

B. C. SHEPHERD & SONS

Proprietor: John.Shepherd
Incorporating A.E.& F.A.Still & Church Organs Ltd.

Pipe Organ Builders

Established 1927

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New organs (tracker or electric), Rebuilds, Restorations (tracker, pneumatic, electric),
Overhauls, Tonal modifications, Tunings.

IBO BUSINESS MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ORGAN BUILDING

(Accredited for Tuning & Maintenance, Cleaning & Overhaul, Rebuilding)

Christ Church, Coldharbour, Leith Hill, near Dorking, Surrey.

The lovely village of Coldharbour is approx. 750 feet above sea level on Leith Hill, (which rises to a height of nearly 1000 feet), and is 4 miles South West of Dorking. It is the highest village in the South East of England, and has a population of about 240.

The Church was built in 1848 and designed by Benjamin Ferrey, and later modified by W. D. Caroe. The present organ was built by Frederick Rothwell in 1904, (a few pipes were retained from the former organ) they were then based in Hampstead. The plate on the console says Harrow, (but they did not move there until 1926). It has a handsome case of oak, with plain metal pipes. Unlike later Rothwell organs it has tracker action to the manuals, and has a drawstop console. Some modifications were made by them in 1912. In 1932 money was given from a legacy from the late Miss Margaret Vaughan Williams, the sister of the composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, who lived at Leith Hill Place on the edge of the village, for work on the organ, which was carried out by Rothwell, but it is unclear as to what was done. He was known to have played the organ.

In 1981 work was done on the organ by Michael Mason. The pedal action was electrified, and a new radiating concave pedalboard of reduced dimensions was installed in place of the straight concave one. The Pedal Bass Flute was originally an independent rank, but this was badly affected by dampness, and was removed, so 12 pipes were added to extend the Bourdon to a Bass Flute.

In 1994 B C Shepherd & Son overhauled the pneumatics of the Bourdon chest because of mould in the chest. In 2013 B C Shepherd & Sons cleaned and overhauled the organ. A new wooden wind trunk was made and fitted to replace one which was very badly affected with wood worm. A new wooden ladder was made, and lighting was fitted in the organ. The pneumatic chest for the bottom five Great Open Diapason pipes which had not worked for some years was replaced with a new electric chest. The Pedal Bass Flute top octave chest was replaced with a new one, and the treble pipes were replaced with more suitable secondhand pipes. The magnets of the main Bourdon chest were replaced, and new solid state switching replaced the electro-mechanical switching. In early 2014 the pedalboard was replaced with a new straight concave one, and the pedal panels were modified. The speech and regulation was gone through, and the Diapason choruses and Oboe were

opened up slightly, where the tone was formerly rather dull, (they may have been softened at some time).

GREAT		SWELL		PEDAL	
Open Diapason	8	Open Diapason	8	Bourdon	16
Wald Flute	8	Lieblich Gedact	8	Bass Flute(Ext Bourdon)	8
Dulciana	8	Echo Gamba	8		
Principal	4	Voix Celestes (TC)	8	COUPLERS	
Fifteenth	2	Gemshorn	4	Swell to Great	
		Oboe	8	Swell to Pedal	
				Great to Pedal	

2 composition pedals to Swell	Compass of Manuals CC to g 56 notes
2 composition pedals to Great	Compass of Pedals CCC to f 30 notes
Reversible Great to Pedal	Straight concave pedalboard
Balanced Swell Pedal	Electric blower

Tracker action to manuals Electro-pneumatic and electric action to pedals