

*A record of the  
work carried out  
on the organ of  
St Margaret's  
Parish Church,  
Ipswich;  
by  
Bishop & Son,  
Ipswich  
2013*



## *The history of the organ*

- 1859 – two manual organ installed in Holy Trinity, Bedford by J W Walker & Sons
- 1891 – third manual added and swell compass extended
- 1981 – organ purchased by St Margaret's Church and installed in present position by Bishop & Son



Holy Trinity Bedford 1841  
Picture © Bedfordshire Libraries, 2008



*The organ is cleaned & repaired*



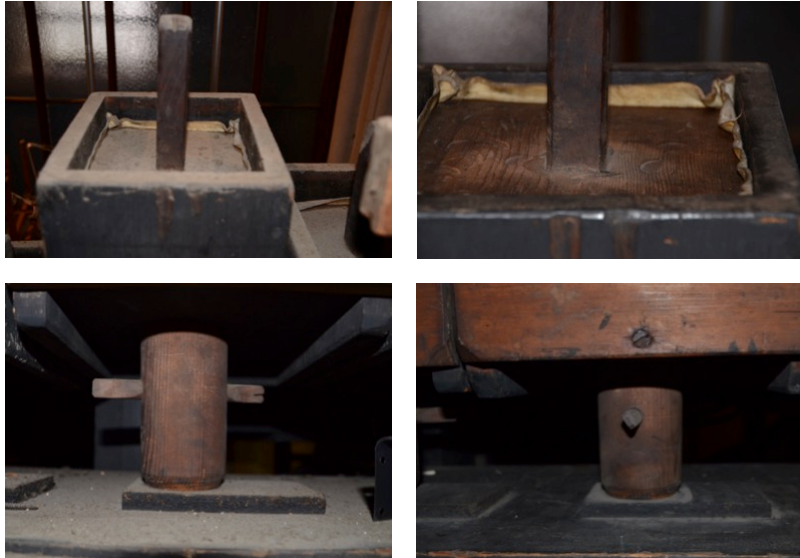
**Cleaned and polished**



**The black metal bar  
is part of the link  
from the stop knob  
to the soundboard**



## Dust and grit removed



## Dusted, cleaned and reinstalled



## The pedal trombone is made more secure with extra ties and support



Before



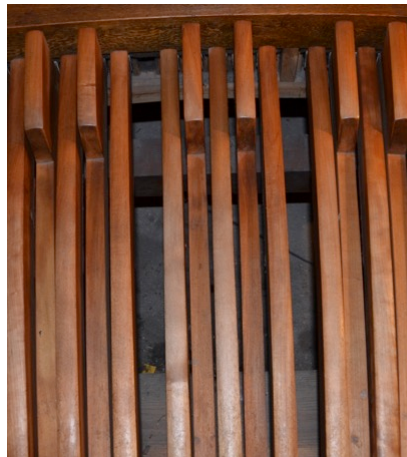
After

THE 16th PEDAL TROMBONE WAS GIVEN  
BY STUART & JUNE GOY IN MEMORY  
OF THEIR PARENTS MARCH 1985.

## Please don't drop any more service sheets or pencils beneath the pedals!

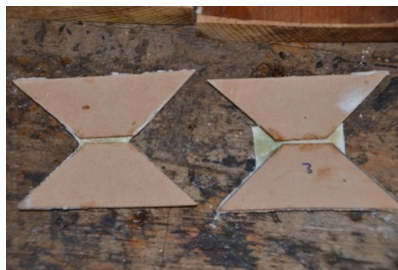


Before



After

## Leather and ribs are prepared and glued to repair bass pallet motors



## *The tuning is adjusted*

- The organ was tuned to **A452.5, Old Philharmonic, the common pitch in 1850**
- The pitch has been adjusted to **A440 the standard pitch of 2013**



Year	Frequency	Common Name
	A=466	Renaissance pitch
	A=415	Baroque pitch
1750	A=422	Classical pitch
1813-42	A=433	Philharmonic pitch
1850	A=452.5	Old Philharmonic pitch
1859	A=435	French or International
1896	A=439	New Philharmonic pitch
1917-39	A=440	American Standard now adopted as International pitch

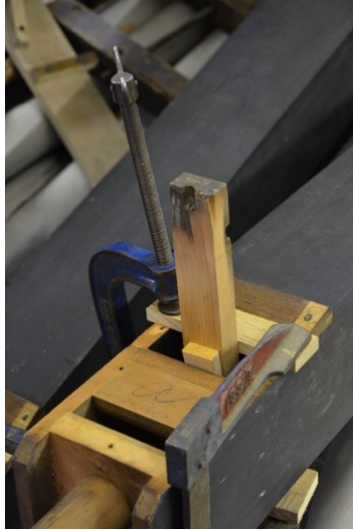
**Solder is prepared, a new piece of metal inserted in the pipe, scored and a new tuning curl made**



