



www.tosa-qld.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

A Happy New Year to you all! From all accounts everyone who attended our end of year Christmas dinner at Crushers enjoyed themselves. The air-conditioned comfort was a plus feature for the night. It was a good roll-up for an evening get-together and it was great to see so many members making the effort to attend.

During the Christmas break I had the opportunity to travel to the Sunshine Coast with a band of likeminded people to visit Don Clarke and play the pipe organ he has built and installed in his home. The organ was a delight to play—a mixture of pipes and a small range of digitally sampled ranks—creating a nice balance in a very fine instrument. Perched above the living room, the organ really makes a statement when you enter his home (top photo). Well-done Don!

A little later in the day we arrived at Ian McLean's to hear and play what I would call one of the best installations of a VPTO that I have heard. A lot of time has been spent in the voicing and balancing of the instrument, and this is evident in the purity and tonal quality when it is played. The console is a sight to see, expertly built by Don Clarke (lower photo). Thanks Ian for hosting us.

Our first get-together is Sunday 7 February at 2pm with guests OSQ (Organ society of Queensland). Come along to Kelvin Grove and hear the different styles organ music and playing—everyone is welcome and do bring your music for a play.

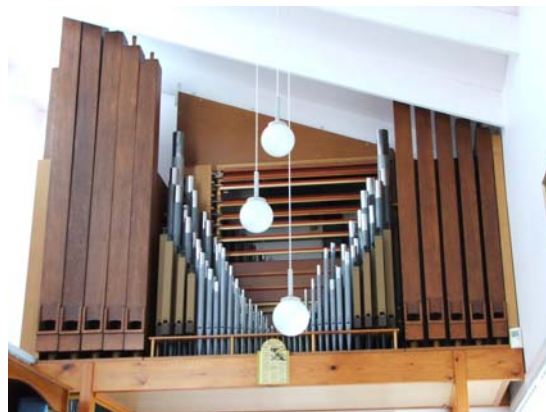
As a part of the all-important TOSA fundraising, the committee has arranged to host a BBQ at Bunning's Stafford store on Sunday the 28th of February.

Please support your society by either volunteering your services to help or dropping in for a sausage or two.

In closing, on behalf of TOSA I'd like to send a special "get well" cheerio message to our Patron's wife Christine Boughen, who suffered a nasty fall on her recent holiday and is now convalescing at home.

See you on Sunday.

Lance



TOSA QLD CALENDAR 2010

UPCOMING TOSA EVENTS

NOTE: All dates and events are subject to change.
(TBA = to be advised; TBC = to be confirmed)

Visit www.tosa-qld.org for regular updates

February 2010

- 7 KGSC Hall event (guests **Organ Soc'y of Qld**)
- 15 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)
- 28 **Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Stafford**

March 2010

- 7 KGSC Hall event (David Bailey)
- 13-14 **NSW Divn 50th Anniversary Concerts**
- 15 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)
- 29 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)

April 2010

- 4 NO MEETING (Easter)
- 10 **Jazz band** at KGSC hall (evening - TBC)
- 12 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)
- 26 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)

May 2010

- 2 KGSC Hall event (TBA)
- 10 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)
- 24 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)

June 2010

- 6 KGSC Hall event (TBA)
- 14 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)
- 28 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)

July 2010

- 4 NO MEETING
- 5 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)
- 11 KGSC Hall event (**David Gray from Scotland**)
- 19 Playing session at KGSC hall (evening)

TOSA QLD DIRECTORY

www.tosa-qld.org

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Meeting Venue:

Kelvin Grove State College
Assembly Hall
Cor. Tank St & Victoria Park Rd
Kelvin Grove

Postal Address (all correspondence):

7 Bareena Street, Jindalee QLD 4074

APPROACHING EVENTS

OUR FIRST MEETING FOR 2010

Welcome back to the Christie theatre pipe organ — and to 2010.

Our guests for February are members of the **Organ Society of Queensland**. Some of their experienced members are intending to play the Christie.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Afternoon tea is included.

FREE to financial TOSA members!

