

*PIPES*

&

*PERCUSSION*

166  
*April-May*  
2015

**NEWSLETTER FOR  
THE FRIENDS OF THE WURLITZER**

**& THE "KIWI CHAPTER" of the  
AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY**

**EDITOR: James Duncan  
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**UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST of AUCKLAND  
C/- PO BOX 6707, WELLESLEY ST, AUCKLAND 1141, N.Z.  
VISIT US ON [Facebook](#) OR AT: [www.theatreorgans.com/wota](http://www.theatreorgans.com/wota)**

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### ***UP, UP AND AWAY...!!***

.....not in my beautiful balloon, as the song goes, but on our beautiful Wurlitzer!! Our unofficial launching pad for 2015 back in March, was yet another very successful *Friends of the Wurlitzer* Club Afternoon. Once again the tickets sold out a week or so before the event, telling the Trust that you do enjoy these yearly get-togethers and the format we follow for the afternoon. It was also very encouraging to hear so many expressions of appreciation from some of you individually, regarding the work the Trust does in promoting and presenting our 89 year old Wurlitzer pipe organ to the people of Auckland. Great feedback, thank you.

Ticket sales for our **ANZAC Weekend Event** featuring John Atwell are rolling along nicely, but remember the Members Discount price **closes on Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup>** when all payments must be in and bookings close. After that date, it's door sales only on both days, from 1.15pm at \$25.00 a ticket. Contact Jan NOW for tickets.

So with our season of shows well underway, here come details of our next show featuring Adelaide's **Chris McPhee and Rosanne Hosking** on **Sunday June 21<sup>st</sup>**.

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++ *The opinions expressed in this Newsletter* ++  
*are not necessarily those of*  
*The Wurlitzer Organ Trust of Auckland or the Theatre Management.*

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**THE WURLITZER ORGAN  
TRUST of AUCKLAND**

