



Peggy Potts 1798 - 1875

Peggy Potts was born in 1798 on Low Quay. She could be seen in the old indoor market where she would sell you fish and cheese. A local character of the East End, with a reputation for smuggling. She would smuggle illegal goods and liquor from ships coming into Sunderland. She was a crafty old woman who had the ability to outwit the law.

One well known tale of Peggy Potts is that she was caught by the local Bobby, carrying a keg of illegal spirits and as the Customs Officer was leading her back to the local police station and lock up on Boddlewell Lane she asked the Officer if she could relieve herself behind the bushes. However, while under cover of the bushes and darkness she emptied the keg of its illegal spirits and filled it with her own urine and hoodwinked the local Bobby!

Peggy died at the ripe old age of 86 years of age in 1875, she sadly ended her days in the Sunderland workhouse.