# T.O.S.A. NEWS

INCORPORATING The Diaphone

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

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REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PERIODICAL—CATEGORY B

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VOL. 11. No. 7

**JULY 1972** 

#### AT LAST! -----REGINALD PORTER-BROWN IN AUSTRALIA.

The world famous Organist, Reginald Porter-Brown arrives in Sydney on 4th July after a stop-over in Los Angeles.

His programmes - "Musical Tapestries" - will consist of music most people like to hear. Details of recitals will be given in successive editions of TOSA NEWS as the tour progresses. Recitals in July and August are as follows:

#### METROPOLITAN AREA

SUNDAY 16th July - Sydney Town Hall

WEDNESDAY 19th July - Chatswood Town Hall (TOSA)

SATURDAY 22nd July - St. John's, Parramatta

SATURDAY 29th July - St. Anne's, Strathfield

WEDNESDAY 9th August - R. S. L. Club, Bondi-Waverley

TUESDAY 15th August - St. Colomb's, West Ryde.

#### N.S.W. COUNTRY AREAS

WEDNESDAY 26th July - Newcastle City Hall

FRIDAY 4th August - Bathurst Town Hall

SUNDAY 13th August - Wagga Civic Theatre

SATURDAY 19th August - Lismore City Hall

TUESDAY 22nd August - Coff's Harbour Civic Centre

WEDNESDAY 23rd August - Tamworth Private House (TOSA)

FRIDAY 25th August - Armidale Town Hall.

All recitals start at 8 p. m.

\* Our Patron, Mr. Ian Davies, has said that all members are welcome to attend the recital at the R.S.L. Club on the Rodgers Organ. RPB issued a disc on the Rodgers Organ last year.

Please! Members are asked to refrain from ringing the Secretary between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. - she loves to hear from you all, but her digestion is suffering!

#### PASTURES NEW

Former TOSA Editor Ian Griggs is no longer employed by Willoughby Municipal Council. Any communication regarding the Chatswood WurliTzer should be addressed to the Town Clerk, P.O. Box 54, Chatswood, 2067.

The Society are indebted to Ian for his enthusiastic approach to the re-installation project. Good luck to him in his new post.

#### DETAILS ON THE ORGAN PARTY TO BE HELD AT COL' TRINGHAM'S ON 8TH JULY.

Colin's party will again feature the magnificent "Gulbransen Rialto" Organ which proved so popular at the last two functions. Seating is strictly limited so make sure you book early. This Organ has been much improved since Colin first purchased it, so those who can make it to Dee Why are sure of a good evening. Reservation by letter or phone please (Phone number is 987-947 evenings only) Please do not phone before 1st of July.

Admission by donation of \$1.00 towards TOSA funds. Ladies a plate please, and anyone able to loan a large teapot for the night should contact Colin beforehand.

## RESIDENT ORGANIST OF NEW YORK'S (now demolished) PARAMOUNT THEATRE TO PLAY FOR US

DON BAKER - CHATSWOOD TOWN HALL.

on 2nd August, 1972 at 8 p.m.

An evening with a difference - half on WurliTzer Pipe Organ, half on Conn Electronic Organ.

Tickets - \$2.00. TOSA Members \$1.50. Children & Pensioners 50¢.

(Be early TOSA Members - Concession Rates until 7.45 p.m.)

(Bookings thru' R. H. Elvy Pty. Ltd. - Clarence Street.

Secretary - TOSA - Chatswood - Dickson Musical Enterprises.

#### RECORD RELEASE COINCIDES WITH DON BAKER CONCERT TOUR.

Concert Recording have announced the release of two records by American organist DON BAKER to coincide with the visit of this famous and popular artist. The first one, to be released in July, features DON on a Conn Electronic organ with electronic pipes. Titled simply, "Electronic Pipes" the number is CR E 056.

