

# TOSA NEWS

May 2016  
Volume 55 No.4

Price: \$2.00

## **Chris Powell (UK)**

brings you

### **THE BEST of BRITISH**

*Majestic music from The Blackpool Sounds*

*through to The Best of the Proms*

**Sunday 5th June 2016**

**2:00pm - 4:30pm**

**Orion Centre Theatre**

**Wurlitzer**



**/tosansw**



**www.tosa.net.au**

# Directory

## **Patron**

Dr John Atwell

## **President**

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

## **Vice Presidents**

Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)  
John Weismantel 0402 810 137 *whitecoats@bigpond.com*

## **Secretary**

Craig Keller *secretary@tosa.net.au* 0418 484 798  
7 Aldinga Ave., Gerringong NSW 2534

## **Treasurer**

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

## **Membership Inquiries**

6351 3122

## **Committee**

Barry Tooker 9744 1535

John Shaw 9543 3112

Robert Gliddon *christieorg@bigpond.com*

Ernie Vale 0415 626 064

Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

Simon Ellis 0403 548 354

## **TOSA NEWS Editor**

Ernie Vale 0415 626 064 *editor@tosa.net.au*  
P.O. Box A2322, Sydney South, NSW, 1235

## **Marrickville Players Convenor**

John Batts 0420 424 103  
Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)

## **Orion Players Convenor**

Craig Keller 0418 484 798 phone or SMS

## **Ticket Secretary (Concert Bookings)**

Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131 before 8:0pm

## **Artist Liaison Officers**

Geoff Brimley 6351 3122, John Shaw 9543 3112

**Photography** Barry Tooker 9744 1535

**Publicity Officer** Ernie Vale 0415 626 064  
**Printing** by Ernie Vale & Graeme Costin

## From the President



Our April concert saw a good crowd of members and visitors enjoy a fabulous presentation of WurliTzer magic mixed with short, interesting comments from Australia's own, Tony Fenelon. Our next program features Chris Powell, an extremely capable Artist from the U.K. It is now several years since we enjoyed Chris' music which is several years too long. He is, again, one whom members can confidently invite friends and family to come along and hear.

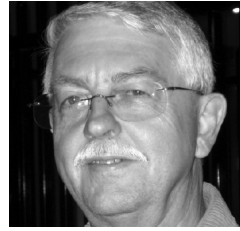
I must make one correction to the information given last month when announcing this concert.

Contrary to my announcement, the seating format will remain as normal and there will be no dancing. I apologise for the confusion but on further consideration by the Committee, it was realized that there were several difficulties in the original proposal, not the least being the ability to present the normal video imaging to the high standard to which we have become accustomed. I am sure that the concert will be thoroughly enjoyed by all and suggest you use the opportunity to introduce your friends to the wonders of the Theatre Organ and its music.

Kind regards

Geoff Brimley

## Editorial



Hello Members, What a great program Tony presented for us in April. A lot of preparation went into that show by Tony and the Technical Team along with some surprise IT challenges. Various members of TOSA Executive and Committee were at the Orion from the Wednesday to Saturday inclusive prior to the concert. The fact that there was a Players Day on the Thursday prior was a blessing.

The two pianos were tuned on Wednesday, the Organ was tuned on Friday and Tony was able to practice on Saturday as there were no bookings for the weekend. Thanks very much to Lessee George Khoury for providing access to us over the four days.

There will be a slight change to arrangements for Orion Players Days from Thursday June 9th in that TOSA Members will have access in the morning so that a group of young organists can enjoy tutorials in the afternoon. *See information in this issue of TOSA News.*

Please continue to promote TOSA concerts to friends and acquaintances. TOSA needs your help to increase the membership. I hope to see many of you at Chris Powell's concert on 5 June.

Enjoy the music,

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

## From the Mailbox...



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](mailto:editor@tosa.net.au)

or in writing to:

The Editor - TOSA News (NSW Div)

PO Box A2322

SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

---

### **New Members**

Peter Stinson - Dee Why

Rodney Ainsworth - Figtree

Kevin Podmore - Chatswood

TOSA welcomes these new members and hope they have a wonderful time with our Theatre Organ concerts and activities.

## Increase in Postage

Dear Members, the cost to post TOSA News has increased and the postal service has diminished.

To manage costs TOSA invite those who receive TOSA News by Post to consider receiving it by email.

The benefits of receiving TOSA News by email are that you see all the Photos in colour, you receive it directly and on time.

You can print it out if you have the facility for "Booklet Printing" on your printer.

