

# TOSA

November/December 2024

Volume 63 No.6

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# NEWS

## CONCERT HITS - 30 YEARS ON

**Chris McPhee at the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ**

**Sunday, 2 February 2025**

**Orion Centre, Campsie**



# Directory

## Patron

Dr. John Atwell

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Barry Tooker 02 9744 1535

## TOSA News Distributors

David & Margaret Badman

## Printer

Printers of Richmond

## President



Dear Members,

Thank you to those who attended the Annual General Meeting. I would like to welcome incoming committee member Margaret Hall and thank Robert Gliddon for his contributions while he was on committee.

By the time you read this, our Patron Dr. John Atwell will have played his last concert as he has decided to retire from public performance. It will also be the first time in four years that the Orion Wurlitzer has been presented in a formal concert since the pandemic and water damage that the organ sustained.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a joyous Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year.

I look forward to seeing you at the Chris McPhee concert in February.

*Neil, President*

## Editor



Hello Members,

November and December have sure been busy months! Last month kicked off with the AGM, where we welcomed theatre organist Margaret Hall onto the committee.

Later in the month, Margaret Hall played the State Theatre Wurlitzer prior to multiple screenings of the brand new movie 'Wicked'. Having attended the last night of the screenings, I was thrilled to hear and see the mighty Wurlitzer in action! Margaret played a selection of music from the musical, and she was well appreciated by the entire audience. Congratulations Margaret!

(An article featuring photos will be found in the next edition of TOSA News)

The start of December saw TOSA NSW's annual Christmas concert with our Patron Dr. John Atwell at the console. After 57 years of public concert performances, Dr. John Atwell decided to make this concert his farewell. A superb concert filled with a wide range of memorable music, this was a great send-off marking an extraordinary career.

Thank you John!

(A review and tribute will be featured in the next issue of TOSA News)

Merry Christmas!

*Oliver, Editor*

## From the Mailbox...



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Please submit all comments  
via email to:  
[editor@tosa.net.au](mailto:editor@tosa.net.au)

Please send all submissions  
via post to:  
PO Box 2751  
CARLINGFORD COURT NSW 2118

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

The Society's only bank account is  
with **St George**

Details are :  
**BSB 112-879**  
**Account Number 442 088 530**

## TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

My husband David and I would like to "thank you" Oliver for producing the Tosa News this year.

You had big shoes to fill from Ernie Vale our previous Editor, and you have done an amazing job with the new look T/N.

As a young man, still at school plus pursuing your other interests, you volunteered your services to produce this wonderful magazine for us .

TOSA is very lucky to have you on their team.

David and I certainly appreciate all your time and effort which goes into producing the T/N.

Kind Regards,

Margaret and David Badman

## **Membership Fees for 2025**

### **Membership and Renewal of Membership**

**\$40 Full | \$30 Concession | \$30 Interstate | \$40 Overseas | \$10 Student**

**(Only one TOSA News per household)**

### **Membership Enquiries**

**0417 971 212 [membership@tosa.net.au](mailto:membership@tosa.net.au)**

**Associate membership for spouse/partner - an additional 50%**

# UPCOMING TOSA EVENTS

**11am Tuesday, 14 January 2025**  
**West Ryde Anglican Church**  
**Meet the Organ**

A *FUN* and *FREE* musical event for kids of all ages.

Come and hear a magnificent pipe organ playing your favourite tunes and have the unique opportunity to play the organ yourself!

**Sunday, 2 February 2025**  
**Orion Centre, Campsie**  
**Chris McPhee at the Orion Centre Wurlitzer**

Chris McPhee will entertain us all on the 3/17 Orion Centre Wurlitzer.

This concert will mark the 30th anniversary of the release of his album 'Concert Hits', recorded on the same instrument.

Find out more on the next page!



## Advertising

### Rates in

### TOSA News

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Quarter Page = \$25

Half Page = \$50

Full Page = \$100

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

## Members' Dates

### West Ryde Anglican Church

NO PLAYERS DAY IN DECEMBER

JANUARY PLAYERS DAY TBA

**Convenor is John Weismantel**

0435 258 287 or

whitecoats@bigpond.com

**Please contact him to confirm availability**

### Marrickville Town Hall

NO PLAYERS DAY IN DECEMBER

JANUARY PLAYERS DAY TBA

**Convenor is John Batts**

0420 424 103

**Please call him to confirm availability**

### Orion Centre

Thursday, 12 December

Thursday, 9 January

**Convenor is Craig Keller**

0418 484 798 or

craigkeller1966@gmail.com

**Please contact him to confirm availability**

# CHRIS MCPHEE AT THE ORION WURLITZER

**Sunday, 2 February 2025**  
**2pm**

**Orion Centre, Campsie**

Chris McPhee A.A.G.M., M.B.I.E., M.A.I.E. is a respected theatre organist. Based in Adelaide, Chris has performed at leading venues across Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and the United Kingdom.

