TIBIA

First published 1969

PATRON: Dr Anthony Young **August 2026**

The monthly journal of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia - Queensland Division Inc.

www.tosaq.com.au

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TOSA QUEENSLAND was established on 26 Feb 1964

Unless otherwise noted, our daytime meetings are held from 2 pm at Kelvin Grove State College Theatre, corner of Tank Street & Victoria Park Road, Kelvin Grove 4059 — ALL WELCOME!

www.tosaq.com.au

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Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily that of the TOSAQ committee, its membership or the Society's policy.

COMING UP:

The TOSAQ 2026 Calendar is only available on the web page. https://www.tosaq.com.au/events/

Reminder: Memberships for 2026 are now due. Please help your Society by renewing early.

Christie Play Nights are from 7:30pm – Free

Monday 24th August
Monday 14th September
Monday 28th September
Monday 14th December

Members Extended Practice Time

Members are invited to enjoy an opportunity for extended practice time on our Christie Cinema Pipe Organ on Sunday 6 September.

This is a great chance to spend additional time at the console, explore the Christie's many voices and features, and prepare or simply enjoy your favourite repertoire.

Practice times will be allocated throughout the day.

Click Here to view available practice times and reserve your session.

President's report

As we move into the second half of another active year for TOSAQ, our attention turns to one of the most important events on our calendar, Legends in Concert 2026. Legends brings together great music, live entertainment and our community while raising vital funds for the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of our magnificent Christie Cinema Pipe Organ.
This year features an exciting new program, and I extend my sincere appreciation to Debbie Fitzsummons, George Harvey, Tarina Lowe and all our wonderful musicians who are generously donating their time and talents. Their support means proceeds raised through Legends can directly contribute towards keeping the Christie in exceptional playing condition.

Our friends from Fire 'N' Dough Woodfired Pizza will return, cooking from 12.30 pm, with the TOSAQ bar also open. A percentage of Fire 'N' Dough's profits will again be donated to TOSAQ. Come early, enjoy lunch and a drink, catch up with friends and embrace the social atmosphere that is such an important part of our Society.

Remember, Legends is first and foremost a fundraising event. Please support it by attending, bringing friends and family, or making a donation if you cannot join us. Its variety-show format is also a wonderful opportunity to introduce someone who might not traditionally attend an organ concert. Belong. Experience. Share. Sometimes sharing simply starts with an invitation.

It was wonderful to see increased participation and audience numbers at the recent Maryborough Eisteddfod Pipe Organ Section. TOSAQ and the Organ Society of Queensland again jointly provided prize money, continuing our shared commitment to promoting organ music beyond Brisbane.

I am also delighted to announce a new international partnership between TOSAQ and the Society of Women Organists (SWO). SWO celebrates and promotes women organists, composers, organ builders and others involved in the organ world, and recently welcomed internationally acclaimed organist Anna Lapwood as Patron. Membership is free and open to everyone, regardless of gender.

TOSAQ is proud to become the first Australian pipe organ society to establish a partnership with SWO. This relationship will strengthen our international connections, provide opportunities to promote artists and initiatives to new audiences, and support our shared commitment to celebrating female organists and encouraging future generations.

Speaking of future generations, our next Youth at the Christie event will take place during Play Night on Monday 14 September, when we welcome music students from All Hallows' Girls School and Padua Boys College. Students will experience the Christie, tour the chambers and explore this remarkable instrument. Members are encouraged to volunteer from 6.00 pm to assist with tours, dinner and supper, with dinner provided for volunteers.

Another exciting project is the proposed replacement of the grand piano in Kelvin Grove State College Hall. TOSAQ is working with the College, its Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association and community partners on an application to the Queensland Gambling Community Benefit Fund for a $35,000 grant.

The proposal would replace the ageing baby grand with a full concert grand piano. If successful, approximately $6,000 in additional funding will be required from TOSAQ. We are therefore seeking expressions of interest from members willing to pledge a donation. Donations would only be requested if the grant is successful, with outcomes expected in early 2027.

Each of these initiatives demonstrates what can be achieved when we come together through music, friendship and shared purpose.

