

T.O.S.A. NEWS

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

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REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PERIODICAL—CATEGORY B

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TONY FENELON

•• ALL BY MYSELF ••

at MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	FIRST Q 8	FULL M 16	LAST Q 23	NEW M 30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29



GALA CHARITY CONCERT

LEONARD LEE — VALERIE HANLON

PLUS OTHERS

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DIRECTORY.

PATRON: IAN DAVIES.

PRESIDENT: Alan Misdale (525 5554)

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Frank Ellis (649 7011) Doug Smith (750 0917)

SECRETARY: Ernie Vale: (798 6816) TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Edna Smith (529 7379) PRACTISE CONVENOR: Chris Palmer; (92 6534)

RESEARCH & ARCHIVES: Ian Cameron, RECORDING ENGINEER: Ray Garret, (869 7247)

NEW MEMBERS

A hearty welcome is extended to the following new members:

Constance Cloran, Marrickville, Rita Smith Hammer, Marrickville,
Chris Pearce, Burwood: Raymond Patterson, Sans Souci: Marie Pike, Ashfield:
Lloyd & Norma Overs, Moorebank: Brian Bebbington, Sylvania Waters: Bert &
Joan Chamberlain, Chiswick: Jack & Marie Stronach, Kingsgrove: Bill & Elvy
Groves, Condell Park.

SATURDAY 12th September at 7.30pm. Home Party at the Guthries residence
at 11 Millet Street, Hurstville.

Please Note: This Home Party is already OVERBOOKED.

People who were early enough to be on the waiting list may
get a cancellation.

WEDNESDAY 7th October at 5pm. Nominations for Executive and Committee
CLOSE at 5pm.

SUNDAY 11th October at 2.30pm. Marrickville Town Hall.....

CHARITY CONCERT in aid of The Handicapped Children's Centre of N.S.W.

Guest Artists: Valda Lang, Organist; Marie Tysoe, Mezzo-Soprano; Judith
Kramer, Narrator.

A highlight of this concert will be a performance of Prokofiers 'PETER &
THE WOLF'. The musical score will be played on the Wurlitzer Organ and
the story will be narrated by Judith Kramer.

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$4.00. CONCESSION & CHILDREN \$2.00.

(pre-booking will be available early September)

TUESDAY 20th October at 8 pm.

A cordial invitation is extended by our Patron, Ian Davies, to all members
and their friends to attend an evening at the Bondi-Waverly RSL Club,
and hear the Rogers Trio Organ played by Ian Davies and other artists.
We have now had several nights as guests at the Bondi-Waverly RSL and they
have all proven to be a different night of relaxing entertainment.
Final details of artists have still to be worked out, but be sure to mark
this night down in your diary and tell your friends about it. Full details
will be advised in the September issue of TOSA NEWS.

COACH TOUR 24 - 25th October.

Just to remind you that the FINAL PAYMENT for our Coach Tour is due on
the 20th September.

Please contact Mrs. Phyl Wilson on 759 6050 for any enquiries.

All cheques must be made payable to TOSA.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS. Our next committee meeting will be held at the
residence of Phyl and Ron Wilson, 120 Dennis Street Lakemba at 7.30 sharp.
Visitors are welcome to attend and hear just what the committee has to
discuss and arrange on your behalf. Monday 3rd. August



GALA CHARITY CONCERT

SUNDAY 16TH AUGUST AT 2.30 PM.

MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL

SPECIAL GUEST ARTISTS: BILL SCHUMACHER, CLIFF BINGHAM, IAN DAVIES,
RICHARD JAMES, LEONARD LEE, VALERIE HANLON & OTHER
VOCALISTS.....

DONT MISS THIS GREAT AFTERNOON OF TOP-CLASS ENTERTAINMENT!

ADMISSION....ADULTS \$4.00 CONCESSION & CHILDREN \$2.00

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE SPASTIC CENTRE OF NSW.

BOOKING FORM INSIDE THIS ISSUE.

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ALL BY MYSELF!

SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST AT 2.30 PM.

YES!.....AUSTRALIA'S FINEST ARTIST, TONY FENELON IN PERSON..

WILL BE PRESENTING A FULL ORGAN CONCERT AT MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL.

ADMISSION....ADULTS \$5.00...MEMBERS \$4.00...CONCESSION & CHILD \$2.50

BOOKING FORM INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE.

