

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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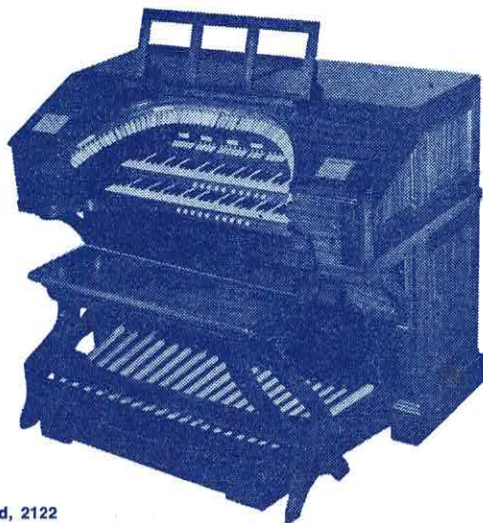
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**PRICE
40c**



VOLUME 9 NUMBER 9

1st SEPTEMBER 1971

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

4 TH :

N.S.W. STATE CONSERVATORIUM

YAMAHA PRESENTS

T.O.S.A. HONORARY MEMBERS

ERIC SMITH

AND

DAVID PARSONS

IN A

8 PM

GERSHWIN CONCERT

ALSO FEATURING Bernard King, Keith Garratt, and the GERSHWIN CHORALE, with special appearance by ANN SALISBURY, PLUS PLUS PLUS

THE WILLOUGHBY MUNICIPAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conducted by ALBERT KEATS

THE PROGRAMME OF THIS FABULOUS ALL-GERSHWIN CONCERT INCLUDES RHAPSODY IN BLUE, AN AMERICAN IN PARIS, PORGY AND BESS EXCERPTS, AND THE FAMOUS PIANO CONCERTO IN F (Complete.)

Tickets \$2.50 each: Available from David Jones Ltd., Ph. 2 0664
Proceeds and donations to Life Line.

19 TH: Free Marrickville 2:30 PM

A little bird tells me that Newcastle is sending a contingent of TWO BUS-LOADS to this concert! Well done indeed! How about it, locals, lets fill the Hall to hear DAVID PARSONS and his guest David Pitts, in concert at the Wurlitzer: 2.30 p.m., SUNDAY THE 19th SEPTEMBER.

MOREOVER, MORE OVER

an ORGAN PARTY WITH COL. TRINGHAM
 AND THE FABULOUS...
24TH GULBRANSEN "RIALTO"
SEPT. GUEST ORGANIST: BILL SCHUMACHER

Here's another of our very popular ORGAN PARTIES, this time at the home of COLIN TRINGHAM, 27 ARTHUR STREET, DEE WHY.

Scheduled to start at 8.00 p.m., there will be, however, a prelude of specially imported American organ discs and tapes, commencing at 7.30 if you would like to hear these too. Admission is the usual \$1.00, which will go to TOSA funds, and Col asks that ladies please bring a plate (with FOOD thereon.)

Accommodation is rather limited, so please telephone Colin a good while beforehand, at 98 7947 (evenings) or 759 8844 (business), to make your reservation.

The Gulbransen Rialto Organ is a Theatre-Horseshoe model, with two 61-note manuals and a 25-note, fully polyphonic pedalboard. It has its own four channel Leslie speaker system, with four stationary speakers and three rotating speakers. There are no drums, cymbals etc., but the Organ has two sets of generators, one for Tibias, and the other for reed-string voices. Nothing was spared in the design and voicing of the Organ in an attempt to recreate a realistic pipe sound.

For the technically curious, Colin has the full set of service manuals, etc. There are nine Tibia pitches on the upper manual of the organ, and six pitches on the lower. The organ has six couplers and independent tremulants for the two sets of tone generators. A most unusual feature is a reversible "Sforzando" button.

A lot of time has been spent converting this organ from its American Standard of 60 cycles per second to the Australian standard of 50 c.p.s. This has resulted in a much more Theatrically sounding tremulant, and as far as Colin knows, this is the only organ of this type in Australia which has been so converted.

