

A Dictionary of
North East Dialect

Second Edition



Bill Griffiths

northumbria
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The Dictionary

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Sample entry

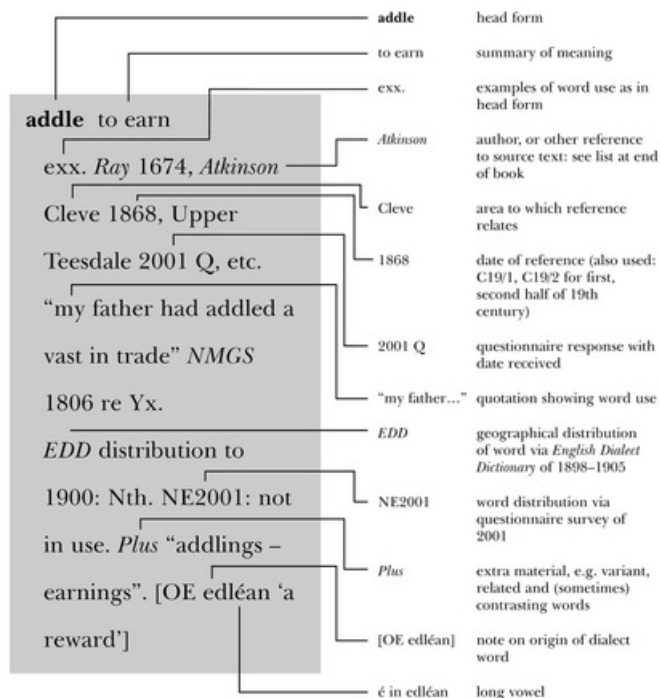


Image 1

A

aa, aw | (first person sg. pronoun)

exx. *Bewick* Tyne 1790s, *Coxhoe* 1916, etc. “where is aa?” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “Aa diwin’ knaa” *Graham Geordie* 1979. [OE *ic* (pronounced ‘ich’) becomes long ‘i’ in Middle English; breaks to ‘ia’, then reduced to long ‘a’. Though conventionally spelt ‘aw’ on Tyneside, the sound in fact is that of a long ‘a’ (aa, ah)]

aa to own

exx. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Tanfield Lea C20/2*. “whee’s aa this?” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s [OE *ah* ‘(he) owns’]

aabut 1. all but, 2. ah but

1. “aabut overyen us” *Pitman’s Pay G’head*, 1826 [all but]

2. “Thoo will, will thi? Aabut thoo’ll not!” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s [aye but]. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

aad, aud, aald old

“alde walles” *Cuthbert D’m C15/mid*; “coal wis nowt but aad trees an’ things” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “aad milk – skimmed milk” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; “aad bodee – old person” *Dodd Tanfield Lea C20/2*. [OE (Ang) *ald* rather than WS *eald*]

aad-farant old-fashioned, strange

“as audfarandly as a man of threescore” *Raine Yx* 1702; “an audfarand bairn – a child of promising abilities, also grave, sober, etc.” *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON *fara*]

aal, aw, a’ all

“my putting’s a’ done” ‘*Collier’s Rant*’ *Newc*, C18/2; “aal aboot stones an’ what not” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “aal ees watter, aal ees puff – all his capacity” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; “aal the world and pairt of Gyetside” *Geeson N’d/D’m* ‘1969’. [OE (Ang) *all* rather than WS *eall*]

aall together altogether

“aall together like the folks o’ Shields” *Graham Geordie* 1979

aan, awn, ain own (adj)

“his awen pople” *Cuthbert D’m C15/mid*; “he’s ma ain for ever mair” *Bobby Shaftoe* C18/mid; “wor aan bonny river” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.531 1879. [OE *agan*, changing to *w*]. *Plus* “let him ax for ’t his aansel” *Geeson N’d/D’m* 1969.

aareet alright

“thats irrit” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “aareet?” (a greeting) *NE* 2004

aback, abacka behind, on the other side of

“a wreck abacker the pier” *Green Wearside re* 1820s; “hoyed aback o’ the fire” (to the back of) *Dobson Tyne* 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco. [OE *on bæce*]

abackabeyont, etc. far, far away

“aback-a-behint where the grey mare foaled the fiddler” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “he lives abacka beyont” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “bakabiyont – far away” *Dodd Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “Abackabeyont – Gateshead” *Leslie Newc* 1992. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

abed in bed

“She also used to say my granda was ‘abed”” i.e. ill AWre High Spen C20/1, sim. RT Throcklely C20/2

aboon above

“she’s aboon ith’ chamber” *Kennet* 1690s Yx; “wor steeple stands abuin St Nicholas” *Oiling G’head* 1826; “thoo ... was niver abi’an three mile fra’ the’ oon door sti’ans” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “thor’s the day leet abeun” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “abyun – above” Tanfield Lea 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids [OE abúfan]

ace see **excellent**

addle to earn

exx. *Ray* 1674, *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, Upper Teesdale 2001 Q, etc. “my father had addled a vast in trade” *NMGS* 1806 re Yx; “thou’s addled thee keep – you’ve earned your board” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. NE2001: not in use. *Plus* “addlings – earnings”. [OE edléan ‘a reward’]

afear’d afraid

“thor’s nowt to be afeared on” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: low use. *Plus* “as fear’d as a moose” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805. See also **flay**

afore before (adv, conj)

“afwore” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “afore it gat up te the muin” *Tracts 4*, Newc c. 1820; “byeth hint and afore” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.245 1827; “summic you didn’t knaa afore” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “While ye toast yor shins afore the lowe” (fire) *MC May Tyne* 1891; “we’ll git up afore the sparrow farts” Ashington C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: low use

afterdamp gas containing Carbon Monoxide

“after-damp – the residual gases after an explosion in a coal pit” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “after-damp – carbonic acid” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution 1900: N’d, D’m, wYx [compare Gm Dampf ‘steam’]

again against

“All that is agayn ye pes, or ye right” *Raine York* 1415; “mind ye’re riddy agyen ee gets back” (for when) *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; “I used to work agin him” (alongside) *JR Seaham* C20/1; “Ah’m agyen this sortathing” *Dobson Tyne* 1972

ahad 1. a grip; 2. on fire

1. “Aa gets ahaad on’t” *Hay Ushaw Moor* C20/1;

2. “yer stacks is ahaad!” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; “the chimlas ahad” *Dobson Tyne* 1969

ahint behind (prep, adv)

“ahint the coonter he sat i’ the shop” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.316 1827; “he’s close ahint” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “come in ahint” (drover’s cry to dog) *Geeson N’d/D’m* 1969; “she’s away ahint one them trees” *Irwin Tyne* 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: ahind – Sco, N.I., Nth; ahint – Sco, N’d [OE æthindan]. See also **behint**

airt quarter of the compass, direction

“the wind is in a cold airt” *Kennet* 1690s Yx; “they rade the airt o’ Liddesdale” *Reed Border Ballads* p.116, N’d 1597; “fra a’ airts ‘n’ pairts” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, Yx, Lx. NE 2001: not in use [Gaelic aird]

aix axe

“Lukey’s aix and saw” *Pitman’s Pay* 2, G’head 1828; “a choppin aix” *Haldane Newc* 1879

ajee, agee aslant, crooked

“a bonnet agee” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “with his short blue jacket; and his hat agee” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.336 C19/1; “agee [ajee] – awry, crooked” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “ajee-wagee” cenD’m 2001 Q; “ajee-wagee” cenD’m. 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. *Plus* “jee – crooked, awry” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. See also **jee-wye**

aller see **eller**

amain out of control

“two waggons coming after me amain” *Errington* Felling/Heworth re 1790s; “amain – vehicle running out of control”

amain cont.

Dodd Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, C’d, Yx [*OED* gives as C16 formation]

amang among

“amang thur hills” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s. *Plus*: “inamang” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s

amell amidst, among

“amell, ameld – among” *Ray* 1674; “amel – between” *Bailey* D’m 1810; “amell 7 and 8 o’clock” *Atkinson* Cleveland 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, Yx. NE 2001: not in use [ON ámilli]

annanters see **enanters**

ane see **yan**

anenst, nenst beside, towards

“for pavyng anenst the kyrk lone, ii d.” *Raine* York 1530; “I sat close anenst him” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “The cash was paid nenst his year’s rent” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: not in use [OE on efn ‘face to face’]. See also **forenenst**

arf, arfish, erf timorous

“lse arf” (I am afraid) *Grose* 1787; “its an awfish hike” (frightful) *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “erf or ergh – afraid” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “ah felt arfish in the dark” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco and East Coast. NE 2001: not in use [OE (Ang) arg, ON arg]

argie to argue

“argy – the popular pronunciation of argue” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “divent argie” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. *Plus* “argufy – to argue” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “argify” *GP* S’m 1998

arles, earles a retaining fee, deposit

“arles – earnest or advance of wages” *Ray* 1674, sim. *Robson* Birtley 1880s, 1890s; “Given the smith in arles for the bell, 1 s.” *Raine* Bedlington 1674; “arles ... the money that was commonly given in Northumberland and Durham to confirm a hiring or binding” *Evening Chronicle* 18 Oct 1938. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. NE 2001: not in use [OFr arres, eris ‘earnest, pledge’]. *Plus* “the fitters ... arled the keelmen for their services during the coming year” *Mitcalfe* re Tyne ca. 1800

arran-web spider-web

ex. Nth 1829, mid-Tees 1849, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Yx. NE 2001: not in use [OF arraigne ‘spider’]. *Plus* “yrayn” (a spider) *Durham* C15/2; “atter-cop – a spider (also D’m, N’d, S.Scots)” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “spinner-mesh – a spider’s web” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

arsy-varsy head over heels

ex. *Grose* 1787. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE, Mids

ashet dish

“serving dish or pie dish” *Geeson* N’d/D’m 1969. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d [Fr assiette]

ask, asker newt

“ask, asker, esk – a water newt” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “ask – a newt or small lizard, distinguished as a drie ask and a water ask” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “lizard or newt ... a newt is only a wet ask when found in water ... when found elsewhere it is classed with the dry asks and like them is reputed to be poisonous” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: ask – Nth, Sco, Ire; asker – Yx, Mids [OE aexe]. *Plus* “during the breeding season the males developed red bellies for female attraction and were called ‘red arstys’” *CT* New Herrington C20/mid

ass ashes

ex. *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *Plus* “ass-midden – a heap of ashes collected for manure” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “ass-midden – the heap of ashes ... of the household” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

astite as soon as, as willingly

“Aw’d astite de nought as de that” *Bell* MS Newc 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, NE 2001: not in use [ON titt ‘often’]. See also **stite**

at up to, doing

“Where’s Bruce at?” Seaham 2004 per BG

’at see **that**

atop, atoppa on the top (of)

“a-top o’ the dike” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

atwee in two

“Eneugh to rive atwee the heart” *Pitman’s Pay* 2, G’head 1820s; “Ah could ‘a’e biten a naal atweea Ah war that mad” *Umpleby* Staithes c. 1935. *EDD* distribution to 1900: atwee –NE; atwo – general

atween between

“atween the twee leets” (at twilight) *Embelton* Tyne 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* “inatween” (after verbs of motion) *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “atwix” *Graham* Geordie 1979

aud see **aad**

aup see **yep**

aw see **aa**

awn see **aan**

ax, ast ask

“axing pennies ti buy backy” *Oliver* Newc 1824 p.9; “ast fer sumthing ta eat” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “we mun ax Geordie” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “Ye may weel ax” *Parker* Tyne Valley 1896 p.88; “he was assin’ where they’d gotten hed?” (hid) *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “the aad chep axed him whe dun it” *Irwin* Tyne 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE axian, acsian, variant of ascian]. *Plus* “he jus’ come roond unaxed” *Leslie* Newc 1992

axletooth molar

“assil tooth or axle tooth – a grinder” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco. [ON jaxl ‘molar’]

aye 1. ever, always. 2. yes

1. "haldand ay his first will" *Cuthbert* D'm C15/mid; "yer aye fashin yen wi somethin or other" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "the gimmers aye are short of milk" *Northumbrian Words III* C20/mid re Kielder. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, W'd [OE a (long 'a') 'ever, always'] 2. yes: "aeyh, eyeh" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s etc.; "aye, sartly..." *Embelton* Tyne 1897. "Oh-aye – reet oh" *Dobson* Tyne 1970–71. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general; NE 2001: in common use. [derived from aye 'ever'] Plus "yis" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.480 1869; "u'm, h'm or umhim – an indifferent, careless manner of assenting to what is said ... very common in Newcastle" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "aha" (acknowledgement) B'd Castle 2001 Q

ayont beyond

"far ayont the hill" *Geeson* N'd/D'm 1969; "ten miles ayont Hell" *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. See also **beyont**

B

babby baby

ex. *Dobson* Tyne 1974. *Plus* “babba” *JB Shildon* C20/mid; “babby-hoose is a playtime ‘house’ outlined on the ground with the most ornamental material available, usually pebbles or boodies” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s

baccy tobacco

“we’ll tak a bit baccy” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.89; “Ah’s off me bakky!” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “bacca” *Coxhoe* 1916. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

backcast 1. to change retrospectively, 2. a reversal

1. “We canno’ backcast it – we cannot now order it differently” 1892 *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, parts of Nth

2. “back-cast – a relapse of health, etc.” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “back kest” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; “Thoo’s gotten a backcast” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

back-by back there

“if ye lamp shoud gan oot hinny diwent leave it way back-by” *Taylor Dawdon* C20/2

back end latter part, autumn

“back-end – the autmnl part of the year, the latter end of any given time” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “end of a week, a month, a year” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “part of the year after harvest” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. NE 2001: in low use

back ower backwards, back again

“they cam back ower hyem” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.451 1862; “back ower” (backwards) *Haldane Newc* 1879; “so a cam back ower” S’m 2004 per BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx

back shift the second shift

“back-shift – the second shift of hewers in each day. It commences about four hours after the pit begins to draw coals” *Nicholson* 1880; “In the back shift one worked from 9a.m until 5p.m.” *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.62; “in bakk – afternoon shift” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “backshift dinner – a big meal (the only time you got a decent dinner was when you were on backshift)” *DN N’d* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx. See also **fore shift**

bad unwell, ill

“bad, badly – poorly, indisposed, ill or sick” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “bad wi’ the beor” *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “Ee, I was dead bad last night” *PG H’pool* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* “bad ti tell – hard to tell, difficult to understand” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid

baff week/end non-pay week/end

“the baff week is o’er” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.38; “baff-week – the week in which the pitmen receive no pay; a card not a trump is a baff one” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “baff Saturday – the day ... when the men’s work is made up, the wages being paid on the succeeding Friday.” *Nicholson* 1880; “it’s the baff week, thoo sees, an ah hae ne brass!” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “The alternate weekend to ‘pay’ weekend in the days of fortnightly payments” *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m. [*Brockett* 1846 and *Geeson* N’d/D’m 1969 equate ‘baff’ with ‘blank’. *EDD* suggests variant of *bauch*, which from ON *bágr* ‘hard up’]

bagie see **turnip**

baggy stickleback, etc.

“baggies – small fish that youngsters catch and put in a jam jar” *RV Winlaton*, 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sSco, N’d

bain ready, etc.

“sho made hir bayne”, “to ete ... we were bayne” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “bain – willing, forward” *Ray* 1674; “bain – ready, near” *Bailey* Co.Dm 1810; “bainer way – nearer route” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids, Sco, Ire. [ON beinn ‘direct, ready’]

bairn child

“sho was with barne” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “barn, beam – a child ... bearn-teams – boods of children” *Ray* 1674; “Bobby Shaftoe’s gotten a bairn” Co.D’m C18/mid; “a heap o’ hungry bairns” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “en a little bairmie’s pot” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “seeben lad bairns” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “it’s a cliwor bairn that knas its own fathor” Ashington C20/mid; “hee’s aawnly a bairn” *VIZ* 42. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids. NE 2001: in common use. [ON barn, OE (Anglian) bearn as against West Saxon cild]. *Plus* “**bairn time** – the time of life during which females bear children” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “**bairn-team** – a large family, a brood of children” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “**bairnsplay** – a task easily done; also any kind of frivolity” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s. *Alternatively*: “thine own wayns” *Noah’s Ark* Newc C15/16; “sprog” *MG* Teesdale C20/2; “pit-rats” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.51; “kid” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.458 1862

bait, bate portable meal

“bate – a lunch taken on the road” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “bait – food taken by a pitman to his work” *Nicholson* 1880; “when at wor bate, we’d had some confidential crack” (in pit) *Barrass* Stanley 1892; “my ‘bait’ of bread and jam” *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.62; “bait – mid-shift food” *McBurnie* Glebe Colliery, C20/mid; “bait – the local word for food taken at work is bait ... from the 1920s the most general food was bread and butter and sugar” *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Durham collieries; “bait or bate – food tied in a handkerchief” *Geeson* N’d/D’m 1969; “bayut – lunch” *Dobson* Tyne 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in common use [ON beita]. *Plus* “to bait our horse” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.122. See also **scran**

bait-poke lunch box or bag

“bait-poke – a bag in which a pit-lad carries his provisions: ‘Aw put the bait-poke on at eight’” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “a sandwich outa me bait box” *Hay* Ushaw Moor C20/1; “baite-poke – a white bag ... slung on the arm” *Wade* *South Moor* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m [?ONF poque, Ice. poki, Gaelic poca, OE pohha]. *Plus* “he gans to th’ pit it mornens wiv his botil en his box” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. See also **tommy box**

ban to curse (someone)

“Why dost thou bann Robin Hoode?” C16 ballad; “banning – cursing” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE bannan]

bane, byen bone

“for to breke and bryst his banes” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “Thou hast full weary baynes” *Noah’s Ark* Newc C15/16; “buain” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2 [OE bán]. See also **shackle(-bane)**

bang to beat, exceed

“bang – rush; surpass, excel” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “we can bang them at canny Newcastle” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.243 1842. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco. [?ON banga ‘to hammer’]. *Plus* “to bang up – to get with child” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s

bangle bracelet

ex. NShields C20/mid Q

bank hill, hillside

“bank – hill. The word ‘hill’ is practically unknown in the dialect” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “bank – hill, slope on road” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; “a steep road or incline” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “hilly bank” *GJ* Spennymoor C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use [Probably ON, since Olce. bakki ‘ridge’]. *Plus* “**banky** – hilly” *Dobson* Tyne 1973

bank aboveground at pit

“we made all possable speed out, to go to bank” *Errington* p.60 Felling/Heworth re 1800s; “bank – the top of mouth of a coal pit – ‘are ye gawn to ride ‘t Bank?’” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “iv a heap like coals at bank” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “The lads at bank [i.e. in heaven] ‘ill greet us” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “At bank or doon the pit” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “the ‘pit’ surface, top of ‘shaft’. To ‘work at bank’ is to do the colliery

work above ground" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "the' rapped the cage ter bank" *Hay* Ushaw Moor C20/1; "something would happen when 'the ship comes up Bottle Bank' – meaning it's not going to happen" *DN* re G'head C20/1; 'on surface near shaft' *JP* Dawdon C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm

banksman supervisor at top of pit shaft

"James Carre, then bankeman of the said cole pitts" *Raine MS*: Houghton-le-Spring, 1604; "banksman – a higher order of pitmen who take care of the pit heaps or mouth of the coal pit" *Bell MS* Newc 1815; "banksman – a man employed in taking the coals from the mouth of the shaft ... to the skreen" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; "banksman – shoves last few men into cage and makes sure the gate comes down and signals to the engine room 3 raps for 'men riding' and 2 raps for release the keps" *GP S'm* C20/mid; 'the man in control at the top of the shaft of a pit' *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm

bantling infant

"Here, then, is the end of your Lordship's bantling [Shaftesbury's baby, i.e. his Bill on child employment], dressed in your swaddling-clothes, it was stripped and despoiled before you took it back to your nursery..." *3M* Seaham 1842; "bantling – (anything) small or young. East Castle was called 'The Bantling'" *JG* Annfield Plain 1930s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Mids. [*OED* suggests possible from Gm bänkling 'bastard']

banty 1. breed of chicken, 2. troops

1. "but wheest! the banty's craw aw hear" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.374 1849; "bantee – bantam [hen]" *Dodd MS* Tanfield Lea C20/2. [bantam, name and breed from the Far East]

2. "Bantams/Bantys – name for Durham troops in 1914-18 War" *CT* New Herrington 1930s

barguest apparition boding ill

"bar-guest – a ghost, all in white with large saucer eyes, commonly appearing near gates or stiles, there called bars (Yorks)" *Grose* 1787; "bar-guest – a local spirit or demon ... accustomed to howl dreadfully at midnight before any dire calamity" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "barguest – an apparition in the form of some animal, most frequently a large shaggy dog, but always characterised by large saucer eyes and a terrible shriek or roar" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, eMids [Gm Barg-geist, mountain-demon, gnome; cf. OE gast 'spirit']

barley to 'bag', to reserve

"An' ay wad Johnny barley" [i.e. claim as husband] *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.46 1812; "barley me that – I bespeak that" *Bell MS* Newc 1815; "To claim, to speak for first: 'Barley me the big 'un'" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "Aa barleyed forst kick" *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth [English 'parley']

barm yeast

ex. *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE barm] *Plus* "barm-cake" EP eD'm 1945; "barm-cake – idiot" H'pool, Teesside, Wingate 2001 Q; "barm-pot – idiot" *PG* H'pool C20/2, MB Coxhoe re C20/1, Ho'ton 2002 Q. NE 2001: only in phrases; otherwise 'yest' is used. See also **yest**

barry – see **excellent**

bastle border dwelling

"The English bastle was essentially a defensible farmhouse consisting of two floors, where the family lived above and the animals sheltered below" Reed *Border ballads* p.29

bat 1. a blow, 2. to hit

1. "we'll gie him his batts, and let him gae" Reed *Border Ballads* C16; "the bairns then hits her door such bats" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.335 C19/1; "nivor struck a bat – used in *Easington* and *Horden* to describe a lazy sod" *JS* Easington C20/mid; "gets a bat in the mooth" *Irwin* Tyne 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids

2. "they fit en they bat it" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; "I'll bat thy gob in a minute" *IA* S'm 1950s, '60s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use [Fr battre] *Plus* "batterfanged – beaten and scratched" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx, Lincs

bate see **bait**

bat end pit electrician's term

'end of an electric cable, nearest the panel' re Houghton Pit 2001 Q. A connection at the end of an electric cable' *Tootle* as Mids. and Scots. [? battery]

batts flat land

"batts – islands in rivers, or flat grounds adjoining them" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "batts – low flat grounds adjoining rivers, and sometimes islands in rivers" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, nYx

bauk, balk beam of wood, e.g. in a building

"balks, bawks – poles laid over a stable or other building for the roof [i.e. a beam]" *Ray* 1674; "hen-bawks – the hen-roost, the bawks or cross poles or sticks in a hen-house" *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; "bauk – ... a pole or beam, such as are used under the roofs of small buildings; land left unplowed, to divide the property of different persons in common or open fields" *Grose* 1787 re N'd; "balk – a strong piece of timber for supporting the roof in a coal pit" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; "propped up with barks" (planks) *JR Seaham* C20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON bjalki 'beam']

bays see **hopscotch**

(to) **be** 1. I am, etc., 2. you are (sg.), 3. he is, etc., 4. we are, 5. you are (pl.), 6. they are

1. "Aze suer aws reet" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "sair fail'd is I" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.10 1834; "Aa is a feul" *Haldane* Newc 1879; "eff he thinks aw'se a fule, he's a lang way wrang" *Wearside Tales* 1879; "I'se sure!" (ironically) *EP Southwick* 1940s; "A's – I am" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950; "aaz – I'se" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "awm stuck" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.408 1862; "Aa'm/Aa's" *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; "A'm" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; "ahm – I am" *Dobson* Tyne 1972 [ON ek es 'I is']

2. "thou is", "thou's" *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; "Wi, how is thou?" *Marshall* Newc 1823 p.10; "thoo is" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; "thouise varney ten minits late" West Stanley C20/1

3. [as in standard southern]. *Plus* "ben't, baint (pronounced beeant) – be not" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

4. "wese" *Meriton* nYx 1683; "as lang as wour yebble" *Marshall* G'head 1806; "wah" (we are) *RF Gateshead* C20/mid

5. "yor, yer" *EDD* N'd C19

6. [as in standard southern] *Plus* "thai bene"

Cuthbert C15/mid [there are two OE verbs, forms from *beon* (not favoured in the North East) and forms like *is*, *earun* (more Anglian) that underlie the above dialect forms]. See also **shall, was, will**

beal to roar (of animal or human)

"to cry out, weep, lament" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "to roar, as of a child" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "to bellow, to low as a cow; to raise the voice" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "beel – bellow like a bull" *Gibson* C'd 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [OE *bellan* 'to roar', ON *belja* 'to bellow']

beb, bev 1. a sub, a gift or loan of money, 2. assisting

1. "So I'm all right for a beb then?" per *Wood* Stockton/M'bro 2002

2. "bewing" (helping out at pitch, toss) *LG* S'm C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: beb – N'd

beck stream, local watercourse

"a brook or rivulet" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "small rivulet" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "the general name for a stream of running water" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "Beck. Used indifferently with 'burn.' A stream." *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "rowled in beck – fell in the stream" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950; "gan play down th' beck" *TC* S'm 1940s; "jumping the beck in Dalton-le-dale" *TM* 1950s; exx. Haswell Trimdon, Wheatley Hill 2004 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth (not N'd), eMids. NE 2001: in use for local stream. "While the Norse beck crowds the banks of Teesdale, it does not exist in Weardale" *Egglesstone* Weardale 1886; "the name occurs 63 times in Durham but not in Northumberland" *Graham* Geordie 1979 [ON *bekkr*]. See also **burn**

beclarted dirtied

“beclarted – bemired, smeared over with dirt” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [first noted C13th, source uncertain]. See also **clarts**, **clarty**

bedstock, **stocks** frame of bed, the bed itself

“Ower the bedstock” *Marshall Newc* 1823 p.17; “At this Aw lowpt clean over the stock, An’ fand that Aw wiz waken...” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s (waking from a nightmare); “bedstock – the side beam of a bed” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; “she gov us a dunch an’ then shued us ower the bedstock” *Cuddy Cairt Newc* 1917; “A’m tired out, A’m off to the bedstocks/stocks”, “It’s time you were in the stocks” *BJ re Cockfield*, ca.1900, Ho’ton, B’p Auck 1940s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco. [‘stock’ as piece of wood]

bee-hive 1. bee-bike, 2. bee skep

1. “bee-bike – a bee’s nest, or hive, in a wild state” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “byke – the nest of a bee or wasp” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “a wasp’s byke or a bummeler’s byke” *Nth Words Bensham* 1938; “When the scythe cuts and the sock rives/No more fairies and bee-bikes” *Denham Tracts C19*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, nYx [Brockett analyses as bee-wick; or from big ‘to build’?]

2. “bee skep – a bee hive” *Bell MS Newc* 1815, *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “skep – a hive for bees, also measure for corn, etc ... made of ropes of straw fastened together with the tough bark of hazels, etc.” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “skep – beehive” *wD’m* 2001 Q

beeld shelter, protection

“some traist of thair belde” (protection) *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “& do think you a great beald to me” *Raine MS York* 1588; “beeld – a high fence or skrean to defend cattle from the cold” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “beild – sheltered as ‘it has good beild”” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “beild – shelter” *Gibson C’d* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco. [?OE *bieldo* ‘boldness, confidence’]. *Plus* “beeldy – warm, affording shelter from cold: ‘beeldy flannel”” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

beestlings rich milk

“beeslings, beestlings – the first milk which a cow gives after her calving” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “beestlings” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “beastlings or beasting” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “beastlings, beeslings (pronounced bizlins)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *biesting*]

behint behind

“behint yon auld fail dyke” *Reed Border Ballads C16*; *exx. Bewick Tyne* 1790s, *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, *Tanfield Lea* 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids. “but ahint is commoner” *Graham Geordie* 1979. See also **ahint**

belang to be born in or live in

“Hey lad, dista b’lang plyess?” *NDN* 31 May 1919; “whare de yea belang?” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “a man ed belang’d Middlesborro” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “‘War dis thoo belang?’ ‘Aa belang canny Shields”” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Aa belongs Pittington” *Coxhoe* 1916; “Where the hell thee’s belang? – where do you come from/live?” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “belang Seaham” *S’m* 1990 per BG. NE 2001: low use

bell in phrase ‘bears the bell’ – is victorious

“thou greittly bears the bell” *Reed Border ballads C16*; “The Bayly berith the bell away” *Durham C16/2*

bellywark – see **wark**

belk see **bowk**

bensellen a good hiding

“Ah gev him a good bensellen” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid* [ON *benzla*]

bent type of grass

‘a long coarse kind of grass, which grows near the sea’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “the whins and bents and strang sea air” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.468 1862; “bent – a kind of short, wiry, dark-coloured grass ... of the moors and moor-banks” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “a coarse grass

growing on sandhills near the shore" *Geeson N'd/D'm* 1969. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

bere barley

"bear – four-rowed barley" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "bear, bere – a variety of barley, otherwise called bigg" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ex. Aberdeens, 1993. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *bere*] See also **bigg**

berries

"Berries. Generic name for all fruit of the berry kind" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

bet beaten [perfect participle]

"seldom be't" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.209, 1842; "bet – exhausted" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

beuk book

"beuk" *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "byuk" *Coxhoe* 1916; "yen o' the beuks that tellt ye hoo it's aall dyun" *Robson Newc C20/1*; "boouk" *S'm* 2003 via BG. See also *library*

beuts, byuts boots

"fine dusty buits without spurs" *Tracts 4, Newc* ca. 1820; "guid pair of buits" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "beuts en shoos" *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "fill thi beuts" (eat as much as you can) *CT New Herrington* 1930s; "Aav nae biuts" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950; "byuts" *Coxhoe* 1916, *Dinnington* 1950s, *Tanfield Lea* 1960 (Q); "...brings new byeuts te wor bairns" *Dobson Tyne* 1972. See also **skeets**

bewer girl, young woman

"bewer – a disrepectful word – more Tyneside" *GP S'm C20/mid*; 'girl' *TP S'd* 1960s; "esp. a girl who tarted herself up for a night out" *SM H'pool* 2003; "woman, a lass – not exactly uncomplimentary but it's on the level of 'totty': 'Looka that bewer at the bar'" *Wood re H'pool, Teesside* 2003; "she was a bewer" (implying loose morals) *GD S'm* 2004 via BG. [*OED* gives as 'north dialect and tramps' slang']

beyont beyond

ex. *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. See also **ayont**

bid to invite

"Are you bodden or invited to the wedding, burial, etc." *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "he's bad to the funeral" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "When a miner dies, a 'bidder' goes round to all his fellow-workmen to bid them attend his funeral" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE *biddan*]

biddy a louse

ex. *Dinsdale midTees* 1849. [Gael. *videach* 'very small']

bide wait, remain

"there will I bide [await] thee" *Beattie Border Ballads* p.36; "to stay, stop or continue" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "to wait; to dwell; to bear, endure" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "Newcassel's fame 'ill bide/lang as its coaly tide" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.535 1882; "aw'll bide at yem" *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "Don't let them bide out night" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "Bide where tha is" *Hitchin re Seaham* 1920s p.107; "if you are not coming bide at yem and sulk" *JS Easington 20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: only in phrases like 'bide your torn', 'bide your time'. [OE *bīdan*]

big build

"hys newe house that he byggys" *Raine MS York*, 1376; "he bigged thare housyng" *Cuthbert C15/mid*; "bigged wi' lyme and stane" *Beattie Border Ballads* p.50; "big – to build: 'they bigged a bower'" *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, but obsol. *Plus* "biggen, bigging – a building ... now generally used for a hut covered with mud or turf" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

bigg, big barley

“otes, bygg, both ry and whete” *Durham C16/2*; “the Big-Market” (Newcastle) Owen Macdonald, 1752; “bigg – a coarse kind of barley, properly that variety which has six rows of grain on each ear” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “bigg – a variety of barley, known as ‘four-rowed’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘now obsolete’ *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth., Mids. [ON byggja]. See also **bere**

billy marra or companion

“billie” *Beattie Border Ballads* p.97; “billie, billy – a companion or comrade, a brother” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “a companion” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco. [? bully]

bind, binnd to bind; to contract to work in pit

“When wour bund” (*Marshall G’head* 1806); “thou’s fast boon ... thou’s bun te Tyne Main” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.218 1827; “Gat fettl’d up a set of geer – and bun’ to hew.” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “she wiz neethor te haud or te binn’d” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

bindin’ annual signing on for pit work

“the pranks that were play’d at the last binding” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.39; “binding or bindin – the contract or hiring for the year; the colliery bond” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “not varry lang ’fore wor bindin’ cam roon” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.485 1862; “bindings – the time at which the yearly bond used to be signed, which was on the Saturday previous to March 22nd” *Nicholson* 1880; “The aud men tawk’d ... of what the binndins used te be” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

bing a container

“bing – a chest in a stable to keep the horses corn in” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “stone recesses, called bing steads” (in mine) *Alston* 1833; as a measure of lead: “_____ [number omitted] pokes make a horse [load] & two horses make a bing” *Raine MS Alston* 1675; ‘a weight or ore, 8 cwt’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [?ON bingr ‘heap’, compare Dan. bing ‘bin’]

bink bench

“binks & forme” *Raine MS Mollescroft* 1613; “bink – a seat of stones, wood, or sods, made mostly against the front of a house” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; ‘a ledge or platform-like hill, also a stone bench...’ western Northumbria via *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; “bink – stone bench for milk cans etc.” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931; “bink – stone bench (as in farm dairy)” *JB Shildon C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: with sense ‘shelf’ – Nth, Sco. [Nth version of bench]

binn external horizontal strip of wood on a coble

“acts like a rubbing strake” *Hill Flamborough* 1970s; “listin’s, not binns” *FT Cullercoats* 2003

birk birch tree

“seaven score birk trees and allers” *Raine MS Medomsley* 1615. *EDD* distribution to 1900:

Sco, Nth, eMids. [ON bjork]

bishop to scorch

“to bishop – to let milk or sauce burn ... in boiling.” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “bishoped – burnt (e.g. milk)” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general [‘because the bishops burn who they lust and whosoever displeaseth them’ (Tindale)]

bit [adj.] little, small or [noun] small amount or piece of

“the trap-door bit laddy” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “a bit backy” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.89; “bit – as in ‘a bit pie’” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “maw bit bairn”, “she gave a bit smile” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “this bit paper”, “any little bit thing” *Coxhoe* 1916

biv by

“biv it” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.48 1812; “on the road bivisse” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “biv her side” *Chater Newc* 1880. *EDD* distribution to

1900: N'd, Yx. [intrusive intervocalic 'v' – or by analogy with forms like 'div', 'hev']

bizon see **bysen**

blaa, blaw 1. to blow, 2. a breather

1. "blaa – [to] blow (as with wind, gale, etc.)" *JB Shildon* C20/mid

2. "getting the men to work after their blaa was finished" *JS Easington* C20/mid; "'Let's hev a blaa' means 'Let us take wind' – that is, have a rest – or 'Let us have a smoke'." *Tanfield Lea* 1960

blackberries – 1. **bumblekites**, 2. **brambles**, 3. **black-kites**, 4. (other)

1. "bumble-kites – bramble-berries" *Kennet* 1690s as Yx, *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810, *Bell* MS Newc 1815 as Durham, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. ["from its bering supposed to cause flatulency when eaten in too great a quantity" *Brockett* 1849]

2. "brambles (pronounced bramm'ls, brumm'ls) – blackberries, the fruit of the bramble" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "blackberry bushes and their fruit" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896, D'ton 1940s (Q); 'the fruit, not the plant' *JB Shildon* C20/mid. *Plus* "as freendlee is a brammel bush" *Ashington* C20/mid

3. "black-kites – brambles" *Gibson* C'd 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, C'd

4. "black bow-wowers – bramble berries (N'd)" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "black-bowowers – blackberries – plus bumbly kites" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "wicks or wickens – blackberries" *JS E'ton* 1950s; "hoggins, wicks, wickens – words used to describe blackberries in abundance" *JS Easington* C20/mid; "blackbarries" *Dobson* Tyne 1972

blackclock, clock cockroach, beetle

"a clock – a beetle or dor, a hot-chafer" *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; "clock – beetle" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "Blackclock – cockroach (always used)" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "clock, clocker – any large beetle: 'killin clock wi' clubs'" (excessive effort) *Heslop* Newc. 1890s; "blaklok – black beetle" *Dodd* MS *Tanfield Lea* C20/2; "a cockroach was always called a blackclock" *ER M'bro* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx. NE 2001: blackclock – low use [origin unknown] *Plus* "cloaker – grey bug found under rocks". *BP* (Berwick) (E)

blackie 1. a blackbird, 2. a black man

"blackie – blackbird" *JB Shildon* C20/mid, *Graham* *Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* "ouzel – the blackbird" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

2. "We'd seed a Blackey ... [boxing]" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.140 1816; "there's bonny wark oot here [Australia] wi' the Convicts, the Blackies, Robbers, en Bushrangers" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.403 C19/mid; "Twee Blackeys [statuettes?] sall mense the door-check" *Mitford* Newc 1888; ex. *TC S'm* 1980s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd

blake 1. yellowish, 2. to make or become pale

1. "blake – yellow or of a golden colour; spoken of butter, cheese, etc." *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'yellow; bleak' *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "blake – of a fair, soft, yellow colour or tone: 'as blake's butter'" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; 'butter-yellow' *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [OE blác 'pale' ON bleikr]

2. "thire enmys ... sall blake" *Cuthbert* C15/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx. See also **drunk**

blakes cow dung

"cow-blakes – cow-dung [for fuel]" *Ray* 1674. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx. See also **cassens**

blare 1. to cry (weep or shout), 2. to poke out the tongue, 3. an outcry, a shout

1. "she blaired out for a greet while" (cried our, wept) *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "blare – to cry aloud, as the cow blares, etc." *Bell* MS Newc 1815, 1830s; "sae blind wi' blairin" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.180, 1824; "'Crikes!' Jemmy blair'd" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.187 1824; "the bairns begins an' shoots an' blairs" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.335 C19/1; "blair, blare – to bellow as a cow; to cry loudly or noisily [like] a child; to protrude the tongue" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "blaring – crying peevishly: 'You'r blaring like a calf'" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "A'll gi' th' something to blare for, if aa start wi' th'" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "she blared her eyes out" *IA S'm* 1950s, 60s; 'to weep, cry loudly' *Dinnington* 1950s Q; "the bairns were blairin" *Graham* *Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. [Du. blaren, Fr pleurer]

2. “blare – to poke out the tongue” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

3. “aw set up a blare” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.49 1812. *Plus* “blary – noisy, of an infant” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

blash to splash (trans., intrans.)

“blash – to splash” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “blash – to plash [sic]” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “t’ watter blashes oot i’ t’ can” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids [imitative]

blashy wet

“streets ... brave and blashy” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* 1812 p.46; “blashy – thin, poor: ‘blashey tea’” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s, sim. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids

blast explosion (in pit)

“blast – an explosion of fire-damp” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

blate shy, modest

“bleit, blate – bashful” *Ray* 1674; “faith you’re no blate” *Bell MS Newc* 1815, ‘shamefaced’ 1830s; “deeth o’ late hez no been blate” *Oliver Newc* p.8 1824; “he’s not forward, in fact he is blate” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.571 C19/2 re Choppington. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. [possibly from OE blát ‘pale’] *Plus* “blaytness – shyness” (*Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s)

blather to gabble, talk nonsense, etc.

“blather – to stammer, also blather for bladder” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “Blather – gabble: ‘she blathers away when there’s no one here’ (of a baby’s attempts to talk. 1891), ‘hard (hold) thy blatherin’ tongue’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. [ON bla, ora]. *Plus* “blatha-skyt – person who talks rubbish” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “blather skite – one who talks aimlessly” *Graham Geordie* 1979. See also **blether**

blaze to shoot

“blazed it ower the bar” (re football) *Dinnington* 1950s Q

blea livid colour

“few will keep a tuppe that is blea-faced” *Raine MS EYorks* 1641; “blee – bluish” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “blea – bluish or lead-colour” *Brockett Tyne & Nth* 1846; “blae (pronounced bleea) – of a livid or pale bluish colour: ‘he leuks bleea’s a whetstone’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. [ON blá ‘blue, livid’]

bleaberry bilberry

“blea-berry, blay-berry – the bilberry or black whortle berry” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Bleeberry – bilberry” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896, *JB Shildon* C20/mid; “bleeberry sauce” *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. [ON blá ‘blue, livid’] See also **windberry**

bleb blister, droplet

“bleb – a drop” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; ‘the watery bubble of a blister’ *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “a drop of water or any other fluid; a blister: ‘blebs iv his hands’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “a bleb on her lip” *IA S’m* 1950s,60s; ‘sore skin by burn, scald or friction’ *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “bleb was often restricted to a blood blister, e.g. when you ‘brayed your finga end’ with the hammer” *JS Easington* C20/mid; “bleb – extrusion in a bike innertube” *Wood M/bro* 2002; ‘a carbuncle on a car-tire wheel’ *Gateshead* per BL 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. NE 2001: in use. [imitative] See also **blush**

bleck dark dirt

“any blecked or coloured wooll” (?spotted) *Raine MS Birstwith* 1585/86 via Knaresborough; “bleck – grease ... in machinery” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘pitch’ [tar] *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; ‘dirty grease, found on coal waggon-ways where rollers are used’ *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD*

distribution to 1900: N'd, Yx, Ches. NE 2001: not in use. [ON blek 'ink']

bleech a gale

"bleech – high wind with snow or rain" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: bleach – N'd

bleezer, blazer screen to help in lighting a fire

"bleezer – a sheet of iron for closing the open space above a grate to increase the draught" *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; "blazer – a piece of sheet iron, put between the grate and the mouth of the chimney, in order to make the fire draw" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "bleezer" *Spennymoor C20/mid*, *JP S'm C20/2*, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*, *Trimdon* 2002 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, Yx. NE 2001: low use. *Plus* "chaakin on th bleezer" of a couple not talking to each other. eD'm 1990s

blether 1. to talk idly, 2. silly talk

1. "may blether an' crack" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.406 1862; "blether – to cry loudly like a fractious child" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "folk bletherin about thoor hooses" *Wdale Gaz* Apr 2005. NE 2001: exx. G'head, S'd.

2. "mang the noise an' the blether" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.489 1862; "blether" *Gateshead*, S'd 2001 Q. See also **blather**

blinnd blind

"blind as a bat" *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s, *Other Eye Newc.*, ca.1890, GP S'm C20/2; "short vowel ... a blind lonnin is one that ends abruptly without exit; a blind burn is one which disappears underground for part of its course" *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; "What's the matter wi thoo ref are ye blinnd or what?" *JS Easington C20/mid*

blithe happy

"he was blithe of the myracle" *Cuthbert C15/mid*; "Whe's like my Johnny,/Sae leish, sae blithe, sae bonny?" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.45 1812; "Wor lasses then were blythe and bonny" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s]. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE blío]

blob 1. bubble [noun and vb], 2. condom

"blob – a bubble: 'soap-blobs', 'nose-blobs'; verb, to bubble" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "Blob – to bubble: 'it blobs up'" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [imitative]

2. 'condom' exx. *IA S'm* 1950s, 60s; *TP S'd* 1960s, *Stanley* 1960s per BG. *Plus* "I forgot to buy a blurb, pet" (*Newcastle Stuff* re *Ashington* 2004)

blobbin' on overtime

"If you were asked if you were on overtime, or scheduled for some, the expression was 'are ye blobbin'?' or 'ah'm blobbin'" *GA G'head/Newc British Rail* 1968

blogged blocked

ex. *JB Shildon C20/mid*

blonk, blank to thwart, to disappoint

"aw fand ma-sel blonk'd" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.47 1812; "blonk'd – disappointed" *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; "to be blonked is to be baffled or disappointed" *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, nYx. [OFr blankir]

blue 1. bluestone or shale (pit term), 2. a uniform

1. ex. *Northumbrian III* 1990 re *Backworth*

2. "Then hurrah! hurrah! for the jackets of blue!/For the brave British tar in their jackets of blue." *Scrapbook Tyne* C19/1; "O this bonny moor hen she's got feathers enew/She's many fine colours but none of them blue" 'The Bonny Moor Hen' ca.1818; "Aw've even worn the blue" *Barrass Stanley* 1897

bluey lobster

ex. *GP Seaham C20/2*

blush blister (noun and vb)

“blush – a blister or puffing up of the skin ... in Teesdale and elsewhere the word is blish” *Hull MS wNewc 1880s*; “his hand’s all blushed” *Palgrave Hetton 1896*; “blush – blister” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, Yx. *Plus* “blish” *Dinsdale mid Tees 1849*, *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. See also **bleb**

board portion of coal face

“bord – the space allotted generally to one man to work in, in a colliery” *Pitman’s Pay G’head 1820s*; “Pillars and boards” (initial galleries driven inbye through the coal to the boundary.) *Hitchin re Seaham 1920s p.105*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx

bobbersome frisky

“bobberous, bobbersome – hearty, elated, in high spirits” *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [?variant of bothersome; but compare Irish bob ‘a trick’]

boff see **pump****bogey** 1. industrial vehicle, 2. go-cart

1. “bogie – the tram or truck, used by the Newcastle Quayside cartmen” *Brockett Newc & Nth 1846*; “bogey – a low, two-wheeled sleigh-cart for carrying hay to the stack without the trouble of pitching” *Palgrave Hetton 1896*; “bogey (or tram) – used for transporting lengths of long materials into mine working places” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery, C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. [origin unknown]

2. “bogie – a child’s home-made carriage, generally made with four pram wheels and a sugar-crate” *Irwin Tyne 1970*

bogie stove on a coble

‘cuddy stove’ *Hill Flamborough 1970s*; ‘four wheeled vehicle ... made from a plank of wood and two sets of pram wheels’ *FS H’pool C20/2*. *Note*: not used, *FT Cullercoats 2003*.

boggle, etc., 1. supernatural being, 2. of a horse rearing up

1. “bogel or bogel-bo – a ghost or bugbear” *Bell MS Newc 1815*; “boggle or bógle, bogglebo – a spectre or ghost, a nursey bug-bear.” *Brockett 1829 re N’d and D’m*; “boggle about the stacks – a favourite pastime among young people in the country villages” *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*; “bo’man, bo-boggle – a kidnapper or hobgoblin” *Bell MS Newc 1815*, ‘Bo, bo her[e] is a boggle come to get you’ *Bell MS Newc 1830s*; “supernatural (sea) monster” *RLS, Scots, 1891*; “The manner in which he wishes to alarm his readers ... put me in mind of the Bo-men and Boggles resorted to by nurses and old women, to intimidate children.” *Newc Courant 6 Jul 1822 p.2*; “We hadn’t gane far, till attacked we were,/By a bogle, frev out on a lane, man;/He a skeleton seem’d ... Aw fancied him Death, in disguise, man” *Street Piracy Newc 1822*; boggle – ghost” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: not in use. [origin – disputed; note “bogill” (buffalo or wild ox) C16 Scots] *Plus* “boman – bogeyman” *Dinsdale mid-Tees 1849*; “Bo-lo – a nursery ghost or hobgoblin: ‘Gan to bed therecklies or aw’ll bring the bo-lo!’” *Luckley Alnwick 1870s*; “boggart – a hobgoblin, a sprite” *Atkinson Cleve 1868*; “bogie – a sort of cross between a ghost and a paedophile” *Thornley C20/mid Q*. See also **scarecrow**

2. “boggle – to start or shy or swerve [e.g.] of a horse” *Atkinson Cleve 1868*; “His horse teuk the boggle, an’ off flew he.” *Crawhall Newc 1888*. *Plus* “to take boggart’, said of a horse that starts at any object in the hedge or road” *Grose 1787*

boilie bread and milk

“afore the young prince wi’ spice boily was fed” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs p.352 C19/mid*; “boily – properly, food prepared specially for an infant’s use; milk with soft bread crumbled fine boiled in it” *Atkinson Cleve 1868*; ‘chunks of bread in a basin, with a few raisins mixed in for flavour and scalded with boiling water; milk was added [if available]’ *BJ re Newbottle C20/1*; “boiley – crustless bread with warm milk and sugar (invalid dish)” *JB Shildon C20/mid*; “boilee – milk and bread and sugar” *South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M)*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

bonny handsome, pretty, fine

“My bonny keel-laddie” *Ritson N’d 1793*; “the bonny pit laddie” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs p.3 1812*; “the bonny lads of Byker Hill” *Bell Newc*

1812 p.36; "The bonny lass of Benwell" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.29 1812; "a reet bonny half-crown" *Street Piracy* Newc 1822; "mi, mi, what bonny buttons!" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.180 1824; "Wor bonny river" *Oiling G'head* 1826; "bonny – beautiful, pretty, handsome, cheerful" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "bonny scrubbin' stone" *Haldane Newc* 1879; 'fair to look at, handsome, fine, beautiful; applied to either persons or things: "a bonny bairn", "the bonny beast" (greyhound), *MC Tyne* May 1881; "nuw here's a bonny mess!" (ironically) *wNewc* 1880s; "a bonny lot of difference" *Coxhoe* 1916; "bonny marked un" (a black eye) *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth; "bonny lad" (of anyone younger, in friendly mode) *S'd* 2001 Q; "bonny shirts" *Mr/Mrs T*, *Hornden* C20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use esp. in phrases. [Fr bon 'good']

boody, boudy piece of (broken) chinaware, earthenware

"boudy – broken earthenware; baby boudy's – broken earthen ware used by the children as play things" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "babby-boodies – broken pieces of earthen ware or glass" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "boody – pieces of pots" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "sparrars' byens ... monkey's skeletons ... an' lots o' boody styens" (fossils) *Newc* C19/2; "The boody pots went roond an' roond" (earthenware beer mugs) *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "cheeny boodies – china or earthenware or glass fragments that children play with at baby houses, etc." *Embleton Tyne* 1897; "boody pob – cheap cups and saucers" *Nth Words* N'd 1938; "used as 'money' by girls when they played 'shops' and 'houses'" *JS E'ton* 1950s; "yerboodies clarty – the plate is dusty" *Dobson Tyne* 1969; "boody potware or plasterware" *Geeson N'd/D'm* 1969, *Irwin Tyne* 1970; "boody – earthenware" *LL Tyneside* 1974; "boody-egg – a pot egg put in with a hen (or pigeon) to encourage them to lay" *Wood Tees* 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm. NE 2001: low use. *Plus* "booly – shard" *S'm* 2002 Q; "glenters – pieces of earthenware or any thing else which shines or glenters or lay glenting in the sun shine" *Bell MS Newc* 1815. See also **babby**

booler 1. child's hoop, 2. to bowl

1. "a child's iron hoop usually made at the pit by a friendly blacksmith" *JS E'ton* 1950s; "made up children's toy from a hoop of steel, wood, or a bike tyre" *ER M'bro* C20/2; "booler and hook" *Ferryhill* 2001 Q; "boolers were hoops, usually the rim of a bicycle wheel nowadays. You spread a net over it, with some bait, and attached a line. You sank it in the water next the pier, and after a while hauled it up to see if a lobster had come aboard" *JP S'm* C20/2; [from vb. 'to bowl'? compare Romany *boler* 'a wheel']. See also **girth**

