



*PIPES*

*&*

*PERCUSSION*

175  
AUG-SEPT  
2016

**NEWSLETTER FOR  
THE FRIENDS OF THE WURLITZER**

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

**EDITOR: *James Duncan*  
E-MAIL: [tremsoff@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tremsoff@xtra.co.nz)**

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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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### ***RATIONING CONTINUES.....***

Yes – apologies members, it does feel like we are on meagre rations when it comes to these humble epistles. However, with not much news to report and not many events to entice you too, we are striving to protect our ever depleting funds needed to cover the storage costs for the Wurlitzer organ.

I'm sure all will agree that our very first public show at the Playhouse Theatre back in June, featuring Chris Powell, was a great event. Chris sure did us proud at the Allen TH300 digital theatre organ and the Korg PA3X keyboard.

We have another musical treat in store for you, when we welcome back to Auckland, **Scott Harrison** from Melbourne - see inside this issue for details on this great afternoon coming up on **Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 2pm**. A seating plan and Booking Form are enclosed in this newsletter and all payments must be in when bookings close on Monday 26 September. After that date, it's door sales only on the day, from 1.15pm at \$25.00 a ticket.

We also have an extra musical adventure planned for November, but we need to confirm numbers to ensure it goes ahead. See inside for more.....

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

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THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST OF  
AUCKLAND  
*PRESENT.....*

## REMEMBER WHEN?

CELEBRATING THE MUSIC AND MEMORIES OF  
THE THEATRE ORGAN

*FEATURING*

**SCOTT HARRISON**

AT THE

**ALLEN TH300**

**DIGITAL THEATRE ORGAN**

*WITH GUEST ARTISTS*

**THE DIXIELAND BAND**

**“B.B.C.”**

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 2 at 2pm**

**The Playhouse Theatre**

**15 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden**

**See Booking Form for Ticket Details**

**Tickets are not refundable**

**Bookings Close September 26**

**ALL SEATS \$25.00 ON THE DAY**

**MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: All Payments must be received by  
Monday September 26, when Bookings & Discount offer closes !**

Remember when Auckland's historic Wurlitzer pipe organ entertained thousands each year at Avondale's Hollywood Cinema? With the sale of the theatre last year the Wurlitzer had to be removed and placed in storage pending a new home.

To celebrate the music and memories of the theatre organ, the Wurlitzer Organ Trust of Auckland in association with **MusicPlanet**, is presenting a special show with Melbourne keyboard artist **Scott Harrison** at the Allen TH300 digital theatre organ - the closest we can get to the sounds of the mighty Wurlitzer.



The show will include guest artists, Auckland Dixie Band "**B.B.C**" performing with Scott and the organ, plus a short silent movie featuring footage of the Wurlitzer Organ Factory in North Tonawanda, New York, in the 1920s when the company was shipping a complete organ a day to meet orders from theatres world-wide. Our Wurlitzer organ was shipped from this factory on October 15, 1926 - 90 years ago this year!

Scott Harrison was one of the many popular artists featured on the Wurlitzer organ back in our "Hollywood Days", and it is a great pleasure to welcome him to the Playhouse to share more of his lively "jazz-style" music on the organ.

Your Editor has also had the pleasure of working with the Dixie-band BBC on another venture and I know you are going to love their fun music-making, in a couple of solo items and together with Scott on the Allen organ.

**This show is being presented as part of Auckland Council's "Heritage Festival" so we are expecting good support from followers of this annual event. Remember the Playhouse Theatre seats 240, so please do not leave your booking to the last minute because you WILL be disappointed if the show sells out!!**



## TH300 BY ALLEN

12 RANK and 17 CLASSICAL RANKS / THREE-MANUAL THEATRE ORGAN  
Plus 8 dynamic GeniSys™ Voices!

### FEATURING:

- ~ Multiple Theatre Specifications w/Classic Voices ~
  - ~ Acoustic Portrait™ ~
- ~ Stop-by-Stop and Note-by-Note Voicing ~
  - ~ LED Colored Stop Tabs ~
- ~ Industry Standard Velocity-Sensitive Keyboards ~

*Allen theatre organs are widely acclaimed for their authentic sound of theatre pipe organs. These organs start with the finest theatre pipe organ samples, including the attack, steady state and decay. When combined with authentic digitally sampled theatre organ tremulants, the result is a magnificent ensemble!*



This instrument is available for sale  
Phone Roger on  
0800 Allen Organ (toll free)  
Hear it online at [ww.allenorgan.com](http://ww.allenorgan.com)



# DAY TRIP TO TAURANGA!

**SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 20**

## **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

We know that many of you are missing the sounds of the Wurlitzer pipe organ and we are mindful that we have only presented three events this year, so to end our year; the Trust decided a trip to our sister Wurlitzer was well overdue!!

