



PIPES

&

PERCUSSION

173
APRIL
2016

**NEWSLETTER FOR
THE FRIENDS OF THE WURLITZER**

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

**EDITOR: James Duncan
E-MAIL: tremsoff@extra.co.nz**

**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**

WE'RE STILL HAVING FUN !

Yes – despite our Wurlitzer pipe organ being in storage, we can still have some fun and enjoy some great music into the bargain.

Back on Sunday March 20, we opened our humble event diary for 2016 with our *Friends of the Wurlitzer Club Afternoon*, held at the Playhouse Theatre in Glen Eden. The Trust was thrilled with the larger than usual roll-up of members to enjoy afternoon tea, some live music from Ian Johnston and for those of us that were missing the sounds of the Wurlitzer, a short video featuring highlights from some of the shows presented in recent years at our previous home, the Hollywood Cinema.

For those still to renew your subscription to the *Friends of the Wurlitzer*, your final renewal notice is enclosed with this newsletter.

Coming up on **Thursday June 9 @ 2pm**, we are welcoming Great Britain's ever popular **Chris Powell** back to Auckland, for a fun afternoon of music at the Playhouse Theatre. A seating plan and Booking Form are enclosed in this newsletter and all payments must be in when bookings close on Sunday 5 June. After that date, it's door sales only on the day, from 1.15pm at \$25.00 a ticket.

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

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

CHRIS POWELL

ON TOUR FROM GT. BRITAIN

JOIN US FOR A LIVELY,
FUN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC ON THE
ALLEN TH300
DIGITAL THEATRE ORGAN

THURSDAY JUNE 9 AT 2PM
THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE
15 GLENDALE RD, GLEN EDEN

SEE BOOKING FORM FOR TICKET DETAILS

Tickets are not refundable

BOOKINGS CLOSE - 5th JUNE
ALL SEATS \$25.00 ON THE DAY

**MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: All Payments must be received by
Sunday June 5, when Bookings & Discount offer closes !**

Even though our Wurlitzer pipe organ is not available, we could not let one of our most popular artists visit Auckland and not share some of his fun and entertaining music with us! This made possible through the good people at **Music Planet**.

Chris Powell has firmly established himself as one of the UK's premier 'entertainment organists' as well as a truly international ambassador in the field of electronic and theatre organ music.

Born in Manchester in 1971, he emigrated to New Zealand with his parents when just 2 years old. Returning to England at the age of 5, his education and formative years while growing up in Lancashire saw him pursue his love of music with piano and organ studies culminating in a string of engagements for both local concerts

and dances from the age of 14 onwards. By the time he was 18, he had successfully auditioned to join the team of organists playing for dancing at the Tower Ballroom Blackpool and began to be recognised for his musical talents leading to a succession of invitations to perform at electronic and pipe organ venues.

Following his experience at Blackpool, Chris widened his talents to include work as a demonstrator for several manufacturers including Farfisa, Orla and more recently Roland with whom he is now associated on a freelance basis as a demonstrator and as such tours with their brand new, state of the art AT-900C Atelier instrument.

1994 saw an invitation to return to New Zealand for a month long concert tour on pipes and electronics which led to an exciting invitation to spend all of 1996 as a Resident Organist at the 'Baycourt Theatre' in Tauranga. This was a unique and exciting experience in which, while accompanied by his then fiancée Marie Allsopp, he undertook all manner of concerts, functions and dances while playing the Theatre's 10 rank Wurlitzer as well as accompanying the Operetta - 'The Merry Widow' on this much loved vintage instrument.



Since then, he has gone on to become one of the most popular performers in the UK and intersperses his regular annual diary of engagements in Britain with frequent overseas concert tours which have included Holland, Australia and the US as well as NZ in recent years. Chris was also interviewed and filmed in action for a documentary on cinema nostalgia which screened in NZ. Another tour of New Zealand and Australia are already in the diary again for 2016 -this will be his 9th of Australia and 14th of New Zealand.