With a career spanning over three decades, Chris has had the privilege of performing at iconic venues such as the Adelaide Town Hall and Festival Theatre. He was honored to be the final organist to perform at the Adelaide Regent Theatre in 2004 and recently celebrated the centenary of the Prince Edward Theatre Wurlitzer in Sydney.

Chris's international performances have taken him to esteemed venues around the world. Some notable highlights include performances on the ex-Gaumont Manchester Wurlitzer (UK), ex-Regal Kingston Wurlitzer (UK), ex-Regal Edmonton Christie (UK), Wurlitzer Manor in Gig Harbor (USA), Auditorium Theatre in Rochester (USA), Tacoma Pizza and Pipes (USA) and Auckland's Hollywood Theatre (NZ).

Chris has released seven commercial recordings and regularly features on local and international radio broadcasts. He has shared the stage with notable Australian entertainers and continues to delight audiences with his performances at the Capri Theatre.

In 2025, Chris returns to the historic ex-Capitol Theatre Sydney Wurlitzer, now at the Orion Centre Campsie, commemorating 30 years since the release of his album Concert Hits.

In addition to his musical pursuits, Chris holds qualifications in embalming and post-mortem reconstructive surgery, with membership in the Australian Institute of Embalming and British Institute of Embalmers.

## Location

### Orion Centre, Campsie

155 Beamish St, Campsie NSW 2194

Lots of parking onsite.

Orion parking entry via Shakespeare St.

The Orion Centre is easily accessed via public transport. Bus routes 410, 420, 490 and 492 run from Burwood to Campsie.

## Time & Date

2:00pm

Sunday, 2 February 2025

## Ticket Prices

(Afternoon Tea Included)

Member	\$35
Adult	\$50
Concession	\$40
Student	\$15
Child	FREE

A special price of \$25 per ticket is available for group bookings of 10+ people.

## Booking

Tickets may be booked and reserved online via the TOSA website.

<https://tosa.net.au>

Please contact our ticket secretary at 0408 230 337 to book tickets over the phone.

## Orion Update

Neil Palmer

The replacement Solo String pipes laid out ready to be installed on the manual chest after it was put on the voicing machine at organ builder John Parker's factory. This will replace the existing Solo String which needs attention to its voicing. It will eventually return to become the Solo String Celeste. The Solo String is an important tuning reference rank for the solo chamber on this organ apart from its use, musically.



The replacement Solo String pipes

## Christmas Concert

Margaret Badman

I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas Concert which we had on Sunday 1st December with Dr John Atwell.

The team had a few hiccups: there was a power blackout when we all arrived to set up. Power was restored by 11.45am - full speed ahead to make ready for the show!

Unfortunately, we had a few volunteers who were unable to make it to the concert. Some of us multi tasked as we went.

I would like to thank the volunteers who stepped in at short notice for their help during the afternoon.

They were, Oliver and Roger Dunk, Kathryn and Sharon Weismantel, Aya and Ernie Vale, Carol Reece, Beth Matthews, Deb Keller, Theo Langenberg, plus the ushers and usherettes, tea and coffee pourers/kitchen volunteers, and anyone else whom I may have missed.

Each person had a job to do, and they did it well. It was a good team effort.

Thank you everyone for your support. It was very much appreciated.  
Margaret Badman.



# **Restoring the Krumet Rank: A Milestone for the West Ryde Christie**

**By Roger Dunk**

As many of you were no doubt aware, the Krumet rank of pipes installed in the West Ryde Christie organ has been out of action for quite some time. In truth, it was never fully operational due to persistent issues with its pipe chest from the outset. To address these challenges, the chest was sent to organ builder John Parker, who meticulously disassembled it, planed the warped surfaces to make them level and therefore airtight, and carefully reassembled the unit.



