

G&T GAZETTE

Established 1995. Incorporating the *Edison Echo*

September/October/December

2013

CHRONOLOGICAL COMPENDIUM

*Regarding all the issues of the G&T GAZETTE
issued between September 1995 and September 2013
with a selection of covers illustrated*

Despite some personal misgivings I've finally reached a decision to step down from my self-imposed task of publishing the *G&T Gazette*, an indulgence I began in 1995. Looking back over the years it's been produced, I've enjoyed the experience and would like to thank those who have helped me by supplying articles or assisting me in other capacities like Des Wilson who acted as proof reader for my copy.

When I look back over all the issues of the *Gazette*, I can't help thinking about those who might stumble across a copy in a charity shop or a waste-paper drive and ponder its existence and meaning! More so the collections that have been established as a consequence of our little journal by purchasing recordings from estates sales or Op shop expeditions. Will they stand proud and be remembered by future generations of New Zealanders? This brings me to the question. What understanding will New Zealanders have towards a group such as ours?

To a large extent I suppose our fate will largely be determined by the nature of the recordings we chose to collect, play and revere which of course is the all important part of the picture. It's with this in mind that I've thought that if some copies of the *G&T Gazette* survive in a library or institution, then they might prove an invaluable source of understanding and purpose. Then again we might be doing ourselves a great injustice with our title 'The Scratchy Record Group' it's quaint title but it doesn't imply serious intent. However, I'm not going down that path at this juncture. Perhaps some future consideration might be given to my rant - who knows!

In the meantime, I hope the *Gazette* will be fondly remembered and held to be a faithful record of our group's activities and promotion of this important aspect of our cultural heritage.

The first copy of the **G&T Gazette** was issued on the 18th of September 1995. It was a 12 page edition which featured several cartoons from books on **Gerard Hoffnung's** musical fantasies. It also listed fifteen SRG members and featured my reminiscences concerning the earliest years of the Scratchy Record Group which was established in 1958. ILLUSTRATED

Volume 2 No.1. This issue was dated 22nd of April 1996. The cover featured **Alexander Kipnis** and his son in a photograph taken by Spencer Digby in Wellington some time in 1938 when he was on a concert tour of New Zealand. The programme was shared between **Rod Cornelius** and myself. This issue also carried a letter from **Dennis Brew** who at the time was living in Prague. ILLUSTRATED

Volume 3 No.1. February 1997 featured a *tongue in cheek* article by **John Gray** on a legendary soprano called *Giuseppina Barucci*. Besides a two page listing of the programme I presented, I concocted a *Picture Puzzle* page showing three female artist whom I challenged readers to identify. As well, notes made by Jack Roote in May 1973 on a programme, capped this issue. The front cover showed the original *Opera At Home*, with a picture of the Comedy Harmonists occupying the back page.

Volume 3 No.2 Was a special edition commemorating the Irish Tenor **John McCormack**. The reason for this was a combined programme by Des Wilson and myself formulated from recordings which we played on the 21st of July 1997. Two illustrations for this issue came from a visit to Ireland which Jill and I made earlier in the year. As well it recorded the passing of a founder member Stan Northcote-Bade, on the 22nd of May.

Volume 4 No.1 Our membership listing saw **Neil & Betty McDonald** joining our merry group in February 1998. My programme for the 18th of May ended with HMV DB 3463 with Chaliapine's Farewell & Death of Boris - a record along with a film called *Tonight we Sing* featuring the life and times of the American Impresario Sol Hurok. These memorable things kick-started me into collecting recordings.

Volume 4 No.2 Listed a wonderful selection of Fonotopia records from the **Rod Cornelius** collection. Rod was based in Wellington that year, hence his performances, with the second occurring on the evening of Monday the 20th July 1998. For the first time since I began publishing, I had the pleasurable job of reviewing two Delos CD's featuring Schumann-Heink & Lawrence Tibbett. These came from Bill Moran in California.

Volume 5 No.1 The feature programme for 1999 was presented by **Dennis Brew** on the 15th of March. Dennis's selection included many top rarities, especially Spanish tenors which he'd acquired on a European tour the previous year. On a more somber note, I wrote an obituary for **Boris Semionoff** with whom I'd corresponded for many years, culminating in 1994 when I managed a visit to Edinburgh and visited him and his wife.