Date – Sunday 7 February
Time – 2.00pm
Where – KGSC Assembly Hall
L'Estrange Terrace
Kelvin Grove

*Bring your music for a play
later in the afternoon.
See you there!!*

PLAYING SESSIONS

Held at the KGSC hall on Monday nights throughout the year, these are designed for members to try out the Christie, learn to play it or just play anything you like... it's totally informal.

We share a cuppa and friendly chat during the evening — all welcome.

First one for 2010 is on
Monday 15 February from 7.30pm.
Playing sessions on two Monday nights
each month are being planned
from this March.

Why not join us?

SPECIAL FUNDRAISING SAUSAGE SIZZLE

BUNNINGS STAFFORD

As part of our funding drive for 2010, TOSA Qld Divn is holding a sausage sizzle at Bunnings, the home renovation suppliers. It will also serve as an awareness and membership promotion.

We are looking for volunteer helpers. If you can spare anything from half an hour or more of your time between 7.30 am and 3.00 pm at Bunnings, Kevin Collins or Kevin Purchase would like hear from you by **20 February** (see directory for contact details).

Workers need to be able to man the barbeque, serve drinks and sausages, collect money and answer any enquiries about our club, which is being promoted there as the **Brisbane Unit Orchestra**.

Date – Sunday 28 February
Time – 7.30am – 3.00pm
Where – Bunnings Stafford
450 Stafford Road
Stafford



REMINDER...

Membership renewals
are now due...
See form enclosed.

HAPPENINGS

As mentioned last Tibia, 2010 will be one of the busiest years in ages for TOSA. There are no less than **four international artists** visiting our shores, including three from Great Britain. News of the Christie has reached the “old dart” and the redcoats are coming!

First to arrive will be the gifted young Scottish performer **David Gray**. Those who have seen him play previously—where David’s feet barely reached the pedals of the mighty 4M Wurlitzer he performed on—came away absolutely amazed at his ability at the console. He won the prestigious 2005 Young American Theatre Organist of the Year at the age of just twelve! This gives an indication of his style and ability, and he is not bad behind the microphone with that Scottish humour.



This new generation theatre organist is a revelation — he is a shining light for the future of multi-keyboard music. And yes, David does play all the old favourites as well as the more modern music now emerging. He is followed by our ‘mystery English organist’ in early September.

Arguably the greatest theatre organist currently in the world is paying us a visit in late September. This is of course the great English theatre organist **Simon Gledhill**. He is very keen to try out our Christie theatre pipe organ and we will all be in for a treat. Simon’s flair and artistic skills at the console have left other international artists shaking their heads in wonder. You must not miss this once-only concert at Kelvin Grove!

The final international artist for 2010 is from the United States, **Martin Ellis**. Not many would have heard Martin play before and he will certainly live up to the quality and artistic benchmarks set by his fellow countrymen and women who have visited us in the past. He is one third of the famous *Trio Con Brio* of organists based in USA.

Also happening next year are the 50th anniversary celebrations of TOSA Divisions in New South Wales and Victoria.

First to celebrate is the **founding Division, New South Wales**. It is holding a weekend of music at their Wurlitzer organ installation at the Orion Centre. Members are welcome to attend. A special discount promotion for those who have never attended these venues is available. For this and full details plus booking forms etc, visit their web page at: www.tosa.net.au

A summary of the weekend is published in this Tibia. Dates are **13–14 March** in Sydney.

TOSA Victoria is forging ahead with planning of their 50th anniversary to be held in September. This will coincide with the grand recommissioning of the **Dendy Theatre Wurlitzer**, which is currently being totally restored. It will also celebrate the 40th year of the Kingston Wurlitzer installation (formerly Moorabbin).

Watch for more details on this event, which promises to be almost a mini-TOSA national convention. Dates are **10–12 September** in Melbourne.

We are awaiting word from the Cinematheque at the Gallery of Modern Art regarding their 2010 **Wurlitzer silent film program**. As soon as it is released we will publish it here in Tibia. Your continuing patronage is most appreciated by GoMA.

The first committee meeting for 2010 has been held and planning is underway for a revitalized TOSA Qld format and programming, involving not just the Christie but also musicians and other clubs around the south-east.

