

The Organ at St. John's

The organ at St John's reflects the best work of two organ builders: William Telford in 1850 and Conachers of Huddersfield in 1904 / 1906. It could be described as a Telford organ mechanically and structurally and a Conacher organ tonally. The recent restoration by Stephen Adams & Co Organ Builders of Tullow, Co. Carlow, has restored the instrument to its original clarity. The work was commissioned in memory of Mrs Diana Perry, a long-time member of the congregation, through the generosity of her family.

The organ has two manuals (keyboards) and pedals. The action from the manuals to the chests on which the pipes are held is mechanical. A pneumatic system is used to connect the pedals. The stop action is also mechanical and there are six combination pedals which the player may use to change groups of stops at one time. Tonally the organ corresponds closely to a French instrument of similar period and, in combination with the acoustic properties of the Church it sounds magnificent. There is a wealth of characterful soft stops (nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16). The Trumpet and Cornopean have open parallel shallots. All reeds have un-weighted bass tongues.

The organ case is of solid English oak, designed to harmonise closely with the neo-Romanesque architecture of the Church. In the front are five pipe flats consisting of the Zinc bass pipes of the Great Organ Open Diapason 8' and Gamba 8' framed in round-topped arches decorated with chevrons. When it was built it would have cost between £500 and £700.

(Technical specification and background from Stephen Adams & Co Organ Builders)

Technical Specification

Great Organ 10 stops

1.	Open Diapason	8'	56	Zinc / Metal
2.	Stopped Diapason	8'	56	Wood
3.	Gamba	8'	56	Metal
4.	Dulciana	8'	44	Metal*
5.	Principal	4'	56	Metal*
6.	Harmonic Flute	4'	44	Metal*
7.	Twelfth	2 2/3	56	Metal*
9.	Fifteenth	2'	56	Metal*
10.	Trumpet	8'	56	Metal

Swell Organ 10 stops

11.	Bourdon Bass (outside the swellbox)	16'	12	Wood
12.	Bourdon Treble	16'	44	Wood
13.	Open Diapason	8'	44	Metal*
14.	Stopped Diapason	8'	56	Wood*
15.	Salicional	8'	44	Metal
16.	Voix Celeste	8'	44	Metal*
17.	Octave	4'	56	Metal*
18.	Piccolo	2'	56	Metal
19.	Mixture III ranks		168	Metal
	From bass:	15, 19, 22		
	From middle C:	12, 15, 19		
20.	Cornopean	8'	56	Metal
21.	Oboe	8'	56	metal

Pedal Organ

22.	Open Diapason	16'	30	Wood
23.	Bourdon	16'	30	Wood

Couplers

Swell to Great
Great to Pedal
Swell to Pedal