2. "Ne pleyce to bool wor peyste eggs noo" *Corvan Newc* 1840s; "booling ya hoop" *MS N/Shields* 2004; "egg-boolin' technology" (egg-rolling) *Dobson Tyne* 1972

boose see **buse**

boot equalising payment

"bute or boot – money given in bartering horses, &c. to equalize the value." *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; sim. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [OE *bóte*] See also **beut**

born, brunt to burn

"an aaful smell o' bornin'" *Robson Newc* C20/1; "Born doon the Civic Centre!" *Irwin Tyne* 1970; "thou wylt be brentte" *Raine MS* Barwick in Elmet 1540; "brunt – usually for burnt, 'a brunt bairn dreads the fire'" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "some native com one day/an' brunt maw hut like hay" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.404 C19/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: born – N'd

borst to burst

"brussen – [bust, burst]" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "borsts" *Coxhoe* 1916, *Tanfield Lea*, 1960; "borst oot laffin", "aw cud Brust an crie" *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: borst – N'd

bottles medicine

"Bottles – medicine (always so)" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "doctor' bottle – term for all medicine: 'A'e y'u browt oor John a doctor' bottle?" *Umpleby Staithe* c. 1935. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD'm, Sco

boudy see **boody**

bowdykite pot-bellied, cheeky

"bowdy-kite – a pot-bellied impertinant fellow" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "bowdikite, or bowley-kite – a corpulent person ... [also] applied to a mischievous child, or an insignificant person" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "potbellied" *Embleton Newc* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, Yx

bowk, boke to belch

"he did boke & belshe" *Raine* MS Berrythorpe C17; "to boke – to belch, to be ready to vomit" *Ray* 1674; "bowk – to belch or rift" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "bolk (pronounced boak or booak) – to retch, strain to vomit, with the usual sound implied" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "Aa'hm bowkin full" (have eaten well) *Ashington* C20/mid; "a bit gassy forbye which meks ye bowk" *Dobson* Tyne 1970; "bowk – to retch, vomit" *Weardale, Teesdale, Teesside* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ME bolc (vb)] *Plus* "belk – a belch" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "boak – sonic bang" *JR* Haswell C20/mid. See also **rift**

box a Friendly Society, or saving scheme

"at wor box-dinner" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.177 Newc 1824; "box – a club or society instituted for benevolent or charitable purposes" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "divn't ye know he's iv our box?" *Wearside Tales* 1879 (where also description of means of operation). *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

brae brow, slope

"on bra ne banke" *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "brae – the brow of a hill" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "brae (pronounced breea) the overhanging edge or margin of a river-bank" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. [ON brá]. *Plus* "we get wor breed by the sweet o' wor broo" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.150 1827

braffen horse collar

"brauchin – a horse collar made of old stocking stuffed with straw" *Grose* 1787 re C'd; "braugham – a collar which goes round a horse's neck to draw by. (braffen)" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "collars or 'braffins'" [on the ponies] *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.68; "My farming friend tells me he used a braffen when he fitted it across the chest of the horse to help reduce the strain on its shoulders when pulling a heavy load. Also he used it as a brake when he fitted across the haunchs of the horse to lean on when on downhill work." *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "braffen – horse collar (jokingly, man's shirt collar)" *JB* Shildon C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: bargham – Nth, Sco. [?OE beorgan (to protect) plus hame (covering) (*OED*); *Hull* MS mentions Welsh brefant (throat), Scottish brecham]

brag goblin

'a sprite or goblin usually attached to some particular locality, e.g. the Pelton Brag' *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; 'a mischievous goblin' *Brockie* D'm 1886. *EDD* distributon to 1900: NE

braidin' 1, to vomit, 2. to broadcast

1. ."brade – to vomit" *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; 'retching without vomiting' *Embleton, Newc* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, wMids

2. "to breade – to spread" *Ray* 1674; "brade, braid – to publish abroad: 'he brades it out everywhere...'" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE brædan 'to spread']

brakesman man in charge of winding engine at pit

"Jemmy the brakesman" *Tracts* 4, Newc ca. 1820; "brakesman – the engineman who attends to the winding machine" *Nicholson* 1880; "he rapped 'Men On' to the brakesman/and away Aa went in the cage" *West Stanley* C20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm

brambles – see **blackberries**

brandreth iron bar to suspend cooking vessels from

"ye brendreth in ye kitchen chimney" *Raine* MS Dishforth/Norton 1672. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth,, Mids. [ON brandrei, o'a grate']. See also **racken-crook**

brass money

"I didn't want for brass" *Marshall* G'head 1806 re Yx; "the brass aw've gotten at the race" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.141 1816; "for provisions was dear, and they'd sav'd little brass" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.398 C19/mid; 'brass – money; copper money' *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "ah hae ne brass" *Embleton* Tyne 1897; 'money' *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [from similarity of brass to gold (exploited by counterfeiters)? or from low-denomination copper coinage]. *Plus* "she had ne tin" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.520 1872. See also **lowie, wedge**

brat item of clothing, apron

“brat – used contemptuously for Ragged Clothes; for a child, a name given to a slip or pinafore used as an apron by children” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Their bits and brats are varra scant” (food and clothes) *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. [OE (Ang) bratt, probably from Olrish brat ‘cloth’]

brattice wooden screening

“ye brettyshyng abowt ye churche” (scaffolding) *Raine* MS York 1543; “brattish – a wooden partition (a brattice), used for purpose of ventilation in coal mines ... also ... any slight partition dividing rooms” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “brattice – a partition, generally of deal, placed in the shaft of a pit, or in a drift or other working of a colliery, for the purpose of ventilation. Its use is to divide the place in which it is fixed into two avenues, the current of air entering by the one and returning by the other” *Nicholson* 1880; “brattice – in the house, a wooden boarding fastened at right angles to the door-frame, on the side where the door opens, so as to screen the room from draughts. Also, wood or canvas used in mines to help the air to travel” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “‘brattish’ or ‘brattich’ ... used in our house (and others) to denote a wooden board or boards which were placed just inside and to the side of our back door and served as a sort of draught excluder for anyone sitting near to the door” DE Shildon C20/2; “brattich/brattice – ‘a rough wooden or curtained partition to separate a front or back door from living areas, behind which outdoor coats and boots could be kept out of sight” *GW/B/p* Auckland 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco. [OFr breteske]

brattle the noise of thunderclap

“he makes such a thundering brattle” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.42; “brattle – to sound like thunder; ‘a brattle of thunder’ a clap of thunder” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “brattle – the noise of a peal of thunder: ‘what a brattle o’ thunner that was!’” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “a peal, as ‘a brattle of thunder’; a loud noise as of s.thing falling” *Robson* Birtley 1880s, 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco. [imitative] *Plus* “rowly rattle bags – thunder clouds” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s

bravely fine, well

“I’se bravely, Bob!” *Bells* re Carlisle 1802. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: low use. *Plus* “I’ll ... gar ilka thing look braw” (fine) Newc C19/1 as Scots.

bray to beat, smash

“Aw’ve bray’d for hours at woody coal” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “bray – beat or thrash with violence: ‘Ah’ll bray thee”” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “to hit or smack” *Viereck* re Gateshead, 1966; “as when you brayed your finga end with the hammer”, “that shop had its winders brayed in on Saturday neet” *JS* Easington C20/mid; “ifah findthelad that brayedthe winder inall brayhim” *Dobson* Tyne 1970; “he brays on the door” *Inwin* Tyne 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Ire. NE 2001: in use. [OFr breier ‘to crush, pound, rub’]

brazen/ed bold, cheeky

ex. *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “brazen ched – a cheeky child” *Spennymoor* C20/mid; “brazen (short ‘a’) – cheeky (often with ‘fond’)” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; “brazen-found – forward impudent” H’pool. 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. See also **fond**

breckens bracken, ferns

“breckens, breckins – ferns” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “brekans” *Egglesstone* Weardale 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, nYx. [?ON, compare Swed. bräken]

breed bread

“butter an breed” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “breed – bread” *Tanfield* Lea 1960

breeks britches, short trousers

“yellow breeks” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “Ma breeks o’ bonny velveteen” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “noo for Tim Bodkin aw’ll send,/For to darn my silk breeks at the knee” *Crawhall* Newc 1888; “breeks, briches – trousers” *Dodd* MS *Tanfield* Lea C20/2; “a bran new coat, but aad breeks” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. [Nth form of breeches, from OE bréc]. *Plus* “Ned’s Sunday britches” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.425 1862; “britches is the common name for any kind of ‘troosers’” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “breeks or britches esp. britches; keks more Newcastle” *South Moor* (Stanley) 2003 (M). See also **keks, trousers**

brent steep

ex. *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810, *Teward* Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid; “rather steep as a brent hill or bank” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “brant, brent – steep: ‘as brent ‘s a hoos’-sahd”” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Brent – steep (of stairs, ladders, and such-like erections)” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896;

"ower brent – too steep" *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; "brent or brant stairs – steep stairs" Spennymoor C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [ME brant]

brick to break 1. present tense, 2. past tense

1. "fit te brik their necks" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "wad brick my sleep" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.75 1806; "till'd day brick" *Moore Weardale* 1859; "brick" *Wearside Tales* 1879 2. "aw warnt he hesint brokken his fast to day" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "we brak wor sweep oar" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.307 1862; "Aa think me neck's brokken" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "ah brak a tyum teapot" *Embleton Tyne* 1897; "brokken in te – burgled" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950. See also **brockens**

brickies' brickyard

ex. *CT New Herrington* 1930s

brickwist breakfast

"a hewent had ne brickwist" *Embleton Tyne* 1897

brig bridge

"aw went along the brig" *Bell Newc* 1812 p.9; ex. *NChorister D'm, C18/2, Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s, *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; "Newcassel Brig" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.298 1831; "brigg – a bridge; a quasi-natural pier projecting into the sea" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868 [e.g. Filey Brig]. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [Nth form of bridge from OE brycg]. Plus "brigstuns" (flagstones) *Smith Weardale* 1883

brissel, brusle to dry or scorch

"brusle – to dry: 'brustled pease' *Grose* 1787 re N'd; "brissel – to scorch or dry very hard with fire" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "brissle – to scorch or burn meat" *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. [? Fr brusler of C15]

brock badger

ex. *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; "Jack's brock, that all the Chowden dogs can bang" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; "Aa's sweatin' like a brock" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. [OE, Gael. broc]

brokkens broken workings

"broken – the reworking of a colliery in the pillars, etc left in first working the 'whole' coal" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "broken pillar working, the removal of the pillars left in the first working for the support of the roof" *Nicholson* 1880; "coming back-broken... [reclaiming more coal until] only a forest of props supported the roof over a wide area", "the roof in such broken districts was often unsound" *Hitchin* re Seaham 1920s p.105; "brokens – extracting pillars previously left by Bord and Pillar" *Northumbrian III C20/2* re Durham collieries; "cum back brokkins – the method used to recover pillars of coal which had been left" *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth; *Coming back brockens* – title of book by Mark Hudson (London: Cape, 1994). See also **brick**

broon brown 1. adj., 2. Newcastle Brown Ale

1. "broon – brown" *Tanfield Lea* 1960

2. "a pint of broon" *Dobson Tyne* 1972

brose barley broth

Nth Words, 1938, re Newcastle, originally Scottish: "Eat your brose, barley brose,/and when ye're an aad, aad wife/Ye'll still can touch your toes." (trad.). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd. [OFr broez]

broth stew

"...few broth ... originally perhaps a few broes, the Scotch for broth, and taken in England for the plural" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "Will ye hev a few broth?" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s extra; "'a little broth' is always 'a few broth.'" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "a few broth" (a bowl of broth) *Dinnington* 1950s Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [*OED* says from OE bro, o, with Irish broth, Gaelic brot coming from the English]

brownie 1. supernatural being, 2. brown linnet

1. “brownie – a domestic spirit” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Browney or Browneys – certain Scottish and Northumberland goblins ... Browney or a Guest – a ghost” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco

2. “Brownie (broo:ni) – brown linnet. Singing competitions of these birds for a wager are held in public-houses, where they are always advertised as Brownie Matches” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m

browt brought

“aul th’ geer wis browt te bank” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “browt” *Coxhoe* 1916

browt up brought up, reared

“where was thoo browt up?”, “disgraced the family by showing me browt’ns up” *JS Easington*, 1950s; “dinna show the browtens up – don’t show your ignorance” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950

bruff a halo round the moon

ex. *Robson Birtley* 1880s, 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [ON borg ‘perimeter wall’]

brunt see **born**

bubble to cry

“maw feelin’s will set me on a bubblin’” *Corvan Newc* 1840s; “aw’ll bubble tiv aw dee, begox!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.397 C19/mid; “he [the pitman] niwor bubbles for a shillin’ lost” *Tyne MC* May 1881; “it macks mi mar bubble” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “bubbling – weeping” *FS Shotton Colliery* 1930s; “it macks mi mar bubble” *CT New Herrington* C20/mid; “divvent bubble hinny” *Dinnington* 1950s Q; “giv-ower bubblin’ – cease your grizzling” *Dobson Tyne* 1969. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, Sco. [imitative]

bubbly snotty

“the bairn has a bubbly nose” *Grose* 1787; “bubbly – snotty” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “bubbly-baby” (cry baby) *AT Co.D’m* C20/mid; “a bubbly bairn – always crying” *MS N.Shields* 2004

bubbly jock a turkey

‘a turkey cock’ *Bell MS Newc* 1815, *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d. [descriptive, or rhyming slang]

buer a gnat

ex. *Ray* 1674; “buer, buver – a gnat” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, Yx ... obsol. See also **bewer**

bull-stang see **dragonfly**

bullets sweets

“Nelson’s bullets – a sweetmeat in the shape of small balls” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “black bullets en mint losengers” *Egglestone, Weardale* 1870s; “black bullets – black or sometimes brown spherical boiled mint sweets made by Welch’s of Tyneside” *JS Easington* C20/mid; “toffees, mints, anything, were Bullets” *Thornley* 1940s Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. NE 2001: in use. [supposedly in imitation of the bullets that killed Nelson]

bullies keelmen, comrades

“You will have a relation of the Keel bullies in the colliers at Newcastle” *Raine MS* 1696; “...the keel went bump ‘gainst Jarrow,/An’ three o’ th’ bullies lap oot” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805; “bully – a Newcastle word for brother or companion” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “bully – the champion of a party, the eldest male person in a family. Now generally in use among the keelmen and pitmen to designate a brother, companion, or comrade” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “bullee – comrade, bully” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, Ire. [?Du. boel ‘brother’; compare Billy]. See also **keelman**

bumblekites see **blackberries**

bummin' making a continuous noise

"bummin' – a whirring noise arising from quick motion" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; "an organ grand was bummin' lood" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.357 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [imitative]

bummler bumble-bee

"bumler – a bumble or humble bee" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "as bissy as bumblers" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "We usually said 'bummler' which were clasified as 'white arsties', 'red arsties' or 'sandies'" *JS* E'ton 1950s; "bummlor – bee or bluebottle" Roker C20/mid; "buzzin' about like a bumbler bee" Ashington C20/mid; "dandelions bloom and bummlers hum" *Dobson* Tyne 1972; "bummlor" Trimdon 2002 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth + Norf. NE 2001: in use. [imitative]

bummler box small box

"bummler-box – a small box for holding bees and insects" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "bumlerbox, or bumbler-box – a small wooden toy used by boys to hold bees. Also the Sunderland name for a van for passengers drawn by one horse" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "bumla box – very small house" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2, *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd

bumly rucked up (of clothes)

ex. *MB* Coxhoe C20/mid

bums bailiffs, debt enforcers

"bum-baillie, bum-bailiff – a corruption of the word bound bailiff or sheriffs officer" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "Thor com doctors, an' bairns, an' bums" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

bunch to kick

"bunch – to strike with the foot, to kick" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'a blow with the knee' *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; "bunch – to bump deliberately" *Wood* Tees 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [compare Du. bonken 'to thrash']. See also **punch**

buntin 1. wood, 2. to line or reinforce with wood, 3. the cone of the fir-tree

1. "buntin – a balk or piece of timber" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "buntins, buntings – balks of foreign timber, secured in rafts on the shores of the river Tyne; afloat at high water: "let's go hikey on the buntins" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "buntions – shaft supports to carry guides" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm

2. "Thor shafts Aw've buntin'd" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s

3. "to pepper buntins is to throw buntins (fir-cones) in play" *Heslop* 1890s

burd young woman

"ye lied, ye lied, ye bonny burd" *Beattie* Border Ballads p.132; "A U, hinny burd" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.29 1812; 'maiden' thus Basil Bunting and Thomas A. Clark quoting 'a glossary of Old Scots'. *EDD* distribution to 1900 – burd (young lady, maiden): Sco. [?OE br'yd 'bride']

burn stream, anything smaller than a river

"wee saw 2 ducks come out of the burn" *Errington* p.34 Felling/Heworth re 1780s; "burn – a rivulet" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "burn – a brook, or rivulet ... any runner of water that is less than a river" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "...a burn winds slowly along meadows, and originates from small springs; while a beck is formed by water collected on the sides of mountains, and proceeds with a rapid stream." *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; "played the wag doon the burn" *Corvan* Newc 1840s; "Wi' smiths and potters frae the burn" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.381 C19/mid ff re Sandgate; "burn – a brook, a stream of water ... a word very little used in this region" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "T' perk ... wuv a burn runnin' throo' t'middle ont" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; 'a main stream' eD'm 1945 Q; exx. N.Shields, Ch-le-St C20/mid, N'd 1995 (rural/children). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire (but wider in place-names). [OE burne]. See also **beck**

buuroo Bureau (of National Assistance)

"Burroo – the Labour Exchange... the pronunciation was a short u as in 'but', oo as in Jew, emphasis on the second syllable." Ch-le-St 1950s

buse, boose stall for an animal

“boose – an ox or cow-stall” *Ray* 1674; “ox-boose – ox/cow stall for winter nights” *Ray* 1674; “a stall; as cow buse, hay buse” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “buse – cowstand, pig cree, pig sty” *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, eMids, Ire. [OE *bósig* – cow-stall]

buss to kiss

“buss – kiss” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?Fr *baisser*]

buss, busk decorate, dress up, prepare

“thai buske with speres hir to sla” (make ready) *Cuthbert C15/mid*; busked – decorated: ‘your well-busked hat’ *Beattie Border Ballads* p.146; “busk – to dress or make smart, as ‘busk you my bonny bride’, ‘busk you my winsome marrow” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “Jemmy, let us buss, we’ll off/An’ see Newcassel races” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.138 1816; ‘Bussin’ the tyup’ is covering the coals with lighted candles... an expression of their joy at the gaudy days or holidays which take place generally after this event.” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco. [ON *búask* ‘to ready’ Fr *busquer*]. See also **tup**

bussie

1. bus station eD’m 1990s
2. busfare or ticket *PGH’pool* 1998

but

“Eh, bud...” *Embleton, Newc* 1897; “A diwent knaw warrit means burra hard th’ docta tella” (but Aa) *CT New Herrington* 1930s; used emphatically: “you can, but!” *Geeson N’d/D’m* ‘1969’

but and ben front and back parts of a two-room house

“but and ben – by-out and by-in ... the outer and inner apartment, where there are only two rooms” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “but and ben – front and back areas of a two-room house” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco. [OE *bútan*, *binnan*]

butcher the stickleback

‘the stickleback, without a red belly’ *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m

butt the halibut

ex. *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: East Coast. [compare Swed. *butta* ‘turbot’]

butter

“wants burra on baith sides – likes the best of everything” *CT New Herrington* 1930s

butterfly 1. **butterflee**, 2. **flutter-by**, 3. **lowy**, **butterlowie**, 4. **butterloggy**, 5. other

1. “a fine butterflee coat with gowld buttons” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.146 1816; “butterflees” *Embleton Tyne* 1897, “butterflee” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

2. “flutterby” *NShields C20/mid Q*, eD’m 1990s, Stanley, G’head, Blyth, Byker 2002 Q. NE 2001: in use. [a modern childish or humorous variant of ‘butterfly’]

3. “like a lowey” (implying speed) *Wearside Tales* 1879; “lowie” (to rhyme with Joey) *Spitaltongues* 2004 Q; “butterlowy” *FS Shotton Colliery* 1930s, S’d, Ho’ton, Wash’ton, Ch-le-St 2002 Q. [not in *EDD* or *OED*]

4. “butterloggy” *PGH’pool C20/2*, Wingate, M’bro. 2001, Wheatley Hill 2004 Q; “butterloggy seems quite specific, that is to central Teesside, i.e. Stockton/Mbro and Hartlepool area” *Wood* 2003. [Not in *EDD* or *OED*, but log would generally be accorded an ON origin]

buzzer the pit hooter

"Buzzer – the steam whistle or 'fog-horn' that warns miners of the times for returning to and from work" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; 'factory siren' ER M'bro C20/2; "buzza – pit siren" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*, *GP S'm C20/mid*; "The steam whistle used to notify surface workers of starting, break, and finishing times" *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids

by

used emphatically: "By, I enjoyed myself!" *Geeson N'd/D'm* '1969'

bygg see **bigg**

byke see *bee-hive*

byre cow shed

"byer – a cow house" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "ye ... that keep cows on the Moor, though ye couldn't keep them iv a byre" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.238, 1829; "Ah've ... muck't (mucked out) t' byre" *Egglestone, Weardale* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [OE b'yre]

bysen anything shocking or spectacular

"bison or bizen – any thing thing that is too shameful to be seen" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "the reck'ning (bill) ... was a bizon" *Marshall Newc* 1823; "byson – a shame, scandal: 'It's ... quite a byson'" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; "bizon – a scandal" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "bizen – something enormous and frightful" *Embleton, Newc* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [OE b'ysen 'something remarkable', ON b'ysen]

byu-see **beu**-

pitts" *Raine MS: Houghton-le-Spring*, 1604;

"banksman – a higher order of pitmen who

take care of the pit heaps or mouth of the coal

pit" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "banksman – a man

employed in taking the coals from the mouth

of the shaft ... to the skreen" *Brockett Newc &*

Nth 1846; "banksman – shoves last few men

into cage and makes sure the gate comes

C

caa, caw to urge forward, drive animals or vehicles

“ka!” (a signal in driving cattle) Ray Nth 1674; “he ca’ed a nail intill her tail” Reed *Border Ballads* C16; “ca’ing out her father’s kye” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.147; “caa – to drive: ‘to caa the cart’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “ca, caw – to turn, to drive: ‘Tom, come an’ caw the grindstone’, ‘Ca’ the mangle, hinny” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “caa-tee the yett” (close the gate) *Heslop* N’d 1890s; “I’ve often cawed the kirm (churn)” *Nth Words*, N’d, 1938. “‘Ta ca up a tree’, is to knock up a prop” *Tootle* re Sco. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d. See also **caal**

caad cold

“cald or caud for cold” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “hoo het an’ hoo caad” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “caad fire – a fire laid but not lit” wNewc 1880s; “parishment o’ cahd” (infection) *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “a cup o’ caad cocoa” *Irwin* Tyne 1970; “deethacaad” East Boldon 1985. *EDD* distribution to 1900: cauld – Nth; caad – N’d; caud – Yx. *Plus* “I’m fooned – I’m cold” *RV* re Esh Winning C20/mid

caal 1. to call, 2. to call someone names

1. ex. “caal – call” Tanfield Lea 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: caa – Sco; caal – N’d

2. ‘to assail with offensive epithets’ *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “to call someone is to speak ill of them” PG H’pool C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

caalor, caller man who alerts pitmen for shift work

“caller – a person who goes round at a certain hour in the night, to let the pitmen know it is time to go to work: ‘when the caller call’d at yen’” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “caalor – a man employed to arouse pitmen of the foreshift. The hour at which they wish to be called is usually chalked on the door” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “sleep thi kaala – sleep in” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

cabbish cabbage

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “sum men delites in gardening, an’ cabbish grows se big” *Creswell* Newc 1883. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, Yx. See also **caskets**

cack, cacka, cacky excrement

“cack” (excreta) plus “cacky, cackhouse” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “cack” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *KH* Stockton C20/2, *JB* Shildon C20/mid; “cack-ah” *RM* Norton C20/mid; “cacka” Gosforth C20/2 Q; “cacker” Tyneside 2001 Q; “cackie” *AT* Co.D’m C20/mid, “kakee – human faeces” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “th’s tark’n a load o’ cacky” *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “cacky – animal or human waste” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “kakky pants” *PH* S’d C20/1; “cacky – skitters, with diarrhoeia” Newc 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: cack – general. [?Du kakken vb, earlier Lat. cacare; also ON kökkr ‘a lump’]. *Plus* “drit” CS from Yorks fishermen

cadger itinerant seller of pots, etc.

“like corn-caugers ga’en the road” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.96; “the cadgers call everyday” *Raine* MS EYorks, 1641; ‘a packman or itinerant huckster’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘hawkers and pedlars in general’ *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “cadgers wi’ their cairts” (1838) *Heslop* N’d 1890s; “cadger – salesman” Aberdeens, 1993. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

caff chaff, straw

“Luik upon as blisses/Scrimp meals, caff beds, and dairns” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.46 1812; “a caff bed” *Heslop* N’d 1890s; “Caff – chaff” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. *Plus* “caffy-hearted – feinthearted” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. See also **chisel**

cage pit lift

“cage – a frame of iron which works between slides in a shaft, and in which the tubs of coal and workmen are lowered into the pit and brought to the surface” *Nicholson* 1880; ‘the lift which goes up and down in the shaft of a mine’ *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

caidie flat cap

ex. *AK* re Newc C20/1. [not in *EDD* or *OED*]

caingy peevish

'peevish, ill-tempered, whining' *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "angry, apt to find fault or quarell, as a caingy ald carle" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "as caingy and cankerly as an ill-clep'd cur" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

call etc. see **caal**

caller fresh

"callar – fresh, cool: 'callar air'" *Grose* 1787; "his breath's like caller air" Newc C19/1 (Scots); "caller – cool, refreshing: 'Caller herrings'; 'Caller ripe grosers'" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'cold, fresh; esp. of the weather' *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [?Sco. calver]. See also **caaler**

cam a mound, etc.

"cam – a hill, a ridge, an earth dyke or mound" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'a ridge or long earthen mound; a hedge-bank' *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; 'rising-ground' *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; 'a bank side' *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON kambr]

camsteery awkward

"ye're sic kamstarie fowk" *Bell* Newc 1812 p.38; "camsteeries – will not be guided, uncannie" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "kamstary – mad. Perhaps the same as Sc[ots] camsterie, camstairie" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'wild, unmanageable' *Heslop* N'd 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [cam in sense of crooked, awry?]

can 1. positive forms, 2. negative forms

1. "kin" (can, vb) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2

2. "cannot ye gang yoursell?" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "cannit" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; "cudint" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; "they canna wait a tide" *Haldane* Newc 1879; "ye canna deny that" *Egglestone*, Weardale 1870s, *Coxhoe* 1916, *JB* Shildon C20/mid, *Dobson* Tyne 1970–71, *VIZ* 72 (1995); "cannit" *Embleton* Tyne 1897, "we cannit foller" *Dobson* Tyne 1972; "They'll not can get any food" (not be able to); "I'll not can get" (I expect I shan't be able to come) *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "you'll not can do that" *FS* Wingate 1940s; "he hadn't could do it" *FS* Wingate 1940s

canch, caunch obstructive stone in pit

"canch or caunch – a part of the roof or thill to be removed for the purpose of making height" *Nicholson* 1880; "Thor's law planks an' raggy kanches" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; 'coal and stone [i.e. canch] are worked away alternately' *Heslop* N'd 1890s; "canch – the stone below the thill or floor of a narrow coal seam that has to be removed as coal-getting proceeds" *Wade* *South Moor* C20/mid; "caunch – section of roof taken down, or section of floor taken up, to make [adequate] height to travel along" *McBurnie* Glebe Colliery, C20/mid; "canch – top bed above coal" *JK* Leasingthorne C20/2; "kansh – ridge of rock, sand or other obstacle in a waterway: 'sha's gotten ov a kansh' – coble had run ashore on a ridge in the harbour" *Umpleby* Staithe c. 1935; "canch – kerb" nwd'm C20/mid Q; "cansh – a section of hay or peat" *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: only in sense of a rise like a step – N'd, D'm, Yx, Mids [compare Mids. cankstone]

candle coal a type of coal

"cannel or sometimes 'candle' coal – in the collieries a thin piece of unmarketable [coal] at the top of the seam" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "cannel coal – a fine, compact desription of coal, with a conchoidal fracture; burns with a bright flame like a candle, whence its name" *Nicholson* 1880

candies sweets

ex. *Billingham* 1940s, Ho'ton, Ch-le-St, 2002 Q. *Plus* "candybout – feast of sweets provided when communally worked clip-rug is completed" *Umpleby* Staithe c. 1935

candyman 1. a vendor, 2. bailiff, esp. agent of eviction

1. "he was a candy man ... he sold ... candy for the bairns te lick, a tin trumpet then had Johnny" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.459 1862; 'rag, bone man' *Cresswell Newc* 1883, p.55; "a rag-man who gives a kind of toffee in exchange for rags, etc." *EDD* 1900 re N.I.; "candyman – sweet-seller" Jarrow 2005 (M). *Plus* "scoury-men – offered scoury stone (to whiten front doorstep) in return for unwanted goods" Esh Winning 2005(M)

2. "polisses and candymen met ... te torn th' pitmen oot" *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "kandeemen – evict miners in strike" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; 'A bum bailiff. The man who serves notice of ejection' *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm. *Note*: clearly there is a missing link: from candyman as scrapman or sweet-seller to eviction-processors – perhaps as casual workers? First used in strike of 1844 (thus *Heslop* and *OED*). *Plus* "candy crew – blackleg miners... It originated when a local candyseller turned blackleg hirer in the early days of north-east miners strikes. Afterwards blacklegs were called candy-men" www.muthergrumble.co.uk/issue03 re 1885

canny 1. adj. fine, admirable, fair, of a size to be reckoned with, etc., 2. adv. well, etc.

1. "my canny lad oh!" *Collier's Rant Newc, C18/2*; "canny – nice, neat, housewifely, handsome (Newcastle, N'b & Nth)" *Grose* 1787; "Canny Gateshead" *Marshall G'head* 1806; "The bonny pit laddie, the canny pit laddie" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.3 1812; "canny – the most comprehensive of all Newcastle words, as alluding to both men and things, i.e. a canny man, a canny dog, a canny house" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; 'a genuine Newcastle word, applied to any thing superior of the best kind' *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1825; "Things of all sorts, no sorts, lollipops/may be bought in Canny Shields!" *Shields Song Book* 1826; "canny – good, kind, mild, affectionate: 'Ma canny bairns luik pale and wan'" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; "there's a canny little lad gawn up the riggin look'e" *JS South Shields C19/mid*; "Cannynewcassel" *Surtees Handley Cross* 1854; "a canny chap wi' horses", "a canny convenient house" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "canny – kind, gentle, etc ... apparently derived from the Scotch" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "sic a canny body for a wife as Fanny" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "be canny wi' the cream, i.e. use it with moderation" *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; "Canny. A North-country catchword. 'A canny few' is a fair number, a 'canny man' is one with some sense in his head, a 'canny little body' would be a dapper little person, with some notion of briskness and neatness. 'It'll tak' a canny bit', i.e. take some time. Also, careful, gentle. A child is told to be 'canny' with a jug, a baby, or other perishable article entrusted to him. A juvenile letter to some one at Shields was inscribed on the envelope, 'Please, Mr. Postman, be canny with this letter'. 'Ma canny hinny', a term of endearment" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; 'an embodiment of all that is kindly, good, and gentle' *Heslop N'd* 1890s; "a canny singa wee can't half joggle ho' voice" *CT New Herrington* 1930s; 'sweet, cute, nice' D'ton C20/2; "he did vary canny in that", *Dobson Tyne* 1970; "He must have been a canny age", "Is it far? – Aye, it's a canny way", "He has a canny bit of money stowed away" (considerable) *LG S'm C20/2*; 'nice, cute, having a pleasing personality', "dead canny" *Wood Tees* 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids. NE 2001: in common use. [ME *cunnand* 'knowing, skilfull' ... Though a root *c(a)n* – 'to be able, to know how to' is common to OE and ON, the formation *can(n)+y* is of uncertain date. It is first recorded in Scots in 1596 [*EDD*]; in *Jamieson Scots Dictionary* of 1808 there are 18 shades of meaning including gentle, fortunate, good, careful, etc., which could well be the source of NE usage] *Plus* "uncanny – giddy, careless, imprudent" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

2. "Aw can read the spellin'-byuk vary canny" *JA Newc* 1875, sim. *Coxhoe* 1916; "aw spent en oor an' a half very canny" (agreeably) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "gan canny [carefully] wi' the Broon [Ale]" *Irwin Tyne* 1970–71; "gan canny – take it easy" Jarrow 2005 (M). *Plus* "on the ca canny – to with-hold full effort" *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth

canty cheerful, brisk, etc.

"Me cannie keel laddie/Se handsum, se canty, and free" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.115 1812; "Half cock'd and canty hyem we gat" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; 'cheerful, hearty' *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "with hearty chiels I've canty been" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.208 1842; "canty an' crouse" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.464 1860; "she's a canty au'd deeem for her years" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; 'talkative, sociable' *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; "contented wi' little bit, canty wi' mair" *Ashington C20/mid*; "kantee – pleasant, lively" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: So, Ire, Nth. [Du *kant* 'neat, clever']

cap to excel

"a good story capped" (improved on) *Haldane Newc* 1879; "that caps aal – that beats everything" *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

carle 1. (old) man, 2. of male cat

"carle – a clown, an old man..." *Grose* 1787; "She's ta'en the carle and left her Johnny" *Marshall G'head* 1806; "carl, karl – a country fellow, a gruff old man, a churl" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "carle – an old man... the feminine is carling for an old woman" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth (not D'm?), S.W. [ON *karl*, OE *ceorl* 'man']

2. "a carl-cat – a he-cat" *Ray* 1674. sim. *Grose* 1787, *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "...also applied to a cat as a carle cat, the feminine is carling for an old woman and also a cat" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. See also **quean-cat**

Carling Sunday fifth Sunday in Lent

"Carling-day or Carling-Sunday – the second Sunday preceding Easter, when parched peas are served up at most tables in Northumberland"

Grose 1787; "The proper Sunday for the ceremony was remembered by the Easter sequence 'Carlin, Palm, and Paste Egg Day'." GA re Thornley 1940s; "The Sunday when public houses used to give to all and sundry, bowls of carlings – bowls of cooked brown peas" Crocker re Woodland nr Middleton, C20th/mid. [either 'Care Sunday' or ON kerling, Sco carline, Border Ballads carline wife 'old woman']

carlings special cooked peas served on Carling Sunday

"choise grey pease of the preceding autumn steeped in spring water for twelve or fifteen hours then drained of surplus water and toasted" *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1788 via *Graham* Geordie 1979; "carlings – pease birsled or boiled" Jamieson *Scots Dictionary* 1808; "carlings – grey peas fryed in butter or dripping used in Nothumberland and Durham ... *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "carlings – grey peas steeped some hours in water, and then fried in butter, [and seasoned with pepper and salt 1846]. *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "carlins – grey peas steeped in water for a time, then 'bristled' and mixed with butter and sugar; they are eaten on the Sunday before Palm Sunday" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "Carling Sunday. Fifth Sunday in Lent, on which day the traditional dish is one of 'carlins' cooked in melted butter. A carling (kaa:lin) is a kind of pea, of a dark grey or brown colour. They are used by lads on 'Carlin' Sunday' for throwing at one another, and are boiled by publicans for their customers on that night" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "Carlins were cooked and eaten on their own – lots of public houses and working men's clubs gave them out for free" *JG* Annfield Plain 1930s; "Carlins – those unexciting grey peas we ate with vinegar once a year to commemorate something forgotten (some said a grounded ship whose looted cargo saved the starving poor of the Tyne)" GA re Thornley, 1940s; "those brown peas you get on Carling Sunday (or on the bar in old-fashioned pub)" *PG* H'pool C20/2; "Broon Ale and Carlins Evening" *Dobson* Tyne 1972; "only grey or maple peas" 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [named from Carling Sunday]. *Plus* "very hard orangish peas, pigeon food (and good for peashooters)" *Sacriston* 2004 E; "Carlings was also the name given to sheeps' dropping(s)." *Crocker* re Woodland nr Middleton, C20th/mid

carr 1. wet area, 2. rocky area

1. "in a moist yeare hard land ... proveth better

than carres or ing-grounds" *Raine* MS EYorks 1641; "a carre – a hollow place where water stands" *Ray* 1674; "carr – flat marshy ground" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, eMids. [ON kiarr 'marshy land']

2. also in NE place-names. [ONorthumbrian carr 'rock'; compare Welsh carreg 'a stone']

carvinarse meteorite

ex. *Lore and language* re Maria Pit, Throckley C20/mid; "fossil easily dislodged" i.e. from pit roof, Wade *South Moor* C20/mid

cas because

"cas – because" *Haldane* Newc 1879; "what's that forbicahse?" (what's that for?) *Embleton* Newc 1897; "caas" *Coxhoe* 1916; "kaaz, kaz" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

caskets (cabbage) stalks

"casket – a stalk or stem; as a cabbage-casket" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, 'the stalk of a cabbage' *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "cabbage caskets" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.376 C19/mid; *Embleton* Tyne 1897; "castock – the stem of a cabbage" *Robson* Birtley 1880s, 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm. *Plus* "cabbishskrunt – cabbage-stalk" *Gibson* C'd 1880

cassens dried cow dung used as fuel

"one mow of casens wt some other fewell" *Raine* MS Gt Driffild 1679; "casing, cassons – dried cow-dung used for fewell" *Grose* 1787 re N'd. See also (cow)- **blakes**

cast to throw

"kest, kusn" (p.pt) *Gill* re Lincs C17/1; "Now have I cassen away my care" *Rothbury* C18/2; "poor Robin was cast on the fire" *Bell* Newc 1812 p.43; "where me eyes wur cassin" *Marshall* Newc 1823; "casting the coals on board" *Mitcalfe* p.4 re 1822; "Like ony chicken efter moot,/when its awd coat it fairly casses" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; "cassen clothes" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "weather's owerkessen" *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; "he and his 'marra' had to 'cast' – that is, shovel – [the coal] from the keel into the hold of the vessel being loaded" *The Maister* p.35 re Tyneside, 1800–1840; "cassen, kessen – thrown down, as applied to an animal ... that has fallen ... and is unable to rise again" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "to kest an evil eye" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "to cast [shovel] snow" *Heslop* N'd 1890s; "yan was kessen" (one sheep was on its back) *Alston* 1992 per *BG Texts* p.96; "kessen – overturned or unable to get up" Upper Teesdale, 2001. *Distribution*: 'cast' (from ON) is reckoned as more general in the North than 'throw' (from OE); kest is nYx, Lx in *EDD*. [ON kasta] *Plus* "a lift was 'a cast along the road'" (*Nth Words*, Alnwick re 1880 approx). *Plus* "caster – a shoveller or caster of coal from a keel to a ship e.g. Wearside, Blyth" *Heslop* N'd 1890s; "caster – the work of the caster was to shovel or 'cast' the coals from the 'keels' ... into the vessels" *Tootle*. See also **backcast**, **upcast**

cat see **carle, quean**

cat-haws fruit of the hawthorn

ex. *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; 'hawthorn-berries, often shot by boys through a hollow hemlockstalk' *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. *Plus* "bull-haa – large hawthorn berry" *Heslop* N'd 1890s; "catace – hawthorn berry" *JO* re High Thornley/Rowland's Gill, 1930s–1940s in *Nth Words*

caught caught

exx. *JB* Shildon C20/mid, *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general.

cattijugs rosehips

"cat-a-jugs – wild rose hip" *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; "cattijugs – hips, the fruit of the catwhin or dog-rose" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "dogchoups, also dog-jumpers – fruit of dog-rose" *Umpleby* Staithes c. 1935. *EDD* distribution to 1900: cat-jugs D'm, Yx. See also **choups**

catty-keys catkins

"katty-keys – ash-tree seeds" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "kitty keys" *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: nYx.

caunch see **canch**

cavil, kyevil 1. to choose or allocate work(place) by lot, 2. the work station itself

1. "cavils or lotts being casten" *Raine* MS Durham 1594; "we cast the keviles us amang, to see which suld to the grenewood gang" *Beattie* Border Ballads p.213; "cavils –lots; a periodical allotment of working places to the hewers and putters of a colliery, usually quarterly; each person having assigned to him, by lot, that place in which he is to work during the ensuing three months" *Nicholson* 1880; "wor kyevelin days" (as young hewers) *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; "Each collier draws his cavel and the number on this ticket is the number of the 'bord' at which he must hew" *Heslop* N'd 1890s; "Piece-workers changed their working area every three months ... The moves were based on a lottery, called 'cavils'" *Hitchin* re Seaham 1920s p.105; "cavil – method used to give workmen lots for work places. Names and work places drawn for by lot" *McBurnie* Glebe Colliery C20/mid; "kyeble not kyevil" South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. N'd, D'm; in broader use – Sco, N'd, D'm, Lincs. [ON kafe 'bits'; compare Du kavel 'a lot'. Apparently developed from system of holding shares in a medieval common field: "The most common method of working the meadows was to divide them into strips or dales, and these were allocated annually by lot or rotation, or on a more permanent basis" Baker & Butlin *Studies of Field Systems* 1973 p.134. Hence "cavilled – divided into ridges, spoken of a common field held in ridges" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s extra, "Cavil... means also an allotment of ground in a common field" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829]. *Plus* "let's put th' cuts in fo' we's buck'n out – let's toss for who's fielding" (cricket) *CT* New Herrington 1930s

2. "Cavil is the place allotted to a hewer in a coal mine, by ballot. 'I've gotten a canny cavil for this quarter, however.'" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "he's warked hard kyeviles" Tyne *MC* May 1881; "But as sure's Aw rub me kyevel, it's the warst one o' the saw" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *Plus* "quebble – actual work place on seam – payment made by production was often dependent on good or bad 'quebble'" *Northumbrian III* Winlaton/Marley Hill C20/mid

caw see **caa**

chaffinch 1. **sheelie**, 2. **spink**, 3. **chaffie**

1. "sheely or sheeley – the chaffinch" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "Sheelie (shae:li) chaffinch" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, Northants

2. "spink – chaffinch; a spark of fire" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "bull-spink – the chaffinch" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

3. "chaffie" NE 2001: in low use

chafts, chaffs jaws

"tye yur chafts up' is to wrap your head up when ill of the tooth ache" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "chafts, chaps or chops – the cheeks" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "Chaffs – jawbones (plural only)" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: chaft – Sco, Nth. [?ON, compare Swed. käft]. *Plus* "chafty sweets" (chewy) *CT* New Herrington C20/mid

chalder, chaldron a measure, a coal wagon

“chalder – the Newcastle pronunciation of the word chaldron a measure in the coal trade” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “celdra – a chaldron or 36 bushels” *Finchale* 1836; “chalder – a chaldron. A Newcastle chaldron of coals weights fifty-three hundred weight. Eight of these chaldrons make one keel.” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “chaldron – measure of coal, 36 bushels or 25.5 cwts’ *Wearside Tales* 1879; “The old colliery wagon contains a chaldron, and is a called a chaldron wagon” *Heslop* N’d 1890s; “chaldron as coal wagon itself” TC Dawdon C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco and East Coast. [OF chaudière, chaldere, chaldron]

chalk a plastercast

ex. S’d Q 2001. See also **pot**

champion see *excellent*

chancetimes occasionally

ex. *Palgrave* Hetton 1896 as in very common use. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. eD’m, C’d, but also in Sth

chare lane in town

“in the chair at ye entrance into the yeate or stile of ye church yeard” *Raine* MS Hart 1596; “chare – a narrow street or passage in Newcastle” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “in 1800 there were 21 chares on the Quayside” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “chare – street, steep street, e.g. Durham Chare in Bishop Auckland” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; found in Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Morpeth, Hexham, Chester-le-St – *Geeson* N’d/D’m 1969. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, wMids. [OE cierr ‘turning’ – compare “chare – to stop or turn: chare the cow” *Grose* 1787]

charver club-goer or other alert young citizen of Newcastle

“charver – rough person” Newc. 2001 Q. *Plus* “Charverland – Bowburn” www.urbandictionary.com 2004; “Charver Taak” per magazine *Newcastle Stuff* 2002 on. [Romany ‘chavo’ a lad]

checkweighman, checkie officer esp. in pit

“Checkweighman – name for both the owner’s and the people’s representative, each appointed to check the other’s dishonesty, in weighing coal-laden tubs, as they come from the pit” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; ‘the representative of the men, who checks the weight of coals at the surface’ *Heslop* N’d 1890s; “Collingwood ... Nelson’s chief checky at Trafalgar”, “cheefchecky – managing director” *Dobson* Tyne 1970

checky of checked pattern

“a blue checky shirt” eD’m 1990 per BG

cheeny 1. Chinese, 2. chinaware

1. “fine Chenee oranges, four for a penny” (Chinese) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.357 1842; “Cheeny folks wi’ silver hair” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* 1849 p.357

2. “the cheeny” (chinaware) *Wearside Tales* 1879; “a canny bit o’ blue cheeny” *Embleton* Tyne 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

chenny pit lamp

ex. Thornley Q 2001; “glennies – oil lamps” *JR* Haswell C20/mid. [?Dr Clanny, inventor]

chep chap

“chep – a fellow spoken of as a companion” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “a terrible chep for drinkin’ beer”; “young cheps” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “another o’ wor cheps” (workforce) *Haldane* Newc 1879; “cheps” BL re Blaydon C20/mid; “this chep Bert Oven” *Dobson* Tyne 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: ?N’d.

chew see **tew**

chewing gum 1. **chuddy**, 2. **gowie**, 3. **chewey**

1. “chuddy” *ER* M’bro C20/2, Teesside 2001, S’d, Ho’ton 2002 Q; “[in use in] Easington during the war; also used to name sticks of licorice root” *JS* Easington C20/mid

2. “gowie” S’d 2001 Q, S’m, B Auck, S.Hylton 2002 Q,

3. “chewey (gum)” Fencehouses 1930s, Chester-le-St C20/2 Q

chicken 1. **clocker**, 2. **chucky-hen**

1. “a hen sitting on her eggs is called a clocking hen” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Yon hen’s clockin’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “clucker – a broody hen” *HP* South Gosforth C20/mid; “clocker – broody hen or hen with chicks” *Dobson* Tyne 1973. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, C’d. [OE e.g. “seo brodige henn sarlice cloccige...” (the broody hen insistently clucks) ca 1000 AD; an onomatopoeic word, that is imitating the sound a hen makes. Thus “clock – to cluck as a hen does” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868]

2. “chuckey – chicken” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, ‘a chicken, a hen’ *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “only chucky-egg” *PG* H’pool C20/2; “chuckey-hen (not chucky on its own)” D’ton C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [imitative e.g. “chuck chuck chuck” (as call to a hen) *Roker* C20/mid]. *Plus*: “effor he’s hed a leuk at the chekkors an’ the hens...” *Robson* Newc C20/1. See also **banty**

chiel person

“wiv some varry canny chiels” *Marshall* Newc 1823; “Highland chields” *Oliver* Newc p.6 1824; “the (school) maistor was a canty chiel” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.353 1849; “chiel – young man” *Gibson* C’d 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, S.W. Noted as ‘more a Border than a Geordie term’ *Graham* Geordie 1979. [from child or possibly Romany chal ‘chap, fellow’]

chirm crooning sound

“chirm – cooing of a bird” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘chirping sound’ *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; ‘the crooning of birds at rest’ *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE cirm, pronounced chirm]

chisel bran

“to buye a peck of chesill” *Raine* MS Gateshead, 1622; “chisel – bran” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “chisel – wheat bran, the characteristic component of the genuine Tyneside broon breed” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “Chisel – a kind of bran with which boys feed rabbits” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [OE ceosel (pronounced chozzel) ‘gravel, sand’] See also **caff**

chist chest

“chist – chest” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “chist yor cards” (keep you cards up) *JP* S’m C20/2. See also **kist**

chocks wooden blocks to keep pit props wedged in place

“chocks – wooden pillars built up of oblong pieces of timber laid crosswise, two and two alternately” *Nicholson* 1880; ex. *JR* Seaham C20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, wYx

chod turd

ex. *LG* Sm C20/2. *Plus* “tod – turd” *Wood* Tees 2002

choke-damp Carbon Monoxide

“choke-damp – the products of the combustion of fire-damp or carburetted hydrogen; called also after-damp” *Nicholson* 1880

choller jowls

“choller – a double chin. Also the loose flesh under a turkey-cock’s neck” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “chollers hanging ower his chin – cheeks” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, C’d, S.W. [OE ceolur ‘throat’]

choppy pony feed

‘chopped hay or straw for fodder’ *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “corn-like food for the pony” *JM* Dawdon 1970s; “scrubbing, cowering, straining for the choppy” *Moreland* Seaham 1980; ‘ponies’ hay feed’ 2001 Q

choups hips

"choups – heps [sic], the fruit of briars" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "choup, cat-choup – a hip; the fruit of the hedge briar or wild rose" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [choup 'hip', compare Norw. kjupa] See also **cattijugs**

chow 1. to chew, 2. a quid of tobacco

1. "aw'll lairn te chow backy" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.397 C19/mid; "he smokes an' chows" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.426 1862. NE 2001: in use. [compare ON kjalki 'jawbone']

2. "rowlin his great backey chow" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.145 1816; 'usually tobacco chewed down pit' JP S'm C20/2

choz see **excellent**

chucks 1. seashells, 2. 'jacks', 'fivestones'

1. "chucks an' gravel" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.356 1849; "chucks... also [means] the shells themselves" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "chuck – a shell, usually of snail or winkle" *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s

2. "chucks – a game among girls; played with five of these shells, and sometimes with pebbles, called chuckie-stanes" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "chucks – a game among girls played with shells; also the shells themselves" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "chuckstones" *IA S'm* 1950s,60s; "chuckstones or chuckie stanes" (dexterity game with shells or pebbles) *Geeson N'd/D'm* 1969; "chucks – a game played by children with pebbles called chuckie stones" *Graham Geordie* 1979. NE 2001 – in use (chucks). *Plus*: "checks" (the game) M'bro. 2001 Q; "five-stones" eD'm 2001 Q

chucky a hearty fellow

ex. *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s. See also **chicken**, **tadger**

chuddy see **chewing gum**

chummin see **toom**

claa-hammer with 'tails'

"The maister appeared in a 'claa-hammer, swalley-tailed coat' in the evening" *Windows* 1917; "claa-hammer coat – tail coat" *Dobson Tyne* 1970, 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: as suit N.I. 1892, USA 1878. [from 'claw']. *Plus* "claa me, claa thee" (claw, scratch) *Heslop Newc.* 1890s. See also **claut**

claes clothes

"closse" *Anderson Newcastle* 1607; "claihs" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "my pit claes" *Marshall G'head* 1806; "he used te sell claes pins" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.459 1862; "on we thee clais" *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; "clays prop" *JP S'm* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. For singular see **clout**

clag 1. to stick or make something adhere, 2. to hit

1. "the crank of the engine broke, and we fell back 2 fathom ... I said, 'Clag to, boys!' and all kept hold" *Errington* p.53 Felling/Heworth re 1790s; "clag – to adhere or stick together" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "clagged tegither wi' summat" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "thoo'l see me clag on te th' skeets" *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; 'to stick' *JR Seaham* C20/1, Tanfield Lea, 1960, *LL Tyneside* 1974. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. NE 2001: in common use. [?ON – compare Dan. klag 'sticky', OE clæg (pronounced and meaning clay)]. *Plus* "Aam claggin – sweating" *Ashington* C20/1 Q