The Tauranga Wurlitzer was shipped one week after ours in 1926, it going to the De Luxe (later renamed the Embassy) Theatre in Wellington – that makes both organs 90 years old THIS YEAR!! We need to celebrate!

Our friends in the *Tauranga Theatre Organ Society* have offered to host us should we consider a visit – well we don't need to be asked twice.

Here's what we are planning;

- **8.30am Coach will depart from New Lynn Railway Station**
- **9.am depart Onehunga Railway Station**
- **11.30am approx. – arrive Baycourt in Tauranga**
- **Light lunch served**
- **Auckland and Tauranga players will share their music with us on the beautiful 2/11 Wurlitzer pipe organ**
- **3pm approx coach will depart Tauranga for return to Auckland with drop-offs at Onehunga and New Lynn Railway Stations**



We have booked an **Abbots Coach** for the day which seats 50 people, but we must sell every seat! At the very worst – ticket price would be \$40 each, but we are working towards reducing this.

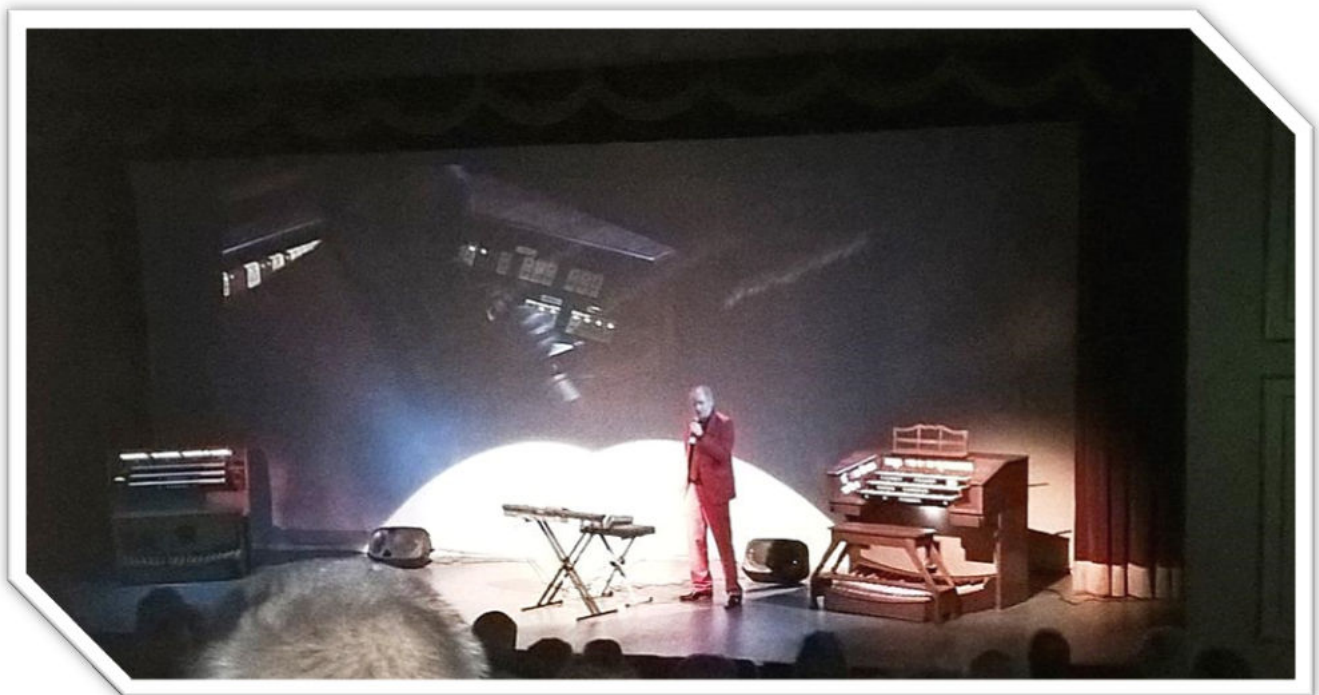
Would you like to join us on a fun day out? At this stage we need to know if we can fill the coach, so please telephone or email our Ticket Secretary Jan Denise to express interest in the trip and our **next** newsletter will confirm the details.

