

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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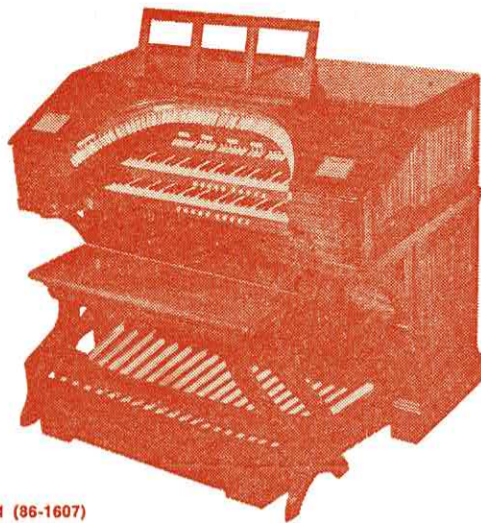
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WHAT'S ON IN N.S.W. THIS MONTH

TUESDAY 3rd OCTOBER "WARATAH FESTIVAL" ORGAN SPECTACULAR
AT SYDNEY TOWN HALL AT 8 P.M. ADMISSION FREE

Don't miss this year's Organ Spectacular at Sydney Town Hall - a full stage of electronic organs - top artists - bright and happy programme - compered by A.B.C. T.V. personality James Dibble. Honorary member David Parsons will appear at the Town Hall's Grand Organ. Bring all your friends and their friends too. Show your loyal support of TOSA's annual participation in the Waratah Festival's Organ Spectacular.

SATURDAY 7th OCTOBER Marrickville Town Hall at 8 P.M.

This will be the final Sydney concert by English theatre organist REGINALD PORTER-BROWN R.P.B. has been with us for quite a long visit and has given many Sydney concerts - this will be our chance to hear him for the last time. More importantly, it will give us a chance to hear him at our own Wurlitzer at Marrickville, and, as it is felt that this instrument will suit his style, this should be a most interesting concert. As a gesture to the Waratah Festival a special price will apply for this farewell concert. Public admission will be \$1.50 each with TOSA members paying only \$1.25 each.

SUNDAY 15th OCTOBER MECCA THEATRE KOGARAH AT 8 P.M.

This IS THE SHOW you've been waiting for. World famous GAYLORD CARTER brings his "FLICKER FINGERS" show to the Mecca Theatre Kogarah for a fun-filled, exciting nostalgic night. Nobody else can accompany silent movies on the organ quite like Gaylord Carter. Be early for this night of nights or you may be disappointed. Bookings are now open at the Mecca Theatre either personally or by phone if you wish. You may phone 587-0564 now and collect your tickets on the night of the show. It is understood that the main feature will be "The Mark of Zorro" starring Douglas Fairbanks Jun. Admission is \$1.60 each but TOSA members may be admitted for \$1.30 by producing their membership card at the theatre. Mr. Phil Doyle, owner of the Mecca Theatre, has invited TOSA members to remain in the auditorium at the end of the show, in order to meet Gaylord Carter personally. Coffee and biscuits will be served in the foyer and the Society deeply appreciates this act of hospitality by Mr. Doyle. This is a NOT TO BE MISSED EVENT. Vice-President Frank Ellis hopes every member who can possibly attend will do so - it is, after all a "once in a blue moon" occasion so come and relive the golden days of the "silents" for one wonderful nostalgic night.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The early morning concert at the State Theatre previously announced as on 7th October at 8 A.M. has been postponed to a date to be announced later. This change has been made necessary due to the earlier screening time of the present movie. Watch for new date.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WEDNESDAY 15th NOVEMBER at 8 P.M. CLIFF BINGHAM in concert at Marrickville Town Hall. It's been a long time since we heard talented Cliff Bingham on our Marrickville Wurlitzer organ so in response to many requests, we have arranged to feature him in concert. DON'T MISS CLIFF AT MARRICKVILLE.
ADMISSION \$1.50 each TOSA Members \$1.00 each.

TUESDAY 5th DECEMBER at 7 P.M. Our Annual XMAS PARTY this year will be held at ELIJAH RECEPTION CENTER, 83 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood at 7 P.M. The function commences with a dinner at 7 p.m. which will be followed by four MINI-CONCERTS featuring Cliff Bingham, David Parsons, Eric Smith and our Patron Ian Davies, who will also be Master of Ceremonies. In between each organist a guest artist will be featured. There will also be a magician appearing. Cost of the evening will be \$4 per person for dinner and entertainment. Early reservation is essential so please forward your remittance and booking to the Secretary by the 15th November. This will be our last members "get together" for this year, so don't miss out - make your reservation now so that the numbers can be notified to the catering establishment in good time. Make up a party and reserve your own table for this big Xmas function.