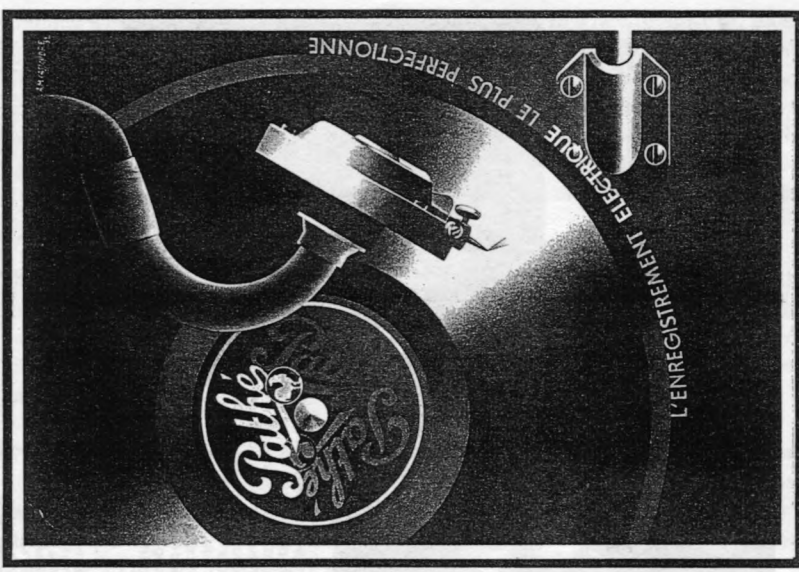
Volume 5 No's.2/3 These two issues were devoted almost entirely to a review written by **John Gray** of THE RECORD OF SINGING, a series of boxed set LPs featuring vocal recordings issued by a variety of companies covering the acoustic period to the end of the 78rpm era in the 1950s. Because of the importance of this series, we spread his critique over two issues of the Gazette.

Volume 5 No.4 Witnessed our return to normal production, with the centre pages devoted to a listing

Sep 1995

Vol 1
No. 1

THE G&T GAZETTE



A peripatetic publication from 93 Burma Road, Wellington..

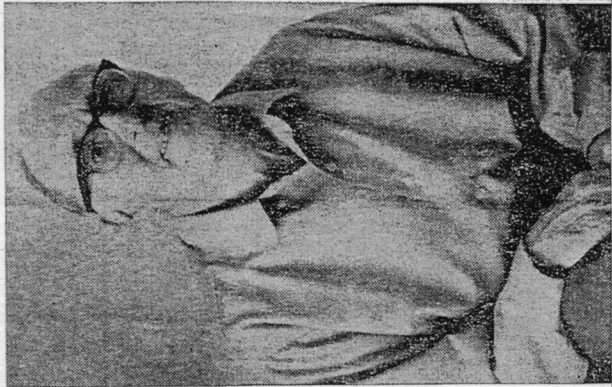
April 1996
Rod's program

Vol 2
no. 1

THE G&T GAZETTE



Can you identify the people in this photograph who posed for Wellington Photographer Spencer Digby in 1938? What are they doing on the cover of the G&T GAZETTE? See the rear cover for further clues. The G&T GAZETTE is a peripatetic publication for members of the SCRATCHY RECORD GROUP. The editor welcomes contributions which may be sent to 93 Burma Road, Wellington. 4, New Zealand.



Gil Dech [1897 - 1974]
The *Evening Post* published this photo with his obituary (see page3).

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Right: Roy as John Wellington Wells in the Wellington Gilbert and Sullivan Society's production of *The Sorcerer*. This was performed in the Savoyage Club and was produced by Roy to capacity houses. The *Evening Post* reviewer noted, 'Star of the production is producer Raymond Hedges who plays the role of the sorcerer with the right touch of devilry'. The Dominion critic had this to say, 'Raymond Hedges besides producing the opera, exploited the humorous and dramatic possibilities of the title role to the full, sang rapid patter songs with a clear diction, and used his fine bass well in more serious numbers'.

Another role which suited Roy down to the ground was the butler in Noel Coward's *Relative Values*. Staged by the Theatrons in 1961 his characterisation drew this response from Harcus Plimmer, the *Evening Post* critic, 'Outstanding too, was the performance of Raymond Hedges as the infatuated butler, who made the part another Jeeves (or perhaps, 'wee-wee'). The accompanying P.T. group (left), which featured in pre-1961 publicity was made by the distinguished Wellington photographer Spencer Digby.



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of the programme which I presented on the 20th September 1999. In a rare instance of 'looking over my shoulder', I included a declaration of the *G&T's Gazette* aims and objectives including a credit to **Michael Woolf** who had assisted me in proof-reading copy. In one of my excursions into using old advertisements to fill an edition, the centre page spread featured the Gramophone Company's whole page advertisement for Dame Nellie Melba on a pale blue insert. The cover photo on the other hand displayed a rarity which I'd never heard of or seen before. It showed how HMV kept a check on special editions with a numbered tag. No doubt a stipulation on editions linked to certain contract arrangements.

