



The Phonographic Record

The Journal of The Vintage Phonograph Society of New Zealand

A Society formed for the preservation of Recorded Sound

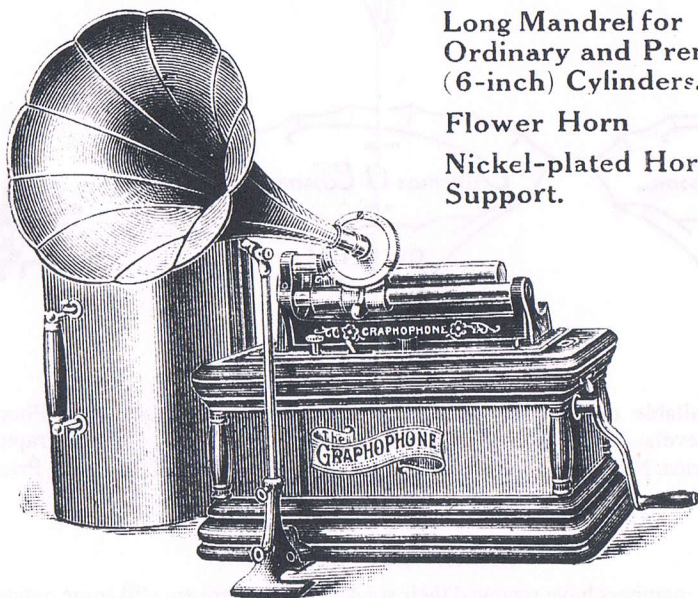
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MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL



Mahogany Cabinet.

Long Mandrel for
Ordinary and Premier
(6-inch) Cylinders.

Flower Horn

Nickel-plated Horn
Support.

Price £16 16s.

Weight 35 lbs.

The "HOME PREMIER" Sound-Magnifying
Columbia Model BM Graphophone, 1906

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

We, in New Zealand seem to have entered the Compact Disc era. There was a time years ago, when we made the change from 78s to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ LPs — and everyone sought their favourite records on the new system.

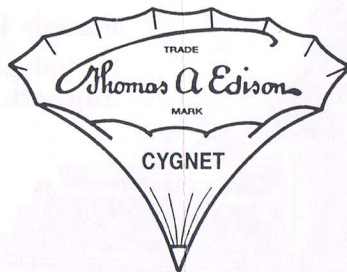
This is now happening with CDs, in fact the stereo system you buy today does not include a turntable for 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ and 45 rpm records, only two tape decks and a CD unit.

I, among others, look forward to the day when we will be able to buy a video disc — we will then be able to watch as well as listen.

PARTS — TRANSFERS:

We recently had a small number of each of the following transfers manufactured:

(1) Early style Edison trade mark. (2) Corners — Triumph and Opera models. (3) Horn transfers: Home, Standard, Fireside and Cygnet. These are available at \$NZ1.00 each, and are illustrated reduced in size.



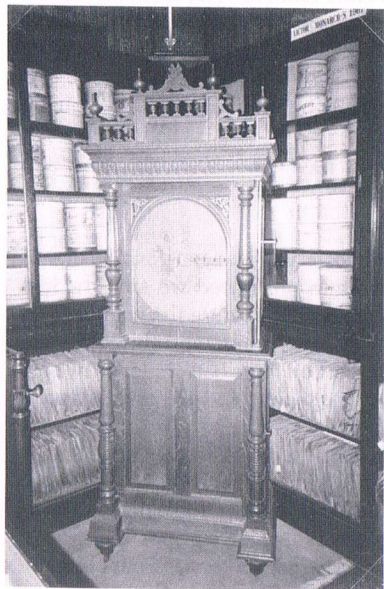
We also have available two catalogues: (1) Catalogue — U.S. Combination Phonograph (U.S. Phonograph Co. — Cleveland, Ohio) price \$12.00N.Z. + P.&P. (2) Catalogue of Phonographs, Phonograph Needles and Accessories. Nipponophone Co. Ltd., Kawasaki, Kanagawa-Ken, Japan. Price \$3.00N.Z. + P.&P.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Whilst most of our members have renewed their subscriptions, there are still some outstanding. Due to the cost of producing the magazine, also postage, this will be the final issue despatched to those who have not paid; so please get those subs in the mail.

We have received numerous letters of appreciation as to the quality and variety of the magazine, also our reliability and general excellence regarding the sale of our parts etc., and we thank members for taking the time to write.

Amongst correspondence, I received a letter from Tony Goodwin, brother of member Alan Goodwin, Tasmania. Alan had been a member for some years before his death in May of this year. Whilst we were



Museum Pololophon

Photographs Rod Osborne



Columbia Disc Music Box



Randy & Larry Donley



Donley's Swap Meet 2nd Room



Donley's Museum Display

aware of Alan's interests and love of sharing his record collection with older folk via a Hobart radio station, we were amazed at the size and variety of his collection. Tony has now sent me photographs of Alan's collection, also the Georgian house built in 1828 where it was housed. A fuller article and accompanying photos appear in this issue.

