ago TOSA NSW upgraded the two Wurlitzers to computerise the connections to improve reliability and flexibility of the systems.

The Marrickville organ has a system designed and installed by long time member John Andrews. It utilises a main driver-board that can be programmed with multitudes of piston-settings and also converts everything that the player does into a digital signal. This electrical signal then connects via a small bundle of cables to various circuit boards in the chambers that convert the signals into “ons and offs” for the pipes, percussions and chamber shutters.

The Campsie organ has a different system that works on a similar basis but the major difference is that a computer operating on Windows XP sits between the organ and the chambers. This allows even more flexibility for the player. But we'll get back to this later.

For every show the technical team arrives at the venue at about 9:30am. There is much to be done in a short time-frame. John Weismantel gets to work setting up our lighting and communication systems. Typically he will use up to a dozen lights and he brings many of these and the lighting control board and power packs. John does a great job providing effective lighting that provides some suitable colour and mood to the artist's show. John also provides most of the "cans" or headsets that the tech team uses to stay in touch during the show. John is assisted in his work by Ian Ackland.

Ken Barwick is our regular sound-technician and he brings along a great sound-control panel, amplifiers and speakers so that the audience can hear the artists clearly when they speak. Notice that the organs are never amplified, contrary to some amusing comments we have heard over the years. Every organ sound you hear is absolutely authentic. The only instrument amplification used is a special piano-microphone for the Yamaha grand piano at Campsie so as to provide sound-balance with the organ. From time to time an artist may have a digital backing-track (eg. Nathan Avakian and Rob Richards) and we provide amplification for these tracks. Ken also provides some more headsets for communications, various microphones and audio visual leads. Every now and then we have a need for a special lead and Ken magically has the right lead in his van.

Live video-projection of the artists and their keyboard dexterity is a highlight of TOSA (NSW) shows. This is often positively commented on by visiting artists. Setting up the video projection is a task that requires Russell Smith to set up the TOSA-owned vision switching console that is also attached to one projector at Campsie or two projectors at Marrickville. Graham Glendenning manages the switching console during shows. TOSA (NSW) owns one of the projectors and Barry Tooker owns and loans the other. Of course one or two screens are required to project onto and these must be set up in a suitable location at each venue. We also use these screens for slide shows and messages both prior to the show and

at interval for your entertainment and information. During the running of the show Graham uses his judgement to determine the most interesting view to show the audience – for example, some tricky footwork is switched to so that the audience can see the skillful work happening on the pedal-board.

Several video cameras are used to collect the images for projection of the show. There is one that takes an image over the left shoulder of the artist, another one that shows their feet and yet another that shows a long shot from the back of the venue. A multitude of cables connect this all together - thanks to Barry, Ken, Russell and Graham, working their wonders. Up to five video cameras may be used during a TOSA NSW show and most of these are loaned by TOSA NSW members working on the tech team. Whilst all this is going on John Batts is busy setting up equipment to record direct to CD the show for TOSA's historical records.

Of course the show cannot go on without the artist, console and piano (at Campsie). A couple of weeks prior to the show a blank running sheet is emailed to the artist so that they can fill it in and give us some advance notice of the tunes to be played. This gives us some clues as to lighting effects required and other technical aspects of the show. This is particularly important when there is a duo or duet as it can mean changes in organ piston-settings as well.

At the beginning of each show day we of course have to get the console in place and the organ running and checked for any last minute glitches or problems.

At Marrickville this is a task that requires us to firstly move the console podium away from its home at the side of the hall across to the normal concert playing position. Padlocks secure the podium to the floor, a special wind-up mechanism inside the podium lifts it off its rests and the troops are called in to coerce 500kg or so of mass across the floor on its wheels. All the while someone has to feed out its bundle of cables that connects it via egress in the front wall of the hall to the chambers upstairs. Once in place, the lid, panels and dust-cover are removed to reveal the console in its polished glory. The organ is then powered up so that it can come up to pressure and acclimatise for the day's work. Once this has happened the organ is then available for the artist to have a

last rehearsal prior to the show and to make any final adjustments to their piston-settings.

At Campsie the efforts required are somewhat different. As you may know the console and Wurlitzer piano reside in a storage garage under the hall. In fact the audience in the front rows sit above the garage. To get the console and piano to the stage the hydraulic hoist is used and some muscle to wheel these components around. The various trips that the hoist makes takes the piano to the stage, brings up the snack-bar storage-trolley, moves the curved stairs to the stage for storage, and finally brings up the console to stage level or onto the stage, depending on how the show is to be set up. Once all is in place the data and power cables can be connected to the piano and the console. This allows the organ to be switched on and warm up ready for the show. Again this is the time when the artist can rehearse and make final settings to pistons.