2. "clag him one" (hit) *ER M'bro* C20/2; "clagged his lug" *Dobson Tyne* 1970; "arl clag the' one" eD'm 2001 Q; 'to hit' *Newc, Thornley, M'bro* 2001 Q. *Plus* "clagger – a right carry on" *Ferryhill* 2001 Q

claggum anything sticky, esp. toffee

"clagham, clagum – treacle boiled a considerable time so that when it is cold it becomes hard and brittle" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "maw mooth a' covered wi' claggum an' clarts" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.396 C19/mid; "claggum – treacle lollipops, etc" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; 'treacle toffee' *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2, *Graham Geordie* 1979; 'paste for wallpaper' *MB Coxhoe* C20/mid; "claggums – brilliantine" *D'ton* 1930s Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

claggy sticky

“claggy – sticky, glutinous, adhesive: ‘desput claggy walking’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “the ground was claggy at the shows (the fair)” *IA S’m* 1950s,60s; “claggy taffy” *Dobson Tyne* 1972

clam to glue and clamp together... hungry

“cleam – to glue together” *Ray* 1674; “aw’l claime yur eyes up” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “clam – to press, to hold an article tightly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “clam – to pinch, compress, force together; to suffer from the pinching effects of hunger, to starve” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “clam’d – starved” *Ray* 1674; “clammin – very hungry” *Wood Cleve* 2002. [OE *clæman*, OE *clamm* (a fetter)]. See also **clemmed**, **crame**

clap to pat

“he’ll kiss me and he’ll clap me” *Beattie Border Ballads* p.236; “clapt and stroakt ma little [dog]” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; ‘to touch gently, to fondle, to stroke’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “If you clapped them, they will be kind with you” (Boy’s essay on Kindness to Animals) *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON *klappa* – cognates in Dan, Ice have a similar sense]

clart to muddy, to muck

“clart – to daub, smear, make dirty” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “all clarted up” *MB Coxhoe C20/mid*; “he’s just clartin on” (messing about) *Graham Geordie* 1979; “klaht on” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “clart on, clart about” *S’m* 2000 via BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids. [beclart C13; further origin unknown]

clarts 1. wet mud, 2. mess, messing about

1. “plishplash throw the clarts” (street mud) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “clarts – mud or wet street sweepings” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “the vary clairs upon the street/is goold in Callerforney” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.361 1849; “always weel supplied wi’ Newcastle amonishen – clarts” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.444 1862; “as clear as clarts” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “rotten eggs en oranges, clarts en lumps, breed” (as bits of refuse) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “a gret clart o’ snaw o’ tha neb” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “as clear as clarts” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “up to the neck in clarts – an expression used when men are working in wet, muddy conditions [in the pit]” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery, C20/mid*; “ower biut tops i’ clerts” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “A could eat a scabby monkey fried in clarts” *VIZ* 78 (1996)

2. “it’s all clart” (not to be depended on)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “he myed an aaful clart aall ower the harth” *Robson Newc C20/1*; “a lot of clart – a delaying fuss or bother” *Viereck re Gateshead*, 1966

clarty mucky

“clarty – muddy and wet” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “if it (the weather) be clarty” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.245 1827; “gan an’ wesh yor clarty fyece” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; ‘he likes gannen doon the pit best, hard, rough, and clarty as the life is’ *Coxhoe* 1916; “the roads wes clarty” (after rain) *Cuddy Cairt Newc* 1917; “clarty byeut-marks” *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71; “clarty” *Trimdon* 2002 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. Mids. NE 2001: in common use

clash 1. a talk, a chat, 2. to slam, bang, make a noise, 3. of any energetic action

1. “I came to have a little clash” *Chicken Benwell* 1720s; “clash, clashing – loose talk, spending one’s time in talking” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “clash – gossip” *Gibson C’d* 1880, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: in use

2. “dinnet clash the door” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.478 1863, “Dinno’ clash the door so” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896, “don’t clash the door” *IA S’m* 1950s, 60s; ‘to throw violently, to strike’ *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “Clash’d and slap’d,’ of milk which has been agitated by hasty carriage” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “divvent clash yerdesklids se” *Dobson Tyne* 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: in use

3. “he clashed him doon” (dashed, hurled) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “clashing around – rushing about” *D’ton C20/2*; “Aall clash thy bloody wick out – I’ll knock hell out of you” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “Ah’m clashed” (under the weather) *Crook C20/2 Q*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE

clashy wet

“clashy – wet, e.g. weather, road” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

claut to claw

“claut – to claw” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “claut – to scratch with one’s nails” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE. See also **claa**

claver to clamber

"I ... claver'd up to the window" *Bells* re Carlisle, 1802; "claffer, claver – to climb up; mostly applied to children" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "claver – to climb, as one does a hill; or as a child does on to its father's or mother's knees" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

claver clover

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: ?general

clavers clover

exx. *Brockett* New & Nth, 1846; 'goosegrass' *Heslop* Newc. 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: claver – Sco, Ire, Nth; claver – D'm, C'd, wYx. Plus "cow-grass – common purple clover" *Heslop* N'd 1890s

clay substance like putty to anchor a candle

"clay – a substance used by pitmen as a substitute for candlesticks" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s

cleed to clothe

"I wad cleed thee in the silk so fine" Reed *Border Ballads* C16; "the nyek'd to cleed" *Oiling* G'head 1826. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, C'd and East Coast. [ON klædda (past tense)]

cleg horse-fly

"clæggs, cleggs – Flies ... that sting beasts and particularly horses" *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; "cleg – the gad-fly; very troublesome in hot weather, particularly to horses" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'horsefly' *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "kleg – mosquito" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON kleggi]. Plus "bree, breese – the gadfly" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "bumbore – the gadfly" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

clemmed to feel the effects of hunger or thirst

"clemmed – hungry" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "clemm'd – starved" *Gibson* C'd 1880, Roker C20/mid; "clemmed up – thirsty" *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; "Ahmclamin" (hungry) East Boldon 1985; "mask the tea thin am clammin" *Dobson* Tyne 1970–71; "I'm clamming for a drink" *Graham* Geordie 1979 [ON klæima, Du. klemmen]. See also **clam**, **crame**

clemmie a stone

"hoy clemmies" *BF* Billingham C20/mid; 'a stone to throw at someone' *ER* M'bro C20/2; "clemmy – hard piece of clay suitable for throwing" *Wood* M'bro 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

cleugh ravine

"cleugh – a rocky valley" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; 'a narrow rocky glen or ravine' *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; 'a narrow ravine more like a cleft in the hill than a waterworn valley' *Egglestone* Weardale 1886 [OE cloh; also Dan. kloft, Norw. kliufa 'to split']

click 1. to catch, snatch, 2. a tear or rent (noun and vb)

1. "deeth was him ... to cleke" *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "klick up – to catch up [Lincs]" *Ray* 1674; "to klick – to snatch, or catch up. as the glede (kite) clicks up the chicken" *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; "Aw've seen him ... Click up his chalk" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; "click haud o' the rope, Cuddy" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "klik – snatch, hole in cloth" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth [OE clyccan, AN klike't 'clapper, latch']

2. "a greet click iv her frock" *Graham* Geordie 1979; "'mind you don't click your jumper' i.e. catch it on someting (like barbed wire, say). The 'click' itself would be the loose loop of wool that the wire would pull out" *PGH*'pool C20/2. Plus "Click – a sudden twinge of pain [in the side], etc." *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

click-clash, **clish-ma-claver**, etc. idle, gossiping talk

ex. *Heslop Newc.* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

clinkin' see *excellent*

clippy mat rug made of cut-up spare material

"clippy mat – made from hessian base and fibre clippings trimmed to length with scissors" CT New Herrington 1930s; "curled up asleep on the clippy mat" *Cate*, B'p Auckland area 1987 p.82. [*EDD* 1900 gives clip 'an iron hook' as N'd etc; but source likelier clippings as offcuts – "Hessian sacks were cut up, stitched together and nailed to wooden frames. Rags were dyed to the required colours and cut into suitable sizes called 'clippings'." *Hitchin* re Dalton-le-Dale 1910s p.12]. See also **clooty**, **proggie mat**

clivvor, clever 1. amazing, skillful, 2. healthy

1. "Sir John's clivvor job/wi' the aaful Lambton Worm" 'Lambton Worm' 1867; "clivvor – skillful" S'd 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

2. "leukin clivver and reet as owt" *Other Eye Newc* ca.1890; "How are ye the day, lad? – Man, aa's clivvor" *Heslop Newc* 1890s; "Aa'm not very clever today" *AK Newc*, 1940s, sim. *JS Easington C20/mid*; "Adivven't feelower clivver" East Boldon, 1985; "I'm not feeling ower clivva today" Charver 2000–2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

clock see **blackclock**

clocking-hen see **chicken**

clog 1. log, 2. wooden shoe

1."clog – a log, block of wood" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "clog – a lump of wood: 'put a clog on the fire' W(elsh). cleg, clog, a lump" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s, sim. *Smith Weardale* 1883; "block of wood as part of construction of a coble" – *Hill Flamborough* 1970s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [origin unknown – not necessarily the same as 'log'] *Plus* "give it come clog – put some effort into it" *Wood Tees* 2002. See also **yule-clog**

2. "These industrious miners that walk in their clogs/They suit them to travel o'er mountains and bogs" 'Bonny Moor Hen' ca. 1818; "clog – a sort of shoe, the upper part of strong hide leather, and the sole of wood, plated with iron" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; 'wooden shoes, also delays, hindrances' *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "clogs – ancle-shoes of thick leather with wooden soles" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *Plus* "clogger – football player who has no finesse" *Wood Tees* 2002

clooty cloth

"claes o' clooty blue" (blue cloth) *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.499 1881; "clooty mat – a mat made of pieces of assorted cloth" *Irwin Tyne* 1970; "a beard like a clooty mat" *Irwin Tyne* 1970; "clootie" (a cloth) *Gateshead* 2001 Q; "cloutie puddings" S'm 2004 per BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: clootie mat – Sco, N'd. See also **clippy mat**, **clout**, **devil**, **hookie mat**, **proggie mat**

cloudberry

"cloud-berry – the ground mulberry or *rubus chamæmorus*" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. [because it grows on hills "where the clouds are lower than the tops of the same all winter long" Gerard's *Herbal C17*] *Plus* "knoop – the cloud-berry" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd. [perhaps from ON knappr 'knob']

clout a piece of cloth

"clout – a cloth of limited size; a patch; a rag" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "Aa'll pin a dish-clout te yor tail" (get out of the kitchen!) *Heslop Newc.* 1890s; 'clothes, rags or a good smack' Spennymoor C20/mid; "she's got a tongue that wud clip cloots" Ashington C20/mid; "clout – article of clothing" *JB Shildon* C20/mid; "clout was the dish cloth and also a clout across the lug hole" *JS Easington* C20/mid. [?OE clut] *Plus* "dishkloot – dishcloth" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; "puddinclout" GP eD'm C20/mid. For plural, see **claes**; see also **clooty**

clove boat part

support for a toft (thoft). ex. Hill 1970s re Staithes

coal

"cwols uv fire" *Moore Weardale* 1859; "coal-heed" (idiot) G'head C20/2 Q; "Pity Me Costa Coal Cree Package Tours" *Dobson Tyne* 1972.

coble small square-sterned fishing boat with running-strakes for hauling onto beach.

“Item in factura cimbri novi, et reparacione antiqui, cum uno cobill” *Finchale* 1406–7; “coble – a particular kind of boat, very sharp and wedge-shaped in the bow, and flat bottomed and square at the stern” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “coble – a kind of boat peculiar to the North East, in use among fishermen and pilots, with sharp bows, flat sloping stern, and without a keel” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: East Coast from Scotland to East Anglia – Note north of Sunderland (approx) the word is pronounced with a long ‘o’. [ONorthumbrian cuop]; compare Welsh ceubol, Bretton caubal; but the modern form could be a reintroduction in Middle English]. For boat parts see **bogie, clove, corf, cuddy, dodger, draft, scutboard**

cockle to hawk, retch

‘to bring up phlegm and spit it out’ *CT* New Herrington, C20/mid; “the sight of blood makes me cockle (retch)” *IA* S’m 1950s,60s; ‘to vomit or spit’ *Roker* C20/mid; ‘to retch, clear phlegm from throat’ *JB* Shildon C20/mid, Upper Teesdale, S’d 2001 Q; ‘to spit’ *Dobson* Tyne 1973, Barnard Castle; *PP* S’m 2000, eD’m 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. Plus “cockle – a quantity of spittle ‘Tom spat a big cockle’” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s

cod cushion

“i codd broudyd wyth ymages” *Raine* MS York 1445; “cod – a pillow” *Ray* 1674; “lay my cods a little higher” *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; “cod, codd – a pillow or cushion” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids, obsolete 1900. [ON koddi]. Plus “firecods – bellows” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “princod – a pincushion” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “codbar – pillowcase” *Finchale* (1411)

codger return end of conveyor belt in pit

ex. Ho’ton 2001 Q

cog see **pog**

cogley crooked, unsteady

“coggly – unsteady. moving from side to side, easily overturned” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “cockly – unsteady on its basis; easily moved or overthrown; wavering” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “a coggly tyebble” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “Coggly – crooked, from side to side, as of an uneven swing’s motion. Walking on high heels, or sitting in a hay-cart, would be so described” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “cogley described poor writing, unsteady riding of a two wheeler bike and learning to drive a booler (a hoop)” *JS* Easington C20/mid; “the plank wis se coggly at aa nearly tummeled off” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [cf. Welsh gogi ‘to shake’ *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s]. Plus “coggled – balanced (upon)” D’ton C20/2

coin to turn, go round

“coin – to turn from the straight” *Wade* *South Moor* C20/mid; “to coign a corner” *Viereck* re Gateshead, 1966; “coin – turn the corner” *JS* Easington C20/mid; “koin – to swing tub around, turn” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “coin left – turn left” *Dobson* Tyne 1970; “coin yer gord” (spin your hoop) *Dobson* Tyne 1969; “coin or quoin – to turn around” *Inwin* Tyne 1970; “coin oot o’ the way” (turn aside) *Graham* Geordie 1979; “coining round the corner” *MS* N.Shields 2004. [AN coign, coin ‘angle’]. Plus “coiner – a children’s cart or bogey, constructed from a few planks of wood and four old pram wheels, the front two being pivoted to turn, hence coiner”, *MM* S.Shields C20/2

colley 1. meat, 2. a lamplight

1. “colley – butcher’s meat. A term chiefly among children” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “colley – meat (child’s term)” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE [? ON kolla ‘cow’, or “a corruption of collop” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s]

2. “lamplighter” *Geeson* N’d/D’m 1969

come

“in cam little Jenny” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “they cam back ower hyem” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.451 1862; “cum thee ways in – come in; it is cumin on ti snaa” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “just cum’d oot” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: cam – Sco, Nth

coo cow

“he milked a dozen coos” ‘Lambton Worm’ 1867; “Ah wadn’t gan up theeer a gowld coo” *Umpleby* Staithe c. 1935; “yor like the coo’s tail, elwis late” Ashington C20/mid. [OE cu]. For plural see **ky**

copple to tip or topple

“to copple the creels” (turn a somersault) Viereck re Gateshead, 1966; “koppel owa – tip over” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: East Anglia; not in *OED*. *Plus* “cropple your creels” Shotton 2001 Q. See also **cowp, creels**

corby see **crow**

corf basket or other container in pit

“I yen corf we byeth gan below” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “corf, the corves – the corf to hold 20 peck or 87.249 imperial gallons” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “corf – a basket for bringing coals out of the pit: ‘lensda hand on wi’ ma corf’” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “corf – a large wicker-work basket, used for drawing coals out of the pits; made of strong hazel rods” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “corve, curve – a small waggon, wheel-less but having iron runners, in use in the coal-pits” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “hoo korves an’ trams gov way te tubs” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids, Corn. [ON korfr, Du korf]. *Plus* “Korvers and Machenicks on the Tine and Wear” *Errington* Felling/Heworth p.42/50 re 1790s

corf

‘tender to a larger coble’ *Hill* Flamborough 1970s. [?calf]

cosy bathing costume

ex. *FS* H’pool C20/2

cotterels coins

“the loss o’ the cotterels” *Marshall* Newc 1823; “And when wark’s flush, for time o’ want,/Lay by some cottrils” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “She alwes sell hor butter an’ eggs at the best price, and whats better Bill, she nivor forgat to fetch the cotterals hyem” *Cuddy Cairt* Newc 1917; “kottoril – money” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx. [cotterils being washers]. *Plus* “ackers” G’head, Blyth C20/2 Q, “shrapnel – loose change” *NShields* C20/mid

cotty knotted or tangled

“my hair was cotty” *SR* B’p Auck 1980s

coul to rake up

“coul – to scrape earth together” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “coul, cowl – to scrape together dung, mud, dirt, etc.” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [AN coiller, cuillir ‘to gather, collect’] *Plus* “cowlings – bits raked together” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; “cowler – a sort of rake without teeth for drawing mud together” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; “cowl-ri’aks – rakes” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s

cowie pill

“cowie – drug, usually a pill” Charver 2000–2002. See also **left-handed**

cowp, coup 1. to tip up, overturn, 2. **coup cart**, 3. **cowp...creels**

1. “cowp’d the cars” *Bells* re Carlisle, 1802; “cope or coup – to empty or turn out” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “he had got too much [to drink] and cowped the cart at the Robers Corner, the wife in the cart, near dark” *Errington* Felling/Heworth p.84 re 1800s; “coup – to empty by overturning, to overset, to tumble over” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “cowpt corves i’ the barrow way” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “he riched ower for a bit o’ lump sugar, and cowped the cream jug” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.395 C19/mid; “sea sarpints tee may cowp the boat” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.362 1849; “Bella cowp’d the hysty-pudding on her new goon” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “cowped is (us) aul iv a heep” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “cowped ower” (roll over) *JP* S’m C20/2; “cowp – overturn” Tanfield Lea, 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [AN couper ‘to strike’; but compare Swed guppa ‘to tilt up’] *Plus* “coupie – sheep on back” *Northumbrian Words III*, C20/mid re Kielder

2. “ii coupe waynes with clogge wheeles” *Raine* MS Wensley 1575; “coup, coop ... a lime coop – a cart or wain made close with boards to carry anything that would otherwise fall out” *Grose* 1787; “coup-cart – a short team, closed with boards” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1825; “couppes – ‘carts for leading manure, so called, not, as Mr Brockett states, from their being able to be couped or turned up in order to be emptied, but from having their sides and ends not open rail work, but cowped or tubbed with boards’ – ‘ii couppes pro fimo extrahendo’” *Finchale* 1836; “coop-

cart – one made to swap, i.e. trip to discharge a load” wNewc 1880s; “Coup Cart (koop) – the common dung – or coal-cart” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “coop-cart” (collecting potatoes in field) *DB Darlington* C20/mid; “coop cart – two wheeled farmer’s cart, with a tippable body” *JB Shildon* C20/mid; “cowp-cart – a cart with a tip-up back used, e.g. for collecting nightsoil” *GP* C20/mid S’m. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

3. “aw cowp’d me creels” (danced) *Marshall Newc* 1823; “creell – a pannier or kind of baskett also a child’s play to stand upon the head and hands and turn over usually called cowping the creells” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “ye wid laft ... to see me coup me creels” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “kowp their moral creels” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “dinnut crouw your creels an’ crack yor cranny” *Crook* C20/1 Q; “Charlie Cowp-his-creels” – a toy with a wooden figure rotating along parallel bars, subject of story by *Lisle Willis* C20/mid; “cowp your creels” (do a forward roll) *IA* S’m 1950s, 60s; “cowpd yacreels” (turned somersaults) *East Boldon* 1985; “shu slipped, the clarts, cowped a creels” (fell over dramatically) *Sacriston* 2004 E. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d. [from image of creel as basket carefully balanced on head; or rhyming slang for ‘heels’?] *Plus* “tipple your creels” (somersault) *JB Shldon* C20/mid; “cropple your creels” *Shotton*, 2001 Q

cowp, coup to swap, sell, barter

“a good horse which he would cope for another” *Raine MS York* 1670; “to kowpe – to chop or exchange” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “cope, coup – to chop or exchange, used by the coasters of Norfolk and Suffolk, and also Yorkshire, probably from the low dutch word, copen, to buy, sell or deal” *Grose* 1787; “cope – to exchange, barter” *Bailey Co.* Durham 1810, “coup, cope” *Dinsdale* Mid-Tees 1849; “cowp” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931, *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “coup, cowp, or cope – to barter or exchange” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “they couped horses” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “Jim coup’d his vine (pencil) for two roasted taties” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “will you coup seats with me?” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “cowp ya” (swap you) *JP S’m* C20/2, *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71; “kowp – overturn, swap” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: in use. [ON kaupā ‘to barter, buy, etc’, OE ceapian]. *Plus* “horsecouping” *Rothbury*, C18/2; “horse-couper – horse dealer” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s

craa, craw see **crow**

crack 1. to boast, talk, 2. chat, news (noun), 3. expert sportsman

1. “he dyd not well to brag and crack” (boast) *Raine MS Newcastle*, C16/mid; “he had great cause to crack of wealth” *Rothbury* C18/2; “crakin oh the baym” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “may blether an’ crack” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.406 1862; “the French may ... crack aboot ther warrin” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.470 1862; “thoo gat drunk en crak’d t’ preest oot ta fight” (challenged) *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE cracian, Fr craquer ‘to talk boastfully’] *Plus* “As weel as sheep that crop wor vales/The crack of fancy breeding” *Oiling Ghead* 1826

2. “to ... hear aw his cracks and his jwokes” (?boasts) *Bells* (Nth C’d) 1815; “What’s your crack?” (news) *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “a crack ower his glass o’ beer” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “Wi’ soft, sweet sugar-candy crack”, “when at wor bate, we’d had some confidential crack” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “a smoak an’ a bit crack wiv a cock-eyed chep thit wes sellin’ mushells i’ the Bigg Markit” *Cuddy Cairt Newc* 1917; “his a bit o’ good crack – interesting to talk to” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “that’s bad crack – bad news” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “Time tu hev a crack” *Lakeland re C’d* C20. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: in use

3. “he won the crack men’s loodest praise” (at bools) *Tyne MC* May 1881; “We cud lick the very myest o’ cracks thit tackled us i’ play” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s

cracket stool

“plac’d on a creckit near the fire” *Chicken Benwell* 1720s; “cricket – a small three legg’d stool” *Grose* 1787; “a three-footed cracket” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “a cracket for the bairm” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “dash maw pit cracket!” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Cracket – a low stool, found in most cottages. When coal is low, miners sit on a cracket to their work, one end of which is higher than the other” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “cracket – three-legged small (milking?) stool” *JB Shildon* C20/mid; “cracket’ is a stool; we children all had our own” *HP South Gosforth* C20/mid; “cracketlowping” *Dobson Tyne* 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: in use. [?Du kruk-stool]

crag prominent rock

“great earthfast craggs & great stones” *Raine MS Rothbury* 1607. [Irish/Gaelic creag]

crake rattle

“the miners union meetings were announced by the crake man going round the streets on a Sunday morning with a big wooden rattle – a crake” *JS Easington* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m. [similar stem to ‘crack’]

crame to mend, e.g. with wire or staples

“to mend by uniting; as joining broken china or wooden bowls” *Brockett Newc & Nth*, 1846; “crame – to clamp and glue” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931 [Du krammen]

cranch to crunch

“cranch – to crush a hard substance between the teeth” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘to crush any substance [noisily]; to break with a crackling sound’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. *Plus* “cranch – hard brittle substance” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849

crane mining lifting gear

“crane – formerly used to hoist the corves of coals from the tram to the rolley; the coals being put by the barrowmen from the working-places to the crane, and drawn thence by horses to the shaft. upon the introduction of tubs the crane was abolished” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

cranky 1. ill, 2. unsafe, 3. item of pitman’s clothing

1. “cranky – sprightly, exulting, jocose ... also used in the opposite sense of ailing, sickly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “cranky – ill able to move from ... injury ... ailment ... or age” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “kranky – weak, poorly, sickly: ‘Ah’s’e very kranky” *Embleton Tyne* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: cheerful – Ire, Newc, Sth; ailing – Nth, Mids. [Gm krank ‘ill’] *Plus* “are you still feeling a bit crook?” *GP S’m* 1950s, *SP S’m* 2003

2. ‘tottering, unsafe’ *Robson Tyne* 1849 [Du kreng ‘lop-sided’ (of a ship)]

3. “crankey – a sort of checked flannell worn by pitmen – hence they get the name of Bob Crankeys” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “cranky – once the characteristic neckcloth of the pitman” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s

cree shed or pen (for animals)

“ah shoved the pig into the cree” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “Cray (krae:) – a hutch, as ‘pig’s cray,’ ‘pigeon-cray,’ etc. The only word in use” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “cree – shed, usually for pigeons” *Spennymoor C20/mid*; “homemade garden shed or hut” *Viereck* re Gateshead 1966, *Ferryhill* 2001 Q; “an old age pensioner’s coal cree” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “chicken cree” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: in use. [ON *krá*, Irish *cró* ‘a fold’]. See also **ducket**

creel wickerwork basket

“creil or creel – a kind of semi-circular basket of wicker work, in which provender is carried to sheep in remote pastures” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “creell – a pannier or kind of baskett... “ *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “wi’ a creel on mee back ... aw’ll supply ye wi’ flat fish, fine skyet, or fresh ling” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.406 1862; “trap ... for crabs and lobsters ... invariably called a pot in cobles’ *Hill Flamborough* 1970s; “creel – basket for 1 stone weight of fish” B’d Castle 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. NE 2001: in low use. [OIrish *criel* ‘chest’ or OFr *greille* ‘wicker-work’]. See also **cowp ... creels**

creep movement in strata

“creep – a heaving or bursting upwards of the floor of a coal mine” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “creep – a state of the mine produced by an insufficiency of coal left to support the roof, and which often forces the top and bottom of the mine together, and renders the pit unfit for further use” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

crew gang of men

“a body of men, e.g. Craaley’s crew” (iron workers) *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s, and see song ‘Swalwell Hopping’. See also **candyemen**

crib bed

“crib – a child’s bed” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “crib – where a Charver sleeps: ‘Am gan hyem to me crib” Charver 2000–2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

crible to curry favour, suck up to

“to curry favour with a superior: ‘aa’s not gan to crible tiv him” *Heslop N’d* 1890s; “Crible – to curry favour” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “kreibal/kryble – to ‘creep’: “dinnut ye gan oot thor an kryble ti that lot!” South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

crine to shrink

"crine – to shrink, pine" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "let yor crines niwvor crine" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.538 1886. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N'd, C'd. [Gaelic crionan 'to lessen']

croggie a ride on a bike's crossbars

'sharing a bike' D'ton C20/2; "a croggie – a ride on a bike's crossbar: 'hey, give us a croggie home'" *RM Norton* C20/mid. *Plus* "Gis a backy" Roger Key re eD'm (E)

crouse, croose cheerful, active

"crowse – brisk lively, jolley: 'as crowse as a new washen louse'" *Ray* 1674 sim, *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; "A cock's ay crouse on his awn midden" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; "canty an' crouse" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.464 1860; "crouse – bumptious" *Gibson* C'd 1880; "as cruse as onny" *Northumbrian Words III* C20/mid re Kielder. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [Middle Eng (Nth) crous, compare Fris. krús 'free-growing, jolly']

crow 1. **craa, craw**, 2. **corby**, 3. **dowp**, 4. other

1. "craa" *Rothbury* C18/2; "black an' tidy as a craw" *Chater Newc* 1881; "craa – crow; 'Ralphy Crow' ('Ralph' pronounced 'raaf')" *JB Shildon* C20/mid.

2. "corby – the raven. The carrion crow is also called a corby, or corby-crow" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "corby – a carrion crow" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [Fr corbet]

3. "dowp – a carrion crow" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "doup, dowp – the carrion crow" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

4. "black-neb – the carrion crow" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "midden-crow – the carrion crow" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

crowdy a mash made by pouring boiling water on oats

"crowdie an milk" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "grudge for haver-meal (oatmeal) to pay/to make them crowdies once a day" *Bell* Newc p.51 1812; "crowdie – oatmeal and water mixed together and used with milk, butter or the fat from off the pot when beef is boiled, the last is called fat crowdie" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "crowdy – oatmeal and hot water mixed together: 'The crowdie is wor daily dish'" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; "crowdy and treacle" *Shields Song Book* (1826); "crowdy – oatmeal porridge, made thick enough to turn out of the basin, like a pudding, when cooled" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "crowdy – oatmeal and boiling water stirred together till thick, and then 'supped' with milk, treacle, dripping, or beer sweetened with sugar" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "oatmeal well stirred with boiling water was a 'crowdie'. I am reported to have told my granny, that's what we feed our hens on' the first time I saw it mixed!" *Nth Words* Alnwick re 1880 approx; "crowdy – a sodden mess given to pigs, poultry, etc. The staple is meal stirred up with hot water and mingled with household scaps" wNewc 1880s; "Crowdy (kraaw:di) – a kind of porridge. (Teaspoonful of oatmeal, in plate of hot water, and half a glassful of milk added, when cold.)" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "after Aa'd getten me claes on and etten me croody..." *Cuddy Cairt* Newc 1917; "oatmeal, peper and salt, a dollop of good dripping, with hot water poured onto it" *Nth Words* N'd, 1938; "save yor wind to cool yor crowdie" (shut up) *Ashington* C20/mid "crowdy only hen food" *South Moor (Stanley)* 2003 (M); 'specially prepared hen food' *IL B'p Auckland* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [compare Ice. groutr 'porridge'] See also **brose,skilly**

cuddy 1. short for Cuthbert, 2. donkey, 3.?horse, 4. small cabin on a coble

1. "Cuddy – an abbreviation of Cuthbert" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "Cuddy's swine" (pig) *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; "cuddy-duck – eider-duck" Newc 2001 Q, *WS Seahouses* via *AR*; "cuddy's legs – herrings" *Heslop* N'd 1890s. *Plus* "Cuthbert's beads – portions of the jointed stems of fossil encrinites" (Lindisfame) *Heslop* N'd 1890s [St Cuthbert]

2. "cuddy – an ass, likewise a name given to a weak minded person" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "wor Cuddy ... 'Il bray" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.177 1824 Newc; "the cuddies ... gov a terrific he ha! he ha! he ha!" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.438 C19/mid; "awkward as a cuddy" (clumsy and obstinate) *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; "Cuddy – donkey (always used)" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "Matthew, Mark, Luke and John/Haad the cuddy while ah get on" *Irwin* Tyne 1970–71; "the indigenous wild whippet, the horned cuddy and the winged moggie" *Dobson* Tyne 1970–71. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Sco, Ire. NE 2001: in use. *Plus* "neddy – donkey" D'ton C20/mid

3. "On a cuddy thou's ride to the Toon" *Crawhall* Newc 1888; "an ass or small horse" *Irwin* Tyne 1970; 'young horse or a donkey' *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; "cuddy – horse" *Wheatley Hill* 2004 Q

4. 'small cabin on a fishing coble' S'm C20/2 per BG; 'cuddy – decked-over shelter in the forepart of a coble ... tilt: canvas shelter over the bows of northern cobbles' *Hill Flamborough* 1970s. [likely from Du. kaiute, with similar meaning. (thus *OED*)] *Plus* "dodger, hud, or sheet, not cuddy ... cuddy might be used for a small locker or the like" *FT Cullercoats* 2003. See also **dodger, huddock**. For **cuddy-handed** see **left-handed**

cull 1. a fool, 2. foolish

1. 'silly person' Tanfield Lea 1960; 'a stupid fellow' *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, C'd

2. "cull – a Newcastle word for silly or foolish" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "cull cheps for his worm cake frae far an' near ride" *Ross Tyne* C19/1 p.11; "all the cull cuckolds in Sunderland town" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.5 1834. [*OED* suggests as slang term]

cullish foolish

"to refuse them is cullish" *Bell* Newc p.105 1812. *Plus* "consarn ... that my Lord should sae cullishly come by his deeth" *Marshall* G'head 1806

cundy conduit, covered drain

ex. *Bell* MS Newc 1815, *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "doon the cundy" (where Geordie's penker went) C20/1; "kundee – small tunnel, drain" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "a sewer" *Graham* Geordie 1979; "a small drivage to ventilate inaccessible places" (in pit) *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth; "cundy – pipe or gully for draining water" B'p Auck 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Corn. [AN conduit 'conduit, pipe']

curran-berry currant

"curran-berries – any kind of currant" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "curran or corran barries – garden currants black and red" *Hull MS* wNewc 1880s; "'E wad gan onnywheer for 'auf a corrin'" *Umpleby* Staithes c. 1935. *EDD* distribution to 1900: corran – N'd; curran – D'm, Yx, Lx, nLincs [Corinth]

currick caim

"a carrock of stones" *Raine* MS Ronaldskirk 1550; "corrock, currack, or kirock – a large heap of stones formerly used as a boundary mark, burial place, or guide for travellers" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "it ed mak a better guide post ner t' curricks" (re Cleopatra's Needle) *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "currack – dry stone pillar (landmark on moors)" *JB* Shildon C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, C'd, D'm

cushat dove, wood pigeon

"to shoot cowshets" *Raine* MS Askham 1672; "cushat – a wild pigeon" *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; 'the ring dove' *Heslop* N'd 1890s; "cushat was used for a wood pigeon ... also 'woodies'" *JS* Easington C20/mid; "cushat – a dove, ringdove or wood-pigeon" *Irwin* Tyne 1970; "cushat – pigeon" South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [OE *cusceote*]. See also **skemmie**

cushy 1. cow, 2. a call to cows

1. "cushy-cow – a cow" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "cushie – cow (child's term)" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "cushy – cow, also 'cushy-cow'" *JB* Shildon C20/mid; "cushy" D'ton C20/mid, C20/2; "cushy-cow" *PG* H'pool C20/2, *JS* Easington C20/mid, B'p Auck 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. *Plus* "cushy-coolady – the lady-bird beetle" *Heslop* N'd 1890s

2. "cush-cush – used in calling a cow" *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; "Cush – a call to cows at milking-time" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids. [ON *kus!* *kus!* 'milkmaid's call']

cush, cushty see **excellent**

(short) cut 1. cut, 2. bolt, 3. ginnel, 4. snicket

1. "cut – short cut from road to road, e.g. between houses" *TC* S'm C20/2; "short cut, passage" Trimdon 2002 Q; "cut – path between houses from one road to another" cenD'm, eD'm, M'bro 2001 Q. [Celtic cut 'short' – *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s]

2. "bolts – narrow passages ... between houses" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

3. "ginnel – path between houses" Thornley 1940s Q; "gimmel – a passage" *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

4. "snicket – back road, short cut" *JS* Ch-le-St

cutty 1. short, 2. a short tobacco pipe

1. "cutty sark" (short petticoat) Burns' poem 1791; "cutty – little, short, a short knife, cutty gun, a short tobacco pipe" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, S.W. [Celtic cut 'short']

2. "Aw sat i'the nuik, and my cutty aw smuik" *Street Piracy Newc* 1822; "me feet on the hob an' me cutty full o' twist" *Robson Newc* C20/1; "kuttee – short pipe" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; "cutty-gun ... a short pipe" *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N'd

D

dacker uncertain, unsettled

ex. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. [MDu daeckeren]

dad 1. to beat, 2. a lump, 3. a blow

1. “dad – to shake by striking one thing against another ... dad is likewise used when a person is struck...; to ‘dad a hat’ is to shake the wet off it” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “I’ll dad thy gob” *IA S’m* 1950s,60s; “the clippy mat and the door mat were daded off the wall ... to get the dust out” *JS Easington C20/mid*; “dad your pit claes off the wall” (get dust out of) *TC S’m C20/2*, also cenD’m C20/2 Q; “I’ll dad thee lug” *Wade South Moor* 1966. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d. [*OED* as imitative]

2. “dad... also a lump, a large piece, a thick slice, as of bread or cheese” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “dads o’ duff” (lumps of coal-dust) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.379 1849; “Dawd – slice: ‘Cut him a dawd o’ breed’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Ire, Nth

3. “dad – a blow, a thump, etc.” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “he gat sic a dad as he’ll not forget.” *Heslop N’d* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d. ‘In N’d the word is now obsolete’ *Graham Geordie* 1979

dad, daddy, deddy see **father**

daffle to confuse or be confused

“daffle – to puzzle” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; ‘to betray loss of memory and mental faculty’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [ME *daff*, ‘fool’ c.1325; ON *dauf* ‘deaf, dull’; ... or same root as ‘daft’?]

daffy to smarten up

“E thowt he’d daffy th’ dog up wirra notha culla” *CT New Herrington* 1930s

daft fond, foolish

“daft – fond, doting” *Kennet* 1690s as Yx; “daft – foolish, stupid, insane” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “daft – foolish” *Bell MS Newc* 1815, ‘mad, disorderly’ *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “daft on or about (s.thing, s.one)” D’ton 1940s (Q); “daft over a lass” *IA S’m* 1950s, 60s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* “daftlike – embarrassed, having the appearance of folly, approaching to insanity” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. [OE *gedæfte* ‘meek’ etc.]

daftie a simpleton

“oh you daftie” (used in an affectionate way if someone is careless) *KH Stockton C20/2*; “daftee – fool” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “dafty – a fool: ‘ye’ll hit somebody, ye dafty’” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, Yx

dag, daggy 1. drizzly, 2. to drizzle

1. “dag, daggy, dagging – small rain: “It’s a dag”, “It’s daggy weather”; “daggy – drizzly” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931; “dag – a drizzling rain” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “daggy – damp, wet: ‘A daggy day’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, D’m, EA

2. “15 Apr [1672] mizling, drizling, dagling, small rain” *Raine MS Askham*, “It’s dagging on” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “dagg – to drizzle: ‘a fine daggling rain’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “it’s daggin on” *Heslop N’d* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, Yx, Lx, EA. [ON *dögg* ‘dew’]

dag over-smart

“dag – dressy, hair smarmed: ‘our doctor who sported lemon gloves was a bit of a dag’” *AM S.Shields* 1920s, 1950s [?dago]

dairns type of fish

ex. *Bell Newc* 1812 p.6; ‘small unremarkable fish’ (*EDD*)

dale valley

“dale – the distinctive name of the valleys ... of Cleveland” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. [OE *dæl*, ON *dalr*] See also **dene**

dame 1. mother, 2. a woman

1. “in credill laide, his dame before” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “give my service (regards) to your dame” *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; “deame, d’yame or dame – the matron or mistress of the house” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

2. “hold thee still le dame” *Noah’s Ark* Newc C15/16; “the snuffy au’d dyem” *Ross Tyne* p.23 C19/1; “dame (pronounced deeam) – one’s wife, the mistress of his house; also applied to an aged woman” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868 [OFr *dame*]

darbo rendering

“darbo is a cement and sand mix without the aggregate ... a sort of finishing off mixture” *VW Tees* 2004

dare

“there was not ane durst come him near” *Rothbury* C18/2; “folks dorsent say owt tiv him” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.423 1862; “They dore just as seun lowp frae the land above the meun” (present tense) *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “dursent” (dare not) *Coxhoe* 1916; “dairsent for dare not” *JR Crook* C20/mid; “darsent” *KH Stockton* C20/2; “dawsint – dare not” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “aa dorna; he dorsent” *Todd Tyne* 1977 [OE *durran*, a pret-pres. vb]

dark to eavesdrop

“darking – listening obscurely or unseen” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “dark – to listen insidiously, to eavesdrop: ‘what are you darking at?’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

darkening

“darkening – twilight” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

darrak a day’s work

“darg” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “He has not had a darroc this three months” *Brockett* 1846 re Durham; “darrak – day’s work” *Gibson C’d* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: darg – Sco, Ire, Nth [day plus work] See also **daytal**

dat a rubbish dump

ex. *BL* Blaydon 1950s

davy davy lamp, safety lamp

“said, me Deavy for a new-aw’d had a cowpey (swop)” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.148 1827

daw, dow

“daw – to thrive, to recover from an illness” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “he neither dees nor dows” *Grose* 1787. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. See also **dow**

the day today

“the day – a N’d and Scottish idiom for ‘to-day’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “How are ye the day, lad?” *Graham* Geordie 1979

daytal work on a day to day basis

“daytal – by the day: [of] a labourer ... or the work done by him: ‘on’y a daytal-man’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “daytaleman – a day labourer, chiefly in husbandry ... a man whose labour is ... reckoned by the day, not by the week or year. Daytlemen, about coal pits, are those who are not employed in working the coal.” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “dattle – miners paid at the ‘County Average’” *BL* Winlaton 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Ire, Nth, eMids. [day plus tale in sense of tally]. See also **darrak** www.ebooks000.com

daza see *excellent*

dazed feeling cold

"I's dazed – I'm very cold" *Ray* 1674; "daized – numb from cold" *Grose* 1787, *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [assumed ON root, since Ice. *dasa*-sk, to become numb (with cold)]. See also **nithered**

deave to deafen

"wi' lang sangs a'm deave'd" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.93 1812; "the timber merchints will ne mair with 'ten a penny' deave us" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.237 1829; "deave – to deafen, to stupify with noise, to din" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "a din fit to deave yan" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *deafian*]

dee, de to do: 1. positive forms, 2. negative forms

1. "while he was deand his office" (doing) *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "What shall I outhere dea or say?" (Rothbury, C18/2); "eneough to de"; plus "to dih" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "How, smash! Skipper, what mun a' dee?" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805; "aw may drink, aw may fight, or dee owt" *Ross Tyne* p.5 C19/1; "marmails dein' queer feats" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.409 C19/mid; "ta di'ah" *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; "nowt te dee" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "did te did? wilt te did?" (do it) *Smith Weardale* 1883; "Diz thi fatha still jump on an' off [the trams] like hi diz o' th' buses" *CT New Herrington* 1930s; "mind what ya deein..." *Dinnington* 1950s Q; "get did away – hurry up" *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re *Hazelrigg Colliery*; "thordeincanny" *Dobson Tyne* 1969; "they had four or six gates so that in times of danger the garrison could dee off like" *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71; "worra wuz ganna dee?" *VIZ* 48, 1990s; "what Ah dud heer", "what duddy see?" *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; "to get it, deughn" (done) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "Whiet dyun ower" tired out *Marshall G'head* 1806; "dyeun" (done) *Coxhoe* 1916; "diun out on't – swindled" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950

2. "dinna/dinnot – do not" *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931; "dinna sit there leyke steuke" (a stook of hay) plus "aw dinnit leyke te..." *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "dinna whinge an' whipe" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.75 1806; "the loss o' the coterrels aw dinna regard" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.50 1812; "dinna be blind" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.244 1842; "dinna – do not" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s extra; "dinna put it on see strang" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "Aa didna bother him about it" (did not) *Coxhoe* 1916; "disna – does not" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; "disn't thou think sham..." *Wearside Tales* 1879, etc. "dinnot – do not" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "dinnet say thou winnet, hinney!" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.385 1849; "Aw shoor aw dinnot know what the lads are gettin' to now" *JS South Shields* C19/mid; "dinnet muaik thawsel se fast" *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; "Aw nivor did, nor div Aw noo" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "we dinnet want te myak ne brag of worsells" *Coxhoe* 1916; "dinnot/din't tell me what to dee" *IA S'm* 1950s, 60s; "dinit – do not" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; "dissent matter where th' tram gans" *CT New Herrington* 1930s, etc. "Hold! doan't go yet" (*Marshall G'head* 1806); "deant" M'bro *MWN* 28 Jan 1860; "daint" (don't) *Cleadon Park, South Shields* C20/2 Q; "durd do that – don't do that" *MG Teesdale* C20/2; "dee-ant" (don't) *Wood* re *Cleveland* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth re pronunciation; esp. *diwent* – Tyne, *dinnut* – D'm, C'd, *deeat* – Yx]. NE 2001: in use [OE (Ang) *doen*] See also **div**

dee to die

"And ever an ill death may they die" (rhymes with 'be') *RR Weardale* 1569; "I'll love thee till the day I dee" *Chicken Benwell* 1720s; "...that had deed" (died) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "if ever these worthies should happen to dee" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.239 1829; "he sais he'll dee in Scotland" *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; "when he fun oot he was gannin to dee" *Embleton Tyne* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth re pronunciation. [ON *deyja*]

deed dead

"as deed as a stane" *Marshall G'head* 1806; "I'd roast him deed" *Bell Newc* p.38 1812; "as deed as bacon" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.193 1842; "deed folk" (the dead) *Embleton, Newc* 1897; "fell doon in the street, deed" *Coxhoe* 1916; "deed-house – mortuary" *Graham Geordie* 1979; "guess whee's deed!" *S'm* C20/mid. *Plus* "aside the church wher ah the quiet folks ly" *D'm Chron* 28 Apr 1865

deef deaf

"yammering and shouting as kin (as if) yen was deef" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "deef – deaf" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, C'd, Dev, Corn.

deek look at!, see!

ex. *LL Tyneside* 1974. [Romany *deek*, *dick* 'look']

deeth death

“deeth” (death) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “Deeth cried, ‘Jacky, come!’” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.235 1829; “the rope o’ cawd deith seun’ll stop Matty’s breath/on a life crushin’ hanggallas tree” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.366 1849; “Deeth follows on mee track” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.429 1862; “the darkest deeth” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “deethacaad” (East Boldon, 1985). [OE déao]

dele to share out

“to take and dele” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; possibly also in place-names, e.g. Dalton-le-Dale – shared land? *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE daélan]

delve to dig

ex. *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE delfan]

denched queasy

ex. *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: densh ‘dainty/squeamish’ Nth

dene valley

“dene – a dell or deep valley” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “Dene (dae:n) – the picturesque wooded hollows, each traversed by a stream, which line the sea-coast of Durham” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “dean, deane, or dene – a dell or deep valley, between two steep hills, with running water at the bottom” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “the narrow wooded valleys which we called the Denes” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.35 1910s; “all the steep sided wooded valleys in the Magnesian Limestone are called denes from Ryhope Dene to Crimdon Dene in the south” *JS Easington* 2003. [OE denu ‘valley’]

deppity deputy, mine official esp. one in charge of tools, woodworking, and tracks

“the deputy overman ... wrote reports, rendered first aid, fired the explosive charges, and maintained discipline by example or sheer cussing” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.69 1910s; “deppity – the man in charge of a section of a mine” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “deputy – pit foreman” *JM Dawdon* 1970s; “The deputy was in charge of a working district, and the overman in charge of a number of districts” *Northumbrian III C20/2* re Shilbottle Colliery. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

deppity’s kist tool chest

“the deputies’ kist is used to keep their tools, plate and brattice nails, &c., in” *Nicholson* 1880; “The deputy ... assembled his workmen at the kist, to check attendance and delegate work areas. In this chest he kept tools and first-aid equipment.” *Northumbrian III C20/2* re Shilbottle Colliery; “depittee’s kist – holds tools and papers” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “also for first aid” *GP Dawdon C20/2*; “Box or large wood chest which has lid and locks. Used for keeping any special tools in, also report and time books for all accounts of work in a district of the mine. Always placed at a meeting station where the deputy places workmen to their daily jobs” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery, C20/mid*

des bed 1. folding bed, 2. bench

1. “the top o’ the desk-bed where the wife kept all her fancy things” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “des’ bed” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “dess bed – a large cupboard bed” *Spennymoor C20/mid*; “desk bed” *Irwin Tyne* 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d. [AN deis, desse ‘high table, dais’]

2. “satt doune upon the dese” (dais) *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “deas, deis, deys, or dess – a seat or bench, a throne. In N’d it is now only applied to a seat made of stone and covered with green turf, at cottage doors.” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “dess – a layer or course in any pile...; the entire pile, e.g. a haystack, or ‘a dess of stones’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “deas – an old-fashioned wooden settle or sofa, which could be turned into a table, bed, or seat”. *EDD* 1900.

the devil 1. De’il, 2. Scrat, 3. Cloutie, 4. Old Nick, 5. the Bad Man, 6. Old Horney

1. “Mächil is hanged,/And brend iz hiz buks.... The dīl haz ‘im fanged/In his krked klvks.” re Michael Scot, in Alexander Gil 1621; “De’il rive their sark gangs hame to night” *Chicken Benwell* 1720s; “he sits in his keel as black as the deil” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.4 1812; “When you ha’ to do with the Deil, mind his horns” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “he’s a limb of the deevil” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.309 1862; “the blue divels” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.408 1862; “Deel tyek ye!” *Graham Geordie* 1979. [OE deofol]

2. “Scrat, Aud Scrat – the Devil, the Evil One” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868”. [ON skratte (goblin) for ‘Old Scratch’ (re his claws)]

3. “Cloutie – an old name for the Devil, derived from the clute, the half of the hoof of any cloven-footed animal” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “Cloutie’s gang” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.269 1843 (T. Wilson). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Cloutie – Sco. N’d, NW. [?compare claut ‘to claw’]

4. "Auld Nick, Old Hooky, Old Scratch" *Geeson N'd/D'm '1969'*. [*Geeson N'd/D'm '1969'* offers OE nicor (water monster), Gm Nickel (goblin), and Nicholas as sources]

5. "the nasty Bad Man" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.312 1827; "the Bad Man" *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s

6. "awd Horney" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.303 1848

devil technical mining term

"what wi' deevils, bulls, an' cows" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "devil – a device for detaching the rope from a set of tubs whilst in motion" *Wade South Moor C20/mid*

dhan float for line of lobster pots, etc.