**Roger Dunk soldering wires to the electromagnets**

The restoration process reached a significant milestone on Wednesday, 18th September. Together with John Weismantel and Kevin Clancy, we carried the refurbished chest up the ladder into the chamber, positioning it securely on its stands. The following week, Oliver Dunk and I undertook the intricate task of re-soldering the 61 wires to the chest's electromagnets. Alongside John Weismantel, we then managed the challenging job of lifting the bulky magnet boards into the chamber and attaching them to the underside of the chest. As the photos reveal, the workspace in the chamber offered little room for maneuver, and working upside down added to the challenge. Why didn't we attach the magnet boards before

installing the chest? Quite simply, the chest alone was already heavy enough without the added weight of two substantial boards and their 61 electromagnets.



**John Weismantel and Oliver Dunk installing the magnet boards**

By Wednesday, 23rd October, John Parker had returned to re-install the pipes, carefully tightening tongues and wedges to ensure optimal alignment and reduce the risk of the tongue slipping during tuning. The tuning process began smoothly until an anomaly arose: one key on the keyboard triggered the same pipe as another. This turned out to be a minor oversight in the organ definition file. Additionally, a silent top note was traced to a loose wire in the connector plug for the rank's Uniflex control system. Thankfully, both issues were promptly identified and resolved. If only every troubleshooting effort was so straightforward!

The Krumet's revival was celebrated during the AGM when several members took to the bench, and the recent Players' Day at West Ryde. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. The rank now stands as a valuable addition to the organ, enhancing its tonal palette and fulfilling its intended purpose as a chorus reed.

This restoration marks an exciting chapter for the West Ryde Christie and a testament to the collaborative efforts of all involved.



# 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 9 November 2024

2pm

## AGM Minutes

COMMENCED at 2:07 pm

1. Present (please sign attendance book) 24 Members

2. President's opening remarks

Neil Palmer welcomed and thanked attendees; voted thanks to WRAC. Asked for two persons to act as Scrutineers of the Committee Election – thanks to Andrew Dunk and Kevin Eadie.

3. Apologies – John Batts, John Parker, Cliff Bingham, Ian Georgeson

4. Confirm 2023 Business: printed Minutes available for perusal.

Moved: B. Tooker  
Seconded: G. Brimley  
CARRIED

5. President's Report (Neil Palmer)

Moved: J. Weismantel  
Seconded: P. Lawson  
CARRIED

6. Secretary's Report (Simon Ellis)

Moved: E. Vale  
Seconded: R. Dunk  
CARRIED

7. Treasurer's Report (Geoff Brimley)

Presented his Report and Audited Financial Statements with explanations.  
Moved: B. Tooker  
Seconded: K. Zipsin  
CARRIED

8. Marrickville Organ Report (Neil Palmer)

Moved: J. Weismantel  
Seconded: E. Burwood  
CARRIED

9. Orion Organ Report (John Parker)

– Read by Neil Palmer  
Moved: E. Vale  
Seconded: K. Zipsin  
CARRIED

10. Christie Organ Report (John Weismantel)

Moved: E. Vale  
Seconded: G. Lloyd  
CARRIED

11. Nominations for Patrons 2024 – 2025

– Dr. John Atwell  
Moved: G. Brimley  
Seconded: P. Lawson  
CARRIED

12. Declaration of Office Bearers 2024 – 2025  
Returning Officer C. Keller

The following members, as sole nominees for the positions, are therefore declared Office Bearers: President: Neil Palmer

Secretary: Simon Ellis  
Treasurer: Geoff. Brimley  
Vice Presidents Election:

David Badman (39 votes); Margaret Hall (19 votes); John Weismantel (25 votes)

DECLARED ELECTED:

David Badman, John Weismantel

13. Election of Committee 2024 – 2025

Returning Officer C. Keller  
Committee as Elected:

Eric Burwood (27 votes), Roger Dunk (39 votes), Margaret Hall (20 votes), Pam Lawson (31 votes), Barry Tooker (28 votes), Ernie Vale (32 votes)

Unsuccessful Candidates:

Rob. Gliddon (17 votes), Graeme Costin (17 votes)

President expressed thanks to the Returning Officer for his diligence.

Margaret Hall asked the Returning Officer to confirm that the Election was conducted in accordance with the Constitution.

CONFIRMED

#### 14. Appointment of Auditors for 2024

Treasurer Geoff Brimley noted that Kristen Burke is not desirous of re-appointment as Auditor for the 2024 -2025 Financial Year, and thanked her for her meticulous work over some years. After some discussion about possible nominees, the Treasurer MOVED :” that the Nomination of Auditor for the 2024-2025 period be left to Committee to arrange by the end of the current Financial Year”.

