

St Anthony's, Onchan



Man I: 8,4,2/II Man II: 8,4,2 Ped: 16,8.

This instrument was built by the Suffolk firm of J W Walker, for the newly-built church. Founded in 1828, the company made a radical change of direction under new ownership in the 1970s, and produced a large number of mechanical action instruments notable for their attractive casework and bright voicing. The organ at St. Anthony's is one such instrument, and has 8 speaking stops over 2 manuals in a striking, light oak case. The keys are unusual, being wooden, with rosewood sharps and boxwood naturals. The instrument is physically small (some of the larger pipes have to be suspended under the

top of the case!) There is no swell-box, with the pipes of both manuals on the same soundboard.

Computer design and the production of many of the parts by high-quality woodworking machinery sets this instrument apart from almost all the other organs on the Island (the exception being the Harrison and Harrison organ at St. George's). The tone overall is unusually bright, with the flute stops being particularly attractive, with their soft, gentle sound. The organ can be powerful, but, because of its small size, this power takes the form of brilliance, rather than solidity.

