

# 40

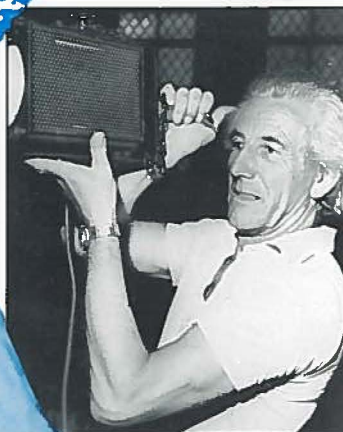
NEARLY

by John Burrell

YEARS ON



Alan Coldicott rigging the first bar.



Norman Hawker  
rough focus  
from ground.

Photographs by courtesy of  
Leslie Stonehouse of  
Wolverhampton.

**H**OW I lit the show' is perhaps inappropriate as a title as, on looking back, I realise that it is probably five years since I actually operated a board on one of my own shows.

It is now some thirty five years since I lit my first amateur production. It was 'The Ghost Train' performed on a church hall stage with four pot dimmers loaded with Harpic and handling 200 volt D.C.

Now I have two electronic boards, a Mini T and a Tempus; but as a back-up I still have a rack of the four slate wound slider dimmers which I bought from Strand Electric in Floral Street and carried home, one at a time, on the tram.

I still light in church halls, but have progressed also to the churches themselves, and a cathedral, for plays and Son et Lumiere, schools, colleges, and the modern purpose built theatre in our County City of Worcester. My next show is a community theatre project with a cast of 100s.

My 1K lanterns are:-

- 8x743
- 4xT 64
- 4x764
- 2x763
- 2xAsymmetrical floods

The ½K lanterns are:-

- 8xPrelude PC
- 4x23N
- 2x803
- 2x23
- 2xPrelude 30
- 2xPrelude 40
- 2xPatt 60
- 2xPatt 137

My two spotlights are the low voltage type with their own intrinsic dimmer operating directly off the mains.

Other equipment, mostly used for orchestral and band concerts, includes 20x300W Atlas Trackline linear floods and 6x500W Sun floods. The latter also double as dimmable house lights though independent dimmers when the hall or school does not have such facilities.

As I work in schools and colleges with 5 amp sockets for lanterns and in theatres with 15 amp sockets my own dimmer packs are all fitted with 5 amp sockets and my lanterns with 15 amp plugs. This calls for enough 5 to 15 leads for all the lanterns. As power sources are limited in some of the venues which I have to use so that we often have to operate from 13 amp sockets I have built remote control