

# St. Catherine's, Port Erin



**Gt: 8,8,8,8,4,4, Sw: 16,8,8,8,8,4,2,8, Ped: 16,16.**

This instrument, built in 1912, was the last new organ by Moses Morgan's firm. It is almost identical with that now found in Station Road Methodist Church, Port Erin, being larger by one stop (the Great Gamba.)

Despite their similarity, the two instruments are quite different in appearance and sound.

A large reason for this contrast is the fact that the St.Catherine's instrument has been

built in a chamber with a small opening into the church. This blunder by the architect is by no means uncommon, and as prevalent today as in Edwardian and Victorian times, and it robs the organ of much of its power and clarity. Nevertheless, the instrument contains many charming stops and fulfils its job in accompanying services in a modest but effective manner.





It is also interesting to see the differences with the Station Road organ of only one year earlier. The Swell Gedact, for instance, is wooden (whilst that of Station Road is metal) and the Swell Piccolo is much more effective as stopped wooden pipes than Station Road's open metal one was.

The casework here is light oak (a favourite with Morgan) presumably chosen to blend with the timber of the choir stalls.

Despite its enclosed position, the organ has given good service down the years, and is still working well.

