

Memorials and effigies

A Effigy of a Knight

This is thought to be of Sir Henry Chaworth from the Tudor period, or it could be of Sir George Chaworth who died in 1589. It was brought from the Old Church in 1924 at the same time as the old font. In 1975 it was moved to the north aisle.



C Memorial to Mary Chaworth

Mary Chaworth, the last of the Chaworth family, married into the Musters family. Lord Byron, the poet, fell in love with her when he was 15 and she is celebrated in his poetry.

B Leonia de Raines

The effigy of a lady, thought to date from 1220 was rescued from the Old Church in 1977. It is thought to be an effigy of Leonia de Raines, the sister of Ralph Britto de Annesley, who gave the Norman church into the care of the monks of Felley Priory in 1158. Bess of Hardwick was one of her descendents.



D Memorial to John and Mary Musters

John Musters died in 1683 and the memorial was erected by Mary in 1689. Mary died in 1739. This memorial was brought from Old Colwick Church.



E Memorial to Sophia Musters

This memorial was brought to Annesley from Colwick when the old church there was closed. It was made by Richard Westmacott who also sculpted the statue of Achilles in Hyde Park.



Welcome to All Saint's Church Annesley

The present building is probably the fourth church to stand in the community of Annesley. It is likely that there was a Saxon foundation, which was replaced by a Norman church in the 12th century. This was replaced in the 14th century with what is now Annesley Old Church, which was built near to Annesley Hall. The ruins of the Old Church still stand and are open to visitors.

The current Victorian Gothic church was built following the sinking of Annesley Colliery which began in 1865 and led to the development of a new centre of population 1½ miles to the east of the 1356 church. Newcomers

to the area complained about the distance they had to walk to church, and so the then vicar, the Revd Clement Howard Prance and the squire, John Chaworth-Musters and his wife, Caroline, resolved to build a new church. The land was given by the squire and it was designed by a friend of the Revd Prance, Mr J G Jackson of Oxford. The building costs were covered by the squire, vicar, the vicar's brother and friends, colliery customers, local contributions and fundraising events. The new church was consecrated in 1874.

The old church continued in use for many years after the new one was opened.



All the children of John and Caroline Chaworth-Musters were baptised there and harvest festival services were held in the old building. On 7 January, 1907, the new church was badly damaged in a fire which destroyed the roof, bells, interior fittings and organ. The building was restored, but the tower was unable to support the bells, which had been destroyed in the fire. A set of lighter tubular bells were installed in the tower. The new church was re-opened on 20 February, 1909.



1 The Achievement

This depicts the Arms achieved by the Chaworth family in 1686. The initials PC are of Patricius Chaworth, the third and last Viscount Chaworth who died in 1693 without an heir. It was removed from the Old Church to its present position by the Kirkby and District Conservation Society in 1979.

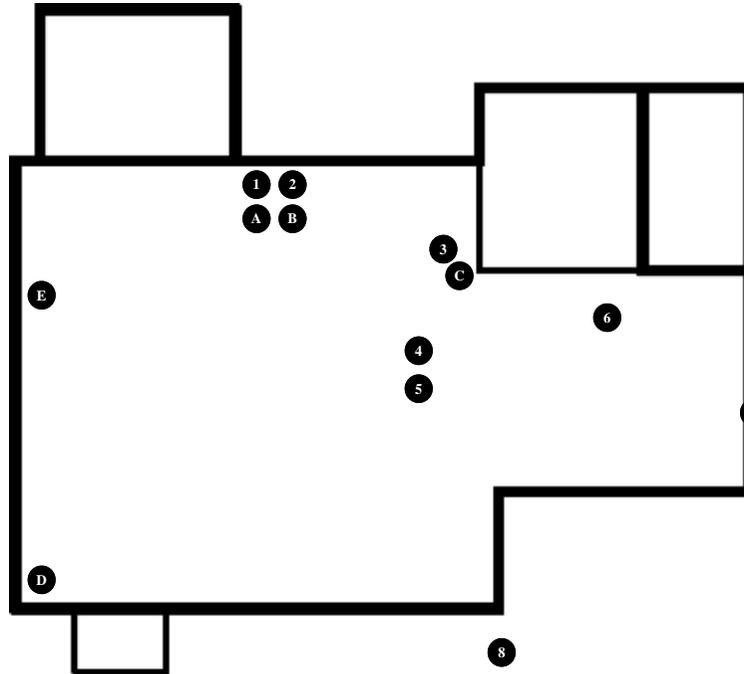


2 The Annesley Brass

Unusually, the picture on this brass is vibrant, with graphic detail. It shows William Breton on a hunting expedition dated 1595. He is carrying a longbow and an arrow he is about to fit into his bow. Nothing is known about William Breton, though it was speculated that he was a keeper or estate manager. It is one of only a few brasses to hunters known to exist, and thought to be the only one to feature a longbow.

3 Glass Panels

These early 19th century panels were painted by Sophia Musters. They were originally in the east window in Old Colwick Church and were moved to Annesley in 1977.



4 Norman Font

The Norman font is from the 11th or 12th century and was made for the Norman church which was erected in 1150. It was moved into the new church in 1924. The original fastening for a cover can still be seen, though the current cover was made in 1974. The new font was presented to the church in 1909 by Mrs Chaworth-Musters in memory of her late husband, John.



5 Pulpit

The marble pulpit dates from the restoration of the church in 1909 and replaced the 1874 pulpit given by the Revd C H Prance.



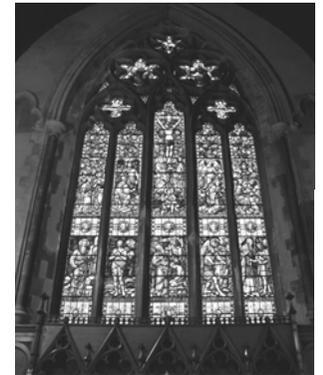
6 The Organ

The organ is a rare example of a Rothwell organ. It was installed in 1909 replacing the previous organ lost in the 1907 fire.



7 East Window

When the church was completed in 1874 this window was plain glass. It was later reglazed as a memorial to the Revd C H Prance, who, with Mr and Mrs Chaworth-Musters, had been instrumental in building the new church. The window depicts ten Bible scenes and a small portrait of the Revd Prance in the bottom of the central window.



8 Lady Chapel Altar Table

This was formerly the High Altar of the Old Church and is probably 17th century.