

I am pleased to present my report to the 2012 OSQ Annual General Meeting. This report covers the activities of the Society from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012. Firstly, I would like to thank Rev Dr Howard Munro, Dean of St John's College, for allowing us to hold our AGM in the College Chapel. We congratulate the College on acquiring a new pipe organ for the Chapel and look forward to hearing it after our meeting.

The Society was founded in May 1952, so this year (2012) we were able to celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Two events were planned by the Committee for the celebration – firstly, a Gala Organ Concert on 19<sup>th</sup> May at St Andrew's Uniting Church, and secondly, an Anniversary Lunch on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August at the "Botanical Café and Function Centre". Christopher Wrench and Peter Krenske played at the Concert, which was included in the 4MBS Festival of Classics. Michael Fulcher was unable to play because of illness. An enthusiastic crowd of 150 people attended, and our Patron, Prof Peter Roennfeldt cut the anniversary cake. It was good to see 42 members and friends attend the Anniversary Lunch and hear our guest speaker, organist Oliver Brett, from St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Both anniversary events were very successful.

Let me now report on the other events and activities of the Society held in the 12 months from July 2011 to June 2012.

The following events were held in the second half of 2011:

- In July, the Society continued the Organist Development Course at Kenmore Anglican Church. In total it involved four two-hour Saturday morning sessions over a period of 11 weeks, and was attended by six organists, at various stages of development. This is the third course we have conducted; the first was in Nambour in 2008, and the second in Toowoomba in 2009. The course evaluations forms have showed that the courses have been greatly appreciated by those attending. We plan to conduct more courses around Brisbane and other centres in the future. If you have any suggestions for a venue, or region or area, please let the committee know.
- On 28<sup>th</sup> August, we had an organ ramble to All Hallows School, and Somerville House School. Thanks to Simon Pierce for his assistance in the ramble.
- In September, we had two events in the series "Never Too Young" featuring organ teacher David Clark from Newcastle and five of his young students. On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>, David gave a seminar on his approach to teaching young people, and gave a demonstration lesson. On Friday 30<sup>th</sup>, his five students and two Queensland students presented a wonderful concert. Thanks to St Mary's Catholic Church, South Brisbane, and Allen organ dealer, Jim Clinch, for their contributions to these events.
- On 19<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm, our founding life member, Dr Robert Boughen, hosted a visit to QPAC for members to hear and play the Klais organ in the Concert Hall. Thanks to Dr Boughen for his hospitality.

The following events were held in the first half 2012:

- The year started well with an organ ramble to Gympie on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Thanks to Barry Mason for his organization of the day.
- In March, OSQ and RSCM conducted a joint event entitled "How the pipe organ works", featuring organ builder Simon Pierce. This was held at All Saints Anglican Church, Wickham Terrace on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March and repeated on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Thanks to Simon for his great contribution to the event. Denis Wayper recorded this on video, and a 35 minute DVD of the presentation is available for purchase.
- OSQ encourages members to attend OHTA Annual Conference. This year it was held after Easter (April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>) in Western Australia. It was attended by Queenslanders

David & Dianne Cahill, and myself, and former Queenslanders David Molloy and Geoffrey Cox.

- On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May, our Gala Anniversary Organ Concert was held at St Andrew's Uniting Church (see above).
- Over the June long weekend we travelled to Newcastle and Hunter Valley for an organ ramble. We saw, heard and played most of the pipe organs in Raymond Terrace, Morpeth, East Maitland, Maitland, Belmont, and Newcastle. A great time was had by all - members of the Sydney Organ Music Society, Hunter District Organ Music Society, and OSQ.

In recent months, the Committee has been making plans for the future. So the following events are coming up later this year.

- Organ Recital by Korean organist, Dong-Il Shin on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October at St John's Cathedral, Ann Street, at 6pm (joint event with St John's).
- "Never Too Young" Concert at Nazareth Lutheran Church, Hawthorn Street, Woolloongabba, on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm.
- "Never Too Young" Concert repeated at St John's Lutheran Church, Ipswich, on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm.
- Saturday 24 November, from 9.00am, "Southport Organs Ramble". Venues to be confirmed at a number of Southport schools and churches, followed by fish and chips at Labrador. This is our breakup event for 2012.

Another joint event with RSCM is planned for the new year. It is entitled "Pulling out all the stops", and will be a presentation on the nature and use of organ stops.

I would like to encourage members to donate to the Society's Organ Scholarship Fund, established last year following a generous donation by Vice-President, Peter Robinson. Subsequently, Organ Scholarships have been awarded to two talented young organists, Vanessa Mihov and Tim Williams, to assist them continue with organ studies, and attend summer organ courses. If any other members would like to contribute to the fund, give today to our treasurer or use your membership renewal form.

Finally in this report, I wish to thank my colleagues on the committee for their efforts over the past 12 months. As you can appreciate, the Society's activities and programs are the result of the efforts of a group of hard-working and dedicated committee members. I therefore wish to thank Vice-President Peter Robinson, Secretary Denis Wayper, Treasurer Jenny Summerson (who also organises supper for us at many events), and committee member, Garry Smith. Thanks also to David Vann for his work as local editor for our national journal *Organ Australia*, to Tony Winter for his work as webmaster, and to our regional representatives Phillip Gearing in Toowoomba, Roger Marks in Rockhampton, Michael Fellows in Townsville, and David Cahill in Warwick for flying the OSQ flag in their regions.

Steven Nisbet (President)