PRESENT

**"Two's Company"  
CHRIS MCPHEE &  
ROSANNE HOSKING  
From Adelaide**

AT THE MIGHTY

**WURLITZER**  
THEATRE PIPE ORGAN

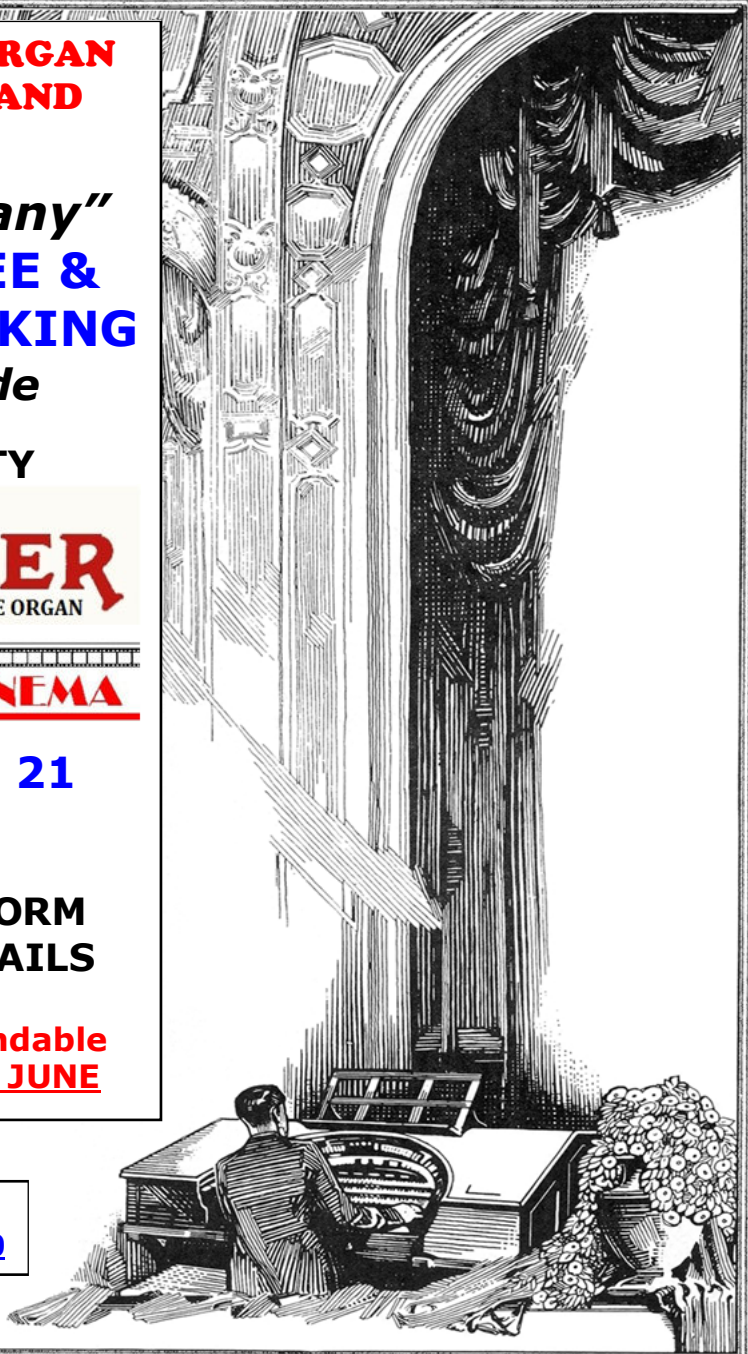
JAN GREFSTAD'S  
**HOLLYWOOD CINEMA**

**SUNDAY JUNE 21  
at 2pm.**

**SEE BOOKING FORM  
FOR TICKET DETAILS**

**Tickets are not refundable  
BOOKINGS CLOSE 16 JUNE**

**On Concert Day ALL  
tickets will be \$25.00**



**MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: All Payments must be received by  
Tuesday June 16, when Bookings & Discount offer closes !**

**Chris McPhee** is a much-loved performer here in Auckland with four visits in recent years to the Hollywood Wurlitzer. We've enjoyed Chris in a range of different combinations, as a Solo Artist; accompanying *Brett's New Internationals* 1920s style dance-band and sharing piano & organ with fellow Australian Ryan Heggie.

Chris is in regular demand for concerts around Australia and overseas. In mid-1999 he was featured in the American Theatre Organ Society's National Convention held in London, performing on the legendary Buddy Cole Wurlitzer.



Back home in Adelaide Chris is a popular artist at the prestigious Adelaide Town Hall and Festival Theatre pipe organs, performing for the Lord Mayors Christmas Concerts and Morning Melodies series. Chris is also a regular featured organist at the Capri Theatre.

Whilst a solo artist of renown, Chris has had the privilege to perform with some of Australia's top entertainers, including Tony Fenelon, Tasso Bouyessis, Anna-maria Beni, Rosanne Hosking, JC Jazz, The Bay Big Band and Adelaide Harmony Choir, to name just a few. He has produced 6 commercial recordings and his music has been featured on radio programs across the globe, including ABC's popular 'Classic Drive' program and the long running BBC broadcast, 'The Organist Entertains'.

Joining Chris for this program is fellow entertainer **Rosanne Hosking**. With over 20 years' experience in the entertainment industry, Rosanne's genuine love and passion for singing and performance shines through in everything she does.



Possessing natural warmth and an endearing quality, she is able to connect with audiences and students, young and old. Rosanne's performance career has taken her all around Australia and overseas. She was studying voice at Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium when she accepted her first professional engagement with the Australian Cast of *The Phantom of the Opera*. She has since diversified into all music styles and has explored her natural versatility on the operatic, musical theatre, cabaret and contemporary stage.

Rosanne and Chris have performed on a number of occasions together, and they are preparing a thrilling program for their Auckland Show. It will definitely be a "Pops" program that includes some of the hits of Edith Piaf, some Light Opera, the great Burt Bacharach, Andrew Lloyd Webber and much more.....