You can also file the digital copy on your computer or external hard drive thereby saving storage space.

Please email the Editor if you are happy to move to TOSA News by email at:  
[editor@tosa.net.au](mailto:editor@tosa.net.au)

Thank you to all those members who have now switched to receiving TOSA News by email.

---

*Thanks to all those TOSA Members who have already renewed their membership for 2016-17.*

*Thank you also to all those members and friends of TOSA who invited people to come to Tony's concert and enjoy our Mighty Wurlitzer for the very first time. There were 17 first timers and we look forward to seeing them again in the future.*

## ***To Watch Out for***

TOSA NSW accepts monetary gifts and bequests.

TOSA is very grateful for the gifts and bequests received from members and friends in recent times.

These gifts and bequests have enabled us to continue the maintenance, operation and presentation of our instruments and to provide a high standard of Musicians including overseas artists to play Theatre Organ for your enjoyment.

We are asking our membership to think seriously about long term support of the Theatre Organ art-form through Estate Planning by remembering TOSA NSW in your will.

When writing or updating your will, please consider including a gift or bequest to the Theatre Organ Society of Australia (New South Wales Division) Incorporated so that future generations may enjoy the theatre organ art-form that we all love.

TOSA NSW ABN 644369019

---

Please see details regarding the importance of membership of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia NSW Divn Inc elsewhere in this TOSA News.

Your Executive and Committee are working on a program to encourage and develop some very promising young musicians in the art of playing the Theatre Organ/Unit Orchestra. Your support through membership and introducing new members is very important for the future of the Society.

## **Advertising**

### **Rates in**

### **TOSA News**

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Quarter Page = \$25

Half Page = \$50

Full Page = \$100

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

### **Members' Playing Dates The Orion Theatre Campsie**

**Thursday 12 May**  
**Thursday 9 June**

Craig Keller on 0418484798  
Players and listeners welcome.

---

**Marrickville Town Hall**  
**4th Monday afternoon/evening**  
**at 2:30pm to 7:00pm**

**Monday 23 May**  
**Monday 27 June**

Players and listeners welcome.

**Please contact** John Batts  
0420424103 or Neil Palmer on  
9798 6742 after 7:00pm  
**to confirm availability**

## **TOSA National Presidents' Meeting April 2016**

*From Secretary Craig Keller who represented NSW Division*

On the weekend of 9/10 April I represented TOSA NSW Inc on behalf of President Geoff Brimley at the TOSA National Presidents' Meeting hosted by TOSA Vic in Melbourne.

There were some great discussion points during the day long meeting on Saturday 9th covering a broad range of topics including marketing - during which Brett Kavanagh (Secretary TOSA Q) made a fantastic presentation about improvements they have made to marketing using new methods and channels and the improvement in number and type of audience.

Brett also discussed the national Register of Cultural Organisations - a way of organisations such as TOSA achieving a status that enables us to attract donations (private and corporate) with a tax deductible status for the donor.

We reviewed recent international touring artists and also discussed and refined a shortlist for international artists for 2017. John Fuhrman from Perth was tasked with approaching the short-listed artists to assess their availability for next year.

We also discussed ways that we may support and encourage Australian based professional theatre organists and further work is happening in this area.

The day's meeting, combined with lively discussion over dinner gave all participants much to think about and encouraged us all to endeavour to work more closely together to support our respective societies in the promotion of Theatre Organ.

---

## **Christie Organ Report May 2016**

*From Project Leader Rob Gliddon*

The hammers on the Marimba unit have been recovered with very hard felt kindly donated by John Parker. Mounting the unit high up near the chamber ceiling and the hard felt have made the sound in the Church most acceptable.

Three Diaphones, two 8' Diapasons and various 8' Viol d' Orchestre

pipes have been received back from Melbourne and the Diaphones/ Diapasons have been refinished in grey.

Tim Gilley has repaired the damaged manual Tuba pipes and these are ready for collection in Melbourne.

The Piano vacuum pump has been stripped down and all felts replaced. This should save some money when we have to pay to have the flap valves and the motor coverings replaced.

Monday morning will see the manual Tuba chest delivered to John Parker's workshop so the pipes can be racked in. This procedure is not straightforward due to hooding & knuckling but the safest place to store this rank is in its chest.