Sounds like a most interesting night; Colin's house is directly behind Dee Why Infants' school, and is next to a small park in Arthur Street. See you there.
 PLEASE NOTE THAT THE 24th SEPTEMBER IS A FRIDAY NIGHT

FOR THOSE IN THE NEWCASTLE AREA (Thanks to Geoff Moore for this article.)

ALSO ON THE 19th SEPTEMBER, the Australian Broadcasting Commission, in association with Christchurch Cathedral, is presenting a Free Concert at 2.30 p.m. The artists are well-known organist and Master of the Choristers of Christchurch Cathedral, Michael Dudman, the Choristers, and the Sydney Brass Quintet.

Among the works Michael Dudman will play are the well-known Toccata & Fugue in D minor by Bach, and the complete Gothic Suite by Boellmann. Christchurch Cathedral is on "the hill" in Newcastle; it's easily seen. The organ is splendid.

FOR THOSE IN THE BRISBANE AREA AROUND SUNDAY 24th SEPTEMBER

THE WARANA FESTIVAL
*** ORGAN SPECTACULAR**

IN THE REGENT THEATRE, at 7.30 p.m.
 SIX ELECTRONIC ORGANS ON STAGE
 FEATURING INTERSTATE AND LOCAL ARTISTS
 PRESENTATION OF MISS WARANA 1971 FINALISTS

BOX PLANS AT PALINGS
 PRICES \$1.50 & \$1.00



NEW ORGAN MUSIC RADIO PROGRAMME IN SYDNEY

News has just reached me that 2KY have just started a new Theatre Organ music programme, Sundays, at 11 a.m. Full details next issue.

YIPPEE !! IT'S CONVENTION TIME

SATURDAY 16TH OCT.

8AM Capitol Theatre.....

IAN DAVIES AT THE 3/15

WURLITZER

10:30 AM Lyceum Theatre

ERIC SMITH AT THE CHRISTIE

2:30 PM Babell's Vintage Bistro

DAVID JOHNSON - TEACH-IN

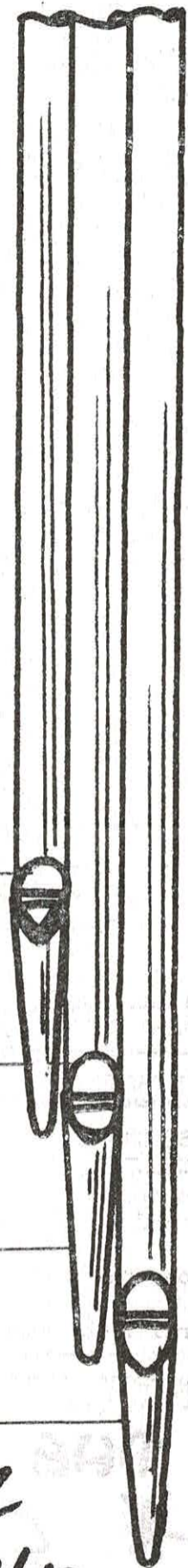
5:30 PM Babell's Vintage Bistro

... CONVENTION DINNER ...

8:00 PM Mainekville Town Hall

DAVID JOHNSON AT THE 2/10

WURLITZER



Well, on the previous page you have most of the info that we've all been waiting for; and what a fabulous line-up of organs and organ talent!!

Our very special guest this year is DAVID JOHNSON, well-known Melbourne organ expert and exponent, and RESIDENT ORGANIST OF THE FAMOUS DENDY THEATRE, Brighton, where he plays the 3/16 WurliTzer ex Melbourne Capitol; an installation that Vic. Div. has every reason to be very proud of. I heard DAVID JOHNSON on two occasions at this instrument, and since I heard he was coming to play for us in Sydney, eagerly await his visit. As well as playing what I know will be a superb concert for us at Marrickville, he will also be giving one of the ever-popular "Teach-ins" on an electronic at the Cahill's Vintage Bistro, under Mark Foy's, Castlereagh Street, City, also the venue for our CONVENTION DINNER.

Heralding the festivities, however, is our old favourite, an "EARLY-MORN CAPITOL" starting at 8.00 a.m., with IAN DAVIES in concert at the mighty machine, the Capitol 3/15 WurliTzer; after 43 years and much hard work, still a delight to hear. With some luck we might have the clouds as well as the stars going again.

