

**All Hallows,
Ringmore,
Devon**

**Quotation for
Cleaning & Overhaul of
the Organ**

May 2008

Midland Organ, Hele & Company Ltd.

Builders, Restorers, and Maintainers of Quality Pipe Organs since 1860

Unit 5, Hall Farm Estate, Burton Lazars, Leicestershire. LE14 2UN. England.

Tel: 01664 566348 E-mail: admin@midlandorgan.co.uk

All Hallows, Ringmore, Devon

The Organ by Henry Bevington & Son, 1863

Manual CC-f (54 notes)

Open Diapason 8
Stop Diapason Bass 8
Claribel 8
Dulciana 8 tc (common bass)
Gamba 8
Principal 4

Pedal CC-f (30 notes)

Bourdon 16

Manual to Pedal Coupler

Straight concave pedalboard
Mechanical key action to manuals and pedals

The cost of the above work will be £5,975 (plus VAT). This will be payable in instalments spread throughout the duration of the work. The VAT should be recoverable under the Listed Places of Worship Scheme (see www.lpwscheme.org for further details).

This price does not include the cost of paint conservation, which I would suggest be done subsequently. We can recommend a couple of firms who are specialists in this work, and used to working with organs. Experience suggests that grant aid would be forthcoming for this in addition to the mechanical overhaul of the instrument, although from slightly different sources.

The work will take around three months to carry out. Such work would put the organ into such condition as to easily see it through the next 80-100 years assuming periodic routine maintenance and tuning is carried out.

All work is subject to our standard terms of business, available on request. This quotation holds good if a contract is signed within twelve months. Following this period the price will need to be reviewed in the light of increasing costs.

14th May, 2008

I look forward to hearing from you in due course. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would be very glad to carry out the work to this instrument, and could promise a careful and sympathetic approach to the work. I am quite sure that some grant aid will be available to assist with the cost, and details of sources are enclosed separately.

Christopher Gray
Managing Director

Display Pipes

The front pipes of the organ, which do speak will be carefully cleaned. Again it may be beneficial to employ the services of a paint conservator once these are returned to the organ, as the floral Arts & Crafts style decoration is extremely fine, and should be conserved.

Wind System

The reservoir is double-rise, and in poor condition. It will be removed to the workshop and fully re-leathered in best quality sheepskin. The waste-pallet (which is leaking badly) will be re-leathered. The counterbalances will be re-japaned, and new spacers provided.

The blower will be cleaned and rewired, with new switching fitted.

Voicing

The organ is not speaking quite as it should at present due to the condition of the pipework, however once restored, its fine voice will speak once more. This is an instrument of excellent quality, and when restored will be something of which the church can be duly proud.

On completion of the erection work, the pipework will be regulated and fine-tuned. This is a very important part of the work, and we will take care to ensure that the instrument is properly balanced. We shall require quiet in the church at this time.

Insurance

The company maintains Public Liability insurance to a level of £10 million, and insurance for all parts of organs in our workshop or in transit. The church is however responsible for the insurance of all parts of the organ on site, whether assembled or not.

Facilities

Whilst our organbuilders are on site, the church shall afford all reasonable facilities, including use of lighting and power.

All Hallows, Ringmore

Quotation for Cleaning & Overhaul of the Organ

To clean and overhaul the instrument by Henry Bevington & Son, 1863.

Introduction

Henry Bevington (c.1775-1839) learned his trade with Robert Gray in London, before establishing his own business about 1794 in Greek Street, Soho, which was a thriving area of instrument manufacture and furniture-making. In 1838, Bevington's sons, Henry [jnr] (1813-87), and Alfred (1817 -?) were taken into partnership. In the 1840's, the firm embraced the German system, building a new instrument under the direction of Gauntlett at the Mechanics Institute, Nottingham in 1849, later building large instruments for St Martin-in-the-fields in 1854, and the Foundling Hospital in 1855.

The instrument at Ringmore is one of Bevington junior's many chancel organs, designed by his brother, Martin. These won medals at the 1862 International Inventions Exhibition in London, (and subsequently at the 1885 Inventions Exhibition at Kensington). These chancel organs served a particular marketplace mainly for village churches where an organ was required to accompany the new robed choirs which had returned to the chancel following the efforts of the Cambridge ecclesiologists in the 1840's and 50's. A vicar, John Baron, of Upton Scudamore in Wiltshire, published in 1858 a very well-received book entitled 'Scudamore Organs, or Practical Hints respecting Organs for Village Churches and Small Chancels on Improved Principles', and it is true to say that the Bevington firm leapt onto the bandwagon in designing their range of chancel instruments almost immediately.

The Ringmore instrument is certainly at the larger and more impressively decorated end of the Bevington chancel-organ repertoire, and is well-made and deserving of attention. It is in reasonable condition, but dirty, with many of the windways in the pipes choked with accumulated grime. Once cleaned, with the worn parts restored, it will continue to give service for another century or more.