---

*An article from Theatre Organ March/April 2016  
Chapter News - **Norcal** by Roy K. Powlan  
Tom Madsen, Chairman*

Berkley, California -- In the early morning light of November 8, NorCal Concert Master Chris Nichols powered up one of the twin and balanced 20-hp blowers in the basement of Berkley Community Theatre, thereby commencing a day of music and friendship that has rarely been matched in the history of this chapter. That afternoon NorCal hosted a concert presentation by the incomparable Mark Herman.

The very large audience had every right to anticipate a moving and thoughtfully designed program of dance, theatre and light music from this master of harmony, and was amply rewarded with every musical gem which Mark gifted us. The superlatives surrounding Mark's performances are all true and inadequate to convey the high level of craftsmanship and artistry expressed in his playing. His tastefully composed registrations brought forth a subtle, quiet beauty from our 4/41 Wurlitzer in its three massive overhead proscenium chambers -- and then shook the very walls with the 32' Wood Diaphones for thrilling effect.

Adding to the day's delights was Mark himself. A very young man, he has the poise and effortless charm of the best-seasoned performers in any art. Working without notes, his introductions were brief yet informative, illuminating some interesting points of history, sometimes general, often personal, that brought the audience ever

deeper into his creative thought process. The audience itself contributed mightily to the joyous afternoon, filled with luminaries of the theatre organ world such as Jim Riggs, Ed Stout, Dick Taylor, and Geoff Hansen, all graciously welcomed by our NorCal Master of Ceremonies Bill Schlotter, who oversees and perfects every aspect of every concert -- from the tuning and maintenance of this most magnificent of Wurlitzer Unit Orchestras to the lighting of the stage curtains and illuminated organ platform. The soft voices of old friends in the vast stagehouse afterwards ended this perfect day.

---

## **Show dates, artists and venues for 2016**

1. [Sunday 28 Feb - 2:00pm at Orion - David Bailey Queensland](#)
2. [Sunday 17 April - 2:00pm at Orion - Tony Fenelon Melbourne](#)
3. Sunday 5 June - **2:00pm** at Orion - Chris Powell **UK**
4. Sunday 31 July - **2:00pm** at Orion - David Gray **UK**
5. Sunday 4 September - **2:00pm** at Orion - Chris McPhee **South Australia**
6. Sunday 9 October - **2:00pm** at Orion - Martin Ellis **USA**
7. Sunday 4 December - **2:00pm** at Orion - Tony Fenelon and John Atwell both **Melbourne**

The dates, venues and artists have been confirmed to date. In the event of any change this will be notified on the TOSA web site, and to members through TOSA News.

*Please keep the above details in a safe place and note your 2016 calendar and diary so you don't miss a Mighty Wurlitzer concert.*

There are 7 concerts for the year and by becoming a member you save \$70 when attending all concerts, you receive 11 TOSA News full of very interesting articles to keep you up to date with current happenings in the Theatre Organ world – yes even overseas news. By attending just four concerts each year you



have saved the cost of membership.

Where else can you enjoy 2 hours of wonderful music played by international standard musicians for the following prices.

Adult \$35; Conc \$30; Member \$25; Family of two Adults including at least one child under 19 yrs of age \$65.

***A new member who joins TOSA NSW Inc any time before June 30th 2016 will have valid membership until June 30th 2017. Only \$35, Concession \$25 (excluding Senior Card Holders), Family \$55 (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19)***

---

There are two things to aim at in this life: first to get what you want; and, after that, to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind achieve the second.

*Logan Pearsall Smith*

---

The world is divided into people who do things and people who get the credit. Try if you can, to belong to the first class. There's far less competition.

*Dwight Morrow*

## **Show & Membership Prices**

	<b>All Artists</b>
Non-members	\$35
Non-member Pensioner/Seniors Card holder	\$30
Family 2 Adults incl 1 child up to 19 yrs age	\$65
TOSA Members	\$25

**All Students FREE on confirmation of Student status**

**All Children FREE accompanied by an Adult**

Group Booking for 10 or more Adults \$22 per person

First time Adult \$15 cash by completed Voucher at Box Office

### **Annual Membership Fees paid by June 30th 2016:**

\$35.00 for Full membership, Family \$55 and

\$25.00 for Pensioner Concession, Interstate or Overseas \$35.