"A long line could contain some six pieces joined together; there would be a dhan-end or buoy at each end, and next to that a 'watcher' made of corks where the long line dipped." *JH Sm re* 1930s; ex. *FT Cullercoats* 2003

dickers to dare s.one

"Aa'll dickers ye te dee it" att. *GP S'm C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD'm

dickies head lice

ex. *CT New Herrington, C20/mid*

diddums pre-talk to suit an infant

"diddums-wassums", "diddums-doddumswassums" *MB Coxhoe C20/mid*

dight to prepare, dress

"she dighted her father's bloody wounds" *Reed Border Ballads C16*; "the dightynge of the house" *Raine MS Newcastle* 1593; "Item paid to iiii laboreres for dighting the hill agaynst the playes" *Anderson Newc C16*; "dight – to dress, to clean" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE dihtan 'to compose, appoint'] *Plus* "keel dighter – a woman who scrape[s] or clean[s] out the floor of the keels, and gets what small coals may have been left after the delivery of the keel" *Bell MS Newc* 1815

dike see **dyke**

dill to soothe

"the paralisy first dilde..." (benumbed?) *Cuthbert C15/mid*; "dill – to soothe pain, to still or calm, to dull" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; 'to allay pain' *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; 'to soothe' *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, part Mids [ON dilla 'to lull']

ding to push, strike or knock

"he manast [menaced] him to dyng" (beat) *Cuthbert C15/mid*; "none shall ding down ackornes of the trees" *Raine MS Ilkley*, 1552; "they dang wi' trees and burst the door" *Beattie Border Ballads* p.76; "Ise ding him, I shall beat him" *Grose* 1787 as Nth; "ding-down – to throw down, used in Durham and Northumberland" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "ding – also to dr[ive] in, as to ding in nails, etc." *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "at last a great thrust dang him ower" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.147 1816; "The ducks dang o'er my Daddy" *Bell-Harker Newc C19/1*; "They dung doon the peep show" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s extra; "when the blast dings frae the North" *Northumbrian III C20/mid re Kielder*; "ding you on the heed" *Birtley* 2003 per BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?ON – compare Ice. dengja 'to hammer'; but also Romany ding 'to throw']

dinnot see **dee** (do)

dint to dent

"the tin was dented" *IA S'm* 1950s,60s

dippy spoiled (of birds' eggs) i.e. too aged to blow out

ex. *JS Easington re* 1950s, *GP S'm C20/mid*. *Plus* "gollied – a bird's egg which could not be blown" *Wood M/bro C20/2*

dirdum see **dur dum**

dirl to drill or twirl

“dirl – to vibrate: ‘dirls my lug like wor smith’s hammer” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “dirl – to move round quickly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [from drill?] See also **thirl**

dither to tremble

“her body quaking & dithering” *Raine MS Bolling* 1649/50; “to didder – to quiver with cold” *Ray* 1674. *Plus* “dithery docks – moorland grass with trembling seed head” D’ton 1940s Q, ‘a particular species of grass with quaking seeds’. *PG H’pool* C20/2 See also **dother**

div, divvent 1. do, 2. do not

1. “div – often used for ‘do’ I div – I do; I div na, I do not” *Jamieson Scots Dictionary* 1808; “div – for do. Very common among the vulgar” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “div – to do: ‘what div I know?” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s extra; “Aye, div Aa” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “div aa knaa him?” *Graham* Geordie 1979

2. “divent laugh at poor folks” *Bell Newc* p.89 1812 re 1811; “div’nt ye mak’ sic a rout” beside “if ye din’t know” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.47,48 1812; “divent – ‘divent div that’ i.e. do not do that” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “divent say nowt” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.511 C19/mid; “divn’t ye know...” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “divint get excited” *Shield Row* C20/1 Q; “Aa still divvent knaa” *Hay Ushaw Moor* C20/1; “A divvent knaw warrit means” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “divvent bubble (cry) hinny” *Dinnington* 1950s Q; “divvent – do not, don’t” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “divvent ride the ponies” *JM Dawdon* 1970s; “A divven’t feel ower cliver” *East Boldon* 1985; “divvent fash yersel” S’d. 2001 Q; “divvent” *South Moor (Stanley)* 2003 (M); ex. G’head, Blyth, NShields, Lanchester 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Tyne [Forms like ‘div’ are common in George MacDonald’s novel *Castle Warlock*, apparently representing the sort of dialect he encountered as a youth in Aberdeen and area in 1830s. An earlier ex. is Scott’s poem ‘O Mortality’ stanza 37 (“Div I ken...?”) – the *Scottish National Dictionary* comments ‘The /v/ is due to analogy with /hiv/, emphatic form of /hae/, have.’ This intrusive /v/ is an occasional feature of North East English, but divvent may well be a Scottish import to Tyneside. “I find the dialect of Newcastle different from South Shields for instance they say divvint whereas we say dean’t” *GA S.Shields* 1950s] See also **de** (do) qu re border between dee/div

dobbie ghost or spirit

“dobby or dobbie – a spirit or demon” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “dobby – ghost or spirit” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘prankster or boggle’ *Brockie* D’m 1886. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [form of name, ‘Robin’]

docken the dock plant

“a supposed witch struck a man on the neck with a docken stalke” *Raine MS Rothwell* 1654/55; “docken – the plant called the dock” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “his (the dog’s) lugs like twe dockins hung ower his jaws” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.141 1816; “nettle oot, docken in” *Heslop N’d* 1890s; “amang these green dockins” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.334 C19/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in low use. [OE *doccan* (pl.)]. *Plus* “sour dockens” (sorrel) *Green Wearside* re 1820s

Dode George

“Dody – a corruption or diminutive of George” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “wor Dode’ll bring maw picks te bank” *Chater Newc* p.6 1885; “aud Doad” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Dohd – George” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2

dodger forward canvas ‘cabin’ on a coble

“There was not a lot of water in the coble when we transferred to the lifeboat as it had been deflected by our ‘dodger.’” *Seaham* 1962. See also **cuddy, huddock**

dodie child’s dummy

ex. S’m 2005 per BG

doggins affectionate term for (any) dog

ex. S’m via BG 2001

doll to hit

“dolloed ower’d head – hit over the head” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; “They’ve a chance to doll you” (bus conductor warning re drunks) *AM South Shields* C20/2

doll a clay stopper

“[Meanwhile] I had been rolling clay into cylindrical shapes about the diameter of the hole. These clay dolls were rammed tightly into the hole so as to throw the force of the explosion inwards.” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.101 1920s

dolly-muck small coal

“dolly-muck – small coal or coal-dust, used for banking up a fire” *Wheatley Hill* 2004. *Plus* “Dolly-wash – coal-dust in beck” *Wheatley Hill* 2004 (M)

dook, jook to duck

“jook – to stoop down to avoid a blow: ‘jouken down’” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “dook – to bow down; to dive or plunge under water” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “dookin – drenched” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “dook yor heed” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: dook – Sco, Nth, Mids; jook – Sco, Ire, Nth, USA. [possible OE *ducan; compare Swed dyka] *Plus* “have ye had a dook yet?” (a bathe) *Graham* Geordie 1979; “‘Ha ye had yor dooks yet?’ – at the swimming pool, your head under water” *MS N.Shields* 2004

doon-bye down there, over there

“Aa’s gaan doon-bye” *Heslop* Newc. 1890s; “doon-by – down somewhere” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2;

doot, doubt think, suspect

“dowtyn to dye intestate” *Raine* MS Hull 1487; “wor life sure is ne joke, whatiwor we may doot” *Haldane* Newc 1879; ‘the equivalent to ‘think’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “Aa doot aa cannot” *NDN* 31 May 1919; “Aa doubt you’re not going to rear that one, Maggie” (of a sickly child) *MR S’m* 1920s; “clear dividing line between me and my mother – we live in the same house and she’d use it naturally, but I wouldn’t dream of it – it confuses me!” *PG H’pool* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [AN duter, doubter ‘to fear, suspect, surmise, think that’]. *Plus* ‘ye mewvies misdoot me” *Graham* Geordie 1979

dother, dodder, etc. shaky

“dather – to quake or shake with cold: ‘my teeth dather in my heed’” *Kennet* 1690s as Yx; “dother – to shake” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “dodder, or dother – to shake, to totter, to tremble” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “dother – shiver or tremble: ‘I’m dothering’ on a very cold day” *RV Winlaton* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: dother – gen.; dodder – Sco, Nth, S.W.; dather – C’d, Yx. See also **dither**

dothery shakey

“excuse bad writ’n’ fer mi hand’s dothery” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “Dothery (daudh:uri) – shaky, failing; of old age” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “as shivvery as a dothery duck” (grass) *Coxhoe* 1916; “dothoree – shakey” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. See also **dither**

dottle a remnant, a lump

“a dottle, a bit left ower from glass-making, like a paperweight, used as a marker in hitchy-dabber” *TC S’m* C20/2; “dottle – the remain of a pipe of tobacco put upon the top of a fresh pipe for the purpose of lighting it” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “dottle – hot ash (from a cigarette)” *Dobson* Tyne 1969; “diwent drop yer dottle on me best proggy mat” *Irwin* Tyne 1970; “the tobacco left at the bottom of a pipe after smoking” *Graham* Geordie 1979, var. dozzle. *OED* as Scots word. [?from rare OE dot ‘clump’]

douce polite, etc.

“they ne’er saw nyen sae douce yet” *Marshall* Newc p.16 1823; “douce – respectable” *Gibson* C’d 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [AN duz ‘sweet, gentle’, Fr douce]

dover ower nod off to sleep

“dover – to slumber, to be in a state between sleeping and waking” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “he’d dovered ower to sleep” *Embleton* Tyne 1897, sim. *GP S’m C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d. [OE dofun ‘dotage’, ON dofna]. *Plus* “Aa dover’d him” (knocked him our) *S’m* 2005 per BG

dowly dismal, melancholy

“dowly – melancholy” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “dowly thowts are mair wor friends than foes” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.192 1824; “dowly – lonely, dismal, melancholy, sorrowful, doleful: ‘A dowly place’, ‘A dowly lot’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “my bairn’s a canny bairn, and never looks dowly” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.118 re Co.D’m, 1830s; “dowly – of persons: heavy with sorrow or anxiety; of things: lonely, melancholy; of weather: dull, gloomy: ‘he’s as dowly as deeth’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “On a pay Friday neet, one reel dowly Decembor./Reel dowly, for wages wor awefully law...” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Chorch is se dowly” (dull) *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “We said it (the Blast Beach) was ‘dowelly’ – lonely and threatening” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.30 1910s; “to be dowly – to be lonely” *Spennymoor C20/mid*; “dowly – out of sorts, depressed” *Wood* re Cleveland C20/2; “dowlee – dark or dismal” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [?OE dol ... compare dull; ON daufligr; Irish doiligh].

downcast shaft (in a pit)

“downcast shaft – the shaft by which the air enters a coal pit, by which the men descend to their work, and by which the coals are drawn up” *Brockett Newc & Nth*, 1846. See also **upcast**

dowp bottom, posterior

“hardly flig’d ower the dowp” (of a nearfledged bird) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.49 1812; “his drawers on his dowp luik’d se canny” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.334 C19/1; “dowp, dowp – [buttock]: ‘As fine as F**ty-Poke’s wife, who dressed her dowp with primroses’ – Newc.” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “thy canny dowp is fat and round” (to a baby) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.341 1842; “dowp – the buttocks or posteriors: ‘look thee! there’a a gret fat dowp!’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “clout y’ dowp” (smack your bottom) *TP G’head C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON dawp?of rounded shape]. *Plus* “the varry dowpie [baby] on my lap/can tell his A B C” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.380 1849. See also **crow**

dozzen’d numbed

“dozened – spiritless, impotent, withered, benumbed – in a daze” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “dozzen’d, dozen’d, dozand – wrinkled or withered (of people, fruits, etc)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “dozzint – dozy, stupid” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [?ON dúsa ‘to doze’]

draft side-runner on hull of coble

“draft (draught)” *Hill Flamborough* 1970s; ‘pronouned drawt, Seahouses’ per BG 2003. *Plus* “Scorbles than drafts” *Amble* per BG 2003

drag, dreg improvised brake

“...te grape for the dregs when Aw com’ tiv a hitch” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “I could stop a moving tub by spoking its wheels with a ‘dreg’” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.70 1910s; sim. *GP S’m* 1950s, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “shove 2 dregs in” *JR Haswell C20/mid*; “drag – metal or wooden rod used to slow a tub down by thrusting it between the spokes” *Moreland Seaham* 1980. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx. [OE dragan ‘to draw’, perhaps influenced by ON as in Swed dragg ‘grapnel’]

dragonfly 1. **fleeing ether**, 2. **fleeing ask**, 3. **tenging-ether**, etc., 4. **bull-stang**, etc.

1. “fleeing-eather – the large dragon fly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “fleeing-aither, fleeing-eather or ether – the dragon-fly” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868 [eathor/adder re premodern tendency to class all long-bodied insects as snake/worm]

2. “fleeing-ask, fleeing-esk – the dragon-fly” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

3. “tenging-ether – large dragonfly” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “tanging-nadder – the large dragon-fly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “stangin’-ether” *Brockie D’m* 1886 [teng/stang re belief that dragonflies could sting]

4. “bull-stang – the dragon-fly” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “bull-stang – a dragonfly (C’d)” *Grose* 1787; “bull-ether” wNewc 1880s [‘bull’ implies large, compare willock/bull-willik]

drawk, drark, drouk to soak, drench

“drawk – to saturate with water” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “drouk to drench” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “A’ve gotten drawked throu” (soaked)

Palgrave Hetton 1896; “getten hisel weel drooked wi’ rain” *Cuddy Cairt* Newc 1917; “drarked” CT New Herrington 1930s, JS Easington C20/mid; “drawked” S’d, Upper Teesdale 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, D’m, C’d. [ON drekkja ‘to drench’]

dree long and dreary

“dree – long, tedious” *Ray* 1674; “dree-rood – a long and weary road” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “dree-lonely, wearisome” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “dree – long and dreary” *Gibson* C’d 1880. [ON drjúgr ‘long-lasting’, OE dréogan (vb)]

dreich gloomy etc.

“it’s a dreich night” (very dull, gloomy, wet) *Morpeth* C20/2 Q; “dreak – cold; guy dreak – very cold” *Dawdon* 2001 Q. [same as **dree**]

drift connecting passage in a mine

“Drift is a passage ... cut out under the Earth betwixt Shaft and Shaft, or Turn and Turn, or a passage or way wrought under the Earth to the end of a Meer (29 yards) of Ground or part of a Meer” Derbyshire, 1681; “Oh! marrow, oh! marrow, where has thou been?/Driving the drift from the low seam” ‘Collier’s Rant’ C18/2; “drift – horizontal entrance to mine” *JB Shildon* C20/mid; ‘tunnel through stone to link faces’ *Douglass* Durham 1973. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE, Derbys, Corn. [OE drifan ‘to drive’]

drive to excavate, etc.

“drive – to excavate; to carry forward, as driving a drift, &c.” *Nicholson* 1880; “drave” (pret.) *Dinsdale* midTees 1849; “drov” (pret) *GP* S’m 1950s. [OE drifan ‘to drive’]

driver (in pit context)

“driver – a boy who has charge of a horse in the pit” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s

drook see **drawk**

drooned drowned

ex. *Wearside Tales* 1879; “he drooned he’ sell” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “drooned-oot” (of a colliery that has been flooded) *Graham* Geordie 1979

drouth/y thirst(y)

“Their drouth was sae surprizen” *Oiling* G’head 1826; “slockened ony bit drouth ’at he might a had” *Haldane* Newx 1879; “I’m really drouthy” *Morpeth* C20/2 Q; “droothee – thirsty” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE druga, ois root of both drought and drouth]

drumly, drubby muddy

“drumlie grew his ee” (dul) *Beattie* Border Ballads p.193; “drumly – muddy” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “drumly, drummely – muddy, thick; as applied to the mind, confused” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “druvy – muddy” *Robson* Tyne 1849; “drubby: “yon dark and drubby river” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “drumly – muddy, turbid: ‘aw cuddint drink’t, it was sae drumly” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s extra. *EDD* distribution to 1900: drumly/drubby – Sco, Nth. [?OE droflic ‘turbid, disturbed’]

drunk 1. **drucken**, 2. **palatic**, 3. **mortal**, 4. (other)

1. “iv some drucken spree” *Oliver* Newc p.7 1824; “drucken – drunk” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, Tanfield Lea 1960, Stanley 2002 Q. [ON drukken]

2. “politic” (stress on second syllable) *AK* Newc 1950s; “palatic” nWd’m C20/mid Q; “pallatik – very drunk” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2, sim. *Dobson* Tyne 1969, S’d 2001, Blyth 2002 Q. [for paralytic]

3. “poor Fanny gat mortal wiv tyestin’ [brandy]” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.367 1849; “An incident which amused my father in the 1940s occurred when a drunken woman subsided into his lap on the bus with remark ‘Ee dear, Aa’s mortal.’” *AK* Newc 1940s; “Bob went one neet an’ gat mortil drunk” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “mortal” G’head C20/2 Q. *Plus* “mawtallee-us – very drunk” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “mortalious” *Graham* Geordie 1979 re 1898, Ch-le-St 2004 Q

4. "the said Anne was foxed, meanyng ... that she was dronk" *Raine* MS York 1616; "you pist fool" *Bell Newc* p.45 1812; "in a state of indescribability" *Bell Newc* p.64 1812; "muzzy – half stupid with drink" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; "ower wet" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.252 1829; "nazzy – drunk, intoxicated" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "drunk as a mungkee..." *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "blinnd drungk" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "blaked" Hartlepool 2003 via *Wood*; "blaked meaning inebriated 'ahm ganna get blaked the neyt'" *TH* Wheatley Hill/Peterlee 2002; "mullered – drunk" plus "mortal – very drunk" Charver 2000–2002; "flanged – drunk" S'd 2001 Q. "Stottin' drunk" Jarrow 2005 (M)

druvy see **drumly**

dub a pool

"whare gat she the wee fishie? ... in a dub before the door" Reed *Border Ballads* C16; "the devill & he danced in a dub together" *Raine* MS Lumley 1624; "dub – a pool" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "dub – a small pool of water; a piece of deep and smooth water in a rapid river" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [ON djúp]

ducket pigeon loft

"see the skemmies tiv his duckit flee" *MC* Tyne May 1881; "pigeon-ducket" (carillon of Newc Civic Centre) *Dobson* Tyne 1970; "duccot, pigeon-duccot" (dovecot) *Graham* Geordie 1979; "duckat – pigeon loft, but cree is a shed, e.g. hen cree" South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M). [dove-cot]. See also **cree**

duds clothes

"labour's hyemly duds" *Tracts* 4, Newc 1838; "duds – clothes of a dirty or inferior kind" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "fresh herring ... hanging out to dry, among the newly-washed 'duds' which bellied out in the wind" *The Maister* re Shields p.34 1800–1840; "duds for old tattered cloaths" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "new duds" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.485 1862; "duds – pit clothes" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; 'working clothes' *Graham* Geordie 1979, South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M); "duds – 'boxer shorts'" *GD* S'm 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ME *dude* 'a garment'; ON *du*, *oi*; 'dudes' for clothes appear in a late 16th century vocabulary of thieves' slang, along with several Romany words, originating from Kent – see *Fox* p.96...] *Plus* "fling off their black duddies" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.70 1805; "Ere he puts off his duddin for bed, man" *Street Piracy* Newc 1822

duff fine coal

"Duff (doof) – fine coal, or coal dust (the only name in use)" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "duft – small coal" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* "Duffy – trashy, cheap and nasty (e.g. of sugar)" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

dummickin

'running the gauntlet, in a circle' *GP* S'm 1940s

dunch, dunsh to bump, jog, collide

"dunsh or dunch – to push or jog with the elbow" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "Diwent dunch's th' cans fulla scadden het watta" *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "dunched" (crashed) *JP* S'm C20/2; "dunch – to run into with force, as, the tubs dunched" *Wade* South Moor 1966; "dunsh 'im – tackle your opponent" *Dobson* Tyne 1969; "dunch – crash into" *LL* Tyneside 1974; "somebody dunched his airm" (knocked against) *Graham* Geordie 1979; "givowerdunshin" East Boldon 1985. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, wMids, EA. NE 2001: in use [modern cognates in Icelandic, Swedish, Danish, suggest an ON root. The OE equivalent is *dencgan* 'to strike']

durdum, dirdum uproarious activity

"dirdum – noise, confusion" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; "such a durdum on his nose the little monkeys led" *Stobbs* Woodhorn, C19/mid; "dordum, durdum, dirdum – uproar and confusion: 'the street's iv a durdum'" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [? Gaelic *diardan* 'bad temper']

dut hat

"bowler hat" *JO* re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill, *Nth Words* 1930s–1940s, *HPS* South Gosforth C20/mid, N.Shields C20/mid Q, *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2, *Graham* Geordie 1979; "duts off fer the Queen" *Dobson* Tyne 1969; 'common in Hartlepool years back' *FS* re C20/mid; "dutt – bowler cap or best cap, but not flat cap" South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M); "dut – woolly cap" *PG* H'pool 1998; 'small woolly hat' Tyne 2001 Q; "with my white tracksuit on and my dut" (seaham.com website 2002)

dwalm faintness

“dwalm – a sudden feeling of faintness, a sudden fit of illness.” *Viereck* re Gateshead 1966; ‘a swoon’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, S.W. [OE *dwolma* ‘confusion’, *Du dwelm* ‘giddiness’] *Plus* “Bet turned dwamy, like to fall” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.386 1849; “Dwarmy (*dwaa:mi*) – faint, languid” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “dwalmish – likely to swoon” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

dwine, dwiny diminish, fade away

“dwine – to pine, to be in a decline or consumption, to waste away” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “dwine – to pine away” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *dwīnan*, ON *dvīna*] *Plus* “men are se dwiney nooadays” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.243 1829; “dwiny-twiny – tiny” *Embleton, Newc* 1897

dyke 1. wall, hedge, etc., 2. ditch, 3. break in strata

1. “behint yon auld fail dyke” (?turf wall) *Beattie Border Ballads* p.127; “behint yon auld fail dyke” *Reed Border Ballads* C16; “a dry-stanebyke” *MacDonald Sco re* 1820s; “a dike – a dry hedge” *Kennet* 1690s as C’d “dike – an earthen fence” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “When I was young and lusty/I could loup a dyke” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.10 1834; “dike – a hedge, fence” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘a bank or long earthen mound; a rude stone wall on a dikebank-top’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “a gert hee dyke” (wall) *Egglesstone Weardale* 1870s; “Dyke – a hedge. This word is never used to mean a ditch” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “thick as snaa on a dike’s back” *GP S’m* 1950s; “dry-dike – a stone wall built without lime” *Graham Geordie* 1979; ‘hedge’ *Teesdale* 2001 Q, *Wheatley Hill* 2004 Q; ‘wall’ *Upper Weardale, Upper Teesdale* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: as hedge/fence – D’m, C’d; as wall – Sco, N’d, Yx. [OE *dic* could be source of both ditch and dyke, meanings linked by the common element of digging. Compare also OFris *dik* and Middle Du *dijc* ‘dam’] *Plus* “dyke stowers – hedge stakes” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “diker – a hedger or ditcher” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “dike-loupers – transgressors” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “dike-lowper” (trespasser) *GP S’m* 1950s; “gan ti th’ dyke” (take a pee), “diker – an unofficial break” *GP S’m* 1950s

2. “For he that bears his head so high, He oft-times falls into the dyke” *RR Weardale* 1569; “a dike – Any little pond or watering place” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “three i’ the dyke and two i’ the lonnin” ‘Pelton Lonnin’ C19/1; “dike – a ditch or channel for carrying off water; a pool” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘both hedge and ditch’ *Graham Geordie* 1979; “dyke – hedge-side ditch” *Wheatley Hill* 2002 Q

3. re pit: “the fire returned back to the dyke and went out” *Errington* p.39 *Felling/Heworth re* 1790s

E

earwig 1. **forkytail**, 2. **twitchbell**, 3. other

1. exx. *Graham* Geordie 1979, N'd 1995 (rural/children), G'head C20/2 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* "forkinrobbin – an earwig" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

2. "twitch-bell – the earwig" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868, *Palgrave* Hetton 1896, S'd C20/mid Q; "twitchy-bell" eD'm 2001 Q, Stanley, S.Hylton, Wheatley Hill 2002 Q, *BB* Easington Lane (E). NE 2001: in use. [?'wriggly belly; compare also twitch 'couch-grass', and ME *twychele* 'fork in road']

3. "cat-with-two-tails" Ray, Nth, 1737; "eariewig" *Wood* Tees 2002; "codgybell, twitchbell, scotchycbell" *Heslop* N'd 1890s

eathor see **dragonfly**

ee, een

1. eye (sg): "Lo, lo, fast I sweat/lt trickles all o'ur myn ee" *Noah's Ark* Newc C15/16; "the white of Johnny's ee" *Bell* Newc p.6 1812; "the pride o' maw e'e" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.465 1860; "eye (pronounced ee, plural een or eyen) – eye" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *Plus* "the ogle of the unfortunate monkey" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.420 1862

2. eyes (pl): "baith her eyne" *Rothbury* C18/2; "Deil stop out thy een!" *Collier's Rant* Newc C18/2; "Sae bonny blue her een" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "when yan gans away inted world yan gits yan's een op'n'd" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "Een (ae:n) – eyes: 'Aa'll put thee een oot!' – only used in this single expression, and that by old people" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "een – eyes" *Teward* Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid, Tanfield Lea 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE *eagan*, ME *eyen*] *Plus* "wi mee eyes shut" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.408 1862, "ies" (plural) *Barrass* nDm 1893

eer see **year**

eftor after

"eftir" *Anderson* Newcastle 1460; "eftor" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; "efter – after" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "eftor" *Coxhoe* 1916, Tanfield Lea 1960. [OE *æftor*]

eggtaggle a waste of time

ex. GP S'm 1990s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco.

elby elbow

exx. N.Shields C20/mid Q, Wheatley Hill 2004 Q

eld-father, eld-mother grandparents

"thou haiest a witch to thy eldmother" *Raine* MS Blaydon 1586; "eld-father – grandfather" *Kennet* 1690s as D'm. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco ... obsolete. [OE *eald-* 'ancestral']

eldin fuel

"& other eldinge & feuell" *Raine* MS?York 1647/48; "eldin, elding – fuel; such as turf, peat, or wood" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "fire-eldin – fuel generally" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON *elding*]

eliven 11

"eliven" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "elivon" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2

eller, aller the alder tree or elder bush

"aller bushes" *Raine* MS Rothbury 1607; "eller – the alder tree" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *alor* 'alder',

ellæm 'elder']

elsin awl

"elsin – an awl" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "elshin – a crooked awl used by shoemakers" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s extra. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [MDu elssene]

endlang lengthways, along

"all the coaste grounds endelange the Border" *Raine* MS 1548; "endlang – lengthways" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; "endlang – along or forwards in the direction ... of the length of an object or person; from head to tail" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [OE andlang]

endways with narrow side foremost

"gan endways" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth "end-on – 'the waggons wis comin end-on'" *Heslop* N'd 1890s

eneugh enough

"weel eneugh" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "eneugh" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. [OE genog] *Plus* "enow – for the present" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

ennanthers in case ...

"ennanthers – in case of" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810, 'lest, in case' *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "ananthers – in the event of" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *Plus* "anauntrins – if so be, if perchance" *Ray* 1674.

enter-common open to use

"Enter-common – a place open to everybody. For instance, Hetton Hall grounds, being presumably private, during the strike were 'enter-common,' roamed over at will, used by anybody" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

esh ash tree

"esh – the ash tree" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. [OE æsc]

ether adder

"athers and ethers for adders, the great dragonflie is usually called a flying adder" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "deef ez en ether" (deaf as an adder) *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ches, Leics. [OE nædre, ON na, ora]. See also **dragonfly**

etten eaten

"he's etten th' lot" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950

ettle to intend, aim to

"eckle, ettle – to aim, intend, design" *Ray* 1674; "ettle – to intend, to attempt, to contrive" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "a machine Aa ettled to meyk mesel" (tried) *Haldane* Newc 1879; "A ettled to gan to Hetton" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "hettled equals arranged, e.g. hev ye anything hettled for the week?" *Crook* C20th/2 Q; "ettle – my dad still says ettle in 2004" *JR* Sacriston. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. NE 2001: low use or obsol. [ON ætla]

excellent 1. ace, 2. champion, 3. choz, 4. clinkin', 5. cush/ty, 6. daza, 7. mint, 8. other

1. "been having an ace time" 'Mackem Abroad' online 2004. [World War 1 slang]

2. "How are you ... I'm champion" Tyneside 1930s Q; "champion cake/pie/bee" Tyneside 1930s Q; "I feel champion" *Viereck* re Gateshead, 1966; "champee-on – doing well" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; 'first class' *Graham* Geordie 1979; ex. *RM* Norton C20/mid

3. "choz was used to express brilliant/good. But I knew it as chos" *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "choz, choss, choller" *JS* re Ryhope 1950s; "choz – brilliant, good" S'd 2001 Q. [?choice]

4. “clinking – first rate” wNewc 1880s “some clivor thraws at boolin’, or some other clinkin’ fun” *Barrass* Stanley 1892

5. “cushtie-chock” (excellent) *PG* re D’m City C20/2; “custy – good” *JR* Sacriston C20/2; “a cush batchla pad” *VIZ* 72 (1995); “That’s cushtie, that is.” (Comment re decorated stall, Durham Miners Gala, 2001); “cush or cushty – cool” *Charver* 2000-2002, “cushty – neat” B’p Auckland 2001 Q. [Romany kushti ‘good, fine, nice, all right’; there is also Anglo-Indian cushy from Hindustani khush (‘pleasant’); not forgetting TV’s ‘Only Fools and Horses’]

6. “daza – great or excellent” Tyneside C20/mid E; ‘very good’ Newc. 2001 Q; “darzer – slang for a good one: ‘It’s a darzer’ (it’s a smasher.)” *RV* Winlaton 2003. *Plus* “douse – thriving; dousy, same meaning” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “dowser – a lively lad, a champion anything, e.g. pigeon, girlfriend: ‘That’s a dowser!’” *GP* S’m 1950s. [?Fr douce]

7. ex. eD’m 1990 per BG; “mint – good/great: ‘That’s mint, man’” *Charver* 2000–2002. [from mint as source of money]

8. “git-good – excellent” Wheatley Hill 2004 Q; “geet gud” N.Shields C20/mid Q; “rarker – said of s.thing exceptionally good” *LG* S’m C20/2; “some people in parts of Sunderland use cushty and others use topper as in ‘it’s topper that...’ re something that they think is very good.” *GA* 2003 (E); “hellish – stylish, daring: ‘we said ‘hellish’ at school, always with the accent on ‘ish,’” *PGH* pool C20/2; “waxa – used for expressing how good something is” *Charver* 2000–2002; “edgy – excellent, great. used by Swalwell kids around 1950 after daza went out of fashion” *MM* S.Shields C20/2; “barry (or baree means good” *DD* Morpeth 2005; “bary – gorgeous, lovely, etc. We used to say that ‘summat’ or someone was ‘bary’ (long ‘ah’ sound as in ‘father’)” *MD* (Seahouses, 1990)

exclamations (some)

“Ee!” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Ye boolie allies!” *Windows* Newc 1917; “bon-a-me!” (oh my!) *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “My certies!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.237 1829; “‘Crikes!’ *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.187 1824; “crikey mick” *ER* M’bro C20/2; “dee-a naaz – nobody knows” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2;

exclamations (some)

“kae! – an interjectional expression of disbelief, contempt, or abhorrence; very common in Newcastle” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Loak!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.53 1823; “pitee about yi” (no sympathy) *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “Well, arl gan t’ Shields” (an exclamation of disbelief) *CT* New Herrington C20/mid. See also **hoot/s**, **haad**, **howay**, **why-aye** and **oaths**

F

face the coal face

“face, feace – the coal wall” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846

fadge round, flattish wheaten risen loaf

“fades – thick cakes, baked on girdle or iron plate on the fire [partly deleted and corrected to read:] thick cakes, baked in an oven being too thick to bake on the fire” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “fadge or tharf cake – bun made out of spare dough left over when a baker’s tins are all filled” *Embleton, Newc* 1897; “stotty fadges” *JG Annfield Plain* 1930s; “fades – not stotties” *GJ Spennymoor* 1960s; “yer fadge is ower femmer – the bread is too crumbly” *Dobson Tyne* 1969; “certified fadgefillers labourer” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “a small flat loaf of bread generally made up from the dough left over from a baking” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “fadge a properly risen round loaf, stottie means flat one” (i.e. two risings, not just one) *South Moor (Stanley)* 2003 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, Lx. Note: fadge is perhaps older and more northerly in its distribution than stottie. [?Ofr fais ‘bundle’ – compare “fad – a bundle of straw” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “1 fad=9 pounds [of wheat straw]” *Robson Birtley* 1880s 1890s; “fadge – a bundle; one that is short and thick in person” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868]. See also **stottie**

fairin’ a present from a fair

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Graham Geordie* 1979; “bring ‘z a fairin hyem, mind!” *Heslop* N’d 1890s; ‘a prize at a fair’ *GP S’m* re C20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

to fair up improve (of weather)

“fair, fair-up – to become good weather again” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, sim. *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. “It’ll fair up” *GP S’m* C20/2

for fairs in earnest, seriously

“so haud the bairn for fairs/ye’ve often deund [done it] for fun” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.476 1863; “Thinkin thae wor gon for fairs” (for sure, for real) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “faw fairs – in earnest” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “This wan for fair – it coonts” *Leslie Newc* 1992. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d

farand manner, bearing

“fighting-farand – ready to fight” *Ray* Nth 1737; “ill-farand – ill-looking” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. [ON fara ‘to suit’; OE farende ‘travelling’, compare “farand-man – travelling merchant” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846]. See also **aad-farant**

farantly decently

“farantly – handsome e.g. fair and farantly” *Ray* 1674; respectable; neat, orderly’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

farntickles freckles, etc.

“fairn-tickled – sunburnt in the face” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; ‘freckled, like the seed or small spots on the under side of the fern leaves’ *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “fantickles, farentickles, farncticles, ect. – freckles on the skin” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth

fash 1. to trouble, bother, 2. bother (noun)

1. “me he’ll never fash nor flyte” ‘Bobby Shaftoe’ C18; “donnet fash me – don’t teize me” *Grose* 1787; “yer aye fashin yen with somethin or other” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “And if thou say the tap’s the bung, Aw wadent fash ma thoom about it.” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “I cannot be fash’d (bothered)” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “he waddn’t fash te carry’d hyem” ‘Lambton Worm’ 1867; “fash – to occasion trouble or inconvenience, to worry or annoy; to take trouble, or put oneself ot inconvenience: ‘deeant thee fash theesel’ about it” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “He disn’t fash the hoose much” (said of one seldom in) *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Aw canna be fashed wi’ ye” *Nth Words* Bensham, 1938; “nutfashed – not bothered” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; “fash – worry” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “she cudn’t be fashed ter stand around fetfling all day” MS North Shields C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [Ofr fascher; *Scottish National Dictionary* p.xiv gives as from French 15–16C]

2. “ye’re nought but fash” *Chicken Benwell* 1720s; “we’d ha’ some fash to git it (Cleopatra’s Needle) along t’fell” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s.

Plus “fashious – troublesome: ‘to be a constable is both fashious and cangy” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “Aa’ve had a fashous job on’t” (troublesome) *Graham* Geordie 1979

fast fixed, immovable

“let me past ... dinnet muaik thawsel se fast” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. Plus “Bedfast. Bed-ridden (always used)” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “earthfast – fastened or firmly fixed in the ground: ‘great earthfast craggs & great stones” *Raine* MS re Rothbury, 1607. [OE *fæst* ‘firm’]

father 1. forms in – **th-**, 2. forms in – **d-**, 3. **dad, da**

1. “fayther” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “faither – father: “faither” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “wor faithers” *Wilson T Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.266 1843; “fethur” *JA Newc* C19/mid, *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.480 1869; “wor fethers afore mevvies wes’nt see wise” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “feather”, “feathor” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “fethor and mother” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.335 C19/1; “me fethor’s an engine driver” *Dobson* Tyne 1970–71; “fethor – father” *Tanfield* Lea, 1960

2. “fader, fadder” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth, sim. *Bells* re Carlisle, 1802, *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; “fedder, fayder, fayther” *Tweddell*, Cleve 1875. *EDD* distribution to 1900: forms in ‘d’ typical of N’d, D’m, C’d, nYx. [OE *fæder*]

3. “wour lads, like their deddy” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.46 1812; “deddy – father” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “daddy” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Da and Ma” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “Dar, for father” *JR Crook* C20/mid; “wor da” *Dobson* Tyne 1969; “me da sez...” *Cate* p.145 B’p Auck area 1987 [probably from infant babble; note also Romany ‘dadrus’] Plus “paw, pau or paa – a term used in the North as father” *Bell* MS Newc 1815

faw, faa gipsy

“Francis Heron, King of ye Faws” *Raine* MS Jarrow 1756; “feaws – ragged beggars or gypsies (N’d)” *Grose* 1787; “Faws or Faas – gipseys or Faw Gangs, very numerous formerly in Northumberland and Durham” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “faw – an itinerant tinker, a travelling besom-maker, mugger, etc.” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “And aw the faws ... that went stravagin wi’ them” *Oiling* G’head 1826; “Faw or Faw-gang” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “a fah – a gypsy” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “ye clarty Faa” *Graham* Geordie 1979. [John Faw ... recognised by the Scotch King in 1594 – Hoyland ca.1800 via *Raine* MS] Plus “fawlike – gipsy-like” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931

feal to hide (s.thing)

“she fealed them in the snowe” *Raine* MS Richmond 1631–32; “he that feales can find” *Ray* Nth 1674; “feal – to hide, specially any thing surreptitiously obained” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “felt – to hide s.thing away” *Wood* Cleve 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Ire, Nth. [ON *fela*]

feck 1. portion, 2. ability

1. “feck – the most or greatest part” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “feck – a good quantity” *Gibson* C’d 1880; “the main feck” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “He did the main feck of the work” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [OFr *pek* ‘a measure’]

2. “feck – might, activity, abundance” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “feck – activity, ability, might; number, quantity, mass” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [?effect]. Plus “feckless – uncaring of personal appearance, careless” *JB* Shildon C20/mid

feg 1. fig, 2. anything valueless

1. “feg – the name invariably given by the vulgar to fig” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “then a’ the things aw’d eatin last ‘eer [year],/fegs, grosers, reed herrins, an’ yell, did appear” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.410 C19/mid; “fegtree” *Moore* Weardale 1859; “Canary-seed, raisins, and fegs” *WM* Newc C19/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, W’d, S.W.

2. “feg – a dead grass-stem; anything without worth” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

fell hill, high land, moorland

“men dare not drive their goods (cattle) to t’ fell” *RR* Weardale 1569; “fell – a moor or common” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; ‘a rocky hill ... frequently used for any moor or open waste’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘a hill, bleak, barren and lengthened in outline; a long moorland summit’ *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “fells i’ Wardle’re littel else b’d ling, ‘n’ peat-pots, ‘n’ moss-broks” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; ‘a lofty brown hill’ *Heslop* N’d 1890s; ‘hill’ *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON *fiall* ‘mountain’, OE *fel*]

felled worn out

“Sair fail’d is I/Sin’ I kenn’d thee” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.10 C19/1; “An’s sair felled” *FS* Wingate 1940s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

felter to tangle

“felter or feltre – to entangle, to clot together” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “feltered – rough, shaggy (of pony’s coat)” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OFr feltre]

femmer frail, not strong

“femmer, fremmer – weak, slender, feeble” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “femmer – slender, slightly made, weak” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Femmer – frail; of persons and things. (Always used)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Femmer we used for anything weak – a rickety table leg, that might give way at any moment...” *Nth Words* Benwell 1938; “femmer – delicate, easily broken or damaged” *JB Shildon* C20/mid; ‘not used of people’ *AK Tyne* C20/mid; ‘wouldn’t be applied to persons, but to things – rickety, frail, unable to bear weight or pressure’ *PG H’pool* C20/2; “it’s aal femmer – it’s too weak (to take weight)” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “that chair’s femmer, mind...” *TC Dawdon* C20/2; “she’s nobbut femmer, poor body” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “femmer – easily broken or weak, can be used of cloth, etc” *South Moor (Stanley)* 2003 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. NE 2001: in use. [ON firm]

fend 1. defence, 2. a living, 3. to make shift

1. “the sorrowful fend that they can make” *RR Weardale* 1569

2. “we’ll make a decent fend” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “he oft had sair wark for ti myek a bit fend” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.489 1862. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

3. “to fend – to shift for” *Ray* 1674; “fend – to endeavour, to make shift, to be industrious, to struggle with difficulties, to ward off” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. [AN fendre ‘to protect, defend’]

fendy energetic, capable

“fendy – endeavouring” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; ‘clever at providing for oneself’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘industrious’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘being able to manage most tasks’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* “a fendable fellow” *Kennet Nth* 1690s

fettle 1. to mend, fix, 2. condition

“fettle – to set or goe about any thing, to dress or prepare” *Ray* 1674; “fettle – to make ready” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “fettle – to put in order” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “The house aw’ll fettle up masell” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “th’ tee wis fettled” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “fettle – to adapt, arrange, fit up; to prepare, equip, get ready, supply; to put into a state of repair; to beat, overcome: ‘ah’ll fettle him’, ‘ah fun’ him fettling’s au’d sled” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “he’s elways fettlin’ on wi summic or another” (busy) *Haldane Newc* 1879; “can the fettle this? – can you mend this?” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “will you fettle this for me?” (repair) *McBurnie Glebe Colliery*, C20/mid; ‘to bait a line or a pot’ *Hill Flamborough* 1970s; “...will fettle yer bad leg” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “the lock wants fettlin” *Graham Tyne* 1980; “fettlin department – in a foundry, handling the finishing process” *TC S’m* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. [OE fetel, strap. ON fetla ‘to bind up’]

2. “fettle – order, good condition, proper repair” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “out o’ fettle – out of repair; out of health” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘state of health or repair’ *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “fine fettle – fit” *Wheatley Hill* 2002 Q. See also **greetings**

fever van ambulance

“fever van – used for the colliery ambulance transporting injured miners” *swD’m* (E)

fifie see **mule**

fill to load coal into a tub

“But still Aw’ve fill’d an’ sent away/The tubs thit com in teum” *Barrass Consett* 1897; “fill away – to clear coal afer firing” *JK Leasingthorne* C20/2

finnd to find

“find (pronounced finnd) – to find; preterite fand, fund; p.p. fund” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “finnd” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “thai him fande” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “fand” (pret.) *Marshall G’head* 1806. *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “when he fund oot he was gannin to dee” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “fund – p.p. found” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.533 1882. *EDD* distribution to 1900: pronunciation ‘finnd’ given as nYx]

fir-apple fir-cone

ex. Dinsdale mid Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm, C'd, W'd. See also **buntin**

fire-damp methane, explosive once admixed with air

“fire-damp – the inflammable air, or carburetted hydrogen gas of coal mines” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “after-damp. – carbonic acid; stythe. the products of the combustion of fire-damp” *Nicholson* 1880; “fire-damp – light carburetted hydrogen gas it is found in most coal mines; being most abundant in the vicinity of slips and dykes” *Nicholson* 1880

fired exploded

ex. [re a pit] *Nicholson* 1880

first see **forst****fit** fought

“thae fit freh five o'clock te six” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*

fizz to hiss

“fizz – to hiss” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849. *Plus* “fizzle – a faint crackling noise” *Wade South Moor C20/mid* “fizzer – a singing hinnie without spice” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

flacker 1. to move or fly with a fluttering motion, 2. to flinch

1. “flacker – to flutter or quiver” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “it [an owl] flacker'd oot at neets” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.311 1827; “flacker, flecker – to flutter, to vibrate ... to quiver” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “flacker – to flutter” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “he [a bird] gies one flacker” *Wearside Tales* 1879 *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [ME flakeren, ON flokra, MDu flackeren]

2. “he niwver flackered when I asked for a fiver” *IA S'm* 1950s,60s; “never flakkad” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “niwver flackered” (did not move) *JP S'm C20/2*; “flacker – to flinch or turn back” *Wade South Moor C20/mid*

fladge snowflake

“Fladges – snowflakes. Often called ‘flatches’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “fladge – snowflake” *EP Southwick 2001 Q. EDD* distribution to 1900: eD'm. [OE flacea (via Junius), ME flaw, Du sneflage]. *Plus* “snow-flag – a snowflake” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

flags flake, flag

‘a flake of sandstone used as a roofing tile’ *Heslop N'd* 1890s; “flags – pavement” *Dobson Tyne* 1973; “flags – square or rectangular paving-stones” *JB Shildon C20/mid*. [ON flaga]

flannen flannel

“Thor's a man o' mine, a hewer,/Weers a shirt o' flannen blue” *Barrass Stanley* 1892; ex. *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931

flat assembly and transition point in pit

“flatt – in a coal mine, the situation where the horses take the coal tubs from the putters” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “flat – the station to which the putters take the full tubs, to be taken by the drivers to the engine plane or to the shaft” *Nicholson* 1880; “Flat – the station to which the ‘putter’ pushes the full ‘tubs.’ Here they are hitched together, and taken by the driver, ten or twelve tubs at a time, to the ‘landing’, which is a larger flat. From this flat they are drawn by the engine to the ‘shaft.’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; ‘underground assembly point for vehicles’ *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth; “flat or pass-by – where pony transporters of tubs meet and change their loads over to each other” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery C20/mid*; “flat – marshalling point, underground tub standage” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. Plus* flats: ‘sheets put on the floor of the seam when the floor is soft’ *JM Dawdon* 1970s

flay to scare

“thai flowe (i.e. crows flew) away as thai wer flayde” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “to hew aw’m not flay’d” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “flaid – frightened” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “flay – a fright; to frighten: ‘flaid to death’” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “Aw’s flayed” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Umleby* Staithes c. 1935; “aw’s kind o’ flaid when aw cum te think o’ ... sailin’ ower places where thor’s ne bottom” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.401 C19/mid; “Aa wis flaid o’ yor commin heym on a streker, killed or maimed” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “Fley – to scare: ‘Lad, dinna fley the galloway’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “I was flayed to tell ye” NCM 1/21-31 wN’d 1900; “flai’d” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “flaid – afraid” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [OE *aflygan*, ON *fleyja*]. See also **scarecrow. Plus** “the folks o’ wor raw was aflaid” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.359 1849, “aflaid – afraid” Tanfield Lea 1960

flee to fly

“ane come fleand to him” (flying) *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “let flee!” *Errington* p.50, Felling/Heworth re 1790s; “see the skemmies (pigeons) tiv his duckit flee” *MC Tyne* May 1881; “come fleein out” (rushing) *Hay* Ushaw Moor C20/1; “skin and hair wis fleein” (flying about) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “te flee throo the air” *Chater* Newc 1880; “fleein’ aroond on me bike” MS North Shields C20/2; “fleein’ aboot” eD’m 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON *fléon*]. *Plus* “flee – fly (an insect)” *JB Shildon* C20/mid. See also **dragonfly**

fleet net for trawling for herring

“About dawn next morning the net or ‘fleet’ is hauled in” *Coulthard* p.124 1934. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

flesh-flies bluebottles

att. JO re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill, 1930s–1940s in *Nth Words*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

fligged fledged, feathered

“flig’d – young birds full feathered; ‘flig’d ower the doup’ means that they flig’d or feather over the tail end” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “the young birds have fligged their nest or you fligged when playing knocky nine doors” *JS Easington* C20/mid; “when chicks flew a nest we said they fligged” *JR Sacriston* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids. [note: though there is some similarity to/confusion with the verb ‘flee’, this seems to be a separate root,?OE *fléogan*]]

flipe brim of a hat

“hats wivoot, flipe” (brim) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “flipe – the brim of a hat” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868, *Palgrave* Hetton 1896, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. [cognates in Du, Dan, Ice] *Plus* “flipe – a [strip] of skin” *Heslop* N’d 1890s

flit to remove from one house to another’

“thai walde nogt flytt” (depart) *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “flittyd that yere to Osworth” *Raine* MS Langley ca.1575; “flit – to remove: two flittings are as bad as one fire” *Grose* 1787; “flit – to remove from one dwelling to another” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “And when we flit, the landlord stops Ma sticks [furniture] till a’ the rent be paid.” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “flit – avoid rent collectors” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON *flytja*] *Plus* “flit, flitting – a removal from one place of residence to another” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

flite to dispute, challenge

“me he’ll never fash nor flyte” ‘Bobby Shaftoe’ C18; “flite – to scold, to make a great noise” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; sim. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “wad flite the colliery for a croon or twe” (offer to fight?) *MC Tyne* May 1881. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EMids. NE 2001: not in use. [ON *flytja*, OE *flitan*]

flithers limpets

“flithers – the common limpets” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868, *Hill* Flamborough 1970s; “flithers – limpets or anything similar used for bait” *Amble* via BG 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx, Isle of Man

flittermouse bat

“flitter-mouse – the bat” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

flitterin’ beginning to snow

ex. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Tweedale C20/mid [from flit/flutter]

flucker, fluck flounder

“it’s a fluiker’ ki Dick” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “jenny flucker – a smal fluck or flounder” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “fluck – a flounder, a small fish” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “twas neither flucker, whale, nor king” *Oliver* Newc p.7 1824; “fluck, flucker, or jenny-flucker – a flounder” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Tyne. [OE *floc*, ON *flóke*]

flutter-by see **butterfly**

foal young putter

“foal – the youngest in the rank of putters in a coal pit” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “foal – a little boy who was formerly employed to assist a stronger boy (called a headsman) to put; he pulled in front of the tub by a pair of ropes or traces called soams whilst the headsman pushed behind” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

foalfoot coltsfoot (wild plant)

exx *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “foal’s foot” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids

fog second growth of grass

“fogge – long grass remaining in pastures till winter” *Ray* 1674; “fog, fogg – the grass grown in autumn after the hay is mown – the second crop, or aftermath” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; sim. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

foison, fusin abundance, etc.