Seconded: A. Dunk

CARRIED

#### 15.General Business

Ernie Vale - Nominated John Weismantel for the status of Life Membership of TOSA (NSW Division), in recognition of his long years of meritorious service, especially through the use of his electrical and electronic expertise in the building, care and maintenance of the Society's various instruments.

Moved: E. Vale

Seconded : C. Keller

CARRIED with Acclamation

Craig Keller – Suggested that since the Silent Film presentation held at West Ryde Anglican Church accompanied on the Christie organ by David Bailey was so well received, perhaps he should be invited to present the well-known silent film “Peter Pan” using the Orion Centre Wurlitzer organ.

General agreement.

Simon Ellis – Referred to correspondence received from Margaret Hall suggesting that the Constitution ought be available for Members and prospective members on the TOSA (NSW) website, noting his agreement, and suggesting that those present at the AGM might approve the Committee examining additional updates to the Constitution, for future presentation to a General Meeting. General agreement, no dissenting opinions were expressed.

Meeting closed at 2:55pm

The President again thanked Members for their attendance and interest.

Followed by Afternoon Tea (Thanks to Pam Lawson, Margaret and David Badman)

Declared as a true and correct record of the Annual General Meeting held 9th November, 2024.



Newly elected committeeperson Margaret Hall at the Christie Theatre Organ

#### ***President's Report - Neil Palmer***

Good afternoon members,

This year we were able to celebrate the 100 th Anniversary of the ex-Prince Edward theatre Wurlitzer at Marrickville town hall with two great concerts played by Tony Fenelon and Chris McPhee respectively. The organ was shipped from the Wurlitzer factory on 12 th August 1924 so the actual Anniversary this year was on a Monday. I don't know whether any members who happened to practise on the organ on Monday 12 th August remembered to play “happy birthday”.

In March saw the return of the David Clegg quartet (which had grown to a sextet) with organists Simon Ellis and John Batts here at West Ryde Anglican church then in September we were treated to one of David Bailey's excellent silent film accompaniments on the

## ***Secretary's Report - Simon Ellis***

Christie theatre organ. Personally, I find this church to be a great venue for the showing of silent films as the window blinds really do block out the light and their video projector projected a bright and sharp image on the screen. David certainly utilised all the "bells & whistles" the Christie has to offer.

Monthly members playing days were able to recommence at the Orion Centre after the water damage repairs to the Wurlitzer had been completed. This was good for the organ as it needed to be played to allow some settling in and next month you will have the opportunity to hear the Orion Wurlitzer in concert for the first time since the pandemic where it will be played by John Atwell for the final time before he retires from performing.

Monthly member's playing events were able to be held at all three of our organ venues with Marrickville town hall also being available for individual private practise sessions on most Mondays.

Probably the most difficult office bearer tasks are those of Secretary and Treasurer and I would like to thank Simon and Geoff for their efforts throughout the year. Thanks must also go to our Membership secretary, newsletter editor, webmaster, organ maintenance crews, practice convenors and the ladies and gents who provide your afternoon tea both at concerts and this afternoon. Thanks also to the general committee members for your work throughout the year.

This year there is a ballot for the Vice Presidents and General Committee positions. Obviously there will be successful and unsuccessful candidates in this election and I wish all candidates the best of luck.

Neil Palmer  
President

It would be wrong of me not to begin by thanking my fellow Committee Members for the contributions that each has made as we have wrestled our way through some of the issues that I would like to highlight again this year. While I am responsible for this report, I hope that most of it will reflect at least the tone of our deliberations, if not necessarily all of the precise content.

This year our Society has begun to come back to life, after the recent years spent substantially in a kind of limbo.

Now that the COVID restrictions which were imposed on our customary ways of gathering together are over, we have all hoped, or perhaps expected, that things would return to what had become "normal" over many, many years.

We have held Concerts, generally well received and appreciated, regardless of the number of attendees. The damage to the Orion Wurlitzer has been expertly repaired, and whatever glitches that remain from lack of use are being sorted out.

We have been able to resume Player's days, where those who are available can gather around our various instruments and enjoy both the music provided and the company of those present. It is possible once again to meet for occasional gatherings that are socially and musically informal. I suspect that, in the main, we yearn for a return to the good old days.