Membership enquiries Geoff Brimley (02) 6351 3122

*membership@tosa.net.au*

Associate Membership for a spouse/partner is an additional 50%

**ATOS Annual Convention**     *The In-Theatre Sound*  
Cleveland 2016 USA

**TREASURES OF THE WESTERN RESERVE II (PLUS 3!)**

**Overture - Sunday, July 3, 2016**

Detroit Senate Theatre - *Richard Hills* at the 4/34 Wurlitzer  
Stahls Automotive Museum, Chesterfield, Michigan -  
*Justin LaVoie* at the 3/23 Wurlitzer

**Monday, July 4, 2016**

Cleveland Grays Armory - *Mark Herman* at the 3/15 Wurlitzer  
Cleveland Masonic Auditorium and PAC -  
*Jonas Nordwall* at the 4/28 Wurlitzer

**Tuesday, July 5, 2016**

Cleveland Masonic Auditorium (PAC) -  
Young Theatre Organist Competition  
Cleveland Masonic Auditorium (PAC) -  
*Don Minervini* at the 4/28 Wurlitzer  
Mansfield Renaissance Theatre -  
*Jelani Eddington* at the 3/20 Wurlitzer

**Wednesday, July 6, 2016**

Sandusky State Theatre - *John Lauter* at the 3/8 Page  
Lorain Palace Theatre -  
*Ron Rhode* at an original 3/10 Wurlitzer installation  
Connor Palace Theatre - *David Gray* at the 3/17 Kimball

**Thursday, July 7, 2016**

Members' Forum, Seminars, and Workshops  
Canton Palace Theatre - *Nathan Avakian* at the 3/10 Kilgen  
Akron Civic Theatre - *Jerry Nagano* at the 3/19 Wurlitzer

**Encore - Friday, July 8, 2016**

Marion Palace - *Donnie Rankin* at the 3/10 Wurlitzer  
The Ohio Theatre - *Clark Wilson* at the 4/32 Robert Morton

*For more information go to [www.atos2016.org](http://www.atos2016.org)*

# Julius Organ Available

**Julius Electronic Organ.** A product of the 1960s with solid state circuitry and valve amplifier.

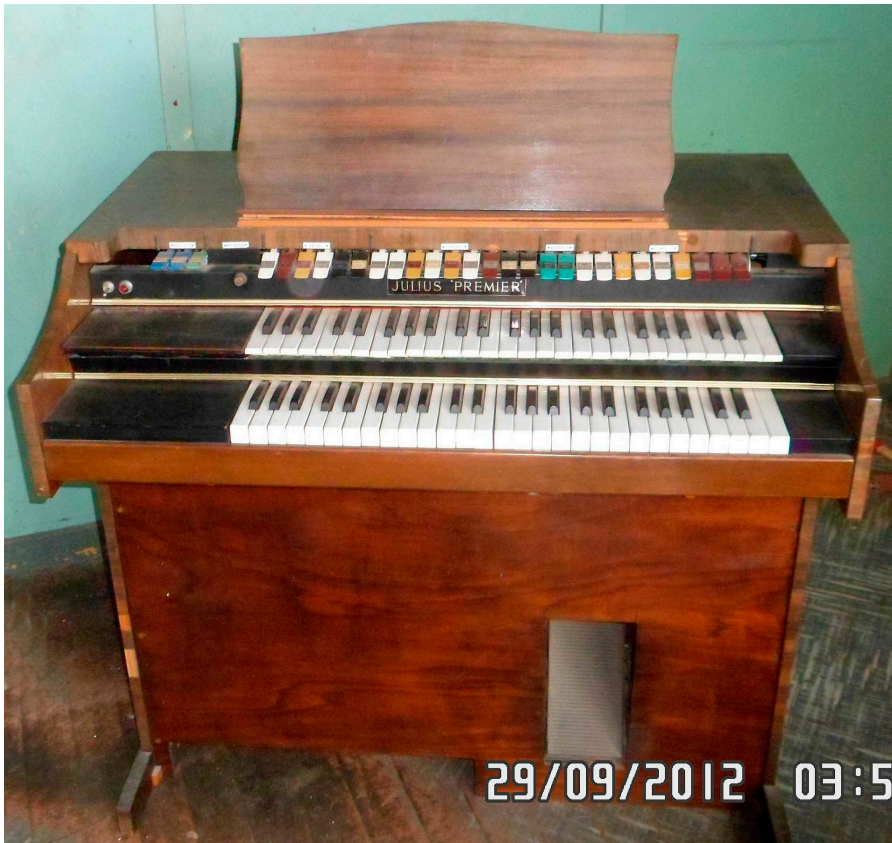
Two manuals of 4 octaves (49 notes) FF-f. One octave of pedals (not shown on photograph) and an organ bench (also not shown).

Documentation relating to circuitry available.

