

Jack O'Legs

Jack O'Legs was a medieval folk hero, with some similarities to Robin Hood. Like him, he was legendary for his prowess with a bow and arrow. He is said to have lived in Weston.



He used to lie in wait, on what is still called Jack's Hill, waiting for rich travellers to pass by.

He also made an enemy of the bakers of Baldock, who were said to give short weight to customers, and sometimes upturned their stalls.

Eventually the bakers caught up with him, and surrounded him in Baldock churchyard. They put out his eyes, and then prepared to hang him. Before they did they granted him one last request, which was to fire one last arrow and to be buried where the arrow landed. The arrow flew all the way to Weston Churchyard. He was buried with one stone at his head and another at his feet. They were fourteen feet apart!



His fame grew after his death and collectors such as John Tradescant the Younger is said to have bought his thigh bone for his collection.

