

Cork Butter Museum – Firkin Crane

To the right is a picture of a roadside butter market. In the background we can see a balance hanging off a horse cart which is being used to weigh butter.



Goat Superstition

Interestingly, goats were kept with cows to bring them good luck.

Because a family's survival depended on their cows, they kept great care of them and would go to great lengths to ensure their health. Cows were sometimes forced to swim in a lake or a river to avert illness or bad luck.

Further to this red ribbons were occasionally to their tails or around their neck to bring luck.

Ancient arrow tips were often strewn around fields. If a cow ate one of these, it was said to have been 'elf shot'. If this happened, the fairies were blamed. The cure was to make the cow drink water in which had the 'fairy arrows' had been boiled.

This firkin crane was developed as part of a Research Degree by Martin McCarthy, who is interested in how people engage with technology in museums. No personal information was recorded when people were using either the firkin crane or this web page.

If you could fill out a short survey it would be greatly appreciated. All information gathered is anonymous and will be treated with utmost respect.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/P9N58VW>

If you have any enquiries, please don't hesitate to contact Martin at martin.mccarthy@mycit.ie