

## **The organ of St Michael & All Angels Church, Elm Bank Gardens, Barnes, London, SW13 ONX.**

The present building was consecrated in 1893. The architect was Charles Innes, who was a member of the congregation. A small organ, was moved from the former church.

The present organ was built in 1899 by Bishop & Son of London, as a two manual with 24 stops, it was paid for by the organist Arthur Rooke. In 1904 they added the third manual with 5 stops, which was paid for by his widow. The action was tubular pneumatic, and the console was at the front of the organ chamber.

The specification was : **Great** Double Diapason 16, Open Diapason 1 8, Open Diapason 2 8, Clarabella 8, Principal 4, Wald Flute 4, Fifteenth 2, Mixture 3 Ranks, Trumpet.

**Swell** Lieblich Bourdon 16, Violin Diapason 8, Rohr Flute 8, Vox Angelica 8, Voix Celeste 8, Geigen Principal 4, Harmonic Piccolo 2, Mixture 3 Ranks, Cornopean 8, Oboe 8. **Choir** Dulciana 8, Lieblich Gedact 8, Viol di Gamba 8, Flauto Traverso 4, Clarinet 8. **Pedal** Contra Bass 32, Open Diapason 16, Sub Bass 16, Octave 8, Bass Flute 8.

In 1976 Percy Daniel and Co of Clevedon rebuilt the organ with direct electric action to the slide soundboards, and installed a detached stop-key console in the Lady Chapel opposite. They removed the Choir manual, and replaced some of the Swell and Great stops with pipes from the Choir organ. They rearranged the frontage of dummy pipes in the chancel frontage, to allow sound to get into the building better. All of the front pipes are dummies.

The Great Clarabella 8 was replaced with the Choir Lieblich Gedact 8, and the Open Diapason 2 8 was replaced with the Choir Dulciana 8. The Swell Lieblich Bourdon 16 was replaced with the Choir Viol di Gamba 8, and the Swell Vox Angelica 8 was replaced with the Choir Flauto Traverso 4.

We have maintained the organ since about 2006. In 2016 major work has been done on the organ. The console has been refurbished. The keyboards have been overhauled, and fitted with new springs, and contact actions. New thumb pistons have been fitted, and a number of additional ones fitted. The Pedalboard has had new contact actions fitted. Extra toe pistons have been added. The stop-key layout has been rearranged, with extra stop-keys fitted. A new electronic control system has been installed, with a multi channel piston capture system, and a stepper.

The organ has been cleaned throughout. The Swell box access door has been remade, as it was impossible to get inside the box. A passageboard has been fitted in the box. The electro-pneumatic swell engine to open the shutters has been adjusted, and the box now opens more fully than before. Lighting has been fitted inside the organ.

The Swell Mixture which had been altered by Percy Daniel to 19,22,26 has been modified to remove the octave break in the middle octave. The Great Mixture has also been modified to remove the octave break in the middle octave. The new Mixture pipes have been voiced to match the existing ones. The Great Trumpet 8 has been taken of the Great slide chest, and has been fitted on a new unit chest, and has been extended down to a Trombone 16 on the Pedal with new full length pipes, it is also available at 8' and 4' on the Pedal. The Trumpet has also been made playable on the Swell. A Twelfth 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  has been added on the former Trumpet slide.

We have gone through the organ tonally to correct bad pipe speech, and regulation.

