

# TREMULANT

The Official Newsletter of:

Theatre Organ Society of Australia  
(Western Australian Division) Inc

T.O.S.A.(WA) INC.

Web Address: [www.tosawa.org.au](http://www.tosawa.org.au)

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018

# 2018

# OUR FIFTIETH YEAR

# AGM: 4 March 2018

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- |                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| • Your Committee                | Page 2 |
| • Upcoming Events               | Page 2 |
| • From the President            | Page 3 |
| • Annual General Meeting agenda | Page 4 |
| • President's Report for 2017   | Page 5 |
| • Treasurer's Report for 2017   | Page 6 |



## INFORMATION PAGE

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2017

ROLE	NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
PRESIDENT	Rodney Raymond	9310 2838
VICE-PRESIDENT	Brian Court	9572 1157
SECRETARY	Ruth MacDonald	0421212010
TREASURER	Bernard Varney	9305 0498
COMMITTEE	Evelyn Frost	9295 2237
	Philip Surtees	0407 450 091
	Anne Holland	9407 7747
	Simone Collins	0411 474 450

### CONVENORS

ROLE	NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
Newsletter Editor	Ruth MacDonald	0421212010
Catering Coordinator	Vacant	
Raffles	Anne Holland	9407 7747
Webmaster	Rodney Raymond	9310 2838

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**First Sunday of each month:** Member's Days. Free admission to a relaxing afternoon of theatre organ and piano music.

**29 September – 1 October 2018: TOSA(WA) 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.** Featuring Tony Fenelon, John Atwell, Chris McPhee and Rosanne Hoskins plus others in a weekend of celebrations. Full details are available at our website [www.tosawa.org.au](http://www.tosawa.org.au)

## CONCERTS AT KARRINYUP

25 March 2018: Rob Richards (USA)

6 May 2018: Tony Fenelon (Melbourne)

17 June 2018: John Pound (Perth)

12 August 2018: David Johnston (Melbourne)

7 October 2018: Ray Clements and John Fuhrmann (Perth)

4 November 2018: Simon Gledhill (UK)

*Contact John Fuhrmann on 9447 9837 for tickets.*

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Where did 2017 go? It was just yesterday and Christmas was upon us, and now February is here!

Our AGM is on Sunday 4 March 2018 at 2:00pm in the John Leckie Pavilion. Following the AGM we will have music provided by our regular musicians. The agenda and reports are included in this Tremulant.

What a wonderful concert last November with NATHAN AVAKIAN. Although he is one of the younger organists on the USA scene, he is definitely one of the finest. For the first time in many years, our organ was used in the manner for which it was designed – to accompany silent films. One of Nathan's interests is supporting the International Youth Silent Film Festival and he accompanied five films as they were screened. It was a truly magnificent concert.

News of Members: It is with sadness that we report the passing of Malcolm Hood in November last year. Malcolm has been a member since the early 1990s and was very involved over many years, including being editor of the Tremulant from 2004 to 2012 and President in 2011 and 2012. For the past four or five years, Malcolm has been the main organiser of afternoon teas in the kitchen. He was serving tea and coffee at the October meeting, and was very apologetic that he was unable to make the November meeting.



Another person to pass away in November was John Larner. John was a well respected member of the pipe organ community in Perth, installing many of the pipe organs in churches around Perth. It was John, on a business trip in England in 1970 who heard that the Compton organ in the Plaza Theatre, Worthing was available for sale. This is the organ that is now installed in our building.

To any of our members have not been well, we wish you all a speedy recovery.

Another reminder that coming up in 2018 we are planning a weekend of celebrations to mark our fiftieth anniversary. We have invited members from other divisions across Australia to join with us and people from South Australia and New South Wales have been quick to register interest. Concerts over the weekend will include performances from Tony Fenelon, John Atwell, Chris McPhee and vocal soloist Rosanne Hoskins. The anniversary celebrations will be held on the weekend of 29 and 30 September and 1 October 2018. Registration details are now available from our website at [www.tosawa.org.au](http://www.tosawa.org.au).

Rodney Raymond  
PRESIDENT



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Notice is hereby given that the 2018 Annual General Meeting is to be held at the John Leckie Pavilion, Melvista Avenue, Nedlands at 2:00pm on SUNDAY 4 March 2018. The meeting is only expected to last 30 minutes, after which we will continue with a normal "Member's Day" afternoon of music.

### AGENDA OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Welcome.

Apologies.

Acceptance of the Minutes of the Previous AGM (held 5 March 2017) – published in the *Tremulant* for June 2017

Business arising from previous AGM.

Reports:

President.

Treasurer.

Membership.

Election of Office Bearers:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Members (Minimum of 2 required)

Election of Conveners:

Catering

Editor

Raffles

Patron

General Business.