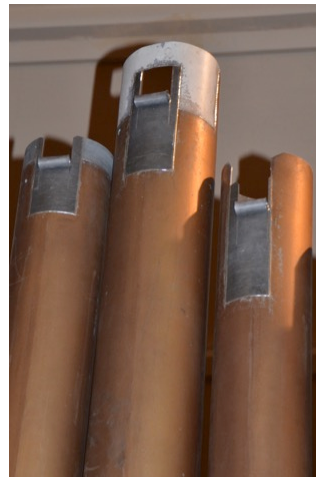
**New metal is let into pipes and tuning curls made**



**New mouths are made for some of the wooden pipes**



**Temporary repairs are made good**

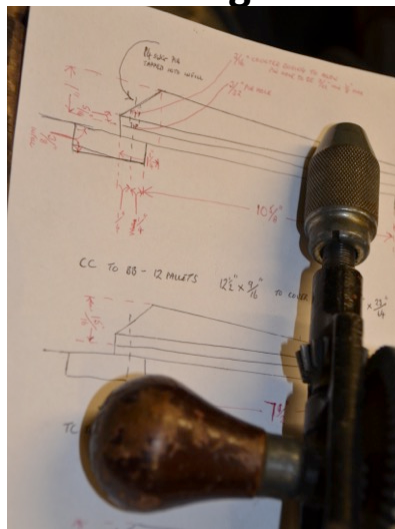


## *The swell action is lightened*



The pallet holes on the swell soundboard have been narrowed. The lighter coloured wood has been glued in