“fusin – nourishment” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “fussion, foison – freshness, moisture” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “fusin, fuzzen – nourishment, abundance” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829 *EDD* distribution to 1900: general [AN *fuison*, *foison* ‘quantity, abundance’]

foisty musty

“foist – fusty, musty” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “foistee – mildewed” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “foisty pies” *Dobson* Tyne 1970; “a foisty room, a foisty loaf, etc” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “foisty – damp: ‘by it’s foisty in heor” *Leslie* Newc 1992. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA. [?AN *fust* ‘barrel’]. Plus “come will foyst with lyege long in the garner” *Raine* MS EYorks 1641

folk people

“to preserve folks from the farye” *Raine* MS Wallsend 16th century; “wark-folk – labourers” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “men fokes en wumen fokes” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “fwoak” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “deed folk” (the dead) *Embleton* Newc 1897; “Th’ next time thi’ folk gan shopp’n i’ th’ town, see if th’ lucky enough t’ gerron th’ new trams” *CT* New Herrington C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *folc*]

fond silly

“fond – silly, foolish” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810, *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “fond as a buzzom” (besom, brush) *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “d’ye think aw’m fond [stupid], or tired of maw life?” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.461 1862; “taakin fond – talking nonsense” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “dont’ be so fond” *IA* S’m 1950s, 60s; “dinna taak se fond – do not be silly” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “his nyen fond – not as daft as he looks” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; ‘halfwitted, silly’ *Graham* Geordie 1979; “fond fool!” *Wood* Tees 2002; “That’s a fond idea” Horden 2004 E; “brazen fond ... impittent fond” (used especially about young boys) *JS* Easington C20/mid; “daft fond – a joker, not to be taken seriously” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “brazen’d fond – cheeky” Marske C20/2 via *Wood*, “brazen-fond – forward, impudent” H’pool. 2001 Q; “impittent fond – cheeky” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950, *MB* Coxhoe C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA [ME *foned*]

fondy simpleton

“foudy [sc. fondy] – an eccentric or half foolish person” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “fondy – a fool, a simpleton, an idiot” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “thoo’s a fondie” *Palgrave* Ho’ton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE [ME *fon* ‘a fool’]

founded cold

"I'm foonded" *RV* re Esh/Winlaton C20/mid. [ʔfoundered]

footie the game of football

"footy again the wall" *Bell Newc* 1812; "footy – a game of football" NE 2001 Q; "Footie manager takes home advantage" *The Sun* 19 Sep 2003. NE 2001: in common use

forby as well as, besides

"forby – besides, over-and-above, moreover: 'forbi a' that..." *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "We've had lots o' good fortin forby" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "Forby – besides (accent as in 'besides'): 'There was other six forby me'" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "will dee ye the world o' good forbye" *Dobson Tyne* 1972; "forbye thon – as well as that" *Todd Tyne* 1977. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: not in use

fore-elders ancestors

"he was a thief & wold be hanged, as all his fore ellers was" *Raine MS* via Durham 1567; "fore-elders – ancestors" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

fore-shift early shift

"when the fore shift wis gan in-by" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "the fore shift ... meant going to work at 4a.m. and returning at noon." *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.62. See also **back-shift**

forky-tail see **earwig**

fornenst in front of, opposite and facing

"Borders or Frontieri(s) ... of England foreanenst Scotland" *Raine MS* 1542; "foreanent, fore-anens – over against, opposite to, in front of" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; 'right in front' *Heslop N'd* 1890s; "Then Aa leuks strait forenenst me" *Other Eye Newc*, ca.1890; "Forenénst (fu:nenst) (accent on last syllable) – facing opposite. Of houses in a street: 'He lives right, 'nenst us' Also metaph. 'They're not doing right forenenst me'" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "f 'nest" *Wheatley Hill C20/1 Q*; "finence" cen D'm 2001 Q; "straight fornenst ye" *MR S'm*, re 1940s; "freninst" eD'm C20/mid Q; "to stand fornenced – to stand beside" *Crocker Tees* 1983. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. NE 2001: not in use. See also **anenst**

forst first

"forst" (first) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*, *Coxhoe* 1916; "the man meant nothin by it, forst ter last" MS North Shields C20/2; "in fawst – morning shift" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

forst foot New Year visitor

"first-foot – the name given to the person who first enters a dwelling-house on New Year's Day" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "Footing, first – properly, the first person who enters one's doors on New Year's Day. This refers to the custom of going round to various houses on the morning of the New Year, soon after the old year has passed, and being regaled by those who humour the custom by keeping open house" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "Forstfuttin time is for us heor" *Dobson Tyne* 1972; "About ten to twelve, our father would set out, with some coals and sticks (kindling) with him – to make sure (on return) there would always be fire in your hearth for the coming year. All the family men would gather at the bottom of the street, and await midnight. The New Year would be signalled by the church bells ringing, and the ships in harbour would blow their whistles, the pits too, while we waited silent indoors for the first footer. This would be our own father of course." *MR S'm* 1920s

fortnith fortnight

"duen a fortnith's weshin'" *Wearside Tales* 1879; "fortneth" *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; "fortnith" *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "fotneth" *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*

foss, force waterfall

"forse – a cascade" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "force – waterfall" *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; "foss, force" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [ON fors]. See also **linn**

fother a load, a measure

“fother or futher – in Newcastle, as many coals as a two-horse cart can carry” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “fother – a measure of coal, being one-third of a chaldron, or 17 2/3 cwts” *Nicholson* 1880; ‘a cartload of anything in general’ *Heslop N’d* 1890s; “fother of coal – a cartload for delivery” *CT New Herrington* 1930s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [OE *foer*]

foumart polecat

“First got a foumart in a trap, & black cat” *Raine MS Askham* 1668/69; “foumart – a polecat” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “foulmart (pronounced fou’mmart or fummart) – the pole-cat” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “fulmart” *Smith Weardale* 1883. [ME *fulmard*]. *Plus* “i gown furr. cum fuynes” (polecat) *Raine MS?York* 1391; “a gowne faced with fones” *Raine MS Durham City* 1558; “foumart – polecat ... but stoat or marten (round Hexham)” *Heslop N’d* 1890s

fouth plenty

“fouth – abundance, plenty” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

fouter (insult)

“fouter – an ill name or disrespectful name given to any person” *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d

fower four

“for felling fower trees” *Bolton/Barden C17/ult* via *Raistrick Yorkshire Dales* ch.4; “fowa – four” *VIZ* 42, 1990s. [OE *feower*]

fox’n teasing

“he’s just fox’n en hev’n me on’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid* [to fox – to delude]

foy 1. pilot boat, 2. fee for piloting, 3. to pilot

1. “Foy/foyst ... meant a small pinnace or boat” *Nth Words Blyth* 1938; “foy-boat – took line off ship to shore, to aid docking” *JP S’m* 2005
2. “pocketing the foy” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “the first tugboat is entitled to the ‘foy’ or ‘fee’” *Nth Words Northumberland* 1938; “Shipbrokers and the Agents speak of charging a ‘foy’ or fee as payment for their work in clearing a ship and the ship’s disbursements” *Nth Words Blyth* 1938
3. “...with glances at ... the ‘narrows’ through which the vessels were being ‘foyed’” *The Maister* p.38 re Shields 1800-1840; “In foying a ship the foymen moved ahead in a small boat, and at warp’s length dropped a small kedge [anchor], which, being being hove upon by the ship’s windlass, brought her up to a position nearly over it. The kedge was then ... weighed, carried ahead again, dropped and hauled upon, the process being repeated until sufficient sea-way had been attained by the vessel.” *The Maister* p.39 re Shields 1800–1840; ‘perform services for larger shipping while it is near to shore or in harbour’ *Hill Flamborough* 1970s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: East coast. *Plus* “foyboatman – a boatman who watches for boats coming into the Tyne in the hope of getting employment in mooring them” *Graham Geordie* 1979 (re past practice)

fozy spongey (of poor veg)

“fozy, fuzzy – light and spungy” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “a fozy turnip” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “fozy – soft and spongey, generally applied to frosted turnips” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “Fozy – unsound, of vegetables. A ‘fozy’ turnip is a woolly one” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, EA. [compare *Du voos*, Norw. *fos* ‘spongey’]

fra, frae, frev from

“he come fra his awn lande” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “we shemm’d the cheps fra Newcassel” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “frev a needle tiv an anchor” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “not far fra here” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “where Ah com fra” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “frev clock makin tiv ‘lectricity” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “fowks ... frev aal pairts o’ the toon” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Fray (frae) – from” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “he cam doon fra the gallery” *Coxhoe* 1916 [ON *frá*, OE *fram*]

fratch to quarrel

“fratch – to scold, to quarrel” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘to squabble angrily’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868 “fratching – fighting” cen D’m 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. *Plus* “fratch – a quarrel” *Graham Geordie* 1979

fratchy irritable, quarrelsome

“Fratchy – cross tempered. I have also heard ‘fratch,’ but these words are imported from Tyneside” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “fratchety” H’pool, D’ton Q 2001

fremd strange, alien, far off

“fremd, fremt – far off, not related to, strange, at enmity” *Ray* 1674; “a frem’d person – a stranger, as contradistinguished from a relation” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “distant, fallen out, estranged from: ‘ahse kin o’ fremd wi thy wife” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “Fremd – strange. ‘a frem’d body’ (a stranger)” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; ‘strange’ *Smith* Weardale 1883; ‘stormy (of weather), strange’ *Crocker* Tees 1983. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [OE *fremde*]. *Plus* “no-nation – strange, remote: ‘a no-nation spot’” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

fresh thaw or flood

“in the great freshes we have had of late” (floods) *Raine* MS Berwick-on-Tweed, 1647; “fresh – a thaw” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “fresh – the swelling or overflowing of a river, a flood, a thaw” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Fresh – a thaw. ‘There’s a heavy (or, thick) fresh on’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

fret see **sea-fret**

fridge to rub

ex, *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “fridge – to rub up or chafe” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Yx, Lx, Mids

froating stressful work

“froating – anxious unremitting industry” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810, *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: C’d, Shrops, Herts ... obsolete. [AN *froter* ‘to rub, to beat’]

frosk a frog

ex. *Kennet* 1690s as Nth, *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829 as D’m; “like frosks in a peat-pot” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [OE *frosc*, *frogga*, ON *froskr*]

frozen frozen

ex. RM Norton C20/mid, *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids

frumenty a sort of porridge

“frumenty or frumity – a dish made of bruised wheat or barley, boiled with milk, and seasoned with sugar and spices” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OFr *frumentée*]

fullick blow at full strength

“fullock” [?unfair, sudden or jerky action] *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; ‘a blow with great force’ Wade South Moor, 1966. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. [full plus lick]

funnin’ practical joking, teasing

“he wis ony funnin” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “expectin that thor funnin wad be free” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; ‘joking’ *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

fusin see **foison**

fuzzball puffball mushroom

“fusba’ – fuzzball, a fungus ... a puff-ball” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

G

gadgie bloke, old man, official

“gadger or gauger – an exciseman” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “gadgery – a tramp” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; “night watchman (usually in a small open front hut with a coke fire, there all night guarding open workings)” *ER* M’bro. C20/2; “gadgie – old man” *Leslie Newc* 1992; “a proper roofing gadgie” i.e. expert *Wood* M’bro 2002; ‘night watchman, park-keeper, etc.’ M’bro. 2001 Q; ‘old man or any odd character’ Upper Teesdale 2001 Q; ‘a kind of minor authority figure like an a watchman or a park keeper’ S’m 2000 Q, M’bro 2001 Q, *AWS*.Shields re 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. NE 2001: in use. [Romany gorgio, gaujo ‘non-gipsy’ – as in the following ‘set piece’: “Deck at the gadgie wi’ a shaun oni on jinkin roond the corner wi’ a manniske on his airm and a jugal at his heel” (Look at the youth with a tall hat on, trotting round the corner with a woman on his arm and a dog at his heel) – ex. of Mugger (Romany) speech from N’d, *Nth Words* 1938] *Plus* “mister, bloke than gadgie, which more Sunderland” *JP* S’m C20/2; “watchie” *GP* S’m 1950s

gaff a theatre or cinema

“A theatre known as the ‘Gaff’” *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.28; “gaffe – cinema” eD’m 2001 Q plus “penny gaffe” (re 1930s?); “gaff – theatre” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “penny gaff” (cheap cinema matinee) *Graham* Geordie 1979; ‘cinema or billiard hall’ Ferryhill. 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Oxf, London – noted as slang. [C18 coining]

gaffor boss

“Ar’ ye much warse off than yor gaffors?” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “Gaffer – a ‘masterman’ or foreman” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; ‘undermanager/overman’ *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Durham collieries; “gaffor – foreman” Tanfield Lea 1960; “gaffa – boss, old man” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “the petty chiefs or gafferz of the shipyards and factories” *Dobson* Tyne 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [godfather]

gain near, direct

“gain – a Northumbrian expression ... attached to other words to express a degree of comparison: ‘gain quiet’ pretty quiet; ‘gain brave’ – tolerably courageous” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “gainer way – nearer way” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON gegn ‘direct’]

galloway pony

“Of galloways he was well stockt” Rothbury C18/2; “a man riding upon a pye bald galloway” *Errington* p.31 Felling/Heworth re 1780s; “galloways, a small, but spirited, breed of horses, from Galloway, a district of country in Scotland, famed for rearing them” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “A pony became a ‘gallowa’” *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.70 sim. *JR* Seaham C20/1; *JM* Dawdon 1970s; “Galloway (gaal:u:wu) – pony. The only term in use. Pit-ponies are always spoken of as ‘galloways’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “effer yolkin me galloway” West Stanley C20/1; “rag and bone men’s horses were always gallowas” *JS* Easington C20/mid; “the gambolling of the gallowa’s” *Dobson* Tyne 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [from place-name]

galluses braces

“gallowses – men’s braces” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “galices – a pair of braces” *Nth Words* N’d 1938; “slacken yer galluses – relax” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “galusses” N.Shields C20/mid Q; “gallusis – braces” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [Fr galloches? Eng. gallowes?]

gam game, sport, fun

“you would have laugh’d had you seen the gam” *Collier’s Rant* Newc C18/2; “make gam of wor bur [i.e. letter ‘R’]” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.50 1812; “whe are ye myekin yor gam on?” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.337 C19/1; “gam – sportiveness, playfulness; mockery, ridicule: ‘they did nowght but mak’ gam’ o’ me”” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “drama-gam” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “to mak gam – to ridicule” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “whee’s thee makkin gam on?” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation, Nth

gan, gang to go

“a cach (fishing boat) gangand on ye water” *Raine* MS York C15/1; “nouthir stande na gang” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “gang – to goe or

walk” *Ray* 1674; “I am gang hame – I am going home” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “I will take this sheep ... and thou and George gang and take another.” N’d Record Office, quarter Session Bundles, QSB/81/47 (9 oct.1740); “gang to go, to walk: ‘gang your gait’” *Grose* 1787; “if thee muther gans on

this way" (carries on *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "time to gang to wark ... time to aw gans" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.141 1816 "aw gans..." *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.222 1823; "gang – to go: 'Let us a' gang to the hopping for there we'll a' meet our dearist'; 'You'd better gang to it than be bang'd [forced] to it" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "they tell'd us a' to gang away" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.194 1842; "a little lad ... was gan a bonny bool ti pitch" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.355 1849; "t' gas gans oot" *MWN* 16 Nov 1861; "in gan te Blaydon Races" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.451 1862; "are you ganging or riding?" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "if a nevigator gans roond, he comes up 'i the seym pleyce ageyn" *Haldane* Newc 1879; "it's gan te rain" *MC* Tyne Nov 1891; "gan wrang" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; "e's neetha cummin o' gannin" (he doesn't know what he wants to be) *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "gannin' is ends – creating a fuss" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "gannin stryts – courting with marriage in view" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "what we gan te de about the Picts?" *Dobson* Tyne 1970–71; "they're gan to clean the Central Station" *Dobson* Tyne 1972; "worra wuz ganna dee?" *VIZ* 48 1990s; "gan on then" (go ahead) eD'm via BG 2000, 2004. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: gan in use, gang not used. [ON ganga, OE (Anglian) gangan] noun formations: "good ganner – good goer" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "gangers – strollers, as Gipsies, etc., famous for telling of fortunes, news, etc., as 'a ganging man tell'd me a cure for sair een'; 'a ganger scried my hand..." *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "ganger – 'exciseman'" *Chater* Newc 1885 p.18; "undergang – an [underpass]," "upgang – a track up, an ascent"; "down-gang – a means of descent" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "Thor's a hawf-a-dozen gannins at the flat that Aw'm at noo" (branches, routes) *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; "canny gannen – not bad" (re a miner's shift) Spennymoor C20/mid; "all gas and gan-on – a person who is pushing and voluble" *AK* Newc 1950s; "gan-on – a fuss" *Graham* Geordie 1979; "ganibil – passage or use possible" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "klubganner" *Dobson* Tyne 1969; "gisa gan" (give me a turn) *JS* Easington C20/mid, *JP* S'm C20/2, also Dawdon 2001 Q; "gin-gan – the round building in farmyards where the horse walked round in a circle to produce power" DN re C19 (E). See also **go**

ganny grandmother

"mi owld ganny" *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "When I was a laddie/I lived with me gannie" *BH* South Shields C20/1; "G'anny Hen-wife's cottage" *S'd Echo* 17 Nov 1965 re C20/1; "gannee" South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: C'd, Lx. [variant of gammer from grandmère; or from godmother]. *Plus* "gammy" N'd 1995 (rural/children); "where's your Nanna going to sit?" *EP* S'm 2003

gansey a jersey or jumper

'a corruption of Guernsey ... a style of knitting a fisherman's sweater' *JS* Easington C20/mid; 'pullover' *ER* M'bro C20/2; "ganzee – jersey" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2, sim. Tyne 2003 Q, NShields C20/mid Q, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; "a bonny ganzee" (jumper) *Dobson* Tyne 1970; 'a thick woollen jersey, especially worn by fishermen' *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Shetlands, Yx, Suff. [from Guernsey; but compare Norw. genser]

gant to yawn

"?gaunt – to yawn" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "she put her jah oot wi gantin" *Embleton* Tyne 1897; "Yor gob wes ganting open" *Nth Words* Seaton Sluice, 1938. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE gánian]

gar to make (someone do something), compel

"the priour ... gart make a grete bell" *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "[I will] Gare her believe in me" *Noah's Ark* Newc C15/16; "She gar'd saddle him his horse" *RR* Weardale 1569; "Pride... garr'd Tindaill lads begin the quarrel" Reed *Border Ballads* C16; "gar – to oblige to do any thing" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "gar – a Northumberland word, to force or compel" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "sic a dream as gar'd me scart me lug" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.312 1827; "Steam gars wor boats and packets sail" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; "yor looks gar me shiver" (re a ghost) *Allan's Tyneside Songs*

gar to make (someone do something), compel

p.300 1842; "mi fahther gar'd us gan to bed" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "Nance had garr'd them aal te gurn" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids. NE 2001: not in use. [ON gera]

garsel hedging material

"ledynge ... garsell furthe of the woods to the ... hegges" *Raine* MS York 1530/31; "hath cut down at pleasure ryse and garsell..." *Raine* MS Brancepeth 1615; "garsil – hedging wood" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "garcil – small branches, cut for the purpose of mending hedges" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [ON ger, oa 'fence']

garth yard, garden

"garth – yard or backside, a croft" *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; "garth – a small enclosure adjoining to a house" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "garth – an enclosure generally" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "applegarth, tettygarth, stag-garth (stackyard)" *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s; "garth – paddock" *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [ON gar, or; *OED* says obsolete in Sco]

gate 1. road, 2. route, course, way, 3. access to or right to pasturage

1. “thai come to the toune yate/thai lete thair oxen in the gate/a while standdand rest” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “At the bryge end upon the gatt war many children revested of surpelez (surplices)” *The Maister* p.20, quoting document of 1503; “gait or gate – a path, a way, a street” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “G’yét (from Gait, to walk) – a way, a path, a street, as Towngyet, a Town street” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; ‘an underground roadway’ (in pit) *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [ON gata ‘road, way’]. *Plus* “mothergate – in the workings of a colliery are the way by which the workmen first proceed” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s, ‘the principal road of a coal-pit’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “mutha git/tail git – mothergate, tailgate, ends of [coal] face” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “main gate, tailgate – passages in a pit” Dawdon 2001 Q

2. “we have a great sea-gate in a storme” *Raine* MS Scarborough, 1565; “gate – way or path” *Ray* 1674; “ga his gate” (went on his way); “al gates – in any case” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “what gate are ye ganging?” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “also ‘gang your gate’” – go [on] your way” 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids

3. “gait for cattle – the going or pasturage of an ox or cow through the summer” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “gate or gait – a right of pasturage for cattle through the summer” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “cow-gate – pasturage for a single cow” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “coo-git – right of pasturage for one cow on common land” *Heslop* N’d 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. See also **yet**

Gateshead

“Goatside” *Bell* Newc p.71 1812 re 1780; “Gyetsidd – Gateshead” *Dodd* Tanfield Lea C20/2; “aal the world and pairt of Gyetside” *Geeson* N’d/D’m 1969. [Bede: ‘Ad Caprae Caput’]

gauge a pint

ex. *VW* re H’pool 2003

gavelock crowbar

“i gavelock” *Raine* MS Jarrow 1310; “gaveloke – an iron crow or lever” *Finchale* 1354; “gaveluk – an iron bar” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “gavlick – an iron instrument about 4 feet long used by quarry men and builders to paize large stones, etc.” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “gavelick (pronounced geavlick) – a strong iron crow, or bar, used as a lever, chiefly by masons and quarrymen” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “gavelick – crowbar” Upper Teesdale 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids, EA. [OE gafeluc, ON gaflak ‘javelin’]

gay, gey 1. considerable, 2. cheerful

“gay – tolerable: “he’s a gay decent man”; also considerable: “ a gay while – a considerable time” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “we hed a gay heartsome time on’t” *Lakeland* re C’d 1901. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* “gaily – tolerable, pretty well” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829

2. “all hearty and gay” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “Whitley Bay’s summer show ‘Gay Parade’” *Newc Jnl* 12 Jun 1958

gear equipment, weapons, tools

“the stoutest men and best in gear” (military equipment) *RR* Weardale 1569; “my gear’s a’ ta’en” (stock, possessions) Reed *Border Ballads* C16; “for goud and gear” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.106; “gear – stock, property, wealth” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “geer, set o’ geer – pitmen’s working tools: ‘te get his geer sharp’d at the smiddy” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “gear – work-tools, consisting of picks, drills, maul and wedge, shovel, cracket, &c.” *Nicholson* 1880; “sets of gears –collars, bridles, straps and chains” [for the ponies] *Hitchin* re Seaham p.66 1910s; “Maw workin’ gear’s the axe an’ saw” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: as tools, etc., Sco, Nth. [ON gervi]. *Plus* “The whole Gears [timber structure] at one loading place is called a Staith.” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “obscenely, [as] ‘the great beast showed me a’ his gear” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s

geck scorn, derision

“dinna ye mak you geck o’ me” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846 as D’m

gee see **ghee**

Geordie 1. George, 2. King George, 3. a guinea, 4. a North East miner, 5. Tynesiders, 6. a pit lamp, 7. a collier brig, 8. Tyneside dialect

1. “Gwoardy” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “Geordy – George” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “Twas like our Geordy in a battle” Wade *South Moor* C20/mid; “Young Geordie starts work” *Irwin* Tyne 1970

2. “It’s James and George they were two lords/And they’ve coosten out about the kirm,/But Geordie he’ve proved the strangest loon,/And he’s gart

Jamie stand ahin.’ (from ‘Kirn-Milk Geordie’, a song of the 1715 rebellion); ‘tho’ Cam’rons, bra’ lads! took the gumples/An’ wadna own Geordie ava’ (at all)” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “Geordie Prince Rex” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.97 1814; “Geordie’s Coronashun” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.238 1829; “aw seed the Queen, Caroline ... wi’ Geordie the third drinkin wine” *Ross Tyne* p.23 C19/1

3. [guinea] “the yellow letter’d Geordie” Burns 1784 via *Johnson*; “Wor Geordies now we thrimmel’d oot, an’ tread a’ Shiels sae dinny” *Marshall Newc* 1823. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, D’m [from either the figure of St George on the reverse of various gold coins (see *Johnson* p.47), or the head of one of the Georges on the obverse of coins]. *Plus* “yallaboys – sovereigns” *Umpleby Staithe* c. 1935

4. [pitman] “Geordie – George, a very common name among the pitmen ... “ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “a genuine Geordie” (pitman) *NWC* 19 Apr 1873; ‘C.N.Davies in *Unorthodox London* (series 1 and 2, 1873–5) uses “Geordie” to mean a pitman’ *Johnson* p.48; “Geordie (jau:di) – a miner” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; ‘pitman, or even a Tynesider in general’ Embleton, *Newc* 1897; “He was a queer little chap from the ‘Pits’ and had the typical cap and neckerchief of the ‘Geordie’” *Windows Newc* 1917 4/11; “My mother-in-law from Byker also thinks the miners are ‘the real Geordies’ not the citizens of Newcastle.” *Wood* re C20/2. *Plus* “Geordieland means Northumberland and Durham” *Dobson Tyne* 1973

5. [Tyneside] “One of the main leaders of the rebellion was the Northumbrian Tom Forster who, with his army, rallied support from every part of N’d. Newcastle, however closed its gates to the rebels and declared in favour of King Geordie. From that day on the Northumbrians referred to the Tyneside folk as Geordies.” *Northern Echo* 25 Aug 1997 re 1714; “Near akin to this Geordie [keelman] is the other – the pitman” *The Maister* p.36 re Tyneside, 1800–1840; “Geordie and Pee-dee” (as crew of a keel) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.216 1823; “A Geordie is born wthin the sound of the shipyards’ buzzers” *Dobson Tyne* 1971; “some ‘purists’ insist that no man may claim legitimately the honourable name of ‘Geordie’ unless he lives close to that part of the river Tyne which is tidal” *Johnson* p.49. *Plus* ‘Tynesiders’ *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.529 1863

6. [pit lamp] “The pitmen have given the name of Geordie to Mr George Stephenson’s lamp in contra-distinction to the Davy, or Sir Humphrey Davy’s Lamp.” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘The publication of the Northumberland and Durham Association, London, October 1947, maintains that in 1815 George Stephenson’s lamp was called the “Geordie lamp” and that “Geordie” is a Scots word believed to have been carried across the Border by Scottish miners. The writer states that when a man came to work in a new place outside his own district it was said “A Geordie had come among them.”’ *Johnson* p.48 *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE ... obsolete?

7. [collier brig] “towards the end of the 18th century the three-masted collier barques began to give way to the two-masted collier brigs which were often called ‘Geordies’” *GS Laird Clowes The story of sail* 1936 via *Johnson* p.49; “south county people ... gave all north country vessels the name of Geordies” Walter Runciman *Collier brigs and their sailors* 1926 re ca. 1860; ‘You thought of the channel aswarm with just such vessels as she – Geordies deep with coal’ *WC Russell Jack’s courtship* 1884 via *Johnson* p.48; ‘A North-country “Geordie” that was coolly snuggling down and outweathering the fierce squall’ *Daily Mail* 13 Oct 1897 p.7; “A writer in a recent periodical supplies us with the curious information that ‘Mariners term a vessel from the Tyne a Geordie, and from the Wear a Jamie.’” William Fordyce *History of ... the County Palatine of Durham* (1857) vol.2 p.509, fn. See also **Jamies**

8. [dialect] “Lam yersel’ Geordie” *Dobson Tyne* 1969; “the Geordie language”, “to speak Geordie” *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “Geordie lingo” *Dobson Tyne* 1972

gerse grass

“gers – grass” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “girse – grass” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “as green as gers” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE gærs]

get to get, also to reach: 1. present tense, 2. past tense

1. “able to get – able to reach a place: ‘Ah know n’t an Ah sal be yabble te get’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Get – ‘reach’ (a place): ‘I couldn’t get’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “if th’ lucky enough t’ gerron th’ new trams” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “let steam git ye hyem” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “How’d ye gerron?” *VIZ* 72 (1995). *Plus* “cauld getting, but” *PG H’pool* C20/2

2. “he gate leue (got leave)” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “horses I trow they gat” *RR Weardale* 1569; “he gat ower wet” *Marshall Newc* 1823 p.15; “Ah gat up”, “Ah gat a ride” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s “Bobby Shaftoe’s gotten a bairn” co.D’m C18/mid; “gitten” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “tha wid awl geten bail” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “he had gotten convorted” *Coxhoe* 1916. [ON geta]

ghee (to take) offence

“gee – out of humour” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “Tak the gee, pronounced ghee” *Hay Ushaw Moor* re C20/1; “tak the ghee – become huffed” *South Moor* (Stanley) 2003 (M); “taking the ghee – getting upset or annoyed” *AK Newc* 1940s; “gee (tak thi) – stubborn” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d

gif see if

gill half pint

“a gill o’ beer” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.10; “if I had another gill” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.36 re Walker; “gill o’ milk” (third-pint?) *GP S’m* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general (as quarter pint)

gill, ghyll ravine

“gill – a small valley or dell” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810, ‘a glen’ *Bell* MS Newc 1815; ‘small ravine’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, SE. [ON gil]. *Plus* “griff – a deep narrow glen or valley” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

gilt young sow

“gilt – young female pig” Upper Teesdale 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids, EA. [ON gyltr]

gimmer young ewe

“gimmer-lamb – ew-lamb” *Ray* 1674; “gimmer – a female sheep from the first to the second shearing” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “the gimmers aye are short of milk” *Northumbrian Words III* re Kielder C20/mid; ‘a young ewe; also a low woman’ *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. *Plus* gimmer – a Newcastle word for a low-bred woman” *Bell* MS Newc 1815 [ON gymbr]. See also **jimmer**

gin see if

ginnel see cut

girdle a griddle, a flat round of iron for cooking on

“girdle – a circular iron plate, with a bow handle, on which thin and broad cakes of bread are baked” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “spice hinnies on the gurdle fizz’d” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.379 1849; “girdle, gordle – a flat circular iron plate with handle which is used on the open fire for making singinhinnies” *Graham* Geordie 1979 re past practice. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [AN grédil ‘gridiron’] *Plus* “girdle-cake – thin household bread baked on a girdle” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “like a hen on a hot griddle” Ashington C20/mid

girn to grin, grimace

ex. *Kennet* 1690s as Nth, *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “like a monkey he did gairn, man” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.327 C19/1; “girn or gurn – to grin...” ‘the dog girmed at me as if he was ganging to bite me’, ‘he girns like a sheep’s head and a pair of tangs” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “they gurn’d like cats” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.384 1849; “gen, girn, gern – to grin; to snarl” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Nance had garr’d them aal te gurn (smile)” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “gern’n – grimacing” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE grennian]. *Plus* “the tugboat-maister ... kinda gorned” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.534 1882; “gawn – make funny faces” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

girth, gord hoop

“‘Hoop’ ... we called it a ‘girth’ usually metal made at a coal mine and used by young and old. There was the story of 2 men who would run with their girths and stop at a pub to have a drink then go back home. One day they found their girths had been stolen and they wondered how they would get home.” *JG* Annfield Plain 1930s; “gorth – iron hoop in boy’s game” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “coin yer gord” *Dobson* Tyne 1969. [ON gi, or, o ‘hoop’] See also **booler**

gis, guissy 1. pig, 2. call to a pig, 3. toes, 4. a policeman

1. “grice, grise – a pig” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “gissy – a pig: ‘a bit o’ gissy’s tripe” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “gissy-pig – a pig (child’s term)” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, eD’m 2001 Q; “gissy-pig – a gluttonous person” *PG* H’pool C20/2; “an’ blubbered sair/about her gissy’s fate” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.375 C19/mid; “A couple o’ coos, a few gissies, sum hens and ducks” *Irwin* Tyne 1970; “gissee – a pig” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “giss – a pig” B’d Castle 2001 Q. [ON griss ‘a pig’]

2. “gyss – a call for swine: ‘Gyss-gyss!” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “gissy – the call of pigs to their meat” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “Gis gis (gis:gis) – call to a pig” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “gis gis gis” (call to a pig) Roker C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [compare Swed. gis, ‘a call to a pig’]

3. “gissies or gissie pigs – an infant’s toes” SO ED’m. 1940s; “When I was very young my mother referred to our toes as ‘gissies’ or ‘gissie pigs’. SO re Seaham 1940s

4. “1890: a few months of industrial trouble at Silksworth when some miners evicted. When bailiffs arrived to clear the houses, they were escorted by police and the women lined the road hissing ‘gissie’.” SO from family notes re Sunderland

give 1. present tense, 2. past tense

1. “gie” *Oiling G’head* 1826; “gie’d ti me” (give it) *Wearside Tales* 1879; “Give over (giv uw:u) – ‘Don’t!’ ‘Stop that!’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Giz a leg up so’s a can see i’ th’ winda” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “gizabroon” *Dobson Tyne* 1969; “gi ower!” *Teesside C20/2 Q*

2. “the howdy never gav ower (stopped) cryin (saying loudly)...” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “aboot seven aw gov owr warkin” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.96 1814; “gov” (pret.) *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; “gav” *Tanfield Lea*, 1960; “geen, gien gi’n – forms of the preterite of gove” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “if he’d geen them a chance” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*

glaky awkward, etc.

“a glaick or glaicky – a silly awkward indiscreet girl” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “glaikee – irresponsible” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “glaky – slow witted” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in form glaikit, Sco, Ire, Tyne

glead bird of prey

“glead – a kite, the fork-tailed falcon” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “gleid – a hawk” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s “glead, gled – the kite” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [OE glida]

glede

“glede, glead – a coal in a state of strong heat” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [OE gléd]

glee(d) squint-eyed

“Glead Will” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “glee eyed” (has a squint) *New Herrington C20/mid*; *Tanfield Lea* 1960; “glee-yd – cross-eyed” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA, USA. [ME gleyen (vb)]

gleg to glance

“gleg – to glance, or rather to look sharp; [adjective] quick, clever, adroit...” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “gledge – to look sliily” *Gibson C’d* 1880; “gleg – [to] glance, look at” *JB Shildon C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx, Mids. [ON glegg ‘quick-sighted’; Swed. glia ‘a glance’]. Plus “gisa gleg” (let me look) *JS Easington C20/mid*; “gleg – quick clever” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s

glent to gleam, to glance

“glent – a glance” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “glent – to look aside, to glance, to peep, to sparkle; [as noun] an indistinct or oblique view” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “glent – to ricochet, glance off” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “glent – to gleam” *Gibson C’d* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [compare Swed. glänta]

gliff 1. a fright, 2. a glance, a sight, 3. to cause a fright

1. “glif – a glance, a fright” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810 “ye divent ken whatin a glif aw gat” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; ‘gliff – shock’ *RLS Scots* 1891; “got a gliff – a fright” *Nth Words N’d* 1938; ‘a fright or shock’ *RV Winlaton C20/2*; ‘fright, shock’ *Newc, Teesdale* 2001 Q; *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [compare Du glippen]

2. “a gliffe – a glance” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “A short gliff” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “A gliff o’ me” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “glif – glimpse” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849

3. “that gliff ’d me” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.498 1886; “Gliff – startle ‘She gliffed me there’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “gliff – frighten” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

glime glance (noun and vb)

“Betty Kell gav her sic a gleyme” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “glymin’ – looking sliily” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “glime – to look sideways” *Gibson C’d* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth

glishy, glisk bright

“glishy – bright (as of weather)” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx. “glisk – a transient light” *Brockett Newc & Nth*

glore to stare

"glore – glower" *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; "glore – to stare" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "it was sic a fine seet/Aw cou'd glower'd a' neet" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.98 1814. EDD distribution to 1900: NE, EA; glower – general. [ME glóran, ON glora 'to stare']. Plus "wi' sec a glower" (look of hatred) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s

gnarly rugged

"a great gnarly stone wall" *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71; "geet narly (even bigger!)" Gosforth C20/2 (Q); "two geet gnarly M.P.s" (military poliss) Oz in *Auf Wiederseshn Pet*, Ser.2, epi.2, 1992. EDD distribution to 1900: general

go

"Gae wash't and mak it clean" Reed *Border Ballads* C16; "we hand't gane far" *Street Piracy* Newcastle 1822; "went – for gone. Frequent in the North..." *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "gae – to go ... pret. gard, geed. also gan which is in much more continual use" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "what are ye gawn ti dee wi' that?" *Wearside Tales* 1879; "these dark days hev gyen" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "he's went" *JP S'm* 2000. [OE gán, imper. gá!, pret. éode; the verb gán is the West Saxon equivalent to gangan]. Plus "The TV has gone off" – broken down (of anything mechanical/electrical not working) D'ton C20/2. See also **yewd**

goaf, gove, gob the emptied sector of a pit

"goaf – a Tyneside term in pit working applicable to that part of the pit in which both the first wrought coal and the pillars are wholly gone" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "goaf – the space remaining in a coal mine after the removal of the coal" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; "goaf – the space from which the coal has been extracted. it is usually of dome-like form, resting upon the wreck which has fallen from the roof of the exhausted space" *Nicholson* 1880; "the gove gans thud! for thud" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s "the 'gob' fire, when certain worked-out sections of the pit filled with gas." *Hitchin re Seaham* 1910s p.60; "gob – part of mine forbidden entry" *JP S'm* C20/2; "waste ground behind the face" *JM Dawdon* 1970s; "and when the face had been advanced and the goaf lay on the ground/they stood there in amazement when they heard that awful sound" *JM Dawdon* 1970s. EDD distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, Yx, Lx. [ON gólf a bay in a barn, a space between wooden supports]

gob 1. mouth, 2. to talk

1."gob – an open or wide mouth" *Kennet* 1690s as Nth "gob – the mouth" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810 "gob – the mouth: 'Tset up yur gob' is to hold up impertinant conversation" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "bauld Dolly Raw stopt his gob wi a cod fish" *Marshall Newc* p.15 1823; "gob and guts like a young craw" (of someone with a big appetite) *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "born wi' silver spoons i' thor gobs" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.440 C19/mid; "aw've a greet moosetash abuve me gob" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.456 1862; "mair gob" (ready speech) *Haldane Newc* 1879; "haud yor gob" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "'haad thee gob' means be quiet" *HP South Gosforth* C20/mid; "a bat on the gob (mouth)" *Tanfield Lea* 1960; "a snooty woman was referred to as 'putting her gob in smaal pleats'" *AM S.Shields* C20/2; "scadyagob", "Aalborst yagob" *East Boldon*, 1985. EDD distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in common use. [possibly from Gaelic or Irish gob 'beak, mouth'] Plus "gob-stick – a spoon" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

2. "the fine things ye are gobbin about" *Marshall Newc* 1823; "foaks gob about drink" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.366 1849; "Jackey an' Jenny sat gobbin/about the fine things i' thor hoose" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.464 1860. Plus "gobby – saucy" *Robson Tyne* 1849; "gobby – talkative" D'ton C20/mid; "gobbed" (spat) *ER M'bro* C20/2

goggle staring

"a blakeymoore/wi' goggle eyes se queer" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.370 1849; "greet big goggle eyes" 'Lambton Worm' 1867; 'staring' *Graham Geordie* 1979. EDD distribution to 1900: general

gollan buttercup, etc.

"gollan, gowlan, gowan – a yellow flower, the daisy" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. EDD distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

goller to shout, yell

"gollar, goller – to shout, to speak in a boisterous or menacing manner, to storm" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "goller – to find fault or scold in a hasty manner: 'he gollered at him'" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "Maw marra ... gollers up wor garrot stairs" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "golla – loud growling shout" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. [ON gaula]

golly unfledged wild bird

ex. *JB Shildon C20/mid. EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx

gome to heed

“He niver gomed me there” *Palgrave Hetton 1896. EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [ON gaumr ‘attention’ (noun)]

goniel fool

“thoo greet daft gonniel” *Cuddy Cairt Newc 1917*; “gonniel – a stupid person” *Irwin Tyne 1970*; “Ye greet gonniel!” (idiot) *Dobson Tyne 1970–71*

good as adverb: well

“My! you did that good” *PG H’pool C20/2. Plus* “good-like – well-favoured” *Brockett Newc & Nth 1846*; “good-like – handsome” *Dinsdale mid-Tees 1849*

goodbye 1. **tata, tara**, 2. other phrases

1. “so ta ta” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.408 1862; “ta, ta, ti pay; ta, ta, ti penshin” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.429 1862; “an’ then taw-taw” *Chater Newc* p.8 1885; “ta ta [to child]” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “say taa taa te yor da” *Dobson Tyne 1969*; “Ta-ra. Ta-ra Dad. Ta-ra our Billy.” *Cate B’p Auckland area 1987*; “tara” S’m 1990s via BG

2. “Good neet hinny” (*Brockett 1829*)...; “Can ganny ... Tara weel...” *Chater Newc* p.8 1885; “Keep ahaad” (Johnny Handle on radio) 2001; “gan canny” *Wheatley Hill 2002 Q*; “keep had” *Wheatley Hill 2002 Q*; “keep a ganun youngun” (goodbye) *Wheatley Hill 2002 Q*; “tak care now” *Dunn B’p Auck 1950*; “seeya” S’m 2000 per BG

gooseberry 1. **grozer**, 2. **goosegog**, 3. **goosegob**, 4. **carberrry**, 5. **berries**

1. “goose-berries or grosers” *Raine MS 1648*; “grosers” *Bailey Co. Durham 1810*; “grozer” *Bell MS Newc 1815*; “berries en grosers” *Egglestone Weardale 1870s*; “...a Leek Show, a Grozer Show” *NM vol.1 p.181 1888*, re Newcastle; “apple trees and peir trees and peiches and grosers” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.554 1891 re S’d; “she jumped at it like a cock at a grozer” *Embleton Tyne 1897*; “beef an’ grosser dumplings” *Graham Geordie 1979 re 1966. EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [Fr groseille. *Scottish National Dictionary* p.xiv gives as from French 15–16C, compare Gaelic groseid]

2. “goosegogs” *RM Norton C20/mid; Gosforth C20/2 Q*; “goosegog” *Blyth, Wheatley Hill 2002 Q*; “got caught pinchin’ goosegogs” *Dunn B’p Auck 1950. Plus* “goosies” *Esh Winning 2005 (M)*

3. “goosegob” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid, JB Shildon C20/mid, D’ton C20/2, cenD’m 2001 Q, Trimdon 2002 Q. EDD* distribution to 1900: Ex, Mids, EA. NE 2001: in use

4. “carberrries – gooseberries” *Atkinson Cleve 1868. EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx, obsol.

5. “berries – gooseberries, par excellence” *Atkinson Cleve 1868*

gord see **girth**

gorn to moan

“gornin’ and glowerin’” *Other Eye Newc ca.1890*; “to gorn on – to moan on. Still in regular use.” *RV Winlaton 2003*

Gotham a City of Fools

“Gotham – the cant name for ... Newcastle, and other places, containing a considerable proportion of inhabitants not endowed with ‘absolute wisdom’” *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*. [legends of the ‘wise men’ of Gotham first appear in the mid 15th century]

gotherly sociably, affably, in a friendly way

“the ewe is gotherly with its lamb” *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*; ‘sociable, familiar’ *Dinsdale mid-Tees 1849*; “Aw ... wawk’d gotherly in” *Barrass Stanley 1890s. EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx

gowdspink goldfinch

“goldspink” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “gowdspink” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “gouldspink” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth as ‘goldfinch’, Yx as ‘yellowhammer’. [compare Swed. gulspink]

gowie see chewing gum

gowk 1. cuckoo, 2. fool

1. “gouk, gowk” *Kennet*, 1690s as N’d; “gowk – a fool, also a cuckoo” *Grose*, 1787; “gouk – a cuckoo” *Bailey*, Co.D’m 1810; “cuckoo, scabb’d gowk; mickle said, little wought” *Tracts* 12, N’d 1845; “gowk – the cuckoo ... In some parts of Yorkshire, it is cowk” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “gowk – the cuckoo; a fool” *Atkinson*, Cleveland, 1868; “gowk – cuckoo, fool” *Gibson* C’d 1880; *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth. NE 2001: not in use. [‘gowk’ meaning ‘cuckoo’ is derived from ON gaukr, though compare OE géac (pronounced yea-ak.) *Plus* “gowk-spit – cuckoo-spit” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846

2. “gowk – a fool, also a cuckoo” *Grose*, 1787; “ye’re a gouck if ye din’t know that...” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.48 1812; “town folks, whe se oft ca’ us gowks” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.91 1812; “gowk – a fool or simpleton, also a cuckoo; April Gowk or April Fool” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Maister A’body has a heap o’ the gowk in him yet” *MacDonald* Aberdeen C19/1; “gowk’s errand – a fool’s errand; ‘What are ye gauping at, ye gowk?’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “gawk [sic] – clown” *Robson* Tyneside 1849; “Gowk (guuwk) or ‘gowkie.’ A soft person. An April fool is often called ‘April gowk’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “gouk – silly, slight person” N’d via *Nth Words* 1938; “daft gowk – on Wearside is an expression of foolishness” *SMcD* 1990s; “ye daft gowk!” *Sacriston* 2004 E. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth. Not listed in *SED* C20/mid. NE 2001: not in common use. [extension of meaning from ‘cuckoo’]

gowk apple-core

“goke, gowk – the core of an apple, the yoke of an egg, the inner part of any thing” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1825; “goke – the central portion of anything, as the core of an apple, the yolk of an egg” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “gowk is also the core of an apple” *Palgrave*, Hetton 1896; “gowk, gowky – the pith of a tree: ‘that’s ne wood that, its ower gowky’” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “goke/gowk – apple-core” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; “giz thee gowk” *JS* E’ton 1950s; “giz yer gowk” *IA* S’m C20/mid, sim. East Boldon 1985; “gowk – apple core, silly person” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “gork [sic] – apple core” *Todd* Tyne 1977; “gowk – applecore” *Haswell* South Shields 2001 Q, *PC* Wallsend C20/2 Q, *RV* Winlaton 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. *OED* only has goke ‘the core of a rope’ 1800, in a maritime context. *SED* C20/mid gives only as ‘core of a boil’: Yx, D’m, C’d, W’d. NE 2001: in use (as applecore). [OE geolc (pronounced rather like, and meaning ‘yolk’) is the ultimate source, in what seems a northernised form] Note: in pronunciation, goke was likely influenced by gowk, and has now replaced the original meaning of gowk: “to children an apple core, to adults idiot or fool” *Lore and Language* re Ashington 1990s. *Plus* “gorker” *Wood* M’bro C20/2, *ER* M’bro C20/2, M’bro 2001 Q, “gowker – apple core” *South Moor* (Stanley) 2003 (M); “a coggie – an apple core” *RM* Norton C20/mid

gowpen a handful

“goping – as much as both hands can hold, when joined together” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “gowd -i’-gowpens – gold by handful” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “gowpen – the hollow of a hand formed to receive any thing, a handful; gowpens – both hands held together inform of a round vessel” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “a gowpen – as much as your hands will hold: “a gowpen of meal” as an alms to the poor, also ‘a gowpen or herbs’ in medical prescriptions” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “ye cud ha gitten a gowken fu’ fer a penny” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [ON gaupn]

goz, guzzle share of a drink

“giz a guzzle, giz a goz” *IA* S’m 1950s, 60s

grain branch

“up the East grane of Soulgill” *Raine* MS Wellrigg 1667; “grain of a tree – a branch” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “grain – a separate linear portion of a thing, as the branch of a tree” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON grein ‘branch, division’]

graith to equip, to work on

“he began the seiues [rushes] graythe” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “graith my horse!” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.55; “to grath(e) a hous or room – to deck it or dress it up neat and fine” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “graith – to clothe, or furnish with any thing suitable” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “graithe – equipped, furnished...” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “graith – to put into working condition, to service” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “a well graithed table” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [ON grei, oa]. *Plus* “graithly – decently, in order, mensefully” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

grand fit, well

he didn't feel ower grand' Coxhoe 1916

granfu grandfather

ex. *CT* New Herrington 1930s

grape see **gripe**

grassman officer for grazing land

"grassman – an officer whose duty it was to take charge of and attend to the herbage of a park and the cattle feeding on it" *Raine* MS C19 note

grave to dig

"grave – to dig, to dig up ground with a spade" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "grave – to dig, using a spade. pret. grove, p.p. groven, groven" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Lx. [OE *grafan*]

greaser mechanism for automatically greasing wheels

"the greaser was a tiny rectangular hole set between the rails, and as the trains of tubs, the 'sets' passed over it, the axles were automatically greased." *Hitchin* re Seaham p.66 1910s; "gan steady ovr the greaser" *Wheatley Hill* 2004 Q. *Plus* "the greasers clatter loudly" (?wheels on man-riding train in pit) *JM* Dawdon 1970s; 'curved wheels' *Crocker Lore and language* re Maria Pit, Throckley C20/mid

great 1. **greet**, **gret**, 2. **girt**, **gurt**, 3. **git**

1. "vi [6] grett castelles" *Anderson* Newcastle 1568; "for a greet while" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s;

"greet an' sma', fishwives an' a'" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.235 1829; "a grit big bird" *Wearside Tales* 1879; "greet surprise" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; "the Greet North Road" *Dobson* Tyne 1972; "grit" *IA* S'm 1950s,60s, Peterlee, B'd Castle 2001 Q. *Plus* "wassen great" (huge) S'm via BG C20/2

2. "Girt and small" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "t'windows is gert big 'uns" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "on th' girt grey horse"?N'd, *NCM* 1900–1901. [metaphasis of 'r']

3. "git biggen" (any thing of great size) *JS* Easington C20/mid; "geet big gob" *Graham* Geordie 1979; "geet – great, big" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "git – really" *Thornley*. 2001 Q; "git – great" *Trimdon* 2002 Q; "He was a proper geet bloke". *Plus* "You're git thick, you" *Charver* 2000–2002. [?loss of 'r' after metaphasis]

gree to agree

"Law's costly; tak a pint and gree" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "gree – to agree" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [from agree, Fr *agréer*]

greet to weep

"the children gretand" (weeping) *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "Aws sure his muther grat mair at the dhael [funeral] than ony body" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "greet – Scotch for grief or weeping" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "greet – to cry, to weep, silently rather than with any great outcry. pret. gret or grat, p.p. grettan" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "greeting – weeping, crying, lamenting" *Smith* Weardale 1883; "greet – great, weep" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [OE *grétan*]

greetings 1. **fettle**, 2. **cheor**, 3. **how**, 4. other

1. "What fettle noo?" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.576 ca.1890; "a salutation: 'Well, what fettle?', 'Oh, canny.'" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "whafettletheday?" *Dobson* Tyne 1970; "what fettle lad? – how are you?" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950; "What fettle the day, marra?" ... "Not ower cliwor." *JS* Easington C20/mid; "What fettle"... "Fair to middling" *nwD'm* C20/mid Q

2. "What cheor, hinny!" (greeting) *Haldane* Newc 1879; "What cheer (chai:u, chae:u) commonest greeting of man to man, answered back in the same words" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "Wotcha" *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "Wot cheer!" *N.Shields* C20/mid Q; "Whatschai" (pit greeting) *JP* S'm C20/2; "wa chee-a – greeting" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm, Yx. *Plus* 'Wotcha Geordie' (radio, 1950s)

3. "How dye?" *Bell* Newc p.40 1812; "How d'ye de?" "Aw's teufish," (toughish?) says aa, "canny man, how are ye?" *Allan's Tyneside Songs*

p.312 1827; “Wi, how is thou?” *Marshall* Newc p.10 1823; “How! How-marrow! – a favourite salutation among the pit-men” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “How there!’ ... ‘How there, ageyn,’ ses the chep” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “How there, lads, what cheer?” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.537 1886; “How there, marrah! – How there, Bob!” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “hooyeganon?” *Dobson* Tyne 1970; “How there marra? followed by the reply, What cheer, hinney” *Graham* Geordie 1979

4. “Holloa!” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “hooz thoo haddin the day?” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “Now then” *DOD*’ton C20/2; “Aareet?” S’m 1990s per BG; “hooz thoo haddin the day?” (how are you) *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “whahey!” [greeting] *VIZ* 72 (1995); “used to greet anyone: ‘y’alreet workid?” Charver 2000-2002

greybird thrush

ex. *Grose* 1787; *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

grey-hen stoneware bottle

‘stone bottle’ *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “Greyhen – a jar in basket-covering, containing spirit” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “grai hen – stoneware bottle” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

griem’n light covering of snow

ex. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid [ON grimr ‘mask’]

grip small watercourse

“grip – a ditch, gutter” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?OE grype]

gripe, grape agricultural fork

“v grapes, vi sholes” *Raine* MS Jarrow 1362; “grape – a three pronged fork for filling rough dung” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “grape ... sometimes pronounced grip” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “Grape ... a kind of shovel (sometimes called ‘gripe ’), or huge fork-like implement used in filling coke, and by farmers for removing manure” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “a gripe was a fork with flattened tines like a spoonbill’s beak used for lifting turnips and potatoes” *JS* Easington C20/mid; ‘a garden fork’ *CT* New Herrington 1930s, *Graham* Geordie 1979; “gripe – fork for manure spreading” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “A gripe is strictly a three pronged farming fork but I’ve heard it used of an ordinary garden fork” *Wood* re Teesside C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Notts. [ON græip; compare OSwed greep, Dan greb ‘fork’]

groove a lead mine

“one groove work in the Helmeford” *Raine* MS Stanhope 1567; “Robert Rutter bur[jied]. He was hurt in a groove.” *Raine* MS Stanhope 1625; “groove – a lead mine” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids. [ON gróf ‘pit’ or via Du groeve; see also **grave** ‘to dig’] *Plus* “groveman” (a lead-miner) *Raine* MS Marske 1635; “Robert Beck, a grover” *Raine* MS Ronald Kirk, 1670; “gruver” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

grow-day a warm, moist day

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849

grozer see **gooseberry**

grund ground

“ground – pronounced grund or ground: ‘gan to grund’ (to relieve nature)” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

grune nose of a pig

ex. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

grunge to grunt or growl

“th’ little dogs il grunge en bark” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “Grunge – to grunt: ‘They will show their teeth at you and grunge at you’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE

guest ghost

“The streets of this Northern Metropolis [Newcastle] ... haunted by a mighty guest, which appeared in the shape of a mastiff dog” Brand via *Raine MS* “guest – a ghost or spectre” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “guest – ghost or spirit” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. [OE *gæst*]. See also **barguest**

guiser someone in disguise esp. for fancy-dress party

“guizers... Christmas Masqueraders” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “guisers – persons who dance in masks, or with their faces blackened, or discoloured, and in rustic disguise” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “guisers – fancy-dress revellers and competitors” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “Voices called: ‘Let the guysers in.’ ...Men were dressed as women; women as men; some had black faces and other carried musical instruments ... they sang songs and danced jigs in which all the family joined.” (re Xmas Eve) *Hitchin* re Dalton-le-Dale p.24 1910s; “guizer – a masquerader” *Graham Geordie* 1979, S’m 1995 (re New Year) via BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, D’m, Yx, Derbys. [OFr *guise*]. Plus “He’s twisting his guiser, i.e. pulling a funny/miserable face” *RV Winlaton* 2002

guising costume performance or merry-making “ther was dysgysyng, piping & dansyng” (*Durham C16/2*); “Guising (gaa:yzn) – playacting by ‘guisers’ – men and boys in disguise (with blackened faces and paper caps), who go about performing a rough Christmas play” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

guissie see **gis**

guizen to crack through dryness

“guisen’d – tubs that leak through drought” Ray Nth 1737; “ma thropple was ready to gizen” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.49 1812; “With parched tongues and gyzen’d throats” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “to guizen, guizend – to be drie as a cask till the staves separate” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “Guisen (gaa:yzn) – to become dried and contracted, of rain-tubs or wooden cisterns, so that the water ‘sipes’ out” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “gizzend – thirsty, dry, overcooked” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “gi’s a drink I’m gyezend” *Graham Geordie* 1979. [ON *gisna* (vb), *gisenn* (adj)]; compare OE *wisnian*] See also **kizzen’d**, **wizzen’d**

gully household knife

“gully – a knife ... a common hous-knife” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “gully – a large knife” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “gully – a large sharp knife used in farm-houses, principally to cut bread, cheese, etc., for the family; also used by butchers in killing sheep” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “gully – breadknife” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “Gulley – carving-knife, bread-knife” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “gully – large (kitchen) knife” *JB Shildon C20/mid*; ‘a large knife for cutting meat’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; “gully – used by the fish man who came to the door; it had a unique shape” *JS Easington C20/mid*; “he took the gully knife out” *Cate* p.77 B’p Auck area 1987. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. NE 2001: in use

gurn see **gim**

gut? ravine, channel

“two piles ... on craggy foundation, and divided ... by a deep gut, wherein ran a little river” N’d 1547 qu. *Reed Ballads* 1991 p.35; “The Gut – River Team” *C20/mid Q*

guytrash a large brown dog of ill boding

“The Guytrash! ... a great beast, brown and shaggy” wN’d, *NCM* 1900/1901. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx

gwaak, gaak to stare

“gaak – stare” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “gwaak – stare foolishly, gawk” *LL Tyneside* 1974