We are stronger together. *Belong. Experience. Share.*

TOSAQ – Where Music and Entertainment Fuse

Brett Kavanagh
TOSAQ President

Legends in Concert

A Variety Show Like No Other

This year's Legends promises another spectacular afternoon of live music and entertainment, featuring George Harvey, Debbie Fitzsummons and singing sensation Terrina Lowe, together with the magnificent sounds of our Christie Cinema Pipe Organ and grand piano.

The program will take audiences on a musical journey through Broadway favourites and chart-topping hits made famous by artists including Bruno Mars, Lady Gaga, John Farnham, Madonna, Richard Clayderman, Toto, The Carpenters and more.

Legends is TOSAQ's major fundraising concert, with proceeds supporting the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of our much-loved Christie Cinema Pipe Organ.

Click here for tickets

This year we are offering a mix of cabaret-style tables and traditional row seating, with all seats fully allocated.
We strongly encourage members to book early, particularly if you would like to be close to the musical and dancing action, as these seats are always popular.

Meet the Stars

George Harvey

Former lead singer of The Four Kinsmen, Las Vegas Strip headliner, and four-time Mo Award nominee. A household name from *The Midday Show* and *Hey Hey It's Saturday*, George is legendary for his huge vocal range, sharp wit, and magnetic stage presence.

Debbie Fitzsummons

Long-time Musical Director for The Four Kinsmen and an internationally touring keyboard powerhouse. Debbie is famous worldwide for taking cinema pipe organs and grand pianos where they've never gone before—playing everything from high-octane rock to show-stopping pop.

Terrina Lowe

It's been said that Terrina could sing before she could talk. Coming from a musical family, music has always been a central part of her life. Terrina has been a full-time multi-instrumentalist and singer performing every week around Queensland and New South Wales for the last 30 years. TOSAQ welcomes Terrina back to the Legends stage.

George and Debbie will be joined by a fantastic line-up of guest performers, including pianists Tony Fenelon and Harry Lim, while tango, ballroom and jive dancers add even more colour, movement and excitement to the afternoon. Expect surprise collaborations, big show numbers and plenty of musical variety throughout the concert.

A Concert Driven by Passion & Community Spirit

George, Debbie, and our incredible guest performers are donating 100% of their time to help raise vital funds for TOSA Q and preserve our fabulous 1934 Christie Cinema Pipe Organ. By attending—or adding an extra donation at checkout—you directly support our non-profit mission and keep Queensland's rich live music heritage alive!

Pre-Show Eats, Bar & The 'TOSAQ Touch'

Fire & Dough Woodfired Pizza: Delicious, freshly made woodfired pizzas available on-site for purchase from **12:30pm**—grab lunch before the show!

On-Site well stocked bar open from **12:30pm** with a selection of drinks available throughout the afternoon.

Flexible Seating Choices**:** Cabaret-style table seating options available alongside reserved row seating—designed for comfort and an excellent view of the performance.

Secure Your Tickets Now - Click here for tickets

Call for Volunteers at Legends

Venue set up Saturday 19th September 11am to 5pm

Members and friends are invited to assist with hall and bar set up prior to the show. There are many jobs such as seating and table placement and table decorating, loading the fridge with drinks to name the most important. All extra help will be appreciated.

Help Us Bring a New Concert Grand Piano to Kelvin Grove

TOSAQ is excited to be working collaboratively with Kelvin Grove State College and its Parents and Citizens Association on a joint application to the **Queensland Gambling Community Benefit Fund** to support the replacement of the grand piano in the College Hall.

Our application seeks **$35,000 in grant funding** towards the purchase of a new concert grand piano.

If successful, the preferred instrument is a **Kawai GX-7 Concert Grand Piano**, professionally installed on a stage truck to allow the instrument to be safely positioned for performances and stored when required.

With a retail value of more than $90,000, access to education pricing makes this significant investment achievable. However, even with a successful grant application, both Kelvin Grove State College and TOSAQ will need to contribute towards the remaining cost. TOSAQ's contribution is anticipated to be approximately **$6,000**.

This is where our members can make a real difference.

We are inviting members and friends of TOSAQ to **pledge a donation** specifically towards this exciting project. A new concert grand piano would significantly enhance the musical quality and versatility of our TOSAQ events while also providing an outstanding instrument for College students and the wider musical community using the Hall.

No donation is required at this stage. Pledges will only be called upon if our grant application is successful. Outcomes for Round 127 are expected in early 2027.

