

Bonny Prince Charlie and All That



At the start of the 18th Century, a lot of the local lords were 'Jacobites'. That means that they were supporters of a prince called James III. He was the son of James II and the brother of Charles II. You'll often hear him called 'The Pretender'.

James II lost his throne after being king for just 4 years! (He wasn't very wise!) He was followed by his nephew, William of Orange, who was married to his elder daughter, Mary. (William was Dutch.)

Mary's sister, Anne, was the next Queen, and she was followed by George I of Hanover. (He was German.)

Parliament decided that George should become king after Queen Anne, as he was a Protestant.
The Jacobites didn't think that James II should have lost his throne, so they supported his son, James, and his grandson, Bonnie Prince Charlie.



They finally decided to invade England from Carlisle. At Preston, they were defeated by the English forces. Some of the rebels were hanged!

Thirty years later, Bonnie Prince Charlie started a second Jacobite rebellion in Scotland, but the northerners didn't join in this time!

Bonnie Prince Charlie was finally defeated at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. The prince fled to the Isle of Skye, helped by his friend, Flora MacDonald.

At last things settled down here, and coalmining and industry began to flourish again.





