

Volume 17 No.6

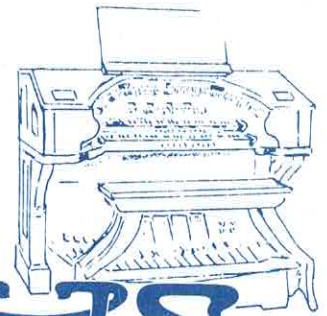
PRICE 40 cents

July 1978.

-EDITOR-

Chris N. Palmer.

127 Ernest Street, Crows Nest 2065.



T.O.S.A. NEWS

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

ADDRESS BOX A584 P.O. SYDNEY SOUTH, 2000

REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PERIODICAL—CATEGORY B

Patron: Ian Davies.

President: Steve Mc Donald. (599-7092)

Vice Presidents: Frank Ellis. (649 7011) Alan Misdale. (525 5554)

Secretary: Doug Smith (750 0917) Treasurer: Mrs. E. Smith (529 7379)

Membership Secretary: Ron Smith (529 7379) Practice Convener: Chris Palmer

Advertising: John Atkinsons (587 3374). Research and Archives: Ian Cameron

Please address all correspondence to: The Secretary, P.O. Box A 504,
Sydney South. 2000.

T.O.S.A. DIARY. 16th July. Organ Party at Janice Wilsons.

A home Organ party at the home of Janice Wilson, 120 Dennis Street, Lakemba. Various artists will be featured during the afternoon on the Thomas 'Celebrity' Theatre Organ and Piano.

Admission. Gents \$2.00, Ladies \$1.50 plus a small plate.

Bookings. Please ring 759 6050 after 5.00 pm. All proceeds to T.O.S.A.

PLEASE GIVE THIS AFTERNOON YOUR SUPPORT AND BOOK NOW!!!

T.O.S.A. DIARY. 30th July. Tom Hazelton in Concert.

Tom Hazelton is a brilliant organist who in addition to many things is the staff organist for the Cap'ns Galley Pizza and Pipes Restaurant in Redwood City, (U.S.A.) and will be doing ONE Concert only in this State. This man is one of the few organists in the world who is both rated tops in Classical and Theatre stylings and represents the ultimate pinnacle on the organ. He is young, dynamic and injects enthusiasm wherever he goes. For those of you who have heard him on record, his performance on stage in a live situation will astound you.

This Concert, like all others at Marrickville Town Hall, will begin at 2.30pm.

SEE MORE DETAILS ABOUT THIS CONCERT AND THE ARTIST IN THIS ISSUE ELSEWHERE.

T.O.S.A. DIARY. 5th August. Noreen Hennessy in Concert at Burwood.

Noreen Hennessy will be appearing in Concert at The Organ Stop, 52 Burwood Road, Burwood, at 2.30pm. Member John Congert is putting this Concert on and Miss Hennessy will be remembered by many as the longest playing organist at the Prince Edward Theatre on our own Wurlitzer Theatre Organ. Admission: Adults \$2.00, Children \$1.00. Please phone 747 4055 for telephone bookings which can only be made at The Organ Stop.

2...

T.O.S.A. DIARY. 10th Anniversary of Marrickville Installation Weekend of Music.
Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th September.

The very first public Concert on our Wurlitzer Pipe Organ took place during 1968, with our Patron Mr. Ian Davies at the Console.

This event followed several years of hard work, dismantling the organ at the Prince Edward Theatre and then reconstructing it at Marrickville Town Hall, after many negotiations had taken place.

To hear the organ in Concert was only just the start of the fitting reward to all the members who had generously give their time and efforts to make this possible. Since then, many fine artists from Australia and overseas have excited us with their Concerts, all helping to prove beyond doubt that the Theatre Organ is in itself a thrilling musical instrument of rare and beautiful tonal qualities well worth the hard work of re-constructing in the first place.

We have decided that a celebration is called for. so that many of our members and friends, can get together again and talk over old times, renew old friendships, and once again hear our glorious instrument in Concert.

We have endeavoured to get together a selection of very fine Artists for the weekend and we feel sure that people will not be dissappointed.

Saturday 23rd September.

1. A visit to St. Columbs, West Ryde to hear the Christie Pipe Organ, (ex Kings Theatre Gordon), played by our well known member, Mr. David Parsons. This will commence at 2.30pm.