Volume 5 No.5 This issue signalled the first contribution by **Roger Hart** to the *Gazette* with two of his pen & ink sketches showing a male singer attired in bow tie and tails on stage delivering a song! This issue also contained a supplementary sheet announcing the fact that **Ray Harris** had presented his 78rpm jazz collection for distribution amongst our members. As well there was a two page biography and discography on the N.Z. baritone **John Prouse**.

Volume 6 No.1 Was an edition which featured the pianist **Gil Dech**. This article was basically the handiwork of **Don Cameron**, a founder member who at the time was living in Australia. The Discography which listed 180 titles, was the work of Dr John Whitelock of Melbourne. We were put on the track of this research by Nelson Kenny, a fellow student I met up with at Art School in Christchurch in the 1950s. ILLUSTRATED

Volume 6 No.2 Appeared in July 2000 with two cartoons on the cover taken from *The Gramophone* which began a Collector's Corner column in the late 1930s. This monthly contribution was edited by **P.G.Hurst**, a somewhat cantankerous individual who believed there was no point in collecting vocal recordings beyond 1910! Our special guest and presenter for this July programme was **Ray Harris**. Star turn for this issue was an article by **Peter Turner** who taught at the Polytechnic explaining his fascination for 'The Blues' era recordings when they were all the rage in 1960s London.

Volume 6 No.3 Carried the first of two articles on the Reproduction of Electrical 78s by **Brian Blackford**. My contribution to this issue was a tongue in cheek piece called 'Getting High on Loewe' and a two page spread of international singers who visited N.Z. Finally there was a piece on **Ray Hedges'** theatrical career prior to being drafted into the Army during WW2.

Volume 6 No.4 Picked up where I'd left off with a continuation of **Ray Hedges** and **Brian Blackford's** articles from the previous issue on musical shows in Wellington and Electrical Reproduction of 78s. ILLUSTRATED

Volume 7 No.1 In 2001 I started off with an article on **Oscar Natzke** which had originally appeared in *The Gramophone* in May 1940. Then **Adam Miller** provided us with an informative article on Purchase Tax Stamps that are stuck on records, their function and meaning. The issue concluded with an announcement of a GARAGE SALE of the **Ray Hedges** record collection.

Volume 7 No.2 An issue where I indulged the *Gazette* readership with an article on my trip to USA and UK which took in a visit to **Bill Moran** in California, plus a meeting of the *Recorded Vocal Art Society* in London.

Volume 7 No.3 This issue was devoted to a programme which I had prepared for the August meeting based on recordings from **Ray Hedges'** collection. The illustrations on the covers featured the

45rpm Primo recording of **Marcella Sembrich's** *Voce di Primavera* made from a Bettini Concert Cylinder which Michael Woolf, David Graves and I produced with **Walter Norris's** permission. ILLUSTRATED

Volume.7 No.4 Was an issue which was richly illustrated with pen and ink sketches from a *European Odyssey* by **Roger Hart** which he made in 1961. This saw the end of the rather awkward listing of the *Gazette* using a Volume and number system to distinguish each issue.

February 2002 Our cover for this issue had **Giovanni Martinelli** chatting with **Thomas Alva Edison**. This served to announce the fact that the whole issue was devoted to Edison recordings occupying 20 pages, I doubt if it led to anyone in the Scratchy Record Club shifting their allegiance towards cylinders or diamond discs.

April 2002 With a cover featuring **T. Lindsay Buick's** 1927 publication *The Romance of the Gramophone* headed off an issue that carried an obituary for **Donald Cameron**, along with a list of items which Roger Hart was going to play at Shannon Street on the 14th of April. Roger also took the opportunity of advertising an assortment of musical books he was offering for sale. ILLUSTRATED

May - June 2002 For want of an article that would no doubt interest our members, I made a list of recordings I bought from the **Don Cameron** collection, a one item a line listing which I think would have amazed some of our senior collectors. I also ran a review of *For the Record* by **Bryan Staff** and **Sheran Ashley**. Also a tantalizing letter from the family of **Walter Robarts**, an entrepreneur who allegedly made recordings in N.Z in 1894.