At 10.30 a.m., we have the privilege of hearing another Honorary Member, ERIC SMITH, playing for us the rebuilt Christie pipe organ of the Lyceum Theatre, Pitt Street, City. Although this recital is part of the Convention, PLEASE NOTE that we are requested to book separately for it, as it is as well, a special Lyceum Theatre presentation for Charity; as well as the form for Convention Tickets generally, on the back of this issue of TOSA News, there will be another form ESPECIALLY FOR BOOKING FOR THE LYCEUM CONCERT at a SEPARATE CHARGE OF \$1.00

READ AGAIN THE TIMES, PERSONAGES and PLACES::::::::::

8.00 A.M.	CAPITOL THEATRE	IAN DAVIES
10.30 A.M.	LYCEUM THEATRE	ERIC SMITH and guest artists

Own arrangements for lunch.

2.30 P.M.	CAHILL'S VINTAGE BISTRO	David Johnson; TEACH-IN and concert.
5.30 P.M.	CAHILL'S VINTAGE BISTRO	C O N V E N T I O N D I N N E R
8.00 P.M.	MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL	DAVID JOHNSON IN CONCERT.

ALL THIS	}	<u>For</u> \$6.00	Double tickets \$11.00	Children \$4.00
ALL THIS				
ALL THIS				
ALL THIS				
ALL THIS				

(PLUS \$1.00 for the Lyceum Concert)

Note that children are only being being charged for the Dinner; i.e. they have admission to the recitals etc. at no charge.

The absence this year of a Friday night function means that EVERYONE will get up nice and early for the Early Capitol, doesn't it?

NOW, AFTER HAVING READ AND DIGESTED ALL THIS, YOU SHALL TURN TO THE LAST PAGE OF T.O.S.A. NEWS, AND FILL IN YOUR FORM TO GET YOUR TICKET. DON'T FORGET TO FILL IN BOTH FORMS IF YOU PROPOSE TO GO TO THE LYCEUM. WHEN YOU HAVE FILLED IN YOUR FORM/S, YOU SHALL THEN PUT SAME IN AN ENVELOPE WITH THE APPROPRIATE REMISSION, AND SEND IT ALL ALONG TO OUR TREASURER, OSCAR MOEN, 68 Shepherd Street Ryde, 2112, BEFORE THE 6th OCTOBER PLEASE. TA.

WHAT??? YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THE DATE.....SATURDAY 16th OCTOBER 1971

FOR N.S.W. DIVISION'S
HAPPILY-ORGANISED
Annual Convention

THERE ARE MORE CONVENTION NOTES ON THE PAGE WITH THE FORMS.....

FROM THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with the By-Laws of the Society, the position of Secretary falls vacant at the next Annual Meeting - 24th January, 1972. It is strongly urged that any member - lady OR gentleman, who would like to take over this very interesting job, for a maximum of 2 years, and at the same time render an invaluable service to the Society, should nominate for this position. The present Secretary, Mrs. Phyllis Dunn, will be very happy to discuss the job and its interesting facets, with any person who feels they would like it, but perhaps does not know much about it. Her number is 85 1376.

A similar situation exists with regard to the position of Minute Secretary, at present held by Mrs. Joyce Walker; so you might like to read all the above again, substituting where necessary. Mrs. Walker's No. is 86 5874.

An additional BY-LAW has been inserted in N.S.W. Division's By-Laws, to be numbered 16A.:

- (a) Nominations for Office to close 6 weeks before Annual Meeting. (i.e. next nominations will close 8th December 1971)
- (b) Nominations to be signed by two financial members, as proposer and seconder; and also by the nominee, to indicate his willingness to be nominated.

The Committee has decided that Pensioners and Superannuants are to be charged 50¢ only, per concert. If they both mention this when paying annual dues, membership cards will be marked accordingly, and can be shown when paying admission at concerts. This rebate scheme is allowed under the Constitution.

Financial General Members will be charged 2/3 (662/3%) of the public's admission fee to concerts. E.g. \$1.50; \$1.00, \$1.20: 80¢.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mondays 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, at St. Anne's Church Hall, Strathfield, at 7.15 p.m.

