Head Ring

What is it?

Head rings were used for support when a container was carried on the head. This head ring is made from hay, which has been twisted with a súgán twister. It was made by Pat Broderick, Newcastle West, Co Limerick.



Hay or straw is twisted into long lengths that are then wrapped around a circular frame.

How was it used?

The head ring was used by women for carrying loads. It helped distribute the weight and eased pressure on the top of the head. The load was placed in a container, either a basket, a wooden stave built vessel, or a ceramic pot, and placed on the head on top of the head ring.



Brief History

As a practice it is very ancient, universal throughout the world, and is still to be seen in many African and Asian countries. In Ireland it seemed to be a practice adopted mostly by women.



Woman on way to the market Image: NMI Collection



A Galway Fishwife, R Welch Image: NMI Collection

Fáinne Cinn

Céard atá ann?

Baineadh úsáid as fáinní cinn le haghaidh tacaíochta nuair a iompraíodh coimeádán ar an gceann. Déantar an fáinne cinn seo as féar, a bhí casta le castóir súgáin. Rinne Pat Broderick, An



Caisleán Nua, Co Luimnigh é.

Déantar féar nó tuí a chasadh i bhfaid fhada a chuirtear timpeall ar fhráma ciorclach.

Cén úsáid a mbaintear as?

Bhain na mná úsáid as an bhfáinne cinn chun ualaí a iompar. Chuidigh sé leis an meáchan a dháileadh agus an brú ar bharr an chinn a laghdú.

Cuireadh an t-ualach i gcoimeádán, cibé acu cliabh, soitheach adhmaid tógtha le stéibheanna, nó pota ceirmeach, agus cuireadh ar an gceann é ar bharr an fháinne chinn.





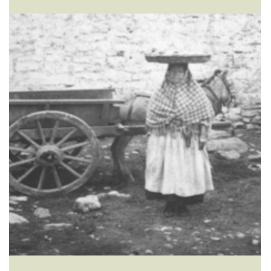
Tá do lámha saor nuair a úsáideann tú do cheann chun an t-ualach a iompar!

Stair Ghairid

Mar chleachtas, tá sé an-ársa, uilíoch ar fud an domhain, agus tá sé le feiceáil fós i mórán tíortha san Afraic agus san Áise. In Éirinn, is cosúil gurbh iad na mná a rinne é den chuid is mó.



Bean ar an mbealach chuig an margadh Pictiúr: Bailiúchán AMÉ



Fishwife na Gaillimhe, R Welch Pictiúr: Bailiúchán AMÉ