



April - July 2025

TREMULANT

The Official Newsletter of
Theatre Organ Society of Australia (Western Australian Division) Inc



MEMBERS' DAYS

First Sunday of the
month - 2pm start

No Members' Day
in March

6 April 2025

4 May 2025

1 June 2025

6 July 2025

3 August 2025

7 September 2025*

(* To be confirmed)

5 October 2025

2 November 2025

7 December 2025

From the President

Well, here we are at the middle of the year! It seems only a few weeks back that we were celebrating Christmas! It is easy to think that we have just been continuing doing the same thing month by month, and in some respects that is true. We prepare some music, come along and play and listen, then do the same next month.

But, I have also been encouraged with the numbers of new people who are finding us. Yes, we are saddened when older folks are no longer able to attend, but there have also been quite a number of new faces this year. We welcome four new members this year: Brian Jones (BJ), Kuniko Nicholson, Catherine Harrison and Catherine Plowman. We trust that as you meet new friends you will enjoy your time with this group. And last week, I had a phone call from another lady who had heard about us and intends to come along next month. So, keep telling your friends about us because it is the word of mouth advertising that works the best!

Thank you to our regular musicians who practise so diligently to prepare musical offerings each month. Our regular organists are Ruth MacDonald, Simone Collins and myself. Len Harris has been sick recently and so we have not had the pleasure of his piano playing and singing. Len, we wish you a speedy recovery. And it will be good to hear Robyn and BJ back on the piano again (BJ played the Christmas Carols for us last year). Hopefully that will happen again soon.

Thank you also to Glenys Raymond, who prepares the afternoon teas for us. Thank you to those who have put their names down to bring food to assist - there are a few blank spots towards the end of the year, so take a look at the blue folder on the afternoon tea table and add your name to the list if you are able.

Finally, thank you to you all for coming along so regularly. Enjoy the music, and tell your friends about us.



Rodney Raymond
President



Q. How many people does it take to put on a piano cover?

A. Many hands make light work!

Flashback to 10 years ago!

It was ten years ago that Dave Wickerham visited Western Australia and performed a concert on our Compton organ.

Dave is one of the top organists in the world, having regularly played at a number of different Organ Pizza shops in the USA.

The capture system on our organ failed on that occasion, and Dave had to hand register throughout the whole concert. Even so, he gave a marvellous performance.

Dave is famous for taking a list of requests and just meld them into one long medley, all from memory. Here is one such example.



Where is the Wurlitzer?

Our President Rodney recently had coffee with John Fuhrmann and received an update for members on the relocation of the Karrinyup Wurlitzer. The organ is going into the heritage listed Como Theatre in Como which is being enlarged to cater for live theatre as well as continuing to show films. The required building permissions have been forthcoming from the City of South Perth, State Planning Commission and Heritage Council.

