

Highwaymen

Text A



Highwaymen were robbers who were active in England from the mid 1600's to the early 1800's.

90% of people stayed their whole lives in the place where they were born. Travel was very tricky as the roads were very bad.

Stage coaches like the one in the picture would carry four or five passengers between towns. It took 12 days to get from London to Edinburgh. The coach would be pulled by horses. The coaches had to stop often to rest and change the horses and give them food.

The Duke's Head in Wallington is a famous coaching inn.

Only rich people could afford to take a coach, the passengers would dread hearing the cry of

"Stand and deliver!"

because it meant they were about to be robbed of their valuables.

There was no national organised police force in those days, but most highwaymen were caught in the end, some by soldiers.

Highwaymen were punished harshly when they were caught. They were usually hung and their corpses were displayed to warn other people not to take up this crime.

Turnpikes were introduced on the roads which meant people kept an eye on what was happening so it was harder to escape.

Highwaymen

Text B



Highwaymen were robbers. The first report of a highwayman was in the 1650's and the last report was in 1830.

They would ride up to a carriage and threaten the passengers demanding

"Your money or your life!"

The passengers usually gave away their money and jewellery rather than be shot. Then the Highwayman would ride off very fast. The coaches could not travel fast enough to catch up.

In London Shooter's Hill was a place with many Highwaymen as you can tell from the name. Finchley Common was also very dangerous.

The highwaymen were often famous, there were songs and stories about them.

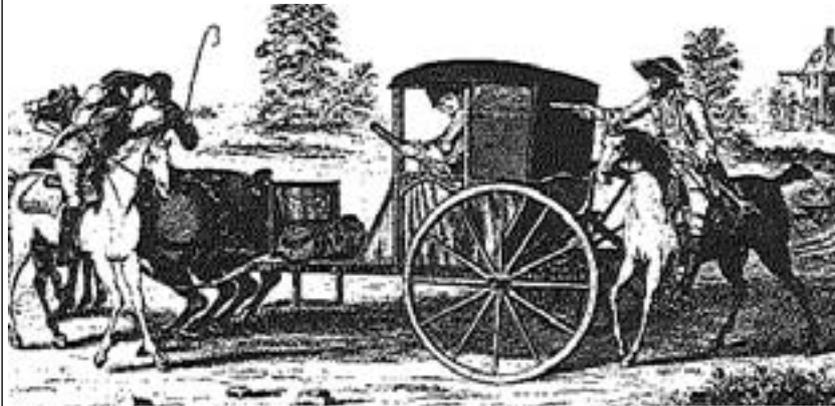
A very famous Highway robber was Cutpurse Moll, who was a woman.

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| What did Highwaymen do? | Highwaymen were active from _____ to _____. | Where were the worst places for Highwaymen in London? 1. _____ _____ 2. _____ _____ |
| | How were they punished? | |
| | <p>What did they say?</p> <p>Stand and _____.</p> <p>Your _____ or your _____.</p> | |

Choose the right answer:

Highwaymen were always male.

- yes
- no



Choose the right answer

Highwaymen usually stole

- horses
- money
- clothing

How long did it take to get from London to Edinburgh?

Were these things around in the 1700's?

✓ or x

| | |
|------------|--|
| roads | |
| trains | |
| policemen | |
| post | |
| telephones | |
| cameras | |
| cars | |

Who caught the highwaymen?

- police
- soldiers
- coach passengers

What were Coaching inns?

How did people travel around the country in the 1700's ?