As mentioned before, the 3/17 (three manuals, 17 ranks or voices) at Campsie has the added feature of a computer that runs the connections between the console and the pipes and percussions situated in the chambers. Many years ago this ran on a system called Devtronix that was developed in the USA. This system came about to replace the aging and sometimes troublesome relay-stacks that theatre organs relied upon. Two of its primary benefits were that it allowed much greater flexibility for piston changes and the artists could each have a "profile". This means that any artist who plays a show for us has complete independence in how they set their pistons without being locked into a format. It also means that we can "record" every action that they undertake at the console – every key-touch, every tab-change and every swell-pedal movement is able to be digitally recorded by the computer for later playback.

A few years ago TOSA (NSW) upgraded from the now defunct Devtronix system to Uniflex that offers even more features. The Uniflex system runs on a small computer that resides back stage and uses a Windows XP operating system. It is connected to the console via a 26-wire flat ribbon cable that is about 10m long. This is remarkable when you consider that in its original installation the console required a main cable bundle probably 100mm in diameter to connect it to the relay stacks. Another benefit of the Uniflex system at Campsie is that the

artists can if they wish - create a duet to play along with what they have previously recorded themselves. This is achieved by recording their own playing for a duet track earlier in the day and the computer records all their actions. This backing piece can then be played back so that they may simultaneously play along with that pre-recorded track either at the console or the grand piano to present a duet with themselves, the artist thus playing both parts. Tony Fenelon has shown us this trick a few times much to our delight. The recorded music, thanks to the Uniflex system, can even make the tabs move as registrations change. When this happens it is actually the organ pipes and percussions playing back, not simply an audio recording.

A couple of years ago a small Wi-Fi router was donated and installed next to the Uniflex computer and this gives the advantage that control of the system can occur from "front of house," meaning that the operator can watch the show and also have a better line of communication with the artists when required. When we have duo/duet shows it can also require that the profile of the playing artist is changed as they change seats at the console. For example when co-patron John Atwell and Tony Fenelon play a show, each time they change seats the active profile for the organ must be changed. Years ago this would have been an almost impossible task - these days it is a few simple mouse clicks and it all happens "right on cue".

The total number of computers in use for a show can be up to four - the computer running the Uniflex, two laptops - one for the remote uniflex control and another for "powerpoints" on the projector and sometimes one more for the artist from which to run their backing tracks.

Now back to the show set up...

While the technical work is going on, Barry Tooker and the trusty team of Pam Finos, Betty Weismantel, Jack and Betty Rose, Jean Alleway, Bronwyn Hosa, Kath Harding, Rhonda Furner and other volunteers set up the tea and coffee facilities ready for the interval rush. Carl Zipsin runs the Candy Bar and sets it up and operates it for those of us who prefer a cold drink or a sweet at interval. Most of these volunteers miss seeing some of the show as they work to make sure tea and coffee is ready for interval and then clean up after interval.

Vice-President Neil Palmer sets up the record bar ready to appease the customers who enjoy theatre organ CDs and the membership desk is set up ready to deal with renewals and new memberships.

The raffle and tea-ticket tables are also set up. These tables are often run by Sharon Weismantel and daughter Kathryn – meaning three generations of one family are helping on our shows. Vice-President John Shaw is often at these tables too, meeting and greeting our members.

Following the excellent practices put in place by former Ticket Secretary Kath Harding, Theo Langenberg, the new Ticket Secretary, makes sure that all the row numbers are in place to ensure that all reserved seats are correctly identified; and he also prepares for the door sales prior to the show.

During all this supposed mayhem the artist may be rehearsing and sometimes discovers a pipe (usually a reed) that is a bit off-key or (heaven forbid!) – cyphering (i.e. sounding even though a key is not pressed). These can happen even though each organ is professionally tuned during the week prior to the show. To enable tuning to take place a TOSA member has to open up the organ and set it up for the tuners to work on. This has regularly been John Batts or Barry Tooker or Ernie Vale or Rob Gliddon and others in order to manoeuvre the instruments. This requires a separate trip to the venue in the week prior to the show. To enable an artist to practise for a show and become familiar with the organ as well as set their preferred piston-settings one or two TOSA members make another trip to the venue in the week prior to the show to set up the organ for practice. Weather variations can be tricky, so there is always someone on hand at the show who can make those final adjustments to affected pipes and this may be Cliff Bingham or the ever present Neil Palmer.

Finally around 12:30pm there is a brief respite for lunch and last minute adjustments then take place prior to the show being ready by about 1pm. At this time a finalised running order sheet is printed for the crew members so that they all know what is going to happen. Once the house is ready to receive the audience, then the “front of house” clearance is given and Peter Held and Pam Lawson and the team of volunteer ushers can start letting the eager audience in for the day’s show. This is typically by 1:30pm.

Our ushers are now easily identified with their new red vests – looking very flash!

