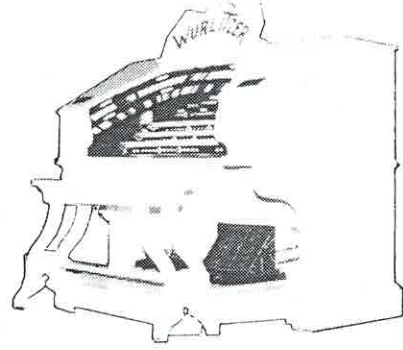
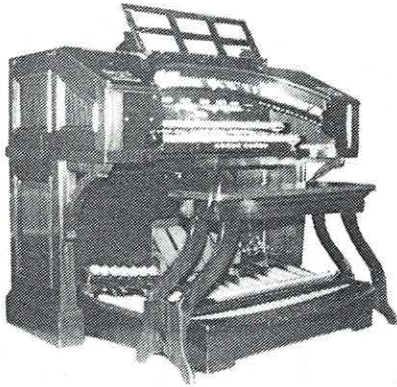


# TOSA

SEPTEMBER 1990

Marrickville Town Hall



Orion Centre Campsie

# NEWS

Your  
Opportunity to Hear  
"Mr Blackpool"

**PHIL  
KELSALL**

LIVE AT  
ORION CENTRE  
WurliTzer

during the Sydney  
Easter Convention  
1991

**BOOKINGS  
OPEN SOON!**

PHOTOGRAPH:  
PHIL KELSALL AT THE CONSOLE OF  
THE TOWER BALLROOM ORGAN AT  
BLACKPOOL, ENGLAND.

Volume 29  
Issue 9

The Official Publication of Theatre Organ Society of Australia (NSW Division) Inc.  
P O Box 87, Marrickville NSW 2204  
Registered by Australia Post - Publication No. N.B.H. 1038

Price  
\$1.00

SEPTEMBER 1990

## THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (N.S.W. DIVISION) Inc.

DIRECTORYPATRONS:

Ian Davies  
&  
Mayor of Canterbury, Ald. John Gorrie

PRESIDENT:

Jack Lawson (569 3775)

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Frank Ellis (649 7011)  
John Shaw (759 5825)

SECRETARY:

M/s Mary Stewart (51 5045)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

John Parker Home (570 8471)  
Work (758 2580)

TREASURER:

Bob Gilmour Home (489 3131)  
Work (241 1568)

ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Bill Schumacher (985 7318)

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Ian Somerville (476 4991)

MINUTE SECRETARY:

Mrs. Jean Taylor

COMMITTEE:

Peter Bidencope (44 2728)  
Margaret Hall (502 3279)  
Ian Hanson (949 6629)  
Peter Harding (629 2257)  
Neil Palmer (798 6742)  
Jean Taylor (579 5191)

PRACTICE CONVENOR:

Bob Staunton (607 8925)

RESEARCH & ARCHIVES:

Ian Cameron (048 411 616)

TOSA NEWS EDITOR & PRINTER:

Peter Bidencope (44 2728)

CONCERT TAPE HIRING:

Neil Palmer (798 6742)

TICKET SECRETARY (Concert Bookings)

Ed. Wharton (546 7231)

ARTIST LIAISON OFFICER:

Bill Schumacher  
8 Wharf Rd., Brooklyn 2253  
Phone 985 7318

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Kevin Rowland  
Barry Tooker

CONCERT RECORDINGS:

Bill Schumacher

PROMOTIONS OFFICER:

Kevin Rowland

Please address all correspondence to:

The Secretary  
TOSA (NSW Division) Inc.  
P O Box 87  
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

COMING EVENTSSEPTEMBER

- Mon. 3 at 7.30pm COMMITTEE MEETING
- Mon. 17 at 7.30pm SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
PLANNING MEETING  
FOR 1991 ACTIVITIES
- Sun. 23 at 2.00pm Marrickville Concert  
SPECIAL TRIBUTE  
TO NOREEN HENNESSY  
with music from films  
shown at the Prince Edward
- TWO ORGANISTS  
will be  
Cliff Bingham  
&  
Bill Schumacher