## PRESENTED WITH FUNDING SUPPORT FROM



**ASB Community Trust**

*Te Kaitiaki Putea o Tamaki o Tai Tokerau*

supported by **ASB**

# THIS & THAT FROM HERE & THERE.....

## SEASON TICKETS.....

Those of you who have purchased a 2015 Season Ticket, please check inside this newsletter as your laminated ticket is tucked within these pages.

As always, this ticket must be presented at each and every Wurlitzer Show to claim your seats. If you are unable to attend a certain show, please **DO** lend your ticket to a friend to use, as otherwise your seat will remain empty. However they **MUST** have the laminated ticket to present to our House Staff so they can use your seats.

Please note: it is not legally ethical for us to re-sell your seats if you are unable to attend a show, so there is no need to advise Jan if you are not attending.

## NOTE WELL – NEW POSTAL SYSTEM IN NZ

For reasons known only to them, some of our members waited until the Friday before close-off for the Club Afternoon tickets, to finally decide that they wanted to attend and then tried to get a cheque off in the mail to Jan. Sadly some missed out as the cheques did not arrive until the following Thursday and we'd sold out!

So, ALL MEMBERS, please be warned, NZ Post is reducing postal deliveries to around 2 or 3 times a week only from now on! So if you leave things to the last minute there is every chance your cheque will not arrive and your seats will be sold to another member who *has* paid on time. The "Deadline Tuesday" before each show is non-negotiable, on this day ALL BOOKINGS CLOSE and ALL PAYMENTS must be in.



**HOP ON THE INTERNET AND CHECK OUT THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY'S WEBSITE!**

**WHILE THERE, CLICK ON THE "ATOS RADIO" LINK AND LISTEN TO SOME GREAT MUSIC ON OUR FAVOURITE INSTRUMENT**

**[www.atos.org/radio](http://www.atos.org/radio)**

Donations and/or bequests help to support the ongoing operation of the Wurlitzer Organ at the Hollywood Cinema in Avondale. The Organ is owned and operated by the Wurlitzer Organ Trust of Auckland, for the enjoyment and entertainment of our friends and supporters. The Wurlitzer Organ Trust of Auckland is a registered Charitable Trust making donations tax deductible. We thank our friends and supporters for their continuing interest and support. Our Charities Commission Number is 10966

# **BEWARE THE WRATH OF THE CHURCH ORGANIST**

This wee gem I discovered recently on the website of the Daily Telegraph in the U.K..

**Beware the wrath of the church organist – musical revenge is sweet! They are the stalwart pillars of the community whose week-in, week-out dedication has kept the country’s choral traditions alive for generations.**

But, if new research is to be believed, behind the quiet exterior the humble church organist is not someone to be crossed.

While charged with providing spiritually uplifting music to worshippers, it seems many also seize the opportunity to extract subtle revenge on clerics who have displeased them or simply play pranks on congregations.

A survey of churchgoers found that at least half have noticed their organist straying from the path of musical orthodoxy at some point – slipping snippets of heavy metal classics, advertising jingles and even nursery rhymes into hymns and anthems.

In some cases it can be a means of waging musical war with clerics while in others it is simply an effort by bored organists to make the choir laugh.

Christian Research, a polling and research group asked its 2,000 strong “Resonate” panel of churchgoers for their views on church music and organists.

Of those who responded, half said they had noticed an organist slipping unexpected tunes into services.

Among examples cited was that of the organist in Scotland who had fallen out with some of the elders in the Kirk but got his own back by inserting a thinly disguised rendition of “Send in the

Clowns” as they processed in for a Sunday service.



Elsewhere, a vicar sacked an organist after he played “Roll out the Barrel” at the funeral of a man known to have been fond of a drink.

In one decidedly high church congregation, an organist punctured the mood of reverence as an elaborately dressed clergyman processed back after the gospel reading – by playing the theme tune to The Simpsons.