Members are reminded we are having a well earned rest from despatching orders, but will resume in February next.

Lyndsey Drummond, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1995/96

The preceding twelve months have seen a general consolidation in the society's financial position thanks to the able financial management of Lyndsey Drummond and Peter Mattison. Indeed we are now in a position I think, to give some thought as to how we can best invest in the society's future financially. This may involve some discussion over the coming months about the society's long term aims and objectives and another look at our constitution; after all, the aim of the society is not to accrue a large bank balance, we are not a business in the true sense and we are here to benefit all members of the society and preserve all facets of mechanical music.

We here in Christchurch must remember that we only comprise ten per cent of our membership and as such we would welcome any ideas from you other ninety per cent. I could also point out at this juncture that without the dedicated few here that are able, at sometimes considerable personal cost, to keep the wheels moving, the society would cease to function. So remember, all you members that have gripes and moans, that this is a voluntary society, not a business — we all do our part through a genuine interest in our common hobby. We know distance separates us from being active or passive in our involvement but we all share a common interest.

Over the last seventeen years of my collecting, I have noticed that our hobby has become much more 'serious'. I guess the rising value of our collections has added a financial and investment feature to our hobby. It has crossed my mind more than once that to collect something that has no value must be much simpler — things like barbed wire and railway nails spring to mind! But I guess as soon as two people collect something they obtain some sort of value which can be expressed in financial terms. It is something we have to live with.

I think it an apt time to point out that in a marital situation, never forget that you always legally and morally only own half of your collection and rising retail values can be crippling in the event of a property separation. If you have long term wishes in regard to your collection, a family trust is a sensible and prudent alternative for both parties.

My thanks again therefore go to the band of a few Christchurch members who have made it all possible, remembering of course that without the wider membership it would all be in vain.

Thanks to Lyndsey, our Secretary, who deserves a medal for all the problems she silently irons out. She is one of the front-line troops that shields the rest of us from all the every day problems that arise. Sometimes a thankless job, at other times very rewarding. Peter must be thanked because we never hear from him — he has everything running so smoothly that we don't realize the great job he is doing. When I remember how complicated and messy the financial accounts of our Society used to be, I can only heap praise on Peter for the sound way things seem to run. In two years I don't recall any problems arising that Peter hasn't been able to deal with efficiently and capably.

Tony has stepped in at just the right moment into the running of the society's parts and our parts supply is now better than it ever has been. Tony's manufacture of parts is to an extremely high and exacting standard on a par with Joffre Marshall, who you will remember made such high quality parts years ago. Tony has put in hours and hours of unrewarded time researching parts to ensure what he turns out is as near to original as possible.

Dick as our liaison man with Ferrymead has done a great job of keeping us informed on events down there and assisting tony in assessing the accuracy of parts we make.



Blackwood Cabinet with Swiss Motor and
Cliftohone Reproducer



Goodwin Collection



G & T Machine

China Nipper Dog Pathe



Cabinate Gramophones

H. M. V.



Radio's 30's to 60's Era

Walter again has quietly and efficiently produced the magazine to an extremely high standard, no doubt with Hilda's assistance and/or patience. I understand she has to tolerate sheaves of papers all over the floor for days at a time.

I would like to thank collectively all the local members who have contributed something to the running of the society — David, Brian, Tim, John and others to name a few.

I have enjoyed my time as President over the last two years. Apart from remembering the order of meetings it has been far less stressful than I thought mainly thanks to everyone else involved.

I wish the incoming President a job as easy as you have all made it for me.

Robert Sleeman.

NOTES ON COVER ILLUSTRATION

No. 29 Columbia Model BM "Home Premier" Graphophone 1906

This machine is much the same as No. 28, (The twentieth century type BC) but not as loud as it was intended for the home, and has a smaller version — 3" — Higham reproducer. Howard Hazelcorn dates it 1906, but as we feel it is so much like the BC, we have fitted it in as the next model, although the BE, BF, BG, BCG and BK were made beforehand. The Model BM used a similar mahogany cabinet to the BG "Sovereign", the longer mandrel for ordinary or Premier 6" cylinders, and has a flower or petal horn supported by a nickel plated horn stand. The weight is 35lbs., and price was £16 in New Zealand and \$75 in the United States. We do not know of one here in New Zealand, Hazelcorn says only one known to have survived in the United States. A rare model.