TOSA NEWS DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER: FRIDAY 17th SEPTEMBER NOTE WELL EARLY DATE

HONORARY MEMBER DAVID PARSONS' NEW MUSIC ROOM GREAT ATTRACTION

Saturday 31st July 1971, 41 members of the Selwyn Theatre Club were present to see their President, Ritchie Willis, officially open the new David and Beverley Parsons Music Room, at their Beecroft residence. The new music room measures 25 ft x 21 ft., and is graced by a two manual Conn Theatre Organ, with two sets of electronic pipes, mounted on the wall each side of the console. The room is tastefully decorated and carpeted, and has concealed spot lighting focussed on the organ. After a word of welcome David called on Ritchie Willis to officially open the Music Room by cutting a large red ribbon draped across the room and the organ. David played the first half of his own choice, then after a short interval commenced with a Singalong, with slides supplied by Barry Tooker, of ten favourite old songs, which was enjoyed by all. The last part of the programme was reserved for requests from the audience, which is always appreciated. At the conclusion Ritchie thanked David for a night to remember of outstanding entertainment, and called on a senior Member, Mr. Jim Martin to convey a vote of thanks to David, on behalf of the Selwyn Theatre Club, of which David is Patron. After the singing of "For they are Jolly Good Fellows", David's wife Beverley, served a delightful supper. Miss Bonnie Read proposed a vote of thanks to Beverley on behalf of all fortunate to be present at such a memorable occasion.

(R. W.)

The evening of 7th August saw another good roll-up when TOSA members attended the first Organ Party at the Parsons' new Music Room. Over sixty members and friends came along, including a group from Newcastle, and a couple from Bateman's Bay.

David certainly has designed a home organist's delight, as those who were present would agree. The Conn and its two ranks of electronic pipes gave us a living

(Cont. from page 5)

demonstration of stereo presentation, David of course making his contribution. With drapes pulled back so we could gaze out onto trees under spotlight, our Organist gave us a rendition of Trees, followed by Silent Night.

The evening's programme consisted of many requests both pop and classical, coupled with that great old Gospel hymn "The Old Rugged Cross". A truly delightful evening rounded off with tasty supper. Many thanks, David and Beverley. May we hope for another in the future?

(J. R.)

So popular was this night that David was booked out weeks beforehand, and very kindly arranged for us another date, the 13th August, an act which those who would have missed out otherwise, were very grateful for indeed. (Ed.)

SPLASHDOWN AT PARRAMATTA

Wadsworth-Stamford proudly announce the

FIRST AUSTRALIAN RELEASE

of the World's most sensational new Organ.

THE WURLITZER ORBIT III

HOME SYNTHASIZER ORGAN!

This THREE MANUAL Musical revolution is the last word in Space-Age Electronic Development by the WURLITZER COMPANY—for whom we are proud to be SOLE AGENTS. A giant step forward in musical technology, the ORBIT III can create a complete new world of sounds BEYOND THE PRESENT REACH OF YOUR IMAGINATION!

A STEP BEYOND

... and amazingly simple to play the WURLITZER ORBIT III enables you to draw from an endless array of AUTHENTIC organ voices and then combines the LIMITLESS RESOURCES of the SYNTHASIZER!

FEATURES (PREVIOUSLY UNHEARD OF) INCLUDE:
Variable-pitch modulators, attack time control, sine-wave timbre, sine-wave volume control, second touch, Delta-pitch, synthesised Wah-Wah, multi-matic percussion, Spectra-tone, slide, built-in Cassette recorder, repeat and attack, NINE DIFFERENT PITCHES, fully-transistorised, multi-channelled and an endless range of versatility features WHICH YOU MAY NEVER SEE ON OTHER ORGANS FOR QUITE SOME TIME!

WADSWORTH-STAMFORD expect to unveil the ORBIT III HOME SYNTHASIZER ORGAN during next week at their PARRAMATTA Showroom.

ALL ENQUIRIES 635 6037

HAMMOND ORGAN SOCIETY NEWS

Are you coming down to Wollongong on 4th September? The Illawarra Chapter are presenting a Charity Concert at the Wollongong Town Hall Annexe, on that day at 8.00pm.

Guest Organist will be Vice President (of Sydney Chapter), PETER GROVES, playing a Hammond C3. Allan Brewster, President of Illawarra will be playing his own fabulous X77. Ted Springett, pianist, of Bowral, will be accompanist to singer Ray Clarke, of Russell Vale.