The second one, to be released in August, is titled "New York Paramount Comes Down" and is number CR 0066. The disc features the mighty WurliTzer of the now demolished Paramount Theatre in New York, and is claimed to be the final sounds of the organ before removal. Both are obtainable from Concert Recording Aust. Box 108 P.O. Wentworthville, 2145.

#### WURLITZER CONCERT MARRICKVILLE 28th MAY, 1972.

This occasion, compered by Frank Ellis introduced Heather Moen to her first full concert at Marrickville with the number "Up Up and Away". Included here is a brief outline of the programme that followed, a balanced and variety one of old and new, classical, and popular.

A bracket of 4 numbers including "I'll Take Romance" was followed by 3 Bacharach numbers which led into a classical item "Andante in C" by Ceasar Franck then two more popular items "The Starlit Hour" and "King of the Road".

"The Dam Busters March" by Eric Coates was followed by 5 tunes from Musicals and the 1st. half concluded with Sullivan's evergreen "The Lost Chord".

After Interval, came a bracket of 5 from the Top 40 including "Ranger's Waltz" and "Amazing Grace" (with Bagpipes) then a classical piece using the trumpets "Trumpet Tune in D" by John Stanley, here the WurliTzer showed up well as a straight organ.

A feature of the second half was "Oklahoma" selections as arranged by Ashley Miller. Then came "Elizabethan Seranade" and 5 "Oldies" from the 20's and 30's with 2 Beatle's favourites to complete the programme.

Heather was warmly received by the large audience (large in spite of the fact many members were unaware the concert was being presented).

We congratulate Heather on being the first of her sex to present a full concert at Marrickville in a field we feel is perhaps dominated by male performers.

#### AMERICAN HOLIDAY

Bill Schumacher and Bob Gliddon are off to America this month. Their trip is well organised in order to see as many organs as possible, and they plan to write an article for a future issue of "TOSA NEWS". A visit to the Washington T.O. convention is a highlight on their schedule. Your Editor plans a similar journey in February 1973.

About 20 members attended the hastily contrived "Playing Night" at Chatswood last month. Some liked it - but many didn't. Most of those present were shown through the Chambers. Thanks are due to Mrs. Pam Tooker and Mrs. Lawson for arranging refreshments on a cold and dreary evening, and Des. Russel who announced the "Batting Order".

The Editor regrets that he failed to check the proof of the June issue, but notes that there are several budding proof-readers among our readers.

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We extend a welcome to the following members who have recently joined the Society.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Simpson. Miss Nell Anderson Mr. and Mrs. J. Roberts Mr. and Mrs. R. Dodd. Mr. & Mrs. S. Gould & David Mr. and Mrs. G. Richmond Mr. F. Gaunt. Mr. F. Smith. Mr. E. C. Gibbons Mr. and Mrs. N. Iffland Mr. A. E. Spoore Mr. and Mrs. C. Overton Mr. and Mrs. D. Partridge Mr. and Mrs. C. Hugo Mr. M. Berkley Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Carr Mr. Laurence Chubb Mr. and Mrs. E. Leung Mr. and Mrs. J. Brown Mr. and Mrs. G. Taylor Mr. B. H. Waters

We thank the following members for donations and interest free loans towards the Capitol Organ Fund.

Donations: Mr. K. Eadie. \$20.00

The following members - \$10.00

J. Robinson, R. Gliddon, (Anonymous), B. H. Waters, R. Sheppeard,

A. R. Byrne, W. L. Taubman, N. Cerezo, L. A. Taylor, A. Wright,

A. Cammell, V. Crane, L. Guymer, F. H. Williams, W. & B. Koch.

The following members - \$5.00

W. Slattery. F. Bailey. L. Manktelow

#### Interest Free Loans were provided by the following:

Mr. Neville Wright - \$50.00 Dr. Warren Robins \$50.00

Proceeds from WILBUR KENTWELL'S CONCERT - \$300.00

## ORGAN EVENING SATURDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER - 8 P. M.

Will be held at home of member - LAWRENCE DUNK, 276 Marsden Road, CARLINGFORD. Telephone 85-6376.

