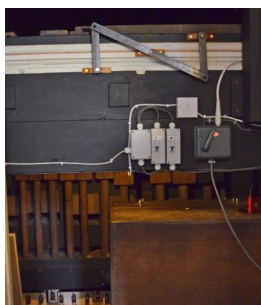


Our pipe organ: the hidden parts

The console and golden display pipes are just a small part of our pipe organ. Most of the working parts are out of sight.



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On the ground floor

The white door on the left as you look at the gallery opens the blower room. Inside is an electric blower that sends air to the organ pipes. Air is stored in reservoirs (bellows) until it is needed. Then it is blown through wooden trunking to the pipes the organist chooses to play.

The blower box with the main air reservoir (bellows) above it

Bellows, with cast iron weights for pressure, deliver air to the pipes

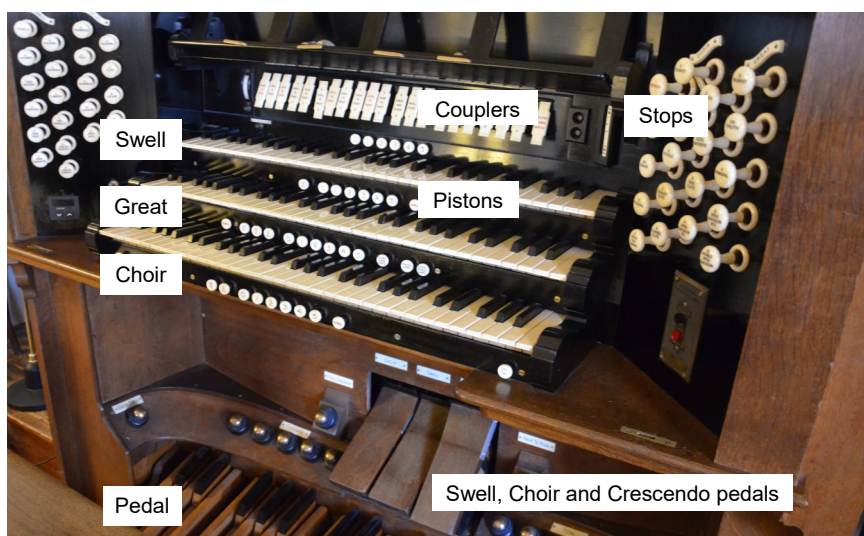


Up in the gallery

Our organ is divided, with pipes on each side of the console. The organ is in four sections: **Choir**, **Great**, **Swell** and **Pedal** pipes, each of which make different sounds.

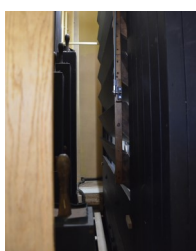
The console

All the pipes are linked to and operated from the console. Stops select the types of pipe to be played. Keyboards for hands and feet play particular notes when stops are pulled out. Pistons and couplers allow the organist to link various keyboards and pedals together.



To the left of the console

On this side are **Swell** pipes, some of which make solo sounds, for example the 'hautboy' (oboe). These are enclosed in a large box with front shutters that the organist controls with a pedal to make the sound from these pipes louder or softer.



Swell louvred shutters partly open

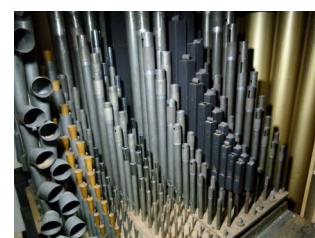
Most of the **Pedal** organ pipes are also on this side. These produce the deeper notes that form a bass line.

The front gold pipes do not play – they are just there to match the other side.

To the right of the console

At the front are the **Great** pipes that produce the pure organ sound. A few Pedal pipes are on this side too.

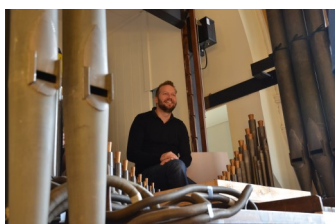
Behind these are the **Choir** pipes, such as those in the flute family, which produce a softer sound for accompanying singers. They are also enclosed in a large shuttered box. This is where the new pipes prepared for by Henry Willis III were added.



Ranks of Great pipes

A cleaner, bigger space for easier maintenance

During restoration the organ arches were painted to minimise dust. Pipes were moved forward and wooden frames rebuilt to make space for the new pipes and improve access for maintenance.



Enlarging the boxed area for Choir pipes



Painting the arches during restoration



Bringing the wooden organ frame forward