ILLUSTRATIONS (LAST ISSUE)

A photograph reproduced on page 45 of the June/August 1996 edition of the Phonographic Record entitled Multi Cylinder Works has prompted a letter from Ken Priestley of Holmfirth Antiques, in England, referring us to pages 158 and 159 of Daniel Marty's book "The Illustrated History of Talking Machines" under the heading of coin operated phonographs: for those who do not have a copy of this book — now alas out of print — the following description may be of interest: "Coin operated Phonographs" — in the shape of a Cafe table containing a coin operated phonograph. It boasted a collection of 12 cylinders which rotated with their mandrels, until the chosen recording reached the fixed diaphragm. The mechanism was set going by means of a token. The ones used for this ancestor of the juke box bear an address in Belleville, Paris, and the machine was in use there in about 1910. A cardboard disc was printed with figures that corresponded to the cylinders, and the chosen number appeared in the window on the table top. The performance was heard through a small earphone attached to a flexible tube.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Swap Meet and Museum:

Randy and Larry Donley's Swap Meet and Museum, photographs taken by Rod Osborne and Larry Schlick.

The Tony Goodwin Collection:

Lovely Blackwood Cabinet with Swiss sprung motor and Clifphone Reproducer. A couple of Horn Gramophones, part view of Polyphon. G & T Horn Machine, China Nipper Dog, Pathe Machine. Cabinet Gramophones; H.M.V., Rexonala Grand, Glenola and Tasmade Blackwood one. The Oak Horn Machine has an H.M.V. Base. Radios of the 30's to 60's era. Some battery portables, two early transistors.

Chris Rogers Collection:

Top model unknown, bottom Majestic 90. Chris Rogers and 1930's Switch Board. Black Gem sitting on 1928 Sonora Electric Gram — no radio. "Melodon" Model A-20. Cabinet Burr Walnut and crotch Australian Walnut. Photo of the shop. William and Mary Diamond Disc, H.M.V. Studio Gram No. 2, Tin Foil Machine Chris made for himself. Edison Oil Bottle sent to us by Keith Langford, Wairarapa. Artist Sketch of the Bridge Hotel.

Model T Ford:

From a book of Motoring History in South Africa — a Ford Model T advertising Edison Diamond Disc in Johannesburg. (Tony Airs Photo).

Gene Autry:

Gene Autry Long Playing Record Cover. (See article by Brian Blanchard).

Meggar:**Calculator:**

A calculator owned by Harold Burtoft, Australia, who comments: The "Millionaire" was patented in 1895 by Otto Steiger, and manufactured by Hans Egli in Switzerland. It will allow multiplication of an eight figure number by another eight figure number, and also adds, subtracts and divides. A strong man can lift it!

Records:

Two 8 inch Records, photo by Don Lang. Decca Portable owned by Don Lang, before and after restoration.

REPORT ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND MONTHLY MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

The 31st Annual General Meeting of the Vintage Phonograph Society was held in the home of John Hastilow. A good attendance of sixteen members provided a good basis for animated debate and conversation. In the election of officers section many of the members in executive positions were re-elected to their former positions of responsibility — namely the Secretary and Treasurer; whilst there were changes in the President's chair, the Vice President, and three members of the Committee.

Animated discussion was mounted on replication around the world of phonographs and parts thereof. It was stated that very little was done in the USA and Canada due to the fact so many genuine machines are still extant. The prevalence of replica round-topped (Gothic style) radios in New Zealand and America is well known. Taiwan and Korea are responsible for those here, and General Electric mainly in the U.S. and Canada. The G.E. sets are AM - FM compatible, are solid state and perform well. The meeting finished at 9.56p.m., which was fairly late compared to the usual time, due possibly to Dick Hills usually requesting supper long before then. Either he had been asleep to avoid nomination or had been very late arriving. When supper was presented John did us proud, and it was gratefully received. The usual thanks were accorded by the gathering.

Our new President for 1996/97 is Gavin East, who is no stranger to this position.

B. A. Bisphan.

REPORT ON THE MONDAY NOVEMBER 4th MEETING AT THE HOME OF TONY AIRS

There were thirteen in attendance, and the business part of the meeting moved into gear quickly after a seven thirty scheduled start. In the items of interest section, Walter produced a glossary of old leaflets on many aspects of phonograph history and production over the years. Some were original copies, while many were reprints. Some were worth another reprint, it was decided, perhaps to include in the future issues of the magazine as gifts, or as a saleable item in selections in envelopes. Walter has elected to have them printed.

Two people described rare machines which they have recently each acquired. Both outlined the condition of their purchases, and the repairs that were necessary. One was a rare Gramophone & Typewriter Model 4A, c. 1903 machine; top wound with a rear mounted silver flared bell over-horn, and early lift over sound box, the other a c. 1904 Edison Triumph Model A, with Diamond B reproducer and original cygnet horn and mountings.

Most of the finds today are in 'relic' condition, and the revelation was the prices paid for them which emphasizes the value placed on any early equipment.

Both the items were on show when the meeting was declared closed to a very interested gathering. The supper that followed for those who could tear themselves away from the two machines was very welcome and greatly appreciated.

