

TRUE or FALSE?

After over sixty quizzes I thought we might try something a little different. Is this TRUE or FALSE?

Let me know your thoughts:

In ancient times houses, huts, hovels whatever, were constructed on the earth. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "Dirt poor." The wealthy had some form of flooring that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start falling outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way.

Hence: a thresh hold.

TRUE or FALSE?

As avid readers of Pattenmakers' history will tell you, it is a well recorded fact that a patten was placed under the threshold of a property to ward off witches and evil spirits – See *"Out of the Mud"* still available from the Clerk at a bargain price (See members' area - shop – on the Company website)

Finally, and to round this off, those of you that were members before 13th July 2013 will recall and those members post that date should be aware, that the Pattenmakers' Company commissioned a pair of child's pattens, handcrafted in the workshops at Timpson, which were presented to TRHs Duke and Duchess of Cambridge upon the birth of their son, HRH Prince George of Cambridge. Their gracious letter of thanks is on display in the cabinet at St Margaret Pattens. I cannot confirm that the pattens were buried under the threshold at Anmer Hall but there has not been any news regarding witches and evil spirits I am aware of so perhaps they did!

RWM