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24th September 2021

Organ at Shalden Church, Hampshire Post-Conservation Treatment Report

The organ is located at the Parish Church of SS. Peter & Paul, Shalden, Hants, in the Diocese of Winchester.

The organ stands in the vestry arch on the North side of the chancel. The musical specification is recorded in Appendix 1, attached

The organ, Op. 1010 was supplied new by JW Walker & Sons in 1873. The order was placed by the Reverend W. Crawford in July 1872.

The instrument was paid for by Mr. Crawford himself and, although installed in the church, remained his property until give to the church by his widow in 1892

A scanned copy of the corresponding Order Book page is attached.

Conservation and repairs were undertaken by JW Walker & Sons, Ltd. in 1997, the soundboard overhauled, the pallets re-covered.

One particular item was not included in the works. We wrote at the time:

The bellows is in reasonable condition and, unless internal examination shews otherwise, it likely has more useful service to give. The leather in those days was more durable than that which is available today.

In 2016 it was noted that there was some cracking along the seams and the external leatherwork would crumble if scratched, indicating that it had de-natured.

In August - September 2021, as a precautionary measure and following some damage by mice that post dated the 1996 works, the double rise wind reservoir was releathered. The cuckoo feeders have been retained in their pre-existing coverings. A severely damaged section of the top panel was replaced.

Photographs of the work in progress and of the re-leathered reservoir prior to re-installation are attached.

In the course of these works, the organ was partly dismantled leaving the building frame, soundboard, Bourdon chest, action and case front in position. The wood pipes from GG of the 8ft rank were removed to the workshop for repair, the stoppers releathered.

The lead conveyances that supply the front pipes and bass off note blocks adjacent to the soundboard have been re-formed, damaged sections replaced with new.

The mechanical key action has been adjusted, damaged felt at the key thumper rail replaced.

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Parish Church of SS. Peter & Paul, Shalden Appendix 1

Specification

Pitch: C = 528 at 60F (Society of Arts)

WP: 3 1/4"

Compass: CC1 to g56

Mechanical key- and drawstop actions

Enclosed except for the fronts

Bourdon Bass	12	Separate chest, by ventil
Open Diapason 8	56	
Dulciana 8	44	
Wald Flute Treble	44	
Stopt Diapason Bass	12	
Principal 4	56	
Flute 4	56	
Fifteenth 2	56	

Three composition Pedals