Report by B. A. Bisphan.

CHRIS ROGERS COLLECTION

The collecting bug first hit me, though I didn't know it then, at the age of ten when I used to recover Ericsson phones from the local tip. From there I progressed to gramophones brought at the grand price of 2/6 (or 25c). This first machine was a wooden table model, make unknown, with one record: Janette McDonald and Nelson Eddy singing "Rose Marie". It was housed in our tree hut with this one record played over and over until one kind neighbour donated a box full of records — this I was hooked.

Radios followed when I joined the P.M.G.'s radio section (later to become Telecom Australia and now Telstra Corporation). Over the years I have restored countless radios, gramophones and telephones for myself and others. Since Telstra and I parted company 3 years ago, my wife Judy and I have set up a little business called "Vintage Sounds Restorations". The business operates from the converted stables of the historic Bridge Hotel in Yackandandah, Victoria, Australia. (See photos). This hotel was once owned by Mel Gibson. These days the hotel is de-licensed and is used by us as a private residence, and houses my growing collection. The walls of the shop are lined with various telephones and associated gear. In one corner is a 1950's step by step rural telephone exchange which I hope to have working soon. In another corner there is a red phonebox which will have to be dismantled and reassembled to get it in. Visitors and fellow collectors are most welcome.

Chris Rogers.

ALLEN GOODWIN, TASMANIA

We were sorry to hear of the death last May of Allen Goodwin, in a letter written by his brother, Tony. This letter contained an interesting résumé of Allen's interests in music, and his collection of records, gramophones and phonographs, and was accompanied by a number of photographs, some of which are reproduced in this issue.

Allen had accumulated an estimated 30,000 records, 1000 machines including early Edisons, Berliners — hand-cranked and spring driven models — Pathé discs, a full range of Sonora gramophones, a 20th Century Columbia, Model 85 Diamond Disc, 2 long play Edisons — Columbia, H.M.V., a Deccalion Grand — thousands of cylinders — about 2000 valve radios, books, manuals, valves and parts, workshop gear etc. — all obtained in the last 18 years!

These were all housed in a beautiful Georgian house, built in 1828: 12 main rooms, 6 bedrooms, cellar 2 room attic on 2nd floor, 2 pantries, dairy and large front and back entry halls. It is registered with the National Trust and Heritage Commission.

Allen became very well known for his programmes on a local FM station T.H.E. FM in Hobart. His programmes were mostly for older people, and he used music that was popular in the 20's and 30's and sometimes earlier. Old 78's were transferred on to tapes on his own equipment, and were of CD quality.

His popularity was such that over 500 friends attended his funeral.

We are delighted that Tony Goodwin is keen to continue membership with our Society, however, we understand from him that part of the collection is to be sold.

THE VINTAGE CAR CLUB CANTERBURY SWAP MEET

For the first time in my life I attended a vintage car swap meet, which was held over two days at McLeans Island, a few miles out of Christchurch. These are held once a year where car club members display cars and set up stalls for selling unwanted and spare parts.

We attended on the first day, and for us was a real surprise, the stalls were so numerous and sold not only car parts and complete cars, but sold almost anything! It took us two hours just to walk round, and then we

did not see all the stalls. One stand contained a number of vintage tractors, and another a number of old oil engines, all puttering away! There were a few gramophones and records, and I managed to buy LP's for 50 cents each. On another stand I came across a very old megger, made of oak, with a large meter attached. I felt that it was old, so bargained with the owner and was able to purchase for \$NZ10. he took it back home, and I collected it the next day and brought it home. I cleaned the bird dirt off the case, and repaired the meter where I discovered the needle was broken into several pieces. I repaired it by threading a piece of fuse wire through the hollow needle, and holding together with elephant glue.

The whole unit is mains supplied with power, and contains two valves — a rectifier (80) and a triode with five pins which I had not come across (75). The valves were both missing, so I was fortunate to be able to obtain a 75 from a radio shop. I had to reglue the paper dial back on to its base, and in so doing I discovered the meter had a label pasted on the inside which stated it was tested on the 14th June, 1920.

W. T. Norris

AMERICA'S FIRST AND FAVOURITE SINGING COWBOY

Gene Autry's career has spanned more than sixty years in the entertainment industry, from radio and recording artist to motion picture cowboy star, broadcast executive and major league baseball owner.

Gene Autry is the only entertainer to have five stars on Hollywood's Walk of Fame, one each for radio, records, movies, television and live theatrical including rodeo performances.

Beginning his radio career in 1928 and making his first recordings a year later, he was, by 1934, America's Favourite Cowboy, voted the No. 1 western star by the theatre exhibitors of America and in 1940 placing fourth (after Mickey Rooney, Spencer Tracey and Clark Gable) in Motion Picture Herald's annual poll of all stars in terms of box office.