WE NEED YOUR HELP - THREE WAYS

The restoration of our Capital Theatre Wurlitzer Organ is soon to commence. Already the console, piano, some chests and pipework has been moved from the home of Ian Somerville to the residence of member, Ernie Vale at Haberfield. This heavy and difficult task was carried out by about 17 or 18 members on Sunday 10th September with the aid of member, Ross Adams and his motor van. The Society thanks Ian Somerville for use of storage space over the last few months, Ernie Vale for making his large storage space available to us. Ross for the generous use of his vehicle and the entire crew of 17 or 18 members who gave up their day to effect the move.

We NEED A LOYAL RESPONSE NOW by members who are prepared to help with the re-leathering project. It has been found overseas, that ladies can do this task as well as the men once they have been shown how. In fact in the U.S.A. a woman member re-leathered an entire organ project of over 3000 motors on her own - so how about some of our ladies taking their place with the men on our restoration project. It only involves one night a week girls and boys, so what about giving Tom Halloran a ring NOW and volunteering your services. Tom's number is 523.5077.

Our second appeal for help is in regard to the bed and breakfast accommodation for interstate members attending the Second National Convention to be held in Sydney next Easter. If you can offer bed and breakfast only for one, two, or more visitors on Easter Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights please, PLEASE fill in the coupon on the back page of this TOSA News and send it to me. Frank Ellis, 16 Delhi Street, Lidcombe, N.S.W. 2141, as quickly as possible so that I can assess the accommodation available in private homes and work out arrangements which will be required to accommodate the majority of our visitors in Motels etc.

The third appeal to your generosity concerns donations to the Capitol Organ Fund, and you will find a coupon on the back page of this issue if you would like to make a donation to help reduce the debt on this magnificent instrument which we now own. All donations will be acknowledged in TOSA News - if every member could donate the sum of \$10 our worries would be over. If you possibly can make a donation how about filling in the coupon and sending it with your cheque or Money Order, to our Treasurer, Oscar Moen right now, whilst you're in the mood.

NEW POLICY RE ADVERTS. The Committee has decided that a limited number of paid advertisements will be accepted in future issues of TOSA News. Advertised goods or services must be related to the organ field. Enquiries should be directed to the Secretary. It should be clearly understood that personal adverts. by members wishing to buy or sell organs etc. will continue to be free.

GLEN DERRINGER CONCERT AT RYDE

Wadsworth Stamford, distributors of the Wurlitzer electronic organ, must be feeling well pleased with the Glen Derringer concert which they presented at the Ryde Civic Centre on 11th September for there can be no doubt that Mr. Derringer made a very big impression on the near capacity audience who loudly acclaimed him. More than amiable, Glen has a very warm friendly personality which reaches out to every member of his audience, and to this a devastating knowledge of his product

and what it can be made to do under his very educated hands and feet, and you have the ingredients for a first class show. And first class it was, with Glen's showmanship complimenting his musicianship all the way. He presented a well planned program of wide appeal and there is little doubt that all those present would have agreed that his Rhapsody In Blue and My Fair Lady selections were the highlight of a most enjoyable evening.

HEATHER MOEN TO PLAY "THE BIG ONE"

A.B.C. Free Sunday afternoon concert at Sydney Town Hall on 22nd October at 2.30 p.m. For the information of TOSA members who enjoy classical organ music, our member Heather Moen can be heard playing the Grand Organ at Sydney Town Hall on the above date. A half hour programme by Heather, amongst other instrumentalists, will comprise compositions by Bach, Handel, Jackson and Franck. Surely Heather must be one of, if not the youngest to play the big one in Sydney Town Hall??

NEWCASTLE COMES TO MARRICKVILLE

Newcastle did indeed come to Marrickville on Sunday 17th September on the occasion of our final FREE Sunday afternoon concert for this year. To be precise, a busload of over 50 plus several cars delivered the faithful followers to Marrickville to attend an "All Newcastle" concert in which organist, guest artist and compere were all Novacastrians. There were also a number of folk from the Gosford area, where our artist is quite widely known. The guest compere was A.B.C. Radio personality Geoff Moore, who quickly had the show off to a good start as he introduced organist David Pitts to the console. David presented an exceptionally varied programme which ranged through pops, popular, standards, music from recent films, theme music and a couple of religious items, one of which was the Lords Prayer.