Another congregation found themselves passing around the collection plate to the strains of “Money, Money, Money” by Abba.

The survey uncovered examples of Eucharist celebrations livened up with renditions of Bon Jovi’s “Livin’ on a Prayer”; the theme tunes from the

Magic Roundabout, Blackadder and Harry Potter and even "I've Got a Lovely Bunch of Coconuts".

Sung Evensong – widely regarded as the jewel in the crown of English choral music – has been spiced up with such unexpected offerings as "I'm a Barbie Girl" and "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles"

One organist, who responded, confessed to playing hits by Oasis, Billy Bragg and even Kylie Minogue in services but added: "Nobody notices – I do it all the time."

But when an organist played a slowed-down version of Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious from Mary Poppins, even the most tone deaf members of the congregation eventually recognised, sending them into gales of laughter.

An older bridegroom took it in good humour when the organist played "No one loves a fairy when she's 40" at his

wedding" while candidates at a confirmation service were left perplexed to hear the strains of "I'm a Little Teapot" from the organ loft.

Stephen Goddard, of Christian Research, said: "It's an oft-repeated adage in church circles – 'What's the difference between an organist and a terrorist? -you can negotiate with a terrorist'.

"Hidden from view, your local church organist may appear unassuming and self-deprecating, but like any true artist, he or she can be eccentric, mischievous and very opinionated.

"Mess with him at your peril – he will pull out all the stops to get his own back."

The poll was conducted ahead of the Christian Resources Exhibition, a trade fair for all things ecclesiastical in London later this month, which will be showcasing new organs among other things



Reproduced by courtesy of the "Daily Herald."

*Please! Please! Mr. Smith. You're not in the Rialto now.*



With the pre-Easter tunings coming up for churches right around the country, pipe organ tuners will no doubt get a kick out of this! Could this puss be a church moggie??



THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST of AUCKLAND

PRESENT

**AN ANZAC WEEKEND TRIBUTE**  
**COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS SINCE THE START OF WWI.**

WITH  
**JOHN ATWELL**  
from Melbourne

AT THE CONSOLE OF AUCKLAND'S HISTORIC

**WURLITZER**  
THEATRE PIPE ORGAN

"FEELING THE MUSIC" FOR 32 YEARS AT  
JAN GREFSTAD'S  
**HOLLYWOOD CINEMA**  
ST GEORGES RD., AVONDALE

SATURDAY APRIL 25 - at 2pm

**THE SOUNDS of SILENTS!**

An Academy Award winning 1927  
silent movie accompanied by the  
Wurlitzer pipe organ



TICKETS: \$25.00  
ON SALE AT THE DOOR ON THE DAY  
FROM 1.15pm

\* *ORGAN PLAY-IN from 1.30pm*

SUNDAY APRIL 26 - at 2pm

**THE MUSIC THAT GOT US  
THROUGH THE WAR YEARS!**

Featuring some of the  
liveliest and happiest music  
ever written!  
The music that kept us going  
through some of the  
darkest days in our history...  
from 1914 through to the 1960s



TICKETS: \$25.00  
ON SALE AT THE DOOR ON THE DAY  
FROM 1.15pm

**FOR MORE INFO**  
**PH: 525-7067**



ASB Community Trust  
Te Kaitiaki Putea o Tamaki o Tai Tokerau  
supported by ASB



**AT THE HOLLYWOOD WURLITZER –  
“POPS ON PIPES” FOR 2015**

**PRESENTED WITH FUNDING SUPPORT FROM THE  
ASB COMMUNITY TRUST**

**CONCERT TICKET ENQUIRIES & RESERVATIONS**

**JAN NANCEKIVELL – PH: 522-8944**

**OR E-MAIL: JANDENISE@XTRA.CO.NZ**

***TO ENCOURAGE INTEREST FROM YOUNG PEOPLE, WE OFFER AGES 10 - 18,  
ACCOMPANIED BY A PAYING ADULT, FREE ADMISSION TO OUR SHOWS.  
NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE SILENT MOVIE EVENTS***