In addition to his success in movies, Gene continued on radio weekly for sixteen years as Gene Autry's "Melody Ranch". In 1950, Gene Autry became the first major movie star to enter the television medium, and for the next five years he produced and starred in 91 half hour episodes of The Gene Autry Show, as well as producing such popular TV series as "Annie Oakley", "The Range Rider", "Buffalo Bill Junior" and "The Adventures of Champion".

Gene Autry has appeared in 94 feature films and he has made 635 recordings, over 200 of which he wrote or co-wrote. Some of his best known movies are based on his hit records. His records have sold over 50 million copies and he has more than a dozen gold records, including the first record ever certified gold for over a million copies sold. Another, "Be Honest with Me" was nominated for an Academy Award. His Christmas and children's records like "Here Comes Santa Claus" and "Peter Cottontail" went platinum, for over two million sold, and the all-time best selling single, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" boasts over 25 million in sales.

Gene Autry's great love for baseball prompted him to acquire the American League California Angels and his ambition today is to build a bigger and better baseball club, win the pennant, and be in the World Series.

A long cherished dream came true with the opening, in November 1988, of the Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum, since acclaimed as one of the finest Museums in the depiction of the history of the American West.

Some of Gene's top records:

The Last Round-up	—	—	—	1933
Tumblin' Tumbleweeds	—	—	—	1935
Mexicali Rose	—	—	—	1935
Take me Back to my Boots and Saddle	—	—	—	1937
Back in the Saddle Again	—	—	—	1939
The Call of the Canyon	—	—	—	1940
You are my Sunshine	—	—	—	1941
Deep in the Heart of Texas	—	—	—	1942
Jingle, Jingle, Jingle	—	—	—	1942

He was the richest cowboy of them all.

From Bryan Blanchard, Timaru

PHONOGRAPHS IN THE WILD WEST

By Rod Osborne

On a recent visit to Chicago I heard stories about a great phonograph collection at a small nearby town called Union.

With a day to spare I moseyed on out to Larry Donley's Wild West Town and I sure wasn't disappointed.

The whole complex was set up as a frontier town complete with 1920's shops, miniature railway, wild west shows, pony rides, gold panning and most importantly a phonograph collection which the Edison Foundation judged as one of the best in the U.S.A.

This was the personal collection of Larry Donley and included 100's of unusual and beautifully restored models. The illustrations will show some of the extent of the display. The ceiling was virtually covered with colourful horns, the showcases full of memorabilia, the walls decorated with pictures and the rest of the huge room was full of phonographs.

Some of our members may be fortunate enough to have one of the rare 5" cylinders, well Larry has 6000!

There is also a fully equipped workshop which not only keeps the museum exhibits in top order but also carries out repairs for collectors all over the U.S.A.

Larry mentioned that every year they run a swap meet with over 1000 items for sale — any takers for a trip to Union?

Taken from page 39 METAL TOYS AND AUTOMATA

By Constance King

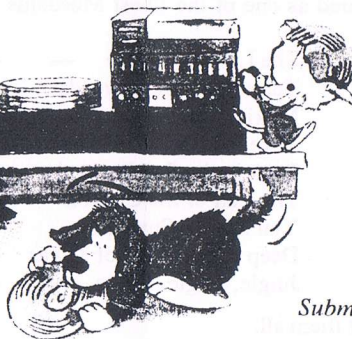
Thomas Edison (1847-1931) marketed his first talking doll in 1889. It had a steel torso that contained a phonograph.

The doll with jointed limbs and bisque head was wound up from the back and recited a number of nursery rhymes and short sentences. These dolls were the first in a series of talking figures made in every country and incorporating the most up-to-date technology.

Submitted by D. Cameron, Hamilton



EDIBLE RECORDS—A German company called Gebrüder Stollwerk was granted a patent in 1903 for a gramophone which played flat discs made of chocolate wrapped in tinfoil. After the records had been played they could be eaten!



Submitted by D. Cameron, Hamilton

HIGHWAY HI-FI PLAYS NEW $16\frac{2}{3}$ R.P.M. RECORDS

by Martin Mann

You're tooling your '56 Dodge along the Turnpike way past bedtime. Even the radio's passionate pleadings for the newewst miracle toothpaste can't keep you awake. So you reach over, switch a knob to PHONO, and put on a record. The one with cymbals that nobody could doze through.

This automobile phonograph is the cutest toy for cars since windshield squirters. Highway Hi-Fi, Chrysler calls it. It is an ingenious little record player in a neat case slung under the dash to play through the radio, and will be available as an extra on all of the Chrysler Corporation's 1956 cars. The price will be about the same as a car radio.

One-hand, no-look operation. You play records with no more fuss than it takes to work the radio — an obvious safety requirement. Press a button and the door flops open. Pull out the turntable as far as it will go, pick a record from the stack underneath and push it against stops on the turntable — it drops right over the spindle. Press a lever on the tone arm and move the arm until it stops. When you let go, the needle drops into the first groove and the music starts.