Click Here to pledge your donation and help us make this exciting investment in live music possible.
Together, we can create another lasting musical legacy at Kelvin Grove.

Maryborough Eisteddfod

Maryborough Eisteddfod 2026 was an outstanding success and the Open Organ Section in particular is growing exponentially.

This year the number of entries increased to nine, up from four last year,with organists from Brisbane and Murwillumbah joining local competitors.

Last minute circumstances, unfortunately, saw the withdrawal of three competitors. However, there were still six contestants; a 50% increase on last year and a large audience enjoyed the performances!

This is the third year of the Open Organ Section, and for the second year running, Theatre Organ Society of Australia Queensland Division (TOSAQ) and the Organ Society of Queensland (OSQ) jointly provided funds for the prizemoney, promotion of the event and a contribution to St Paul's Anglican Church organ fund in recognition of their generosity in providing the venue for the competition.

The Open Organ Section of the Eisteddfod has proved an excellent catalyst for organ music in Maryborough Queensland bringing together organists of all ages from the Fraser Coast Region and further afield, and stimulating interest in wider repertoire and in developing technique. The Open Section is also stimulating strong community interest in organ music.

The repertoire for the night ranged from hymns to modern popular music back to Baroque and in order of performance the competitors were:

- David McLeod – Holy, Holy, Holy by John Dykes;
- Aubrey Cave – Unravelling by Matthew Bellamy;
- Barry Firth – Prelude and Fugue in B♭ (BWV 560) by J. S. Bach:
- Emily Evans – Toccata from Suite Gothique by Boëllmann;
- Ron Burnett – Trumpet Voluntary by Jeremiah Clark;
- Codyhaden Williams – Lachrimosa (From Requiem K626) by Mozart

The Adjudicator this year was Julianne Moore A.Mus.A (Pipe Organ) who holds a Bachelor of Creative Arts and majored in Organ Performance. She awarded first prize to Emily Evans who was also last year's winning performer. Other prizes (in order) went to David McLeod and Aubrey Cave while Codyhaden Williams received a Highly Commended notice.

As the adjudicator finalised her assessment, OSQ President Peter Robinson addressed the audience about the importance placed by both OSQ and TOSAQ on expanding the appreciation of the organ beyond the Brisbane area and announced OSQ's intention of continuing sponsorship for 2027.

The audience this year numbered approximately 80 – up from 50 last year. St Paul's Anglican church is several blocks from the Brolga Theatre where the rest of the Eisteddfod is held so our audience definitely made an effort to attend. Once again, we have been able to demonstrate that interest in the organ as a musical instrument is not dead! Bring on 2027!

A big thank you to all involved and to Peter Hyde OSQ for material in this article.

Eisteddfod Review by *Dave McLeod*, TOSAQ Member

TOSAQ Junior Member Aubrey Cave Wins Third Prize

“We had our own organ adventure the preceding week. The children were excited to be away from school to attend the competition.

We arrived early as per Aubrey’s organ teacher’s instruction to practise on the actual organ before the performance in the evening.

Aubrey’s goal was to “play to win” but after hearing the other participants in the morning practise session, we didn’t think he’d even place.

The performer who was awarded first place played a superb toccata which brought out many voices of the organ. She was awarded 92/100.

Aubrey played his transcribed and streamlined version of his favourite band’s (Muse) newly released single, Unravelling. It was well received and earned him 89/100. He was thrilled to be coming home with a medal.

We are grateful to TOSAQ for sponsoring the event.”

Eisteddfod Review by *An Pham*, TOSAQ Member

Dave McLeod, third from left.
Aubrey Cave, fourth from left.

TOSAQ Member House Parties 2026

Gold Coast and Brisbane members are invited host home parties and this can be arranged by contacting Gary Ivory. Gary can be contacted by email on -pengary1@onthenet.com.au

Next house party is 18th October - Graham and Shirley
15th November - Sharon

On Sunday 16 August, TOSAQ Gold Coast member Pam Webb welcomed more than a dozen enthusiastic members and friends into her home for our latest TOSAQ Home Party.It was a relaxed and enjoyable afternoon of music, friendship and plenty of opportunity for members to share their talents.