The first of the new-look events is planned for April, with a **social night of jazz and organ** on Saturday 10 April at Kelvin Grove hall. A 26-piece jazz band supported by the Christie will be the highlight. It is planned to complement this with wine and cheese/nibbles — perfect with jazz! More news and confirmation to follow shortly.

Space is available for theatre organ focused **advertising in Tibia**, subject to approval by committee. Contact any committee member if interested or you know of a potential advertiser.

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE NOW

Work continues on improvements to the **Christie** theatre pipe organ. Over the holiday break, Don Clark and his band of helpers performed many tasks designed to improve the sound of the historic 1933 instrument.



One of the new modifications is the introduction of a pseudo-Post Horn stop, allowing separate tremulant control off the trumpet rank. A new regulator and switching gear is being fitted. The recalcitrant Tuba trem now has a new magnet fitted and should be trouble-free. The Tibias have an enlarged air supply trunking and this should remove the stalling effect the Tibia trem had. The cymbal crash operation has been vastly improved. More work is in progress on the cleaning of contacts, voicing etc etc.

The TOSA Qld Divn **2009 Christmas Party** dinner held at Crushers Leagues Club on 6 December was a great success. Holding the event during the early evening in air-conditioned comfort certainly brought members out. TOSA would like to thank the Crushers Club for providing the buffet dinner, which was excellent value.

The Brisbane City Council supported this event with a grant towards the cost. The Brisbane City Council provides activities for Seniors, such as GOLD (Growing Old and Living Dangerously), and the Gold'n'Kids program. The Council also provides free concerts, which are held throughout the city. **TOSA Qld Divn thanks the Brisbane City Council for their generosity and support.**

For this year's Christmas party the format will be similar but we plan to try a change of venue.



Some members had the opportunity over the holiday break to visit Ian McLean's wonderful new **VTPO installation** on the Sunshine Coast. The words magnificent, huge, awesome etc hardly do it justice. The instrument is simply amazing, and the sound could possibly be the best of all VTPOs in Australia and world-class!

The massive black custom-built console (based on a Wurlitzer built up by Don Clark) looked impressive even before a note was played. The organ is 44 ranks, drawn from two Hauptwerk sample sets. There are 36 audio channels that the 44 ranks are divided up between. Many of the 36 audio channels have multiple speakers attached.

Ian has used state-of-the-art components to make his digital theatre organ top class and an absolute stunner. Perhaps someday artists of note will cut a CD on the organ, even Ian himself?! Thanks Ian for providing the opportunity to see and hear this remarkable beast.



Remember that 4MBS broadcast theatre organ music during their Village Hour from noon on the 4th Wednesday of the month.



The Club was saddened to hear the passing of TOSA Qld Divn member **Norm Smith** last December. Norm was a music lover who played in military bands before discovering theatre organ in the United Kingdom. He had been a TOSA member for many years and a keen player of theatre organ before his health failed. Norm still liked to hear the Christie even when wheelchair bound. Our condolences to his family.

The 55th **ATOS Convention** is being held in Seattle, USA from June 29th to July 4th. Two of our top Australian Theatre Organists, Tony Fenelon and John Atwell will be featured. As well, there are 14 international-class artists playing 14 different organs on the program.

Full details plus registration forms will be soon available on the ATOS web site:
www.atos.org/conventions

Members may not be aware of the fact that we have an Australian Chapter of ATOS. It is the Australia Felix Chapter. The Office bearers are:

- PRESIDENT: Bob Cornish, SA – rcornish@iweb.net.au
- SECRETARY: Jo-ann Stenton, Vic – jass26@yahoo.com
- TREASURER: Peter Beams, SA
- PUBLICITY: Julien Arnold, Vic



The magnificent Willis pipe organ in Brisbane **City Hall** has now been removed to safe storage. Channel Nine news in mid January showed the hundreds of pipes laid out in the auditorium awaiting packing. It will return in 2013.

The farewell concert in December was well-patronised and featured Christopher Wrench and Rupert Jeffcoat at the console of the Willis.