Tickets are adults \$1.50, Children and Pensioners 75¢. Proceeds are to the Tawarra Handicapped Childrens' School.

WHAT'S ON IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

September 7th, Tuesday 8pm at Wyatt Hall, Pulteney Grammar School::CLUB NIGHT. Special Members' Night...Malcolm Patterson will present a talk on highlights of the A.B.C.'s Theatre Organ Club. Members will also have playing time on the 2/12 WurliTzer. September 13th: Saturday 8pm; Wyatt Hall:

CLASSICS ON WURLITZER

A unique concert! For the first time on S.A. WurliTzer, a whole concert devoted to Classical Organ Music. Well known Adelaide organists DAVID MERCHANT and LYALL VON EINEM.

B.B.C. THEATRE ORGAN RECORDS.

Frank Ellis advises that the response to these records, detailed in previous TOSA NEWSSES, has been very good indeed. Remember last issue we mentioned the second of "The Organist Entertains" would be available in October. Unfortunately this is not now the case, as there have been some difficulties in packing and transit. We will keep you posted in developments re this. However, not to worry, for Frank has just been notified of another disc which you can order from him now. Entitled "That's not the way I heard it," the record features well-known lady organist in the U.S.A., ANN LEAFE, playing the 33 rank Robert Morton Organ of the Lorin Whitney Studios, Glendale, California.

The title is derived from the way the pieces are played; all are well known pieces, but arranged in not quite the way you and I are accustomed in hearing them. E.g., who ever heard "The Last Rose of Summer" in March Time, or "In the Halls of Montezuma" as a delicate waltz? Sounds great fun, and it's STEREO, too. Order direct from Frank Ellis, sending \$4.25 in postal notes or cash; 16 Delhi Street, Lidcombe.

andrew fenner at



MARRICKVILLE

Those who turned up at Marrickville Town Hall on 28th July to hear our English visitor ANDREW FENNER will I know, agree that here is a TRUE THEATRE ORGANIST.

I went along convinced that I was going to hear a superb concert, well played and thoroughly enjoyable, and I wasn't disappointed. Andrew Fenner's methods were the products of many many years' experience in the cinema and classical organ worlds, and boy, how this came through in his sometimes brilliant, sometimes subtle, but always exciting registration, his clever key changes, and his overall remarkably smooth technique and presentation.

ANDREW introduced most of his items, sometimes with humorous personal anecdotes to illuminate same, and his cheery character warmed its way into the hearts of the audience.

Starting off on straight organ, without tremulants, Andrew played two restrained easy-to-listen-to classics, Clarke's Trumpet Tune, and Waltz of the Villagers. A hauntingly beautiful Danny Boy headed a short list of traditional Irish Melodies, succeeded by a bracket of Dixieland tunes, which really had our feet tapping. Gilbert and Sullivan melodies always sound good on a Theatre Organ, and Andrew proved this by his playing of Behold the Lord High Executioner, Poor Wand'ring One, A Policeman's Lot, and Take a pair of Sparkling Eyes.

Ending the first half came a bracket of songs made famous by Al Jolson; April Showers, Carolina in the Morning, Toot toot tootsie and California Here I Come, and a splendidly played In a Monastery Garden, by Ketelby.

Andrew started his second half with his signature tune, Sussex by the Sea, continuing with the Barcarolle from Tales of Hoffman. Then came a brief singalong, which I suppose could have been extended if only us lot had have sung up a bit better! In the "girls' names" selection, we heard Charmaine, Hello Dolly, Dinah, and Waltzing Matilda, followed by a mixture of things under the title, Anything Goes:- Surrey with the fringe on top, Away over the Rainbow, Put your arms around me honey, It's a sin to tell a lie, Stranger in Paradise, and Show Business.

Andrew's group of Music Hall Songs once again set us off humming and tapping feet, and before we realised it, the show had ended. Well, not quite, for the tempestuous applause brought forth as an encore an exciting Square Dance bracket.

A most rewarding concert; one of our most enjoyable and memorable. To those who stayed home, serves you right; see what you missed!!! Thanks to our visitor ANDREW FENNER for a fabulous night.

FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIA

At last the Compton 3/10 Organ from the Plaza Theatre, Worthing has become a reality instead of something discussed per the media of these pages. The Organ is at present in storage, and a preliminary examination of two of the massive crates indicates that it has travelled well with no apparent damage. W.A. Div are now looking for volunteers to help clean up etc.,

SILENT FILMS ARE CATCHING ON AGAIN

Various overseas magazines, including "Console" have reported the recent increased interest in silent film with organ accompaniment presentations, as per 1920's. Your committee has for the past few months been discussing just such a presentation right here in Sydney, and it is hoped that the event will take place early next year. We intend to put on an Authentic 1920's Deluxe Presentation, to be staged, where else, at the Capitol, Australia's only surviving Atmospheric Theatre, with, as well as an important rarely-shown-nowadays Silent Film, and the use of the Capitol's famous 3/15 Wurlitzer, a full theatre pit orchestra, a Stage Band, and various other Stage acts with all the twenties trimmings. Anight that Sydney will probably never see the like of ever again. More to satisfy your curiosity later.

From "Electronics", of 24th May 1971, comes this news item of disturbance to the pipe organ industry! Read on and marvel::

It took three years and a digital computer, but now there's an electronic organ that's hard to distinguish from a church pipe organ. And it took the combined efforts of an organ maker—Allen Organ Co.—and an MOS/LSI maker—North American Rockwell Microelectronics Co. (NRMEC)—to "faithfully reproduce the sounds of a pipe organ."

Perhaps even more significant, the development makes it possible to build such an organ in the medium-price range—\$10,000 to \$20,000—according to Ralph Deutsch, program manager at NRMEC who conceived of the project. He also developed the computer programs for converting analog tape recording of pipe organs into a digital format that is stored in the computer's memory.

"Churches worry about price, and the organist worries about sound," comments Deutsch, himself an organist. He feels the Allen/NRMEC digital organ will satisfy both. "Pipe organists who have played it like it," he reports.

Besides duplicating many pipe organ sounds more closely than existing electronic organs, the developers claim that the computer represents the first completely digital electronic system that produces musical sounds. Electronic church organs, including those made by Allen, Macungie, Pa., a pioneer in the field, have up to now been analog instruments. One of the most bothersome—and costly—drawbacks in the analog approach is that separate oscillators are required for each note or frequency produced. The minimum complement is 164 oscillators, and they are difficult to tune. For example, even though Allen does this tuning with relatively expensive toroid coils, Deutsch says that the fastest he and his son, also an accomplished organist, have tuned a 210-oscillator organ was two hours.

Moreover, using hundreds of oscillators to generate the analog organ's frequencies still doesn't produce music. "You still have only a sine wave," Deutsch says. To get other "voices," analog networks

have to be provided to shape the sine waves.

By contrast, the digital organ synthesizes all waveforms from a single 4-megahertz frequency standard. The four-phase MOS/LSI logic and memory circuits used in the standard and the synthesizing operation provide such stability that there's no need for tuning the organ.

Glen Griffith, program engineer for the MOS prototype at NRMEC in Anaheim, explains that basically the system stores a normalized digital representation of a complex periodic waveform and provides a mechanism for repetitiously reading the waveform from memory at a rate corresponding to a musical frequency. Waveshapes representing all pipe-organ tones are selected, digitized, and stored in the organ computer's read-only memory.

When an organist actuates a set of stops, the points of each corresponding wave stored in memory are summed and deposited in a random-access, read-write buffer memory. The organ's frequency synthesizer also has a memory that contains the ratio of the frequency of each note to the computer clock frequency.

When the organist depresses a key, the appropriate ratio is deposited in an addition register. At each 1-MHz computer clock pulse, that ratio is added to itself, and the integer part of the addition register addresses the buffer memory. Thus, while the buffer memory is addressed at the computer clock rate, the address itself changes at a rate equal to the number of sample points in the waveshape multiplied by the audio frequency.

The normalized waveshape essentially is altered so it corresponds to the note played on the organ keyboard. Finally, the beginning and end of the waveshape are modified to produce the characteristic attack and decay of an organ tone. Then the tone is put through a digital-to-analog converter and a conventional audio amplifier, and is actually reproduced by two speakers.