Needs work with particular focus on amplifier.

Available for removal from Asquith.

Contact Geoff Lloyd on 0419 261 218



**World Class Theatre Organist**

**Chris Powell (UK)**

plays

***The Best of British***



*Majestic music from The Blackpool Sounds  
through to The Best of the Proms*

**on our World Class Mighty Wurlitzer**

**Sunday 5th June 2016 2:00pm - 4:30pm**

at the air-conditioned for your comfort

**Newly refurbished Orion Theatre**

**155 Beamish St., Campsie**

**Please come along and bring your friends**

**Chris Powell** was born in Manchester in 1971. At the age of 2, his parents emigrated to live in Christchurch, New Zealand where he first became exposed to organ music as a pre-schooler at the Cathedral Boys Grammar School in this most 'English' of cities. By the age of 16, he was already giving concerts as well as playing for dancing around East Lancashire and West Yorkshire and had his first Club Residency during this time. Growing up in North West England, it was perhaps not surprising that it wasn't to be long before the family made an outing to the world famous *Blackpool*

*Tower* for a visit. Upon entering the hallowed Ballroom there and hearing the Wurlitzer, Chris remarked to his parents that he would “play in here some day!”.... Although met with some wry laughter at the time, he did indeed do this and at the age of 18, he was successfully auditioned to join the team of organists there as a relief player during the winter of 1990. A happy 5 year connection ensued, playing both the Wurlitzer and also electronics within the complex.

His time at Blackpool saw him playing in front of some fairly prestigious figures including former Labour Party Leader, Neil Kinnoch and also Princess Anne. It was during this time that invitations started to come in from far and wide for him to play for both concerts and dances alike. 1991 saw his debut for Sceptre Promotions at the Keyboard Cavalcade Festival in Blackpool, with his name now firmly established with the keyboard loving public from then onwards. 1994 saw an invitation to return to New Zealand to play a series of theatre and electronic organ concerts in the land that was once home to him and his family. The 4 week sell-out tour saw him performing to capacity crowds from Dunedin in the South right up to Auckland.

Chris remains one of the most popular performers on the UK concert circuit with a full diary of dates stretching some 2 years ahead.”

***Remember if it is your friends first time  
they only pay \$15 by completing a voucher  
available on [www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au) or  
at the door on the day of the concert***

Tickets : \$ 35; Concession \$ 30; Members \$25

Family ie 2 Adults including 1 or more children \$65

Adult Group of 10 or more \$22/person; Students up to 25 years Free on confirmation of student status.

For the best reserved seats you can book securely on trybooking.com by going to [www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au) then Events, click on the Artists name/show title then scroll down to buy your ticket, click on it, select your preferred seat/s and complete the purchase. Visa & Mastercard accepted.

# REVIEW OF TONY FENELON'S AUTUMN CONCERT ORION CENTRE CAMPSIE 17TH APRIL 2016

The name Tony Fenelon obviously means a lot to Sydney audiences, because the roll-up at the Orion Centre amazed the Management Committee of TOSA (NSW) and cheered all and sundry to see many familiar faces not seen at TOSA concerts for quite some time. But the cheeriest face of all was that of our artist of the day, Tony Fenelon (OAM). Tony made the first of two 'pilgrimages' from Melbourne for 2016, but on this occasion to perform 'a-solo'. However, even the description of 'a-solo' wasn't strictly correct, because for many of his items, he was performing on the piano whilst being accompanied - **by himself**, on the organ. Yes, once again we were being amazed by information technology's ability to 'record' the 'behaviour' of the organ, enabling it to be 'subsequently played back for later checking, archiving, or as an accompaniment to Tony performing on the grand piano - a sort of 21st century pianola.

In the typical Fenelon 'joie de vie' manner, Tony kicked off his performance with (*'It's Gonna be a) Great Day'*, a song written in 1929 by Vincent Youmans - a great show-starter, and a winner from Paul Whiteman through to the present day. He took a few minutes for the benefit of newcomers to the theatre organ, to describe the 'nature of the beast', and it's computer interface.





Repeating a piece which I had previously heard Tony perform at the celebrated Melbourne Town Hall/Regent Theatre concert in November 2014, the next item was Tony's own transcription of Bedrich Smetana's the '*Dance of the Comedians*' from the comic opera '*The Bartared Bride*'. This piece displayed dazzling fingering and a pleasing recreation of the orchestral scoring. By way of acknowledging the enthusiastic response of the audience, Tony utilised the microphone as an 'aspergillum' – look it up!!!

