

St George and the Dragon

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This incredibly powerful statue of St George, standing up in the stirrups of his powerful horse in order to put the maximum power behind his long lance to penetrate the scales of the dragon, It stands in the courtyard of the Premier Inn on Dorset Rise.

The statue was the winning entry in a competition set up by Unilever in 1986 as part of the renovation of the building, at that time one of their offices. It was created by Michael Sandle, a well-known international sculptor, and was cast by the Morris Singer Foundry.

St George is not the traditional aristocratic type out to rescue a princess but is a hardened working man out to do a hard job of work. And the Dragon is not the traditional winged fire-breathing creature like the dragons guarding the gates of the City, but is more of a Wagnerian dragon akin to an oversize python.

The statue is a worthy addition to the heritage of Fleet Street, though it is not as well-known as it should be, due to its location.