***\*\* PLEASE NOTE THAT THE UNAUTHORISED VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING  
OF CONCERTS AT THE HOLLYWOOD CINEMA IS NOT PERMITTED \*\****

**SATURDAY APRIL 25  
(ANZAC DAY) at 2pm –  
“Sounds of Silents –  
WINGS 1927 Silent Movie”**

To open our year, we are bringing Melbourne’s John Atwell over to present our small tribute to the on-going commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War.

We have had many fun afternoons of music with John Atwell over the years as he has performed alongside an Auckland based 1920s Dance Band, piano, trumpet and vocalist... Now a new dimension as John accompanies a great classic from the silent movie era, “**Wings**” made in 1927 and regarded as one of the last great classics from the silent movie era.

See and hear how the Wurlitzer organ brings the silent movie to life through the power of music!!

**SUNDAY APRIL 26 at 2pm –  
“The Music that Got Us  
Through the War Years!”**

John Atwell returns to the console, this time to share some of the most well-known music ever written.

The program features music from some of the darkest days in our history.... The First World War, World War 2, the Korean War of the 50s and the Vietnam War of the 60s. Each period saw music written and songs sung that will ever remain in the public mind and will always be associated with that particular theatre of war.

Most of this music turns out to be some of the liveliest and happiest music ever written, again all designed to lift our spirits and give us the strength to soldier on!!

Join us for an afternoon of fun music at this, our tribute to the music from the war years.

***Sadly we have lost our regular coffee van.  
We are now working to source another provider  
who would be prepared to be on site  
at the Hollywood for our shows.***

***If the van is not on site when you arrive for  
John Atwell's shows, try the Coffee Club,  
opposite the Mobil petrol station. Sorry All ☹***

**SUNDAY JUNE 21, at 2pm — Chris McPhee & Rosanne Hosking (AUS)**

Over recent years, Adelaide's Chris McPhee has also given us some great music at the Hollywood Cinema. As one of the younger generation of Australian theatre organists, Chris enjoys the opportunity to work with other talented artists and for this trip, he is joined by Rosanne Hosking also from Adelaide.

**SUNDAY AUGUST 30 at 2pm — Jelani Eddington (USA)**

Now a real thrill as we welcome back to the Hollywood, one of the USA's younger generation theatre organists. Jelani is a true consummate musician and over the years, he has become a much-loved entertainer to Auckland audiences, since his first visit in 1996 at the age of twenty-two. Definitely a program that will feature music for all tastes, from the classics, movie & TV themes, the 20s & 30s, and right on up to today – "Pops on Pipes" this certainly is! A great afternoon indeed is in store with this very popular international touring artist.

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**SATURDAY OCTOBER 3 at 2pm  
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA  
1925 Silent Movie"**

Another "great" from the silent movie era, and for this screening, the USA's Dave Wickerham will be at the console of the Hollywood Wurlitzer to use all the organ's resources to bring the silent screen to life.

Currently enjoying a resurgence of interest, this 1925 silent horror classic, stars Lon Chaney, Sr. in the title role of the deformed Phantom who haunts the Paris Opera House, causing murder and mayhem in an attempt to make the woman he loves a star. The movie remains most famous for Chaney's ghastly, self-devised make-up, which was kept a studio secret until the film's premiere.

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 4 at 2pm**

***Dave Wickerham (USA)***

In a complete change of pace from the drama of the silent movie, Dave Wickerham will share some lively toe-tapping music with us in another true "Pops" style program.

Who could forget Dave's last visit back in 2012, when he invited his audience to note down their favourite requests during the interval, and then featured almost every item requested during the second half! This proving the amazing virtuosity of this great keyboard entertainer

The audience yelled for MORE! So in answer to that call, here he is!