Then came one of the many 'pieces de resistance' of the afternoon, which drew upon the assistance of the crew responsible for the video projection equipment which is ordinarily monitoring the artist's manipulation' of the keyboards, tabs, pistons and pedals. Tony reminded the audience of the era of Cinerama and in particular, the first film of the series, '*This is Cinerama*', released in 1952. The projection crew 'fed' a conventional video-format copy of an item in the original '*This is Cinerama*' production which featured a circuit of the Queens New York City's '*Rockaway's Playland*' roller coaster. Tony explained that he was able to synchronise his performance of the original sound-track music, titled '*Rollercoaster*', by using an earpiece reproducing the sound-track of the film, and 'simply' playing along!! A most impressive performance to match a most impressive ride.



Remaining with an equally spectacular movie series, '*Starwars*', Tony played a number of themes from the composer John Williams' memorable sound-track, which included the '*Opening Theme*', the plaintive leitmotif '*Princess Leia's Theme*', and the Elgarish '*Processional*' from near the conclusion of the first in the series.

Tony recalled Karen Carpenter as being "a real sweetheart with a voice like a musical instrument". He was referring to Karen as being the voice that popularised Neil Sedaka's composition '*Solitaire*'. He chose that particular item because it was one of the musical collaborations he had with the late lamented Ray Thornley. Tony and Ray included '*Solitaire*' on their 1987 recording '*Black and White*'. It also provided the 'vehicle' on this occasion for Tony to migrate to the piano and to utilise the computer-driven accompaniment from the organ, with Ray Thornley's arrangement. This recreation, to this reviewer, was the highlight of the program, displaying sensitivity and impeccable playing and organ registrations.

From the sublime to the (not really) ridiculous, Tony introduced the first of two Tom and Jerry cartoons, the first being '*Tom and Jerry – in the Hollywood Bowl*', made in 1950. The orchestra (organ) strikes up with Franz Liszt's '*Les Preludes*' whilst Tom attired in evening wear, takes up his position on the rostrum and commences conducting a strangely all-Tom-lookalike orchestra. Shortly after the introduction to Johann Strauss' '*Die Fledermaus*', a similarly attired Jerry appears out of his miniature Hollywood Bowl mouse-hole at stage-right – and proceeds to take-over the conducting function – much to Tom's chagrin – with predictable results. Tony was again monitoring the original sound-track through ear pieces, and brilliantly recreated the sound track on the organ in perfect synchronism. It's amazing how simple he makes the process appear – but we know better!!

Another great recreation, but this time from the artistry of the wonderful US organist Buddy Cole, a one-time accompanist for Bing Crosby and Rosemary Clooney. From Buddy's 1963 LP '*Modern Pipe Organ*', Tony unerringly recreated Buddy Cole's version of Le-Roy Anderson's '*Serenata*'. This is one of Buddy Cole's most orchestrally-fascinating pieces of the theatre organ



literature, beautifully reproduced by Tony.

Ferrante and Teicher were a latter-day 'manifestation' of the duo-pianists Rawicz and Landauer. Amongst the many movie themes which they recorded during the 1950's through to the '80's, was the theme from the 1960 movie 'Exodus'. Complete with all of the extravagances of Ferrante and Teicher performances, Tony's closing number before interval was another 'collaboration' between himself on piano and his digital 'equivalent' on the organ.

Tony commenced his post-interval program suggesting how magical it would be, if 'Tinker Bell' could control the organ. A 'magical' outburst from the unmanned organ, necessitated a dash by Tony to the piano to 'participate' in several reminders of the music of Disney productions, beginning with a theme associated with a key attraction at Walt Disney's Disneyland, 'It's a Small World', written by the Sherman Brothers (in 1962). Then came a reminder of the 'Theme from the Mickey Mouse Club' and a brief appearance of 'When You Wish Upon a Star'. Somehow, with the assistance of the TOSA 'crew, the organ had been 'tinkered' with.

A particularly charming piece, not usually associated with the theatre organ repertoire, was Tony's next item 'Caprice Viennois', composed by the violinist Fritz Kreisler. A little set-back occurred when a planned appearance of the piano, as a part of the 'Caprice Viennois', failed to occur. Few in the audience would have been aware, because such is the Fenelon expertise, that he overcame the 'tinkering' by substituting for the errant piano. However, a speedy exit by Craig Keller to backstage, restored the 'puff' needed to force the piano to cooperate being played from the keyboards of the organ. Accordingly, Tony gave due praise to the TOSA 'crew' responsible for the video system and the organ/piano's computer control.