## **New pallets are made from the technical drawing and checked against the soundboard grid**

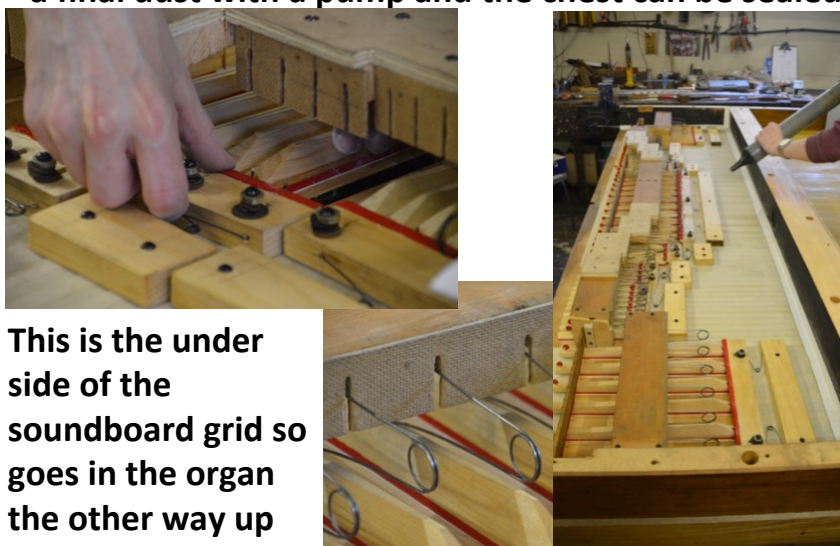




**The new pallets are much thinner,  
shallower and lighter than the old ones**



**The pallets are put in place & held in with springs –  
a final dust with a pump and the chest can be sealed**

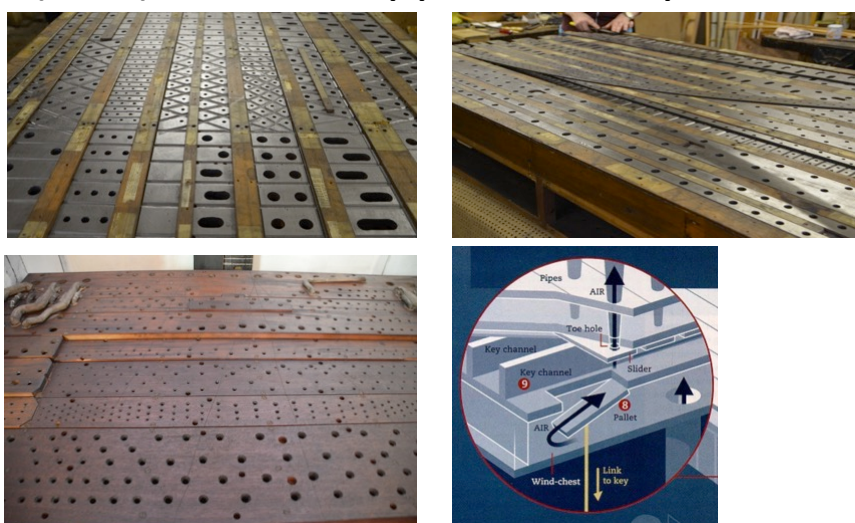


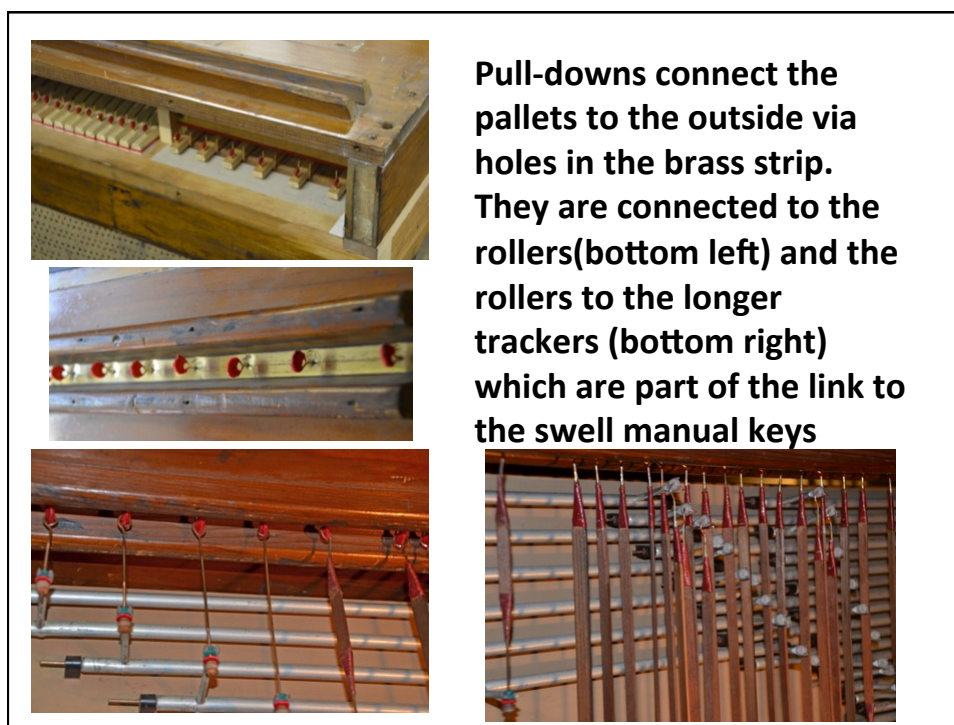
**This is the under  
side of the  
soundboard grid so  
goes in the organ  
the other way up**

**At least it was not raining!**

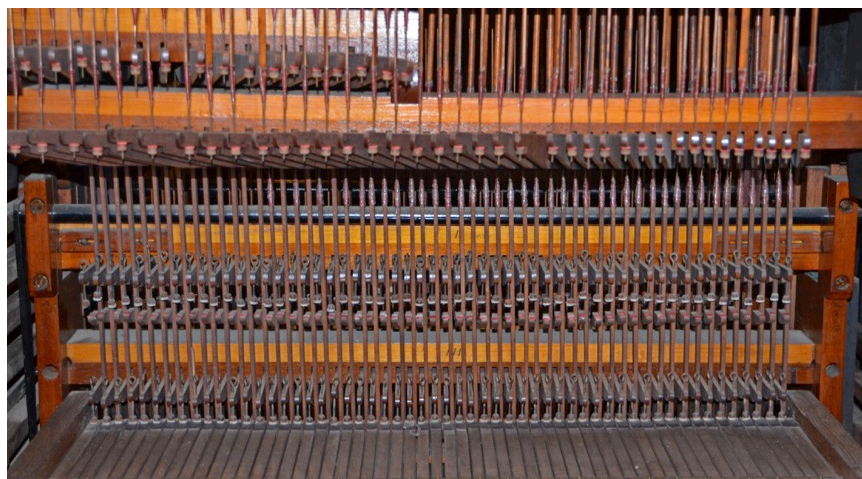


**The soundboard is put together, the sliders (which connect to the stops) are added and the upper (or toe) boards for the pipes to sit in are placed on top**





