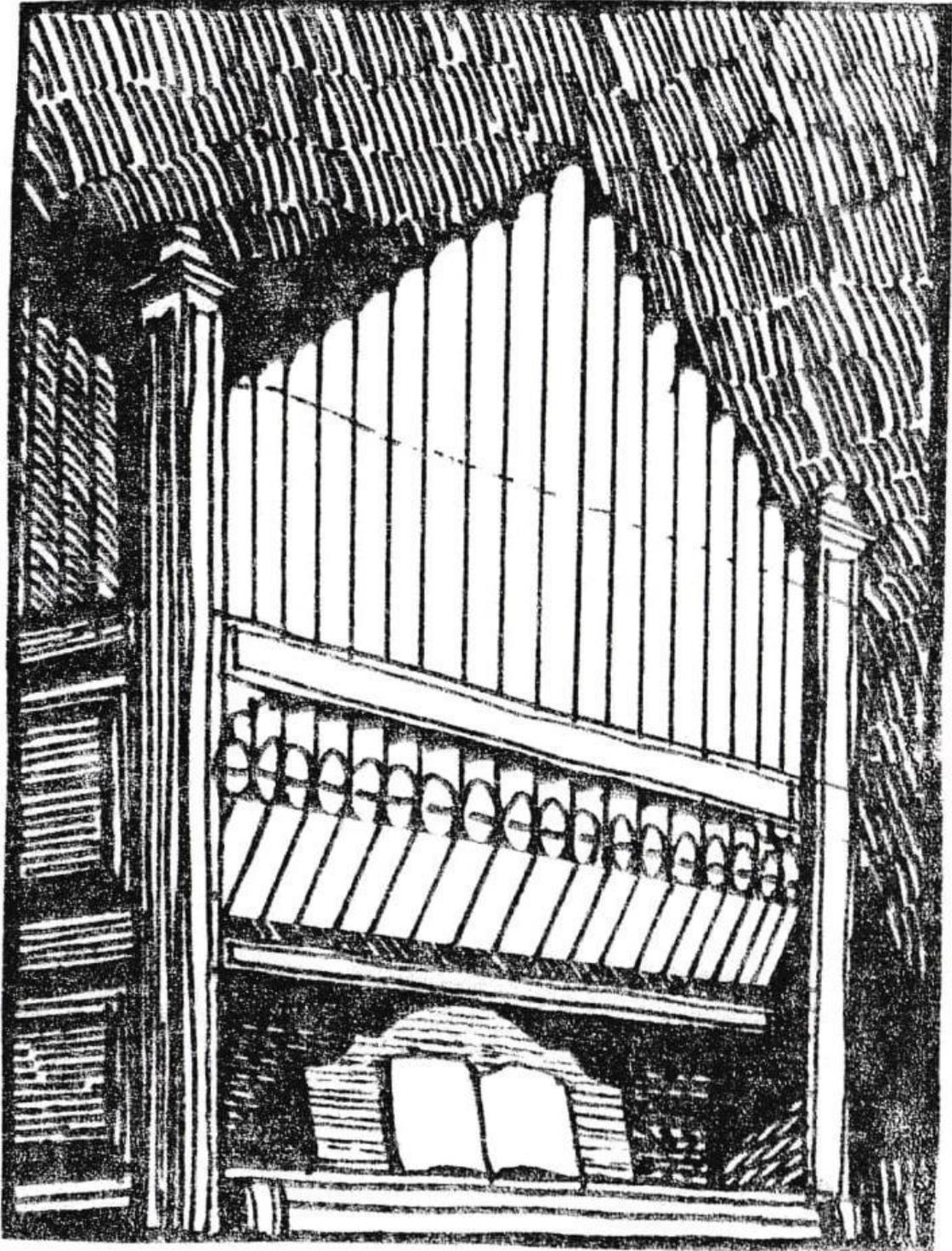


All Saints Cuddesdon



Organ Appeal

ALL SAINTS', CUDDESDON ORGAN APPEAL.

Over the last few months it has become increasingly clear that the old electronic organ, which has served Cuddesdon Church well for the last 33 years, has now reached the end of its useful life. The P.C.C. is advised that there is no alternative but to replace it. Just at the right time we have been presented with the opportunity of purchasing a fine Willis two manual pipe organ at a reasonable price. In order that we may seize this golden opportunity, we need your help.

Henry Willis is generally regarded as the greatest British organ builder of the last century. Known as 'Father' Willis, because his son and grandson followed him in the business, he was born in 1821 in London, learnt to play the organ as a boy, and was a regular organist into his seventies. He died in 1901. When only 26, he rebuilt Gloucester Cathedral organ, and never looked back. During his long career he built from scratch or rebuilt over a thousand organs, including those at some of the major cathedrals. Recently, the Royal Wedding has provided us all with a chance to hear one of his instruments, that in St. Paul's, London. His organs were noted for their sound construction and beautifully 'voiced' pipes, qualities equally to be found in the modest sized instruments he built for parish churches all over the country.

