



# Organ Society of Queensland Inc.

## Acting President's Report to the

### Annual General Meeting

9:30am Saturday 26th July 2014

St John's Cathedral, Brisbane.

We were all saddened to hear of Steven Nisbet's illness, which necessitated my taking on the role of Acting President. As evidenced by his presence today, and his recent trip to to the USA with Adele, I can only assume that his journey to a full recovery is progressing well.

Steven has also indicated that he wishes to relinquish the Presidency of the OSQ. After such a long period of his guidance and leadership we all owe him a great deal, as he has been tireless in his efforts on behalf of all of us. In the last few months I have only just become aware of how much the president gets involved in and now have a deeper understanding of the thanks due to him for his marathon stint as president for over 30 years. Thank you Steven. Fortunately we are not losing his services completely as he has agreed to offer himself for election to the committee.

AGMs are not the most exciting functions, however, they are important and necessary procedural events where you all get to indicate the direction the OSQ takes by voting for your office bearers for the coming year. It is heartening to see so many of you here today for this process. Thank you all for making the effort to be here.

After the AGM, we are here to bid welcome to Brisbane to Andrej Kouznetsov. Andrej will soon entertain us with a short recital, which I am sure we are all looking forward to. We also have to thank him for making the necessary arrangements with the various Cathedral administrative bodies to allow us to be here today. Welcome and thank you Andrej, and thank you St. John's.

After Andrej's recital, please all join us in the Darnell room in St. Martin's house next door for an informal "Welcome to Brisbane Andrej" reception.

Looking back on the year, I can report that the OSQ has been active. We produced three recitals. The first of these was at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Spring Hill where around 200 people enjoyed a concert put on by five of our members and three young organists. Next was a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the installation of the Smenge organ at Bethesda Lutheran Church, Beenleigh where a full house witnessed a superb recital by Christopher Wrench. The third concert was given by British organist John Keys at St. Andrew's Uniting Church in the city.

The Brisbane City Council also approached the society seeking our views on how to manage and use the City Hall organ now that it has been restored and re-installed. The OSQ has made a detailed submission in response to this request and is awaiting feedback on it from the City Council on our proposal. The OSQ was also asked to advise on concerts for the re-commissioning of the City Hall organ and we are still working with them to bring these about in August. Mark August 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in your diaries.

A small group of OSQ members joined the Organ Music Society of Sydney over the Queen's Birthday long-weekend touring organs of the Blue Mountains and nearby country towns. This was a good weekend with good company, good music, fine organs and useful liaison with the OMSS.

Other events included a DVD evening sampling the Fugue State Films documentary DVDs on Cavaille Coll organs and a workshop at the Holy Family Catholic Church on "Getting the most from your digital organ." Both of these events were well attended and deemed useful and educational. Future events will benefit from the experience of running both of these.

When considering the above, the society has been active and meeting its goals as stated in our constitution.

As the committee is about to be retired, so that this year's elections can take place, I would like to thank the members who have served on the committee for their time, interest and dedication. Those who have served you on the committee this year were:

Steve Nisbet	President
Peter Robinson	Vice President
Denis Wayper	Secretary
Jenny Summerson	Treasurer
Gary Smith	Committee Member
Bob Guthrie	Committee Member

I would also like to thank David Vann who remains active as our liaison with Organ Australia, writes articles and reviews for that magazine and in general aids the society. David, through Vanguard Blinds, has also provided generous sponsorship of artist's fees for numerous recitals. Thank you David and Vanguard Blinds.

Last but not least is Tony Winter who has been quietly but conscientiously running our website for as long as I've been associated the OSQ. This has been just quietly done and is important. Thank you Tony.



Peter Robinson  
Acting President  
Organ Society of Queensland