A variety of solos and duets were performed throughout the afternoon on Pam's Yamaha Electone AR100 and beautiful piano, creating a wonderful mix of sounds and stylesAs always, the Home Party format provided a great opportunity for members to catch up socially, enjoy informal performances and experience music in a welcoming home setting.

A delicious afternoon tea was also enjoyed by everyone, adding to what was a very pleasant afternoon on the Gold Coast. Our sincere thanks go to Pam Webb for so generously opening her home and hosting the August Home Party.

The next Gold Coast TOSAQ Home Party will be held in October at Graham and Shirley's home, followed by our November gathering at Sharon's home.

These gatherings continue to be a valued part of the TOSAQ calendar, bringing members together through music, conversation and friendship.

Home Party Image 1 - Norma

Home Party Image 2 – Brian

Society of Women Organists

TOSAQ Welcomes New International Partnership with the Society of Women Organists

TOSAQ is delighted to announce a new international partnership with the Society of Women Organists (SWO), becoming the first Australian pipe organ society to establish a partnership with the organisation.

SWO is a growing international community dedicated to achieving greater gender balance throughout the organ world.

Its three core aims are to support all women organists, encourage girls and women to study the organ, and foster the promotion of women's activities in the organ world.

Internationally acclaimed organist Anna Lapwood MBE is among SWO's Patrons. One of today's most recognisable ambassadors for the organ, Anna has brought the instrument to enormous new audiences through international performances, recordings, broadcasting and social media.

Our partnership provides exciting opportunities for TOSAQ and SWO to share performances, artists and initiatives while strengthening our connections with the international organ community. It also complements TOSAQ's commitment to encouraging young musicians and celebrating the contribution of female organists and musicians.

Importantly, SWO membership is completely free and open to everyone, regardless of gender, background or experience. Members receive SWO's monthly newsletter and news of campaigns and events, can participate in online and in-person SWOcials, and join an international community working to improve gender balance in the organ world.

Women organists can also create a profile on SWO's Members page and promote their events.

We encourage TOSAQ members to join SWO and support our new international partner.

Join the Society of Women Organists free of charge

Explore the Society of Women Organists

Pipes, Pop, and No Pretence: Reinventing the Organ for a New Era

Classical music carries plenty of lingering stereotypes, but Anna Lapwood dismantles them the moment she steps up to the console. Performing to packed, full-house crowds across both Melbourne Town Hall and the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall, the British organist didn't just present recitals—she generated the kind of electric, anticipatory buzz usually reserved for arena rock gigs. Across her Australian tour dates, total ticket sales were projected to clear well over 15,000 attendees, cementing her status as a formidable box-office draw.

During her high-profile fortnight down under—headlined by a two-week residency embedded with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra—Lapwood put two of the southern hemisphere's grandest mechanical instruments through their absolute paces. Beyond her main stage appearances, her Sydney itinerary underscored a deep commitment to the next generation: she led dynamic concerts for school children and conducted hands-on masterclasses and workshops for local organ students, demystifying the console and sharing registration secrets with wide-eyed young musicians.

Lapwood's secret weapon is the fierce, genuine bond she has cultivated with her online community. Far from a gimmick, that digital intimacy translated into palpable awe inside the auditoriums. Attending the Melbourne show alongside Brett Kavanagh, and later catching her solo recital at the Sydney Opera House, the sense of occasion was undeniable.

The production setup in Melbourne set a staggering benchmark: feature stage lighting transformed the hall's architecture, while massive screens broadcasting close-up multi-angle video allowed the crowd to watch her lightning-fast footwork and stop-changing precision. While early solo performances in Sydney lacked those close-up screens—leaving fans initially craving that intimate view of her virtuosic console mechanics—production was updated for later Sydney solo recitals to include screens, bringing that immersive close-up experience to the Concert Hall.

Part of her charm lies in her refreshingly thoughtful approach to concert etiquette. Rather than banning devices, her program notes explicitly invited audience filming—provided listeners dimmed their screen brightness, silenced ringtones, and held phones close to their
chest to protect lines of sight. Lapwood is well aware that encouraging fans to share these moments acts as a primary engine for building both her online following and physical box office reach.