OCTOBER

- Mon. 8 at 7.30pm COMMITTEE MEETING
- Tues. 16 5.00pm Nominations close for  
Office Bearers / Committee
- Sun. 28 at 2.00pm Concert at Orion Centre  
Artists Clinton White  
&  
Bev Harrison

NOVEMBER

- Mon. 5 at 7.30pm COMMITTEE MEETING
- Sun. 25 at 2.00pm Possible Free Concert at  
Marrickville Town Hall
- Wed. 28 at 8.00pm Annual General Meeting at  
Marrickville Town Hall.

DECEMBER

- Mon. 3 at 7.30pm COMMITTEE MEETING
- Sun. 9 at 2.00pm Tony Fenelon Concert  
at Orion Centre, Campsie.

ALL CONVENTION ENQUIRIES  
PLEASE PHONE

Margaret Hall on (02) 502 3279.

REMEMBER TO TUNE-IN TO 2CBA-FM

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT AT 9.00pm -  
For "Theatre Organ Highlights"

FRIDAY NIGHTS AT 7.30pm -  
(Repeated Series) "Careers of Australian  
Theatre Organists"



Articles in this journal need not represent the views of the committee or editor.

SEPTEMBER 1990

## OBITUARIES

George Smith (Formerly of 47 Horbury Street, Sans Souci)

Although George was not frequently seen at T.O.S.A. functions, his wife Edna and son Ron were both very well known to most members. Several years ago Edna was our Society's hard working Treasurer whilst concurrently Ron was our Membership Secretary.

To Edna and Ron we would like to pass on our sincerest sympathies at this time - many of us will be thinking of you.

-----

Max Gray (Formerly of Cronulla)

Max was a long standing member of T.O.S.A. and passed away suddenly following his return from an overseas trip.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathies to his relatives.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Firstly I must explain the section that was crossed out in the August issue of TOSA NEWS. It was my own decision to delete this item and it was too late to print a retraction. The information contained therein was an opinion of the Membership Secretary and was contrary to the policy that has been in existence since the society began in 1960. I felt it better to delete same rather than have a group of dissatisfied clients at the box office before the committee had a look at the suggestion. At the monthly meeting on Monday 6th August after much discussion it was decided to refer the issue to the membership at the A.G.M. for their decision.

At the August 6th meeting, arrangements were also made for the winner of the guessing competition to collect his prize. For those who were not at the Walt Strony concert, the prize was won by our member Mr K. Zipson, our congratulations, and thanks to all those who supported the competition and assisted the society's finances.

Will all members please note the change of date for the September concert to the 23rd. This was brought about by the fact that 30th September was the long holiday weekend and could have affected our audience numbers.

The committee have updated the insurance on our property (i.e. those items apart from our organs). For members' information, the insurance cover on our organs (which is paid by the councils under our contracts) has been revalued by our organ builder and adjusted accordingly.

Regarding the musical evening at Brashs store, Parramatta, arranged for us by Graham Lockwood on behalf of Kawai, I was very disappointed to receive a phone call from Graham a few days prior to Wed, 1st August saying that Kawai had decided to cancel the night as only two others apart from Pearl and myself had booked. This I find to be very upsetting when a large firm goes to the trouble of contacting us with this offer and we do not respond.

Arrangements are well in hand for the '91 Convention, as the front of your last News showed. Shortly you will receive the booking form with costs etc.

PLEASE NOTE our new box number for all correspondence - P O BOX 87 MARRICKVILLE  
2204

I am happy to inform members that my committee are all working well together and even though Monday meeting nights usually become Tuesday mornings, we are able to get through the large amount of Society business.

Please keep your support coming so YOUR SOCIETY will continue to grow and prosper.

