

# T.O.S.A. NEWS

INCORPORATING *The Diaphone*

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

**PATRON: IAN DAVIES**

**EDITOR: ALAN KITLEY**

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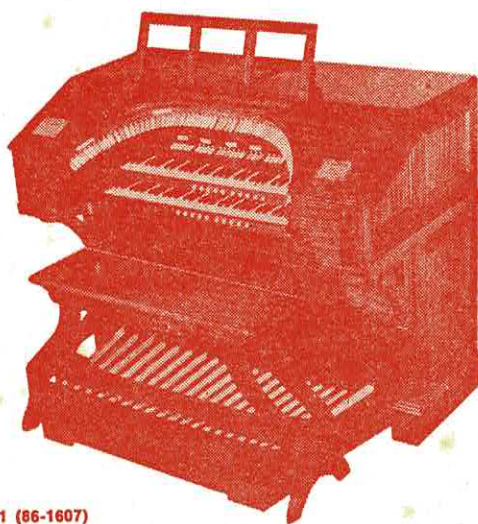
**SOCIETY DIRECTORY:**

General correspondence to the Secretary, Mrs. BETTY RANDALL, 20 Cliff Road, Epping, 2121 (86-1607)

Financial correspondence to the Treasurer, Mr. OSCAR MOEN, 68 Shepherd Street, Ryde, 2112 (80-3896)

TOSA NEWS correspondence to ALAN KITLEY, P.O. Box 447, Chatswood, 2067

President: TOM HALLORAN, 66 Flinders Road, Cronulla, 2230 (523-5077)



**PRICE  
40c**



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## WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Wednesday 31st January at 8 p.m. Each and every member is asked to attend the Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers to be held in St. Anne's Church of England Hall (cnr. Homebush & Beresford Roads) Strathfield at 8 p.m. on the above date. It is vital that every member should attend and vote for those Officers whom he thinks will serve the Society best during 1973 which promises to be a most demanding and difficult year due to the following very important decisions which will have to be taken:-

1. Decision re placement of Capitol Theatre Wurlitzer Organ.
2. National Convention Organisation.
3. Organisation of several concerts by visiting overseas organists.
4. Organ Spectacular to be held just prior to the opening of Sydney's Opera House. The Society has also been asked to stage a prestige organ concert by the Opera House Committee as part of the first week of the opening festivities associated with the Opera House.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES NOW DUE

PAID YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS YET??

HERE'S HOW TO SAVE \$4!!

If you haven't yet paid your dues for 1973, use the coupon provided below, and send to the Treasurer without delay. For those who may not know, or have forgotten perhaps, you can save up to \$4 on your next year's membership by persuading your friends to join the Society. For each person you persuade to become a member you will receive the Society's voucher for \$1 up to a maximum of four persons (\$4). These vouchers should be saved and used as part payment of your next year's membership dues, so if you introduce four new members this year you will pay only \$4 for your own membership next year. If each member were to join four new members, our Society will grow and prosper with benefits to all members. The more members the better - as membership grows, the cost of servicing individual members with publications etc. decreases. **SO HELP YOURSELF TO A BARGAIN subscription as you HELP THE SOCIETY IN A PRACTICAL WAY.** When introducing a new member please write on his Application Form "Introduced by" and your voucher will



automatically be posted to you.

Members must be financial before the meeting commences in order to have a vote at the election. A ballot box will be located at the doors as you enter and ballot papers should be posted in this box. NOTE: Your membership card or receipt for 1973 must be shown to an official of the Society before you lodge your ballot papers. A ballot paper will be found on the back page of this TOSA News and it should be filled in before you attend the meeting. Please DON'T FORGET to bring both your ballot paper AND your membership card with you. Following the business meeting our member Bill Schumacher will be featured at the organ.

#### FIRST FREE CONCERT FOR 1973

Our first FREE Sunday afternoon concert for the 1973 season at Marrickville Town Hall, will take place on Sunday, 25th February at 2.30 p.m. Full details in next month's issue.