AMAZING

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AMZANIG HUH?

Founding of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia NSW Division 50th Anniversary Celebrations

In March 1960, on the strength of a featured article in the Sydney Morning Herald, the Theatre Organ Society of Australia held its first meeting at the Paling Concert Hall with the object of attracting members. Palings, being a prominent Sydney music and instrument retailer who also sold Hammond Electric Organs, kindly donated the use of the premises without charge and even provided an organ to be played at the meetings. Several of the Sydney Theatre Organists also freely gave their time and talent to play for the TOSA members at these early meetings.

Now it is time to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of NSW Divn with a weekend of Mighty Wurlitzer Musical Magic played on the former Capitol Theatre Wurlitzer owned and operated by TOSA NSW Division in Sydney.

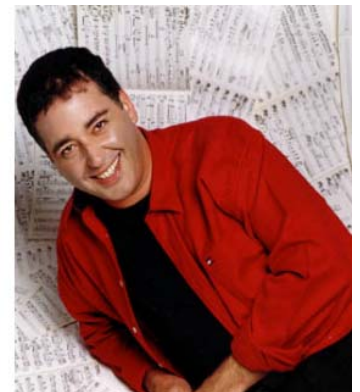


Saturday 13 March at 2:00pm will feature John Giacchi playing the 3 manual 17 rank Style 260 Wurlitzer at the Orion Theatre, 155 Beamish St., Campsie supported by Mathew Loeser playing piano and singing to his own accompaniment.

On Saturday evening there is an optional dinner at Dedes Restaurant, Sydney Rowing Club, 613 Great North Road Abbotsford. This venue is a great location with water views and patrons should aim to be there from 6:30pm for 7:00pm

dinner. Parking is available at the venue. This will be a three-course meal with several choices on the menu at \$54.50 per person. Drinks are not included in the dinner price so that patrons have a choice of refreshments.

Sunday 14 March at 2:00pm will feature Bill Schumacher playing the 3 manual 17 rank Style 260 Wurlitzer at the Orion Theatre, 155 Beamish St., Campsie supported by Bernard Walz playing Grand Piano.



Details about the weekend, including booking forms, are on the web site www.tosa.net.au and information about the dinner venue can be seen at www.dedes.com.au

For those requiring accommodation, they should arrange it by contacting their motels directly.

Suggested accommodation is:

The Comfort Inn, 117 Liverpool Road, Burwood, Phone 02 9744 0521 @ \$130 per night.

Philip Lodge, 156 Parramatta Road, Ashfield, Phone 02 9797 9411 @ \$110-\$125 per night.

The Executive and Committee invite you to come and join in the celebrations.

FULL DETAILS AT: www.tosa.net.au

The Voice of the
Queensland Division Inc. of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia.



**THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
(QUEENSLAND DIVISION) INC.
www.tosa-qld.org**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2010

(Fill in this form and post with payment to the address below)

APPLICANT'S NAME _____ (Please Print)

PARTNER'S NAME * _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

_____ POSTCODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (_____) _____ (Home) _____ (Work / Mobile)

I hereby reapply for membership of TOSA (Qld Divn) Inc. and state that I will abide by the Rules of the Association.

Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / 20____

Yes (tick) I would like to receive the Tibia monthly magazine by email only (preferred method).

Please indicate where you would like to assist at TOSA events (tick boxes below):

- PERFORMING
- MONTHLY MEETING DUTIES
- WEB & PUBLISHING (TIBIA)
- CONCERTS & SPECIAL EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP FEES (tick one box)

- DOUBLE* \$60 SINGLE \$35 LONG DISTANCE / ASSOCIATE \$30

I enclose payment of \$ _____

(Optional) donation of \$ _____

Total Cheque \$ _____

(Cheques should be made payable to: "Theatre Organ Society of Australia - Qld Divn Inc").

This signed form and payment can be posted to :

The Treasurer
TOSA Qld. Divn. Inc.
26 Gable Street
STAFFORD HEIGHTS
QLD. 4053

Official Use Only
Received: _____
Approved: _____
Receipt Nr.: _____