GET YOUR BOOKING IN IMMEDIATELY FOR BOTH OF THESE SUPER CONCERTS!

The Theatre Organ Society of Australia
presents
**GALA CHARITY
CONCERT**

ALL PROCEEDS IN AID OF THE
SPASTIC CHILDREN

starring International Singers

**LEONARD LEE
VALERIE HANLON**



with **BILL SCHUMACHER — CLIFF BINGHAM**

IAN DAVIES — RICHARD JAMES

PLUS OTHERS

and the
FABULOUS WURLITZER THEATRE ORGAN

at MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL
MARRICKVILLE RD., MARRICKVILLE

SUN. AUG 16. 7/30 P.M.

ADULTS \$4.00
CONCESSION \$2.00

CLUB NIGHT...WEDNESDAY 19TH AUGUST, 7.30 PM.

AT MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL.

A SHORT QUARTERLY MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON THIS PARTICULAR CLUB NIGHT AND IT WILL BE IMPORTANT THAT EVERY MEMBER POSSIBLE CAN ATTEND. APART FROM THE USUAL COVERAGE OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES ETC, IT WILL ALSO BE THE COMMENCEMENT FOR THE RECEIVING OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE VARIOUS EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE POSTS FOR THE YEAR OF 1982.

NOMINATION FORMS WILL BE PROVIDED AND MAY BE SUBMITTED DURING THE MEETING. THE POSITIONS TO BE FILLED ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

PRESIDENT (1) VICE-PRESIDENTS (2) SECRETARY (1) TREASURER (1)
MINUTE SECRETARY (1) COMMITTEE (6)

THE CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS IS 7th OCTOBER 1981.

It is appreciated that the general membership wishes only to be entertained and not concerned with the technicalities of running the Society. The Executive and Committee however are not in that happy position.

They are, in effect, the Board of Directors of a concern which has assets valued at thousands of dollars, has a large financial turnover and enters into many important business transactions, and must abide by the rules under which it operates on behalf of the members.

I appeal to you to carefully consider any person that you may wish to nominate, as someone who has a well founded policy interest in the Society and its members. These persons will be responsible for the future of the Society and, (thinking only of your interests) will help to further our activities and keep us together as a happy going concern.

ALL persons nominated must sign the nomination form in the space provided, indicating their willingness to act on your behalf. All persons nominating and seconding must also SIGN their names in addition to printing them on the nomination forms.

Nomination forms appear at the end of this issue of TOSA NEWS.

NOTE: THE PATRON FOR THE SOCIETY, MAY BE CHOSEN FOR THE ENSUING MEMBERSHIP YEAR BY A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. (To be held on Wednesday 19th November 1981)

A GLOSSARY OF ADMINISTRATION (the one we dont want to fall into!)

It's in the process: We forgot about it until now.

We'll look into it: Meanwhile you may forget it, too.

Take this up at our next meeting: That will give you time to forget.

Under consideration: Never heard about it until now.

Under active consideration: We're still trying to find the letter.

We're doing a survey: We need more time to think up an answer.

Let's get together on this: You're probably as mixed up as we are.

We can go over this at lunch: It's time we ate on your expense account.

Reliable source: The man you just met.

Informed source: The guy who told the man you just met!

This organisation acknowledges financial assistance from the N.S.W. Government through the Premier's Department, Division of Cultural Activities.

David Parsons in Concert, Sunday 21st June, (by John Clark)

David Parsons is to Sydney's Theatre Organ Music scene, what Avis is to Renta Cars.....he tries harder too! and succeeds by presenting better & better concerts.

This last concert surpassed my already high expectations with the addition to his visual presentation of a colourful, tastefully showy outfit as befits the 'star' of the show. His shiny white shoes with shiny buckles, white socks and trousers with a dark blue shirt, white bow tie and avocado green jacket served notice on the audience even before he struck a note, that he was there to entertain rather than simply be a player and this I believe is what sets David apart...he plans and practises every element of his presentation....the result being a truly enjoyable and entertaining afternoon.

For those who couldn't attend, David gave us a bright opening in the Muppet Theme & The Rainbow Connection followed by a stirring cymbal crashing rendition of Men of Harlech and Song of the Vagabond; then he used every effect tab on the organ in an amusing item called Nightmare in the Mosque (a la Reginald Forte) which raised some loud grins from the audience, (and a few eyebrows too!)