#### "HOUSE FULL" SIGN AT XMAS PARTY

The phrase, most beloved by theatre managers, "house full" certainly applied to TOSA's Xmas party at the Elim Reception Centre at Burwood on the night of December 5th. In fact, so many extras were pushed in about 3 weeks before the function, that the walls were almost bulging, yet we were still unable to accommodate quite a number of members, to their great disappointment. And it was a grand night indeed. After an excellent dinner, seating was quickly re-arranged for the entertainment to follow and our Patron, Ian Davies as compere wasted no time in getting the show rolling. He was also first to take his place at the console playing a bracket of bright and tuneful melodies suitable to the festive occasion. During the evening Cliff Bingham and honorary member David Parsons, were both heard at the organ and they were warmly received by the capacity house. Both gave their usual highly competent performances. Interspersed between the organists were a fine array of guest artists and these all contributed to a first class evening of variety. Baritone Alex Brunbeck sang a bracket of well chosen songs in a delightful manner and violinist Peter Eqri displayed his mastery of the violin. He was accompanied on the piano by his sister Susan. Master of magic, Cec Dalglish, amazed all with his spectacular tricks and illusions despite the fact that the audience were in very close proximity indeed. At such close quarters, his huge guillotine with Mrs. Pam Tooker's head on the block, looked a fearsome sight, and I guess all, including Pam, were relieved when the huge blade descended without damage to the victim. Everyone present agreed that this was the greatest Xmas party we had ever held and that it had been a spectacular success. For those who missed out on this function, we extend our sympathies with the advice that early booking will be essential for this year's Xmas "do" next December. (See picture page of this event.)



"ORGAN STOP" PIZZA PARLOR!

From the pages of the USA newspaper, "The Arizona Republic" published in Phoenix comes the very interesting news that organ buff, Bill Brown, has done it again. Yes indeed! "In Phoenix, Bill Brown built a pizza parlor so he'd have some place to put his theater organ. That's a somewhat backward way to get into the restaurant business, but then what do you do with a magnificent \$25,000 instrument that would be the envy of any theatre in America?" Bill Brown has another Wurlitzer at home too! The Organ Stop Pizza Parlor Wurlitzer originally had three manuals and fourteen ranks of pipes when it was installed in the Egyptian Theatre. (It was from the Egyptian Theatre that Fred Scholl came to open Sydney's Capitol Theatre in 1928.) In 1954, Harvey Heck bought the instrument and installed it in his home adding 13 more ranks of pipes to it, plus the four manual console from the Missouri Theatre in St. Louis. When the instrument is fully installed in the pizza parlor it will have 28 ranks altogether, that is one more than when it was installed in the Heck residence, and fourteen more ranks than it had in the Egyptian Theatre.

Your Editor is indebted to an American friend, now resident in Australia, for the item from the Phoenix newspaper. This same friend incidentally helped install the Bill Brown residence Wurlitzer some few years ago. Yup -- I think we could say Bill Brown's done it again with, not ONE but TWO mighty Wurlitzers to maintain from now on. By Heck -- he's done it!!

CONVENTION NOTE

N.S.W. members should remember that it will be at least three or four years before another Convention can be held in Sydney. It may be 1977 before you can attend another Convention in your own Sydney town. The cost for a two day event of six functions and a dinner for only \$9.50 each is a very inexpensive one indeed. Plan NOW to attend the Spectacular 2nd National Convention of TOSA next Easter.





TOSA CHRISTMAS PARTY 1972





MINUTES OF THE 1972 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA HELD AT ST. ANNE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HALL, STRATHFIELD ON MONDAY, 24TH JANUARY, 1972 AT 8.15 P.M.

Members were welcomed to the Meeting by the President, Mr. Neville Wright.

APOLOGIES: Mrs. Joyce Walker and Mr. Des Russell.

MINUTES: of the Annual General Meeting, 1971 were read by the Secretary, Mrs. Phyllis Dunn. Moved by Mr. W. Schumacher, seconded by Mr. T. Halloran that the Minutes be accepted as a true record - Carried.

REPORTS:

The President gave his report and thanked all who had helped him during the past year. Plans to purchase the organ in the Capitol Theatre, Sydney, were being made and members were invited to donate or lend the sum of \$3,400 being needed. Reginald Porter-Brown's coming visit was also brought to notice. The President's Report was received with acclamation, being moved by Mr. F. Ellis and seconded by Mrs. P. Tooker.

The Secretary, Mrs. Phyllis Dunn gave a very comprehensive and encouraging report, copy of which is on previous page of Minute Book. Accepted with acclamation, the Secretary's report was moved by Mr. F. Ellis, seconded by Mr. B. Schnitzer.

The Treasurer, Mr. Oscar Moen, expressed special thanks to people who had had parties in their homes in an effort to raise funds. He also thanked Committee members for their help, especially the Secretary and Mr. Rod Blackmore. As the Financial Statement and Balance Sheet had been published in the January, 1972 edition of "TOSA" News, Mr. R. Blackmore moved the adoption of the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Mr. T. Halloran - Carried.

