

Bride Methodist Church



Gt: 8,8,8,4,4, Sw: 8,8,8,4,8, Ped: 16.

Built around 1880, this is a small 2-manual and pedal instrument, with mechanical action throughout, by an unknown builder and is excellently sited at the front of the building.

It may possibly be a Hewitt, with its simple construction and evidently mixed pedigree. (The Great, for instance, has a spare slide which once held a 3-rank mixture, though there is no sign of this in either the console

or the stop action, and the lettering on the stop heads shows that they come from a number of organs which predate this one.)

If it is a Hewitt, there is nothing to indicate this, and the lack of a name-plate is not characteristic of this builder.

This is one of the few instruments left on the Island to retain its trigger swell pedal.

The casework is remarkable, with its 2

panels and single flat. The decoration of the display pipes is recent, and, though striking, not in keeping with the period.

There used to be a poster in the church porch which advertised the opening of this instrument. It listed the many items to be sung at the event though there was no mention of an organ solo!

Not in the best condition at time of writing (2010) this is, never-the-less, a good example of a simple, mechanical-action village church organ which is still usable for services after 130 years or more since its original installation.