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8 at 2pm – “PIPES n’ PIZZAZZ”  
Scott Harrison (AUS) with Tauranga’s Bay Dixie Band)**

Join us for a fun afternoon of “Dixie Jazz” when the Wurlitzer pipe organ and Tauranga’s Bay Dixie Band join forces to make music together.

The combination of the Dixie band and pipe organ recreates some of the hottest sounds in music since the great Fats Waller first featured this mix back in the 1920s.

Scott Harrison from Melbourne and the Bay Dixie Band were featured at the Hollywood Cinema last year and our audience were VERY vocal in their desire to hear more of this magic combination!

What a spectacular way to conclude this vintage 1926 Wurlitzer pipe organ’s 32nd year of entertaining Auckland at the Hollywood Cinema.



**THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST  
OF AUCKLAND**  
*(REGISTERED CHARITABLE TRUST – CC 10966)*  
**PRESERVING AUCKLAND’S HISTORIC 1926  
WURLITZER PIPE ORGAN,  
AT JAN GREFSTAD’S  
HOLLYWOOD CINEMA,  
AVONDALE, AUCKLAND, N.Z.**  
*“FEELING THE MUSIC”*  
**FOR 32 YEARS AT THE HOLLYWOOD CINEMA**  
[WWW.THEATREORGANS.COM/WOTA](http://WWW.THEATREORGANS.COM/WOTA)

## **Organ Piano and Keyboard Society of Auckland 98 Captain Springs Rd, Onehunga**

*Mini Concerts every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in the month with a featured theme are;*

- Wednesday April 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am – *War Years*
- Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30am – *Play the Verse – Guess the Song*
- Wednesday June 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30am – *Latin*
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**Next OPKSA Concert:**

- **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 2.pm featuring “Dave Hallam Trio”.**

**Contact Rob or Barbara on PH: 838-7346**

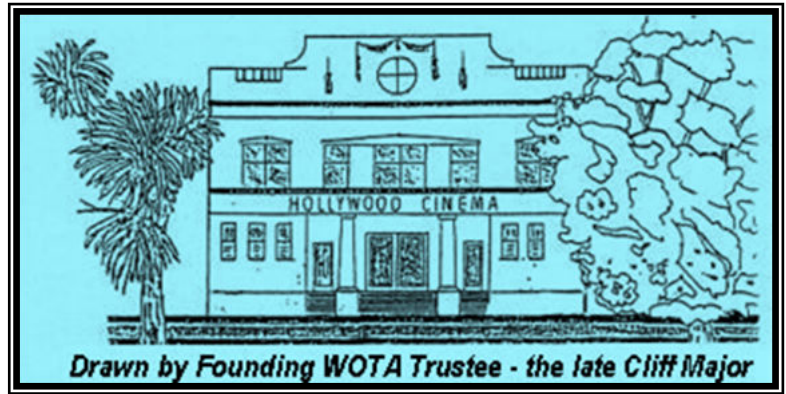


**THE  
WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST  
of AUCKLAND**

**(REG. CHARITABLE TRUST No.10966)**

Visit us at:

[www.theatreorgans.com/wota](http://www.theatreorgans.com/wota)



**CHAIRMAN:** Mr James Duncan PH: 525-7067  
*Concert Manager/Newsletter Editor*

**SECRETARY:** Mrs Carol Neill PH: 575-8645

**TREASURER:** Mr John Palmer PH: (07) 855-3267

**OPEN CONSOLE  
CONVENOR:** Mr Neil Warrington PH: 828-4934

**TRUSTEES:** Mrs Jackie Crawford PH: (09) 236-3998  
Mr John Kleingeld PH: 838-8419  
Mr Graham McBain PH: 376-7197  
Mr Dudley Neill PH: 575-8645

##

**FRIENDS of the WURLITZER MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY  
and CONCERT TICKETS:** Mrs Jan Nancekivell PH: 522-8944