Thats all for this time

Jack

## PROMOTION OF THE THEATRE ORGAN AND OUR SOCIETY

Dear Members,

Our Society are the proud owners of the two finest WurliTzer theatre organs in New South Wales. What better time than now, to share and promote Theatre Organ and our Society to the general public, who may be unaware that our society even exists.

Your committee are continually evaluating ways to promote theatre organ concerts and we realise an excellent opportunity exists to do this with you our members. After all personal recommendation by word of mouth is still one of the best ways of advertising.

In order that this may be accomplished, you will find with this month's TOSA NEWS, two copies of the leaflet "An Introduction to the Theatre Organ Society of Australia (N.S.W. Division) Incorporated".

Now this is where we request your personal help - we are asking you to select a friend, neighbour or relative who you think may appreciate the extremely versatile range of captivating music we present at our concerts, and give them a leaflet. If you can think of more than two people and wish to further assist the society, we will be delighted to make further copies of the leaflet available to you.

Perhaps at some later date we may consider enclosing two extra leaflets with TOSA NEWS advertising a forthcoming concert. This would then enable you to pass on a leaflet to a friend instead of just relying on verbal information.

As an alternative it may be possible that your local shopping centre/complex would agree to display a leaflet which is of community interest. We can also make larger size (A3) leaflets available on request.

If you have any other ideas with regard to promotion, please mention your idea to me or any member of your committee.

My personal thanks for your help in this task.

J. Shaw

Vice President

## CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER Bill Schumacher

Should you be needing to contact Bill then please note his changed phone number as shown in the directory on page 2.

# TOSA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 1990

## LET'S MAKE NOREEN HENNESSY'S BIG DAY ONE TO REMEMBER

I think most members would now know that Noreen Hennessy will be our guest of honour at our next concert in the Marrickville Town Hall on Sunday 23rd September at 2pm. Noreen was the longest running organist at the famous Prince Edward Theatre, being resident there for 19½ years.

Although Noreen is not mobile these days, her memories are as sharp as a tack, and I intend to have her wheelchair brought down to the console and take the microphone to her that we may have a chat for a few moments about her long association with TOSA's own Marrickville WurliTzer. Members Ian and Barbara Somerville are very generously providing Noreen's transport and I thank them for making it all possible. Noreen is excitedly looking forward to the day, and I appeal to all members to roll up and greet this great lady who has played such an important role in our entertainment during the "golden days" of our movie going.

Yes, yes, I know the football grand final is on that day, but you can set your video to record the event and view it when you arrive home. Unlike football finals which occur every year, this is a once only occasion for Noreen, and it will take a great effort from her, both physically and emotionally, to be with us on the day. Let us all make the effort to honour her on this occasion.

As well, you'll hear two great organists who always play the kind of music we most like to hear, so don't forget - Sunday 23rd September at 2pm SHARP for Bill Schumacher, Cliff Bingham and our guest of honour Noreen Hennessy. You'll be able to have a chat with her yourself too.

See 'ya there,

Frank Ellis  
Vice-President

## LETTER TO THE SECRETARY

Dear Madam,

I would like to take this opportunity, if I may, to express my heartfelt gratitude to the TOSA committee and the membership for all the support and encouragement that I have received before I left Sydney to perform at the 1990 Annual Convention in Indianapolis, USA.

I was well received and many people asked several questions regarding our country and our theatre organs and several people expressed their desire to join us for the convention here in 1991.

It is my desire that I have encouraged more young organists to participate in the Young Organists Competition here in Australia as the common denominator is to further this wonderful musical instrument into the next generation and Beyond!!

Once again, thank-you for your support!

John Giacchi  
Tuesday, 14th August, 1990

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The past month has seen quite a number of new members joining the T.O.S.A. ranks and we would like to extend them a very warm welcome. They are:

Paul Bisgrove, George Canacott, Allan Colledge, Pro Hart, Ranald\* McKilligan, John Ray, Todd Underwood, Mrs Roxy Janetzki, Ruth Wootten, & Mrs Edith Steer.