RESIGNATIONS:

The following resignations were announced by Mr. F. Ellis:-

Mr. Neville Wright: President. Mr. Ian Griggs and Mr. Col. Tringham: Committee.  
Mr. Aubrey Byrne: TOSA News Committee. Mrs. Joyce Walker: Minute Secretary.  
Mrs. Phyllis Dunn: Secretary.

Mr. Frank Ellis complimented all retiring members for their individual contributions to the Society's affairs.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1972: It was announced that Mr. C. Tringham would be Returning Officer. Mr. Somerville and Mr. Lawson volunteered to assist as Scrutineers. The ballot resulted in the election of the following officers:-

President - Mr. T. Halloran.  
Vice Presidents - Messrs. Ellis and Russell.  
Secretary - Mrs. Betty Randall



Treasurer - Mr. Oscar Moen.  
 Minute Secretary - Mrs. Shirley Nott.  
 Committee - Messrs. Blackmore, Garrett, Irwin, Richards, Schumacher, Tooker.  
 Tosa News Editor - Mr. A. Kitley.  
 Diaphone Editor - Mr. Rod Blackmore.  
 Honorary Member - Mr. David Parsons.  
 Patron - Mr. Ian Davies.  
 Honorary Auditor - Mr. Rod. Blackmore.

The President, Mr. T. Halloran, invited Mr. Ian Davies, our new Patron to address the members.

Mr. Davies thanked the members of the N.S.W. Division of T.O.S.A. for electing him to take over the patronage of this section from such a famous person as Reginald Dixon. He was quite thrilled and an honour to him and hoped to be able to live up to this position for many years to come. Mr. Davies reminded members that the Society must become progressive. He said he would like the members to get right behind the Committee and support their efforts. We must move with the times as we are living in Space Age 1972.

The President seconded these remarks amid generous applause.

#### SPECIAL BUSINESS:

By Law 16A. The President reminded members that the By Law 16A required ratification, namely:

- (a) Nominations for office to close 6 weeks before Annual Meeting.
- (b) Nominations to be signed by two financial members, as proposer and seconder; and also by the nominee, to indicate his willingness to be nominated.

Moved by Mr. Rod. Blackmore, seconded by Mr. Frank Ellis that the By Law be amended as above - all in favour - Carried.

"Tosa News" Editor. Mr. Blackmore moved and seconded by Mr. Ellis that the "Tosa News" Editor could be elected at the Annual General Meeting. There was no discussion and the motion was carried.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS:

Capitol Theatre Organ Purchase Discussion. The President, Mr. Halloran advised members that the organ had been offered to the Society at a purchase price of \$5000. Members having already indicated that they are in favour of the purchase, the President formally requested that the meeting ratify the Society's purchase of this organ. Moved by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Somerville that the Capitol Theatre Organ be purchased at a price of \$5000.

#### Discussion on Finance.

Loans	\$1010
Gifts	175
Cash	75

Further loans and other donations were made during the discussion and it was moved by Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mrs. P. Dunn that transfer of funds be made from Electronic Organ Fund and General Fund to Pipe Organ Purchase Fund, specifically as a loan, in order to cover the purchase - Carried.

Mr. Treasurer advised that the Commonwealth Trading Bank had agreed to a 3 year loan, if necessary, for \$2000 reducible 7½%.

A very lengthy discussion then followed on the fact that we still have to negotiate with the new Lessee of the Capitol Theatre. It is understood that Sydney City Council is still calling tenders for the lease of the theatre and these tenders will be considered at their February meeting.

Mr. Somerville brought up the subject of a final concert and a discussion followed pertaining to date and recording for a final concert before 12th February, 1972.

Discussion ensued by several members on location of Capitol Organ and the President called for a motion in this regard. Mr. B. Tooker moved that the matter be left to the Executive to consider all aspects of locating the organ. Seconded by Mr. E. Smith. All in favour - Carried.



Removal of Organ - Mr. Lawson in favour of executive committee presently handling the Capitol Theatre maintenance to remove organ as they will insure this to be carried out in a proper manner. Mr. R. Gliddon moved that Mr. Barry Tooker be placed in charge of removal arrangements. Seconded Mr. W. Schumacher - Carried.

Mr. Somerville referred to A.G.M. 1971. Mr. Somerville proposed a scheme whereby members could be swiftly advised of functions to be held at short notice. Notices were printed in "Tosa News" and Mr. Somerville thanked those who did reply. However, as the number of replies considering the total membership was not very encouraging (approx. 60) the matter was to be dropped.

Discussion on heavy promotion required for future concerts. Mention was made of charities, in particular, Children's Medical Research Foundation - one of the few charities prepared to assist and the inclination of everyone in supporting children's foundations.