The exceptionally hot, dry winds of the previous few days did unfortunately cause a few malfunctions to occur in the organ but David, realising that what can't be cured must be endured, carried on regardless, and it is to his credit that he remained unperturbed whenever a cypher did occur. Keith Shakespeare was the guest artist and he revealed a nice piano-styling in his interpretation of Norman Long's monologue "Thirty Tha'sand Quid". Later, he took his place at the console, after confiding to his audience that he hadn't played a Wurlitzer for 27 years. David Pitts returned to the console to complete the concert in true theatre organ styling. He was recalled for an encore despite the fact that we were running later than usual. It was indeed Newcastle's day and as one member of the audience said to me - "those three Newcastle boys made a good trio". And so say all of us. The Society thanks them all for a most entertaining afternoon.

CONVENTION 73

Arrangements continue to progress very satisfactorily for the 1973 Easter Convention. All locations except one have been finalised and this one will shortly be confirmed. Artists have been selected and negotiations are now proceeding. It is hoped to be able to give further details shortly. In the meantime - think Convention 73 - and plan to attend the most ambitious Convention we have ever presented.

IAN CAMERON'S RECORD EVENING

Although attended by only a handful of people the 78 RPM Record Evening presented by Ian Cameron was very much enjoyed by those who went along.

A wide range of recordings was heard and covered many Australian and Overseas organists.

Many of the discs have been obtained from the libraries of Broadcasting stations all over Australia and it was commented that many of these were of surprising standard although they cannot be expected to be of the same quality as modern microgroove recordings.

It was clear that Ian Cameron had put a lot of time and work into the preparation of the presentation and his selections from his collection of some 500 records gave examples of almost every aspect of Theatre Organ presentations in the hey-day of Theatre and Organ popularity.

The opportunity was afforded to hear rare recordings of the voices of Sydney Torch and Sandy McPherson.

The President expressed appreciation on behalf of those present to Ian Cameron and to the Ladies Committee who served a very welcome cup of tea and biscuits.

Ian has offered to have a small party at his home at some future date where the real enthusiasts can hear more of his collector's pieces.

Those interested should ring Ian Cameron on 727.9548 so that a date can be arranged.

LAWRENCE DUNK'S ORGAN PARTY

On Saturday evening 2nd September, a very enjoyable evening was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. V. Dunk at Carlingford.

Lawrence's Yamaha E3 was the centre of interest and this instrument had been greatly modified with additional registrations and speaker system. The work had been carried out by Lawrence and his father and all present agreed the basic instrument had been vastly improved.

Players for the evening were Lawrence Dunk, Heather Moen, Lance Wells, Jim Birkett, George McNeill and Lyn Badman.

President Tom Halloran thanked all who took part and our hosts for the evening who provided a delightful supper.

Our Treasurer too expresses his gratitude for the \$29.00 contribution to the Capitol Organ Fund.

BURNING LOG'S ORGAN ON DISC

JOH CONGERT, resident organist of the Burning Log Restaurant at Dural, has made his first commercial recording featuring the Wurlitzer electronic organ installation at this popular highway eatery. Titled, "Requests by Candlelight" the cover features an excellent color photo of Joh and the Wurlitzer. Cover Notes are by Music Maker's John Gardiner. Side one features Love, This Is My Song - To Spend A Lifetime With You - I Don't Know How To Love Him - Lara's Theme - Autumn Leaves and Charmaine. Side Two has Golden Earrings - A Man And A Woman - Moonlight Serenade - If I Were A Rich Man - A Swinging Safari - Love Story and More.

Played in Joh's inimitable style, the sound quality is first class with good stereo separation apparent throughout. The disc will be obtainable at selected record stores in the near future but TOSA members may obtain it now direct from Joh at 37 James Street, Guildford. It can also be ordered by mail in which case there will be an additional 75 cents for packing and postage. Price of the disc is \$5.00. For further information phone Joh at 632-4522. It can also be bought at the Burning Log Restaurant where Joh is at the console should you be out that way for a drive. Recommended.

Advertisement

FRED SMITH, Service Manager of ERIC ANDERSONS and a member of T.O.S.A., is on Long Service Leave in England, where, apart from enjoying the Scenery and Colour T.V., he is busy looking at the problems associated with the servicing of Electronic Organs and the supply of spare parts, with a view to further expansion of ERIC ANDERSON'S SERVICE DIVISION (Electronic Organs).

He is due to return the first week of October.