

Ballaugh New Church

St Mary's



Manual: 16,8,8,8,4, 4, (), Ped: Pulldowns.

The organ is a Forster and Andrews, single manual, mechanical action instrument of 1878.

Like its larger siblings at St.Paul's Ramsey and Trinity Methodist Church, Douglas, the St.Mary's organ has a striking pipe display,in

which even the wooden pedal pipes are painted like Easter Eggs! The overall effect is charming, and perfectly in keeping with this country church. All the metal (round) display pipes are dummies, as almost all the pipework is enclosed within a swell box. As



with all this firm's instruments, the construction is solid, the mechanism robust and rather heavy to play, and the voicing of the pipework refined and dignified, as is the wooden builder's nameplate with its carved letters and detail of tiny scrolls at each end. The swell shutter control is still by means of the original trigger pedal.

Two of the stops, the Bourdon and Stopped Diapason, are split into bass (notes 1 - 12) and treble sections. The Bourdon is unusual from a modern standpoint, in that it is found on the manual keys (the pedals having no stop of their own, but acting merely as

'pulldowns' to the manual.) There is one 'prepared for' stop (i.e. a stop which the church intended to have, but which was never installed.) The builder, as is customary, has left space for the pipes within the instrument, and a blank stop head on the console as a reminder. As is also customary, this stop was never installed, so the instrument remains uncompleted, more than 100 years after its opening. Any reader who wishes to pay for the completion of this organ, waiting, as it has been, since 1878, is invited to contact Peter Jones!