In her solo programs, traditional textures rubbed shoulders with contemporary works like Olivia Belli's Limina Luminis. When she announced her custom arrangements of John Powell's How to Train Your Dragon and Hans Zimmer's Interstellar, an audible wave of gasps and cheers rippled through the hall. During Interstellar, following her cue for phone lighting, thousands of screens illuminated the venue timber—a backdrop to sub-bass pedal notes that physically vibrated through the seating banks.

The orchestral pinnacle of her Sydney stay was the Australian premiere of Max Richter's Cosmology, a four-movement concerto written specifically for Lapwood, orchestra, and choir. Where organ concertos often devolve into sheer volume, Cosmology relies on hypnotic, slow-burning harmonies. Lapwood's playing was understated yet deeply expressive, weaving glowing organ stops through rich orchestral textures before building to a monumental climax.

What makes Lapwood truly magnetic, however, extends well past the music itself. At the end of every performance, she took to the microphone to issue an impassioned plea: urging audience members to seek out local organ recitals in their own cities, support community instruments, and keep demanding that these magnificent pipe organs continue to be played. Afterwards, massive lines stretched through the foyers as hundreds waited to meet her. Staying until the very last person received a signature, Lapwood greeted every fan with open, honest warmth and generous hugs.

Whether collaborating with electronic bands, solo instrumentalists, and world-class choirs, or touring global venues to sold-out rooms, Lapwood is fundamentally redefining what it means to be a 21st-century classical artist. If you haven't yet discovered her music and infectious enthusiasm, connect with her online:

- Instagram: @annalapwoodorgan
- Facebook: Anna Lapwood Facebook
- YouTube: @AnnaLapwoodOrgan

Australia was thoroughly captivated by this visit. We eagerly look forward to her next Australian tour, hopefully including Brisbane!

Concert Review: By Alison Pashley

Brisbane City Council - Lord Mayor's Free Lunchtime Concerts

Tuesday 8th September, Brisbane City Hall 12pm

Pipes, wheels, and reels — Buster Keaton's classic set to a live, original score.

As one of a rare breed of musicians, David Bailey is continuing what was once an everyday part of Australian cinema — theatre organ performance and silent film accompaniment. David's interest in the history of Brisbane's cinemas and their organs has informed his performance style and helped him to bring the world of silent cinema to modern audiences. As a regular accompanist at the GOMA cinematheque, David performs on the historic Wurlitzer pipe organ originally enjoyed by Brisbane cinema goers during its life at the Regent Theatre in Queen Street.

For Brisbane Festival this year, David will compose and perform live accompaniment for *The General* starring Buster Keaton.
Celebrating the 100th anniversary of Buster Keaton's classic railroad comedy *The General,* organist David Bailey performs his original score live to accompany the film. The famous heritage-listed Willis pipe organ at Brisbane City Hall is undoubtedly Brisbane's most historic and recognised musical instrument with a vast tonal and dynamic range. Share the humour and history of this classic film and the power and beauty of the organ.

Seating is by General Admission on arrival and is free and un-ticketed.

The Organ Society of Queensland (OSQ) Concert

Saturday 12th September, Cleveland Uniting Church 36 Passage Street Cleveland

TOSAQ Members are invited to a concert at the Cleveland Uniting Church. This organ is the product of long time Society members Bill McKelvie and Ernie Day. Donations will be accepted for organ maintenance and the church's community food program.

BRISBANE'S 5TH ANNUAL
FILM NOIR FESTIVAL

NOIR NOVEMBER

LES DAMES EN NOIR

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JAMES STREET
FRI 13th - SUN 15th
NOVEMBER

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TOSA CONTACTS

TOSA ACT (Canberra)
3/8 Compton
Albert Hall, Canberra
Contact: tosasec@emailme.com.au

TOSA New South Wales
Orion Theatre Wurlitzer 3/17;
Marrickville Town Hall (TH) Wurlitzer 2/11;
West Ryde Anglican Church 2/10 Christie
Events Contact: Geoff Brimley (02) 6351 3122.

TOSA Victoria –(MTO)
Kingston TH Wurlitzer 4/21;
Malvern TH Compton 3/17;
Capitol Theatre Wurlitzer 3/16;
Coburg TH Christie/B & H 2/9;
Regent Wurlitzer 4/36.