The programme was one of vast contrasts...the pop song, From Nine to Five, followed by The Heavens are Telling from Haydens (not Billy) "The Creation!" This piece presented a wide range of tone colours & intensities, making it interesting even though it was a little too 'heavy' for my personal enjoyment. You could almost feel the ship moving beneath your feet as he played the theme from TV's The Onedin Line, and then on to a musical world tour starting with Waltzing Matilda, There'll always be an England, Spanish Gypsy Dance, The French National Anthem interspersed with some Can Can, for Austria..Eidelweiss, Tales from the Vienna Woods then a Walk in the Black Forest, Wonderful Copenhagen, Chopsticks (for China) The Stars & Stripes, Brazil, The Maouris Farewell and home again with I Still Call Australia Home!

Called back for an encore, he finished the day with the rythmic Blue Tango.

In summary, a good programme well played and presented in a most personable and entertaining fashion and as a 'complete' show...a "benchmark against which others may measure themselves".

John Clark.

A rhyming review of David Parsons Concert...to the tune of the Muppet Theme!

<p>This time we had a showman He gave us tour de force His Name is David Parsons and he thrilled us all? of course!</p> <p>He played a varied programme of music sure to please plus entertaining patter which he put across with ease</p> <p>He opened with the Muppets and dressed to suit the theme white bow tie, shoes and trousers and a coat of Kermit green</p>	<p>We toured the world with music to Britain, France & Spain then Germany & China but safely home again not by aeroplane just a nice refrain have to say again I enjoyed the David Parsons <u>Show!</u></p>
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I feel that full marks must be awarded to John Clark for this well thought out coverage of the David Parson Concert. I sincerely hope that all of our members appreciate the time and thought that has been given to this and I am sure that it must be an example of the keen desire to hear and appreciate our organ. To put one's thoughts into words is sometimes very difficult, but John Clark has got the message across in his very unique and sincere manner. Thank you John from all members.

THANK YOU TO TOSA.....

The Secretary, TOSA NSW Div.,
Dear Sir,

I feel compelled to write to you expressing my gratitude for providing all the necessary ingredients in making such a successful concert at Marrickville on Sunday 21st June. It is reassuring to observe the effort I put into working up a programme is matched by the hard work that so many dedicated TOSA members freely put into the presentation of such a concert. I wish I could name every person involved because it is so easy to expect things to be there and operate when you want them.

Just consider the publicity; the setting up of the hall; the ticket sellers; the ushers; the refreshments (would you like a cup of tea or a cool drink during interval?) the lighting; the sound recording; the compere; the arrangement for rehearsals, involving many phone calls and a member authorised to open up the instrument and then hang around for three hours in order to close it up again! and of course the maintenance crew who act like a loving father eager to do anything for the benefit of his precious son.

Everyone of these people had their reward when a capacity audience showed their appreciation not only to me as the artist, but to those who worked hard to make it possible.

Yours Sincerely
DAVID PARSONS.

HOME ORGAN PARTY, SATURDAY 11th July.

Keeping us on the HOPS! (Home organ party scene) in July were Cec & Pat Cranfield of Northbridge.

These long time friends of TOSA have assisted us many times in the past both via Cec's business connections and as was the case on the 11th, as gracious and hospitable music loving individuals.

Cec kindly showed us that he was very much 'at home' on the Hammond X66 by playing three very well arranged and orchestrated medleys, giving us some beautiful music plus a range of sounds I've not heard before from a Hammond.

Valda Lang followed with a nice selection on both organ and piano as did two of her star pupils Jennifer and Damien, both very talented young artists of the future.

Open console and supper followed with a larger number than usual having a lash at the formidable X66, but to capture the night our resident 'dark horse' Chris Palmer caused us all to cease our happy, noisy chatter by charming us with some smoothly played oldies (plus popcorn) and was not found wanting when requests came forth.

Doug Smith moved a vote of thanks to all the artists and Cec & Pat Cranfield which was carried by acclamation, but it was noticeable that so many made a point of seeking out the Cranfields to express their thanks personally.

The financial outcome of the night was a contribution of \$64.50 towards TOSA funds.

To Cec & Pat Cranfield our sincere thanks, from all at TOSA.