2. Dinner at Caesar's Palace Restaurant at Parraweena Road, Taren Point, with entertainment by our popular member Mr. Ray Thornley, playing an electronic Theatre organ. This will commence at 7.30pm.

Sunday 24th September.

A Concert on our own Wurlitzer pipe organ at Marrickville Town Hall, featuring that well known organist and fun personality from Melbourne, Mr. David Johnston in Concert. This will commence at 2.30pm.

As you can see, this is a line up of very talented artists that you cannot afford to miss.

A SPECIAL PACKAGE PRICE OF \$14.00 Adults, \$12.00 Children and Pensioners,
\$11.50 to Y.O.A. Members in Uniform.

Please write immediately to the Secretary for tickets and include a stamped, self addressed envelope to P.O. Box A 584, Sydney South, 2000.

(Please make all Cheques payable to T.O.S.A.)

Individual tickets are available also as follows:-

<u>VENUE.</u>	<u>Adults.</u>	<u>Children and Pensioner.</u>	<u>Y.O.A.</u>
St. Columbs.	\$2.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Caesars Palace.	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$9.50
Marrickville Town Hall.	\$3.00	\$1.50	\$1.00
	<u>\$15.00</u>	<u>\$12.50</u>	<u>\$11.50</u>

Caesars Palace has been a very popular venue for various activities in the past and once you see it you will like it very much. The food could only be described as excellent and a great evening is anticipated. As you can see, it is Caesars Palace which is the greatest single cost item but what you have to take into consideration is that Dinner is included and we have the restaurant booked to ourselves.

We stress also that the Christie at St. Columbs is a very fine installation and that the charge of \$2.00 is a Donation and not an admission fee.

T.O.S.A. DIARY.QUARTERLY MEETING. 13th September. Marrickville Town Hall.

This is the next Quarterly Meeting and is very important because this will be the commencing date for the calling of nominations for the various positions of Office for 1979. All types of general business will be discussed and these meetings are very important because it gives everybody in the Society both a chance to take place in general discussion as well as be able to acquaint themselves with what is currently both happening and planned for the future. Remember that at Committee Meetings there are a small number of elected people who are trying to go about Society business on YOUR behalf and it is your interest and attendance that gives the various Committee members and so forth an idea of what you, the member, would like to see done in your Society.

NOMINATIONS WILL CLOSE COMPLETELY ON WEDNESDAY 11th OCTOBER.ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

This will be held at Marrickville Town Hall on Wednesday 22nd November at 8.00pm. The result of the ballot for the various positions of Office will then be declared. The various positions of Office consist of Patron, President, 2 Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, 6 Committeemen, Editor and yet to be finalised is the decision concerning a Minute Secretary.

CORRECTIONS TO MAY ISSUE.

I made a clerical error in the meeting places for the Committee meetings that are held on the 1st Monday of each month. The correct meeting venues and dates are below:-

- Monday 3rd July at Marrickville.
- Monday 7th August at St. Annes Strathfield.
- Monday 4th September at Marrickville.
- Monday 2nd October at St. Annes Strathfield.
- Monday 6th November at Marrickville.
- Monday 4th December at St. Annes Strathfield.

All Committee meetings begin at 8.00pm and members are welcome to attend.

FROM THE SECRETARY.

At the invitation of the Hammond No 1 Chapter, a very pleasant afternoon was spent by ten T.O.S.A. Members at the home of Tony and Lisa Tullemans, at Picnic Point on Sunday 21st May.

We were warmly welcomed by Secretary Vera Disting who directed us into an afternoon of singalong, scenic boat rides, barbecue steak and a salad for tea, and then on to more music.

What with three singers, a violin, a saxophone and two clarinets, two organs and a new piano, even Ritchie Willis didn't have time to talk!

FROM THE SECRETARY.

After cancelling their own personal arrangements, Phyllis and Ron Wilson generously opened their home after the Lee Erwin concert, for a "Welcome" dinner for Lee Erwin and Betty Mason, at the request of our President.

All the Executive and Committee members available were invited, and the evening was a huge success.

4...

FROM THE SECRETARY. (continued).

At rather short notice Phyllis and Ron put on an excellent dinner with all the trimmings, and a very pleasant and convivial atmosphere reigned over the whole evening. It was so nice to hear people re-newing old friendships and the conversations lasted for a long time.

We finally got Bill Schumacher on to the Celebrity, and later on Bill played the piano whilst those two talented girls, Janice Wilson and Margeret Hall played the organ at various stages.