Member's Day 7 October 2018



Figure 1: The organ back in 1982

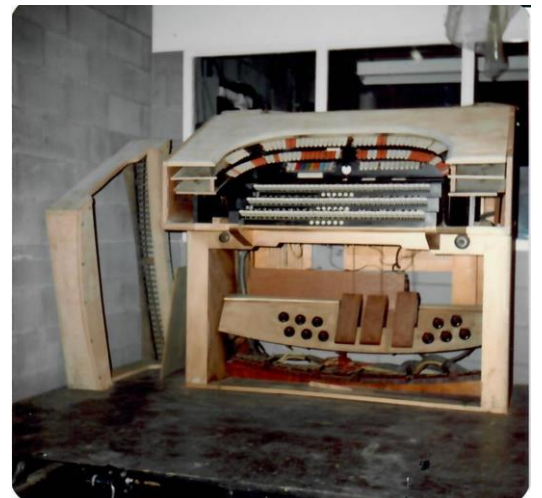


Figure 2: The organ during restoration in 1985



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2017

2017 was a year with some highlights – including three excellent concerts and the Have a Go day – but also some disappointing aspects. During 2017 we have seen a reversal of the improved attendances of the previous few years. We have always known that our group consists of an advancing age demographic, but unfortunately, deaths in the past couple of years have been considerably higher than the intake of new members. During 2017, our membership declined from 64 to 56 and there was only one new member added during the year.

In 2017 we held three concerts, all of which were excellent. The first concert of the year was presented by Bill Schumacher and Debbie Fitzsummons. Although Bill has done a number of concerts for us, this is the first time that Debbie has played on the Compton organ. Together they presented a wonderful concert. Another variety concert was held in August, this time with students from Woodvale Secondary College. Then in November, we were astounded by the musical ability of young Nathan Avakian. What a wonderful musician – using backing tracks for some numbers as well as accompanying the wonderful singing voice of his sister. Theatre organs were created to accompany silent films and this is why our organ was originally installed in a theatre. For the first time in decades, the Compton organ was again used to accompany silent films as Nathan played sound tracks to films from the International Youth Silent Film Festival.

Our member's days are unique in that they provide a social setting to listen to theatre organ music. We are grateful to a team of volunteers who give of their time each month to set up the hall, and look after the raffle and afternoon teas. Thank you also to the musicians who regularly come along and play for us. It is difficult to come up with new material and be innovative month after month, so I thank each of you for your ongoing support and commitment. Over the past few years we have enjoyed the fine musical talents of Dorothy on the piano – unfortunately she is not able to continue to play for us. I would also like to thank Simone Collins for the work she has been doing, continually updating our facebook page. If you use facebook, make sure you check out our page – [www.facebook.com/theatreorganwa](http://www.facebook.com/theatreorganwa) - and add a comment. When you add a comment, it creates publicity to more people than just a "like" does.

It is sad to be reminded that several long time members passed away during the year including Jeanette Rodda and Joe Hegney. Joe was our newsletter editor from 2001 to 2004. The other member who deserves mention is Malcolm Hood. Malcolm first joined the society in the 1990s, and soon became involved at committee level as well as being involved on the maintenance team. He was newsletter editor from 2004 to 2012 and served as president in 2011 and 2012. He became ill with leukemia in 2012, but still continued as afternoon tea coordinator right up to the October meeting last year. He passed away on 10 November 2017 and will be sadly missed by our group.

2018 marks our fiftieth anniversary year. This is a great opportunity for us to celebrate this milestone, and I hope that you do participate and do contribute to the celebrations. Fifty years ago those who started this group could hardly have imagined where TOSA would be now. Right from the outset, our goal was to own a theatre pipe organ – in the earliest newsletter produced by TOSA, this vision was mentioned on three of the four pages of that publication. By the 1970s that dream had started to become reality and since 1988, there has been a theatre pipe organ located in the John Leckie Pavilion. We are pleased that some of the names that are mentioned in those early publications are still performing, and it is fitting that Tony Fenelon and John Atwell – two people who gave early concerts to help raise funds to purchase the Compton organ – will be featured during our fiftieth celebrations.

Towards the end of 2017, we ran a stall at the Seniors Recreational Council of WA "Have A Go" day. We handed out about a thousand flyers for the Nathan Avakian concert, and had interesting conversations with twenty or so people. That resulted in one new person coming to the November member's day, and three new people attending the Avakian concert. As one of the volunteers remarked at the end of the day, we probably should have started doing this twenty five years ago.

Falling attendances and membership is our biggest ongoing issue. The fiftieth anniversary concerts may well be the last time our organ is played by professional musicians to concert audiences. The cost of flying artists into Perth to play at poorly attended concerts means that the financial losses on these events are now at the point where we can no longer afford to use up our financial resources in this manner. We also have a serious hole to fill in needing someone to look after the afternoon teas. Maintenance of the organ at the moment consists of little more than tuning. Should a major issue occur, we will need to seek professional help to undertake repairs. Mechanical instruments like ours actually benefit from regular playing. Thankfully, due to regular use by our organists, issues are picked up quickly and the regular playing helps to reduce problems.

