

DINING

92 GRASSMARKET
T R D M A G G I E D I C K S O N ' S M R K
SIGNED
Maggie Dickson
THE LEGEND OF HALF-HANGIT MAGGIE

TWICE AS LUCKY, HAUF AS DEID!



Ladies and gentlemen, gather 'round and let me tell you about Maggie Dickson, a woman who defied death and made a mockery of the judicial system long before such tales were common.

Born around 1702 in the quaint fishing town of Musselburgh, Maggie's life wasn't exactly a bed of roses. She was a fish barrow—an occupation as glamorous as it sounds. Like many husbands of the time, her husband vanished into the ether, perhaps abducted by the Royal Navy or maybe just by the allure of Newcastle's fishing fleets. This left Maggie alone, vulnerable, and in need of work. So, off she trotted to Kelso, finding employment in an inn and, quite regrettably, an affair with the innkeeper's son.

Now, you must understand, in those days, pregnancy out of wedlock wasn't just frowned upon—it was a social guillotine. Maggie, fearing for her job and reputation, concealed her condition. The baby, born prematurely, died shortly after birth, and Maggie, in a state of panic, attempted to dispose of the body near the River Tweed. Of course, the body was discovered, and the law fell hard on Maggie, being the swift hammer of morality it was.

In 1724, after a trial that likely lacked any semblance of fairness, Maggie was sentenced to hang. And so, on a bleak September day in the Grassmarket of Edinburgh, she did. She swung, she dangled, she died—or so everyone thought. Her body was placed in a coffin and carted off for burial. But then, as the fates would have it, Maggie woke up.

Imagine the scene: the coffin lid creaks open, and Maggie, defying all expectations and natural laws, emerges alive. This miraculous resurrection wasn't divine intervention but perhaps a testament to the shoddy workmanship of 18th-century hangmen. The law, in all its bureaucratic glory, couldn't try her again for the same crime. Double Jeopardy, they called it. And so, Maggie lived on, becoming a local legend and earning the moniker "Half-Hangit Maggie."

Now, what about the Grassmarket? This charming area, nestled at the foot of Castle Rock, was once the beating heart of Edinburgh's trade. Farmers flocked here with their cattle, and traders with their goods. The pubs have witnessed centuries of history, from the bustling markets to the grim spectacles of public executions.

The Grassmarket was not just a commercial hub but a stage for Edinburgh's darkest dramas. Over a hundred Covenanters met their end here in the 1680s during the Killing Time, executed for their stubborn Presbyterianism. Fast-forward to 1954, and the Grassmarket witnessed its final act of state-sanctioned mortality with the hanging of George Robertson, a double murderer who now holds the dubious honour of being Edinburgh's last visitor to the gallows.

But history has a funny way of mellowing with age. Today, the Grassmarket is a vibrant retreat, boasting outdoor cafés, stylish boutiques, and a cosmopolitan atmosphere. Archaeological digs have even unearthed relics from as far back as 1500 BC, proving that this patch of earth has been a focal point of human activity for millennia.

Ultimately, Maggie Dickson's tale isn't just a story of a woman who cheated death. It's a microcosm of the Grassmarket itself—resilient, steeped in history, and always full of surprises. So, join us for a dram, remember her story, and raise a toast to the indomitable spirit of Edinburgh.

SLÀINTE

DEID ONCE, DEID LUCKY!

WEE PLATES

BIG PLATES

FOR SHARING

SOUP O' THE DAY <i>Crusty Bread</i>	6.50	CULLEN SKINK <i>Smoked Haddock Chowder, Leek, Potato, Crusty Bread</i>	10.50
SCOTTISH HOT SMOKED SALMON SALAD <i>Arran Grain Mustard Mayo, Green Beans, Capers & Rocket</i> <i>Large Portion</i>	10.50 17.00	RAMSAY'S O CARLUKE HAGGIS BON BONS <i>Arran Apple & Ale Chutney (v available)</i>	9.00
FISH & CHIPS <i>Innis & Gunn Beer Battered Haddock, Chunky Chips, Mushy Peas, Tartare Sauce, Lemon Wedge</i>	19.50	GIANT COUS COUS <i>Super Food Salad Broccoli, Avocado, Roasted Red Peppers, Lemon & Chilli Dressing (v)</i>	15.00
TOAD IN THE HOLE <i>Local Pork Sausages, Creamy Mashed Potatoes, Onion Gravy, Crispy Onions Served in Giant Yorkie (v available)</i>	17.00	CHICKEN CAESAR SALAD <i>Roasted Chicken, Crispy Bacon, Baby Gem, Croutons, Soft-Boiled Egg, Anchovies, Parmesan, Caesar Dressing</i>	16.00
HAGGIS, NEEPS N TATTIES <i>Locally Caught Haggis, Crushed Turnip, Creamy Mashed Potatoes, Whisky Cream Sauce (v available)</i> <i>Small Portion</i>	15.00 9.00	MUSSELS <i>Fresh Scottish Mussels, White Wine, Garlic & Cream Sauce</i> <i>Add Fries</i> <i>Small Portion</i>	15.00 3.00 9.50

• SUNDAY ROAST •

Join us every week for our classic Sunday Roast, where we will feature Scottish Game or Beef served alongside seasonal veggies and lashings of gravy.

22.95

BURGERS

SWEET TREATS

SIDES

<i>All Served with Crispy Fries</i>			
BEEF	17.00	VEGGIE	17.00
<i>6oz Beef Patty, Monterey Jack Cheddar, Burger Relish, Gem Lettuce, Dill Pickle, Tomato, Sesame Brioche Bun</i>		<i>Plant-Based Burger, Smoked Applewood Cheese, Burger Relish, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Sesame Brioche Bun</i> (v) (vg available)	
CHICKEN	17.00	MAGGIE'S FISH BURGER	17.00
<i>Buttermilk Fried Chicken, Burger Relish, Cheddar, Gem Lettuce, Tomato, Sesame Brioche Bun</i>		<i>Beer Battered Fish Goujons, Tartare Sauce, Lettuce, Tomato, Sesame Brioche Bun</i>	

STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING <i>Arran Dairies Vanilla Ice Cream, Butterscotch Sauce</i>	8.00
SCOTTISH CHEESE SELECTION <i>Arran Oaties, Chutney, Grapes</i>	12.00
SELECTION OF ARRAN DAIRIES ICE CREAM <i>Please Ask Server For Todays Selection (v)</i>	2.50 per scoop

SCOTTISH
CHEESEBOARD
& BOTTLE
of WINE

For two to share
Available every day

35

CHIPS • FRIES • ONION RINGS • SIDE SALAD • A TASTE OF HAGGIS • MASHED TATTIES

All 5.00

• *Ask Your Server About Our Daily Specials* •

(v) vegetarian (vg) vegan

A discretionary service charge of 10% will be added to your bill, with 100% of this optional amount going directly to our team

For our guests with food sensitivities, allergies or special dietary needs: We prepare and serve products that contain all 14 major allergens. Although we and our suppliers take every care in preparing your meal, regular kitchen operations across our supply chain involve shared cooking and preparation areas. For this reason, we cannot guarantee that any menu item will be completely free of allergens.

GIE MAGGIE A ROPE, SHE'LL GIE YE A LAUGH!

LIVE MUSIC EVERY NIGHT

CONFESS, AN' BE FORGIVEN

7 DAYS A WEEK

OF HALF-HANGIT MAGGIE • THE

SIGNED:

Maggie Dickson

DEID ONCE, DE