The keyboards and stops are time-multiplexed to provide substantial savings in console cabling and interconnection within the MOS chips. Emphasizing the im-

portance of multiplexing, Deutsch says, "The first thing that strikes you when you look at the back of this organ and a conventional electronic organ is the lack of cabling."

The organ's computer, consisting of 22 MOS/LSI chips, is mounted on a circuit board 17.75 inches long, 11.5 in.-wide and 1-in. thick. Optional is an alterable random-access memory that provides for storing additional waveforms that give the organ four more voices. These digital waveforms are read into memory using punched cards and a card reader built into the console.

Converting the usual analog procedures of an electronic organ to a digital format was complex enough, but the really tricky part of the operation was digitizing the actual tones produced by a pipe organ to give the most natural sounds.

To give Allen Organ a variety of sounds to choose from, NRMEC first recorded the pipe organ sounds on analog tape and put them through a 12-bit a-d converter. The resulting digital tape went through a computer program that generated a harmonic analysis of the waveform. Then the computer drove a plotter to print the harmonic analysis of a given waveshape in decibels. This was then compared to the printout of the harmonic analysis of a synthetic waveform.

The digital content of the synthetic waveform was encoded onto punched cards. These were fed into a special voicing device that NRMEC engineers built to be played like an organ so that Allen Organ's musical authorities, including Jerome Markowitz, president, could listen to the tones to see how closely they approach genuine pipe organ sounds.

NRMEC provided Markowitz with five punched cards per tone, each representing a different volume. From these, Markowitz chose what he considered the proper loudness to duplicate the pipe organ's sound for the same tone.

Deutsch reports, "We're now almost fully automated from the decibel input point to what goes into the ROM masks. The programs exist to do this fully automatically," he says. □

WARATAH FESTIVAL ORGAN SPECTACULAR

AN EARLY REMINDER ABOUT THIS IMPORTANT ANNUAL TOSA ACTIVITY.

What with the Sydney Town Hall stage packed with one of each of the popular Electronic Organs, and a collection of famous organists to do each credit, AND a lot of popular, happy music, this is surely one of the highlights in the musical side of the Waratah Festival, more details next issue, but just now write down the date::::

WEDNESDAY 6th OCTOBER at 8.00 p.m.

CHATSWOOD DRAGGING THE CHAIN

Yes, once again it's my sad job to report that works at the new Chatswood Town Hall are at such a stage that an opening cannot really be hoped for this year. (Sob!) BUT, the Architect believes, and the Mayor also, that the opening will take place early November. Whether or not the WurliTzer is ready by then depends upon Noads boys to get stuck into the job - there's an amazing amount to be done on this organ; we haven't even had a look at the pipe work yet. NEVERTHELESS the publication of the Souvenir Booklet, released to mark the occasion of the re-opening of the Arcadia Theatre WurliTzer, will go on as planned, and will shortly go to Press.

NOW is the time to reserve your copy of this historic little document. Consisting of 52 pages of text, with 31 photographs, it is bound to be of great interest to all fascinated by the history of Motion Pictufes in Australia, the rise and fall of the suburban Picture Show, the era of the Theatre Organs and Picture Palaces, and the particular history of a typical Suburban Community Theatre, such as the Arcadia, at Chatswood, which survived from 1915 to 1961.

All the resident and relieving organists at the Arcadia Theatre from 1926 to 1961 are discussed, with full biography of each, AND a sometimes very rare photo of each, nearly all of them AT THE ARCADIA CONSOLE. Other chapters deal with the Talkies, the restoration of the organ, the people of the Arcadia, other cinmmas of the district, and an important section dealing with the early tent and open-air shows of the North Shore; a facet of the life of the early teens which has almost been forgotten.

I will be glad to answer any further enquiries regarding the booklet or the Willoughby Council project generally. However, for your convenience, on the back of this issue, with the Convention Forms, you will find a special reservation form for this booklet, which should be sent to Box 447, P.O., Chatswood. This will ensure you a copy. There will only be one limited edition, and a great number will be issued to guests at the Official Opening of the Town Hall, so don't be disappointed - ORDER YOUR COPY NOW - apart from later brief reminders, and progress reports, this is the last I shall say on this subject.

