

A record of the 'chat' which took place during David Johnson's talk on Droving, plus some of his answers

20:17:05 From Joyce Thacker : Tryst- check the Dictionary of the Scots Language- synonymous with cattle fairs etc

20:21:31 From Robin Bundy : Was a tryst not originally a meeting or meeting place, a lovers' tryst being a later specific meeting?

20:22:51 From Joyce Thacker : the Scots language dictionary makes reference to this- pre 1700s and post

20:26:03 From Sue Arnott : What would have been the status of these drove roads? Were they highways or did the drovers get permission to cross land?

20:28:11 From Geraldine : Was each beast marked by its owner? Otherwise how would he be paid at the end?

20:29:47 From Tim Quantrill : Was it true money was left at the inns for the dogs which were sent home on their own?

20:33:33 From Jeanne Carr : Brian Blessed

20:33:42 From carol : Brian Blessed

20:33:49 From Jean Hall : Brian Blessed

20:34:18 From Tim Quantrill : Is Scot Gate Lane east of Conistone an old drove route?

20:38:22 From Sue Arnott : Was there any relationship between cattle droves and packhorse trains?

20:42:32 From John : When did banking come in to help with payments / save drovers carrying cash?

20:42:58 From Margaret Dickinson : Highly recommended, The Drove, DVD by Eric Robson (broadcaster and writer) and a team. Filmed around 1990, they drove cattle the Highlands to Smithfield.

20:46:40 From John : Do you have any info about old well preserved drove inn above Mallerstang (Lady Annes WaY) which seems to have paddock attached for grazing?

20:47:52 From Jean Hall : Durham Ox is common pub name like Craven Heifer. Famous animal. A DO on the A46 in Leicestershire

20:48:59 From Margaret Dickinson : There are two, I think one is High Syke and there's a Horse Pasture near one of them. The drovers and packmen didn't use the same accommodation.

20:49:11 From Jeanne Carr : My grandad Moon always called cattle bease (2 syllables). I think bease is the same word.

20:50:07 From Joyce Thacker : I come from Galloway- Beese is still used to describe cattle

20:51:12 From Jean Hall : Falkirk only place in Scotland where bagpipes were permitted after 1745

20:54:56 From Joyce Thacker : excellent- 20 is "score"!

20:55:42 From katie yorke : what an excellent talk, thank you

20:55:54 From Joyce Thacker : thank you so much for tonight's talk. coming from Galloway older folks still talk about driving

20:55:56 From Judy Rogers : Many thanks David. Great to hear you again.

20:56:02 From Sarah : Thank you very much

0:56:07 From Joyce Thacker : droving that is!

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Some responses from David:

BANKING AND DROVING

The Bank of Scotland was founded in 1695 and played a key role in issuing credit notes to drovers; Coutts from 1723 and RBS from 1727 were also instrumental. The British Linen Bank (actually Scottish) was

founded in 1747 and was also involved in financing drovers, including £2000 for Birtwhistle in 1767.

The first true bank issuing bank notes rather than promisory notes was the Banc yr Eidion Ddu (Bank of the Black Ox) founded specifically for cattle droving in 1799, followed in 1810 by the Banc yr Ddafad Ddu (Black Sheep Bank) for sheep droving which was more important in Wales than from Scotland. Then the Swaledale & Wensleydale Banking Co founded in 1836 partly to aid the droving trade; and the Scottish Commercial Bank and the Falkirk Bank for which I have no dates.

SCOT GATE

On tryst, I wasn't wondering out loud what the word means but what its etymology is.

Tim Q asked about Scot Gate (Ash) Lane. Having reminded myself where it goes, its SW-NE alignment is wrong for it have been a drove route though this does not preclude its having been used for local cattle movements. In 1849 it was Scott Gait but I know of no ear lier sources. I would say, however, that it definitely would have been a key packhorse route. Perhaps you could pass this on if you have his email address.

TRYST

There was some speculation about the etymology of 'Tryst', as in 'Falkirk Tryst' etc.

Wiktionary gives:

"From Middle English *tryst*, *trist*, from Old French *tristre* (‘œwaiting place, appointed station in hunting’), probably from a North Germanic source such as Old Norse *treysta* (‘œto make safe, secure’), from *traust* (‘œconfidence, trust, security, help, shelter, safe abode’), from Proto-Germanic **traustÄ...* (‘œtrust, shelter’), from Proto-Indo-European **deru-*, **dreu-*, **drÅ«-* (‘œto be firm, be solid’). Doublet of *trust* (which see)."