Central Methodist Mission Concert. Mr. Eric Smith referred to the organ concert and film premiere held at the Lyceum Theatre, which raised over \$5000 for Central Methodist Mission and extended sincere thanks from the Central Methodist Mission to the Society for their assistance.

The Meeting closed at 9.35 p.m., the President introducing Ray Thornley who entertained the members on a Lowrey Organ.

Minutes recorded by Mrs. Betty Randall, Secretary.  
Mrs. Shirley Nott, Minute Secretary.

Confirmed by President.....

Date .....

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1972.

THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA - NSW DIVISION

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	\$	<u>PAYMENTS</u>	\$
General Subscriptions	741.60	Printing & Stationery	185.03
T.O.S.A. News Subs	1448.10	" T.O.S.A. News	824.09
Elect. Organ Const. Fund	39.00	Marrickville Concerts	534.40
M'ville Organ Operations	154.00	Other Concerts	2353.40
Marrickville Concerts	430.60	M'ville Organ, Mtncce & Tuning	75.93
Other Concerts	2297.60	Convention Expenses 1971	841.59
Capitol Concert	208.00	Organ Spectacular 1971	355.45
Organ Spectacular 1971	472.95	" " 1972	32.00
Convention 1971	425.00	Subscription - Vic. Div.	6.00
Car Stickers & Badges	49.98	Dymo Badges	14.32
Sale of Tapes	1187.60	Telephone & Postage	236.85
Christmas Party 1971	120.00	Purchase of Tapes	1167.45
Sale of Records	92.95	Bank Charges	37.45
Capitol Organ Donations	712.40	Capitol Organ M'tnce & Removal costs	161.96
" " Members Parties	303.00	Purchase of Badges	49.80
Members' Int. free Loans	791.00	Christmas Party 1971	265.00
Members' Night Chatswood	13.60	Adv. Bookings Xmas Party 1972	50.00
Int. on Savings Bank a/cs	36.08	Chatswood Members Night	60.00
		Insurance: Capital Organ	69.23
		" Vol. Workers	16.60
		" Public Risk	30.07
		Rent of Meeting Hall	40.00
		Floral Tribute	6.00
		Int. Bank Loan Capital Organ Purchase	21.40
		Capitol Organ Purchase	5000.00
C/Fwd.	<u>9523.46</u>	C/Fwd.	<u>12434.02</u>



B/Fwd	9523.46		12434.02
<u>Add Funds on hand 1/10/71</u>		<u>Add Funds on hand 30/9/72</u>	
General Fund	1000.30	Cash at C'wealth Bank,	
M'ville Mntce. Fund	339.57	Ryde	80.35
Theatre Pipe Organ		Petty Cash on hand	4.99
Purchase Fund	987.33		<u>85.34</u>
Elec. Organ Const. Fund	660.33		
Petty Cash on hand	8.37		
	<u>2995.90</u>		
	<u>\$12519.36</u>		<u>\$12519.36</u>

Note re Purchase of Capitol Organ

In order that the Society could finance the purchase of the Capitol Organ in January, 1972 for \$5000, all funds of the Society were pooled and in addition Members contributed \$1015.40 by way of donations and \$791 by Interest free loans. A temporary bank loan of \$1500 was also required for 3 months.

The present position is that there is still owing the \$791 Loans advanced from members and also the funds borrowed from the Electronic Organ Construction Fund \$684.64 and the Marrickville Organ Maintenance Fund \$330.39.

OSCAR MOEN

TREASURER

27/12/72







NOTICE OF MOTIONRe Rule Change

Amend Rule 10 to read:

The President, 2 Vice Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer and six committee members and a Minute Secretary shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting to hold office until the next Annual Business Meeting. None of the above elected officers to hold office for more than two consecutive years. In the event of a resignation, the vacant position may be filled by election at a special meeting called for that purpose.

No member shall stand for office unless he or she has been a financial member for at least six months prior to the date of election.

The Minute Secretary shall not have voting powers at any committee meeting.

Moved by J. Lawson.

NOTICE OF MOTIONRe Rule Change

Amend Rule 9 to read:

The executive of the Society shall consist of the President, 2 Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer and these shall have full voting powers.

No member of the executive shall hold office for a period of more than two consecutive years.

The executive, subject to any directions from the Annual Business Meeting or a Special Meeting, may from time to time vest such property as they think fit in the hands of three trustees who shall be appointed by them. Such trustees may, if directed by the executive, accept in trust such other property as may be vested in them by any other body, person or persons. The Trustees shall hold all property so vested in them under the terms of the trust agreed by such vesting but subject to these terms shall accept and obey the directions of the Executive in relation thereto.