July - August 2002 This issue printed a piece on the Australian soprano **Stella Power** and an article by **Des Wilson** called *Getting to the Words*. The back page of this issue was devoted to a special gathering for any of our members who could attend the 125th anniversary of Thomas A. Edison's recitation of "*Mary had a little lamb*" at TIME CINEMA in Melrose, on the 19th of August. From memory 5-6 people did turn up and saw film clip re-enactments of this momentous occasion.

September - October 2002 Was a 12 page publication that identified the importance of two record labels that identified a New Zealand market as a specialist area of exploitation. This was written by **Adam Miller** who previously had contributed a piece on Purchase Stamp Tax on gramophone recordings in our Vol 7 No.1 issue.

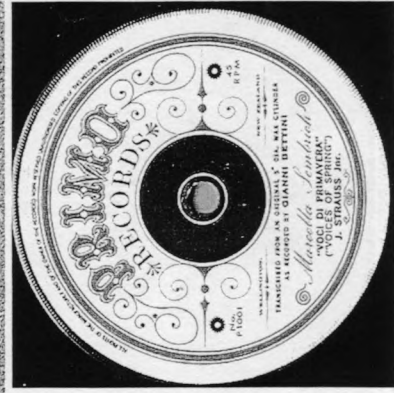
November - December 2002 Had an article on the earliest complete Gilbert & Sullivan recordings by **Des Wilson**. Also a letter from **Ron Burt**, artist and guitarist who was acting as the *Gazette's* proof reader/editor. Finally, it was mentioned that Des Wilson and I were preparing a programme for February 2003 to commemorate **Don Cameron** who died in Melbourne.

January - February 2003 Was a bigger than normal edition, having a supplement which advertised **Roger Hart's** programme in advance of its performance on the 16th of March. Also lists of material (books and records) which Roger was keen to pass on to members. This issue also wallowed in nostalgia as I personally recalled **50 years of collecting recordings**, a story with photos and text. ILLUSTRATED

April - May 2003 Listed the commemorative programme for Don Cameron which Des and I presented for the SRG on the 16th of February. I also included a list of **Magic Lantern** performances which I was giving at the Khandallah Arts Theatre and TIME CINEMA. Auckland collector **Bert**

August 2001

THE G & T GAZETTE
Vol.7
No.3



Above: The 5 inch brown wax Bettini cylinder and paper slip. Below left: The paper slip with a faint "Soprano Mme Sembrich" rubber stamped (top). Below right: The David Graves two colour label design (blue & black).

DONALD (DON) CAMERON 1949-2002



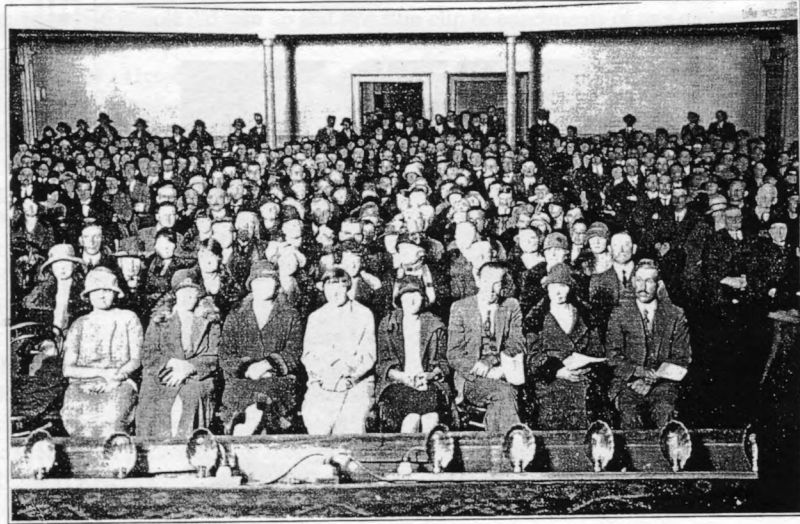
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THE ROMANCE OF THE GRAMOPHONE.

BY
T. LINDSAY BUICK, F.R. HIST. S.
AUTHOR OF
"OLD MARLBOROUGH," "OLD MANAWATU," "AN OLD
NEW ZEALANDER," "THE TREATY OF WAITANGI,"
"NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST WAR."

WELLINGTON, N.Z.
ERNEST DAWSON, LTD.
40 MANNERS ST.,
1927.

600 copies printed



A GRAMOPHONE RECITAL IN WELLINGTON, N.Z.

Unfortunately the Gallery, which was equally crowded, was cut out in the process of taking the flashlight.

