



## The building

St Peter's Church was designed by Revd J.G. Wilson and built in 1874 as a Congregational Church. By the 1950s the church was unused and in 1957 it was purchased by the Lutheran Church for the new Stawell congregation which was formed on 17 September 1958. The congregation has several items of historical significance and beauty. The altar and pulpit were originally built for St Luke's Lutheran Church in Murtoa by the noted wood-carver Robert Prenzel in the mid 1920s. The 17th century lectern was brought from England by John Kriewaldt and donated to the church.



## The Organ

St Peter's chamber organ was built in 1858 in the London factory of Hill & Son for Mr Peter Davis of Melbourne. In 1860 it was auctioned by Beauchamp Brothers for Mr Davis who was moving to Europe and was installed in St Andrew's Anglican Church, Brighton where it remained until 1923. It was then sold and moved to Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stratford until it was purchased by John Kriewaldt in 1968. The organ was moved to Stawell, where work was carried out to renovate the organ to a usable condition. John then donated it to the new St Peter's Lutheran Congregation in memory of his parents. Further work was completed in 1996. In 2008 the organ was added to the Victorian State Heritage Register. (VHR H2177). It is also listed on the Organ Historical Trust of Australia web page:



<https://ohta.org.au/organs/organs/StawallStPeters.html>

## Statement of Significance

St Peter's Hill chamber organ retains the original wind supply, pipes, keyboards and mechanical action. It is housed in a solid mahogany case with classical egg and dart moulding.

The organ is historically significant as it is the oldest substantial chamber organ in Victoria, the oldest Hill & Son organ in Australia and an extremely rare, if not unique, example in the world of a Hill & Son chamber organ from this period.



## The Organ Builder

**Australian Pipe Organs** has been chosen to restore the 1858 Hill & Son chamber organ in St Peter's Lutheran Church in Stawell, following the guidelines in the January 2018 quotation document. This firm has recently completed the full restoration of the 1870s George Fincham chamber organ in Fincham Hall (formerly the Methodist Church) at Dunkeld and in 2016 it completed the restoration of the 1868 George Fincham organ in the St Michael and All Angels Anglican Church in Talbot. It is currently restoring the c.1860 Hamlin & Son chamber organ at St Paul's Anglican Church, Clunes.

## Organ Historical Trust of Australia Consultant

Mr John Maidment OAM

## The Appeal

The Appeal is being coordinated by the Organ Historical Trust of Australia (OHTA) which through its listing on the Australian Tax Office Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) is able to offer tax-deductibility for donations above \$2.00. The OHTA was established in 1977 with the aims of preserving and documenting pipe organs. Information on the Trust can be found at [www.ohta.org.au](http://www.ohta.org.au)

## The Patrons

Ms Louise Staley M.P. and Cr Tony Driscoll, Mayor Northern Grampians Shire Council

## The Appeal Committee

Chairperson	Karen Jenkins
Secretary	John Simpkin
Treasurer	Ivan McDonald

Betty Gross, Neville Nitschke, Grant Fiedler  
Revd Christopher Raatz (Pastor of St. Peter's)

## The Appeal Target

The target for St. Peter's 1858 Hill & Son chamber organ restoration is \$95,000.