The music was great and went on till after midnight!

A BIG Thank You to Ron and Phyllis Wilson for their very generous efforts!

Thats all folks,

Doug Smith.

CABARET EVENING. Friday 16th June.

Well! What a fantastic night this really was, (I feel sorry for those who missed out), the evening commenced with Sherries at 7.00pm, followed by a warm up dance with our expert Patron Mr. Ian Davies at the Console of our WurliTzer organ.

Then on to an excellent dinner with plenty of talk and the sounds of corks popping.

A very good puppet show followed soon after and was received with enthusiastic applause.

During the evening several people won small 'Spot Dance' prizes and also a 'Guessing Competition' (you can't call them raffles any more), was held.

After our singalong we were pleasantly surprised with a short silent movie screened by Mal MacKay, and accompanied by our Patron Mr. Ian Davies on the Organ. He must have thought that old times were back again!!

What with Marrickville Town Hall having been just painted and all those effective decorations put up by our hard working organisers, the atmosphere was very relaxing and the evening was a huge success.

Once again, our sincere thanks go out to Jack and Pearl Lawson and Barry and Pam Tooker, who, (for the benefit of members and friends), do all the organising and decorating etc., and go to no end of trouble to make this night a success.

(The writer of this article forgot to put his name on the sheets but the facts are correct. Please note that ordinarily articles submitted for publication without a name and an address or telephone number are not normally published. EDITOR.)

CONCERT. Marrickville Town Hall Sunday 18th June. A review by your Editor.

Sunday afternoon saw quite a large crowd for this, one of our free Concerts at which on this occasion we had the wonderful talents of Committeemen Cliff Bingham, Bill Schumacher and two members of the Young Organists Association, Greg Hall and Richard Chambers.

Cliff Bingham opened the programme with numbers such as 'On a wonderful day like Today', La Ronde de L'amour, Ragging the Scale, Serenade from the Student Prince and the Man of La Mancha. Cliff played in a very forthright style and was in complete command of the situation at all times and is a very positive organist with complete control.

N.O.A. Greg Hall was next to the Console and played a bit of disadvantage from the start. Greg had been to Lawrenceville the previous evening for the State Finals of the 'Crescent' Festival and had been at something like 1.3 on that morning and had had only something like 20 minutes practice on one instrument. Nevertheless, Greg played 'We've only just begun, Raindrops keep falling on my

Continued next page.

CONCERT REVIEW. Continued.

Y.O.A. Member Greg Hall next came up to the console. Greg was at a bit of a disadvantage as he had come back from Newcastle that morning at about 3.30am and had only had about 20 minutes practice on our instrument. Greg played We've only just begun, Raindrops keep fallin on my head, Penelope and This Guys in love. Greg also played a composition of his own of which I did not catch the title. What showed in Greg's playing was the fact that one has to do a considerable amount of practice on a Wurlitzer to attain Concert standards. I have heard Greg play the Yamaha Model E 70 and on this instrument he is excellent. Nevertheless, after a slow start he picked up quickly and as his playing time passed he got better as he went along. Members of the Y.O.A can sometimes be at a disadvantage on our instrument as the difference between pipes and electronics is wider than many people realise.

After interval Y.O.A. member Richard Chambers opened up with music from the Sound of Music, I write the songs, Weekend in New England, Moon River, You light up my life and concluded with Tea for Two from No No Nanette and his polished performance was excellent in every respect.

Committeeman Bill Schumacher was next on the bill and came in with Put on a happy face, One night of Love, One and What I did for love, Windmills of your mind, This is my beloved and concluded with the Serenata from Le Roy Anderson. Bill's playing as always, very smooth with a jazz feel to it.

Well done to all artists and everyone who assisted with particular thanks to the ladies that had the afternoon tea and coffee stall going so well, the decorations were still in place from the Cabaret and the Town Hall looked resplendant in it's new paintwork.

A lot of you may not be aware that Concert artists are actually paid a fee for performing at Free Concerts and whilst this is not in the same structure as is paid to an overseas artist it is nevertheless quite a considerable amount and both Cliff Bingham and Bill Schumacher were paid the amount that is normally paid. In both cases the amount was handed back to the Society by Bill and Cliff as a donation. It is fine gestures like this that makes one proud to be associated with the Society. Many members, Committee included, are in a position to be able to donate their services like this whilst being professional musicians at the same time who earn a considerable amount of their income by playing the organ. Not all members feel that they can do this and there is an element that would make as much as they could if allowed to get away with it. The number of serving members who give of their services for the Society free, the number of hours that they spend in doing it, whatever it may be is quite considerable and in my six months or so as your Editor I have come to know many of these people and it is a pleasure to be able to associate with them.