It is impossible NOT to notice, however, that things have changed. Our numbers are dwindling for various reasons faster than they are being replaced with fresh faces. This process is not only associated with ageing, although those losses are sadly all too true. The increased numbers of groups seeking

access to the two venues on which we have primarily relied for years, mean that booking events is becoming much more difficult. Even maintaining necessary insurance cover on our instruments has become much more difficult, as Insurers require more in order to cover less.

The American electioneering slogan "It's the economy, Stupid" has real implications in most areas of Australian society also, whether or not you spend much time focussed on life in the USA. People in our current climate are much more cautious in their discretionary spending than in times past. What we provide falls generally into the realm of discretionary spending.

Consumers young enough to be our children and grand-children increasingly demand entertainment that is aligned with the need for more variety, and provided in segments of increasingly short duration. If my observations of people in daughter's age group are accurate (and not just jaundiced), satisfactory entertainment is increasingly provided across a range of platforms, usually at the same time! In previous rants at our Annual meetings, I have laboured the need to encourage new, younger participation in our Society. It's not enough that we now have a new, young man, Oliver Dunk, doing a great job as Editor of TOSA News. It's a good sign that he loves to play the organ. He's a great representative of the future, but we need more young women and men like him. We surely can't help noticing that the life to which we are returning is not the same as it was.

More than ever, TOSA NSW needs drastically to adapt to the changes happening around us. Here are some suggestions.

We need increasingly to offer variety programmes, as other TOSA Divisions have discovered, that use our organs not only as solo instruments, but feature them in collaboration

with other groups and /or soloists. We have seen our organs at Marrickville and West Ryde used alongside jazz artists, with orchestras, and choral groups. Opportunities such as these are not only musically enriching, but can provide great exposure for the Society.

We need to seek opportunities for cross-over events with those whose love for the pipe organ doesn't always view these theatrical units as quite legitimate. The Royal College of Organists has just designated 2025 as Year of the Pipe Organ. How can we also tap into that publicity, I wonder? The divide between the orchestral use of a "classical" instrument and the orchestral use of a theatre organ is in reality very small.

Strangely enough, interest in the theatre organ has found some resurgence in a return to its roots, with for example the excellent accompaniment of silent movies by Queensland's David Bailey. This is a great start. If we look further afield, in much the same way as happened with the advent of talking pictures, a superb example of the wide applications of the theatre organ can be found by looking at the now Bandrika Studio Barr-Fox instrument in Los Angeles, and its use in a wide range of film and other recorded music.

Perhaps most difficult of all, we need to encourage a new generation of players by helping them learn what these instruments are capable of, and then standing back while "our organs" are adapted to a range of new music which we may not appreciate, or even like. We need regularly to be reminded, perhaps, that we are CUSTODIANS of both a PAST and a FUTURE tradition, and not owners.

As the old saying goes: "If we don't learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it."

## ***Treasurer's Report - Geoff Brimley***

It's great that we are once again able, to at least begin operating in the manner to which we are accustomed.

Total income for the year was \$20,725.40, a marginal increase on 2023 although it needs to be remembered that in the 2023 year income included a bequest of \$5,000. The main source of income was Ticket Sales \$10.287, Memberships \$4,177, Donations \$870 and Interest \$3.577

Expenditure amounted to \$12,955.70 of which the main items were Artists Expenses \$5,144, Insurance \$932, Organ Maintenance and Tuning \$2,025 and TOSA News costs \$1,944.

Overall profit was \$7,769.70

The Committee are thankful for the support of our membership over the past few years. Without their support at events we have been able to arrange and their continuing membership and donations we would be in trouble. To put things into a little more perspective, the last two years, our hardest ever, profits totalled \$28,586 but \$20,000 of this came from a one-off donation and two bequests. Basically we have just kept our heads above water and that's all. That said, a big "thank you" to all our members for their support in person and financially.

We look forward to a brighter and more productive future.

Again, "thank you" for being part of, and supporting, TOSA NSW.

Should anyone wish to examine the accounts or financial records, or have any enquiry concerning them, please do not hesitate to ask. A copy of the annual financial accounts is available to any member on request.

Thank you.

Geoff Brimley



**TOSA News Editor Oliver Dunk at the Christie Theatre Organ**

## ***Orion Report - John Parker***

The past 12 months have seen the Orion Wurlitzer made available for member's practice sessions after almost 3 years of shutdown. Our desire was to see the organ used as much as possible by members – thus sorting out teething issues as they developed. At this point the organ is now concert worthy.

All matters of water damage due to flooding during Co-vid have been addressed and checked many times.

