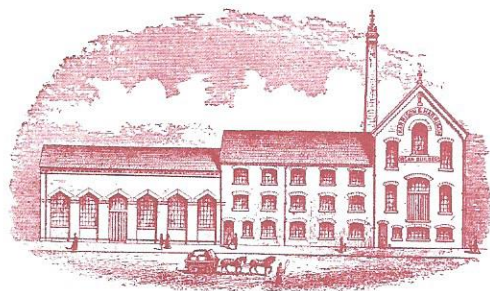


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16 May 2019

Steve Hill
Project Manager, St Michael & All Angels Church
Belvedere
The Green
Middleton Tyas
DL10 6QY

Dear Mr Hill

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH MIDDLETON TYAS
REFURBISHMENT OF CONACHER ORGAN
ORGANBUILDER'S POST CONSERVATION REPORT

1. **Location.** St Michael & All Angels church is located in Middleton Tyas, North Yorkshire, and is Church of England within the Diocese of Leeds. Middleton Tyas is a rural village situated one mile from Scotch Corner and lies within a conservation area, with a population of around 600. The church is Grade 1 listed and dates back to 1140. It is well maintained and in very good condition. The organ was manufactured by Conacher of Huddersfield in 1868 and is a very fine musical instrument. It is located in the West most bay of the North aisle next to the bell tower.
2. **Organ History.** Built by Conacher in 1868, the organ was first restored by Harrison & Harrison of Durham in 1887. It was then rebuilt in 1930, according to a brass plate on the console doors, by an unknown organ builder. The last major restoration was carried out by Davison & Brighton of Durham in 1981. The same company has tuned and maintained the organ twice yearly since that date. The organ is recorded on the National Pipe Organ Register as N12041.
3. **Contractor.** The refurbishment of the organ has been carried out by Harrison & Harrison of St John's Road, Durham DH7 8YH.
4. **Dates of Refurbishment Programme.** The refurbishment programme commenced on 15 February and was completed on 12 April 2019.
5. **Conservation Report.** A survey was carried out by Mr Duncan Mathews of Harrison & Harrison on 2 July 2018. The Conservation report is dated 18 December 2018 and was signed off by their Director, Duncan Mathews.
6. **Record of Conservation.**
 - a. The instrument was partly dismantled, the pedalboard and pedaljack being sent to the workshop in Durham for complete overhaul. The pedalboard was completely overhauled and new stainless steel guidepins

were installed in place of the rusted originals. New leather packing was installed to take up wear. The woodwork was cleaned and refurbished. The pedaljack and its control mechanism were overhauled and releathered. The wooden pipes were removed and examined inside the church.

b. On dismantling, considerable damage caused by woodworm infestation was found, and the blower box, trunking from the box to the swell and part of the swell box had to be replaced. Some of the wooden pipes were also affected by woodworm and sections of these were cut out and replaced with fresh wood.

c. The entire organ was treated by Timberwise using a Permethrin vapour, and, wherever accessible, the wooden structure had treatment brush painted on. The roof timbers above the organ, which had active infestation, were treated with brushed on insecticide.

d. Many of the pneumatic lead tubes inside the organ were found to be damaged and these were replaced. All tubing was made secure and fixed soundly in place. Rusted screws in the soundboard were removed and replaced where necessary. To ease future working inside the organ framework, a wooden platform has been built that improves access to the swell box and protects the lead tubing.

e. The blower motor was removed and sent to SEM Electrical Ltd in Darlington for overhaul. The electricians found the control box and wiring to be unsafe, and this was entirely replaced.

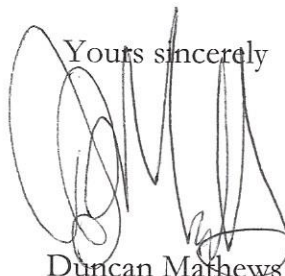
f. On completion of the works programme, the organ was retuned.

g. Because the organ was so badly affected by woodworm, a full survey of the church was carried out by Timberwise, and other areas have been found to be infected. A quotation for the treatment of the whole church has been provided and the work will be carried out in late September to protect the bats – this time frame has been agreed with Natural England.

h. Whilst the church building is in very good order, it is due for Quinquennial inspection in July 2019. The architect is Bill Glaister of Overton Architects who are located at IDC, Valley Drive, Ilkley, West Yorkshire LS29 8AL

7. **Care and Maintenance.** The organ will be tuned and checked over in July 2019, and thereafter at six monthly by Harrison & Harrison.

Yours sincerely



Duncan Mathews
Director