H

haad, had, haud 1. to hold, 2. phrases

1. “as lang as storm hods” Conistone C17/ult via Raistrick *Yorkshire Dales* ch.11; “had up the low” *Collier’s Rant Newc* C18/2; “Bill Shaksbur ... hadded horses for ha’pennies” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.368 1849; “ho’d – (hold)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Aa hadded” (I held) *Other Eye Newc*, ca.1890; “haad – hold” *LL Tyneside* 1974

2. “Now haud your tongue, my daughter dear!” Reed *Border Ballads* C16 “had thy wisht” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “had your tongue”, ‘had away!’, “haud away!” (go away/hold on your way) *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “tack haud” 1846; “aw was nowther to haud or to bind, man” (i.e. raging) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.359 1849; “aw mun haud mee jaw” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.396 C19/mid; “wad ta nobbit hot the tongue” (hold) *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “had thee watter” (be patient) *IA S’m* 1950s, 60s; “haddawy”, “haddaway, man” (‘well I never’, ‘you must be joking’) *JG Annfield Plain* 1930s; “haad thee pipe” *JS Easington* C20/mid; “keep a had” (take care) *JS Easington* C20/mid; “had-away – get along” *Tanfield Lea* 1960; “haddaway an’ buy yer aan” (go away) *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “get ahad on’t” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “hadawai” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “haader-on – guy on other side of riveter” *Tyne*, 2004 E; “hadaway” (get lost) *Trimdon* C20/2 (Q); “had on – wait” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “had thee gob, had thee wisht” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “hadaway’n sh...” (‘you must be joking’) *East Boldon* 1985; “fast haad” (stuck fast) *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth; “A’m haddin on – doing nothing” *Tyneside* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth. See also **howay**

haaf half

“hofs-croons” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “‘he hesn’t haaf some wool on’ – needs a haircut” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “hawf nowt – small quantity” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “nee hafas – no sharing” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2

hack pit tool

“hack” (a hack or two-toothed pickaxe) *Raine Finchale* (1360); “Hack is a tool that Miners use like a Mattock” *Derbyshire* 1681; “hack – a pick-axe, a mattock made only with one end, and that a broad one” *Grose* 1787; “hack – a strong two-toothed pick-axe or hoe, much used in agriculture” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “hack – a heavy pick, 18 inches long, and weighing about 7lbs., used in sinking or stonework” *Nicholson* 1880; “There are various kinds, e.g. Tommy hack (round head and chisel point), Jack hack (round head and sharp point), Pick hack (sharp head and chisel point)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “coal cutter’s hack – 2 [foot] 6 [inch] shaft with a head composed of one side, hammer, one side, pick ... rolleywayman’s hack had a 3 [foot] 6 [inch] shaft with a much heavier head, one side hammer, one side a flat curved blade ... conveyor advancer’s hack ... was one side pick, one side axe.” *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Burradon Colliery. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ME from late C13; compare OE haccian, Du hak, OFr hache]

hacky dirty

ex. *RM Norton* C20/mid, *Trimdon* 2002 Q, ‘Tyneside slang for dirty’ *Graham Geordie* 1979; “hakkee – dirty” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; ‘hack-mucky – needs a wash’ *Dobson Tyne* 1969; “hack-mucky” *Roker* C20/mid (Q), *MB Coxhoe* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m. Plus “hack – filth, dirt: ‘Aa canna get the hack off tha’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

haffit the temples

“haffit – the side of the head” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, C’d, W’d. [OE healf-heafod]

haffle to falter

“haffle – to waver, to speak unintelligibly, to prevaricate” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “haffle – to stammer or hesitate in speech: ‘to haffle and snaffle’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “heff ‘l – hesitate” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, eMids. [Du haffelen]

hagberry bird-cherry

“hagberry, heckberry – the bird-cherry” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “hag-berry” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “heckberry” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931; “heck-berry – sloe” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON hegg; compare Dan hægge-bær-]. Plus “Hackaberries or Heckerberries” (inhabitant of Winlaton Mill) *KE Winlaton* C20/mid

haggis

“haggish – two kind of, a Scottish and Northumberland dairy, both made of minced mutton, etc., the one seasoned savoury with spices and

the other with currans and raisons, etc., and called a spice haggish – and boiled up in the bagg of stomach of a sheep...” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s

hagworm adder

“to my surprise there was 2 hagworms 16 inches length” *Errington* p.33 Felling/Heworth re 1780s; “hagworm – the common viper” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, *Gibson C’d* 1880; “hagworm – large brown worm” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [ON ho, ggormr ‘adder’] See also **worm, nedder**

hail haul a keel

“they would hail the keels in this manner right up to the Low Lambton staith” *Wearside Tales* 1879. [variant of haul] *Plus* “hailers – ropes to haul keelboats upstream” *Wearside Tales* 1879

hain to protect, manage so as to conserve

“the tenants ... ainciently hain’d & hirded the Fawside” (managed?) *Raine MS* Hexham 1664; “hain – to save, to preserve: ‘haining wood’, ‘haining land’, ‘haining a new suit of clothes’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Thor grass fields are a’ hained for the cows to gan in” (reserved) *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s extra; “hain – to shield, exculpate” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON hegna ‘to save, protect’]

hame home, 1. hame, 2. hyem, 3. yem

1. “there is nane but women at hame” *RR Weardale* 1569; “I am gang hame – I am going home” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “hout lad, get hame” *Chicken Benwell* 1720s; “toddling hame” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.43 “hame aw gat, tired” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.98 1814

2. “at heame or away” *Bells* re Carlisle, 1802; “heam, h’yem – home” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “hi’am’s hi’am!” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “the pitman’s humble hyem” *MC Tyne* May 1881; “cairted hyem” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “in wor little hyems” *Coxhoe* 1916; “let steam git ye hyem” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “just as he’s comin ower hyem...” *Irwin Tyne* 1970/71; “heyem-coming” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “wa ganninhyem” *East Boldon* 1985

3. “when we got yam” *Alston* 1992 per *BG Texts* p.96; “comin yem”, “hees landed yem” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “Yam. The invariable pronunciation of ‘home’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Aa wish aa was yairm” *NDN* 31 May 1919; “gerraway yem” *Hay Ushaw Moor C20/1*; “yem” *JR Seaham C20/1*, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “went yam” *Lakeland* re C’d 1934; “at yem” *VIZ* 40, 1990s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: heyem N’d, heeam, yam nYx, hoame wYx. [OE hām]

handfast

“handfast—a staple” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931

hansell 1. an advance; 2. to wear in

1. “hansel or handsel – the first money received for the sale of goods; an earnest given on hiring a servant” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE handselen, ON handsal]

2. “handsel – to make of anything for the first time” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “We used to ‘hansell’ articles when we put them on for the first time” *Nth Words* Morpeth 1938; “you’ve hanselled the new kettle ... to use or wear in a new item, inc. clothes” *Morpeth C20/2 Q*

hant habit

“hant – custom, habit: ‘at your aud hants’” (at your old habits) *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “Aa’d gotten canny into the hant o’ weerin’ me new blinker” *Other Eye Newc*, ca.1890; “He has a nasty hant of doing that” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, Yx. [AN hant, haunt, ‘haunt, practice’]

hanted accustomed (to)

“to be haunted – to grow used to, or become accustomed: ‘he got haunted to it by degrees’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Aa wan’t reet hanted wid (with it)” *Other Eye Newc*., ca.1890; “pigeons were kept in the new loft or cree until they were hanted” *JS E’ton* 1950s. [F hanter ‘to frequent’] See also **heft**

hap 1. to wrap, cover, 2. a covering

“digged a grave ... and happ’d him the sod sae green” *Reed Border Ballads* C16; “happe – to cover for warmth” *Ray* 1674; “hap – to cover, by placing or heaping clothes, etc. upon: ‘are you well happed?’, ‘all’s white and happed up’ (with snow)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “hap up warm” *Thornley* 1940s Q; “happed up” (bandaged) *JP S’m C20/2*; “hap weel up; it’s a caad neet” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “happed up – buried with stones” (in pit) *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backforth. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids, EA. [ON source suggested by, e.g. Swed hypja ‘to cover’]

2. “At the Westgate came Thornton in/With a hap [cloak?], and a halfpenny, and a lambskin” C15th verse re Roger Thornton (lead mine owner); “hap – a cover of any kind of stuff, but generally applied to one of coarse material” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; ‘bedcover, etc.’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “haps – overclothes, rugs, shawls, great coats, etc.” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “he has a good hap on” (coat) *Nth Words* Bensham 1938; ‘overcoat’ *GP Seaham* re 1940s; also Tyne, wD’m 2001 Q, ‘topcoat’ AT Co.D’m C20/mid. *Plus* “ii happins and a coverlett” *Cockerton* 1612 via *Atkinson D’ton* no.30; “bed-happings – bed-clothes” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “happing –bankets” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid

happen to experience (trans. vb.)

“happen – to meet with, to incur: ‘she’s happ’n’d a misfot’n’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “aw happened an accident i’ me back” *JA Newc* 1875; “ye’ll be happenin something sum day” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.504 1891. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Yx, Lx. [ON happ]

hard up in poor health

“She’s gey hard up” *Nth Words* Shotley Bridge 1938

hardlies scarcely, hardly

“hardleys – scarcely, hardly. Universal among the vulgar” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *GP S’m C20/2*, *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, Yx

hare 1. mally, 2. wattie

1. “mally – a name for the hare (D’m)” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

2. “wat or wattie is a hare: a man (or a woman!) may be dubbed a ‘daft wattie’ which really means as mad as a March hare” *Tyneside Grammar* 1880

harns brains

“she did take the axe & knocked her husband’s harnes out, for he had done her a great injury & did deserve it” *Raine MS Pickering* 1671; “harns – brains” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON hjarne]

har, harl rain-mist

“har – small rain” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “a harl – a mist” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “hare or harr – a mist or thick fog” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “harr – a strong fog or wet mist, almost verging on a drizzle” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘a mist’ *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: haar – Sco, NE, Lx, Lincs; harl–?Lincs

harring herring

“heerin, harrin – herring: ‘four twopence caller harrin’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “fresh heerins noo hing by thor gills” *Tracts* 4, *Newc* 1850; “reed-harrin” *WM Newc* C19/2; “harrin” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. [Du haring]

hask harsh, rough

‘harsh’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘course, harsh, rough’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “hasky – rough and dry: My dad was born 1904, and used to say his hands felt ‘hasky’ when he meant rough and dry.” *IA S’m* re c20/1; ‘rough, coarse’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [nME harsk]

hather heather

“hether, hather or heath – a plant” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “In some parts of this country, the ordinary people make a good sort of ale called hather, that is, ling ale, by boiling the tips of the Hather plant to a wort” (and ferment it) *Wm Stukeley* 1776 vol.2 p.64. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation N’d, nLincs

haud see **haad**

haughs low ground

“haughs, holms – flat ground by the sides of rivers” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE *healh* ‘corner, recess’]

hause throat, neck

“white hause bane” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.127; “hause, hose – throat” *Ray* 1674, ‘the neck, the throat’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: halse ‘neck’ Sco, Nth. [OE *heals*]

have 1. to have, 2. **hed** (have it), 3. to have to

1. “yeel hev” (you’ll have) *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “hez” *Marshall* G’head 1806, *Oliver* Newc p.8 1824; “aw’ve ... aw hev” *Ross* Tyne p.4 C19/1; “henna, hanna – have not” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “if he’d hadden twee wooden legs” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “hev, heh” (have) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “hes”, “hev”, “hed” (have it), *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “let me hae thee job” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “hed (had), hes (has), hev, hae (have)” *Coxhoe* 1916; “Aa hev – I have” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “hennet” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “he’ – have, hev before a vowel”, “hevent – haven’t” *Tanfield* Lea, 1960; “ye’ll hev” *Dobson* Tyne 1972

2. “we’ll hed [have it] stuck on a pole” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.339 1843; “th’ dog wadint hed” (have it) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “Ah suppu’as ye’ll hed here a nee time” (have it) *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s

3. “it hesn’t ti gan tiv his house” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “ye havn’t to dee that” (must not) S’m 2000 via BG

haver oats

“a bowle of haver or oats” *Raine* MS Auckland 1572/73; “haver and hey” *Rothbury* C18/2; “haver – oats” *Ray* 1674 re C’d, *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “haver – (oat)meal” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “haver (pronounced havver) – oats” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON *hafre*]

haver-meal oatmeal

“haver-meal – oat-meal” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810, *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “grudge for havermeal to pay/to make them crowdies once a day” *Bell* Newc p.51 1812. *Plus* “haverbread, haver-cake – large, round, thin oaten cakes, baked on a gridle” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “haveridils – riddles for haver or oats” *Finchale* 1479-80

hawkey cow with white markings

“a reed whye stirke, being awked or whyte faced” *Raine* MS Bishop Auckland, 1585; “Drive Hawky, car Hawky, drive Hawky thro’ the watter...” *Denham* Tracts C19; “Haakie – pet name for a cow” *Dobson* Newc 1974; ‘white faced cow’ *Graham* Tyne 1980. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d

heald, hale, hell to pour out

“heald – to pour from a pot” *Ray* 1674; “to heald the pot” *Grose* 1787; “hell or hail – to pour” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “hale – to pour or empty out” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “ell us a cup o’ tea out” *Umpleby* Staithes c. 1935. *EDD* distribution to 1900: heald – Yx, Lx, Glos; hell – Nth, SW. [OE *hieldan*, ON *hella*]

heap, heapstead buildings or area round pit head

“heapstead – the elevated platform near the shaft above the surface upon which the tubs are landed and run to the screens” *Nicholson* 1880; “Aa wis waaking off the heap” i.e. going home from work. *West* Stanley C20/1; “heep – mine surface buildings” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “heap/heapstead – the pit head” *Northumbrian III* Burradon Colliery C20/2; “See yi on the heap – a common quip when parting company at the Club” *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backforth. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d

hear

“what news aw had hard” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.98 1814; “Aa’s hard o’ him afore” *Haldane* Newc 1879, sim. *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “axin if aw’d heer’d the news” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.180 1824. sim. *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s, *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “Aa hord” *Coxhoe* 1916

heave to lift

"Easter Monday is commonly known as 'heaving day'. The men heave or lift as many of the opposite sex as they can lay hands on before noon." *NWC* 18 Feb 1893, Sup, p.1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* "heaving – crowded full" *GP S'm* C20/mid, S'd 2002 Q

heck part of door

"heck – the door...." *Grose* 1787; "heck – lower half of a door; interior door" *Bailey D'm* 1810; "heck – the upper part of a halfdoor or hatch-door" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. [OE *hec*, pronounced *hech*]

heck-berry see **hagberry**

heckle coat of animal

"rough-hackled or smooth-hackled" (re skin of an ox) *Kennet D'm* 1690s; "hackle, heckle – feathers, wool, hair" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "ginger heckled" (hair colour) *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.519 1872. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Eng. [OE *hæcele* 'cloak']

hedgehog a snarl up

"hedgehog – the strand of a wire rope having broken is carried along the rope by coming in contact with the sheaves or rollers and forms a ravelled mass or ruffle on the rope which is then said to be hedgehogged" *Nicholson* 1880; "hedgehog – occurs on haulage rope when one or more strands of wire are broken ... forming as mass of uncoiled strands around the rope" *McBurnie Glebe Colliery* C20/mid; "a snarl up on a steel haulage rope" *Northumbrian III* 1990 re *Backforth*. See also **urchin**

heed head

"heaid" *Anderson Newcastle* 1628; "heeds" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s, sim. *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2, *Coxhoe* 1916, etc.; "heeds and hearts" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.177 1824 *Newc*; "takken by t' heed – under the exciting influences of drink, passion, fancies, etc." *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "dissent knaw whether thor heeds or thor heels are uppermost" *Chater Newc* 1880; "that curly heed" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "aa gov mesel an aaful crack on the back o' the heed" *Robson Newc* C20/1; "put yer eyes back in ya heed" *VIZ* 37. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation, *Sco*, *Nth*. [OE *heafod*]. *Plus* "hede-wark – headache" *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "slap-heed – idiot" 1990 eD'm via *BG*

heedways forwards

"heedways – head on, forward" *Tyneside Grammar* 1880s; "heedwis-end – headway, passages that lead to the crane or shaft" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; "headways – excavations in a coal pit at right angles to the boards, for the purposes of ventilating and exploring the mine" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846

heessel, hissels himself

"heesse!" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.453 1862; "hees sel" *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; "hissel" *Coxhoe* 1916

heffering loud laughter

ex. *Nth Words N'd* 1938. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *N'd*

heft 1. haft, 2. accustomisation

1, "heft – knife-handle" *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; 'handle' *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; "heft – a handle; a pretext or excuse" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [variant of *haft*]

2. "heft – a haunt" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "heft... in the passive, to become accustomed to" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "heif 'd" [of sheep that keep within an allotted pature] *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid, "heffed/heft". *TP* re *Alston Moor* 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *Sco*, *D'm*, *C'd*

hell see **heald**

hemmel outbuilding

"a long helme with propes, overthwartes, sidetrees & skelbourses, with a heck" (i.e. a barn) *Raine MS?York* 1626; "a hembel or helme – a hovel or house [Yorks], And in Dunelm. any place covered over head and open on both sides is call'd a hembel or hembel" *Kennet* 1690s;

“hemmel – a shed for cattle, &c.” *Bailey Co.*Durham 1810; “hemmel – outhouse or shed for cattle, frequently open in the front, to which they retreat in bad weather as well as to be hand fed” *Robson* Birtley 1880s, 1890s; “hemmels – originally, a thatched shed, stable, or byre; now the same, though seldom thatched. The word, although still understood, is going out of use” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “hemmels – the outbuildings of a farm” Spennymoor C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [?OE helm ‘protection’; ON heimile ‘homestead’]

hempy mischievous

“hempy – mischievous” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “‘a hempy dog’ – a youth disposed to practices which may end in the hangman’s hemp” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “hemp” children – *Other Eye* Newc, ca.1890; “hempy – up to tricks and pranks, mischievous” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “hempee – troublesome child” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [more likely from imp than hemp]. *Plus* “the yung imp” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.510 1872; “imp – mischievous child” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

heor here

ex. *Graham* Geordie 1979, etc.

heronsew heron

“heronsew, heronseugh – a heron” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “heron-sew, hern-sew – the common heron” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “herens’w” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid [AN herouncel ‘young heron’]

herrud shepherd

ex. *JH* Ashington C20/2

hesp hasp

“hesp – a clasp or fastening, especially to doors or windows” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “must hev gitten ted rang hesp” (door) *Wdale Gaz* Apr 2005. *EDD* distribution to 1900: variant of hasp in use in Sco, Nth, Linx. [OE hæpse, ON hespa]

het hot

“as hett as pepper” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “scaddin’ het tea” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.395 C19/mid; “skeeding het – scalding hot” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “mad het – very hot” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “reed-hot” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: het—Sco, Nth; heeat, yet nYx

hetter keen

“hetter – eager, earnest, keen” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. [ME het(t)er] *Plus* “hettle – hasty: ‘he was hettle’” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s

heugh prominence

“yuff – heugh, steep hill or cliff” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth [OE hó]

hetch hatch for loading coal from back lane into coal shed

“the coal-house hetch was open” *JM* Dawdon 1970s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation neYx

hev see have

hew, yew to cut coal

“a man thit hes te yew coals” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. [OE heawan]

hewer coalface worker

“hewers – the men who work the coals in a coal pit” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “Thor’s a man o’ mine, a hewer, Weers a shirt o’ flannen blue...” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “yewer” *GP* S’m 1950s; “kohl yoo-a – coal hewer” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; ‘man who cuts the coal’ *JM* Dawdon 1970s, *Moreland* Seaham 1980. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Lx

newy bilious

“billious, ready to vomit” *GP S'm C20/mid*

hidey hide-and-peek

ex. *HP South Gosforth C20/mid*

hike 1. to swing, 2. a free lift

1. “a bairn ... for to hike on his airm” ‘Bobby Shaftoe’ C18; “the heykin myed me vurry waufr” (the movement of the boat) *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.53 1823; “hike – to swing, to put in motion: a nurse hikes her child when she tosses it up and down in her arms. There is also the hiking of a boat” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “hikey seas” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.409 C19/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE

2. “hike – to ride in a coach or cart; ‘hike me’ or ‘De’il hike me’, [a] common asseveration; also a saying ‘he that borrows and pays not again shall surely have a hike in the Devils wain” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “let’s go hikey on the buntin’s” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

hills an’ howls the ploughed profile of a field

ex. *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “hilly-howly – undulations in a field” *FS Shotton Colliery* 1930s

hind farm-worker, supervisor

“the hynde or steward to Mr Butler” *Raine MS Tynemouth* 1680/81; “hind – an husbandry servant” *Grose* 1787; ‘a servant or bailiff in husbandry’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘an agricultural servant, hired by the year or term’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘a yearly farm servant’ *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s extra; “Hind (the ‘i’ long) – a farm-labourer (The only term in use)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “wen th’ hind wis it wark wi his horses and plue” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “hind – farm labourer” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: farmworker esp. Sco, steward Nth. [OE *hine* ‘servant’]

hing to hang

ex. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849, *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “to walk in an’ hing up me hat” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.408 1862; “ther hair hingin’ down their backs” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “a hoose, the Blue Bell ... that hings oot its sign at the fut o’ Sheel Raw” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “hinging” (intrans) *Coxhoe* 1916. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON *hangian*, ON *hengja*]

hing on to get underway

“hingin’ on – hanging on, the time the pit begins to draw: “Frae hingen on till howdy ma” *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; “The wark’s hung on” (the project’s underway) *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “hing-on or hang-on – a call from the banksman to the onsetter after any stop (the cause of which has been at bank), meaning recommence coal work” *Nicholson* 1880; “‘Hang on’ ... was the signal to resume normal working” *Hitchin re Seaham* 1920s p.79; “hang on – start loading tubs onto haulage rope” *Northumbrian III C20/2* re Durham collieries. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

hinny honey, sweetheart, friend

“hinny – my honey, a term of endearment: ‘my honey bairn” *Grose* 1787; “Come come maw hinny...” (mother to daughter) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “Where hez t’ been, maa canny hinny?” *The Maister* p.46 Tyneside song ca. 1800; “come listen, my honies, a while” *Marshall G'head* 1806; “Ma hinny” (to a girl) *Marshall G'head* 1806; “Ah hinnie! about us the lasses did loup” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.49 1812; “those married jog on with their hinnie” *Bell Newc* p.39 1812; “hinny – a favourite term of endearment, a corruption of honey: ‘hinny maisters” *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; “hinny or hinney – a favourite term of endearment, expressing great regard. A mispronunciation of honey – used with much effect by the Irish” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘Come, hinny Barty, lens a hand’ *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s – workman to workman; “hinney – my honey, dear, or sweet; Alderman Cocke of Cockes Chare on the Quay called his daughters his ‘canny hinneys” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “Oh hinny Jack” (so addressed by his wife) *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.275 1854 (T Wilson); “Noo, Geordy hinny...” (dear friend) *Haldane Newc* 1879; “O, hinney, put the led un in!” (to workmate) *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “hinny” (friend: of man to man) *Coxhoe* 1916; ‘used of woman or man’ – *BL* re Blaydon 1950s; (to any money-collector) “karlbach themorrerhinny”; (starting a letter) “Esteemed hinny...” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; ‘of sweetheart only’ *JP S'm* 2005. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d. C’d, D’m. NE 2001: in use. [doubtless from ‘honey’, but it is worth noting the Scots hen ‘old woman’ e.g. “In Glasgow, ‘hinnie’ becomes ‘hen” *Geeson N'd/D'm* ‘1969’ p.38] *Plus* “honey – a term of endearment: ‘honey-bairn” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

hint end back end

“hintend – end not front” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; ‘rear part of a machine, etc.’ *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth; “frostbite in the hint end” (backside) *Dobson* Tyne 1972; “hint end – backside, bottom” Newcastle/Chester-le-Street 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, Northants, Suff. *Plus* “hinder-ends – the refuse of anything” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829

hint ways backwards

“Aa wayses, fore ways, side ways, hint ways” *Other Eye* Newc, ca.1890

hip to hop

“hipping and skipping” *NChorister* D’m, C18/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

hipe to gore

“to see whether the oxe had hiped or goared her behinde” *Raine* MS Easby, Cleveland; ‘to rip or gore with the horns of cattle’ *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; ‘to push or strike with the horns, as cattle do’ *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; ‘cows using their horns to knock another cow’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: W’d, Yx, Lx, eMids. *Plus* “to hipe – to find fault with as ‘what do you mean to be allways hiping at me for?’” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s

hippin’ nappy

“hippings – clouts for infants” *Grose* 1787; “hippen or hiping – a cloth for an infant” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “hippings – napkins (for infants)” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “e bairn’s hippin” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “Aa warrant thoo hasn’t got thee hippins off yet” (of a boastful child) *JS* Easington C20/mid; “hippings – nappies” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA. [from covering the hips]

hirple to limp

“hirplen’ – walking lamely: ‘hirplen cross the floor’” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “hirple or hipple – to halt, to go lame, to creep, to limp in walking” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “hirple – to shrug or stick up the back; to be dull [and slow], to creep” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “hirple – to limp” *Gibson* C’d 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids

hirsle, hairsle sheepland

‘the piece of land that hill farmers allotted to their shepherds’ *Northumbrian III* C20/mid re Kielder. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco. N’d. [ON hirzla ‘safe-keeping’]

hit it

ex. *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; “hit – once common as in ‘That’s hit noo’” *Graham* Geordie 1979. [likely an extra initial ‘h’, but note the equivalent OE pronoun is ‘hit’]

hitch 1.to skip, 2. fault in strata

1. “hitch – to hop” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “hitching is skipping, as in a dance step” *HP* South Gosforth C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ME ‘to move jerkily’]

2. “hitch – a small ‘trouble’ or dyke, in coal-mines, generally limited to a few inches’ dislocation” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829

hitty-missy at random

ex. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid, *Graham* Geordie 1979, S’m via BG 2002; “hittee-missee – at random” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA

hoafies half truths

KBW re Coquetdale, DN N’d

hob 1. fire grate, or part you can rest things on, 2. elf

1. 'the iron bars in front of a fire' *Graham* Geordie 1979; "as hard as the hobs o' Hell" *GP S'm* C20/mid, sim 'someone who is tough, ungiving' *DN* Cramlington C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

2. "hob – a spirit or being of elf-nature" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm, Yx. [Robert]

hobbas hobnail boots

ex. *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backforth

hobby 1. goose, 2. young colt, 3. a tool

1. "hobby – goose (child's term)" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm. [?OFR hobet 'a hawk']

2. "O maw Bobby! maw laddie, maw lover, maw hobby!" *Barrass* Stanley 1897 (here as nickname for a putter). *EDD* distribution to 1900: 'colt' Yx, EA

3. "hobby – caulker's or riveter's tool" *Newc* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd

hockle to spit

ex. *Ferryhill* 2001 Q, *MM* S.Sheids C20/2

hog a young sheep

"hogg – a young sheep before it be shorn" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "hog – a sheep in its state from a lamb to its first shearing; after which it is a dinmont if a wedder, and a gimmer if a ewe" *Brockett* *Newc & Nth* 1829; "hog – a male of the pig kind; a sheep of a year old" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

hogger(s) 1. hosepipe, 2. shin-guards, 3. work shorts

1. "hogger – a wide leather pipe used to deliver water into a cistern" *Nicholson* 1880; "Hogger – hose-pipe" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896, *CT* *New Herrington* 1930s, *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backforth, *PM* S'm 2000; "the hogger – a wire-covered rubber hose-pipe through which the compressed air passed to the engine..." *Hitchin* re Seaham 1920s p.101; "air hose" [in pit] *GD* Co.D'm. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm

2. "there is my hoggars, likewise my half shoon" *Collier's Rant* *Newc* C18/2; "hoggers – stockings with the feet cut off" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; 'old stockings with the feet cut off, used as gaiters – riding stockings' *Brockett* *Newc & Nth* 1829; 'stockings without feet, chiefly used by the putters' *Nicholson* 1880; 'The coal-hewer formerly wore his stockings with the 'feet' cut off [i.e. separate], so that when small coals got into the stocking-foot, he had only to pull off this, and not the whole stocking; consequently his ankles were bare, while the stocking-leg covered his calf'" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; 'stocking legs ... to keep the snow from getting into the clogs' *Teward* *Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

3. "knee britches tied or open at the knee called pit hoggers" *Wade* *Annfield Plain* re pit working clothes, 1890s; "pit-hoggers or drawers" (as a child's swimming costume) *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.35; "at the face they generally wore a body shart (sleeved vest) and pit hoggers (cotton pants fastened below the knee with tape)" *Northumbrian III* C20/mid re *Winlaton/Marley Hill*; "underpants – as yer knar most fyes wurkers stripped down or did when coals kyem off the showlder... worn by aarl fyes wurkers except cutters whe used te keep their trousers on" *GD* Co.D'm C20/mid; "with your hoggers and your vest" *JM* *Dawdon* 1970s; "hoggers" 'shorts', *Dobson* *Tyne* 1974

hoit term of disparagement

"hoit – an awkward boy" *Grose* 1787; "hoyt – an awkward ill-bred youth, a lazy idle fellow" *Brockett* *Newc & Nth* 1829; "hoit – to play the fool; [noun] a simpleton, a fool" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "Hoit – slut: 'Ye mucky hoit!'" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; 'person of no account' *Dodd* *MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; 'wrong-doer' *Ferryhill* 2001 Q; "ye little hoits!" (something shouted at bad children) *eD'm*. 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

hollin holly

"holyn in Werfdale" *Raine* *MS* 1368; "the grene hollin" *Reed* *Border ballads* C16; "hollin – the holly tree" *Brockett* *Newc & Nth* 1829, etc. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [OE holegn]. *Plus* "hollin – the breakthrough of one working into another" *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backforth [OE holegn]

holm islet or river-land

“haughs, holms – flat ground by the sides of rivers” *Bailey Co.* Durham 1810; “holm – low flat land caused by alluvion – a small island” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “holme – a low field, skirted by a river; esp. south side of Tees above Barnard Castle” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth. [ON holmr ‘islet’]

hoo see **how**

hookie mat home-made mat

“a hookie mat [was] made with narrower clippings which were as long as the cloth would allow and a progger with a barbed point to pull the clippings through the harn or hessian backing” *JS Easington* C20/mid; “hooke mat – home-made rug” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; ‘a hand made mat usually done during the winter months’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in Teesdale C20/mid; ‘a mat made from rags and clippings’ *Graham* *Geordie* 1979. See also **clooty**, **proggie mat**

hoop, hope 1. a hollow or valley, 2. a ring

“Great floods shall ... run over hoope and hill” *Noah’s Ark* Newc C15/16. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE, SW. [OE hop ‘enclosed land’, ON hóp ‘landlocked bay’]

2. “hoop – a ring, generally used of the wedding ring and still in common use” *Raine* MS re C19/2

hoose house

exx. *Marshall* G’head 1806. *Coxhoe* 1916; “there’s nae gud luck about the hoose” C19/1 song. [OE hús]

hoot/s (exclamation)

“hout lad, get hame” *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; “Houts muther...” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “hout – an exclamation of disappointment or dissent” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “hout! – an exclamation of disapprobation, or disbelief ... now used only by the vulgar” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “hoots, man!” *JA* Newc C19/mid; ‘[expressing] impatience or contempt’ *Tyneside Grammar* 1880s; “Hoats, lad!” (Hush!) *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth

hopping a dance, fair

“Sunday feasts, meetings, hoppings and drinkings” *Raine* MS Lanchester, 1575 via Durham; “O’ the hoppen day” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “hoppen, hopping – a country wake or rural fair” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Last hoppin’ thou wun up my fancy/Wi’ thy fine silken jacket o’ blue.” *Crawhall* Newc 1888; “the Hoppins – the Temperance Festival on Newcastle Town Moor” *Dobson* Tyne 1969; “the hoppin’s fer bairns, man” *VIZ* 37, 1990s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE. [used in this sense since C14] “at neet there’ll be some penny hops” Tracts 4, Newc 1850

hopscotch 1. **hopscotch**, 2. **hitchie**, 3. **(h)itchie-dabbers**, 4. **(h)itchy-bay**, 5. **bays**

1. hopscotch – *FS* Shotton Colliery 1930s

2. “hitchie is the word we used for hopscotch” *AK* Newc 1950s

3. “hitchy-dabbers” *CT* New Herrington C20/mid, “itchy dabber” *Wood* re Trimdon 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: hitchy dabber N’d, D’m. [hitch – to hop]

4. “Hitchy-bay – the game of Hopscotch. Properly speaking, ‘hitchy-bays’ are the courts marked out. The square bit of wood is called the ‘hitchy-dabber’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “itchy-dabber – game of hopscotch (and smooth stone used as marker during game)” *EP* Southwick C20/mid; “itchy bay” *Wood* re Teesside/H’pool, 2002, *RM* Norton C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: hitchy-bays eD’m [bay “the starting place or place of refuge in a game” *Hull* MS wNewc 1880s]

5. “bays” *CT* New Herrington, C20/mid, “bays” *Wade* *South Moor* C20/mid

hor her

exx. *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2, *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “horsel – herself” Tanfield Lea 1960

horn-book learning book for children (ABC display with thin horn covering)

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “iv a hornbuik position aw stuid” *Street Piracy* Newcastle 1822. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general but uncommon

horn-top snail

“Horntop – only heard in the simile, ‘as slaa (slow) as a horntop” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m, nYx

horse-gog plum

“horse-gogs – a fair-sized but highly astringent blue plum” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, *Morris Yorkshire Folk Talk* 1911

hotch shuffle along

“hotching along – shuffling, like a baby on its bottom” *Hexham C20/2 (E)*

hotter to shake

“hatter/hotter – to shake, to harass, to weary: ‘I’m all hottered to pieces’, said of a jumbling ride in an uneasy vehicle” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “hotter – to shake, or even jolt: ‘we went hotterin’ in the cart” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [only in ModE 1800 plus, so perhaps from Du hotten ‘to shake’]. *Plus* “hottle – to shake, for example with laughter” *Teward Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid*; “hottery – shakey” *Lore and language NE C20/2*

hough, huke thigh, ham

“a tough sinew in an old wife’s hough” (‘back part of the thigh above bend of knee’) *Raine MS Morpeth* 1673; “the hough—the ham or upper joint of the leg” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “cruck yor hough” (sit down) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.49 1812, “Draw in a seat and crook thy hoff” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “cruick’d wor houghs” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.299 1831; “the warst o’ meat, Bad bullock’s liver – houghs and knees” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “huke – the hip”, “to crook huke – to sit down” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “ahl cruk me hough a bit” (sit down) *Embleton Tyne* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE hóh ‘heel’]

how, hoo 1. call for attention, 2. in what way, etc. (conj.)

1. “How! mind my legs!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.131 1813; “Ki’ Geordy, How! where are ye gannin?” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “how, man, speak of the devil” *VIZ* 51, 1990s; “hoo man – excuse me” *Charver* 2000–2002. [OE hú, also used as interjection] See also under **greetings**

2. “hoo te get te heaven” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.460 1862; “hoo time flies!” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “hoo” *Coxhoe* 1916; “hoo about a raffle...?” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “How’s that then?” (what do you mean?) *S’m* 2003 via BG

howay term of encouragement, signal for action, etc.

“Ho’way hyem” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “Ha woy – a call to horses to come to the left or ‘near’ side” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Ha’way, Jack!” *JR Seaham C20/1*; “howee out to play” *JS Easington* 1950s; “howway – come along” *Tanfield Lea*, 1960; “howwaydoon tuthe chippy” *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “Howay the lads” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “howawiwi” *East Boldon* 1985; “howee – come on!” *Thornley* 2001 Q; “Haway back to my place” *VIZ* 72 1995; “Howay man Sid” *VIZ* 34 1989; “hawayman – come round to my way of thinking” *Trimdon* 2002 Q [‘Howay ... is a corruption of hadaway’ *Graham Geordie* 1979, but compare “cow-wa – come away” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810]

howdy midwife

“M[ar]gery the Howdy” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “the parish howdy” *Bells nC’d* 1815; “howdy – a midwife; in Scotch, howdie” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “The skipper that saddled the cow/And rid seven miles for the howdy” *Tracts* 4, *Newc* ca. 1820; ‘midwife’ *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s, *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, *GP Seaham* 1950s; “howdy, howdy-wife – a midwife” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Thoo’s niver been washed since the howdie washed th’.” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* “grace-wife – a midwife” *Durham* 1929/30, sim. *York* 1561/62; “howdie horse: A pit horse kept on the pit top for use in an emergency” *Tottle re NE*

howdy-maw end of work

“howdy-maw – the conclusion of the day’s labour, the last corf: ‘Frae hingen on till howdy ma’ *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

howk 1. to scoop out, dig, 2. to hit

1. “she’s howket a grave” *Reed Border Ballads* C16; “kild yesterday at ye Black middens by ye bank & a great stone yt fell down upon him when he was houcking for coales” *Raine MS Tynemouth* 1661; “howkit – made a way by digging or otherwise” *Kennet* 1690s; “howk – to dig

imperfectly, to scoop” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “gould’s better far than howkin’ coals” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.363 1849; “hoke – to scoop a hole” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “we’ll find Sir John Franklin if we howk throo the ice” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.399 C19/mid “the big dredgers that howcks oot the muck [from the Tyne]” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “Howk – to dig or hew out: ‘He’s howked all the flowers up”” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “hoke (not howk) – to dig out” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; “the dentist will howk that tooth out” *IA* S’m 1950s,60s; “drag, poke or dig out – ‘howked the wax oot his ears”” *Irwin* Tyne 1970; “Certificated Tettie-Howker” *Dobson* Tyne 1972; ‘to dig’ *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backforth; “howk your powk – pick your nose” Newc., Ch-le-St 2001 Q; ‘dig or pull out’ Wheatley Hill 2004 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. [nME holk; Swed. halka, Frisian holka; OE holc ‘cavity’]

2. “githa a good howk’n” (beating) *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “howk – dig out, assault” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “howk – to beat: ‘give someone a good howking”” eD’m 2001 Q **howl-kite** see **kite**

howlet owl

“howlet – an owl. Northumberland is jinny howlet” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Jack’s hoolet e’en” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “howlet – the barn or white owl” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “howlet” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “hoolit – owl” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “houlet” *Graham* Geordie ‘1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. See also **jenny howlet**

hoy 1. to cast, throw, chuck, lob, 2. verb phrases, 3. noun formations

1. ‘to heave or throw, as a stone’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1825; “his backers they hoy’d up the sponge” (re boxing) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.407 1862; “hoy hor off” (cast her off) Oliver Heslop in *NWC* 1882; “a similor storm com’ on/An’ hoy’d us back as far as ivor” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “Let’s see wee’ll (who will) hoy the far-est” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “hoy a happny out/me father’s in jail/and we cannot get him out” PHm S’d C20/1; “het watta ... t’ hoy it ower th’ ice i’ th’ yard” *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “hoy clemmies” *BF* Billingham C20/mid; “hoyin’ snaa-baals at yan another” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “that would be hoying money at it” *MM* re Newc C20/2; “hoyed himself into the Wear” *Dobson* Tyne 1970; “hoy – to throw: ‘Hoy it arriz.”” *Charver* 2000–2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, C’d, with *exx.* exclusively from Tyneside and eD’m. *SED* (C20/mid) records as D’m and older respondents from N’d. NE 2001: in common use. [The Scots form of ‘hoy’ means ‘to expel, to drive out with noise’, almost literally to shout ‘Hoy!’ (see *OED*.) This seems an unlikely origin for our word. The *Scottish National Dictionary* gives ‘hoy’ as a reduced form of hoise, which points to the Dutch hijschen as a possible source. (“hyse – a hyse in prices” Aberdeens., 1993, “heeze – to hoist” *Gibson* C’d 1880.). See also *OED* entry for ‘hoick’. Most feasible perhaps is a source in the Dutch vb gooien. “The, is gutteral, but in some parts of the Netherlands it becomes h” Peter Cain (E)]

2. “hoying it down whole watter” *JP* S’m C20/2; “hoi-a-oot – doorman checking visitors” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “hoi-in oot tym – ‘last orders”” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “a hoy out – following a church wedding ... the father of the bride would throw a handful of copper/silver towards the public and the waiting children” *TC* New Herrington C20/mid; “hoy oot – we used to go to the church when a wedding took place and call to the bridegroom when the couple were in the bridal carriage. He would throw pennies out and we all scrambled for them!” *HP* South Gosforth C20/mid; “hoi-in skylul – pitch and toss” – *Dodd* Tanfield C20/2; “hoyahamaowaheor” (Nissan joke) East Boldon 1985

3. “the hoy” – game of pitch, toss *LG* S’m C20/mid; “the hoye” thrower in pitch, toss; “hoyers” (loose change) *GP* S’m C20/2; *TC* S’m C20/2; Stanley 2002 Q; “to get the hoyers” (to be jilted) *Viereck* re Gateshead 1966; “on the hoy” (drinking spree) S’m 1990s; “hoy – to go on the piss: ‘Am gan on the hoy – y’cummin?”” *Charver* 2000/2002. See also **pitch, toss**

hubby-shew a mess, confusion

“fecit unam brawl voc. a hubbyshew” *Raine* MS ?Knaresborough, 1520s; “hubbilshew, hobbleshew – a hubbub” *Jamieson Scots Dictionary* 1808; “hubby-shew ... a disturbance, a noise, a state of confusion” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “hubble-shew, hubble-shoo – tumultuous ... crowd; a state of commotion or disturbance” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “a proper hubby-shew” *JO* re High Thornley/Rowland’s Gill, 1930s, 1940s in *Nth Words*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: hobble-show Sco, Nth

hud hood

“hud – the side, or rather the covering of the top of the side, of a fire-place” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “hud ni’ak – chimney nook” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s

huddock covered part of boat

“The skipper luik’d oot o’ the huddock” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805; “huddock – the cabin of the keels on the River Tyne” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “huddick, or huddock – the cabin of a keel or coal barge” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Then into th’ huddock they gat/And th’ flesh they began to fry” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.28 1805; *sim.* *Marshall* G’head 1806; “The cabin of the keels was called the ‘huddock’ or ‘hurrick”” *Mitcalfe* p.4 re 1822; “as stale as swipes (drink) kept ower lang i’ the huddock” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.188 1824; “So the men an’ their skipper each sat on their buttock/An’ a council they held, wi’ their legs down the huddock” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.220 1842; “keel bullies ... snug in their huddocks” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.300 1842; “wor merry lads lay snorin’ on the huddock’s hard bed” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.151 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m. *Plus* “hud” *C/GR* Amble C20/2 [‘little hood’]. See also **cuddy, dodger**

hug to carry, manhandle

‘to carry’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid, *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; ‘to carry [esp. in the arms]’ *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “roond the raws ... the youngsters hugg’d the teup” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

huly fretful

“huly – peevish, fretfull. When a man is not easily pleas’d or seems captious and forward, then is said to be ‘huly’, and a ‘huly man’” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “yulley – whimpering” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931, ‘reluctant to work’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: hooly – N’d, D’m. [?ON hófligr ‘moderately’]

humble 1. de-awning, 2. de-horning

1. “humbling barley – breaking off the awns (beards), with a flail or other instrument” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810

2. “a white humble ewe with her lambs” (without horns) *Raine* MS Coniscliffe 1616; “mild as a humblick” (i.e. dehorned cow) *GP* S’m re C20/1

humblick hemlock

“humlick – the Northern pronunciation of hemlock” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE. *Plus* “that scene in Hamlick” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.439 C19/mid

hunkers haunches

“down o’ my hunkers” *Marshall* Newc 1823; “hunkers – haunches ... used by the Northumbrian vulgar only in the sense of ‘sitting on the hunkers’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “hunkers – to sit on ones hunkers is to sit with the hams resting on the calves of the legs” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “hunkers – sitting on the hunkers – sitting on the toes with the thighs resting on the calves of the legs, a manner of sitting peculiar to pitmen” *Nicholson* 1880; “Sitting on the hunkers means squatting, as miners do in the streets” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “on your hunkers” nwD’m C20/mid Q; *HP* South Gosforth C20/mid; “miners on thor hunkers sit” *Dobson* Tyne 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?ON húka, Du hukken, OFr hanche]

hupstick now and again

“Every hupstitch – every now and again: ‘she bakes every hupstitch’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m. *Plus* “whupwhile – at short periods, frequently” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s

huse a cough

“hauste, hoste – a dry cough” *Ray* 1674 Nth; “huse – a short cough” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810

hyem see **hame**

hyrd shepherd

“he being hyrd, or keper of cattell” *Raine* MS Durham, 1634; “herrud – shepherd” *Ashington* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: herd – general; herid – N’d

icicles 1. **ice-shoggle**, 2. other

1. “ice shoggle—an icicle” *Bell* MS Newc 1815, *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “ice-shoccle” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “ice-shoggles, iceshoglins” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “ice-shockles *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “iceshogils” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “ysikel, yss-shogil – icicle” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [compare Dan. isjokke] 2. “ickles” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “can-kils” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s extra; “tinkle tankle” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s

if

“gif” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.99 1814; “gin I be not fair” *NChorister* D’m C18/2; “gin – if, in case, even if, although (?p.p. of give)” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “kin: ‘yammering and shouting as kin yen was deaf’, ‘as kin howse (anything) had happend’” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s

ignorant rude

“higarent – bad mannered and stupid” *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “without care or consideration for other people or things” *PG* H’pool C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this sense, Sco, Ire, Mids

ilk each, every

“on ilk halfe” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “of ilk a thing” *Noah’s Ark* Newc C15/16; “I saw him ilk other day” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Lakes, Glos, Som. NE 2001: not in use. [OE *ilca*]

impittent cheeky, impudent

ex. *FS* Shotton Colliery 1930s, *Viereck* re Gateshead, 1966; “impitant – impudent” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “impitent – impudent (of a child)” D’m 2001 Q; ‘impertinent’ *KY* Sacriston C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: only as ‘in good spirits’ C’d. *Plus* “impittance” *JO* re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill, 1930s, 1940s in *Nth Words*. See also **fond**

in, iv, i’ in

“suon ee mworning” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “iv a byre” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.238 1829; “iv – in; intiv – into. So pronounced by country people” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “i’, iv (before a vowel) – in” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “iv oor hoos” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “i’ this hoose” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “plunged ... iv a terrible fray”, “iv his nest” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “Aa’s iv a horry” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: iv as Nth. *Plus* “it nuze” (in the news) M’bro *MWN* 28 Jan 1860. See also **into**

inbye 1. towards the interior, 2. in mining, towards the work face

1. “in-by – in general applied to the inner chamber of a house: ‘Had away in-by, man, an’ hev a few broth’” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “in-by – the inner chamber of a house” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “inbye – near as opposed to far from the farm” Teesside 2001 Q; “inbye/outbye – comands to a sheepdog” Barnard Castle. 2001 Q

2. “when the fore shift was gan in-by” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “in-bye – in the workings, or in any direction away from the shaft” *Nicholson* 1880; “Frae what they craft about the shaft, te what they de inbye” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “I knew what in-bye meant. It signified in or approaching the working area.” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.66 1910s; “walking in by, i.e. from the shaft to the coal face” *BW* West Auckland C20/mid; ‘from shaft bottom into the workings’ *Wade* *South Moor* C20/mid; “going towards the face, away from the shaft” *JM* Dawdon 1970s; “at the face; the direction away from the shaft” (in a pit) *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backforth. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, wYx

ing meadow, pasture

“another child found in the ings; [to be] bur[ied]” *Raine* MS Wakefield, 1662; “ing – a common pasture or meadow” *Grose* 1787; “ings – low wet grounds” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “ing – a meadow, a pasture” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON *eng* ‘grassland’]

ingate way in

“ingate – the entrance or inlet (at a coal-mine)” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “ingate – the means of entrance” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD*

distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. See also **gate**

ingle fire, flame

“ingle – a fire or flame” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, ‘fire, flame; fireside’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Linx. [? Gaelic aingeal ‘fire’] *Plus* “inglenook” (corner by the fire) *Eggleston Weardale* 1877

inonder under

“inonder, ininonder – under’ *Embleton Newc.* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N.I., wYx

insense to explain

“insense – to make to understand, to inform or impart knowledge” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘make to understand’ *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OF *ensenser*]

into, intiv

“intiv a field” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “intiv (before a vowel) – into” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “inted toon” (into the town), “intev a ki’ak shop” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “Aw went intiv a hoose” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “inte... intiv before a vowel” *Tanfield Lea* 1960. See also **in**

inwiver a rail on a coble

“Inwire – inwyver, the riser or stringer supporting the tofts (thofts)” *Hill Flamborough* 1970s; “inwiver – inner rail, compare ‘toe-rail’” *C/GR Amble* C20/2; “inwiver” *FT Cullercoats* 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d

Ironopolis Middlesbrough

ex. 1890s. *Plus* “Boro”

it (in contractions)

“ga’d” (gave it) *Tracts 4*, *Newc* ca. 1820; “she let Geordie hed” (have it); “Twiz” (it was), “twad” (it would), “hed” (have it), “nyen cud did” (none could do it), “when we get tid” (to it) *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “weed” (with it) *Rothbury* C18/2

itchy-dabber see *hopscotch*

ite eight

“hite” (eight) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2. *Plus* “hiteen” (eighteen) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “yteen – 18” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2

iv of

“pack iv yelpin’ curs” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.236 1829; “men iv science” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.241 1829. See also **in**

ivin ivy

“ivin – the common ivy” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, eMids

ivor ever

“iver see big” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “ivor” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “ivor” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *Plus* “ivery” (every) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.411 C19/mid; “ivory” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “ivory – every” *Tanfield Lea* 1960

ivorybody everybody

“ivorybody” *Coxhoe* 1916. *Plus* “ivery yan” *Moore Weardale* 1859, *Tyneside grammar* 1880s (as ‘each’)

J

jacky gin

'English gin' Bell 1812 p.89; "we'd Jackey an' fine ginger pop" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.139 1816; "flesh and yell, and jackey in greet store" *Tracts* 4, Newc c. 1820. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, Suff – 'slang'

jacky blue-cap blue tit

ex. *JB* Shildon C20/mid

jagger 1. pedlar. 2. his pony

1. "jagger, in the Scottish language, means a pedlar – jagger-galloway, a pedlar's pony" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846

2. "jagger – pony or galloway" *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; "jagger – pony" Middleton in Teesdale 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: jagger-galloway – N'd, C'd, W'd

jaistering swaggering

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; 'swaggering or bragging' *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm

jalup, jollup a purgative

"a pennorth o' Jalup we put iv his bottle" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.411 1862; "jollup, jalap – the powder of the dried tubercles of *Exogonium purga* – a purgative" *Embleton* Newc 1897; "jallup ... openin medicine" *Hay* Ushaw Moor C20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Edin, Tyne. [F jalap from Aztec Xalapan] Plus "Aw've jollop'd [dosed] the drivers that's stolen me bate" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s