Fritz Kreisler had another 'outing' with 'Schon Rosmarin' ('Beautiful Rosemary') which as well as being a delightful little piece in its own right, also enabled Tony to confirm the restoration of the piano to its being able to be played from the organ. Some remarkable dexterity was observed as Tony involved the piano by simultaneously playing on two manuals with the right hand.

A medley of a number of the British bandleader and composer Ray Noble's favourites followed, commencing with '*Love is the Sweetest Thing*', an up-tempo arrangement of '*Cherokee*', a brief segué into the contrasting '*A Touch of Your Lips*', then '*Love is the Sweetest Thing*'. Ray Nobles' signature tune, '*The Very Thought of You*' followed, then '*Goodnight Sweetheart*', a number one hit for Guy Lombardo in the USA, and finally a 'big-finish' return for '*Cherokee*' and '*Love is the Sweetest Thing*'.

A brief pause was called for whilst 'Tony the Organ Builder' carried out some essential modifications to a stop that wouldn't go off!! Problem solved with a Biro, and it was on with the show.

Quiz time as Tony posed the question, "Who composed the following... '*The Theme from Limelight*', '*This is my Song*' and '*Smile*'? A know-all in the audience piped up with 'Charlie Chaplin!' Tony proceeded to the 'one manual organ' as he called it (aka the piano) to commence an arrangement of the late-lamented Bob Docker which was titled '*Limelight on Chaplin*'. The piano accompaniment featured some stunning arpeggios and generally concerto-like brilliance, a genre not at all unfamiliar to Tony.

To reinforce his enjoyment of Robert (Bob) Docker's compositions, Tony played a spritely little 4/4 number '*Tabarinage*', meaning '*Buffoonery*', (a number Tony and John Atwell have played as duets on a couple of occasions). The choice of this item also enabled a reappearance of the piano controlled from the organ.

Another Buddy Cole arrangement, but this time from a transcription made by TOSA (NSW)'s Patron John Atwell, from a 1964 Buddy Cole LP album called '*Autumn Nocturne*'. '*When the Leaves are Turning*' was the product of John Atwell's skilful transcription which incorporated many of the wonderful registrations and performing characteristics of Buddy Cole. As with the earlier '*Serenata*', Tony provided the justice due to Buddy Coles' composition.

Next Tony introduced the Hanna and Barbera cartoon, which deservedly won an Academy Award in 1946, - '*The Cat Concerto*', which saw a return of Tom and Jerry to the Hollywood Bowl stage. This time Tom is the solo (purportedly) artist playing the Liszt

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2. Tony perfectly mimed the piece utilising the piano (plus organ) to replace the original sound-track, including the devastating (for Tom) final bars, enabling Jerry to take the bow.



**Graham Costin controls the video image of the keyboards**



**Ken Barwick, sound, and Craig Keller, cartoon and roller coaster images, confer on set up prior to the concert**

Just prior to his final item, Tony took the opportunity to thank the TOSA(NSW), crew who had provided the video and computer back-up to his performance. He even mentioned that at 1-30PM Craig Keller was still downloading data to a new hard-drive, which became necessary for the success of the afternoon.

The 'final' piece was a spectacular organ-plus-piano item from the pen of the American composer and pianist virtuoso Louis Moreau Gottschalk. – *'The Grande Tarentelle'*. Coincidentally this piece was a featured item on the 1987 recording referred to earlier with Tony and Ray Thornley – *'Black and White'*. The virtuosity of the performance belied Tony's suggestion that the piece could be called a "fun piece". The delighted audience afforded Tony the sort of response due to a first class musical performance.

As an encore Tony *'Struck up the Band'* with the favourite from the 1927 musical satire of the same name, on war and militaristic music, composed by George Gershwin. A very much more satisfying ending for Tony's concert, than for the 1927 musical.

*Doug Grant, with thanks to Barry Tooker for his assistance.  
April 2016*

*Photos by Barry Tooker*

---

### **Change to Orion Player Day arrangements**

The committee has recently been working in cooperation with OMSS (Organ Music Society of Sydney) members and Sydney area pipe organ teachers to encourage young organists to experience and learn about theatre pipe organ. This has been successful and we now have five young and skilled organists who have had initial sessions at the theatre organ and now wish to learn more. To better accommodate these organists' availability, the TOSA NSW Committee agreed to change the arrangements for Orion Player Days. From June 9th the Player Days will still be on the 2nd Thursday of the month but the time will change – commencing at 10:30am and concluding at 1:30pm for TOSA members. The young player session will then run from 1:30pm to 4:30pm under the leadership of Simon Ellis.

