

"The Trial of Tom Rees and The Mari Lwyd"

The Judge: "Now is the time for a statement from the defendant"

Tom: "Well your honour, it was like this, as I see it.

The day was freezing cold, and damp, so being inside the Mari, I wasn't too bad, not like the spectators, most were enjoying the spectacle of the Mari Lwyds, the fun of it all, but some of them looked proper miserable.

Guided by my ostler, I soon warmed up, jigging about and with all the paraphernalia on, as I'm sure you must know yourself, dressed up in your wig and gowns. No disrespect meant, sir."

The Judge: "None taken." said the judge "Continue."

Tom: "Well, after a time, you start to work up a bit of a thirst. I know I was gasping.

So, instead of having a nice cup of tea, as I should have, I drank some of that cider the English offered me. That was a mistake.

I admit, chasing Rhiannon, your daughter, throughout the Town Hall was also a mistake.

She was always more fleet footed than me, and that's without me carrying the horses skull.

As I couldn't catch her, and I was feeling tired, from all that cider, I decided to take a nap."

The Judge: "And that's where you were found, when the alarms sounded" Interrupted the judge. "In the cupboard under the stairs."

Tom: "That's right, sir. That's where we keep the Mari, and I thought it right and proper to take her back to her stabling, so to speak. But I fell asleep, and when I woke, it was all dark.

Groping to find a light switch I accidentally set of the building alarm."

The Judge : "And that's when I was roused from my bed, from my slumbers."

Tom: "Sorry sir, but if I'd only been able catch your daughter, none of this would have happened."

Tom was given 30 days, for disturbing the peace. On his release, Rhiannon met him outside the jail, and within the year they were married. She has been leading him around in the Mari Lwyd ever since.