CONGRATULATIONS to

Nancy & Barry Thomas of Seven Hills,
on the arrival of a Son (Michael Gordon) born on Wednesday 8th
at King George 5th Hospital. Both Well..

FOR SALE: 1 only Mini-Master hand held addressing machine, complete.
Showroom condition, perfect for envelopes. Price \$30 ONO.
Please contact our Secretary Mr. Ernie Vale on 798 6816
after tea time please.

FOR SALE: 1 Only..Thomas Celebrity Royale 871 electronic organ
complete with Moog Synthesizer, 25 note pedal board, and
in Showroom condition. (one owner)
Please contact Mrs. Russell on 427 4729.

INTER-STATE NEWS: Victoria,
September, Wed. 2nd., Club Night, Moorabbin Town Hall with
featured organist Gordon MaKenzie.

Sunday 13th 2pm Cinema North, Sunday 20th Dendy Cinema
(Two free concerts for 21st birthday celebrations)

October 7th at 8pm Club Night Moorabbin Town Hall, Organist
Neil Jensen.

November Friday 13th (Anniversary Ball) Moorabbin Town Hall

BIGGER CROWDS!

The July Issue made mention of the near record
crowd for a free concert (Richard James and Beverly Kennedy).
A similarly large crowd attended the David Parsons concert. This
good attendance was due in part to some extra publicity we managed
to get by way of Radio 2CH City Happenings announcements.

A questionairre was handed out at the David Parsons concert
asking the audience how they heard about the concert and the results
are approximately as follows:-

TOSA Members and families	30%
Advised by TOSA members	30%
Heard on Radio 2CH	20%
Other sources or did not answer questionairre	20%

The word of mouth advertising of members is our most effective
media so far and those members who dont spread the word are encouraged
to do so and many thanks to all those who do!!!

John Clark has been asked to act as publicity officer to
pursue all forms of free media advertising and already the results
are starting to show.

We hope that any ~~members~~ who have expertise or connections
in advertising will contact John Clark and assist in any way they can.

Dxar Club Memb~~ers~~,

I dxcidxd to typx my rxport on an old typxwritxr.
This typxwritxr works quitx wxll xxcpt for onx kxy. This start~~ed~~
mx thinking- maybx Thx Club is likx my typxwritxr; not all thx kxys
arx working proprly.

You may say, 'wxll i'm only onx pxrson. It wont mak~~e~~ any diffxrxncx"
But you sxx, for thx club to run p~~er~~fxctly it nxxds thx activx
participation of xvrvy pxrson.

"WINIFRED" the Weber Wurlitzer. (by courtesy of

 A.T.O.S.)

THE THIRD DECENIUM of the Dick Weber family and their mighty Wurlitzer "Winifred" was launched Sunday, June 12, 1977, when Atlanta chapter members were treated to a sneak preview at the Music Grinder Pizza Emporium. When the house lights dimmed, the shimmering gold curtains parted to display a fantastic array of pipes bathed in multi-coloured lights under glass, with percussion presented in the magic of black light.

Walt Winn, spotlighted at the beautiful white and gold console, presented the organ in all its fabulous sounds and exciting lighting effects. The total presentation was so breathtaking it would be difficult to describe with words alone. You've got to see it and hear it to believe it! But let's start this story from the beginning.

It seems the Weber family is locked into a cycle of decades, the first of which began in 1957, with the purchase of the 3/15 Style 260 Wurlitzer from the North Park Theatre in Buffalo, New York. The instrument was in operation in Buffalo from 1926 until the middle or late thirties. Reclaimed by Dick Weber and his brother Bob, it was removed to Dick's home on a hill overlooking Schenectady. As Dick describes it, the home was a large place designed with no right angles and a lot of glass. Winifred, (as Billy Nalle dubbed the Wurlitzer) was thought of by the Webers as more economical to fill the huge home than with new furniture!

Dick Weber, being a consummate diplomat as well as a confirmed organ addict, roped the family of three daughters and wife Audrey into helping with the rebuilding, installing and enlarging of the instrument with the addition of 7 ranks. The sound such an installation made in the large room with nothing but 120 degree angles and predominantly hard surfaces gave the family and many visiting organists a great deal of pleasure. Combine the sound with the spectacular scene through the glass wall of the Weber home overlooking the lights of Schenectady some 12 miles below, and you had a perfect setting.