**Behind the music desk, showing the start of the tracker mechanism**

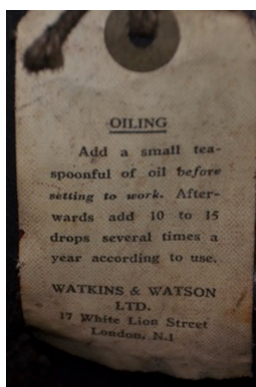


## *Interesting innards!*



The swell table with bearers in place showing the slideways for the stop sliders

**No need for anyone to pump the organ by hand when this is working**

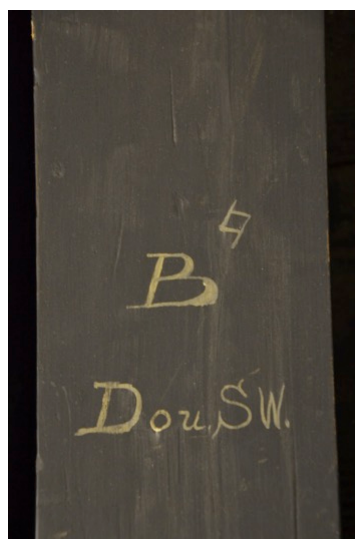


**These parts, labeled in 1859, all belong to one pipe**



### **An interesting pipe**

Although most of the pipes have the common mid 19<sup>th</sup> century standard designation for the note this one has been labeled by someone used to the older English designation and a “natural” sign has been used as well (in the old English system B was used for what we now call A#)



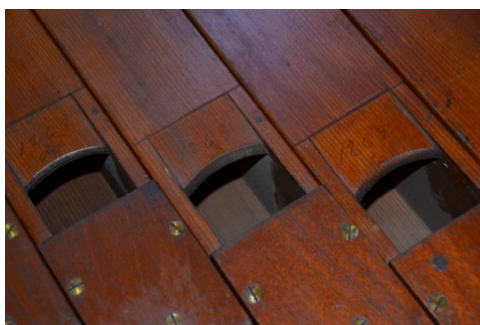
## **This gets complicated!**

**This is how the pedals are coupled to the manuals.**

**From the top:  
Choir to pedal  
Great to pedal  
Swell to pedal**



## **A date!**



**These pipes for the Echo Gamba Bass were made in 1890, as we know the number 1263 is the Job Number for the work done then**

**Does the JW refer to the firm or were they made and signed by John James Walker the son?**

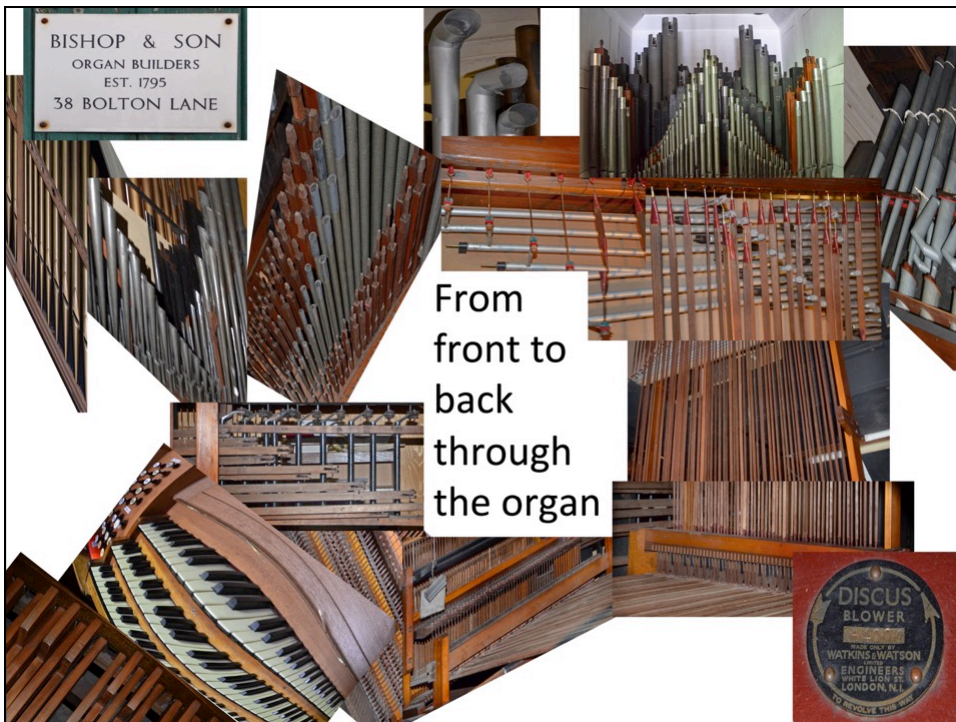


## Some more dates!

This piece of paper refers to the infamous floods in Lynmouth, Devon in 1952



These two are from The Photographic News September 21 1888



From front to back through the organ

*The rededication  
of the organ of  
St Margaret's  
Parish Church,  
Ipswich;  
by  
The Bishop of  
Dunwich  
May 9<sup>th</sup> 2013*