The organ appears to have been rebuilt quite early on, almost certainly by the Bevington firm. As supplied, it had only 13 pedal Bourdon pipes, and probably a similar sized pedalboard, but was later altered to extend the pedal compass to a full 30 notes, with the pedal pipes on a separate windchest. This was most likely done in the late 1870's or early 1880's from the style of action-components used.

Proposed Schedule of Works

It is Company policy to use original materials and methods wherever the former is available, and the latter practical.

Manual Soundboard

The manual soundboard is in good condition. It will be stripped to the table, which will be checked for trueness and re-graphited. The pallets will be cleaned, and the pallet springs will be cleaned and wiped with a protective coating, and adjusted.

The exterior will be cleaned, bedding leather on the faceboards replaced where necessary, and the sliders checked for smooth and accurate operation and re-graphited. The upperboards will be thoroughly cleaned and the undersides and sliders regraphited, and rackboards and stays repaired or replaced where necessary.

Key Action

The key action to the manual is mechanical throughout, transmission being by means of trackers, backfalls, squares and rollerboards. All action components will be dismantled, fully cleaned and reassembled, repairs being made as necessary. There are several sets of Holt squares in the pedal key action, the leather bushing of which has decayed badly. These will be dismantled and rebushed with new leather bushings in both arms.

The wooden rollerboard will be dismantled and cleaned. The backfalls will be cleaned and repairs made as necessary, making sure of good tolerances within the combs.

New phosphor-bronze action-wires will be provided to replace any iron wires in the actions. All other wooden trackers and stickers will be retained, subject only to cleaning. New leather buttons and red cloth washers will be fitted throughout.

When re-installed, the key-action will be adjusted for optimum performance and lightness of touch.

The pedal key action is mechanical, by means of a rollerboard, and Holt squares. The squares will be rebushed with new leather bushing. The metal rollerboard will be dismantled and cleaned, the rollers re-japanned, and the arms rebushed with leather.

Coupler Actions

The mechanical pedal coupler will be dismantled and cleaned, and checked for accurate operation. Special attention will be paid to the tolerances of the backfalls in the combs, and any tightness in the centres. The metal rollerboard will be dismantled and cleaned, the rollers re-japanned, and the arms rebushed with leather. New leather

buttons, cloths and felt bushings being supplied, with new phosphor-bronze wires where appropriate.

Drawstop Action

The drawstop action to the manual is mechanical. All will be cleaned and overhauled to take up wear in the centres, new pins being fitted where appropriate. Centres will be lubricated, ironwork re-japanned, and re-felted where necessary. The pedal drawstop action is by means of a ventril. This will be dismantled and the actions and pallet fully re-leathered.

Console and Casework

The manual keyboard will be fully overhauled, the centre and bat pins being cleaned and adjusted. The keys have unfortunately at some stage been recovered in a very poor material, and we will recover these again in grained ivorine, which will both look and feel rather nicer. New key-felts will be provided. The drawstop heads will be cleaned and re-blocked, and new bushing provided. New discreet lighting will be supplied to the music-desk and kneeboard.

The casework will be cleaned down and the lustre restored using our wax restorative. We would advise that the decorated panel be sent to a specialist paint conservator for attention.

Pedalboard

The pedalboard is a little loose at present. The pedal keyboard frame will be dismantled, and the pedal keys will be cleaned, repaired, and re-polished. Any broken dollies will be repaired and the springs cleaned and re-set. New felts will be provided and all will be re-assembled for quiet operation.

Manual Pipework

All metal pipes will be washed, minor repairs carried out, and new tuning slides fitted throughout. The zinc front pipes will be cleaned and repaired and wax polished, and new internal tuning slides fitted.

Wooden pipework will be cleaned and carefully inspected for signs of splits; any being repaired as necessary using best quality traditional warm animal glue. Stoppers will be greased and re-leathered as necessary. Clarabella pipes will receive new lead lids. The lowest four notes of the Open Diapason are open wood pipes. These have had dubious pieces of wood attached to their tops in an effort to tune them. We will remake these to the correct length, and provide better tuning arrangements.

All pipework will be carefully racked-in following repair to ensure good support by the rackboards.



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Phillip Errett,
The Fairway,
Ringmore,
Kingsbridge,
Devon.
TQ7 4HW

14th May, 2008

Dear Mr Errett,

Ringmore, All Hallows

Following my visit to the church some weeks since, I have pleasure in eventually enclosing our quotation for the work required to the organ. It really is a delightful little instrument, and should be treasured. The decoration particularly marks it out above similar Bevington organs, and must have added enormously to the original cost. I am enclosing our grants guide, which I hope you will find helpful – should you require any assistance with preparation of any material for applications, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Although the pipes were cleaned a few years ago, they are fairly dirty again, and are covered in bat droppings. These droppings are highly corrosive to the metal pipes, which is one reason why I am recommending that this be done in addition to all of the other work required.

