

ST GILES-IN-READING

The organ was built by J C Bishop in 1829, and rebuilt by J W Walker in 1867. In 1872 the church was rebuilt and the organ was moved from the west gallery to the north aisle of the chancel, where it was to remain for more than 120 years.

In 1888 the organ was again rebuilt by Walker, and it is essentially in this form that we find it today. However, the twentieth century brought various changes. A Trombone (prepared for in 1888) was installed in 1920, and the reeds were revoiced in 1950. In 1961 the manual actions were entirely replaced with electro-pneumatic mechanism; the actions for the Pedal Organ and drawstops remained mechanical.

In 1996 Harrison & Harrison were entrusted with the task of restoring the organ as closely as possible to its 1888 condition. Walker's work of the period was closely studied, and all replacements were made in matching style. New tracker actions were built for the manuals and for the pedal couplers; the console and the remaining tracker actions were carefully restored, and a new straight pedalboard was provided. Changes to the pipework since 1888 were reversed: the chorus reeds, which had been fitted with harmonic trebles, have been revoiced in the original style. New pipes were provided for the Swell Vox Humana and Pedal Trombone.

The organ was once again installed at the west end, in a new gallery designed by Roderick Gradidge. It was rededicated on 18th March 1998.

PEDAL ORGAN

Open Diapason (wood)	16
Bourdon	16
Violoncello	8
Trombone	16

CHOIR ORGAN

Gemshorn	8
Lieblich Gedackt	8
Dulciana	8
Keraulophon	8
Principal.....	4
Harmonic Flute.....	4
Piccolo	2
Clarionet.....(tenor c).....	8

GREAT ORGAN

Double Diapason	16
Open Diapason	8
Horn Diapason.....	8
Stopped Diapason/ Wald Flute treble	8
Salicional.....	8
Principal.....	4
Twelfth	2 ² / ₃
Fifteenth.....	2
Sesquialtera15·19·22	III
Trumpet	8

SWELL ORGAN

Double Diapason	16	
Open Diapason	8	
Stopped Diapason.....	8	
Echo Gamba	8	
Vox Angelica.....(tenor c).....	8	
Principal.....	4	
Fifteenth.....	2	
Mixture	15·19·22	III
Horn	8	
Oboe	8	
Vox Humana.....	8	

Tremulant (lever pedal)

COUPLERS

Choir to Pedal
Great to Pedal
Swell to Pedal
Swell to Great
Swell to Choir

ACCESSORIES

Lever Swell pedal
Four composition pedals to the Great Organ
Three composition pedals to the Swell Organ

The actions are mechanical.
The manual compass is 56 notes
the pedal 30 notes.
The pitch is c = 528.

THE ORGAN RESTORED BY
HARRISON & HARRISON
1998