Till next month,

CONVENTIONALLY
YOURS,

Lawrence Gripp
2/8/71

THE SUPREME ARTISTRY OF ERIC SMITH

Setting off with a brilliant arrangement of "Cabaret" and that wonderful Strauss overture to "Die Fledermaus", TOSA Honorary Member ERIC SMITH played a most exciting concert to the audience at Marrickville Town Hall on 25th August.

ERIC'S arrangements of pieces always shows up the marriage of two of the most important attributes of a musician:- a sound classical background resulting in the ability to master flawlessly any and all technical difficulties presented, and the personal involvement in the music he is playing - a sincere, devoted interpretation of the composers intentions.

The unusually warm rounds of applause after each piece showed how much Marrickville's audience appreciated this musicians work and the concert programme itself, which turned out to be a pleasing mixture of well known old and new popular melodies, nicely balanced by Operetta, light classics and classics.

After the Strauss, ERIC played a remarkably David - Rose - sounding "Holiday for Strings" - remarkable because he was playing an organ and not conducting David Rose's Orchestra - which just goes to show what wonders can be done on a Wurlitzer.

Next came a delightful novelty number by Steele, called "Knaves of Diamonds", then a bracket of three well known Burt Bacharach songs, a most sensitively played "A House is not a Home", a weird arrangement of "I'll Never Fall in Love Again" and a highly original lightning, thunder and falling rain - accompanied "Raindrops are Falling on My Head".

Ending the first half with a bang was Ravel's famed "Bolero".

"Blaze Away" opened the second half in March Tempo, neatly foiled by Burton Lane's "On a Clear Day you can see Forever". I have never heard Bach's Chorale "Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring" played so beautifully as ERIC did at this concert - it was truly haunting and Grande - Cathedral - toned. The "Festival Toccata" by Fletcher sounded magnificent on this organ - all bright diapasons and reeds with vibrant penetrating pedal - no tremms naturellement!

We were next to enjoy the famous Fort Street Boy's High School Choir, who sounded really fine accompanied by the Wurlitzer - "The Little Road to Bethlehem", a nostalgic "Green Leaves of Summer", the School Song from "Goodbye Mr. Chips" and finally an exciting "Tonight" from West side story.

ERIC'S interpretation of George Gershwin is always so sentimental and thirties - ish and his "Someone to Watch over Me" was a joy to hear. George Wright's arrangement of "Chicago" and Victor Herbert's "March of the Toys" from Babes in Toyland were exquisitely played and finally, the fourth of that Great English Romantic, Elgar's five Pomp and Circumstance Marches brought the evening to a stirring "nobilemente" conclusion.

WADSWORTH'S WONDERFUL WURLITZER WHIRL

Wednesday 15th September, at 8 p.m. at Ryde Civic Centre will see the entire range of current Wurlitzer Electronic Organs on display and in concerts.

Among the models to be demonstrated are the fabulous 4500 TCR Concert Organ and the 4700 Full Recital Model.

As well, the only model presently in Australia of the revolutionary Orbit III as described on page six of this issue, will be featured in a mind-bending segment.

Don't miss this exciting night; Admission \$1.00. adults and 50¢ for children.

HALF the proceeds will go to TOSA funds and the rest to the Autistic Childrens Fund.

This is a night you would be foolish to miss!!

VALUABLE AIRPLAY ON SYDNEY RADIO

Sincere thanks are extended to the Sydney Radio Stations 2UW and 2GB (and I think a couple of others too) for their very kind plugs for Andrew Fenner's Concert - it's greatly appreciated and of course widens knowledge of our Society and its functions.

STOP PRESS (What, again?)

Charles Tuckwell rang to tell me that the brilliant American Organist FRANK STITT will be arriving in Australia in October, and will give concerts on newly-released Baldwin organs.

An important function during his tour will be a concert at the Wesley Centre on Friday, 29th October, 1971. More details later but make a note now, in your diary of this date.

X	TONY FENELOON		X
X			X
X			X
X	AT		X
X	<i>The Dandy Wurlitzer</i>		X
X			X
X	SUNDAY 12 TH SEPTEMBER		X
X			X
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X	*	2.30 pm	*
X			X
X			X