

Dragon Quest Notes

Stop 1

St George himself was born about 270AD and was a Roman soldier, but as a Christian, protested against the persecution of Christians. For this the Emperor Diocletian had him tortured, then executed (on April 23rd, 303/4 AD).



A rope or chain would have been suspended from the black hole on the underside of the dragon. There is a small narrow corridor on the same level as the dragon called the triforium, where the dragon's body is balanced with counterweights.

One theory is that this pulley might have lifted the lid of a font or of a reliquary box used to house some of the remains of St William of York (now buried in the Crypt).

Stop 3

St George is also the patron saint of soldiers, which suits the function of this regimental chapel, originally dedicated to the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.



Stop 4

This carving of the baby Jesus and his mother Mary is in the middle of the doors to the Chapter House. It illustrates the Bible verse 13 of Psalm 91 (Vulgate:90): *“the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.”*

The seats inside were used for the meetings of the Dean and Chapter of York (who work in a similar way to governors in a school).



Stop 5

The Great East Window was recently restored during a project which lasted 13 years, which involved removing and dismantling all of the glass panels.

This panel is inspired by Revelation 13:1-3 (New Matthew Bible)

‘And I saw a beast rise out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns.... And the beast that I saw was like a cat of the mountain, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion.’



Stop 6

Archbishop Walter Grey is buried here in the South Transept, the area of York Minster he commissioned in the 1220s.

The most recent of the three major fires at York Minster was in 1984, when the ceiling above the South Transept had to be replaced.

Six of the carvings on the roof, called roof bosses, were designed by Blue Peter competition winners aged 6-16 years old.