The young player sessions will be run as tutorials and as such will not be open for participation or viewing by others. Regular players will be requested to leave the premises so that the tutorials may commence. We trust that the members of TOSA NSW will support this change as a way of fostering new players into the world of theatre organ so that the art form may continue.

## **Your Membership of TOSA is very much appreciated because being a member you:**

- 1.Support the Art Form of Theatre Organ now and into the future
- 2.Help to spread the good news about Theatre Organ to younger generations
- 3.Support the development of young Theatre Organists for the future
- 4.Support the maintenance of TOSA organs & pianos
- 5.Enjoy concerts with top class Australian & International Organists at discount prices.
- 6.Are able to play the society's Theatre Organs at Players Days
- 7.Will be able to have social/club nights/afternoons when the Christie Cinema Organ comes on line, in addition to Marrickville Town Hall picnic afternoons
- 8.Receive TOSA News and keep up to date with Theatre Organ News world wide
- 9.Have the opportunity to assist with arrangements for concerts
- 10.Can help to grow TOSA Membership by promoting the unique sounds of Theatre Organ/Unit Orchestras that we all love and enjoy so much

## **Please Help Grow TOSA Membership**

so that this important musical Art Form can survive for our younger generations.

TOSA Annual Membership runs from July 1st to June 30th  
the following year.

***If you introduce a new person to TOSA and they sign up as a member before June 30th 2016*** your membership renewal will be the same cost as their new membership which will be \$35 full membership, \$25 Pensioner, \$55 Family membership (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19) ***which will take you and them through to June 30th 2017.***

If as a TOSA Member you renew your membership for 2016-17 **before** June 30th 2016 your renewal is \$35 full membership, \$25 Pensioner, \$55 Family membership (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19) and \$35 Interstate & Overseas.

If as a TOSA Member you renew your membership for 2016-17 **after** June 30th 2016 your renewal will be \$40 full membership, \$30 Pensioner, \$60 Family membership (includes two adults and their children under the age of 19) and \$40 Interstate & Overseas.

***New member sign ups after June 30th 2016 will be the same prices as membership renewal post June 30th 2016.***

*Associate Membership for a spouse/partner is an additional 50%.  
"Associate Membership is encouraged as a means of supporting the Society."*

**A Membership Renewal form has been enclosed for your convenience. Also a New Membership form has been included to facilitate your hopefully signing up one or more New Members please.**

---

## **Re Chris Powell Concert**

**As you will have read in the President's Column there won't be any dancing at Chris Powell's Concert in June.**

**Chris has advised that he doesn't include any dance segments in his program for Australian Tours**

**The seating will be in the usual concert format so you can book your seats as in the normal layout**

## Members Diary

Monday 30th May Committee 7:00pm

St Columb's Anglican Church, West Ryde  
Home of the Christie Cinema Organ

**Sunday 31st July 2016**  
**2:00pm - 4:30pm**

# David Gray UK

plays

## Our World Class Mighty Wurlitzer

**at the air-conditioned**  
**Newly refurbished Orion Centre Theatre**  
**155 Beamish St., Campsie**

**Try and bring a friend or two**

**Book at [www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au) - Events **OR****  
**Contact Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131 Before 8:00pm**

---

Radio FINE MUSIC 102.5 "Colours of the King" (program of the Organ Music Society of Sydney) 2nd Saturday of each month, 6pm till 7pm

**\*Theatre Organ Magic\* on RNB - FM from Sydney, NSW, Australia.**  
88.7 FM and 90.3 FM 12 noon first Sunday of the month for one hour

**Web Sites of Interest:** <https://www.facebook.com/tosansw>

[www.theatreorgansaustralia.info](http://www.theatreorgansaustralia.info) (history of cinema organ installations in Australasia)

[www.omss.org.au](http://www.omss.org.au) (our sister society, Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)  
[www.ATOS.org](http://www.ATOS.org) American Theatre Organ Society

# TOSA NEWS

May 2016  
Volume 55 No.4

**PRINT  
POST  
100004836**

**POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA**

Official Publication of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia (NSW Division) Inc.

7 Aldinga Ave., Gerringong NSW 2534

If undeliverable please return to :

PO Box A2322

SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235 [www.tosa.net.au](http://www.tosa.net.au)