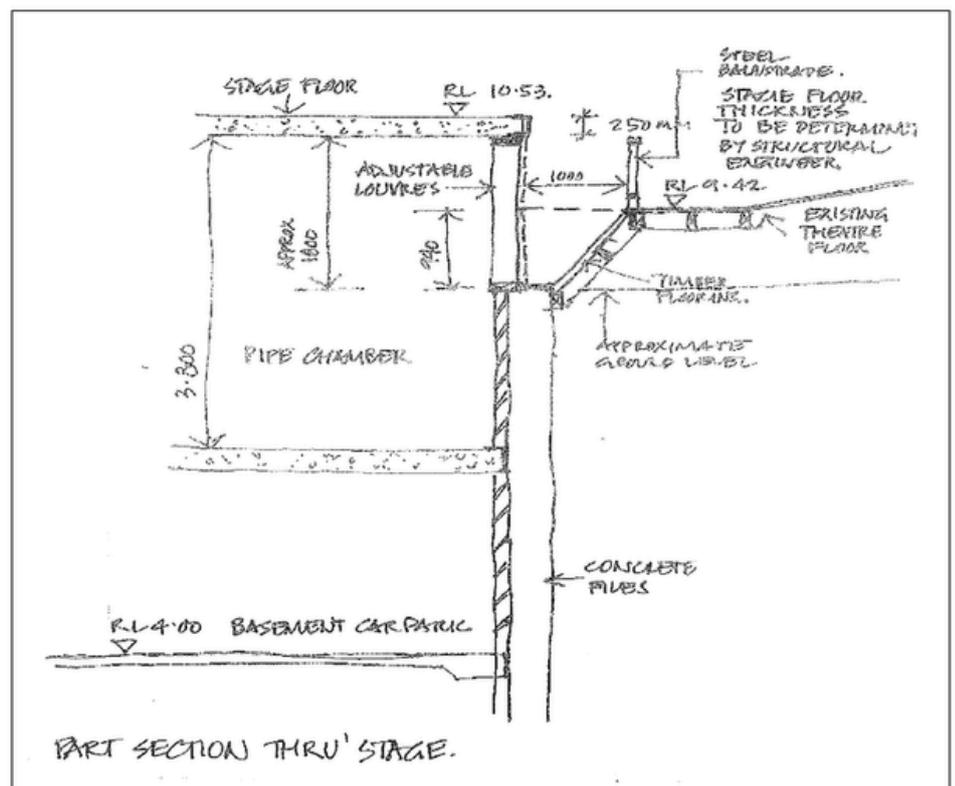
Some of the Wurlitzer is currently onsite at the Cinema and recently the blower was moved from the Karrinyup Community Centre to the theatre. The console is being refurbished and enlarged in the workshop of organ builder Tomasz Nowak who is responsible for the maintenance and tuning of the Perth Concert Hall organ and other instruments around Perth.

Thought has been given to the Como Theatre auditorium design. The organ's original proscenium 12 rank pipe chamber installation in the 1405 seat Perth Metro Theatre created a sound shadow in the back stalls underneath the circle. In the Karrinyup Community Centre the organ had grown to 21 ranks with a seating capacity for 350 people and no circle or sound shadow.

The Como Theatre has seating for 580 patrons and a circle. The pipe chambers are to be under-stage with half the shutters blades speaking directly into the front stalls and the bottom half of the shutters speaking at a reflective sound baffle to overcome an upstairs circle sound shadow.

One thing is certain, the organ will be loud since the auditorium has no curtains and a polished floor.

John Fuhrmann wanted to thank TOSA (WA) for supporting a grant application to the American Theatre Organ Society for funds to assist with the Wurlitzer installation costs.



Vale Richard Moore

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Richard Moore on 8 June 2025.

Richard and his wife Elva were active members of the Theatre Organ Society from prior to 1993 through to 2020.

Both served on the TOSA committee for many years. Richard did a stint as secretary, and was our treasurer for twelve years from 1997 to 2009.

As well as enjoying music, Richard was an avid tennis player.

In the last few years he has been living in Alice Springs with his daughter.



Richard and Elva were honoured at our fiftieth anniversary celebrations in 2018 where together with Yvonne Craig, they performed the cake cutting ceremony.

FREMANTLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

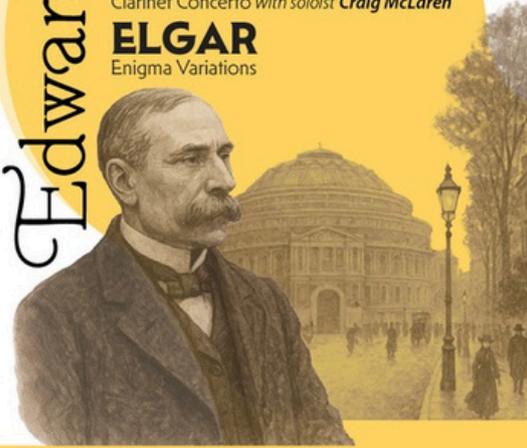
WINTER WARMER SERIES 2025
Conducted by David Pye

Edwardian England

ELGAR
Pomp & Circumstance March No. 1

FINZI
Clarinet Concerto with soloist *Craig McLaren*

ELGAR
Enigma Variations



humanitix Sun 6 July | 6pm

Tickets \$20 | Concessions \$15 | John Leckie Pavilion Nedlands



Annual Recital

St Patrick's Basilica
Fremantle
September

Celebrating 150 years of pipe organs in Western Australia

Alessandro Pittorino
Organ