No reworking of a home player, the new unit was designed for cars, from the record grooves up, by Columbia Broadcasting System and Chrysler engineers. The discs, a mere seven inches across, can play for a full hour on one side. That's because they spin at the unconventional speed of $16\frac{2}{3}$ r.p.m. and have extra fine grooves, one-third the thickness of a human hair. The needle is a skinny .0003 inch across — a regular LP record uses one three times its size.

The player keeps right on making music, up and down hills, over bumps and around tight corners. Chrysler claims it shrugs off almost any jolt that won't send the car to the nearest garage. A Dodge engineer rode me over curbs with the phonograph going — it didn't miss a beat. And I listened to an unmounted unit playing beautifully while it was tilted almost on its side.

The ruggedness that makes the music go on no matter how you drive is built into every part. The turntable base, for example, is a heavy metal casting — plenty of inertia to make it just want to sit still. It rests on three $1\frac{3}{4}$ " thick neoprene rubber sponges, which can soak up big bumps.

The tone arm is also engineered to hug the groove and ignore distracting bumps. It swings easily when pulled slowly by the record grooves, but holds against the fast pull of a bump. Its pivot — a simple shaft riding a bearing ball in a close-fitting hole — gets this uncanny ability from a silicone fluid. Silicones are those versatile chemicals that make bouncing putty, tough electrical insulation, waterproofing compounds and many other products. In this case, the silicone's odd habit of changing its viscosity is put to work. The silicone in the pivot hole is thin, permitting the pivot shaft to turn freely so long as the turning is slow. But try to turn the shaft quickly and the silicone becomes much more viscous, grabbing the shaft to retard its movement.

The cartridge — a special ceramic type — is not fastened directly to the tone arm, but rests on the end of a second arm that can swing up and down inside the horizontally swinging tone arm. This arm is counterweighted to balance on its pivot. With no weight on the needle, a spring forces it into gentle contact with the record: total pressure about 1/10 ounce.

What's on. Each player will come equipped with an assortment of six records — nine to 12 hours' listening. In this starting library is something for everybody: Tchaikovsky's *Pathetique* and Borodin's *Prince Igor*, *The Pajama Game* musical, The Ballad of Davy Crockett, romantic and jazz orchestral music, Cole Porter and Victor Herbert selections, and George Bernard Shaw's *Don Juan in Hell* recited by Charles Boyer, Cedric Hardwicke, Charles Laughton and Agnes Moorehead.

Columbia Records already has a catalogue listing 30 other selections on the $16\frac{2}{3}$ r.p.m. discs. There are classical and popular orchestral music, musical comedy songs, dramatic readings and seven records for children.

Special car records are likely to come, though not in the works just yet. A keep-awake disc would be useful — it might ring a bell or whistle at you every so often, or maybe say sharply: "Wake up, mister! Time to pull over for coffee."



Top Unknown Bottom Majestic 90 Chris Rogers Collection Black Gem Sonora



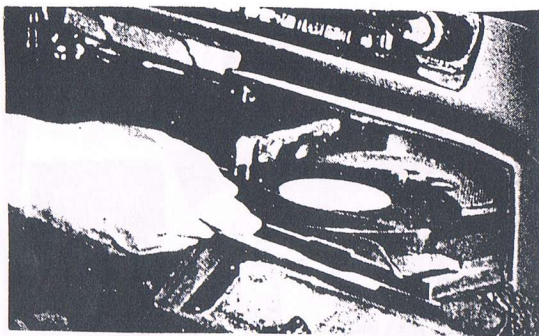
Shop William & Mary Diamond Disc Tin Foil



Left
Edison Oil
Bottle



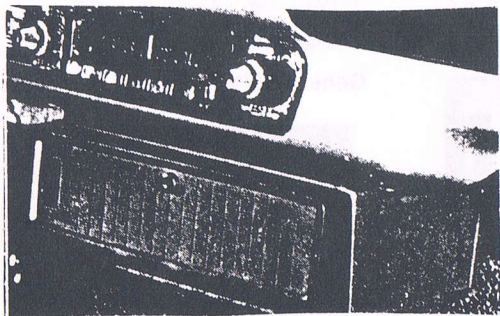
Artist Sketch of Bridge Hotel



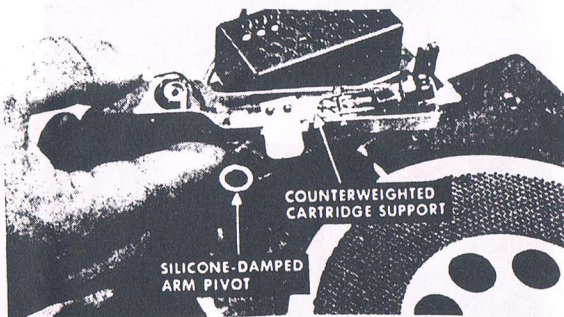
As easy to work as radio, auto phonograph has stops at the back to guide record over spindle. You needn't look.



