

AINSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH.

This organ is not the original one that was installed soon after the Church was built in 1892, that instrument was made by Higginson with the keyboard on the front aspect. The organ now in use was made by Alexander Young and has had two previous homes. Up to 1966 it had been in Jumbo Methodist Church Middleton Junction where Mr Alan Ogden was the organist, this Church was closing and Mr Ernest Ogden Alan's father mentioned to Mr Walter Earnshaw that they had a good organ if he new of anyone in the Bolton Circuit that may be in need of an instrument for a very reasonable figure. (David thinks £100.) Mr Earnshaw knew Darcy Lever Methodist's only had an harmonium so rang David and the ball started rolling, 1966 (This was how David got to know Alan) a group of men went from Darcy Lever each evening and dismantled after numbering and lettering each part and pipe then transported it on the local coal mans lorry. Everyone raised praises to the Lord with loud music from the organ when the task was completed. There had been people who doubted that they would see a good outcome to the task. Alas it only had a short life there because the Church closed in 1971. But it had made a big difference to the worship. As David was still attending Ainsworth in the evenings he knew that the organ was in need of a lot of expensive work. So Darcy Lever Methodist Church offered Ainsworth the organ as a gift knowing there were people who could and would move it. So after the Sunday School Anniversary Services May 1971 it was Bank Holiday Monday ~~the~~ work started on removing the organ, the parts of the replacement all ready having been transported once again on the coal lorry and all laid out on the Sunday School floor. One week later after a lot of late nights and sweat the first notes were played by John. When that installation was completed we had one wooden bracket spare which we have never found where it should be!!! There are some items from newspaper cuttings I am sure you will find interesting.