A rare picture of the Scratchy Record Group in its heyday at the Wellington Concert Chamber. Illustration from Lindsay Buick's *Romance of the Gramophone*. See the cover for the title page. *Editor's collection.*



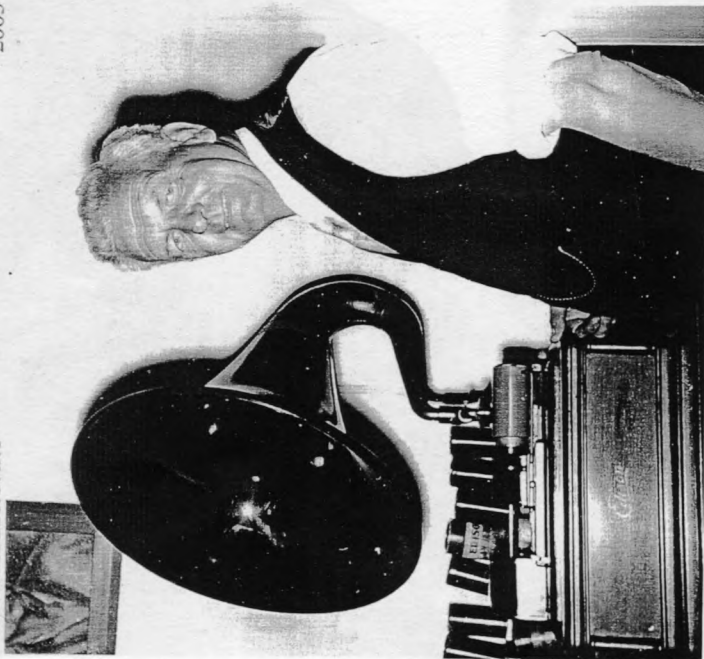
Left to right: Bert Cadman, Dennis Brew and Robin Watt, three record collectors photographed in Auckland in 1979

"Records and music are like food for me. They have always been a huge part of my life, and will remain so. Nearly every day I spend 3-4 hours listening to a 78/LP/CD. I must say that in recent years I am a born again 78 man - the best CD or LP transfer does not capture the bloom of the voice that comes from a 78 played on good equipment. Besides, it is thrilling to handle a rare shellac disc. It's a strange response, but I can tolerate the constant hiss or crackle from a 78rpm disc, but the regular tick from a lightly scratched LP drives me mad."

Dennis Brew



Bill Moran in our living room in 1965 holding an Australian two minute wax cylinder.



Caption Front Cover: Fred Spencer with his Opera Phonograph. Photo by Willy Goldledge early 1900s. Captions Back Cover: Top left, a thinner version of your editor in 1959/60 admiring a 78 rpm recording from his collection at Kenwyn Terrace, Newtown. Top right, Michael Woolf reacting to my acquisition of an Edison Concert Phonograph, Belfast April 1964. Below, head of Charlie Lindsay superimposed on a photo of Thomas Alva Edison taken after intensive work on the improved phonograph 16th June 1888. Photomontage by Frank O'Leary - Dominion Museum.



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Cadman gets a mention in this issue with a listing of his Pathe recordings which I acquired through Dennis Brew. ILLUSTRATED

June - July 2003 A **Bert Cadman** obituary by Dennis Brew featured in this issue along with a photo showing three Auckland collectors Bert, Dennis and Robin Watt - who was a member of the SRG for a short period before he ventured overseas.

August - September 2003 This issue featured a report by **Dennis Brew** on his European Odyssey. The main article was a listing of singers who came to New Zealand and went on to making recordings. With my usual editorial aplomb, this issue was complete with photos, a postcard, a magazine clipping and a corny cartoon.

October - November 2003 Contained a 3rd listing of vocalists who came our way and went on to making recordings. Des Wilson contributed an article on D'Oyly Carte comedians.

January - February 2004 This *Gazette* seems to be centered entirely around the activities of **H. Lane Wilson**. I don't recall who presented a programme as listed in this issue. I assume it must have been me but I can't recall owning some of the items which are listed in the printed programme! Mea culpa.

March - April 2004 Started off with an obituary on **John Gray** and his relationship with another gramophone record enthusiast called **Jack Henderson**. The rest of this issue was devoted to a War Economy warning and another more haunting article that sent a shiver down the spine of 78 rpm Record Collectors, "What Shall We Do With Our Gramophones" - anticipating the chaos that Hi-Fi recordings will cause amongst enthusiasts!

May - June 2004 Another morbid tone was evident in the front page obituary for **Bill Moran**, who visited New Zealand twice in his capacity as an Oil Company Executive and indulged me and **Michael Woolf** with his exploits as a record collector.