HAMMOND NORTHSIDE CHAPTER No.3 Concert Tuesday 20th June. Editors review.

Once again a small agathering assembled to hear Carmen La Motte and Bill Schumacher perform on two Hammond organs. This Concert also featured two members of the Young Organists Association, Mark Palmer and Craig Duthie. This was the last Concert until the warmer weather and on this particular evening it was raining like mad and a very bad night weatherwise. Inside however, we were snug and treated to very excellent music. Carmen La Motte played a Hammond Grandee and Bill Schumacher played the Hammond X5 Combo with Leslie 910 Tone cabinet. These Concerts are a bit of a plug for womens liberation as Carment always seems to play the Console Hammond while Bill gets the small portable. Nevertheless Bill cranks up the portable and proves to anyone who happens to be there that a small Combo organ can keep up with and outpace a Console. By outpace I do not mean outnoise. Bill Schumacher has a very delicate style of playing which is jazz oriented whilst Carmen has a very flourishing type of style.

Over.

6...

CONCERT Continued.

Mark Palmer is only eleven and he played on the Grandee and did quite well considering it was the first time he had played on this type of instrument. Craig Duthie is 14 and has had some practice on this type of model and this showed through and Craig will make a very good player if he keeps up the work. A very good evening was had by all who ventured out in the foul weather.

ST. COLUMBS.

Information supplied by Rob Gliddon.

This small but beautiful Church in West Ryde has the 'Christie' organ from the old Kings Theatre at Gordon installed and Allan Tranter looks after it with great care. It is very pleasant to listen to and the Church is acoustically correct for the organ and there is none of the echo and reverberation that is present at Marrickville. The Chambers are placed side by side and the Console is set back quite some distance on the left hand side of the Church. The specifications of this instrument are as follows:-

Christie, built 1928, Opus 2774.

Main Chamber.

Diapason. 16'-2'
Flute. 8'-2'
Viol d'Orchestre 16'-2'.
Viol Celeste 8'
Chrysoglott.

Solo Chamber.

Tuba 8'-4'
Tibia 16'-4'
Clarinet 8'
Vox Humana 8'
Bass Drum Tap
Bass Drum Roll.
Cymbal Roll.
Cymbal Crash.
Triangle Tap.

There are four tremulants, Main, Tibia/Clarinet, Tuba and Vox Humana. There are also ventils to all ranks. A ventil is a unique switch that was incorporated in the Christie Organ which enabled the player, in the event of a cypher, to operate a switch that caused the air to be shut off from that chest. Some of you have had this experience at Marrickville and know what a hassle it can be when it wants to go itself.

DAVID JOHNSTON.

A bit about his background. Ex Victorian Division. TOSA.

Mostly self taught, only formal musical education being seven years on the bagpipes! David was school organist at Haileybury College, commenced playing at the Dendy in 1962 on electronic organs. After the opening of the Society's WurliTzer, continued playing until 1972. Regular Concerts throughout Australia, he is official demonstrator for the Baldwin Piano and Organ Company. Organist and Choirmaster of Mentone Uniting Church and Organist for Carols by Candlelight at the Myer Music Bowl. David has made three recordings and is currently studying Electronic Engineering at Caulfield Institute of Technology. David is also Musical Director of the Naught Nineties Music Hall. In "spare time" he is an enthusiastical pilot and photographer.

THE MARRIAGE OF PIPES AND ELECTRONICS.

Editor.

In an increasing fashion we are seeing the marriage of pipes to electronics in various ways. There is one Rogers Traditional Model that actually has a set of pipes, wind, relays and is also electronic in sound reproduction and naturally, both pipes and loudspeaker can be operated together.

It is not in this field so much as the control field that electronics is coming to the fore.

A member sent me in an article that has been photostated from D.C.N. Nov/77 ?? that mentions one company in Eastern England, home of traditional organs for over 400 years, that are building solid state control systems for control functions using printed circuit boards and exporting these trouble free systems all over the world. Each board is divided into four sections which are responsible for either 73 or 85 notes.