Moved by J. Lawson.

TOSA ELECTIONS - 1973

The following nominations, together with acceptances have been received for 1973 TOSA Executive and Committee positions. A brief background to each person nominated is given hereunder for the guidance of new and older members. Study the information given and fill in your ballot paper before attending the AGM and Election on Wednesday, 31st January.

PRESIDENT

1. Tom Halloran - served as President of TOSA for nine years, followed by 1 year on the Committee. Then became President for the second time in 1972. Member of Marrickville organ maintenance sub-committee. Professional engineer electricity supply.

SECRETARY

1. John Roberts - licensed real estate agent with L.J. Hooker organisation, has wide business experience. Operated own business for some time. Administrative experience in Royal Aust. Navy. Three years Bankstown Musical Society. Has filled the position of Minute Secretary for TOSA last year (1972).

TREASURER

1. Alan Misdale - Technical officer Sydney County Council. Has been TOSA member for past nine years. Member of Marrickville Organ Maintenance Sub-Committee. Held position of Treasurer with other organisations.



VICE-PRESIDENTS ( 2 required)

1. Frank Ellis - TOSA member for 11 years. First elected to committee in 1964. Editor of TOSA News for six years from 1965 to 1970. Has been Vice-President since 1966 completing his seventh year in this office. Compere at most TOSA functions. Organiser for National Convention this year.
2. Des Russell - Vice-President of TOSA for past 10 years. TOSA member for 12 years. Convenor of TOSA electronic sub-committee. Wide experience on committees of various music organisations. Personal interests include technical and musical aspects of both electronic and pipe organs. Business activity, member of development laboratory for design of electronic apparatus.

MINUTE SECRETARY

No nomination received.

COMMITTEE (six required)

1. Barry Tooker - Occupation, rotogravure camera operator for "Women's Weekly". Two terms on TOSA Committee totalling 6 years. In charge sub-committee maintaining Capitol Theatre organ, also member of State Theatre Organ Maintenance group. Served on committee of Australian Electric Traction Association.
2. Bill Richards - TOSA member for over seven years. Has been a Committee man of TOSA for past 4 years. Member of Marrickville Organ Maintenance sub-committee since its inception. Original member of group who installed organ in Marrickville Town Hall. Experienced Committee man other organisations.
3. Cliff Bingham - member of TOSA 9 or 10 years. Organ Manager for distribution of Thomas organs. Well known organist, has given many concerts for TOSA including interstate ones. Church organist. Organising experience other organisations.
4. John Weismantel - TOSA member for over 3 years. Member of Sub-Committee maintaining Marrickville Wurlitzer. Present stage and lighting controller for concerts at Marrickville Town Hall. Is assisted in this capacity by his brother Robert. Business is radio and electronics servicing. Asst. organist at church. Keen to assist in administrative capacity in TOSA.
5. Ernie Vale - Land and engineering Survey Draughtsman. Member of TOSA for 2 years. Has helped in some maintenance of State Theatre organ. Experience on social committees. Secretary of Parish Church Council. Interest in theatre organs dating back many years.
6. Bill Schumacher - TOSA member 11 years. Committee member for 8 years. Part time organist at restaurants and clubs. Been playing organ for 11 years. Active in Hammond organ Club. Employed in Sales Dept. of John Walker & Sons Ltd.
7. Adrian Holmes - TOSA member over 1 year. Occupation of electrical technician. Long interest in theatre organ. Has assisted crew maintaining Marrickville organ. Helped in removing Capitol Wurlitzer from theatre. Currently working in releathering group working on restoration of Capitol Wurlitzer organ.
8. Ian Griggs - Senior Health Inspector Kuring-gai Municipal Council. Formerly similar capacity with Willoughby Council. Active part in restoration and re-installation of Wurlitzer organ in Chatswood Town Hall. TOSA News Editor for one year in 1971. On management committee for Willoughby Municipal Symphony Orchestra.
9. Jack Lawson - Member of TOSA for 4 years. Locomotive driver. Secretary of Enginemen's Union since 1958. Member of Capitol Theatre organ maintenance crew for 1 year. Currently maintaining State Theatre organ with Organ Preservation group formed about 2 years ago. Long interest in the theatre organ.
10. Pam Tooker - Housewife. Took up piano at 7 years of age. Has helped with maintenance of Capitol organ. Member of TOSA Ladies Committee. Has assisted Society in many ways whenever called upon.