

4. THE FONT

The font is relatively modern, being donated by Emma Steer, died 1898, in memory of her grandson Philip Shirley Hamilton. He was born and baptised on Christmas Day 1877 at Apsley House, Whitchurch, but died three days later on Holy Innocents Day. His father was Charles Hamilton and his mother Catherine Mary née Steer. Catherine Steer's brother was the artist Philip Wilson Steer.

In May 1849 Sir Stephen Glyne visited the church; he commented that 'the font is a very poor little modern one'. This is probably the font for which Abel Saunders was paid £1 17s. in October 1758. He had been paid for laying new paving in the church in May.

The original medieval font may have been plain, as at Whitchurch, or carved with Romanesque figures of men and animals. This is possible as the lord of the manor, William fitzBaderon, was a patron of Monmouth priory which had similar carvings.

