

At the very summit of the pass where the new road across Gallows Moss strikes off from the old one is a place called "Fidlers Green." The site of the Lady Cross was here, on the old road and nearer to Fidler's Green than to the modern house now known as Lady Cross. A shepherd's hut stood at the top of the hill. Here, in 1817, did Squire Leycester build the public-house called the "Plough and Harrow," the signboard for it was brought from Langsett where it had been superseded by the "Waggon and Horses" it read thus

"The Sign of the Plough,
Likewise the Harrow,
Pay to-day and trust to-morrow."

The name of Fidlers Green was given to the place by the owners of the Inn at Saltersbrook, who naturally felt aggrieved at the starting of a competitor in a business that had for many years been considered their own. A fiddler by profession lived at Woodhead, and his services being in request at the opening of the new inn, the name Fidlers Green, applied at first in ridicule, became a permanent and widely-known locality, the Plough and Harrow being the highest situated Inn in Yorkshire. It is related of the fiddler that, being blind, he mistook his way to an engagement, and got lost on the moors, how long he wandered in these wild solitudes is not known, but late the night following he was found frozen and famished by the side of a peaty pool many miles from Woodhead. He was taken to Ronsley, the nearest house; after restoratives had been administered, consciousness returned, and to the surprise of the people who had rescued him, his first exclamation was "Where's my fiddle." Kind nursing and good nourishment brought the blind violinist to a state of convalescence, and he was conveyed in a cart, by the Woodlands and Glossop to his home at Woodhead. Months elapsed and nothing was heard of the fate of the fiddle, concerning the fate of which the old musician so fervently enquired, but at last it was found on the moors in a position that seemed impossible for a blind man ever to reach; indeed the people who discovered it, declare it was quite difficult for them with their eyesight to get to the place where they found the unfortunate fiddle. Wm. Bagshaw was the first landlord and kept the Plough and Harrow until his death in 1849, after his death Ronald Bower, of Woodhead, held the licence, Matthew Hinchliffe, John Clarke, and others, being his sub-tenant.

Matthew Hinchliffe, known as Mat o' Nack's, whilst there created a sensation by shooting in the legs a navvy, whom he saw leaving the yard of the Inn at an early hour in the morning with a fat goose over his shoulder. The blood, which flowed from his wounds in a considerable quantity, marked his footsteps on the road, and shewed him to have entered the tunnel at Woodhead, where all trace of him was lost. Matthew died at the comparatively early age of 59 years. He had witnessed the growth of a vehicular traffic across these moors, which began when the pack-horse left it, and ceased when the shriek of the railway engine emerged from the tunnel at Woodhead.

Waggons laden with flour from numerous mills on the eastern side of the moors changed horses at Fidlers Green or Saltersbrook. Farm produce of every description was sent into the manufacturing districts of Cheshire and Lancashire; Pickford and Johnson's stage waggons from Sheffield and Barnsley, the latter having frequently a young lady, a daughter of the proprietor riding alongside.

Coaches were late making the ascent of these hills, and not until some years after did the first coach cross by this route into Lancashire.

Coaches from Sheffield to Penistone were running in 1795. There is an entry in the Parish Church Register at Penistone of "Jacob Wright, driver of the Sheffield coach." Soon afterwards, the traffic increased to such an extent that the tolls at Boardhill bar exceeded £1,800 per annum. John Clarke, who kept the Station Inn, at Hazlehead, was the last man to sell ale at Fidlers Green, the licence being dropped in or about the year 1851.