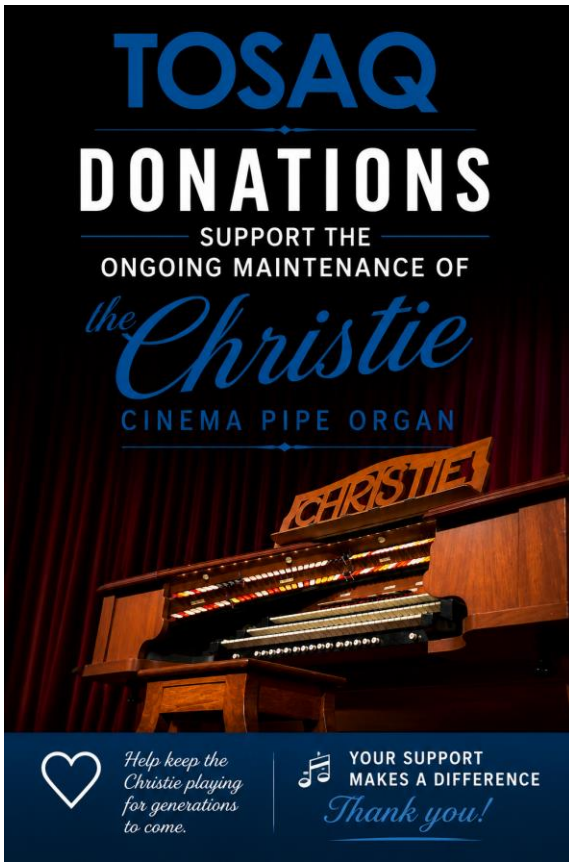
Warragul Theatre Organ Society (VIC)
Wurlitzer 3/10.

TOSA South Australia
Tuesdays and weekends TOSA (SA) members play the 4/29 Wurlitzer in their Capri Theatre, Goodwood Road, Goodwood (08) 8272 1177.

TOSA Western Australia
3/12 Compton.
John Leckie Music Centre
25 Melvista Ave, Nedlands.

Stirling Productions (WA)
Wurlitzer 3/21
Perth, Western Australia.
John Fuhrmann on (08) 9447 9837.

TOSA Tasmania
Like TOSA Tasmania's new Facebook Group for the latest happenings on the apple isle.
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083169910049



Click here to donate

Donations and Bequests–

Our Vision is unlimited, but our funding is not. Your support is vital to ensure we can continue to support emerging organists and ensure our magnificent Christie Cinema Pipe Organ allows audiences a glimpse back through time, into the jazzy, carefree nights of the golden age of cinema. Donate via the square link on the TOSAQ website or contact the Secretary to discuss payment options.

An official receipt will be issued for all donations.

Donations can be included with your membership or at any time throughout the year.

Theatre Organ Society of Australia - Queensland

Membership Application / Renewal 2026

APPLICANT'S NAME _____ (Please Print)

PARTNER'S NAME * _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

_____ POSTCODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____
(Required for full colour version of the monthly Tibia Newsletter)

TELEPHONE (Home) (_____) _____ MOBILE _____

❖ I/we hereby apply to become/remain a member/ members of the **Theatre Organ Society of Australia *Queensland Division*** (TOSA Qld Inc.) and state that I/we will abide by the rules of the association if accepted as a member.

Signature _____ **Date** _____ /_____ / 2026

Parents Signature _____ **Date** ____ /____ / 2026 (**Required for under15 years)**

Membership will be granted by the management committee upon receipt of this written application. The only qualification for membership is a genuine interest in the theatre pipe organ as a means of entertainment.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

☐ DOUBLE * $60 ☐ SINGLE $35 ☐ LONG DISTANCE $30 ☐ JUNIOR (**FREE**- 15Yrs & Under)

I enclose payment of $_____

(Optional) donation of $_____

Total Cash /Transfer / Online $_____

- Direct Bank Transfer Information - **remember to include your name as the reference**
  Account Name Theatre Organ Society of Aust Qld Divn Inc.
  BSB Number 638 070
  Account Number 5537819
  Reference <insert your name>

- This signed form and payment can be posted to:
  The Secretary
  TOSA Qld Divn Inc.
  PO Box 122
  Maleny Qld 4552

Receipt Book Number (Cash): _____ *Electronic Transfer / Online Reference Number:* _____

www.tosaq.com.au **info@tosaq.com.au**