Press lever on tone arm, swing arm till it stops, let go, and needle drops into first record groove.



Close it up and listen to music. Slow speed makes one side of small disc play for an hour.



Designed for bumps, unit plays on rough roads, around tight curves. Tone-arm pivot, containing silicone fluid, resists sudden forces yet gives to gentle pull of groove. Cartridge weight is fully counterbalanced.

Records designed to amuse children on long trips are a possibility. There might also be travelogues; as you toured a region you could play a disc that spied local history and sights.

The tiny records should last indefinitely. Test discs have been played hundreds of times without noticeable wear.

Why $16\frac{2}{3}$? The new record speed is not really new. It has been used for years for the Talking Book records furnished to blind people. It was adopted for the car phonograph, says Dr. Peter Goldmark, CBS research chief who headed the development, mainly because of the very long playing time it would give with a small record. And this speed is about as low as you can go and still get faithful music reproduction, Dr. Goldmark adds. The player covers a range up to notes of 10,000 cycles, providing unusual fidelity for an automobile outfit.

The phonograph is the fruit of years of dreaming about recorded music in a car. Dr. Goldmark and his staff first envisioned a tape player, but slide-rule work convinced them that discs were more practical. The tape player never got beyond the paper stage.

What about home use? CBS has no plans for a $16\frac{2}{3}$ attachment for home phonographs, Dr. Goldmark says, but he agrees that it might have advantages.

The small records make possible important savings on expensive raw materials, yet play so long that an automatic changer would not be essential. The player's ruggedness would also make it ideal for children's use; you can slide the tone across a record without damaging either record or pick-up.

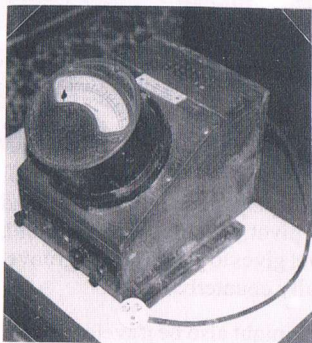
Taken from Popular Science, November 1955.



Model T Ford in South Africa



Gene Autry L.P.



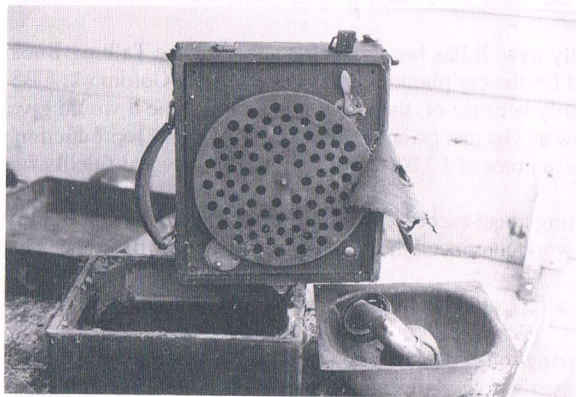
Meggar



Burtoft collection



Two 8 inch Records



Photographs by Don Lang

Decca Before



and After

A LETTER FROM ONE OF OUR MEMBERS

We have just returned from a trip up north and called to see Leon Clements at his Melody Farm Music Museum and thought it worth a mention in your next newsletter. After purchasing parts advertised in the Society's newsletter we headed for Pukerua Bay and rang Leon who gave us directions to his Museum and here we spent a most pleasant time looking over his comprehensive and well maintained collection of interesting machines and associated paraphernalia including pianos, player pianos, barrel organ, phonographs, gramophones, music boxes, juke boxes, early wireless sets, telephones and other old musical instruments.

We had the dubious honour of being the first South Island members of the Society to visit the Museum and as Leon is thinking of retiring, we suggest any members travelling to this part of the country, make time to stop and meet Leon and his wife Yvonne, who we are told is a wonderful cook and supplies tempting home cooked refreshments to visitors by prior arrangement. There is a modest charge to view the Museum but certainly worth a visit.

Julie and Andy MacDonald

ADVERTISEMENTS

The English 78 Picture Book by Don Taylor

Only a few copies left, reduced to clear, single copy \$A22, 6 copies \$A12 each, 12 copies \$A8 each. An illustrated catalogue of the hundreds of English 78 labels issued from the 1890's to the 1970's. Also includes items made in England for New Zealand and Australia. Over 500 labels, over 600 pictures, some of them in colour. Hardback, 10" x 7", 258 pages, high quality paper, limited edition.

"A worthy addition to your bookshelf", Talking Machine Review (England).

"If you are interested in this subject, get a copy now", ARSC Journal (U.S.A.)