**Jan Denise – PH 522-8944 EMAIL: [jandenise@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jandenise@xtra.co.nz)**

# Memories of Chris Powell's June Show at the Playhouse Theatre



**The Stage is set!  
Video on and  
Allen organs and  
Korg Keyboard in  
place**



**Chris Powell was  
presented with the  
support of...**



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

## WOTA IS LOOKING FOR AN AUDITOR

After many years of looking after the Wurlitzer Organ Trust of Auckland, our current Auditor is retiring, so we need someone to take his place. Our Trust Deed requires us to have an annual audit. Our requirements are as follows;

- An accountant who is or has been in public practise, or is or has had an accounting career in the private or public sector
- Verifiable accounting qualifications
- Excel Spreadsheet experience

Our accounts are Cash based. The Trust Cash Book is maintained in an Excel Spreadsheet and a copy of this file would be supplied. Weekly Bank Reconciliations are in hard copy. All payments are authorised by two of three Trust signatories, and approved by the full Trust at subsequent Trust Meetings. The Trust is supplied with a Financial Report detailing Receipts, Payments, Bank Accounts and Investments, at each of its meetings. Trust Meetings are usually held every six weeks or as required.

The Trust is heavily dependent on external funding and donations to continue its operations. Accordingly, it is unable to pay commercial rates and seeks an Auditor who will act on a pro bono or limited fee plus reasonable expenses basis.

Copies of the Trust's Financial Statements, Trust Deed and Officers are available on the Charities Services Website [www.charities.govt.nz](http://www.charities.govt.nz) Trust Financial Statements must now be prepared in the Tier 4 format stipulated by Charities Services.

If you are able to help, please contact John Palmer.

Email [john.palmer@xtra.co.nz](mailto:john.palmer@xtra.co.nz)

Phone 07-855-3267

Mobile 027-675-0054

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## PLAYHOUSE THEATRE UPDATE

At long last we do have some positive news!!! Following further meetings in May between the Waitakere Playhouse Theatre Trust (WPTT) and the Wurlitzer Organ Trust of Auckland (WOTA), we have received a formal invitation to bring the Wurlitzer organ to the Playhouse Theatre, and make the Playhouse the new home for theatre organ entertainment in Auckland!

It has been agreed that the organ chambers will be built on to the back of the stage and this work is to coincide with another project the WPTT was embarking on for 2017, the building of a multi-purpose space over the Green Room.

Mr Graham Upton, one of our FOTW members who is an architect and has experience with heritage buildings, offered his services and has been engaged by

the WPTT to prepare the drawings, plans and documentation which will be submitted to Auckland Council for resource consent. There are a number of hooks to be managed because of the heritage listing on the Playhouse building.

The cost of merely submitting plans for review and consent, when there is a heritage edge to them, is just over \$10,000. The WPTT and WOTA are rightfully sharing this initial expense, which means that we now need to find within a few short months, around \$5000!

Two requests for funding support to our usual funding agencies have been declined, and as our shows usually only break-even and do not make money as such, we are watching our remaining funds disappear at the rate of \$1000 a month to cover the storage cost of the Wurlitzer organ. While a couple of members have offered alternative storage in sheds or large warehouses, it must be said that where the organ is currently stored, the facility is temperature controlled and vermin proof – it's costly here but the organ is in the best and safest place possible.

Not one of the funding agencies we have approached will cover or assist with storage costs despite the fact that it will ultimately see the return of the organ to the music scene here in Auckland. So we must go it alone.