\* Not sure of correct spelling - apologies if incorrect.

## DONATIONS RECEIVED

We would like to thank Allan Colledge and Pro Hart for their donations. They both overpaid the accounts.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### ADVANCE NOTICES

- 1) The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the Marrickville Town Hall on Wednesday 28th November 1990 at 8pm.
- 2) Nominations for Office Bearers and Committee persons must be in the hands of:  
Returning Officer  
Mr R D Blackmore  
P O Box 124  
PENNANT HILLS NSW 2120  
no later than 5.00pm on Tuesday 16th October.

- 3) Notice of motion of Special Resolution, the Society's Solicitor has recommended a change to our Rule 12 as follows:

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following as a special resolution:-

"That Rule 12 be amended by deleting the words 'and to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting' "

Rule 12 currently reads:

"The committee shall be known as the committee of management of the association and, subject to the Act, the Regulations, and these rules and to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting -

- a) shall control and manage the affairs of the association;
  - b) may exercise all such functions as may be exercised by the association other than those functions that are required by these rules to be exercised by a general meeting of members of the association; and
  - c) has the power to perform all such acts and do all such things as appear to the committee to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of the association.
- 4) A formal agenda will be prepared and forwarded to all members in due course, probably with your October issue of TOSA NEWS.

SEPTEMBER 1990

As published in  
ATOS INTERNATIONAL NEWS  
August 1990.

### "DEATH TAKES TWO BRITISH ARTISTS"

Two famed British Theatre Organists, Florence DeJong and Sidney Torch have died within a week of each other. Information on their passing was telephoned to the NEWS by John Leeming, Cinema Organ Society Journal Editor.

Details of Torch's death were not learned at press time. He died Tuesday July 16 and is thought to have been about 82 years old. His organ styling was famous throughout the Theatre Organ World.

Florence DeJong, Britain's first Lady Theatre Organist, died July 11 and her funeral was held July 16. She was 93. Her sister, Ena Baga, also a leading Theatre Organist in Britain, played a scheduled concert at the New Gallery Cinema (where Florence started her career) on the day of her funeral. The announcement of Florence's passing was withheld until after the conclusion of the program. She then played a brief memorial to her sister.

### ANYONE INTERESTED ? IN JOINING/FORMING NEW GROUP OF ORGAN PLAYERS IN CABRAMATTA AREA

One of the foundation members of T.O.S.A., Don Munro is keen to get together a group of preferably mature age/senior citizens who would be interested in meeting from time to time within a 5 mile radius of Cabramatta to play the odd pipe organ. Don hopes to be able to gain playing access to the historic 2/11 instrument in St.Lukes Anglican Church in Liverpool.

If any members (&/or their friends) are interested in furthering this idea, Don Munro would very much like to hear from you. You can write to him at 94 Fairview Road, Cabramatta 2166 or phone him on 72 1907.

### TRANSPORT STILL NEEDED

In August TOSA NEWS we also mentioned that Don would be very grateful if any of our members living near Cabramatta could provide transport for him to get to concerts - can anyone assist please - if so please give Don a call on 72 1907.

It would be great if someone could make it possible for him to get to Marrickville on 23rd September to see Noreen Hennessy!

### CHANGED POSTAL ADDRESS FOR T.O.S.A.

Would members please note T.O.S.A's new postal address:

P O Box 87  
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

### LETTER FROM NEW ZEALAND

Re: Billets for 1991 Sydney Convention

392 Greers Road  
Papanui  
Christchurch 5  
4th July 1990

----- I am enquiring to see if it is possible for billets for the 1991 convention being held in Sydney. Several of our members have indicated that they would like to be billeted and we could reciprocate anytime any of your members came to N.Z.

However it would be most appreciated if this could be arranged.

Yours sincerely

Jeanette Webster (Mrs)

Do we have any members who are able and willing to assist by providing this service, if so please contact Mrs Webster direct by writing to the above address or phone her direct on I.S.D. by dialling 0011 64 3 352 6766.

