

The Collins Organ

The Parish of The Good Shepherd



The parish organ was built by Peter Collins of Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire (England) and dedicated on Pentecost 1995. A small, two-manual mechanical action instrument, it incorporates elements of eighteenth-century British organs. The organ has a non-identical twin located in the music studio of Mr. Kenneth Ryder, Organist of the Parish Church of Saint Peter Mancroft, Norwich (England), in his house in the Close of Norwich Cathedral. Designed primarily for teaching and practice, it shares the same basic case and action design with Good Shepherd's instrument.

Collins Organ Specification

Lower Manual

Sesquialtera II

Doublete 2'

Spindle Flute 4'

Gedeckt 8'

Upper Manual

Fifteenth 2'

Principal 4'

Dulciana 8'

Chimney Flute 8'

Pedal

Bourdon 16'

Zimbelstern

Upper/Pedal (stop knob)

Lower/Pedal (hook down)

Suspended action to upper Manual, backfall action to lower Manual

The organ was revoiced in 2003/2004 to maximize volume and fundamental tone. The Lower Man/Pedal coupler was added at this time.

The Zimbelstern was added in 2009.

Past Organs at Good Shepherd

The parish's original organ, a two-manual instrument possibly by the Estey company of Brattleboro, Vermont, served until 1954, when it was replaced by an electronic organ substitute. In the 1970s parts from several dismantled pipe organs were combined by local organ builders to form a five-stop instrument located in a specially-built shelf at the rear of the church and played from a console in the chancel.

Never considered adequate either visually or musically, this organ remained in place through Easter 1995 and was sold for parts in preparation for the installation of the Collins organ.