Organ - Yamaha E 3

#### N. S. W. DIVISION TO HOST NATIONAL CONVENTION.

There has been for some time, a growing National character to our Society, which is both timely and desirable in view of the growth of membership in all States of Australia. It has been felt by many, that a National Convention in a different State each year would be one way of accenting our National character, and would also make possible new friendships among our interstate members, as well as cementing friendships already established. Replacing a State Convention with a National one would also result in a more exciting and spectacular event and avoid two Conventions in different States perhaps being presented about the same time.

Accordingly, the Victorian Division presented the first such National Convention during Easter this year. It had been suggested that the N.S.W. Division should play hosts for the second National Convention to be held during Easter 1973. The South Australian Division have already asked that Easter 1974 be allocated to them for their first National event, so the idea of a National Convention has now become a firm reality. Easter has been chosen as the most suitable time of the year because of the four day holiday break which permits a day for travelling to the Convention city, two days of concerts and fun, and the fourth day for the return journey home.

And so, dear members, next Easter will see the NSW Division hosting TOSA members from (we sincerely hope) all States of Australia. We will leave no stone unturned in our efforts to see that our visitors do not have a dull moment during the TWO DAY CONVENTION.

Plans are now being made to make "CONVENTION 73" the best one yet held in this country. Remember too, that Sydney has a great deal to offer to visitors at Easter-time. Firstly, the weather is usually perfect at that time of the year - secondly, for those who may be able to take annual holidays instead of just the four day break, there is the Royal Easter Show, a Racing Carnival at Randwick for the race-goer, the Opera House, and the beaches still have hundreds of surfers basking in the sun. Add these attractions to the many delights of an Organ Convention, and it all adds up to an enjoyable Sydney holiday which might well attract scores of interstate TOSA members.

During the latter half of this year, we have the visits of REGINALD PORTER-BROWN, DON BAKER, and possibly GAYLORD CARTER as well as Sydney's Waratah Festival Organ Spectacular, and these prestige events will fill the void left by the cancellation of our local Convention in October. Your Committee decided therefore, it would be wise to cancel our October Convention in order to concentrate our facilities and artists in a more exciting and extensive National Convention next Easter. The Committee also wished to spare members the expense of a local event in October (1 day) in addition to a National event of two days only a few months later. It is obvious that a two day event on the grand scale will result in higher admission charges, although the Society will make every endeavour to keep costs down to the lowest possible level so that all members will be able to attend and enjoy. We know that you will agree with the Committee's decision and we look forward to your help and co-operation in making the event one which will be talked about and remembered for a long time to come.

We hope to involve a large number of NSW members personally in a smooth well planned operation which will include members transporting our interstate guests to functions etc., whilst others will be asked to play hosts and hostesses to ensure that no visitor is left sitting on his own at a concert or other function. We must see that they are made feel very welcome and are introduced to as many folk as possible. By personal involvement of members in this way, we will all have the feeling of satisfaction that comes from taking part rather than merely looking on, and "CONVENTION 73" can be the happiest and most successful one in our history. Your suggestions and ideas will be welcomed by the Committee. Do please tell some one of your ideas and suggestions – they may be well worth while.

## THE MAN WITH THREE HANDS



### THE MAN WITH THREE HANDS (Count them!)

Reginald Porter-Brown is shown at the theatre organ console of the Southampton Guild Hall, an instrument he was scheduled to play just prior to his departure for Australia. We omitted to point out in the last issue of TOSA News that the orthodox console is controlled by luminous stop-heads, similar to lift call buttons. Actually there is some dispute as to the number of ranks in this large Compton. "Theatre Organ World" states it has only 32 ranks but other sources vary. Reg. is also expected to play the 5/17 at the Odeon, Leicester Square, London, shortly prior to his grand marathon tour.