He has a catalogue of acclaimed recordings to his credit on both pipes and electronics. Together with his wife, Marie, the couple run a successful promotions company.

NOTE WELL – This show is on a THURSDAY – NOT Sunday.

ALLEN TH300 Theatre Organ

Three-Manual

12 Theatre Ranks/17 Classical Ranks

Allen theatre organs are widely acclaimed for their accuracy in reproducing the authentic sound of the theatre pipe organ. 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!

The Allen TH300 is a smaller theatre organ that sounds as thrilling as the Q315 theatre organ! In fact the two organs share similar stop lists and utilize Allen's state-of-the-art Quantum™ and Acoustic Portrait™ technology.

For the many professional theatre organists who own Allen theatre organs, these instruments have been a dream fulfilled. Why wait? Start enjoying the finest theatre organ sounds available in your home!



*This instrument is available for sale
Phone Roger 0800 Allen Organ
(toll free)*

Hear it online at www.allenorgan.com

musicplanet

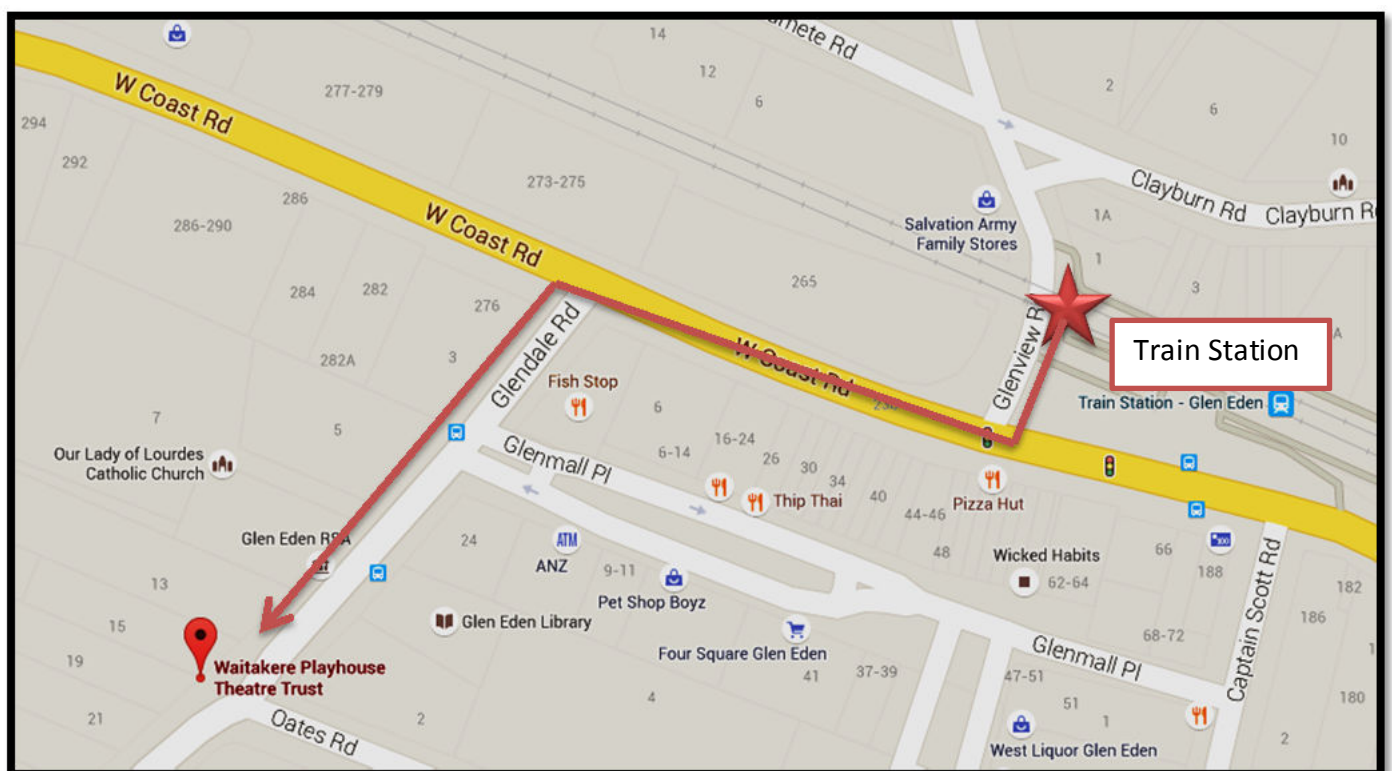
A World of Musical Instruments and Sound Gear.



Just a Reminder – The Playhouse Theatre is easy to find....

The Swanson electric train service is very regular and user-friendly with the theatre an easy 5 minute walk from the train station as seen below.

**There are limited parking spaces at the back of the Playhouse, these are marked with a "PH".
Street parking available as well.**



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

2016 – SUB RENEWALS – “LAST CALL”

Included with this newsletter are the final membership renewal forms for those still to renew for 2016. The Trust is so appreciative of the large number of members who are staying with us, despite the fact that our beloved Wurlitzer pipe organ won't be up and playing until next year.

So although our shows are not big in quantity in 2016, the quality is still to our usual highest standard, and we do hope that those members who receive this last reminder notice, will in-turn renew their membership for this year. **Remember** – to get the discount tickets for Chris Powell's show you do need to be a 2016 member.

PARKING ATTENDENTS – CAN YOU HELP ?

Unlike the Hollywood Cinema, the Playhouse Theatre has a great number of off-street parking for people attending shows. Most of these are marked “P.H.” and there are additional spaces adjacent to these marked ones. Added to this is a large grassed field which is used for over-flow parking for the Playhouse Theatre.

We have been advised that the parking might need to be managed for larger crowds and there is always one person who will drive down to the grass area and park right in the middle of the entrance, blocking any other cars from using the space!

So we are looking for two volunteers who would be prepared to work as a team directing the cars to the correct spaces in the sealed area, then when required, managing the parking in the field at the end of the driveway. We envisage this from 1pm thru to 1.55pm – five minutes before ShowTime. In return for this much needed service, the two people will be able to enjoy the show at no charge – your seats will be complimentary! **Contact James Duncan if you can help.**



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES....

**PRESENTED WITH FUNDING SUPPORT FROM
FOUNDATION NORTH**

CONCERT TICKET ENQUIRIES & RESERVATIONS

JAN NANCEKIVELL – PH: 522-8944

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

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

THURSDAY JUNE 9 at 2pm – *Chris Powell (UK)*

Despite the Wurlitzer not being available, Chris Powell's lively "Blackpool Style" of playing the organ can still be enjoyed on a digital organ.

Thanks to *Musical Sounds* we will have an Allen digital theatre organ and with the support of Paul Solt, we are hoping to include a Roland keyboard which will provide a thrilling contrast in sounds and playing styles.

A great afternoon indeed is in store with this very popular international touring artist. ***Please Note: this is NOT a Sunday show***

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.



THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST OF AUCKLAND

**(A REGISTERED
CHARITABLE TRUST - CC 10966)**

**PRESERVING THE HISTORIC
FORMER REGENT THEATRE AUCKLAND,
1926 WURLITZER PIPE ORGAN.**

www.theatreorgans.com/wota



**THE
WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST
of AUCKLAND**

(REG. CHARITABLE TRUST No.10966)

Visit us at:

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

PROJECT LEADER

ORGAN REINSTALLATION: Mr Neil Warrington PH: 828-4934

TRUSTEES: Mrs Margaret Cox PH: 636-5277
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



**FOUNDATION
NORTH**

*Te Kaitiaki Pūtea ō
Tāmaki ō Tai Tokerau*

**CONTINUING TO SUPPORT
THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST OF
AUCKLAND**