Order from Don Taylor, 24C Elphinstone Road, Mount Stuart, Tas. 7000, Australia.

Wanted to Sell:

(1) Vol. I to VI inclusive of "Phonographic Record" (1965-1970), they are in a hard cover, old but good order.

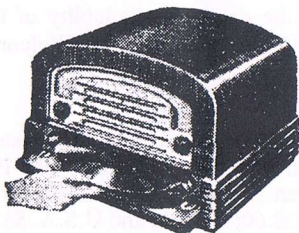
(2) Book — "The Romance of the Gramophone" by T. Lindsay Buick, 1927. Cover a bit rough but contents good. Offers to: Kelvin Hynes, 900 Rings Road, Coromandel, New Zealand.

Information Wanted:

Can anyone explain anything about the photo (See Illustrations) of the "Edison Battery Oil" bottle. The reverse side has Thomas A. Edison written from bottom to top. The bottle measures 100mm x 35mm or 4" x 1 3/8".

ALSO

Wanted to Buy: I have an Astor Radio minus its automatic record player. The unit is one where the record slides through a slot at the base of the radio. Has anyone a unit they wish to sell?



Please reply: Keith Langford, 46 East Street, Greytown, Wairarapa, New Zealand, phone (06) 304-9150.

Wanted:

I have two 8" records for my Decca machine (See Illustrations). Can anyone help locate more for me? Please reply: Don Lang, 901 Heretaunga Street East, Hastings, New Zealand.

Wanted to Buy:

Cylinder machines — Edison, Columbia etc. Also "Exhibition" reproducer, Please reply: Brian Reid, 152 Dyers Pass Road, Christchurch, New Zealand. Phone (03) 337-2143.

Wanted:

One Lower Elbow with brass band and brass locking lever, to suit Edison Cygnet horn, original or reproduction, thank you. Please reply: Merv Brennan, 39 Cochrane Street, Camira, 4300, Queensland, Australia. Phone 07-32881427.

Wanted to Buy:

Ex-pat New Zealander wants to buy, from a New Zealand dealer/collector, any kind of early gramophone with an external horn, e.g. Victor, Zonophone, Standard...whatever. I have no brand loyalty. Any offer considered. Please send photograph and asking price. Also, any early jazz/ragtime 78's from any dealer anywhere in the world. Please contact: Matthew Davidson, 121 East Green, #3 East, Bensenville, IL 60106, U.S.A

Wanted to Purchase:

78 Picture Records wanted — both adult and children's — any size. Please phone Rod Osborne, collect (07) 554-2887, or write P.O. Box 2098, Tauranga, New Zealand.

For Sale:

Three CD's, (1) Spike Jones and his City Slickers, (2) Movie Memories (Paul Whiteman and his orchestra), (Louis Levy and Gaumont British Symphony), (3) Hawaiian Memories. All new and come from 78r.p.m. records. \$15.00 each or three for \$30.00. Please reply to: Peter Dalley, 11 Pembroke Street, Papatoetoe, Auckland, New Zealand.

Help Wanted:

Can any reader help me to date an Edison-Bell Portable Gramophone?

The Gramophone case measures 36cm. long x 29cm. wide x 14.7 cm. high. It is covered with the usual black leatherette material, and it has the Edison-Bell Scroll-like wording in gold on the inside. The Reproducer is an Edison-Bell Junior Electone British Made. The cast-iron Turntable has the wording "Edison-Bell British Made" on the underside, and the top is covered with a green velvet-like material, trimmed with a nickel-plated band.

The Motor bears an Edison-Bell Trade-mark consisting of a circle bearing the words "Edison-Bell Limited", this circle enclosing a representation of a Bell, with the date 1892 underneath. Below the Trademark is a circle containing the Number 42, which I take to be some sort of a Serial Number.

As near as I can find out, the Edison-Bell Company was formed in 1892 in Britain, and built a factory in 1903. They produced a Model Catalogue covering 1902-1903 and a further one in 1905. I understand that both these Catalogues were reprinted by the City of London Phonograph & Gramophone Society during the 1970's, and it is my hope that our readers may have a copy of this reprint, or be able to give me the address of the London Society.

Any information or advice regarding the date and availability of this Model would be very much appreciated. Please reply to: E. J. Powell (Jim), 46 Corinna St., Welcome Bay, Tauranga, New Zealand. Phone (07) 544-2726.

Phonograph Society of South Australia:

An organisation of enthusiasts interested in the collection and preservation of the artifacts of sound recording and reproduction; and research into their evolution. The PSSA Newsletter, containing interesting articles and news, appears eleven times a year. Relevant books and reprints are also sold. Annual dues (Australian currency): N.Z. \$28.00; Canada and U.S.A. \$32.00; U.K. and elsewhere \$34.00. Write to: The Secretary, PSSA, P.O. Box 235, Kent Town, S.A., 5071, Australia.