### TRAIN TRIP & BUSH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Some of our members may be interested in  
Australian Bush Music Festival  
in

Glen Innes 29th September to 1st October, 1990  
incorporating Bush Band Championships  
and Bush Music Awards.

This weekend of music and good company will be held at the Glen Innes Railway Station and adjacent Quinton Park. The special train leaves Sydney Central at 7.30am Friday 28th September, arriving in Glen at 7pm.

### ENQUIRIES & TICKETS:

Harvey World Travel	
Balmain	555 1677
Cronulla	523 8144
Crows Nest	439 8922
Top Ryde	808 1244

# TOSA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 1990

## WALT STRONGY CONCERT Orion Centre, Campsie, 22nd July 1990

Owing to an unexpected illness suffered by our volunteer reporter, it has not been possible to include the customary report of this concert as anticipated. It is hoped to publish the report in a future issue.

The photograph below (supplied by K. Rowland) will bring back a memory or two for those who attended this very enjoyable concert.



## MARGARET HALL & DAVID DRURY CONCERT at Orion Centre, Campsie, 24th June 1990.

Two extra photographs of Margaret and David have just been received.



ON THEIR WAY UP FROM THE PIT

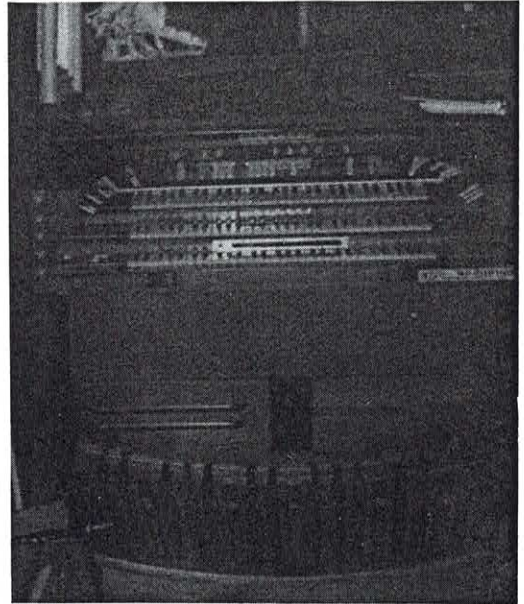


INTRODUCTIONS AT THE BEGINNING

NOTE: The report of this concert was written by Cliff Bingham and published on page 7 of August TOSA NEWS.

SEPTEMBER 1990

## FOR SALE



3 MANUAL CONN (SMALL) THEATRE ORGAN WITH LESLIE CABINET. The Organ has 5 ORIGINAL PRO HART PAINTINGS on the music rack sides and top of the console. The paintings are oils and valued from \$8000 to \$10,000.

ALSO 3 MANUAL 32 NOTE PEDAL THOMAS PALACE THEATRE ORGAN AND EXTERNAL LESLIE CABINET. Good condition.

Organs are being sold to make way for the installation of a large organ from England.

Any offer over \$11,000

(Offers)

Contact PRO HART Phone (080) 88 3148  
or Box 700 Broken Hill 2880

NOTE: The original photographs are in colour and are available for inspection by prospective purchasers, if required, by arrangement with the editor.

### FOR SALE

2/10 WURLITZER THEATRE ORGAN  
8 Original ranks & one set of chimes  
original relay

First installed in Kings Cross Theatre then Hurstville Savoy Theatre. Currently in use at the Burwood Uniting Church.

ENQUIRIES: David Powell phone -- Home 747 6584  
or Work 901 0742

### FOR SALE

LOWREY ORGAN - Model D325 "Holiday"

This instrument is in very good condition.

\$2750

Enquiries - Phone 534 3329

## NEW CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED FOR TOSA NEWS

### REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

A number of our members have contributed articles for inclusion in your monthly publication TOSA NEWS, however for a variety of reasons some are no longer in a position to do so. As a consequence this issue is somewhat smaller than previous issues.