The number of these boards varies with the design of the organ but one built for the United States contained 35 boards.

The article goes on to state that Automation techniques continue to advance and the company are at present installing a control system in an organ in Bamberg, West Germany in which inserted cards set the stops automatically for an entire piece of music.

The traditional pipe organ using electric action has a system of generator for the D.C. required to work it, relays to operate from the switches that are actuated from the key console, (keys, stops, swell pedals etc., ad infinitum), and these are translated into further circuits in the Switch Room and finally an electromagnet is activated causing the pipe to speak or the shutter to open etc.,.

This system requires miles of cable of varying types ranging from very fine, silk covered to the heavier cable that carries more current. This system has been around a long time and is all right so long as nothing dramatic happens such as a cable from the switch room to the console getting a kink in it and shorting out or open circuits etc.,. Recently there have been great strides in what is known as Multiplexing where two units are employed, an encoder and a decoder and it is quite possible using the solid state type circuitry available to make one wire perform more than one function and thus cut down the number and sheer bulk of connecting cables between console and switch room. Multiplex involves rather advanced electronics with rather simple ideas. The idea in its most elementary form is that the encoder decides if something is being used and transmits that fact to the decoder which causes it so sound. Put it this way, a multiple scanning system scans the whole keyboard in a thousandth of a second and relates to the decoder just what the organist has pressed down. The decoder brings those pipes into play and keeps them on until the scanner or encoder informs the decoder that the organist has released the key at which point of time the decoder will shut off the power and the pipe will cease to speak.

This may sound a bit far fetched but just think about the circuitry in a Digital Organ such as the Allen, Yamaha etc., where they are clock controlled at a frequency of 4 Mhz or a frequency of four million cycles a second! When this is thought about it is not hard to see that this system could look at a 61 note manual 65,574 times a second and switch on or off what ever was in use.

A series of articles has appeared in Keyboard World from time to time concerning this type of electronic application and if anyone is interested then they can get these copies without trouble. Member Herb Wyatt would be able to explain in greater detail and if anyone is interested we may be able to get Herb out of the Garden to write an article for us!!

8...

BITS AND PIECES.

Films are shown at The Organ Home, Palmer Street, Parramatta, (Les Flanagan and John Winter), each Thursday evening at 7.30pm. These films are made by Yamaha and are designed to show the high standards which are reached by children using the Yamaha System.

I attended a showing of one of these films and found that it had quite a lot going for it and indeed, anyone who is interested in music and musicianship generally should at least have a look. Les and John have a lot of music available for sale as well as new and used instruments and it is well worth going along to have a look.

+

FOR SALE:

Member Ray Braley, 1090a Berowra Waters Road, Berowra, has a Yamaha D7 for Sale. With the Yamaha D7 there is also a Leslie 147 tone cabinet and Ray will separate if required.

The Yamaha D7 was first introduced in 1969 and like all Yamaha 'D' models, is classed as a luxury spinet and has 49 note manuals with a 13 note pedal board. This model has a pull out pre-set drawer on which it is possible to set up two solo and one general pre-set. The organ is quite advanced even by today's standards and Ray has the whole box and dice going for \$2450.00. The break down is \$1750 for the organ and \$700 for the Leslie Tone Cabinet. The 147 is the big one and has a 40 watt RMS amplifier in it and is generally regarded as one of their better units.

Ray can be contacted on 456 1149.

SUTHERLAND CIVIC CENTER.

Peter Held advises that he is backing a group called the Sydneysiders with whom he plays in their old time Music Hall Performances in both Sutherland and Bankstown Civic Centre's.

There is a show on 16th July at Sutherland Civic Centre and Peter will be playing the Yamaha EX 42 and the Guest Artists will include Beryl Cheers, Paul Maybury and others so this should be a very enjoyable afternoon beginning at 2.30pm sharp.

Well that is it for another issue, We have waited until after the Concert and Quarterly meeting to bring it to you and we have published a photo of Tom Hazelton with the brief facts on the back.

All the very best to all of you and don't forget that we look forward to getting articles from you for publication. Please remember that we must have the name and address of the contributor at all times.

This time around you will notice that the envelopes have changed slightly, this is because the Postal Regulations have required that certain changes be made and we are conforming to this. This may help some of you get the news a bit quicker than you have been getting it.

Bye for now.
Editor.