I hope that the PCC will be able to approve the work on the instrument. We would not be able to do it until 2009 as we have a full orderbook for this year, however it will not deteriorate significantly during the course of the year, and that will give you time to raise the necessary funds in any case.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Gray
Managing Director





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Funding for Organ Works

Approaches to charitable funding bodies for organ works can be made in a number of areas, depending on what work is being undertaken. The key is to think laterally - it might, for instance, be possible to receive a grant to restore an organ case as a church furnishing, or to put forward the fact that having the organ restored will be of educational benefit in that young players will be able to use it as a practice facility, or indeed have lessons on it.

The Charitable funds listed below are thus divided into areas of remit:

1) Organ Specific

The Diapason Trust,

No.1 Cottage,
Mount Pleasant,
Upper Colwell,
Malvern.
Worcestershire.
WR13 6DH.

The ON Organ Fund,

8 Hove Park Manor,
Goldstone Crescent,
Hove.
East Sussex.
BN3 6LX.

The Organs Committee, Council for the Care of Churches,

Church House,
Great Smith Street,
London, SW1P 3NZ
020 7898 1866 / 020 7898 1885

Christopher Hepworth Organs Trust,

Mr Joe Larter,
Burgh Hall,
Burgh St Margaret,
Fleggburgh,
Great Yarmouth,
Norfolk.
NR29 3AF.

Managing Director Christopher Gray MMus, BA(Hons), FASC, FGMS, ACertCM
Registered in England 6161432 VAT Registration GB 902 1372 68

The Pilling Trust,
Waterworth's Chartered Accountants,
Central Buildings,
Richmond Terrace,
Blackburn,
Lancashire.
BB1 7AP.
01254 51123

The McDonald Organ Trust,
Ms J Howard,
2 Bromfield Road,
London.
SW11 6RB

The Manifold Trust,
Shottesbrooke House,
Maidenhead,
Berkshire.
SL6 3SW
01628 825660

Eric Thompson Charitable Trust,
Mr Richard Fisher,
Clerk to the Trustees,
The Royal Philharmonic Society,
10 Stratford Place,
London.
WC1 1BA.

Sir George Thalben-Ball Memorial Charitable Trust,
Mr J. Rennert,
46 Doods Road,
Reigate,
Surrey.
RH2 0NL.

The John Loosemore Foundation,
Mr William Drake,
The John Loosemore Centre,
Chapel Street,
Buckfastleigh,
Devon.
TQ11 0AB.

2) Musical Instrument Repairs (General)

Salisbury Musical Instruments Trust,
Mrs S.M. Oglethorpe,
Hazelacre,
Slab Lane,
Downton,
Salisbury.
SP5 3PT

The Dorset Musical Instruments Trust,
Hon. Zara Percy,
The Bothy,
Minterne,
Dorchester,
Dorset.
DT2 7AX.

3) Repair & Maintenance of Church Furnishings

The Listed Places of Worship Scheme,
PO Box 609,
Newport,
South Wales.
NP10 8QD.
0845 6015945
www.lpwscheme.org.uk

The Foundation for Sport and the Arts,
PO Box 20,
Liverpool.
L13 1HB
0151 259 5505

The Garfield Weston Foundation,
Weston Centre,
Bowater House,
68 Knightsbridge,
London.
SW1X 7LQ.
0207 5896363

The Summerfield Charitable Trust,
Rushbury Cottage,
Winchcombe,
Cheltenham.
GL54 5ZD.

The Chase Charity,
2 The Court,
High Street,
Harwell,
Oxfordshire.
OX11 0EY.

P.D. James Trust
Clerk to the Trustees
F.W. O'Shea,
Maxwell Batty & Co.,
Lonsdale Chambers,
27 Chancery Lane,
London. WC2A 1PA.

The Francis Carolus Eccles Bequest
Trustee: Judith Dorothea G. Scott OBE,
1 Market Place,
Wymondham,
Norfolk.
NR18 0AG.
01953 603372

4) Maintenance of Music in Churches

Music in Country Churches
The Secretary to the Trustees,
Messrs. Farrer & Co.,
66 Lincoln's Inn Fields,
London. WC2A 3LH.

Lord St. Audries' Memorial Fund
D.F. Perrens (Trustee)
Stoke House,
26 High Street,
Stogursey,
Bridgwater,
Somerset.
TA5 1TA.

Ouseley Trust (Choral Foundations only)

Mr Martin Williams,
Flat 127 Coleherne Court,
Old Brompton Road,
London.
SW5 0EB.

Ecclesiastical Music Trust,

Mr W.E. Vernor-Miles,
Vernor Miles & Noble,
5 Raymond Buildings,
Grays Inn,
London.
WC1R 5DD

5) General Musical (Appreciation & Advancement)

Countess of Munster Musical Trust,

Mrs G Ure,
Wormley Hill,
Godalming,
Surrey.
GU8 5SG.