

All Saints Parish Church



All Saints' Parish Church, Douglas: 2-manuals and pedals: 5 ranks: Diapason, Gedact, Salicional, Trumpet and Clarabella.

This instrument, built by Jardines of Manchester in 1967, is an example of an 'extension organ,' whereby a small number

of pipes is made available at various pitches and can be played on one or all of the 3 departments (Swell, Great and Pedal) of the organ. The actual number of stops on the console does not, therefore, reflect the number of pipes in the instrument and there is no true Swell organ, as all the pipes are in the one swell box.



It was, and is still, fashionable for some organists to regard extension organs as something inferior, whereas the truth of the matter is that they are simply a way of providing much a greater variety of ways to use a limited number of pipes, when space and/or finances for a larger instrument are not available.

Jardines used a simple electric action, some of the pipework and the swell shutters of the Morgan and Pollard organ which stood in the former All Saints' building (a 'temporary' corrugated iron structure) and they put the old organ's nameplate, together with their own, on the new console. The casework is neat and simple in the extreme, fitting in with the clean lines of the building.

All Saints' has excellent acoustics, and the organ (which Jardines voiced boldly) sounds very well indeed, and is a great

success, though the player (who finds himself, like a lion-tamer, caged in with the beast) needs ear-protection when using full organ! Having said this, the instrument is equally capable of very soft effects and has given good service down the years.

