

A Bit of History

Dorchester Abbey is one of the largest churches in Oxfordshire and stands on the site of a Saxon Cathedral built by St Birinus in the seventh century.

In 1554 the Abbey, which had been bought by Richard Beauforest, was given to the people of Dorchester as their parish church.

There is always work to be done on a big old building like this Abbey. You may find work going on in the Abbey today. Look at the notice boards to find out what is happening.

There is a museum in the Guest House - on the path leading from the lychgate. There is no charge to go in.

You may be lucky to find the Tea Room open - enjoy homemade cakes and tea or squash

More things to find out:

When is the museum open?

When is the Tea Room open?

When is the next service in the Abbey?

When you get home:

Check your answers and find out even more on the Abbey website:
www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk



Dorchester Abbey

A quiz for children to find the Abbey treasures

Mark their positions on the map inside and colour the pictures with pencils from the Children's Corner

1 Font

What is the font made of?



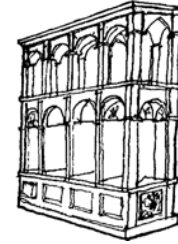
2 Monk's Corbel



How many monks can you see?

3 Shrine

This has been rebuilt using some of the stone from the previous shrine built in the 1300s. What colours can you see?



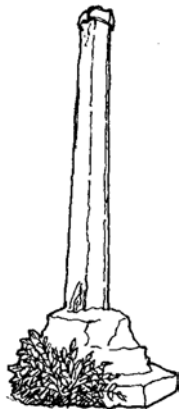
4 Cross legged Knight



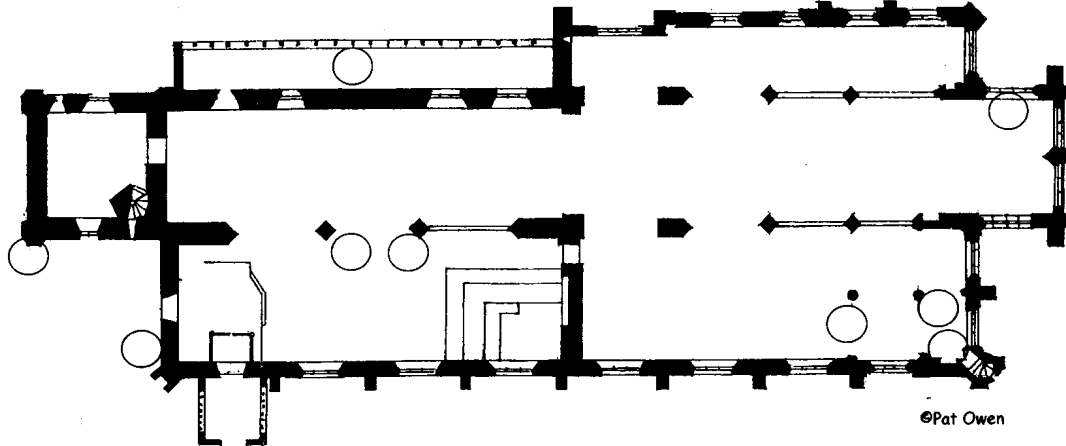
What is the animal at his feet?

10 Preaching Cross

The top of this preaching cross is in two pieces inside the Abbey. Where are they?



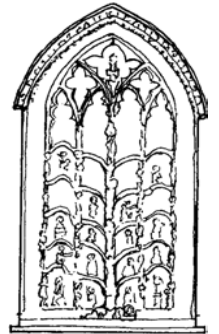
Mark the treasures on this map



©Pat Owen

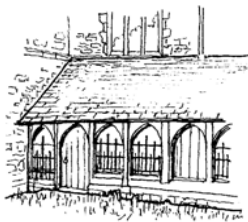
5 Jesse Window

Look for King David. What instrument is he playing?



9 Cloister Gallery

This was built in 2002. What holds the beams together?



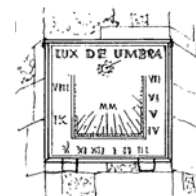
8 Corbel of Edith Stedman

Look in the St Birinus Chapel to find this lady's full names



7 Sundial

Can you tell the time using this sundial? You will need a sunny day.



6 The Green Man

Why is he called this? Look at his mouth and around his head.



I Spy in Dorchester Abbey - Check your answers

1	Font - What is the font made of?	Lead
2	Monk's Corbel - How many monks can you see?	4
3	Shrine - This has been rebuilt using some of the stone from the previous shrine built in the 1300s. What colours can you see?	Red, blue, green and gold
4	Cross-legged Knight - What is the animal at his feet?	Lion
5	Jesse Window - Look for King David. What instrument is he playing?	Harp
6	The Green Man - Why is he called this? Look at his mouth and around his head	There are stalks and leaves around his face
7	Sundial - Can you tell the time using the sundial? You will need a sunny day	Look to see where the shadow falls
8	Corbel of Edith Stedman - Look in the St Birinus Chapel to find this lady's full name	Edith Gracia Stedman
9	Cloister Gallery - This was built in 2002. What holds the beams together?	Wooden pegs
10	The top of this Preaching Cross is in two pieces inside the Abbey. Where are they?	One is in a niche on the left of the Nave, the other is on a high window sill

We hope you have enjoyed finding the Abbey's treasures