July - August 2004 The American soprano **Lillian Nordica's** visit to New Zealand and related matters distinguish this issue.

February - March 2005 Large centre page advertisements once again helped me fill out another issue of the *Gazette* with an **Alice Esty** G&T label occupying the cover.

April - May 2005 **Edison** again made the front page cover of this issue including a label bearing his Message to the People of New Zealand.

June - July 2005 **Anna Case**, a soprano who made many recordings mainly for Edison is the featured artist in this issue.

January - February - March 2006 **Roger Hart's** wonderful pen and ink sketches of his European tenure dominate this issue. It is accompanied by a list of items I presented on the 18th of February, drawn from artists that were mentioned in **Jerrold Northrop Moore's** *A Matter of Records*.

April - May - June 2006 After hesitating for some years, I drummed up courage to feature a German baritone I'd long admired - **Heinrich Schlusnus**.

July - August - September 2006 An issue devoted to the recordings of the tenor **Richard Tauber**

has all the ring about it being by Des Wilson. Sadly, I cant find any mention of him in the text! Perhaps I have erred. Be that if it may, it's a wonderful listing including the Australian pressing details. Unfortunately, I can't remember working on this manuscript to that extent! Most confusing.

October - November - December 2006 This issue sported a Decca portable gramophone on the cover and inside the center page spread was devoted to the **Avonia Gramophone** company of Christchurch. The rest of this issue is about collectors I'd encountered during the last fifty years like **Fred Spencer, Dr. Steiner, Doug Galbraith, John Gray, Brian Salkeld** and **Lindsay Cowie**.

January - February - March 2007 This issue was devoted to my displeasure and joy at comments made about the talents of **Heinrich Schlusnus** by **Walter Legge** and **F. W. Potter**.

July - August - September I coerced my friend **Nelson Kenny** to produce an article dealing with singers he'd heard over the years at home and overseas. The centre page spread listed the singers I chose to present play on the 15th of July.

October - November - December 2007 Founding member **Pat Byrne** contributed a three page account of a 'Month In London'. This was followed by an article on the violinist **Jan Kubelik** and a court case he was required to attend to Dunedin in 1908.

January - February - March 2008 Preparation for our 50th anniversary in June feature in this issue along with **Les Austin's** account of his Seven Years in London. Elsewhere this issue was rounded off with fill-in musical postcards from my collection.

April - May - June 2008 The cover displayed a black and white version of a painting showing the SRC in the living room of Burma Road. The Back cover displayed items chosen for the **50th Anniversary CD** we produced. Thumbnail biographical sketches of our current membership made up the body of this issue. ILLUSTRATED

July - August - September Having discovered someone who could appreciate the ballads of **Carl Loewe**, I reprinted Robert F. W. Potter's article on this German composer which first appeared in the *Gramophone* magazine for December 1931. I filled the remaining space of this issue with a listing of Loewe LPs, which I have in my collection.

October - November - December 2008 In desperation for finding copy to fill this edition of the *Gazette*, I resorted to copying a Christmas story by Alex McLachlan called '**Mr Bellamy Approves**' from *The Gramophone*, along with two letters to the editor by New Zealand readers, W. J. R. and John Gray.

January - February - March 2009 **Des Wilson's** article on the words used in songs called 'A Quest For Understanding' kicked off this issue leaving a bit of space which I filled with a series which I called 'Collectors I have Known'. The first featured **Boris Semeonoff**. ILLUSTRATED

April - May - June 2009 Following on from the previous issue, of collectors I have known, I did an issue devoted to **Bill Moran** and how I came to be associated with him and a piece from his book on **Blanche Arral** about her visit to New Zealand in 1906. As well I included the programme I presented on the 21st of June. ILLUSTRATED

July - August - September 2009 This issue was devoted to *The Romance of the Gramophone* by

G&T GAZETTE

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2009



Photograph made in September 1994 at the residence of Boris and Catherine Semeonoff in Edinburgh. Note the E.M.G. handmade gramophone in the distance left. Surely the same one which served as an introductory illustration in his 1951 book. (see page 12).

"Record-collecting has a double appeal to most of its addicts - the aesthetic appeal of the music, and the rather complex instinctual gratification which is characteristic of the collecting urge in general. In so far as selection as well as mere amassing is bound to be involved, I think the record-collector can legitimately be classed with the connoisseur rather than the philatelist. A collection in this sense may be regarded as an expression of one's personality. Mere quantity counts for little. Quality in the true sense is what counts, and quality and rarity are by no means synonymous".

