

THE DOORWAY AT DINTON

Nearly everyone going into St Peter and St Paul notices the mediaeval carvings over the main door, and some have even read the leaflet explaining the meanings of the animals and figures depicted. Rita Wood has written a fresh interpretation, with comparisons with other doorways elsewhere, in this year's Records of Buckinghamshire (Vol 51). Her article helps to put Dinton's sculptural images into context and make clearer the importance of the worn capitals each side of the doorway.

"Records of Bucks" is published every April by the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society and each volume has a collection of articles about the history, buildings and natural history of this County. The last few years have had several articles of interest to Dinton and Stone. The Van Hattens of Dinton Hall (Vol 47); The C16th Sundial (Vol 42); The 1831 Petition for Mercy for William Scotchings (Vol 48); The Milestones at Stone (Vol 48); The Rookery at Bishopstone (Vol 50); Lost paintings from Dinton (Vol 44); The Original Site of Hartwell Church (Vol 41). The Archaeological Notes frequently include news of discoveries close to our pariah.

By coincidence the C12th carvings to be seen on the font at Stone and on Dinton's doorway have been the subject of researches by a second expert. Mary Curtis Webb's "Ideas and Images in 12th Century Sculpture" is an examination of the way that the mediaeval clergy and patrons transferred religious teachings through the use of visual images. A copy of the book has been donated to the Stone Local History Group by her daughters and short extracts can be found in both churches.