Throughout the first decade after Winifred's "re-birth", maintenance and tuning were handled by the Webers, daughters Nancy, Sharon and Cindy, as well as Audrey, Dick and brother Bob. But, about 1964 Dick became somewhat uneasy with his complacency. Although it's hard for an outsider to understand fully, Dick explained he needed a change to get away from the daily "grind", and the twelve mile trip each way every day to work. He needed a challenge in his life and a new interest all the family could participate in.

The itchy Weber feet led them to Plattsburgh, New York on the shores of Lake Champlain in the heart of the Adirondacks where they purchased the Strand Theatre and launched the second decade. The entire structure was remodeled and modernised with air conditioning, new wiring and (of course) chambers for Winifred's 22 ranks and a console lift. There followed in this area many stage productions of every sort including opera, as well as movies. The Strand became "alive" again, providing an outlet for the full-time impressario and his family to participate in Barbershop Quarters, Sweet Adelines, skits and other forms of show biz activity which, were it not for enjoyment, might be called hard work.

By 1976, Dick, as usual began to take stock again. The daughters were growing up and would be fleeing the nest for their own pursuits; the family has enjoyed many rewarding times during the operation of the Strand, but the long cold winters with heaps of snow were beginning to pall.

"WINIFRED" the Weber Wurlitzer cnt'd.,

In short, it was time to look for another outlet for the abundant Weber energy, and so they toured the U.S. and Canada looking over the land with a view to locating a Pizza emporium someplace where Winifred might be welcome, the climate a little more moderate, and the business of life simplified to an extent the daughters would have the freedom to develop in their own directions.

The place they found was on Franklin Road in Marietta, Georgia, just 16 miles northwest of Atlanta on I-75 at the Lockheed-Dobbins AFB exit..a free standing building to accommodate the pizza operation with room for Winifred. The move was started with the removal of the organ from the Strand in December 1976--all ten tons of it-- during a blizzard which brought the chill wind factor down to minus 59 F. The wind was so high some of the workers were actually blown off the loading ramp. And in Marietta, the conditions were a little better. The parking lot was unpaved and the area was in the midst of a rainy spell. The organ sat on the trailer in front of the building for 30 days before off-loading could be accomplished. And then the real work began.

The family got down to business again. New shutters had to be built and chests had to be refitted to new quarters. Provisions were made for the addition of a second relay with switches for an additional 8 ranks in the new home-- with all the extra wiring. Brother Bob was enlisted (with his trusty soldering gun) and they raised the first "noise" from Winifred just five weeks later! It was Walt Winn playing "Chattanooga Choo Choo" on the mighty Wurlitzer. Now, Atlantans find themselves the lucky beneficiaries of the third Weber Decade, and are highly delighted to have these fine people among them. All they have to do now is convince them to stay!

SEATTLE CONVENTION... (by Courtesy of Console Magazine)

For the opening of the Convention on Wednesday July 1st, there will be registration during the afternoon and in the evening a no-host mixer (cocktails and talk) and an event on the Paramount Theatre where there is an original 4m/20r Publix #1 Wurlitzer organ.

During the afternoon the national board of directors and chapter representatives will take place.

Thursday is Portland day and features the Organ Grinder Wurlitzer and Benson High School Kimball.

Friday 3rd features Pizza & Pipes pizza parlour in Bellevue and Pizza & Pipes in Seattle for concerts and lunch. The afternoon show will be at the Paramount, along with the National membership meeting. The cocktail party and annual banquet are slated for that evening.

Saturday July 4th. is free time during the morning to look around Seattle. The afternoon features are concerts at St.Marks Temple and Calvary Temple. The evening is Innerglow..a boat trip Indian Salmon Bake and fireworks for the grand and glorious Fourth!

The last day of the Convention is Puget Sound Day and features a bus trip to Tacoma to the Temple and Tacoma Pizza & Pipes. Then to Bremerton Masonic Temple in the afternoon, plus a ferry ride to Seattle. The evening show will be a finale at the Paramount.

For those remaining over in Seattle, the afterglow, which is an extra event will be a trip to the Mnt. St.Helens Volcano area.

Our members Bill Schumacher And Robert Gliddon have been attending the ATOS Convention in Seattle and should have some interesting stories to relate on their return. (At least some

GUESS WHO ???



ANSWER IN NEXT MONTH'S TOSA NEWS.