**So my friends, once again we turn to you for some help with the \$5000 needed to get this project for the organ's new home started. Something to think about.....**

- ✓ **We have just over 200 local *Friends of the Wurlitzer* members**
- ✓ **If each member donated \$25.00 the funds would be found!**
- ✓ **Remember too, that all donations over \$5.00 to WOTA are tax deductible.**

**Can you help.....??**

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**It must now be noted, that since the start of this year, many of you have rallied to the flag already, when renewing your subs for the year, you added a donation to your payment. At this critical time in WOTA's history, these gifts are essential to aid the Trust in keeping solvent and continuing to ensure the Wurlitzer organ is in safe hands while in storage.**

**To all the following good people, please accept our heart-felt thanks;**

A.L.	Bartlett	L.	Brooky	G.J.	Davy
N.	Bayliss	A.	Burns	R.D.	Dillon
D.	Billing	C.	Carstairs	H.A.	Dorbeck
B.	Birchall	T.	Cheeseman	V.	Duff
M.	Blayney	T.M.	Clements	J. & C.	Duncan
J.	Bouwman	D.	Clouston	E.	Eyles
G.	Bowden	M.	Cox	D.	Fulton
L. & J.	Boyd	S.	Crawley	P.	Garlick
M. & A.	Bramley	L.	Davey	S.	Goddard
J.P. & B.M.	Briand	R.	Davis	M.	Grace
C.	Bright	J.	Davis	S.	Hamp



B.	Hemming	M.J.	McCarthy	B.M.	Sherson
J.	Herle	A.	Mcdonald	B.	Sullivan
M.	Heynen	V.E.	McMurtry	C.	Tyler
A.	Hilton	I.	Mison	G.	Urquhart
Jan	Holdaway	D.	Murch	P.	Vellekoop
Juliet	Holdaway	W.	Oldfield	R.	Wainwright
L.	Howe	D.	Parker	P.	Wallace
W.	Hutchinson	H.	Perkins	G.	Watt
W.	Johns	M.	Pestle	J.K.	Webster
I. & A.	Johnston	H.	Plesner	M.	White
R.	Lange	F.	Pogson	N.	Whitehead
J.	Law	D.	Rainbird	J.	Wills
T.	Mandeno	R.	Reade	J.	Wills
I.	Marsters	P.	Retter	G.	Wingate
B. & M.	Massey	V.J.	Richmond	G.	Wise
M.	Matheson	V.J.	Richmond	A.	Wolstenholme
Ms	McBride	P.	Robinson		
A.	McCarrison	A.	Rule		

### Substantial donations were received from;

- The Auckland Organists Association
- Mr Arthur Burns

### ORGAN FOR SALE....

The Auckland branch of the Theosophical Society in New Zealand, advises that they have a *Baldwin Cinema Organ III Superseries* electronic organ for sale in good working order. Price is negotiable! Call Michelle Osborne - 021 424 109



## **PLEASE REMEMBER....**

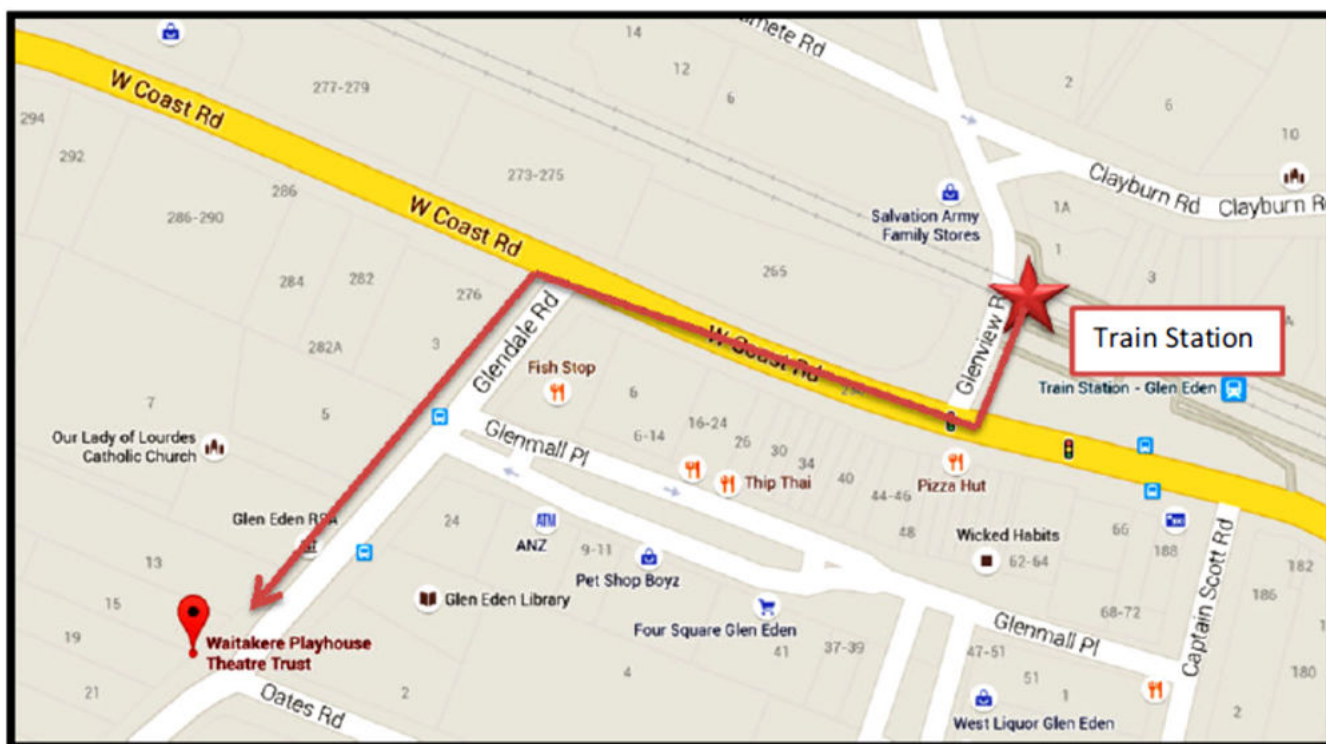
With a new venue, we have some new terms and conditions of use at the Playhouse Theatre.