The shows usually run without a hitch, or at least the audience may not be aware, and then sadly at the end of the day when most of the audience has left we then have to pack it all up again. Hundreds of metres of power, sound and data cabling is packed up and either stored at the venue or looked after by various TOSA members.

I hope you have enjoyed this description of just what happens to ensure that TOSA NSW shows happen so seamlessly. I'm sure I have left out the names of more than one volunteer, but we all appreciate the efforts of everyone who helps to run a TOSA show – without you we would not be able to present the quality shows that we do.

We are all envious of those theatre organ groups around the world who have the luxury of walking into their venue, pushing a couple of buttons and the console just appears out of the floor, but I think the Tech Team would all agree "that would be boring". See you at a TOSA show soon.

Craig Keller

TOSA Committee and Technical Team member



*Audience at the
Christie Organ
Fund Raiser
show at
Marrickville
Town Hall
April 2012*

**David Drury Plays
the Grand Organ,
Sydney Town Hall
Tuesday 14 August 2012**

David Drury (b. 1961) was educated at Trinity Grammar School, Sydney and graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music in 1984.

Early in his career he won the 'Vasanta' scholarship for overseas study and in 1987 he won the 'Tournemire Prize' for improvisation at the St Alban's International Organ Competition.

He has toured widely in Canada, the USA, England, Germany, France and New Zealand and performed with leading musicians including the Sydney, Adelaide and West Australian Symphony Orchestras, the Sydney Opera and Ballet Orchestra, Orchestra Victoria, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Australian Baroque Brass, Bel a cappella and the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, just to name a few. David has also performed at major events including the Sydney 2000 Olympics, the 2007 APEC Concert for World Leaders and at the Youth Festival for World Youth Day 2008.

As a composer, David Drury has a large output of choral music. He has written a new Mass setting which was sung for the celebration of the canonization of Mary Mackillop at Sy Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. He is the Director of Music at St Paul's College, at the University of Sydney.

**Program
Tuesday 14 August 2012**

-March on a theme of Handel
Alexandre Guilmant
(1837-1911)

-Excerpts from 'Water Music suites'

(Arranged by
Osborne H. Peasgood)
George Frederic Handel
(1685-1759)

-Overture

-Air

-Bourree

-Minuet

-Hornpipe

-Minuet

-Minuet

-Coro

**-Prelude & Fugue in C minor
BWV 546**

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

**-Psalm- Prelude Opus 32,
No. 1**

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

-Meditation

J. Guy Ropartz (1864-1955)

-Toccata

Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

TOSA NSW

* 2012 - OUR 52nd YEAR *

Dave Wickerham Sunday 4 November at 2:00pm
Orion Theatre, Campsie

Contact Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

TOSA South Australia

Tuesdays and weekends TOSA (SA) members play the
4/29 Wurlitzer in their Capri Theatre, Goodwood Road,
Goodwood (08) 8272 1177

TOSA Western Australia

John Leckie Music Centre 3/12 Compton
Currently Members days first Sunday of the month at 2pm in the
Dalkeith Hall using a Kawai Organ
Contact: Pat Gibbs (08) 9450 2151 patgibbs@oneseniors.com.au.

TOSA Gold Coast

Club Musical Afternoon on the 3rd Sunday of each
month (except December)
Contact: Rosa Free 5575 3295

TOSA Queensland

Executive Secretary: Brett Kavanaugh 0412 879 678

Stirling Productions

Karrinyup Community Centre, Perth, Western Australia
All concerts are on Sundays at 2pm. Prior bookings are
essential with John Fuhrmann on (08) 9447 9837

Interstate TOSA Members are welcome to a 50% discount to
concerts on presentation of their membership card

TOSA Victoria - mto

Contact Margaret Sutcliffe on (03) 9891 7227

Warragul Theatre Organ Society

Events Contact: Di Yuill (03) 5623 3301

Members Diary

September

Monday 3rd Committee 7:00pm Burwood RSL

FRIDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

NOMINATIONS CLOSE FOR OFFICE BEARERS & COMMITTEE FOR 2012-2013

October

Tuesday 2nd Committee 7:00pm Burwood RSL

November

Tuesday 6th Committee 7:00pm Burwood RSL

***** Sunday 4th 2:00pm Orion Theatre, Campsie *****

**Dave Wickerham from the USA
Plays the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ
(Unit Orchestra)**

Book on-line at trybooking.com see www.tosa.net.au

or

Complete the enclosed booking form or
Contact Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

**Saturday 10th NOVEMBER 2:00PM
TOSA (NSW) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WEST RYDE ANGLICAN CHURCH**

Radio 2MBS-FM 102.5 "Colours of the King" (program of the Organ Music Society of Sydney) 2nd Saturday of each month, 5pm till 6 pm

Web Sites of Interest:

<https://www.facebook.com/tosansw>

www.theatreorgansaustralia.info (history of cinema organ installations in Australasia)

www.sydneyorgan.com (our sister society, the Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)

www.ATOS.org

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