The organ underwent a "full" tuning in July, and only last month was tuned once again to ensure stability for the December Christmas concert.

Tuning will again be undertaken the week prior to John Atwell's concert on Sunday December 1st.

Serious moves are afoot to replace the Post Horn chest which has proved troublesome over the past 36 years, and the replacement of the Solo String Celeste chest that was removed to the Ryde Christie project.

TOSA is fortunate that the replacement chests for the above-mentioned ranks have been made

on a 'no cost' swap basis with another organ group within Australia. The reconditioning and installing of these chests will begin in 2025.

This month – November; will see the regilding of the Orion console trim in gold paint that doesn't tarnish. Again, it has been many years since this was done and should be a spectacular addition to John Atwell's December concert.

I would like to thank Neil Palmer for his dedicated help and assistance with tuning and access. John Weismantle with his electrical fault finding and assistance with the restoration following the flooding of the solo chamber as well as Barry Tooker, John Badman, Ernie Vale and others who have been there to help with the 'heavy lifting' during the Orion's rejuvenation.

December will see the first public use of the Orion organ's "new" brass Saxophone rank. Sadly, this was installed just prior to the Co-Vid pandemic and has not been heard publicly in concert; December will be the first opportunity.

The organ has issues, but it is 36 years since it was opened at the Orion. During that time numerous CD and VHS recordings were made, and the organ was in constant use for Council, school, concerts and commercial events.

Problems can be addressed and fixed in a proper order and proper way, and this is my desire.

John Parker  
ORION ORGAN BUILDER/TUNER

### ***Marrickville Report - Neil Palmer***

Marrickville town hall has been available most Mondays of the year for the monthly member's playing events as well as for individual practise on the Wurlitzer organ. Once again we have been invited to submit an expressions of interest application by Inner West Council for access to the hall for member's practice on the Wurlitzer. At the time of writing this report, we are awaiting approval. Mention of the Wurlitzer's 100th Anniversary has already been covered in the President's report.

Like most of the pipe organs in Sydney, the society's instruments are subject to the same problems when it comes to humidity or more recently, the lack of it. Most of the problems encountered are either dumb notes and full or partial ciphers. Apart from a few minor problems, the instrument is generally in good condition.

Neil Palmer

### ***Christie Report - John Weismantel***

Accompaniment chamber:  
C & C# on the 16' Violone have been regulated by John Parker and now blend properly with the rest of the Strings.  
Now that everything is settling in, fine adjustments have been made to the regulator valves.

Solo Chamber:  
Krumet chest was straightened by John Parker and has been returned to it's position in the chamber. One magnet is faulty and needs to be replaced, and the wiring needs to be reinstated, after which the chest can be placed on wind and tested, and the pipes installed. Now that everything is settling in, fine adjustments have been made to the regulator valves, as in the Accompaniment chamber. A new slide whistle has been manufactured and installed.

**Console:**

Adjusted some Stop Action Magnets' reeds for reliable operation now that the console is in regular use.

Adjusted second-touch contacts on a number of pedals.

Wiring errors in the left-hand accessory drawer were corrected.

50-way flexible wires in both drawers replaced with longer ones to reduce strain and relieve intermittent faults.

**Piano:**

Vacuum pump was renovated by Peter Coggins and has been successfully in use a number of times this year.

Mechanical sustain pedal fitted.

Kick-switch ready to be fitted to swell shoe.

Richard Andreoni performed tuning sessions, and made some more action adjustments. Reported he is very happy with the quality of the piano.

**General:**

Regular members' play afternoons continue on most 3rd Wednesdays, each month.

The organ continues to be used regularly for Sunday 8am services and is generally behaving itself, with tuning remaining as stable as seasonal temperature variations allow. Prolonged times of excessively low humidity affect the organ, with the humidifier being regularly used as necessary.

A silent movie with organ accompaniment was presented by Queenslander David Bailey and was well received. David seemed to use almost every resource on the organ, including nearly all of the effects, and had fun.

John Weismantel & Robert Gliddon

## **Liberty Theatre Yass and the Regent Cinemas Albury**

**Ernie Vale**



This is the Liberty Theatre in Yass NSW where the locals are very enthusiastic about installing the former Regent Theatre Wurlitzer and ex the late TOSA NSW member, John Atkinson's home installation.

The theatre currently houses a book shop in the back stalls area and a gift shop in the foyer.



This is the Regent Cinemas in Albury, NSW. It is a large building taking up the whole block.

# TOSA NEWS

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