I am confident that we can exist as a group for some time to come. However, it will require effort and assistance and dedication from those in the group to try to expand our horizons.

Rodney Raymond  
PRESIDENT

## **TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2017**

During 2017 we again had a deficit, with expenses being \$4,741 more than income. The total income for the 2017 year was about \$1,500 less than 2016, mainly due to a generous donation received in 2016 and less membership fees. Expenses were about \$1,500 higher than in 2016, all of which has resulted in the negative outcome.

Bank interest has declined slightly as both rates and our capital has reduced. Income from the Christmas lunch was \$125 less than last year, but costs were also \$131 less.

Concert income was \$2,627, however the concert expenses were \$5,106. The costs for Nathan Avakian were high – however Bill and Debbie were extremely generous in the charges for their concert.

Membership in 2017 dropped to 56, so membership income reduced by \$230.

Member's day income was \$1,040 (same as 2016) but member's day costs were \$2,750, the main expense being hall hire for organ practice.

Insurance cost \$1,403, the same as the previous year.

In summary, income was \$7,057 and expenditure was \$11,798, resulting in a loss for the year of \$4,741. The balance of the bank accounts is now \$19,689.

The detailed Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure reports follow below.

Rodney Raymond and Bernard Varney.

Theatre Organ Society of Australia (WA Division) Inc

21/01/18

**Cash Accounts Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2017

	Dec 31, '17	Dec 31, '16
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Current/Savings		
General Account	377.60	2,623.05
Term Deposit	19,311.69	21,807.74
<b>Total Current/Savings</b>	<b>19,689.29</b>	<b>24,430.79</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>19,689.29</b>	<b>24,430.79</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>19,689.29</b>	<b>24,430.79</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Theatre Organ Society of Aust (WA Division)

21/01/18

**Income and Expenditure**  
January through December 2017

	Jan - Dec '17	Jan - Dec '16
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Bank Interest	504.33	615.71
Christmas Dinner	1,645.00	1,770.00
Concert income		
Afternoon tea	245.60	253.20
Ticket sales	2,381.46	1,975.79
<b>Total Concert income</b>	<b>2,627.06</b>	<b>2,228.99</b>
Donations	100.00	1,465.00
Membership Dues	1,140.00	1,370.00
Members Day Income		
Afternoon Tea	297.55	402.70
Raffle Takings	742.60	637.05
<b>Total Members Day Income</b>	<b>1,040.15</b>	<b>1,039.75</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,056.54</b>	<b>8,489.45</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
Christmas Dinner expenses	1,675.80	1,806.73
Bank Service Charges	4.50	0.00
Concerts		
Afternoon Tea Costs	120.54	235.11
Concert advertising	660.00	49.90
Concert artist air fare	1,467.00	1,200.00
Concert artist fee	1,863.40	1,500.00
Concert artist costs	200.00	334.00
Hall hire for concerts	767.00	655.00
Performing Rights	28.60	28.60
<b>Total Concerts</b>	<b>5,106.54</b>	<b>4,002.61</b>
Insurance	1,403.60	1,403.60
Members Day Costs		
Hall Hire	1,049.00	940.75
Organ Practice Hall Hire	1,701.00	1,653.00
<b>Total Members Day Costs</b>	<b>2,750.00</b>	<b>2,593.75</b>
Miscellaneous	500.00	0.00
Postage and Delivery	310.74	310.50
Stationery	46.86	0.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>11,798.04</b>	<b>10,117.19</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-4,741.50</b>	<b>-1,627.74</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-4,741.50</b>	<b>-1,627.74</b>

# T.O.S.A. [W.A.] Inc.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM 2018



I /We wish to renew my membership of T. O. S.A. (W.A.) for 2018.

Membership fees are **\$35** Family and **\$25** Single Membership.

Anniversary Tickets are also available at the discounted cost of **\$150** each.

(Please PRINT Clearly)

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .....  
[First name/s] [Surname]

☐ My details have not changed from last year. If details have changed, complete the following:

Address .....

..... Post code .....

Telephone number ..... Date of birth .....

EMAIL ADDRESS: .....

Please indicate your preference:

I would like to receive the newsletter (*The Tremulant*) by:

☐ Paper copy or ☐ Email

I am interested in receiving interstate newsletters by email: YES/NO.

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Package tickets at \$150 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership fee = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick one:

☐ I have enclosed a cheque made out to Theatre Organ Society of Aust. (W.A.) Inc.

☐ I have deposited directly into TOSA Bankwest account: BSB 306-073, Account 4191824.  
Date of fund transfer: .....

**PLEASE FORWARD THIS FORM**  
**(WITH PAYMENT IF BY CHEQUE) TO:**

**Rodney Raymond**  
**3 Chamberlain Circle**  
**BATEMAN 6150**

**Or you can scan and email the form to**  
**Rodney**

(Office Use Only) List updated ☐ Addresses updated ☐ Tickets issued ☐