Jamies inhabitant of Sunderland

"Sunderland Jammy's Lamentation" (song re cholera of 1831); "A writer in a recent periodical supplies us with the curious information that Mariners term a vessel from the Tyne a Geordie, and from the Wear a Jamie." William Fordyce *History of ... the County Palatine of Durham* 1857 vol.2 p.509, fn; "Sunderland Jammies – a by-name given to the Sunderand sailors" Denham *Tracts* re C19/2. [Jamies and Geordies might then refer back to sides in the C18 Hanoverian/Stuart rivalry] See also **Mackem, Geordie**

jannock, jannick fair, straight, etc

"jannick – staunch, firm (Yorkshire)" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; "jannock – behaviour that is all fair and straightforward" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; 'even, level; fair, equitable: "t' cloth deean't lig jannock", "that now is not jannock" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "jannock – square, honest" *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general; *OED* says not Sco

jarble to spatter

"jarble – to bedraggle" *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; "jarbled – wettened, e.g. trousers by grass" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

jaup, jarp 1. to joggle, 2. to strike eggs at Easter

1. "jaup – to move liquid irregularly – to splash: 'The water went jauping in the skeel'" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "jawp – to shake liquid" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "jap – to splash with a liquid; to agitate a fluid in a vessel" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

2. "jaup – to strike, to chip or break by a gentle though sudden blow. Jauping pasteeggs at Easter is a youthful amusement in Newcastle and the neighbourhood. One boy, holding an egg in his hand, challenges another to give blow for blow. One of the eggs is sure to be fractured in the conflict, and its shattered remains become the spoil of the conqueror" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "'Jawping eggs' – a gambling game with eggs at Easter" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "thor eggs wad jawp an' var-ny crack a styen" *MC* Tyne May 1881; "the champion times aa've hed at Easter jaapin' an' boolin' me eggs" *Robson* Newc C20/1; 'we decorated hard boiled eggs and went out "jarping", banging the ends of the boiled eggs – the winner taking over the loser's egg' *JG* Annfield Plain 1930s; 'One holds an egg and challenges anyone to strike it with another egg. The first broken egg is the spoil of the conqueror' *Graham* Geordie 1979; "jarp – competition on Easter Day between two paste eggs" *AC* Shildon (E). *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE

jee-wye out of true, crooked

“Gee-y – crooked, twisted: ‘It’s all a-gee-y’ [u:jæ:waay]” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “all jeewye” Newc 1940s via AK, Wingate, Tyneside 2001 Q; “arl gee wye” (out of trim/order) *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “jee-wye” Teesdale, Thornley, S’d. 2001 Q; “all gone gee-why – gone wrong” Horden 2004 E. *Plus* “jee – crooked, awry” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. See also **ajee**

jells wooden planks

‘...to cover or divide the hold of a keelboat’ *Mitcalfe* re 1822; ‘piece of wood’ *GP* S’m C20/mid; “dyell – wood” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. [same as deal, first noted ca. 1400]

jelouse to suspect

“jealous – to suspect” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “the byukmaker wad niwor jealous onything” *Coxhoe* 1916; “jealoused – guessed or suspected rightly” *JO* re High Thornley/Rowland’s Gill, 1930s, 1940s in *Nth Words*; “jillus’d – guessed” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “my Aunt would use the word after someone knocking on the door and enterng her house: ‘I jaloused it was thoo’” *IL* Sunnybrow C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [FR jalouser]

jenkin term in hewing

“jenkin – a narrow place driven up the middle of a pillar of coal when it is about to be excavated” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

jenny howlet owl

“an au’d Jenny Howlet” (rhymes with ‘foot it’) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.217 1823; “jennyhowlet – the tawny owl” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “jenny-howlet (pronounced jinnyhullot) – the tawny owl” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Geordy’s feyce just as solemn like as a jenny hoolet” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “jinny howlets” *JO* re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill, 1930s, 1940s in *Nth Words*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, usually as ‘barn owl’. See also **howlet**

jimmers a twinned pair, e.g. hinges

“gimmers – door-hinges” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “jimmers esp. of a pair of doors” *Kennet* 1690s; “a gimmer tree – a tree that grows double from the root” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “jimmer – a small hinge for a closet door or desk” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, “jimmers – hinges” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, EA. [AN gemel, jomel ‘twin’]

jinny small lobster

“jinny ... also nits, nancies” *JP* S’m 2005. *Plus* “nancies” S’d 2005 (M); “nannycocks” *Umpleby* Staithes ca. 1930

jinny spinner crane fly

“jinny-spinner – a very long slender-legged fly” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘daddy-longlegs’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “jenny spinner – an insect; a feathered seed of the dandelion tribe, flying about” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “jinny-longlegs” Sherburn. 2001 Q; “ginny, ginny-longlegs – crane fly” *Wood* Cleve C20/2; “johny-spinner” Ashington. 2001 Q, *DN* Seaton Burn/Cramlington C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [Jeanie i.e. female]

joey homosexual

“a joey” *ES* D’ton 1950s

joggly unsteady

“joggly – unsteady; rough, of a road” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

jollop see **jalup**

jonker pit electrician’s term

‘coupling box for electric cables’ Ho’ton 2001 Q [?junction] www.ebook3000.com

joogle dog

“take the joogle for a walk” N/J/R (Hexham) (E) [Romany]

jook see **dook**

jowl to strike in order to cause a sound

“When a signal is to be made to some distance, it is done by beating on the rails or posts, five beats, the first two slow, the other three quick, and this is repeated several times. The same signal is used in the Newcastle coal mines, where it is denominated ‘jowling’” *Alston* 1833; “Pitmen ascertain, by jowling against the coal, the probable thickness and direction of two approaching workings. ‘Gan and gie us a jowl to see if she’s fair on.’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “jowl – a sort of ‘tattoo’ beaten alternately upon the face of two places or drifts near holing, or intended to hole into each other, by a person in each place, for the purpose of ascertaining by the sound their relative positions” *Nicholson* 1880; “Jowl, jowl, and listen, lad!” *Lloyd re Low Fell* 1962; “jowling – a means of communicating through the mine. particuly after roof falls (knocking on walls etc)” *IL Tow Law C20/mid. EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx. *Plus* “A’l jowl tha” Wade, South Moor 1966

jud section of coalface ready for taking down

‘a piece of coal ready for taking down, either by wedges or powder’ *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; ‘the portion of the coal about to be removed by blasting’ *Brockett Newc & Nth*, 1846; ‘a portion of the seam, kirved, nicked, and ready for blasting; also, a portion of a pillar in course of being worked away in the broken mine’ *Nicholson* 1880; “Crack gans the timmor i’ maw jud” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, D’m, Yx

jumly muddy

“Jumly water” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE

jumpy-jack a jumping cracker

‘a jumping cracker (firework) or a here-todaygone-tomorrow sort of person’ *BL Winlaton* 1950s

K

ka—see also under **ca**—

kale 1. cabbage, 2. broth

1. “kail – cabbage, greens; broth or pottage” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “keal – broth, cabbage” *Gibson C’d* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Glos. [ON kál, OE cáwel] *Plus* “kail-garth – a kitchen-garden, a cabbage garth, though often adorned with a profusion of flowers” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “corlygreens” w*Newc* 1880s

2. “cole, keal – potage made of colewort” *Ray* 1674; “kale, kyel – broth, soup: ‘Splash gan the spuins among the kyell” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “kail, kyel – broth or soup, especially when made with potatoes or fish: ‘Will ye hev a few tatie kail...?’” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s

kale-pot stew pot

“kail-pot – large metal cooking pot” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “kale-pot – a pottage-pot ... a large semi-globular or full-bottomed iron pot on three spiky legs” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “The kail-pot’s callin’ the yetlin’ smutty (common proverb)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “heed like a kail-pot – big-headed, swankey” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950

kavel to struggle

“to struggle, be in great difficulty” *MG Teesdale C20/2*. See also **cavel**

kedge to stuff

“kedge – to fill, stuff full, esp. [re] eating” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “As kedged – full up” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* “kedge-belly – a large protuberant body, a glutton” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

kee the quayside, esp. Newcastle

“wor Keeside” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.189 1824; ‘The Fire on the Kee’ – Billy Purvis’ recitation about the great fire of 1854

keek 1. to peep, 2. a peep

1. “thro’ all the world aw wisht to keek” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.51 1823; “keek – to peep, to look with a prying eye, to view slyly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “keek’d through their glasses at us” *Oiling G’head* 1826; “Forst Aa keeked this way then Aa keeked thay way, then Aa torn’d half roond an’ tries to keek ower me showlder.” *Other Eye Newc* ca.1890; ‘to peep, to spy’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. [ON kikja ‘to pry’, Du kijken]

2. “we’d a keek at the Monument” *Marshall Newc* 1823; “down every quayside Chare there’s such a glorious keek” (view) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.194 1842

keeker inspector, mine official

“keeker – in Northumberland and Durham Collieries it is a sort of overlooker, or spy, on the pit heap of the Colliery” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “keeker – in coal mining, a person employed to see that the coals are sent to bank in a proper state” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “keeker” (surface official who checked hewers’ tubs) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “keeka – pit surface foreman” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, nYx

keel boat esp. lighter in coal trade

“tribus ut lingua eius exprimitur cyulis” (three ‘keels’ as it is called in their tongue) *Gildas* 564 AD re arrival of Anglo-Saxons; “for a kele with the wool from Newcastle” records re Gateshead 1329/30 via *Mitcalfe*; “weel may the keel row...” *Ritson N’d* 1793; “Aw was setten the keel...” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “The keels transported the coals from the riverside staiths to the ships where they lay in the river” *Mitcalfe* p.4 re 1822; “for as lang as keel gans down river Tyne” *Oliver Newc* p.1 1824; “keel – a low, flat, [clumsy-looking 1846] vessel or barge...” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “keel – a vessel on the River Tyne about 50 feet long and 20 feet broad and carries 8 Newcastle or 15 London chaldrons of coal, or 21 tons 13 cwt. [It] is navigated by a skipper, 3 men and a boy, who is called the Pee dee ... Keels are navigated three different ways on the Tyne, viz by sail, by rowing (with oar and swape) [and] by putting which is done with a puuy or puy, a pole about 25 feet long with an iron fork on the end. [The] Pee dee, the boy, takes care of the huddock or babin of the keel, or fetches and carries as the keelmen and skipper direct.”

Bell MS Newc 1830s; “keel – a vessel used to carry coals on the Tyne or Wear, to ships lying about Shields or Sunderland. Keels are broad, flat vessels, sharp at each end, and carry eight Newcastle chaldrons” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: E coast. [ON kjo, Ir, OE ceol ‘boat’]

keelmen, keelers etc. crew of the keels (coal tenders)

“kelers” re Tynemouth C14, via *Mitcalfe*; “The ‘Kelers’ [sic] of Tynemouth were a recognized class away back in the days of the early charters, and, in the year 1700, numbered some sixteen-hundred, with a fleet of four hundred keels.” *The Maister* p.35; “keel-bully” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “the North Shore for keelers” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.30 1812; “the mony keel lads o’ Coaly Tyne” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.45 1812; “but last I married a keelman/and my good days are done” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.152 1812; “he and his ‘marra’ had to ‘cast’ – that is, shovel – [the coal] from the keel into the hold of the vessel being loaded” *The Maister* p.35 re Tyneside 1800–1840; “keel dighter – a woman who scrape[s] or clean[s] out the floor of the keels, and get what small coals may have been left after the delivery of the keel” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “The keels were generally manned by the skipper, two keel bullies and a boy known as the ‘pee-dee’” *Mitcalfe* p.3 re 1822; “keelmen – the watermen who navigate the keels; an exceedingly hardy and striking race of men” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “the city was hush, save the keel bullies snoring” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.299 1842; “keel-bullies – the keelmen, or crew of the keel – the partners or comrades in the vessel” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, “keel-brothers” 1846; “brave keel-laddies” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.381 C19/mid

keggy lump

“keggy – a lump on the face after a fight” *Wood* Tees 2002; “keggy-eyed – having a black eye” *Wood* Redcar 2002

keks, kegs trousers, pants

“kegs” *JS* re Blackhall C20/mid, Gateshead 1986 per BG; “keks, kegs, underkegs” *JP* S’m C20/2 keks – trousers Q 2001 Tyne, D’m; “keks – underwear” Ashington. 2001 Q, S’m 2001 Q; “swimmin kex” *VIZ* 40 (1990s). See also **breeks, trousers**

kellee see **tadger**

kelk a blow

“I gave him two or thee good kelks” *Grose* 1787; “kelk, kelker – a severe blow” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “kelk – a blow” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs

kelk the hemlock

“kelk – a term commonly used for the ordinary field hemlock” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘a small specie of hemlock’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

kelks salmon

“kelks – the salmon in the river Tyne after it has spawned” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s

kellick unfledged bird

“Kellick – unfledged bird” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “raw kellick” *GP* S’m 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m. *Plus* “a new kelk” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846 as D’m

kelpie water sprite

“the Spirit of the Waters, known by the name of Water Kelpie in Scotland” *Marshall* G’head 1806. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco

kelter 1. riches, money, 2. rubbish, odds and ends

1. “the blythe morning [pay day] comes ... when kelter makes colliers sing” *Bell* Newc p.38 1812; “show’d her the kelter aw had won” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.141 1816; “that brag o’ birth and kelter” *Oiling* G’head 1826; “a cheppy tuik kelter as fast’s he was yeble/there war gan for ti raffle aud Jack’s wooden leg” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.489 1862

2. “kelter – rubbish” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale

1931; “kelter – rubbish, heap of unsorted objects” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; ‘rubbish or clutter’ *M’bro* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sD’m, Yx, Notts, Linx. See also **kilter**

kelterment small worthless things

“kelterments – odds and ends” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “odds and ends ... the sort of thing you find on the floor” *GP S'm C20/mid EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. *Plus* “toffer, tofferments – odds and ends, ‘rubbish” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

kemp to compete

“kemping – to strive against each other in reaping corn” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “kemp – to strive in order to outdo a competitor” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “campin, kempin – the race in which one [reaper] strove to finish his rig first [a practice ending in the 1870s] *Heslop N'd* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Suff. [ON keppa, OE campian]. *Plus* “kempers – the competitors” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “cample – to argue” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

ken to know

“he kenned thair synnes” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “he kend not his owne father” *Raine MS?Durham* 1573; “Aw ken weel enough” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “ken – to know” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “Aw hardly kend what for to say” *Tracts 4, Newc* ca. 1820; “ye mebbly ken best” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.150 1827; “I dinna ken yor nyme” *Stobbs Woodhorn, C19/mid*; “he kens biv his nose/when a pickpocket's near” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.309 1862; “aw ken ... whe thoo is” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “nobody kens” *Parker Tyne Valley* p.88 1896; “Of recognizing, or being acquainted with, people: ‘aa kenned ‘im’ (universal). /Aa: din:u ken/common about Auckland, is not so common around Hetton as /aa:din:aa/or more strictly /aad:i:naa/(I don't know)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Aa kens Harry and Jake” *Coxhoe* 1916. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: occasional use, esp. of knowing a person. [ON kenna, OE cennan]

ken home

“ken – Charver's home” *Charver* 2000–2002. [Romany ‘ken’ a house, a nest]

kennor signal to end work (in pit)

“kenner – an expression signifying time to give up work, shouted down the shaft by the banksman where practicable, and where not, signalled and conveyed into the workings from mouth to mouth or by further signalling” *Nicholson* 1880; “Till kennor's call'd” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Kenner – time to cease work. The common expression is ‘lowse’ (vb.)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “its vennigh kennor – near knocking off time” *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm

kenspecked/speckled conspicuous

“kenspecked – marked or branded” *Ray* 1674; ‘markt or branded with spots or speckles’ *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “kenspeckled – particularly marked, so as to be easily known” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “Kenspreckled – well known, marked” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “kenspeckled – very fancy” *Weardale, Teesdale* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON kennespeke ‘recogniton’]. *Plus* “kenmark – mark to show owner's identity” *FS Shotton Colliery* 1930s

kep to catch

“kep – to catch, to receive anything in the act of falling” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “he cuddint kep the ball” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; ‘to catch in your hands’ *JO re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill* 1930s, 1940s in *Nth Words, MB Coxhoe C20/mid*; “kep thattun! – cry of victory” *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE cepan ‘to lay hold of, keep’, ON kippa ‘to snatch’]

keps retractable blocks on which cage rests in pit shaft

“keps or keeps – movable frames or supports of iron, which, if left free, project about 1.5 inches into the shaft top at each side, immediately beneath the level of the settle boards. Their use is to support the cage containing the tubs of coals when drawn to the surface, the cage rising between the keeps and forcing them back; but when the cage is drawn above the keeps they fall forward to their places, forming a rest for the cage until the full tubs are replaced by empty ones. the keeps are then drawn back by a lever by the banksman or shower-in and the cage allowed to return down the shaft” *Nicholson* 1880; “the banksman put in his ‘keps’, and, as the cage rested on these iron protrusions, the chains that suspended it went slack.” *Hitchin re Seaham* p.64 1910s; “no matter what weight you put on it it cannot dislodge the keps” *GP S'm C20/mid*; “keps – safety chocks for mine cage” *Newton Aycliffe* 2001 Q

kern see **kim**

kersen to christen

“kersen, kirsen, kursen – to christen” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “kirsen” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “kess'n” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “kersent ed

Kersmas Christmas

"Kersmas, Kirsmas, Kursmas" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "Curstmis" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.416 1862; "Kirsmas" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "Kess'mas, Kess'nmas" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "Kersenmiss" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "Krissmiss" *NM* vol.1 p.197 1888 re Newcastle; "Cursamus" *Embleton* Newc 1897; "Kersmas" *Lakeland* re C'd 1922. See also **Yule**

kerve, kirve to undercut coal

"kirving – hollowing out the bottom of the coal in the workings of a colliery so as to let what is above to easily fall down without making much small coal" *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "kerve – the first operation in preparing a jud in a coal mine, for blasting, is the removal of a large portion of the foundation of the block" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; "kirving – a wedged-shaped excavation, made by the hewer with his pick at the lower part of the seam previous to blasting" *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. NE. [OE *ceorfan*]. *Plus* "the cut itself would become choked with dust which we called 'curvings'" *Hitchin* re Seaham p.98 1920s

keslop rennet

'a calf's stomach salted and dried to make rennet' *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "keslip, keslop – rennet; also cheese-lop, cheslip, cheslop" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Lincs. [OE *cese-lyb* 'cheese-chemical']. *Plus* "yerning – rennet" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810

kessen see **cast**

ket offal, rubbish

"cadavera, Anglice kett" (carrion) *Raine* MS Howden, 1589; "ket – carrion, filth, useless lumber" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "ket – carrion; tainted meat" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; 'offal, waste' *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; 'offal or poor quality meat' *Wood* re Whitby C20/2 (not used M'bro); "it it's a load a' ket (rubbish)" *IA* S'm 1950s,60s; "they're just ket" *KH* Stockton C20/2; "ket – rubbish, trash" *JB* Shildon C20/mid; "stop eating ket" (rubbish food) *Wood* D'ton 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA. [ON *kjöt* 'flesh']. *Plus* "ketment – a dirty mixture, any sort of filth" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "ketty – nasty" *Grose* 1787; "ketty – putrid" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

ket, kets sweets

"ket – sweets" Lanchester 2002 Q; "giz a ket (sweet)" *IA* S'm 1950s,60s; "sweets are ket not kets" *MB* Coxhoe C20/mid; "dolly mixtues, jelly babies, lickrish torpedoes were 'kets'" *JS* Easington C20/mid; "kets" Ch-le-St 2002 Q; "ket – kiddies' confectionery" Charver 2000– 2002. NE 2001: in use. [?from ket in sense of sweetmeat; the plural form ay only have been introduced ca.1960]. *Plus* "when I was at school, we called sweets 'ebs'" *PG* H'pool C20/2; "bubus" Hetton-le-Hole, 1950s via BG

kevel large hammer

"kevel – a large hammer" Finchale 1367; "one great Kevell" *Raine* MS York 1580s; "Bob canted the form with a kevel" *Bell* Newc p.42 1812; "kevel – a large hammer for quarrying stones" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, sim *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, nYx. See also **cavil**

ki, kiv sez, etc.

"kive I – quoth I" *Grose* 1787; "kih she" plus "oh, kiv aw..." *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "ki Dick ... kiv aw" *Marshall* G'head 1806; "ki – quoth; kiv-Aw. kiv-I – quoth I" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Tyne. [same as quoth?]

kibble large tub

"kibble – a wooden tub, usually square, and of the capacity of about 20 gallons, used in conveying rubbish from one place to another: it is placed upon a tram" *Nicholson* 1880; "Kibble – a big iron tub, for filling with rubbish, in sinking a shaft" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; 'small tub or bucket, used to draw ore from the mine' *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; "kibbil – carries stone in mine" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Derbys, SW – note mining link. [German *Kübel*]

kicky-can game of tag with a base

ex. *JP* S'm, C20/2; "kicky-can, kicky-tin" D'm. 2001 Q; "cannon than kicky-can" Gosforth C20/2 Q. See also **tiggy**

kiddar 'kid

“kidder – youngster, younger brother” *JB Shildon* C20/mid; ‘a friendly term of address applied to children’ *Graham* Geordie 1979; “kiddar – friend” *Leslie* Newc 1992; “gan on kidda” (to adult) *VIZ* 40, 1990s

kilter, kelter balance, condition

“kelter – frame, order, arrangement, condition...” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “kelter – condition, case, circumstances; ‘that drill is out o’ kelter’, ‘in good kelter’ (all right, sound)” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; ‘of machine being maladjusted’ D’ton 1940s Q; ‘out of step/line’ D’ton C20/2; ‘out of sorts, condition’ *GP S*’m 1950s; ‘not properly aligned’ *KH* Stockton C20/2; “kelter is what we said” *HP* South Gosforth C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: kelter ‘condition’ – general

kincough whooping cough

“kink-cough” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “kin’cough” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE, eMids

kinks laughter, fit

“kink – laughter; to kink, as spoken of children when their breath is long stopped, through eager crying or laughing. Hence the kink-cough” *Grose* 1787; “kink – to laugh immoderately, to labour for breath as in the whooping cough” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “a person going into a fit would be said to be kinking” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale; “gan in a kink – become hysterical” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “he was in kinks” (a fit of laughter) *Viereck* re Gateshead 1966. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Scot, Nth, eMids. [OE *cincung* ‘heavy laughter’]

kip place in pit

‘incline in pit’ *JR* Seaham C20/1; ‘raised platform’ *GC* Seaham C20/1; ‘the landing place at the shaft bottom for the full tubs’ *McBurnie* Glebe Colliery C20/mid

kirk church

“kyrk” *Anderson* Newcastle 1508; “kyrk” *Grose* 1787; “aud-fashion’d Jarrow kirk” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.228 1826; “An’ went off te the kirk, as the Scotchman wad say” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “kork” Embleton, Newc 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [OE *cyrice*]. *Plus* “kirk-garth – a church yard” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “kork-hole – grave” *LG S*’m C20/2; “chorch” *Graham* Geordie 1979

kirn, kern churn

“kyrne – a churn” *Raine* Finchale (1479–80); “kirnes ... in the mylke-house” *Raine* MS?York, 1559; “one kirne with a kirnstaf” Darlington 1610 via *Atkinson* no.25; “kirm or kurn – a butter churn” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “kurn milk” *Tracts* 4, Newc ca. 1820; “kerran – butter churn” *MG* Teesdale C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON *kirna*] *Plus* “an kirm’ed ed Fridays” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s

kirn supper end of harvest celebration

“kirm or kurn – the harvest home in Northumberland, at which there is generally a Supper, called the Kirn Supper” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “kern-supper – a supper given to the working people by the farmer on the completion of shearing or severing the corn” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “kirm supper” *Lakeland* re C’d 1901. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, nYx, Lx. *Plus* “kern-baby – an image dressed up with corn, carried before the reapers to their mell-supper or harvest-home” *Grose* 1787; “churn-supper, corn supper, the Northumberland festival on conclusion of harvest” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. See also **mell-supper**

kirtle dress

“coming owte of the chambre in her pretty-cot and slyving her kertil over her hed” *Raine* MS Adlingfleet, 1536; “kirtle – one-piece dress” B’d Castle 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: kirtal ‘loose jacket’ nYx. [OE *cyrtel*, ON *kyrtill* ‘tunic’]

kirve see **kerve**

kist chest, box

“the reliks kyst” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “the key of the said ... kist” *Raine* MS?Durham, 1570; ‘linen box’ *Nth Words* N’d, 1938; “kistful of paper” *Bell* Newc p.105 1812; “siller ... to put i’ wour kists” *Bell* Newc p.105 1812; “kist – a box in which servant girls keep their clothes etc.” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “kist – chest (less frequently used than chist)” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “kist – a chest, of whatsoever kind” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “kist – a chest; commonly applied to a large box holding clothes” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “a chest of drawers is a ‘kist’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “A kist was a tool-chest used by the deputy” *Hitchin* re Seaham C20/1900s; “kist – tool chest [sic] which, when cleaned and polished, was

turned into a linen chest” Spennynew C20/mid; “kist – chest for clothing” Barnard Castle 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, EA, SW. [ON kista, OE cist (pronounced chist)]. *Plus* “one old arke” Blackwell 1622 via Atkinson no.52; “ark – a large chest or coffer in farm houses, used for keeping corn or meal” *Brockett* Newc & Nth; “hutch means a chest for various uses, as the Towns’ Hutch means the Treasure Chest at Newcastle” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. See also **chist, deputy’s kist**

kit small tub

“kit – a milking pail, like a churn, with two ears and a cover” *Grose* 1787; ‘properly a covered milking pail with two handles, but often applied to a small pail of any sort’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “kit – a small wooden vessel, generally with one handle but often without: ‘Put the weshins int’ the kit” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; ‘a small tub for washing in, used by pitmen’ *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [MDu kitte ‘jug, pitcher, coal scuttle etc’]

kite belly

“kite – the belly” *Ray* 1674 re C’d; “a kite or kyte – a belly or womb” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “he’ll never run to kyte” (i.e. become fat) ‘Bobby Shaftoe’ C18; “kite – the belly” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “their kites were byeth empty an’ sair” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.186 1824; “with his kite full o’ yell” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.394 C19/mid; “...hand in hand toddled hyem/Varry oft wi’ howl kites (empty bellies) an’ torn duds” *Crawhall* Newc 1888; “fill yer kite” *IA* S’m 1950s,60s; “a pain in the kyte” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Worcs. NE 2001: in low use. *Plus* “hungry kited” *Marshall* Newc p.23 1823

kittle 1. to tickle, 2. ticklish, tricky

1. “me Nancy kittled me fancy” Reed *Border Ballads* ca1800; “kittle – to tickle” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “kittle – to tickle, to enliven” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Many’s the time I’ve kittled ma hinny” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “to kittle the fire” *GP* S’m 1950s; “kittle – tickle, ticklish” Tanfield Lea 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON kitla]

2. “if an ewe be kittle on her yower” (sensitive) *Raine* MS EYorks 1641; “kittle – ticklish, hard, difficult: ‘kittle wark’, ‘kittle weather’, ‘a kittle question’, ‘a kittle horse’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “the times are kittle and we have little” Durham 1839; “kittle – ticklish, excitable; requiring delicate or judicious handling or management; uncertain, difficult” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “ah was as kittle and fresh as ah iwer was i’ ma life” (lively) *Parker* Tyne Valley p.73 1896; “she’s kind o’ kittle i’ the temper, whiles” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “At sic a kittle time, ye know, Yen tells ye ony thing to please” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s. *Plus* “set the mousetrap kittley, so it’s almost ready to go off or be sprung” MM 2005 re Washington

kitty jail, holding cell

“they were handed off to the Ketty for the asolt” *Errington* p.71, Felling/Heworth re 1800s; “Kitty – a Newcastle word for the House of Correction” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Kitty – [a name formerly given to – 1846] the house of correction in Newcastle” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “shut up.. or aw’ll wawk ye byeth off ti the kitty” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.444 1862; “Kitty – policeman’s lock-up” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, nYx

kizzen to dry out, shrink

“kizzen – any thing in cooking which has got burnt and dried” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “kized or kizzened – parched or dried: ‘kizzened meat’ – meat too much roasted” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “kizzen – to overbake” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931, sim Wheatley Hill 2004 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. See also **guizen, wizen’d**

knaa to know

“Aw know it weel” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “whie, dinnet ye know...” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.352 C19/mid; “aw divn’t know” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “a storee aw naw to be true” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “de ye not knaa?” Coxhoe 1916; “if he had knaad” Coxhoe 1916; “A din knaa” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “dinaa” (don’t know) *IA* S’m 1950s, 60s; “dive’nt naa” Roker C20/mid; “A diwent knaa” *VIZ* 37 ca.1990. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth. NE 2001: knaa and dinaa, both in use. [OE cnáwan]

knack to speak affectedly

“to knack or nack – to speak finely or affect a fine soft pronunciation. applied to those who speak in the Southern dialect” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “knack – to speak finely, or affectedly” *Grose* 1787; “knack – to speak affectedly, to ape a style beyond the speaker’s education” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. *Plus* “the Nack Pit” Seaham C19/mid (perhaps after affectations of 3rd Marquis of Londonderry, its owner)

knack to hurt

“Ow that knacks” (when something hurts considerably) *DS Stockton C20/2*. Plus “knacked – tired out” Trimdon 2002 Q

knack-kneed knock-knead

“knack-knee’d Mat” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “knack-knee’d – in-knee’d” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Tyne

knoop see **cloud-berry**

knowl see **nool**

kranky see **cranky**

kreible see **crible**

krissnin see **kersen**

kye cattle

“kye – cows” *Ray* 1674; ‘cattle’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; “kye or kie – the plural of cow” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “The sheep’s in the meadow, the kye’s in the the corn” *Denham Tracts* C19; “milk t’kye” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE c’y pl. – for sg. see **coo**]

kyek cake, any round shaped loaf or cake

“it’s a bonny fight fer a bit kyek – hard to make a living” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950. See also **stotty-kyek**, **spice-kyek**

kyevil see **cavil**

kytle light jacket

ex. Teesside 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Nth [compare Norw. kitte, Gm Kittle]

L

laa 1. low, 2. law

1. “the law end, the toon what the caw lrlind” *D'm Chron* 28 Apr 1865 re Trimdon; “he wiz varyy laa doon” (in very low spirits) *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation C'd, W'd, N'd

2. “laa – law, low” *Dodds Tanfield Lea C20/2*

labber to splash about “splashing and labbering about i' the tide” *Marshall G'head* 1806; ‘floundering, struggling, or labouring in water’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “labber – to dabble in water” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Som

lace to wallop, lash

“if he says that again I'll lace him” *IA S'm* 1950s, 60s; “also meant heavily defeated at football or cricket; we got laced or we laced them” *JS Easington C20/mid*; ‘to belt s.one’ *Tyneside C20/mid Q*; “lace into s.one – attack” *Newc* 2001 Q; “lace into him” *Jarrow* 2005 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. [OFr *lacier*]. *Plus* “lacing – a good beating” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

lad boy

ex. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “lad – a male sweetheart: ‘Tom Cubberson’s maw lad’” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; ‘boy, youth’ *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; [plural] ‘a group of comrades, not always young people – Hawk’s Lads, etc’ *Graham Geordie* 1979; “lads – Newcastle United, comrades” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “Oh lad!” (mild expletive) *S'm* 2003 via BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ME *ladde*]

ladgeful bad

“ladgeful – used for expressing how bad something is: ‘She’s f***in’ ladgeful hor, man’” *Charver* 2000–2002

laid in not working

“‘laid in’ – in a colliery is when it [had] given up working” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “wor pit was laid in” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.294 1842; “laid-in – a pit that has ceased working for an indefinite period” *Nicholson* 1880; “Laid off – discontinued. The invariable description of a pit which is not working is ‘laid off’ or ‘laid in’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “laid in – pit closed, e.g. coal exhausted, uneconomic” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD'm

laidly loathsome

“laidly, laithly – foul, loathsome, disgustingly ugly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘The laidley worm of Spindleston-Heugh’ poem in *Ritson* 1809 (N'd). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd. [loathly]

laggans

‘staves of a tub’ *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “black laggie – wooden dish with handle, for children” *C19 D'm*. [ON 1 gg]

lake 1. to play, 2. game(s)

1. ex. *Ray* 1674, *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “laking – playing, or playful games” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “laik – to play” *Upper Teesdale* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [OE *lācan*, ON *leika*]

2. “leeve thi laykes and lightnes” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “lakes – sports, games” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849. *Plus* “laker – a person engaged in sport” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “laking, baby-lakin – a child’s toy, a plaything” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Playlaking – a simpleton” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

lalock, laylock lilac

“iv her brite lalock frock” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.562 1879; “laylock” *JO* re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill, ca.1900 in *Nth Words*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

lames injuries

“he’s got his lames – had his share of pit injuries” *EP Southwick C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth

landing area of pit

‘a stopping place on the engine plane’ *Nicholson* 1880; “landin’ – pit tub standage” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

languij fine language

“languij – language esp. flowery” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

lant urine

ex. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: W’d, Yx, C’d, Lx, Ches, Dev, Shr. [OE, ON hland]

lantered held up, delayed

ex. *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Yx

lap to wrap

“a clathe samen lapped” (folded together) *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “lapt in a coverlet” *Raine MS Newcastle*, 1610; “he craaled away an lapped he’s tail/ten times roond Pensher Hill” ‘Lambton Worm’ 1867; “lapped up in a puddin’ clout – wrapped” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “lap – wrap, perimeter, water, seat above knees of sitter” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [MDu lappen;?influenced by Fr vloper]

lap leapt

“...the keel went bump ‘gainst Jarrow/An’ three o’ th’ bullies lap oot” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805; “lap – preterite of leap: ‘the horse lap the wall’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* “Up lup awd Frank” (pret.) *Marshall G’head* 1806. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. *Plus* “young bairns lapt fra their bed asleep” *Marshall Newc* p.17 1823. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco. [OE hléapan]. See also **lowp**

lare learning

“aw’d pick’d up some bits o’ lare” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “the corner-styen of a’ wor lare” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.274 1843 (T.Wilson). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, Yx. [OE lár]

larn to teach

“no man of the crafte learne his wife, his daughter, or anye woman to weave” *Raine MS York* 1607; “the [school] mistress larned me to wright” *Errington* p.32 Felling/Heworth re 1780s; “laim them aul ye can” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “to larn the children” *Coxhoe* 1916. ‘to teach, to learn’ *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE leornian, ‘to learn’, ‘teach’]

lass young woman, sweetheart, wife

“lasse” (a working girl) *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “When bigger I grew/I cuddled the lassez” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “May ... each lass her laddy cherish” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.46 1812; “Till he gets away hyem tiv his lass an’ the news” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “‘wor lass’ – his lawful wedded wife, but sometimes this a union unblessed by the church” *Dobson Tyne* 1969; “wor lass – my wife” *South Shields C20/2 (Q)*, *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth. [ON *lasqa ‘unmarried’]

late to seek

“late” *Ray* 1674 re C’d; “late or lait” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “lait, late – to seek, search for a thing: ‘lait it while you finnd it’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON leita]

latt a lath, a thin piece of wood

ex. *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “as thin as a latt” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; *RM Norton C20/mid*, *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [lath]

law a hill

“lauue – a hill” *Finchale* (und., C14th?); “law – a hill or eminence, whether natural or artificial” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE hláew]

laylock see **lalock**

lea a scythe

ex. Upper *Teesdale* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON lé]

leach hard work

“leach – hard-work, great fatigue, a word frequent among the miners in the North” *Kennet* 1690s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: obsol.

lead to conduct, transport

“ledynge ... garsell furthe of the woods to the ... hegges” *Raine MS York* 1530/31; “lead – to carry or cart: in the North they lead coals” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “lead – to carry, harvest: ‘leadin’ cwols” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “To lead a horse and cart; practically ‘leading’ is equivalent to ‘hauling’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “lead – [to] carry esp. on horse-pulled cart” *JB Shildon C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids

learn a flame

ex. *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, D’m. [OE léoma]

learners ripe nuts

“lemurs – ripe nuts that separate easily from the husk” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “brownlemur – a ripe brown hazel-nut” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids

leazes pasturage

“leazes – common pasture belonging to the freemen of Newcastle” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “leazes – gently sloping fields” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE l’æz]

led un spare tub (at coal face)

“led – in coal mining [of] any spare article: ‘a led prop’, ‘led trams’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “led-tub – a led tub means a spare one for the putter to leave empty with the hewer whilst the full one is being put to the flat; the empty one being filled by the hewer against the return of the putter with another empty one” *Nicholson* 1880. “O, hinney, put the led un in!/An’ let’s hed [have it] full!” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s

lee 1. to lie, fib, 2. a lie

1. “G—d forgih mih for leeing” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “If wark’s ignoble, Ruskin lees” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s “lee – lie” *Tanfield Lea*, 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth. [OE léogan]. *Plus* “wor preacher he’s nee leer” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.422 1862; “he’s an aaful leear when he starts” *Irwin Tyne* 1970

2. “it was nowt but lees he told him” *Marshall Newc* p.19 1823; “without a word ov a lee” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “th’ biggest lee” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “ah canna tell a lee” *Irwin Tyne* 1970

lee urine

ex. *Raine MS att. York* 1649/50. *Plus* “Chemmerly – urine kept in a large stone bottle and used for washing clothes” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. [lye from OE léag]

leet 1. light (noun), 2. to alight, 3. light in weight

1. "the leet of anithor day" Coxhoe 1916; "atween the twee leets" (at twilight) *Embleton Newc* 1897; "giv us a leet" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation, esp. Nth

2. "let on the pavement" *Errington* p.50 Felling/Heworth re 1790s; "the great black owl that's let on Cappy's hearth" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.310 1827; "fore they can leet [from a train]" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.350 C19/1; "letten – p.p. of to let, or to light" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

3. "as leet as a fethor" *Chater Newc* 1880

left-handed 1. **cuddy-handed**, 2. **cuddy-wifted**, 3. **cowie-handed**, 4. **car-handed**, 5. **cack-handed**

1. "'Cuddy-handed' is left-handed" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; exx. *JS E'ton*, 1950s; *MB Coxhoe C20/mid*

2. "cuddy-handed was used in Easington – cuddy-wifted in Ryhope/Silksworth" *JS Easington* re 1950s; "cuddy wifter – anyone who is left-handed" *ER M'bro C20/2*, M'bro, S'd, B'p Auck 2001 Q, eD'm C20/2 Q

3. "kow paw – left-handed" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "coo-paad – left-handed" *Heslop N'd* 1890s; "cowie handed" nwd'm C20/mid Q, Blyth 2002 Q; "cowie – left-handed e.g. batsman *JB Dinnington Colliery C20/2*; "cowhanded/cowie-handed/cack-handed – lefthanded" *Irwin Tyne* 1970.

4. "car-handed – left handed" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, Ches.

5. "cack-handed" (left-) S'd 2002. Q, *Irwin* 1970

leish see **lish**

lest lasting

How are ye leesting? (doing, keeping) *Border Notes (MS)* by Joseph Crawhall (1880) p.37

let wi't let on

"let wi't – make known, let on: 'ye mun niwver let wi't'" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849

letch ditch or gutter

"unto the full letch or sike of the said more" *Raine MS Winston*, 1606; "a leak or leche – a gutter" *Kennet* 1690s as D'm; "letch – a swang, or marshy gutter" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "letch – a ditch or gutter through which water runs" *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: lache – Nth, C18. [?OE *leccan* 'to wetten']

lib to castrate (an animal)

"one man is to holde them [i.e. lambs] ... whiles they are libbed" *Raine MS EYorks* 1641; "lib – to castrate" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810, *Bell MS Newc* 1830s, *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE *lib* 'doctoring', Du *lubben* 'to geld']

library a library book

"Library (laay:bu:ri) – a book got from a library (always used): 'Hes thoo gotten a lib'ry?'" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; *GP S'm* 2000. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm, Yx, Lincs, Oxf, Essex

lick 1. to beat, to overcome, 2. a beating (plural noun)

1. "to lick – to beat" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "he lick'd them all se fine" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.449 1862; "he cud lick aad Bobby clean away" *MC Tyne May* 1881; "Aw lick'd him te the flat" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *liccian*]

2. "licks – a sound beating, a severe chastisement" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *Plus* "fullick – a forceful blow" *Wade South Moor* 1966; "fullikin – cheating at marbles" *Dodds Tanfield Lea C20/2*

lig to lie (down)

"lig – to li" *Ray* 1674, *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "lig – to lie down, to rest the limbs" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "lig a bit langer" *Lakeland* re C'd 1856; "it ligs very fair for t' sun", *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "where does she lig?" *NCM wN'd* 1900–1901; "liggin – lying e.g. snow on the fells" *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teedale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [OE *licgan*, ON *liggja*]

liggins 1. quoits. 2. testicles

1. “ligger or lignie – a carved wooden lignum vitae coit for playing at doddart, or the game of trippit and coit” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Lignies – quoits made of lignum vitae wood, used in the game ‘Spell and Nur’.” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. [lignum vitae]. See also **marbles**

2. ex. *MWTyneside* 1960s, *Dobson Tyne* 1973

like used as emphatic at end of phrase, esp. a question

“How’s that, like?” S’m per BG 2003

likeness photograph

ex. *Coxhoe* 1916; *Spennymoor C20/mid*; “getten his likeness tyun – photo taken” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx, Norf. *Plus* “Ars ganna hev mi photeens tuk” *CT New Herrington* 1930s

limmer rascally

“[calling him a] hold eeyd limber theiff” *Raine MS ?D’m* 1566; “limmer thieves” *RR Weardale* 1569; “limmer – a person of loose manners, a worthless idle person” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

limmers, limbers wagon shafts

“limmer, limmers – the shaft or shaftes of a cart: ‘she’s a lang limmer’ a tall unsightly female” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “limmers or limbers – the shafts by which a horse or pony is attached to the tubs” *Nicholson* 1880, sim *Moreland Seaham* 1980; “I was able to yoke a pony into his portable shafts, called ‘limbers’” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.70 1910s; “limbers provided rigid coupling so that the pony could ‘hold back’ on undulating ground” *Northumbrian III C20/2* re Burradon Colliery. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [AN limon ‘shaft’ (of cart)]

ling heather

“lynge – ling, used for covering the mill at Baxtanford” *Finchale* (1480); “ling – heath (*erica vulgaris*)” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; ex. *wD’m* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON lyng]

lingey fit, active

“lingey – active, strong, and able to bear great fatigue” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “lingy – active, strong, able to bear fatigue – also in the sense of tall, athletic, vigorous” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Nth. [OFr linge ‘supple’]

linin’s winter underpants

‘long fleecy underpants’ *JO* re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill, 1930s-1940s in *Nth Words*; “Linings – pitmen’s drawers, fastened at the knee by strings” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “langlininz – long johns” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; ‘underpants’ *Graham Geordie* 1979

linn waterfall

“linn – a cascade” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “lin, linn – a cascade (D’m and N’d)” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; *Smith Weardale* 1883. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, Lx. [OE hlynn, Gaelic linne]. See also **foss**

linty linnet, wren

“linties – linnets” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s, *JO* re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill 1930s, 1940s in *Nth Words*; “as active as a lintie” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, Yx. [lint-white]

lippen to depend on

“I lippened on you to join me” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “I lippen on him doing it” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. *Plus* “to lippen – close your finger over your thumb (as a magical sign)” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s

lish nimble, active

"Whe's like my Johnny,/Sae leish, sae blithe, sae bonny?" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.45 1812; "leish, lish – nimble, strong, active, stout, alert, lithe" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "gan oot tiv his wark, leesh an' fresh" (fit), "leeshest an' strangest" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "lish – strong and active" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; 'lithesome' *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; "whilst t' auld 'uns wished th' waur a bit lisher" *Lakeland re C'd* 1901. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

lisk groin

"a browne quie with a whit liske" *Raine MS Haydon Bridge 1579*; "lisk – that part of the side which is between the hips and the short ribs" *Kennet* 1690s as Yx; "a pain in the lisk" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; 'the flank, the groin' *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; 'thigh' *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; 'the toppermost part of the leg on the inside or groin; the muscle or sinew at this part of the leg' *DO D'ton C20/2*; 'groin' *Wheatley Hill* 2002 Q; "he's ruptured his lisk area" *Cockfield* 2004 E. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [ON líóske; compare Dan. lyske]

list inclined, eager

"List – desire, energy: 'I haven't list to gan across', 'He hesn't list to did' (do it)" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "isn't list to do nowt – can't be bothered" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [OE lystan (vb), ON lysta]. *Plus* "it maks me narvish an unlisty" *Embleton Tyne* 1897

loggerheed a moth, etc.

"Loggerhead – a coloured butterfly. Large moths are also sometimes called 'loggerheads.'" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "loggerheed – large butterfly or moth" *South Moor (Stanley)* 2003 (M); "A've been doon the born coppin loggerheeds" (response to the question "Wheor hev yee been?" – meaning "Mind your own business") *ED Benwell C20/1*; 'large moth' *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*, *Ch-le-St* 2002 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this sense, N'd, D'm, C'd. *Plus* "logger – moth" *S'd, Dawdon* 2001 Q. See also **butterfly**

lolly the tongue

"lollie" *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; "oppen thy gob hinny and put out thy lolly" *Graham Geordie* 1979

lone, loan lane

"stannin at the lown end" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s;

"lone, loan – a lane, a narrow passage" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "loan – a place for milking cows: 'the cow loan'" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "back-lon" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, C'd, Yx. [OE lane]

lonnin lane

"the amendinge of Newbridge lonninge" *Raine MS Newbottle* 1581; "Haughton loning leading from Sunderland-by-sea to Darlington" *Raine MS* 1673; "the fiend gea down the loaning with her" *Rothbury C18/2*; "gallop away down the lonnon" *Green Wearside* 1879 re C19/1; "loaning, lonnin – a lane or byeroad" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "a lang lonnen wuv hooses en shops on bi'ath sides" *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; "the lads an' the lasses i' t' lonnin" *Lakeland re C'd* 1901; "lonnin – lane" *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: loaning – Sco, Ire; lonning – Nth. [little lane]

loof, leuf the palm of the hand

"leuf, luff, luif – the palm of the hand: 'If ye'll scart maw leuf, I'll claw yur elbow'" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "the gipsey ... crumpled weel my luif and glowered sair at it" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "loof, lufe – the open hand or palm" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [ON lófe]

look, lowk to weed

"lowk – to weed corn" *Ray* 1674; "for 3 days looking corn, 1 s." *Raine MS Appleton Roebuck* 1692; "look – [to] weed esp. in cornfield" *JB Shildon C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, parts Mids. [OE lúcan, ON lúka]

looksta, etc.

"there's a canny little lad gawn up the riggin, look 'e" *JS South Shields C19/mid*; "looks-t'ee – look you!" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "why, lucks thee..." *Wearside Tales* 1879; "lucka!/Lucks-ta!" (take note) *Tyneside Grammar* 1880s; "Looks-tha – an expression to gain attention" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "lukstha klip, that" (look at the state of that) *JS Easington C20/mid*, *JP S'm C20/2*; "lucksta – look thou" *Tanfield Lea* 1960; "looka – a shout or greeting" *JS Ch-le-St C20/2* www.ebook3000.com

lop flea

exx. *Ray* 1674, *Bailey Co.* Durham 1810; “as whick as onny lop” *MC Tyne* May 1881; “she’s as peert [lively] as a lop” *Embleton Tyne* 1897, *Cuddy Cairt Newc* 1917; “he’s got mair in his heid thin lops” (is clever) *Ashington C20/mid*; “only ‘fit as a lop” *PG H’pool C20/2*, *D’ton C20/mid*, *Graham Geordie* 1979; “lop – a small domestic insect ... widely used in the cinema trade in the early days” *Dobson Tyne* 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. NE 2001: in use. [ON *hloppa, cf. Swed. loppe]. *Plus* “loppy – flea-ridden” *JB Shildon C20/mid*; “penny lopy” (a cheap cinema) *DB G’head* 1950s; sim. “the penny lop” *Graham Geordie* 1979

lopper to curdle

“lopper – to coagulate; loppered milk – milk that sours and curdles without the application of an acid” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “lopperd – putrified, as lopperd milk” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “loppered milk” (curds) *Embleton Newc* 1897; “Loppit – sour milk, curd milk” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, EA. [ON hløypa]. *Plus* “earn (pronounced yearn) – to curdle milk or cause it to coagulate” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

loss to lose

“we’ll niver loss seet o’ Johnny” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.460 1862; “throo lossen th’ tranes” (missing) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “Ryenhats! She losses them on piece!” (from piecework i.e. encouragement to do s.thing faster) *AK re Newc C20/2*; “A’ve loss that!” *S’m* 1990 per BG, sim. *Wood Tees* 2002; “lossing sight, yersesl – letting standards slip” *MS N.Shields* 2004. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Ire, Nth, SW. *Plus* “losser – something lost, for example a lost ball ‘It’s a losser!’” *MM S.Shields C20/2*

lound quiet, calm

“It’s varra lound ti-neet” *Umpleby Staithes* c. 1935. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general [?ON, compare Ice. lygn]

loup see lowp

low (rhymes with ‘how’) 1.a flame, a light, 2. to flare, to burn

1. “the house had been in brynnande low” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “had up the low” *Collier’s Rant Newc C18/2*; “[the gas] was just coming ... he called to all men and boys to put out their lows” (candles) *Errington* p.59 *Felling/Heworth* re 1800s; “the toon’s iv a low” (afire with gossip) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.273 1843 (T.Wilson); “trying the lowe’ an operation by which gas is detected in a coal mine” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “jillusey’s crewl ast graave: t’cwols ont er cwols uv fire, whilk hes a maist tremendous lowe” *Moore Weardale* 1859; “shine a low – to direct the light of a lamp or candle in a required direction” *Nicholson* 1880; “if luck wad shine the lowe” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “While ye toast yor shins afore the lowe” (fire) *MC Tyne* May 1891; “Low (luw) – a flame, hence ‘lowrope,’ hempen rope steeped in tar, to burn as a torch” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; ‘a flame’ *Tanfield Lea* 1960, *Viereck* re *Gateshead* 1966; ‘flame from candle or fire’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; “Gi’us a low” *Wade South Moor* 1966. *Plus* “lillilow – a bright flame, a blaze” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids. NE 2001: not in use. [ON loge]

2. “lowe – flame, vb. to flame” *Ray* 1674; “low – to flame in Yorksh, as the fire lows” *Kennet* 1690s; “to low – to flame, to blaze” *Jamieson Scots Dictionary* 1808; “doon dunny Tyneside the fornaces lowe” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.537 1886

lowie money

“lowie” *Charver* 2000-2002; “lower” *Wheatley Hill* 2003 Q. [Romany ‘luwo’]. See also **brass, wedge, butterfly**

lowp, loup to leap

“lope – to leap” *Ray* 1674; “An’ lowp se clever” (dance) *Marshall G’head* 1806; “loupin an skippin aboot” *Tracts* 4, *Newc* ca. 1820; “fit to loup a yett or stile” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “loup – to leap, bound, jump” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “They dore just as seun lowp frae the land above the meun” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Aw lowpt clean ower the stock” *Barrass*; “See we can lowp the far’est”, “When I was young and lusty, I could lowp a dyke” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “we lowped over walls and fences” *JS Easington C20/mid*; “cracket-lowping” (jumping over) *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “Lowp oot fer the Central” (alight...) *Dobson Tyne* 1969; “lowp – to jump over” *Wheatley Hill* 2002 Q; “Loupin alang – sort of a half gallop” *MS N.Shields* 2004. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in common use. [ON hl upa]. *Plus* “lad-louper – a forward girl” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “a loup – a leap” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “I’m ganna tak the dog for a lowp” (walk) *IL B’p Auckland C20/2*. See also **leap, dyke**

lowse 1. loose, free (adj), 2. to set free, unyoke, loosen, 3. end of work

1. “At neets, when frae wark aw get lowse” *WM Newc C19/2*; “th’ lowse wheel” (loose) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “the evil beast that’s brokken

lowse” Coxhoe 1916; “thoos lowseitheheed” (demented) *Dobson* Tyne 1972; “lowz flatoot – expression of anger” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “the sneck’s lowse” East Boldon 1985. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, wMids [ON lauss ‘free, loose’]

2. “in about 10 minutes, they lowsed the seasing (cause of stoppage) and lowered (us) to the botum” *Errington* p.61 Felling/Heworth re 1800s; “louse – to unbind, to release, to leave of work” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “lowse – to make loose, untie” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “she lows’d her hat” (unpinned) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “Aw cud yoke’m or lowse’m “ (pit ponies) *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “es pictures lows’d out yit? – have they come out from the cinema?” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “has church lows’d yit?” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “lowse – loose hold of it” *Dobson* Tyne 1973; “Louz th’ flat out – lose it, lose yr temper?” *CT* Herrington C20/mid; “the pit’s lows’d out – stopped for the day” *Moreland* Seaham 1980; “Aa’ll lowse you out” [of baby from pram] Seaham 2003 via BG

3. “frae gannen doon te lowse”, “quiet noo, for lowse is call’d “ *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “What time diz thoo louz?” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “pleeze sir izit varni lowse?” (end of schoolday) *Ashington* C20/1 Q; “loose or kennah – defines end of shift of work” *McBurnie* Glebe Colliery C20/mid; “we got an ‘early lowse’ – finished early” *JS* E’ton, 1950s; “Lowse was caaled at ten o’clock” (closing time) *Grieves* Tyne 1975; ‘time to knock off or finishing time’ *JM* Dawdon 1970s; “howway lads, it’s lowse – time gentlemen” *Graham* Geordie 1979. [from the unyoking of ponies at the end of a shift in the pit]

lug ear

“luggs – ears” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “the horses cock their lugs” *Oiling* G’head 1826; “a word i’ yor lugs” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.245 1827; “lug – the ear, of man or animal, or a pitcher...” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “little jugs hes lang lugs” (re children) *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; “Bye Jenny the meat’s tough as bulls lugs” *IL* Willington 1940s; “the galawae lade hees lugs back” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “Ahlthumpyalug” East Boldon 1985. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids, EA. NE 2001: in use. [ON lugg ‘a handle, s.thing to pull’]

lum chimney

“a loom or lumm a chimney” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “as black as the lume” *Bell* MS Newc 1815, sim *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “as the snaw drops doon the lum” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.399 C19/mid; “lum – the chimney of a cottage” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. NE 2001: not in use. [OFr lum ‘light’, Welsh llummm ‘chimney’. *Plus* “Chimla – chimney. Hence ‘chimla-piece.’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

lumper a work practice

“a specific job could be a lumper or lumba, meaning if it was finished before time you could go home early” *JS* Easington C20/mid

lyke wake the watching of a dead body during the night

“I will that ther shall be no yong folkes at my lyke waike but onlie xiii wydowes” *Raine* MS Richmond 1558/59; “The night it is her low lyke wake/The morn her burial day” *Reed Border Ballads* C16; ‘Lyke Wake Dirge’ Title attributed to poem, of perhaps C15/16; “lakewake or lyke-wake – the watching of a corpse previous to interment” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Lake Wake or Late Wake – sitting up with the dead from the death till the burial” *Bell* MS Newc 1815. [OE líc ‘dead body’, ON lúk]

M

maa see **my**...