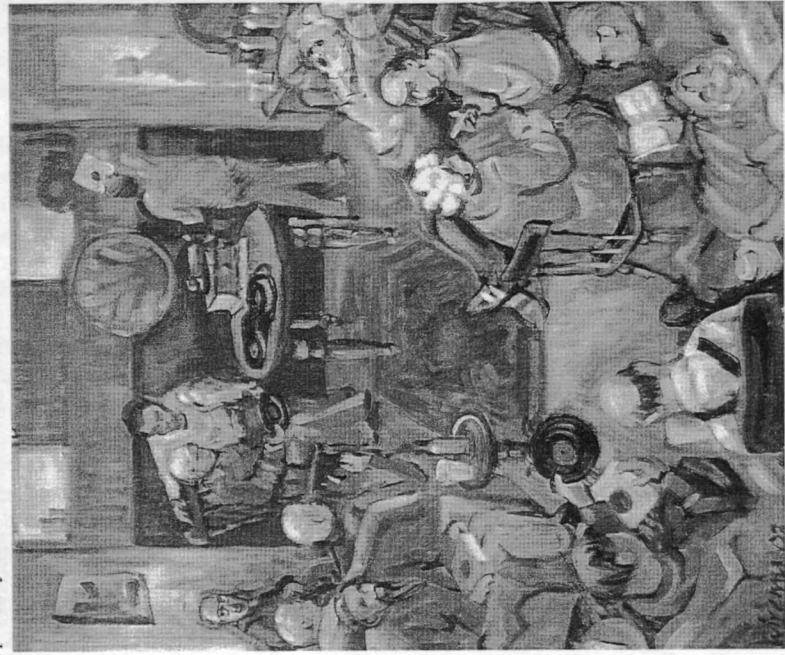
Boris Semeonoff

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April/May/June

2008



Can you identify the following members in this 2003 painting based on a 1990s meeting of the group at 93 Burma Road by "Wiremu" Ray Hedges, John Sutcliffe, Neil & Betty McDonald, Alistair Gilkinson, George Boroman, Peter Fry, Roger Hart, David Morriss, Pat Byrnes, Leland Crosthwaite, Des Wilson & Jill & Bill Main and Don Laing.



No prizes for guessing who this is identifying a hard to read title on a gramophone recording.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT - WANTED KNOWN: As a result of reorganising my record collection, I have accumulated a very large pile of unwanted recordings. I have done these up into bundles of 20, making a mix of 10 & 12 inch recordings featuring Jazz and Classical vocal. It is my intention to present these mystery bundles to those who attend my presentation in September. If there are members who would like their bundle before this date, then please call me on 971-3535.

T. Lindsay Buick. It was a pioneering Kiwi effort which got mentioned in the internationally acclaimed *Romance of the Gramophone*. by Roland Gelatt. Elsewhere we printed **Professor Archibald's** address in the *Evening Post* 14 March 1891 concerning Edison's Phonograph - stirring stuff! **Hugh McSherry** and **Jack Henderson** were two collectors I got to know very well in the 1960s.

October - November - December 2009 The baritone **George Baker** who is remembered for his lengthy career in the recording studio features in this issue. The ongoing articles on Collectors I have Known, cover my association in this issue with **Ray** claimed Roland Gelatt's *Romance of the Gramophone*. Elsewhere we printed **Professor Archibald's** address in the *Evening Post* 14 March 1891 concerning Edison's Phonograph - stirring stuff! **Hugh McSherry** and **Jack Henderson** were two collectors I got to know very well in the 1960s.

October - November - December 2009 The baritone **George Baker** who is remembered for his lengthy career in the recording studio features in this issue. The ongoing articles on Collector's I have Known, cover my association in this issue with **Ray Bresanello** and **Alan Sadd**.

January - February - March 2010 An oddity of this *Gazette* is on the one hand the end of a series on *Collectors I have known*, with another featuring **Hugh Price**, whose collecting association with us was very brief but no less heartening. So much so, that an obituary I wrote on him covers more than Gramophones and Records.

April - May - June 2010 Special guest presenter **Clare Gleeson** - author of a book on **Chas. Begg & Co., Ltd.** gave us a very interesting talk. The remainder of this issue was filled with an article on Desert Island Discs, which was published in the *Record Collector Magazine*.

July - August - September 2010 Yet another obituary, this time **Dennis Brew** of Auckland. Knowing his time was limited, Dennis had given notice of his demise by releasing a catalogue of his collection and invited us to bid for his records. This issue also contained a biographical sketch on **Hinemoa Rosieur**, a NZ soprano who was killed in a bombing raid in London. This article was supplied by **George Boroman**. ILLUSTRATED

October - November - December 2010 An issue devoted to Music Hall recordings, with a reprint of an article written by **S. C. Greaves** as published in *The Gramophone* in December 1935.