If any of our members are able and willing to contribute material which is likely to be of interest to a wide cross section of our membership, then please contact your editor - Peter Bidencope on 44 2728.

SEPTEMBER 1990

TOWARDS BETTER ORGAN PLAYING  
Number 9, By John Martin

If you asked twenty Organists to play the same piece of music, you would almost certainly hear twenty completely different interpretations of the same piece. Even a simple piece of music such as the TOSA waltz can be played a great many different ways. Block Chords are a modern style of playing, where both hands are locked together on one keyboard. The right hand plays the melody in four-part harmony and the left hand plays just the melody note an octave below the melody note in the right hand. This gives a very 'warm' sound. The pedal is used to provide the first beat of the bar in waltz time, but is best played four beats to the bar in 4/4 time to give some idea of the rhythm of the piece.

The first problem we strike is that while the seventh and diminished seventh chords are four-part chords, the remainder are not. So to prevent the sound becoming thin, you will have to change the Major and Minor chords into Major 6th and Minor 6th chords respectively. This works most of the time except when the melody is on the seventh step of the scale when the sound would become just too thick and muddy. Actually you can often substitute a Major or Minor sixth chord for their straight counterparts in many pieces of music. When the music calls for an augmented chord, you can usually add the flatted seventh of the scale to produce a chord which is usually written as C7+5. As with all Organ playing and variations, let your ears be the final judges of what is best for a particular piece.

I have written out just the first line of our famous (or infamous) TOSA WALTZ in block chord style for you to try. Please work out the rest for yourself, and you will find that with practice you can convert many pieces to this style with ease.

One point to watch though, is that when all your fingers are occupied, you do not let the music become too choppy, and the first bar

of our Waltz shows a prime example of how a little thought can make your sounds blend into a smooth pattern. If we take the thumb as being the first finger, and the little finger as being the fifth finger (there are two schools of thought regarding the numbering of fingers), you will see that the first reaction of some players would be to play the first chord with the fifth finger on the C, the third on A (the sixth note), the second on G and the thumb on E. Now when we play the second chord, we can just move the entire hand up three notes and with a minor re-adjustment of our fingers play the second chord. However, if for the first chord, we play C with our fourth finger, the A with the third etc. then we can just rock our hand upwards, let go of the E being played with the thumb and play the top E with the free fifth finger. You can see how this would lead to a MUCH smoother sound. Even when we come to the second bar and the fifth finger has to jump from C to G, it will not be such a dramatic break as if the whole hand had to be moved and all the fingers re-deployed.

The left hand is busy playing the melody note, but can add a very useful trick whilst so doing. If you add a chromatic run in the left hand of the two semi-tones before each new note you will add a great deal of smoothness. Play the right hand notes as smoothly as you can and then finally at the same time as you play these smeared notes (this will take some practice) gently close the swell shutters (reduce the volume slightly) and the audience will think you have miraculously played chromatic runs with every finger of your right hand as well as your left!

If the melody is going down you can still add the same slide or smear of two notes unless the melody goes down by only one semi-tone. In this case just play a single smear or grace note in the left hand.

TOSA WALTZ - Block Chords

The musical score is presented in three staves. The top staff is in Treble Clef with a 3/4 time signature, showing four measures of block chords. The middle staff is also in Treble Clef with a 3/4 time signature, showing a melody line with quarter notes and half notes. The bottom staff is in Bass Clef with a 3/4 time signature, showing a simple bass line with quarter notes and half notes. The first measure of the right hand has four chords: C major, F major, C major, and F major. The second measure has three chords: C major, F major, and C major. The third measure has two chords: C major and F major. The fourth measure has one chord: C major. The left hand melody starts on C4 and moves up stepwise to G4, then down to F4, E4, D4, C4. The pedal part starts on C3 and moves up stepwise to G3, then down to F3, E3, D3, C3.