Mackem see Makem

macky mackerel ex. *DP* S'm 1990s

maddle 1. to be fond of, 2. to be confused

1. "to maddle – to be fond of, to doat upon as, she maddles of this fellow" *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; "she maddles after that fellow" *Grose* 1787
2. "maddled – confounded, distracted" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "maddle – to wander, to talk inconsistently, to forget or confound objects..." *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: nYx. [from mad]

maffle to confuse

"'twad maffle ony ferryman", "like a mafflin aad man" *Haldane* Newc 1879

mafted stifled

"mafted – stifled, overdone with heat and closeness" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "mafted – tired, knocked back, gassed, etc." *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; "mafted – suffocated: "Ah's fair mafted" *Umpleby* Staithes c. 1935; "overcome by heat and/or lack of air" *PG* H'pool C20/2; "mafted – hot" B'd Castle, Weardale, Teesdale 2001 Q; 'hot and bothered' Teesdale 2001 Q; 'overheated, flushed' Teesdale 2001 Q; NE 2001: in use (Tees). *EDD* distribution to 1900: nYx, eYx. *Plus* "it's mafting in here" (of a hot airless room) Tees 2000 Q. See also **scumfish**

maggies 1. magpies, 2. Newcastle football supporters, 3. turnip lamp

1. "maggy – a provincial name for a magpie" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, W'm, Lx. NE 2001: in use. See also **piots**
2. NUFC supporters – 'the name was noted as far back as 1895. It may be significant here that the familiar black-and-white stripe shirts were first adopted in 1894' *AK*
3. "'candle in a jamjar' [used in game] 'Jackie shine the maggie'" *JB* Dinnington Colliery 1950s Q, sim. *Wade* *South Moor* C20/mid, *JR* Sacriston C20/2; "a greet big turnip, holler it oot, put in a candle, an' mek it into a maggie" *BL* Winlton 1950s; "a Halloween lamp made from a turnip was a maggie as in [the game] 'Jack shine yor maggie'" *JS* Easington C20/mid; "moggie – pit lamp" *Lore and language* re Maria Pit, Throckley C20/mid. See also **midgey**

mair more

"ne mare oh that!" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "mair wise than a king" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.187 1824; "a few mare" *MWN* M'bro 28 Jan 1860; "mair ar eight" (more than – literally over – eight) *Smith* Weardale 1883; "Wor spendin nee mair" *Irwin* Tyne 1970; "neemair" East Boldon 1985. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, N'd, Yx. [OE *mára*]

mairt meat

"mairt – a cow or ox slaughtered at Martinmas, and salted for winter store. The custom of salting meat to last throughout the inclement months was universal among our ancestors. Though less frequent, since the extensive cultivation of turnips, it still partially prevails in Northumberland..." *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: mart – Sco, N'd, D'm, C'd. [Gael. mart]

maist 1. most, 2. almost

1. "a myest horrible din" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, N.I., Nth. [OE *m'æst*]
2. "till maist yen o'clock" *Haldane* Newc 1879

maistor pit-owner

"wor maistors, an' viewers, an' sinkers" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.350 C19/1; "just te vext th' maistors" (pit owners, bosses) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "Te risk such dangers for such pay/Wad turn the maistors blue!" *Barrass Stanley 1890s*; "maistas – coal owners" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

mak, myek 1. **mak** forms, 2. **myek** forms, 3. type, variety, 4. match, equal

1. "paied for the mackinge of his clothes" *Anderson Newcastle 1616*; "div'nt ye mak' sic a rout" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.47 1812; "I'll mak' a cwot (coat) wi onny other man" *Stobbs Woodhorn C19/mid*; "mack" *Moore Weardale 1859*; "it mack it leak respectable like" *MWN 18 Feb 1860*; "med" (made) *Haldane Newc 1879*; "makkin things worse" *Hay Ushaw Moor C20/1*; "what's th' mak on 'im – what do you make of him" *Dunn B'p Auck 1950*; "th's just mak'n on" (pretending, exaggerating) *CT New Herrington 1930s*; "maks nae odds" S'm, 2000; "mak" *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid, Trimdon 2002*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: mak – Sco, D'm, sW'd, wYx, nYx, C'd; mek – C'd, wMids. NE 2001: in use. [OE macian]

2. "meayke heayst!" *Bewick Tyne 1790s*; "I'll meak ye a bow" *Marshall G'head 1806*; "myek a voyage" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.51 1823; "aw myed wour bairns cry" *Marshall G'head 1806*; "to myek me happy" *Pitman's Pay G'head 1820s*; "Myek up yor sivorl minds" *Barrass Stanley 1890s*; "aw'd myek a poor moothful for a wild beast" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.404 C19/mid; "myek us a booler mister" *JS Easington C20/mid*; "myek – make", "myed – made" *Tanfield Lea, 1960*; "mekkin' whisky" *Dobson Tyne 1970-71*; "mek some noise!" *VIZ 37 (1990)*; *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd (i.e. Newc?). [from southern pronunciation, early exx. esp. on Tyneside]

3. "mony a mack of greedy kite" *Rothbury C18/2*; "'a' mak's an' manders' varieties, different sorts" *Atkinson Cleve 1868*; "a' maks en manners o' things" *Egglestone Weardale 1870s*

4. "mack – a match: "I believe he or she has not a mack" *Bell MS Newc 1830s*; "mackless – matchless, unequaled" *Bell MS Newc 1830s*

Makem inhabitant of Sunderland or Wearside

"There were more shipyards in this one town of Sunderland than anywhere else. Likewise there were more sailors and crew to take the vessels to sea." *BS N.Shields C20/2* i.e. the shipyard workers 'mak' the ships, the crews 'tak' them to sea, and thus Mackems and Tackems are (or were) two important and populous local groups. "The first time I heard the expression was when my daughter went to work at Swan Hunters Shipyard, Newcastle, in the five years before folding. I had worked at Doxford Shipyard, Sunderland for one year in 1968 and never heard the expression. However 'you makem/we takem' is obviously a superior remark as most ships built at Sunderland were transfered to the Tyne to have the engine installed." *CT New Herrington*. "They come from the shipyards" www.urbanDictionary.com 2003; "Makem – I thought this meant anyone from Sunderland" *SM H'pool 2003*. [the implication of 'mak 'em, tak 'em' may be no more than a comment on Sunderland (traditional) pronunciation as against Newcastle 'myek' – see previous entry] See also **Jamies**

malacise do harm to

"if your ma finds out ... she'll malacise you, i.e. bray the living daylights out of you" *JS Easington C20/mid*. [?malison 'a curse', malacissant 'softening']

mally

1. "Mall – Mary" *Bell MS Newc 1815*; "Mally – a girl's name" (Mary) *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*. See also **hare**

mam see **mother**

man of any person

"Man, Bob, but Aa tell the'" *Haldane Newc 1879*; "Man, father..." *Dobson Tyne 1970*; "Man. As throughout North, used in exclamations: 'Eh, mon, aa din-aa' (Indeed, sir (or, mate), I don't know). Also used irrespective of sex" *Palgrave Hetton 1896*; "it's flat, man, Bob" *VIZ 37*, ca.1990. [OE monn – any person, male or female]

mang 1. to mix, 2. a mix

1. "mang – to mix up, to intermingle (esp. food stuffs): 'nobbut a manged oop mess'" *Atkinson Cleve 1868*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE gemang 'mixture']

2. "mang – barley or oats ground with the husk, for dogs and swine meat" *Bailey Co.Durham 1810*; "mang – a mash of bran, malt, etc." *Atkinson Cleve 1868*

marbles 1. **marvils**, 2. **muggles**, 3. **alleys**, 4. **boodies**, 5. **glassies**, 6. **liggies**, 7. **parper**, 8. **penker**, 9. **scudder**, 10. **taw**

1. "play at marvils" *JA Newc C19/mid*

2. “Muggles ... were marbles. They were also called glass allys but this expression was not frequently used.” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “we called marbles ‘muggles’” *SO re Seaham* 1940s; “the world of marbles, properly known as muggles ... the object was to hit your oponent’s muggle” *JS E’ton* 1950s; “muggels – marbles” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. “muggies” *Thornley* 2001 Q, *TR Deneside* 2004. NE 2001: in use

3. “a marble made of alabaster is... called an Alley” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; ‘a marble made of alabaster’ *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “glass alley” *FS Shotton Colliery* 1930s, *JS Easington*, 1950s; “‘alley’ for a marble ... ‘blood alley’ for the marble with red in it” *SO re Seaham* 1940s, *RC Dawdon C20/mid* (as main word); “blood alley – glass marble with red glass in it; snot alley – glass marble with white glass in it” *ER M’bro C20/2*; “blood alley – glass marble with red in it” *Teesside* 2001 Q; “pop-alley – pop-bottle stopper as marble” *Gateshead* 2001 Q. NE 2001: in use, esp. eD’m [alabaster]

4. “boodies – a clay type marble” *JG Annfield Plain* 1930s. [clay marbles seems to have been typical of the C18]

5. “glassies were used when playing to knock out marbles from a marked circle” *JG Annfield Plain* 1930s; “glassies – cheap Woolworths marbles” *RC Dawdon C20/mid*

6. “liggies” *Tyneside*. 2001 Q. See also **liggies** [*lignum vitae*]. NE 2001: in low use, e.g. Tyne

7. “sometimes a glass alley, usually marbled white and a colour, was called a parper” *JS Easington* 1950s

8. “The ‘panker’ or ‘penker’ is a large marble, made of stone or iron” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Wor Geordie’s lost ’is penker” (song, C20/1); “penker – large marble” *FS Shotton Colliery* 1930s; “the first boy threw a penker – much larger than the other marbles (boodies) – the next boy tried to hit it” *JG Annfield Plain* 1930s; “pot penkers – larger again, not of glass but of earthenware/china clay” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “pengka – very large marble half-two inch diameter, usually thrown” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “penker or benker” *Roker C20/mid*; “penker – stone marble” *cenD’m* 2001 Q; “an old ballbearing” *JS Easington*, 1950s; “iron benger – steel ball bearing” *RC Dawdon C20/mid*; “iron benker” *S’d* 2001 Q; *EDD* distribution to 1900: panker/penker – eD’m. NE 2001: in use

9. scudder (the shooting marble): “me best scudder” *JS Easington*, 1950s

10. “taw – the shooting marble” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849, *Hitchin re Seaham* p.55 1910s; “tawry – the name of a favourite marble ... called taw in the south” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “hoo’ll tyek the taws” (special marble, prize) *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Taw (taa:). A boy in playing marbles always has his fancy marble to shoot with: this he calls his ‘taw’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; but... “we never used the word ‘taw’ for the ‘shooting’ marble” *JS Easington* 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

mare see **mair**

marler scamp

‘a scamp (used affectionately)’ *AM S.Shields C20/2*

marra, marrow 1. workmate, close associate, 2. one of pair, a match, an equal, 3. to match

1. “O stay at hame, my marrow!” (wife to husband) Reed *Border Ballads* C16; “marrow – a companion or fellow” *Ray* 1674; “a marrow – in Yorkshire, a fellow or companion...” *Kennet* 1690s; “me and my marrow was ganning to wark” *Colliers Rant Newc* C18/2; “marrow – a companion, a fellow, an associate” *Jamieson Scots Dictionary* 1808; “...seeing the dog upon his marrow, evaded me to rescue the other” *Errington* p.91 *Felling/Heworth* re 1810s; “he and his ‘marra’” *The Maister* p.34 re keelmen on the Tyne, 1800–1840; “Marrow – an old word signifying brother but still used about Newcastle, as the name of a companion or acquaintance...” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “his marrow [opponent] declared he was best” *Tracts* 4, *Newc* ca. 1820; “marrow – a mess-mate, companion, or associate – an equal” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Jim, like his marrows, drunk nowt but beer” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.483 1870; “...men term each other as their marrow when working in the same shift together. They term the men following them at the same work in the next shift their cross-marrows” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery*, C20/mid; “marra – workmate, friend” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “workin’ marras in the pit” *Grieves* 1975; “cheers, marra” *S’m* 2003 (youth to bus-driver). *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Scot, Nth. [ON margr ‘friendly’] NE 2001: in common use. *Plus* “half marrow – one of two boys who manage a team, of about equal age” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “half-marrow – a middlesized lad, two such being required in a coalpit, to put a corf of coals equal to a man” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “yor mates at Sunderland” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.494 1871. See also **billy**

2. “...the relative term in pairs, as one glove or shoe is not marrow to another” *Kennet* 1690s; “this pair of gloves or shoes are not marrows” *Grose* 1787; “marrows – fellows; two alike, or corresponding to each other; as a pair of gloves, a pair of stockings, a pair of shoes” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “marrows – two alike, a pair” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “T’ ane’s t’ very marrow o’ t’ither” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Nanny bowt a pair o’ stockings an; they warrent marrows” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

3. “bad him match him with his marrows” (in combat) Reed *Border Ballads* C16; “marrow me that” is a Newcastle term for any thing good” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “the fine things ... we can marra iv Canny Newcassel” *Marshall Newc* 1823; “the Butcher Bank is bad (hard) to marrow” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.194 1842; “thor isn’t a hoose ony way can marrow ’t” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “An’ smash! if thor Newcassel lyeddies/Coul’d

mask to infuse

"mask – to infuse: 'mask the tea'" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "ah hennot masked the tea yit" *Embleton Tyne* 1897; "mask the tea thin am clammin!" *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [Nth form of mash? Dan. maske] *Plus* "maskfat – mashing vat, for brewing" *Finchale* 1837. See also **mast**

maslin, masselgem mixed grain

"myxtilio – maslin. A mixture of wheat and rye" *Finchale* 1303; "Wheat sold from 56s to 66s. Maslin 44s to 52s." *Newc Courant* 6 Sep 1828; "massilgam – maslin: wheat and rye ground together and generally baked with leaven" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "masselgem – mixed meal" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: maslin – general; masselgem – NE. [AN mestilon 'mixed grain', OE mæstling 'brass' (i.e. alloy), in MidE used of anything mixed components]. *Plus* "this silly and affected massiljim, intelarding [the Newcastle dialect] with low cockneyisms and what they consider fine words" *Chater Newc* 1880 p.13

mast, mass to mash, infuse

"our family has used 'mast the teas' for years" *JS Easington C20/mid*; "mash" *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*, *ER M'bro C20/2*; "mass" *KH Stockton C20/2*; "mass or mast – infusing tea" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; "mast" *Todd Tyne* 1977, *Trimdon* 2002 Q; "wor lass's ganna mask the tye (tea)" *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: mass – C'd, wYx; mesh – wYx; meysh – Lx. See also **mask**

maugh brother-in-law

"meaugh – my wives brother or sisters husband" *Ray* 1674; "maug, meaugh – a wife's brother" *Kennet* 1690s as D'm; "maugh – a brother-in-law" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "maff or my maff is used to express the relation between such as marry two sisters" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm, Yx but obsol. [ON mágr]

maum/y well ripe

"maumy – mellow and juiceless" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "maum – mellow, possessing the softness of maturity or ripeness" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: malmy – Sco, NE [OE mealm-, ON malmr]

maunder to wander, esp. in the mind

"maunder – to wander about in a thoughtful manner; to be tedious in talking, etc." *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "maundering – listless, idle" *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; "maunder – to think, talk or act dreamily" *Gibson C'd* 1880; "if you're up in the early hours of the morning when everyone else is abed, you're a 'midnight maunderer'" *PG H'pool C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

mawk maggot

"there will malkes breede" *Raine MS EYorks* 1641; "mawks – maggots" *Kennet* 1690s as Yx; "mawk, mawk – a maggot" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "mawk – a maggot, the lava of a flesh-fly" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "maaks – maggots (as on sheep's back in summer)" *JB Shildon C20/mid*; "mawk – a miserable person" *Wood Tees* 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [ME ma, oek, ON maokr]

mawky magotty

"maakee – magotty" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*, "maaky" *Graham Geordie* 1979; "marky – flea-ridden" cen D'm 2001 Q; "In Teesside 'mawky' is used to describe a miserable, depressing person. In fact they can be called a mawk. I've heard a colour scheme described as 'mawky'." *Wood M'bro* 2002

maybe

"mavies" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.45 1812; "mebby, maybees, mavies – perhaps, probably" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "mavies – short for 'may be'" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "maybees I may, maybees I may not" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "they'll mebby git browght doon a peg" *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; "mevies" *Wearside Tales* 1879; "mewvies, mebbe, mewvy" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "mewvies" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; *JO re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill*, 1930s-1940s in *Nth Words*; "mewvee – maybe" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; "mebbes, mewvies – perhaps" *Tanfield Lea*, 1960; "maybies aa wull gan" *Graham Geordie* 1979; "mebeez – maybe" *VIZ* 37 ca.1990. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in varous similar forms, Sco, Nth

mazer someone impressive or weird

“Nanny’s a maysor” (a phenomenon) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “leuked ... astonished to see us such a mashor” *Robson Newc* C20/1; ‘strange, amazing person’ Dinnington 1950s Q; ‘a wonder, an eccentric’ *Graham* Geordie 1979; “maiza – a wonder” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d

mazzled confused

“I’m just mazed with thinking on it” (confounded) *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “maiz’t, maizelt – stupified” *Gibson* C’d 1880; “The word mazzled (rhymes with dazzled) means all churned up/mixed up in the mind/head in a spin/in a flummox. Used in the context, ‘Eeh, Arv’e had a mazzlin day, Ahr din’t knar if A’m cumin or gannin’, or ‘A’m mazzled’.” *BJ* re Cockfield, ca.1900. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Nth

me

“uz, huz” Embleton, Newc 1897; ‘us’ for ‘me’ Coxhoe 1916; “us” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. Used emphatically: “I love soup me” (Mr Soup on seaham.com website 2002); “Aa’ve just finisht work, me, like” S’m 2003 via BG. *Plus* “masell” Coxhoe 1916, “mesel – myself” Tanfield Lea 1960. See also **my**

meat food

“we cannot de without wor meet” *Tracts* 6 Newc ca. 1880; “meat – food, e.g. rabbit meat [is] a lettuce, dandelions, etc.” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; “butcher meat” (red meat) AK Newc 1950s (E) [OE mete ‘(solid) food’]

meetin’s at midway

“meetin’s – midway down the pit; or where the full and empty corves or baskets pass each other” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “Wen gannen up en doon th’ shaft/Th’ paitint caige did threetin/For te tuaik wor audin’s life/If thae stopt it meeten” (at halfway) ‘Th’ Raw Between th’ Caiges’ *Armstrong* Tanfield 1880s, 1890s; “meetings – where the cages pass each other in the shaft, or where the full and empty sets pass each other on a self-acting incline” *Nicholson* 1880; “meetins – wagons passing on gravity haulage” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

meg a halfpenny

ex. *Carlaw* Teesside 1870; “We’ll never let a trashy meg/Between us myek discord” *NWC* 13 May 1893; “I haven’t got a meg” *GP* S’m re C20/mid; “meg – small value coin (halfpenny?)” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: mag – general

meg to spit

“he’s megging at us” *PG* H’pool 1998

meggy centipede, etc.

“meggy-monny-legs (a millipede) D’m. It is also called meg-monny-feet” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “meggy-mony-feet – a centipede” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “meg-o-mony feet – millipede” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco. *Plus* “monifeet – centipede” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849

mekanik colliery craftsman

ex. *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

mell hammer

“mell – a mallet” Finchale (1465); “a mell – a wooden sledge or beate” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; ‘a wooden mallet or hammer, generally with a long handle’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘the wooden mallet used by masons; also, any wooden mallet or beetle’ *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Bring the mell, an’ drive the post farther doon” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; ‘caulking mallet’ Green S’d 1885; “he’s got a heed bit so’s a mell” Ashington C20/mid; ‘large wood or iron hammer’ *Wade* South Moor 1966; “mell hammer – large hammer, e.g. 5lb, 10lb, 20lb” *JP* S’m C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Linx, Suff. NE 2001: in use. [AN mail pl. mals ‘hammer, club’]. *Plus* “mundie than mell” Gosforth C20/2 Q; “mundy – 56 lb hammer” Newc 2001 Q

mell to meddle

“The man that with this mater melys” (deals, is concerned) *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “melle no farther” *Raine* MS Rigton 1521; “to mell – to meddle

‘Ise nouthar mack nor mell’” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “I will neither mack nor mar, for I’ll no mell” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “mell – to meddle” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OFr meller]

mell supper harvest supper

“ale in ye mell night” *Raine* MS Dishforth, 1672; “mel-supper – a supper and dance given at harvest home” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “Mell Supper – the Kim Supper, so called in Northumberland; [and?] in D’m” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Mell-supper – a supper and merry-making on the evening of the concluding reaping day – the feast of harvest home” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Mell-supper – the harvest-supper” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; ‘harvest home’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teedale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [ON mele ‘corn’] See also **kim supper**

mense 1. good manners, etc., 2. to grace, become/suit

1. “rule all wisely, & ye shal have much menseke thereof” (credit) *Raine* MS Ussett, 1509; “Let iv’ry one his station mense/By acting like a man o’ sense” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.208 1827; “mense – decency, propriety of conduct, good manners, kindness, hospitality. It also means an ornament or credit, as he is ‘a mense to his family’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “a mense to wor toon” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.240 1829; “Meat is good but Mence is better” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “mense – decency, civility, propriety of conduct: ‘he has nowther mence nor sense’” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “thor’s some hes been te skeul, an’ still gets ne mair mense” (sound sense) *Haldane* Newc 1879; “mense – propriety” *Gibson* C’d 1880; “Mense – politeness, kindness ... decency: ‘I did it for mense’s sake’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; ex. *Nth Words* N’d 1938; “mense – ‘newness’ or best clothes” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; “essent mense ti say thanks – hasn’t the manners to say thanks” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950, sim. *Consett* C20/mid Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Linx. [ON mennska ‘proper conduct’]

2. “...friends beside, must all be there to mense the bride” *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; “mense – to grace, to ornament, to decorate: ‘the pictures mense the room’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “wor Peg shall hev a posey gown/to mense her when she comes to toon” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.304 1848; “Aw’ve dropp’d the gamblin’ an’ the beer/For nowt e’er seem’d te mense us” *Chater* Newc 1881 p.9; “Mense (vb) – to decorate, e.g. ‘mense the window’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

menseful/ly decently

“menseful – comely, graceful, becoming” *Ray* 1674; ‘comley, graceful, manly’ *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “the good breeches that mencefully cover’d thy bum” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.43; “menseful – of good and becoming conduct; decent appropriate, neat ... of things: ‘a menseful chap, enow’” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “menseful – careful, economical” *Robson* Birtley 1880s, 1890s; “menseful – neat in appearance” S’d C20/2 Q; “menseful – neat, tidy” 2001 Q. *Plus* “Mally aw’m sure, just for mensefulness’ syek/wad hev gien them thor teas an’ a nice gordle-kyek” *Horsley* Jesmond 1891; “unmenseful – unbecoming, ill-mannered” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

merle blackbird

exx. Geeson, N’d/D’m 1969 re Northumberland, *Crocker* Tees 1983. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire. [Fr merle]

message errand, shopping

“message – an errand, to run a message” *MM* S.Shields C20/2; ‘written shopping list’ *ER* M’bro C20/2 [Fr message can imply carrying goods]

messet, messan small dog

“messit or messan – a little dog, a sort of cur” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “messett or messett dog – for a little dog or lap dog” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “messet – small dog e.g. spaniel” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “messan – any small dog” *Gibson* C’d 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: messan – Sco, Ire, N’d, C’d. [Gael. measan]

micey strange

“micey – strange” Newc 2001 Q; Oz in *Auf Wiedersehen Pet* series 2, 1992

mickle much, large

“with mickle might” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.44; “mickle – much” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “and mickle mare” Rothbury C18/2; “put on the meikle pot” Newc C19/1 (Scots); “mickle wad ha’ mair” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “candy see mickle a nounce” *Egglestone*, Weardale 1870s; “Little or mickle” (word noted as not common) *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. [OE micel, ON mikell]. *Plus* “muckle, not mickle for great, large” *DN* N’d 2005, ‘big’ *DD* Morpeth 2005; “muckle meant not only ‘big’ but it could also be used adverbially as an intensifier to mean ‘very’ or ‘really’, like ‘reet’ on Tyneside” *MD* Seahouses 1990

midden muck heap

“knocked him in the head, & buried him in the muck-midding” *Raine* MS Batley 1689; “midding – a dung hill” *Ray* 1674; *Kennet* 1690s as W’d, D’m; “ah know when the Bishop cam te se us the houses were ah wit’ned an the middens ah tyen to the quarry hole” *D’m Chron* 28 Apr 1865; “midden – a manure or muck-heap, a dunghill; any place or receptacle for rubbish and dirt” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “muck midden” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “midden – a dunghill, an ash heap” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “midden – a mess” Stockton 2001 Q; “midden – rubbish dump” Ferryhill 2001 Q; “midden – dustbin” S’d 2001 Q; “midden – garden waste” B’d Castle. 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids, EA. [ME myddyng, likely from ON since Scand. cognates]. *Plus* “Middenstead – ash-heap” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “midnight mechanic – emptied the earth middens at the back of the house” *PHm* S’d C20/1; “I remember the midden men and the night soil men” *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Crawcrook; “midden-cart” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

midgy, midge’s ee a small lamp

“midge’s-ee – any thing diminutive” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “mistress or midgey – an oblong box without a front, carried upright, the use of which is to carry a lighted candle or small lamp in a current of air; a kind of lantern” *Nicholson* 1880; “Midgy – a kind of lamp used by putter lads. The height of the lamp was about 8 in., width 3 in., with open front. When first invented, they were simply little wooden boxes, with a hole at the bottom, through which the candle was thrust, and another hole at the top to let out the heat. Afterwards tin took the place of wood. The flame was sheltered by a piece of wood or tin about 2 in. high from the bottom of the lamp, and a similar piece from the top. The ‘midgy’ has now gone out of use” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “a midgy was an open fronted hand lamp used by miners when walking in by” *BW* West Auckland C20/mid; “mijee – small oil lamp (not safety)” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m. See also **maggies**

mig liquid manure

ex. *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “mig is the liquid flowing from a manure heap” *Wood* re rural Teesside C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Yx. [OE miege, ON miga (vb)]

might [modal verb]

“whe knows how far she meit gane” *Bell* Newc p.8 1812; “meet – might” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s

mind to recall, remember, take note

“aw mind varry weel” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.238 1829; “aw mind it was warm wethor wen...” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “he could mind nowt o’ last neet” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “Mind, noo! keep oot o’ the clarts” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “Aa dinnet mind what Aa sed” *Coxhoe* 1916; “it’ll rain, mind!” (emphatic at end or start of sentence) *RM* Norton C20/mid; “I mind the time weel when...” *JS* Easington C20/mid; “mind, yor kiddin” *Dobson* Tyne 1970. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE gemynde ‘mind’ (noun)]. *Plus* “mind the trams” Tees 2002 Q

mingin’ smelly, disgusting

“minging – smelly” Charver 2000–2002; “it was minging – disgusting, smelly; ex. abandoned Hawthorn shaft at Murton” 2003 (E); “it was abosultely mingin’” (disgusting, of food) *GD* Seaham 2004; “mingin’ – disgusting” *TR* Deneside 2004. [variant on C20 taboo word]

minnie see **mother**

mint to intend

“I minted to strike at the other man” *Errington* p.91 Felling/Heworth re 1810s; “mint – to intend, to feign to do” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, EA. [OE myntan]. See also **excellent**

mirk dark, mirky

“candylles for Crystenmes to borne (burn) in the mirke mornynge” *Raine* MS York 1544; “mirk, murk – very dark” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, wMids

mistetched badly taught or trained

ex. *Grose* 1787 (of a horse, bad habits); “mis-tetch – bad habits” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “mistetched – spoiled; said of a horse that has learnt vicious tricks” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “mistetched – ill-trained or mistrained” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

the mister man, shopkeeper

“the mister in the shop” S’m 1960s via BG, sim *JP* S’m C20/2. [a courtesy title]

mixty-maxty a muddled mix

“mixty-maxty, mixy-maxy – any thing confusedly mixed” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; title of book *Border notes and mixty-maxty* by *Crawhall* N'd 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd. [from 'mixed']

mizzimazed confused, bewildered

ex. *ER* M'bro C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sth, SW

mizzle 1. slight rain (noun), 2. to rain lightly

“mizzle – slight rain” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “mizul” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “mizzle – drizzle” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid, *Dobson* Tyne 1973. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. [Du miezelen]

2. “If ye morning bee wette & misling, ye best way will bee to stay att hoame” *Raine* MS EYorks 1641; “15 Apr [1672] mizling, drizling, dagling, small rain” *Raine* MS Askham; “mizzling on” Middleton in Teesdale 2001 Q; “mizzle – spitting on to rain, light rain” Wheatley Hill 2002 Q. NE 2001: in use

mizzle to sneak away, go

“Eftor buying a bit mistletoe, aw determined to missle to the Butcher Market” *NM* vol.1 p.213 1888 re Newc; “the knight o' fairy tyel, that off wi' fair Miss Beauty mizzel'd” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “mizzlen off – disappearing, slyly” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “mizzle – to disappear, go away” cenD'm 2001 Q; “mizzle – gone missing: ‘my pen's mizzled again’” *Wood* Cleve 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [compare Shelta (Irish gipsy) misli 'to go']. *Plus* “Yer mizzled us” (confused me) *BD* Bearpark 1940 [?mised]

moggie see **maggies**

moider to perplex

“moidered – puzzled, bewildered, confused...” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘to bewilder, to perplex’ *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids

monged intoxicated, muddled

“monged – off one's head, usually due to drink or drugs” *Charver* 2000-2002. [OE has mangan 'to bewilder, mix' and gemongen 'mixed up']

monifeet see **meggy**

monkey 1. temper, 2. molten steel

1. “Mony a chep wad get his monkey up if his wife spok tiv 'im i' that way...” *Cuddy Cairt* Newc 1917; “at this Aa got me monkey up...” *Wade* West Stanley C20/1

2. “monkey – ‘The man who fowt the monkey itha dust’ – the monkey was the ladle of molten steel and the dust was the sand on the foundry floor” *IL* Tow Law C20/mid. *Plus* “monkeyhangers” – people of Hartlepool, according to song by Ned Corvan 1862; arguably more interestingly, the local football team's monkey 'mascot' was elected Mayor of Hartlepool, May 2002

montakitty playground game

ex. *Dobson* Tyne 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, Lakes

moor hen red grouse

“But the miners of Weardale are all valiant men,/They will fight till they die for their bonny moor hen” 1818 song

the morn the morrow, tomorrow

“the morn's the day that I maun die” (die rhymes with be) *Beattie* Border Ballads p.97p; “the morn – tomorrow” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “all the pits are idle the morn” (cry of the caller) *Hitchin* re Seaham 1930s; “mawn neet – tomorrow night” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “he'll be there the morn” *Graham* Geordie 1979

mortal see **drunk**

moss uplands, moorlands, esp. boggy land

“o’er the moss ... they came” *RR Weardale* 1569; “moss trooper – border freebooter” *EED*. [OE méos ‘bog’, ON mosa]

mother 1. **mam**, 2. **minnie**

1. “Mam” *FS Wingate* 1940s “...Aa sed ter me Mam in 1953” *MS North Shields C20/2*; “mams and dads” *Dobson Tyne* 1972, *Cate* p.119 B’p Auck area 1987; “me Mam” *VIZ* 72 (1995), S’d 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx, Lx, Mids, USA. *Plus* “mammy” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s

2. “minny – mother” *Beattie Border Ballads*, *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “minny – a fondling term for mother” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “fre the forst day ony on us ken’d wor minnie” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.535 1885. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, C’d, W’d

motte 1. mound as mark, 2. *mons pubis*

1. ‘a small button or any piece of bright substance to pitch at in the game of pitch and toss’ *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “If more than one gambler wanted to be the chucker [in pitch, toss] ... then the choice was made by having the candidates throw a penny towards a marker on the ground. The mark might be a piece of paper, a little mound or a stone showing through the soil. The marker was known as ‘the motte’.” *LG S’m C20/mid*; “mot” (a piece of white boody used as target in a version of quoits) *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [Fr motte ‘a butt to shoot at’ or ‘mound’] *Plus* “hog – mark for quoit throwing” *Mr/Mrs T Horden C20/1*

2. “mot – the pudenda of a female” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; sim. *LG S’m C20/mid*; *TP S’d*, 1960s, *Wood M’bro* 1960s

moudiewarp, moley rat, etc. the mole

“to Mary Beaton for a moldwarpe, 2d.” *Raine MS Wakefield* 1683; “mold-warp” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “moudy-warp” *Bailey Co. Durham* 1810; “moudy ratters – Northumberland for moles; also a trifling person” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “Moley rat – the only name known for the common mole” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “mowlee rat” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “moley-rat” *Dawdon* 2001 Q “moudy” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; “mowdy” B’p Auckland 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: mouldywarp – general. [ME mold-warp ‘earth-turner’]. *Plus* “moudiheap – molehill” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931, “moodie-hill” *Border Ballads*

mounge to grumble

“moungin’ – grumbling, complaining” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “and moungin’ scratch’d his head” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.191 1824; “he’s elwis gan moongin about” (moaning) *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, sNotts

mow 1. a pile, 2. to pile up, to stack, 3. full up, 4. to have intercourse

1. “mow – a stack” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE muga, ON muge ‘a stack of hay’]

2. “the wayne house dore which I had mowed up with turfes to keepe the wind from my horse” *Raine MS Haslehead*, 1647/48; “mow (pronounced ‘moo’) – to stack or pile up (corn in a barn)” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849

3. “mowed off” (pronounced maoo-) eD’m 1990 per BG; “mowed up – no space left” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “mowed up” *Tees* 2002 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Yx, Mids. *Plus* “mowed off – tired out” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. See also **stowed**

4. “to mow a woman ... as he mow my Meggy” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “mow – to converse unlawfully” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘to have intercourse (for a man)’ *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849

mozzy mosquito

ex. *BL Blaydon* 1950s

muck (animal) excreta

“muck – dirt, dung for manure” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘dirt, filth, especially excrement; foul weather’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “sum muck that sum, th’ horses left lyen on th’ rode” *Armstrong Tanfield Lea* 1880s, 1890s; “Here’s a piece of coal as black as muck, I hope it brings the best o’ luck” (recited by first footer) *Hitchin re Dalton-le-Dale* p.25 1910s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON myki]. *Plus* “muk-hak – fork or rake” *Finchale* 1465; “mukman – empties earth closets” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

muds “muds – small nails used by cobblers”

Pitman's Pay G'head 1820s; “muds – short thick nails driven into the heels of shoes or clogs” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “weel greas'd shoon stuck full o' muds” *Tracts* 4, *Newc* 1838. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE

mugger itinerant dealer

“mugger – a hawker of pots, an itinerant vender of earthenware. This trade is carried on to a great extent among the gipsy or Faa tribes in the Northern counties” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “The Vicar ... was of manner meek/And gentle, though 'tis said he sometimes swore,/When wandering muggers day by day, came knocking at his door.” *Stobbs Woodhorn*, C19/mid; “There resided principally in the West End of Tweedmouth a class of people who were known as muggers ... their form of language was familiar to many who lived in that neighbourhood” *Nth Words* 1938; “Aa's sweetin like a mugger's cuddy” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, C'd, Yx. [from mug, i.e. pottery for sale; in example of the itinerant way of life: “For the last 10 years has travelled the country, and sold earthen pots and mugs in summer and coopered and mended lanthorns in winter” *Newc Courant* 12 Jan 1782]

mule large double ended coble

ex. *JH Seaham* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, Yx, with note much used in herring fishing. *Plus* “fife” – name for ‘nearly every double ended boat with a keel’ *Hill Flamborough* 1970s

mun must

ex. *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “aw mun away tee”; “thou mun gang” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “I munnet tell!” *Bells* re Carlisle 1802; “How, smash! Skipper, what mun a' dee?” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805; “aw mun gang” *Marshall G'head* 1806; “canno', winno', munno' for can not, will not, must not” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “the beeldin seun mun gan” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.234 1829; “if a keel gets upset, maun we shut up the Tyne?” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.367 1849 “Aa mun toddle hyem” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “mud (long 'u') – pret. of must” *Gibson C'd* 1880; “The end the mun defeat us” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “munnot” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON monu]. See also **have** (3)

mundy see **mell**

munter ugly

ex. *BL Tyne* pre-2000; “munter – to me it always meant an ugly person, possibly more so female than male” *SM H/pool* 2003, *BL Tyne* 2004

must able to, rather than has to

Of a walking stick left behind: “he mustn't need it, for they couldn't walk without it” *S'm* 2002 per BG; “They mustn't have valued it” *Wheatley Hill* 2003; “She mustn't like the look of our Colin then” *Crook* 2004. See also **mun**

muthy humid

“muthy – close (weather)” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931; “muwthy” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. [ON mo, oa]

my

“maa” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “me, ma, maw” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “mee” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.396 C19/mid; “maw”, “me bate” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “the tears rowled doon ma cheeks like kidney-beans” *Durham* 1916; “ma” *Tanfield Lea* 1960; “me Aunt Maggie” *Dobson Tyne* 1972

N

na no

“na” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; *Graham* Geordie 1979; “nah” *Dobson Tyne* 1973; “noa” Seaham via BG 2003

nab promontory

“nab – head of a hill” *Ray Nth* 1737; ‘the summit of a rock or mountain’ *Grose* 1787; “nab, nabb – a protuberance, an elevated point, the rocky summit and outermost verge of a hill” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “nab – sharp fall at a hill range edge” *Wood* re Cleve; “nab end – the point, hill end” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. [ON nabbr; the Ordnance Survey online gazetteer gives examples in place-names only from Vikingsettled areas, notably Nth Yx and Cumbria]. See also **ness**, **nose** (3)

nack see **knack**

nadgy irritable

ex. *JR Crook* C20/mid

nae see **ne**

naggie, **narkie**, **nasher** see **turnip**

nancies see **jinny**

nantle to be casual

“nantle – to do something in an easy and careless manner” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “t’au’d wind’s mantlin’ about finndin’ a ‘oal ti blow in” (wandering) *Umpleby Straithes* c. 1935; ‘to dally’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

nappy 1. strong (of ale), 2. the ale itself

1. “this good nappy ale” *Praise of Yorkshire Ale* C17 via *Raine* MS; “spirits strong and nappy beer” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.181 1824

2. “to be blithe ower a jug o’ good nappy” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.245 1827; “seldom seen the warse o’ nappy” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

narvish nervous

“narvish – nervous” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “it maks me narvish an’ unlisty” *Embleton Tyne* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation N.l., N’d, C’d

nash to rush off

“nash – to move swiftly: ‘He proper did a nash when me da turned up” Charver 2000–2002; “nashing – leaving; gan nash – going to, often illicitly” S’d 2001 Q, “Us nashed” ([http://my.sunderland.ac.uk ... makem](http://my.sunderland.ac.uk...makem)). [*OED* gives as slang 1812 on; compare Romany ‘nash’ to run]. See also **buroo**

naup to hit

“naup – to beat, to strike” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “to strike, inflict a blow (on the head) ‘naup him”” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; ‘to strike as punishment’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘to hit’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids. [imitative]

nazzart a rascal, someone not to be trusted

ex. *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: C’d, W’d

ne no (adj.)

“ne occasion fort” (for it) *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “it is ne fable” *Marshall* Newc p.23 1823; “nee leer [liar]” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.420 1862; “ta nee purpes” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “this is a fust rate pie an’ nee mistake” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “nee doot”, “nee gud luck” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “I hev nee tatties” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “nee botha – no problem” Charver 2000-2002, S’m 2003 per BG. *Plus* “there’s ne-where te park the car” *Dobson* Tyne 1972

neaf see **neif**

nearlies nearly, almost

“We neorlees hed words ower that” *Robson* Newc C20/1

neat cattle

“neat pl. nowt – an animal of the ox kind” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx, Mids, etc. [OE néat] See also **nout**

neb see **nose**

nobody nobody

“nobody” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2, Coxhoe 1916. See also **nyen**

ned cake, knedde cake a cake or pastry

“knedde-cake – a cake kneaded with butter and baked on the girdle” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “knodden-cake – a kneaded i.e. yeastbased cake” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “ned cake – a flat, current filled cake” AB re S’d C20/1; “ned kyek – baked on girdle” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “knedding cake – a cake kneaded with lard or butter and baked on a girdle” *Graham* Geordie 1979. [kneaded]

nedder adder

ex. *Brockett* as N’d 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: nadder – general; nedder – N’d, W’d, Derbys. [OE nædre]. See also **hagworm**

neep see **turnip**

neet night, tonight

‘Good neet, hinny’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Nut-crack Neet – All Hallows’ Eve” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “But what care they for that the neet?” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “Aw hell, lads! Not the neet” *Hay* Ushaw Moor C20/1; “are yer turning out the neet?” *IA* S’m 1950s, 60s; *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation esp. Nth. [OE niht]. *Plus* “wuov his jasay neet cap on” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s

neether see **nowther**

neeze to sneeze

“neese, neeze – to sneeze” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “neeze” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, Yx, Lx. [ON hnjósa]

neif, neive fist

“with’ thair nevys” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “Much good do it you, Mrs Kate, with your scabbed neeves” *Raine* MS Newcastle, 1590; “neaf – the fist” (Nth) “neif – hand or fist (D’m, W’d)” *Kennet* 1690s; “built up by Adam’s aun neaves” (hands) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.52 ca.1800; “sticks and neeves they went pel-mel” *Bells* re Carlisle, 1802; “pummel ... wi’ yor neef” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.420 1862; “thor neeves wis fleein” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “neeves” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids. [ON hnefi]. *Plus* “double-neif – the clenched fist” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “close-neived – niggardly, stingy, parsimonious” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

neivel blow of the fist (noun and vb)

“neivel – to strike or beat with the fist” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “he got on the lug such a neivel” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.42. *Plus* “neavil, neivel – to pummel, or beat with the fist” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

nell-kneed knock-kneed

“nell-kneed – in-kneed” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. [knell ‘to knock’, OE cnyllan]

nesh soft

“thurch harde and nesche” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “the nesh bee can neither abide cold or wet” *Raine* MS EYorks 1648; “Flabby, as a nesh man, nesh grass” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “nash or naish – tender, weak, fragile, soft” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE hnesce]

ness headland

“ness – a cape or projecting headland” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx, Lx, I.Man, Linx, Shrop, Kt. [OE næs, ON nes; the Ordnance Survey online gazetteer gives examples around the UK but concentrated in Orkney and the Shetlands]. See also **nab**, **nose** (3)

netty outside toilet

ex. *JG* Annfield Plain 1930s, “nessy or netty” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “ootside netties” *Dobson* Tyne 1972; ‘lavatory’ *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. NE 2001: in circulation. [?C18 nesy from necessary;? Ital. cabinetti; *Raine* MS locates a possible early ex. “Robert Hovyngham sall make ... at the other end of hys house a knyttyng” York 1419, in which case the root could be OE nid ‘necessity’. *Plus* “to go to [the] Necessary” (public toilet) *Errington* p.67 Newcastle re 1800s; “lav” *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Crawcrook; “oot back” G’head 2001 Q; “larty – toilet, a children’s word, the school larties” *MM* S.Shields C20/2 [lavatory]

neuk corner, nook, alcove

“his bedd noke” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “laye in a newke nigh the fier” *Raine* MS Ebchester 1526; “neuk – a corner, nook ... of field, room, box etc.: ‘t’ neuk shop” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Aw sat i’the nuik, and my cutty aw smuik” *Street Piracy* Newc 1822. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth. [cf. Norw nók ‘hook, s.thing bent’]. *Plus* “piss nyuk – urinal” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

nevy nephew

“My fatha says ‘is nevy hez t’ hev ‘is whippet put down” *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “nevy” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “newee – nephew” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

Newcassel Newcastle upon Tyne

“the Newcassel cheps fancy they’re clever” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.70 1805; “Neucassil” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. See also **Gotham**, **toon**

nick a vertical cut (noun and vb)

“nicking – a working at the face of the coal ... is the cutting of an upright cut into the face of the coal when it is kirved out below” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “nick – the perpendicular groove made in the sides of a jud” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “nicking – a vertical cutting in the side or nook of a working-place” *Nicholson* 1880

nick-stick a form of tally

“nick-stick – a tally or notched stick by which accounts are kept after the ancient method” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; *Nickstick* – title of magazine edited by Wm. Egglestone Weardale 1870s; “nick-sticks – a mode of reckoning which ladies well understand” (being in charge of household spending) *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, nYx

nicker to snigger

“the keel bullies nicker’d” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.306 1849; “nickering and hockering – sniggering and laughing” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [imitative]

niest next

ex. *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “neest, niest, nest – next” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE niehst]

nigh near (to)

“Aa wis nigh lossin me hat” *Graham* Geordie 1979. [OE neah] See also **varnigh**

nip to pinch

“nipping – pinching” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “an’ nip wor lugs” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.353 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* “a little nip or two” (small injury) *GC Seaham* C20/1

nithered feeling very cold

“netherd – starved with cold” *Grose* 1787; “nithered – extreme feeling of cold” *JB Shildon* C20/mid, *ER M’bro* C20/2, *Trimdon* 2002; “nithered, nithering” *JP S’m* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, Yx, wMids. NE 2001: in use. [OE ni, oerian ‘to lower’]. See also **dazed**

nivor never

“niwor” *Coxhoe* 1916, *Donson Tyne* 1972, “niwer heed!” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “nivor” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2, “nivor – never” *Dobson Tyne* 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

nobbut only, just

“nobbit leave us alyen” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.308 1862; “nobbut – nothing but, only, simply: ‘nobbut me’” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “beauty’s nobbed skin deep” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “when ah wiz nobbut aboot sixteen ear ahd” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “nobbut a good-lookin’ nowt – handsome wastrel” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “nobbut moderate – ill” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

noo now

ex. *Parker* Tyne Valley p.69 1896, *Coxhoe* 1916; “he’ll be here just noo” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “Is a sporrit noo prissint?” *Chater* Newc 1880; “every noos an thens” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “noo – now” *Dobson* Tyne 1972. [OE nú]

nool, knowl to knock downwards

“nooled – checked, curbed, broken spirited” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Noll [naul] – to strike” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “neuled down – weighed down” *Spennymoor* C20/mid; “knooled – dispirited” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “knowled – under the thumb – pronounced ‘knooled’” *AM* South Shields C20/2; “noold – brow-beaten” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “nooled – of a wife under the thumb of her husband” *MM* Amble 2005, *AM* S.Shields (E). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Lincs, Corn

nor than

ex. *Ray* 1674; “mear diseases did her attend/nor I can name in half a year” *Rothbury* C18/2; “nowt better nor het watter” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “the yen better nor the tother” *Other Eye* Newc ca.1890; “siuner him nor me” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

noration talk or noise

“Noration – a confused crowd, a noise” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “noration – a speech” S’m C20/mid per BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general, plus USA

noration uproar

“The folk have raised such a noration” *Fordyce* re Newc 1821. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* ‘also a long yarn or discourse’ *Heslop* N’d 1890s

nose 1. **neb**, 2. **sneck**, 3. **snook**, 4. **snib**, 5. **snitch**, 6. **beak**

1. “neb or nib – the nose. Also the beak on a bird” *Grose* 1787; “neb – bill of a bird” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “the neb iv a duck” (beak) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “keep yer neb out” (don’t be nose) *IA* S’m 1950s,60s; sim. *JS* Easington C20/mid, B’d Castle 2001 Q, *AD* Hebburn 2003 Q; “neb – nose” *JB Shildon* C20/mid, *RM* Norton C20/mid, *NShields* C20/mid, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “wet yor neb – have a drink” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. [OE nebb] *Plus* “nebbly – nose” D’ton C20/2, *JS* Easington C20/mid, *Sedgefield* 2001 Q.

2. “sneck” *JS* re *Sacriston* 1940s, *IA* S’m 1950s,60s, *RV* Winlaton C20/2, *Wheatley Hill* C20/2 Q; “snek – latch, nose” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea

C20/2; “sneck or neb – nose” Barnard Castle 2001 Q; “sneck for nose; ‘neb’ not used” South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (E); “Why man yea canna see past thee sneck end” *IL B’p Auck C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. *Plus* “sneck lifter” (the price of a pint) via *Crocker D’ton* 1982

3. “snook” – The Ordnance Survey online gazetteer gives all five place-names with ‘Snook’ (headland) as in N’d. See also **nab, ness. