



*PIPES*

*&*

*PERCUSSION*

164

*February*  
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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## ***HAPPY NEW YEAR !***

I know it's a bit belated, but with our start-up timetable for March, this newsletter is therefore a bit later getting into production. ☺

Sure hope that each and every one had an enjoyable Festive Season and holiday break – we were sure well looked after by the weather Gods. The Wurlitzer organ has certainly had an exceptionally long "rest", with no Open Console Sessions during the holidays, as the Hollywood has had some superb movies showing. This borne out by the goodly-number on hand to see "The Hobbit" when I went to see it in early January. When the two organ blowers are turned on for the first time it is expected that, at nearly 89 years old, she won't like being woken from such a deep sleep, with sticky magnets and some dead notes to resolve before our first event for 2015 – the *Friends of the Wurlitzer* Club Afternoon on March 8.

When you look at our line-up of artists for this year, it could best be described as "The Year of Favourites" with all our artists being regular visitors and popular performers here at the Hollywood. See later in this issue for the line-up.

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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  
INVITE YOU TO OUR  
**“FRIENDS OF THE WURLITZER”  
CLUB AFTERNOON**

LAUNCHING OUR 2015 “POPS ON PIPES”  
SEASON OF SHOWS WITH AUCKLAND’S HISTORIC  
WURLITZER PIPE ORGAN

**HOLLYWOOD CINEMA**  
***SUNDAY 8 MARCH @ 2PM***

ADMISSION IS BY TICKET ONLY  
\$10.00 PER PERSON

NO DOOR SALES OR SEAT RESERVES  
DOORS OPEN AT 1.30PM

**Perhaps one of the most popular events  
we present each year is our Club Afternoon,  
Especially for you, our “Friends of the Wurlitzer**

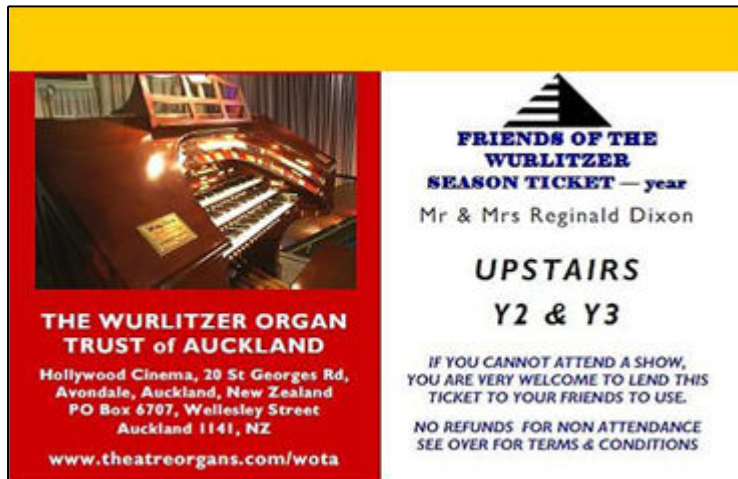
**It’s also a great way to introduce your friends to the Wurlitzer organ and  
some of the fun we regularly enjoy during the year.**

Here are some of highlights for this years “Club Doo”;

- ❖ Music from the Wurlitzer organ with some of our own number at the console
- ❖ Our “Mail Order” shop of commercial theatre organ CDs from some of our previous visiting artists will be available
- ❖ Membership Secretary Jan Nancekivell will be on hand for membership renewals and purchase of the 2015 Season Ticket
- ❖ Tickets on sale for our first event for 2015, with John Atwell
- ❖ Lucky Ticket Prize Draw
- ❖ Light Afternoon Tea
- ❖ Video Presentation- *more theatre organ clips from around the world!*

***Remember – NO DOOR SALES !***

**See your Sub Renewal or the Booking Form enclosed with this newsletter –  
BOOKINGS CLOSE on March 3**



## THE FRIENDS of THE WURLITZER

### 2015 SEASON TICKET

With the on-going popularity of our Season Tickets, we are once again providing this option alongside our standard *Friends of the Wurlitzer* \$20.00 yearly subscription.

At \$146.00 per person, the **2015 Season Ticket** will cover;

- Membership of the Friends of the Wurlitzer
- Admission to our FOTW Club Doo and afternoon tea on March 8
- Your chosen seat at ALL our Wurlitzer shows for the year

**If you wish, you can pay for your Season Ticket at the Club Afternoon, but for catering reasons we will need to know if you are attending, so please phone Jan Nancekivell to advise – see Page 4 for her details.**

From the attached seating plan on the flip-side of the membership renewal form, simply choose your favourite seat numbers and these will be secured for you, for all this year's shows. Whether you attend a concert or not, those seats will always be kept for you, so should you be unable to attend a certain show, we encourage you to lend the ticket to your friends as they are most welcome to use your seats. BUT they MUST present the Season Ticket to the ushers on the day. The ticket must ALWAYS be presented to our ushers at each and every show to claim the seats.

On the enclosed seating plan, our existing Season Ticket holders have their seats marked off which they have first right of refusal to renew. 2014 holders, your ticket has now expired, please ensure you renew to keep your seats.

### **Please note well:**

**Season Tickets are only available until March 8 – after that date sales are closed off until the following year. All un-renewed 2014 Season Ticket seats will also be released for general availability after that date.**

### **NOTE WELL:**

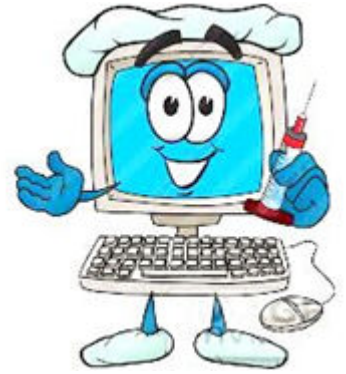
***Season Tickets will be posted out just prior to our first show for 2015***

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



## INTERNET BANKING

Yes! It is possible to purchase tickets for shows, pay your annual subscriptions, and make donations, (we like those), without having to write and post a cheque.



However, it is a lot of extra work at our end, so it is MOST IMPORTANT that you follow these steps to ensure that we can match your payment to the tickets or subs etc you are paying for.

**BEFORE YOU MAKE A PAYMENT-** call **Jan Nancekivell FIRST** to confirm the total value of what you are paying for and the details such as seat reserves etc. so she knows what your payment is covering.

**THEN**, when making payment, please provide your information in this format;

**Particulars:** *Your Name*

**Code:** *Tickets or Subs (whichever it is)*

**Reference:** *(ARTIST NAME)*

*(This field will change depending on the show you're booking for.  
Our booking form will tell you what reference code we need.)*

If just paying for a Subscription, the details we would like are;

**Particulars:** Your Name

**Reference:** Subs 2015

*or for Season Tickets.*

**Particulars;** Your Name

**Reference:** ST 2015

If you're making payments to us for any other reason, please contact me;

Phone (07) 855-3267, or email, [john.palmer@xtra.co.nz](mailto:john.palmer@xtra.co.nz)

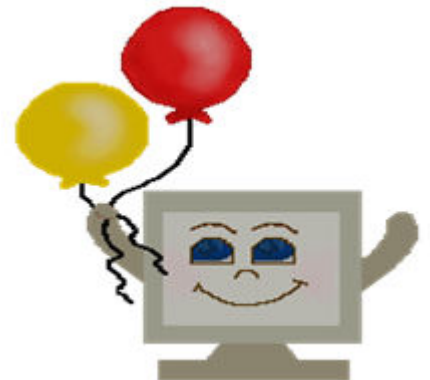
and I'll advise you what details we need.

**For Subs & Ticket Enquiries** contact Jan Nancekivell;

Phone 522-8944, or email, [jandenise@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jandenise@xtra.co.nz)

Thanks for your co-operation.

**John Palmer, Treasurer**



# LOOKING BACK AT 2014

For your interest, we reproduce the more “newsy” items from the Annual Report of the Chairman of the Wurlitzer Organ Trust of Auckland

## The Shows:

2014 was another very successful year of music and entertainment with the Wurlitzer organ. Our usual program of seven shows was enhanced with the addition of a third silent movie show, to benefit the Hollywood Cinema, this in a bid to aid the cinema manager with the huge costs of keeping the venue going and the dramatic increase in Council rates for the building. Our average audience numbers attending shows have dropped slightly from 239.5 in 2013 to 225.89 this year. The Trust contributed just over \$18k to the Cinema, this returned from silent movie proceeds together with the other associated costs incurred with the organ being housed at the Hollywood. However it is good to note that a small but very pleasing profit on the year was returned.

Once again this year, our application to the *ASB Community Trust* for funding support for the five “Pops Concert” shows was accepted, seeing WOTA awarded \$10k. This funding was for the following essential operating costs;

- Organ Tuning
- Venue Hire
- Occupation of the stage by the organ chambers and associated hardware
- Advertising/Promotion

Total applied for was \$11,787.50.



## Promotion

Once again I uploaded information and promotion for our shows to the *Eventfinda* website with us receiving hits up in the thousands for all shows. It proves that although all website viewers of the event did not actually attend the show, we do have a presence and people are aware of our work. All the main media sources such as the NZ Herald feed from *Eventfinda* and populate their own “What’s On” columns from info on this site.

I also continue to maintain the Trust’s website and keep show information updated. Our promotion is boosted by the small number of printed posters, circulated by some Trustees and FOTW members to libraries and music shops, together with a shared ad with the cinema placed in the NZ Herald promoting each show over two weekends prior.

With our numbers down on previous years, I feel we must revisit the option of a radio advertising campaign on a station such as “Coast 104.5 FM”. Their recent quote was \$2500 per show, and perhaps the Trust could consider running two in 2015. Funding should be sought for this however.

## Organ Works

Two big projects were completed this year with assistance from Scott Harrison from Melbourne, together with our own team of Neil Warrington and Graham McBain, with Mat Mathew overseeing. The Crawford Family assisted at one session too.





Without Ron Clark's services, it is sensible to utilise the skills of some of our visiting artists, already in town to perform a "pops" show on the Sunday. With them being at a loose end on the Saturday, it was thought that a silent movie show could be staged on that Saturday afternoon at a special fee, taking into account that the silent movies are fund-raisers. With the Trust already having budgeted for the airfare out of the concert proceeds, it leaves the movie show proceeds only having to cover the artist fee and advertising.

This format would mean that two shows are actually grouped together and if the original requirement of three silent movie shows per year, was to be adhered to, it would mean a very unbalanced schedule for shows and would see our team of volunteer house staff having to give up three entire weekends, which the Trust considered was asking too much.

Hollywood Manager Mark Matheson was very open to discuss the situation and understood the Trust's position. Consequently, we now only need to deliver TWO silent movie shows in 2015, with these being back-to-back with two concerts – one in April the other in October.

This will enable a better spread of concert dates through the year and only ties the team up for two full weekends.

### **General**

➤ Jan Nancekivell, continues to look after the critical roles of Concert Ticket Secretary and Membership Secretary for the Friends of the Wurlitzer. Jan does not wish to take on the added responsibility of being a Trustee, instead fills these roles in an honorary capacity for which the Trust is tangibly grateful.

***Two for the Royal Box please!  
Jan Nancekivell at the Box Office.***



➤ Because of work commitments and some minor health issues, John Kleingeld (*pictured below*) had to step back from looking after the Thursday Open Console Sessions. WOTA Trustee Neil Warrington has kindly assumed this role and has a small but regular team of players taking part.





➤ At the start of the year, Founding Trustee of WOTA, Ron Clark, advised the Trust of his desire to retire from the Trust and his role as House Organist.



While always sad to lose such a valued member of the team, the Trust understood Ron's wish to take a back seat from 2015 on, and at his final Silent Movie show in October to an almost capacity house, a small presentation was made to Ron to acknowledge all his years as House Organist and the extraordinary work he has done in managing the fund raising campaigns for the various stages of the ten year refurbishment program, not to mention the initial fund raising to enable WOTA to purchase the organ in 1993.

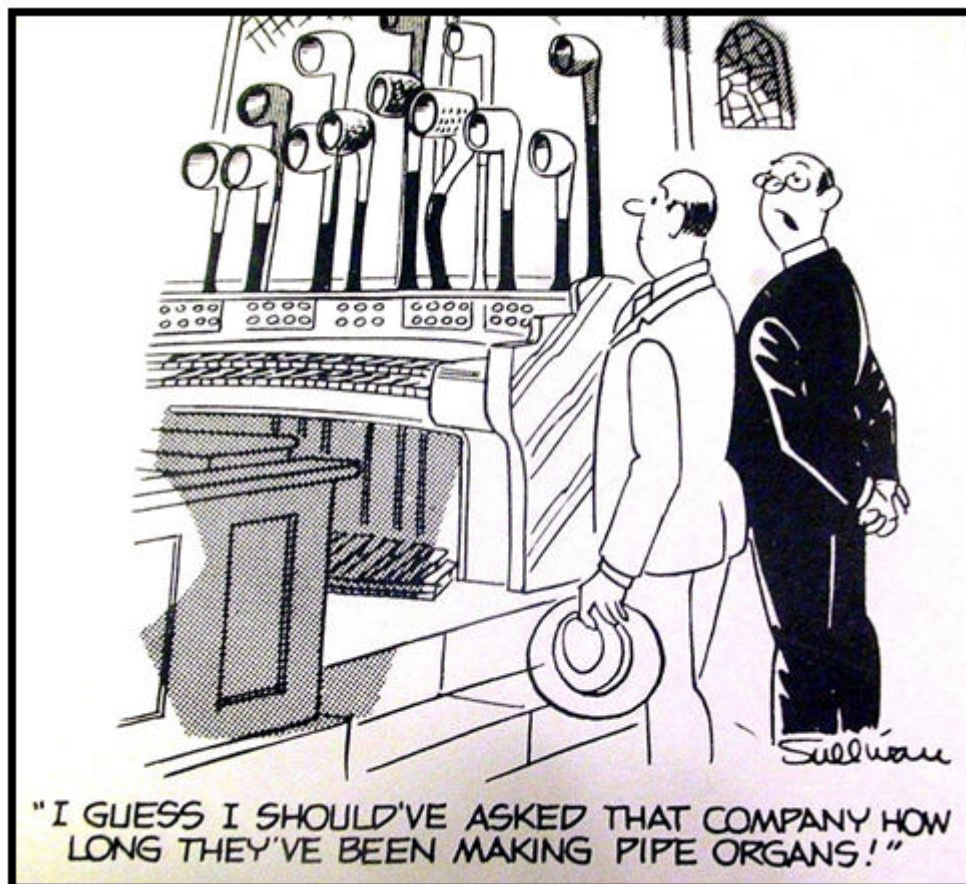
➤ Our new Trustees Neil Warrington and Jackie Crawford have proved to be valued members of the Trust, both open and willing to take on new challenges for WOTA.

➤ With Ron's retirement, a new Trustee will be sought.

James Duncan

**Chairman –**

**Wurlitzer Organ Trust of Auckland.**





**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 FUND RAISING EVENTS*

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

**SUNDAY MARCH 8 at 2.pm –  
*Friends of the Wurlitzer "Club Afternoon"***

Once again, we launch our concert season with a fun afternoon of music and entertainment. The afternoon will include a video presentation, light afternoon tea and music from our own playing team at the Wurlitzer organ. This is not a public event – FOTW members only and their friends are very welcome too.

**SATURDAY APRIL 25  
(ANZAC DAY) at 2pm –**

***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.

**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.

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 a natural warmth and an endearing quality, she is able to connect with audiences and students, young and old.

Chris and Rosanne have performed several shows together with theatre organ in Australia, and for our show, which they've titled "**All Stops Out**", Rosanne will demonstrate her great vocal skills as Chris accompanies her on the Wurlitzer pipe organ. 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.....

**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.



**FOR A GREAT CUP OF COFFEE  
BEFORE THE SHOW and  
DURING THE INTERVAL.**

**PARKED OUTSIDE THE  
HOLLYWOOD CINEMA  
FROM 1.30pm  
ON WURLITZER SHOW DAYS**



**THE WURLITZER ORGAN TRUST  
OF AUCKLAND**

*(REGISTERED CHARITABLE TRUST – CC10966)*

**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 February 25<sup>th</sup> 10.30am – *Transport*

**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)



<b>CHAIRMAN:</b>	Mr James Duncan <i>Concert Manager/Newsletter Editor</i>	PH: 525-7067
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Mrs Carol Neill	PH: 575-8645
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Mr John Palmer	PH: (07) 855-3267
<b>OPEN CONSOLE CONVENOR:</b>	Mr Neil Warrington	PH: 828-4934
<b>TRUSTEES:</b>	Mrs Jackie Crawford Mr Dudley Neill Mr John Kleingeld	PH: (09) 236-3998 PH: 575-8645 PH: 838-8419

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

Mrs Jan Nancekivell

PH: 522-894