- No food or drink in the auditorium, so suggest you come earlier so you can enjoy your coffee from the Café 2 U coffee van before going in for the show.
- Because of the Performing Rights Act absolutely NO video or audio recording

Why not try our new electric trains when attending a show at the Playhouse?? The Swanson service is half-hourly and the theatre is literally 5 minutes' walk from the Glen Eden Station!

**A Train departs Britomart at 12.54pm and arrives at Glen Eden at 1.32pm.  
Trains depart Glen Eden at 5.08 or 5.38pm for the return journey.**

If coming by car there is limited parking down the driveway beside the theatre – use spaces marked with a **PH** as these are for Playhouse patrons.



## **SIGNS OF LAUGHTER....**

**Did I read that sign right?  
“TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW.”**

**In a Laundromat:  
AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES:  
PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT.**

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES....**

### **CONCERT TICKET ENQUIRIES & RESERVATIONS**

**JAN NANCEKIVELL – PH: 522-8944**

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

## **THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE 15 GLENDALE ROAD, GLEN EDEN**



### **SUNDAY OCTOBER 2 at 2pm – *Scott Harrison (Aus) & the BBC Dixie Band***

Here comes another popular artist from our Hollywood Cinema days, who will bring us a fun afternoon of musical variety!

Once again, a digital organ will be on stage and Scott will be joined by Guest Artists, the Auckland based Dixie band **B.B.C.** for some organ & band duos. A short silent movie with organ accompaniment will bring another dimension to the mix and make for a great afternoon for young and old.

### **SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20 – *Day-Trip to Visit the Tauranga Wurlitzer***

With our Wurlitzer organ and Tauranga's, both celebrating 90 years since being shipped from the Wurlitzer factory in New York State, it seemed a good time to make a trip down to visit our sister theatre organ venue.

We need to fill a 50-seat coach so for now; we are taking names of those who would like to join us for a fun day out. **See page 5 for details on how to put your name on the list.**



### **THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST OF AUCKLAND**

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CHARITABLE TRUST - CC 10966)**

**PRESERVING THE HISTORIC  
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1926 WURLITZER PIPE ORGAN.**

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<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Mrs Carol Neill	PH: 575-8645
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Mr John Palmer	PH: (07) 855-3267
<b>PROJECT LEADER ORGAN REINSTALLATION:</b>	Mr Neil Warrington	PH: 828-4934
<b>TRUSTEES:</b>	Mrs Margaret Cox Mrs Jackie Crawford Mr John Kleingeld Mr Dudley Neill	PH: 636-5277 PH: (09) 236-3998 PH: 838-8419 PH: 575-8645

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**FRIENDS of the WURLITZER MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY  
and CONCERT TICKETS:**

Mrs Jan Nancekivell

PH: 522-8944



**SUPPORTING  
THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST  
OF AUCKLAND**