January - February - March 2011 In the editorial I paid tribute to **Des Wilson** for providing a venue for our meetings, a gesture which I'm sure we all appreciate considerably and went on to marking with a presentation with a signed authentic Richard Tauber photograph. Once again I stretched the imagination of our readership by selecting some quaint record packets.

April - May - June 2011 Storing and indexing a record collection featured prominently in this issue, with some photos of yours truly depicted convalescing at home after an operation. ILLUSTRATED

July - August - September 2011 An article on re-issue recordings, one that extended back to series like the HMV Archive series and all the subsequent LP era recordings dominated this issue. A supplementary insert listed 15 different gramophone - phonographs for sale from the Max Borra collection.

October - November - December 2011 With Dame Clara Butt wearing a Maori cloak bearing a

Patu (greenstone club) on the front cover and Anna Pavlova on the back in her Tutu, SRG member may have thought that their editor had at long last 'gone completely off the rails' ! But no! On turning the cover they were enlightened by the fact that Dame Clara had been nominated as the feature artist for the coming year, continuing a custom that saw an artist selected by Des and I for at least one recording per meeting by this artist included in the programme. Elsewhere our own **Pixie Williams** was commemorated with an article called **Blue Smoke - the Lost Dawn of New Zealand Popular Music 1918-1964** by Chris Bourke. The Pavlova photo was, like the Clara Butt made by a Wellington photographer called **Stan P. Andrew** whose work I have always admired. ILLUSTRATED

January - February - March 2012 With an HMV Coronation recording of God Save the King by **Clara Butt** and the Band of the **Coldstream Guards** setting the tone, it follows that an article on this contralto should follow. After a two page piece on **Dan Leno** by **Peter Fry, Dennis Foreman's Record Collector** article filled the bill. It provided me with the opportunity to display a photograph of Dame Clara and Kennerly Rumford at Rotorua which I'd yearned to use for years!

April - May - June 2012 The second half of Dennis Foreman's Butt article was supported by a small piece on the monaural revival was feature along with a PYE Black Box advertisement on the cover.

July - August - September 2012 All members of the SRG were taken aback by the death of **Pat Byrne**, who was taken ill on the day he was destined to undertake a trip to Europe. His funeral and subsequent dispersal of his collection, was supervised by his sister **Dianna Murray**. The remainder of this *Gazette* was devoted to **Oscar Natzke**. In this instance, I chose to use **W. S. Meadmore's** *The Gramophone* article of May 1940 in which he praised Natzke's voice and stage presence.

October - November - December 2012 The shock of **Pat Byrne's** sudden death reverberated into the next issue of the *Gazette* and prompted me into writing about how I became a collector of 78rpm recordings. On the centre page spread of this edition I reprinted a group portrait of a Phonograph & Record Collectors Convention on the steps of the Dominion Museum in 1965,

January - February - March 2013 This issue was devoted to a find of old records in a second hand shop in Hunterville and a review of **Clare Gleeson's** book called '*Meet me at Begg's*'. The cover displayed one item from Hunterville. It was an American Record Company disc of a **Len Spencer** classic of an 'Auction Sale'.

April - May - June 2013 This issue of the *Gazette* was devoted entirely to the programme I presented on the 21st of April. The cover featured **Blanche Arral**. It was accompanied by a description of her concert tour of New Zealand.

September - October - December 2013 - Final Issue

Errata: At the conclusion of my work on this compendium, I noticed no obituary for **Ray Hedges**. A search through my files discovered he died on the 13th of August 2003 aged 86. This error is deeply regretted. However if he is looking on from high above, I'm sure he would brush it all off with one of his favourite expressions, "Chin-chin" ..

The *G&T Gazette* is published quarterly and distributed gratis to friends and associates who attend or share in the interest of a group known as the "Scratchy Record Group". Opinions expressed in the *Gazette* are those of the authors and do not represent the philosophies and beliefs of the SRG. Unsolicited material is welcome. Care with submissions for publication will be exercised, but no responsibility for loss or damage in transit will be accepted. Advertising rates are negotiable. All material is copyrighted. Permission to use anything appearing in the *Gazette* must be cleared in the first instance with the editor William (Bill) Main 93 Burma Road, Wellington - 6035 New Zealand. Telephone (04)971-3535, e-mail <wmain@paradisenet.nz> This edition was proof read and edited by Des Wilson.