The particular organ which All Saints', Cuddesdon is to acquire dates from the end of his career. It was transferred from East Grinstead Convent to Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford a few years ago, while the main organ was being altered. It was played regularly by Simon Preston, now organist of Westminster Abbey, and by his assistants, for the complete range of cathedral services, as well as for some concerts and recitals. With the completion of their new organ, Christ Church put the Willis organ for sale. Thus Cuddesdon gained the opportunity of purchasing this sought-after instrument for £5,000, plus removal and installation. A comparable instrument built today would cost about £25,000.

The Willis organ will fit admirably into the north transept. The acquisition of the Willis organ will provide us with an instrument worthy of the range of services held throughout the church calendar in our beautiful parish church. Parishioners, visitors, College, Toc H. all will have their worship enriched and no longer disturbed by the malfunctioning of the old, electronic organ.

DEEDS OF COVENANT.

Deeds of Covenant are a very worthwhile way for individuals who pay income tax to give money to the Organ Fund. For example, for every £10 given, the Church is able to reclaim from the Inland Revenue an additional £4. 30. The deed must, however, be for a period in excess of 3 years.

Details of Deeds of Covenant can be obtained from:

Roy Green, 17, High Street, Cuddesdon. (Tel: 4551)

John McAra, Old School House, Cuddesdon. (Tel: 3042)

Nick Fazackerley, 9, Bishops Wood, Cuddesdon. (Tel: 4621)

Interest Free Loan. It is possible for a Deed of Covenant to be linked to an interest free loan, and here again details can be obtained from the above people.

Please fill in as necessary and return to the Organ Fund Treasurer,
Roy Green, 17, High Street, Cuddesdon, or to one of the clergy.

I would be prepared to make an interest free loan, coupled with a
covenant, value £ towards the cost of the organ.

I wish to take out a 4 year covenant for the Organ Fund at £
per annum.

I enclose a donation of £ towards the Organ Fund.

Name Address
.....

TEL. 43815 (PRIVATE)
47122 (OFFICE)

PCC July
THE DEANERY,
CHRIST CHURCH,
OXFORD.
OX1 1DP

16 July 1981

Dear David,

Willis Organ

I am glad to know that the Cuddesdon PCC is interested in the Willis Organ and I have now been able to consult the Chapter Treasurer about the price and arrangements for payment.

In its negotiations with Norwich School the Chapter agreed that the figure should be £5,000, but we are prepared to make a concession for Cuddesdon as follows: £2,000 on installation, £1,000 at the end of year one, £1,000 at the end of year two and £1,000 at the end of year three.

May I suggest that you get in touch with Mr. John Budgen of Bishop & Sons, Ipswich about the additional cost for removal and installation? I think you will find that it amounts to up to £2,000, although the nearness of Cuddesdon to Christ Church may somewhat reduce this figure. The Chapter has already agreed to pay for the repair of the rollerboards, if you understand what I mean (which is more than I can claim).

Wearing my hat as Chairman of the Governing Body, I agree that the College ought to make a generous contribution and I hope that this will enable the PCC to buy the instrument when it meets on 31 July. By that time, I shall be in Canada and away for five weeks and so may I suggest that, if you decide to buy, you should make arrangements with Mr. Budgen for the removal and installation without any further reference to me. All that is necessary is that you should make contact with the Precentor, Peter Bide (tel. 40118), so that the Cathedral knows what is happening. If the PCC decides that it does not wish to pursue the matter, would you please let Peter Bide know so that he can get in touch with Mr. Budgen and ask him to offer the instrument to the church in Somerset.

Yours ever,



The Principal Ripon College

BISHOP & SON
ORGAN BUILDERS

HEAD OFFICE & ACCOUNTS:
58, BEETHOVEN STREET,
LONDON, W. 10.

38, BOLTON LANE,
IPSWICH,
SUFFOLK.

TEL: 0473 55165.

19th. July 1981

K. Randall Esq.,
3 Butts Road,
Horspath, Oxford.

Dear Sir,

Willis organ at Christ Church

We have the Principal's letter about moving the organ from Christ Church to Cuddesdon, and your request for guidance on the cost involved in moving the organ.

There are certain items of restoration work yet to be done, the organ having come from very damp surroundings to the more favourable conditions at Oxford, and revealing some weaknesses in glued work in the soundboards.

Also requiring attention are the manual rollerboards, and we have taken these items into account.

The blower stands neatly against the back of the organ, but might need re-siting if space did not allow at your church, at a possible cost of say £45 - you probably have the measurements.

The dismantling, restoration work and reerection, with our customary careful tonal finishing in a new environment, would cost £ 2048. 00, to which must be added v.a.t. unless a present organ remains in situ. This includes transport by locally hired van, but excludes our two men's board and lodging for three weeks or a little more, which we imagine may well be provided by you without difficulty on the spot? This obviates guesswork on our part, and avoids unnecessary additional v.a.t. on the total.

As you gather, another church are very keen, so we shall be very happy to know the result of the meeting ten days hence as soon as we may, our best attention and services being assured to whichever eventually has the organ.

We are, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,


John Budgen pp B&S.

Farther

For the Willis Organ

Mrs Mrs Bobby

Mr Salmaraz Smith

Miss English

Mr Green

Mr ~~McAra~~ McAra

Mr Gardener

Rev Wilcox

Against

Mrs Fitchett

Mrs Reeves

no vote

C D Sellar

Miss Maguire

for 1000

1000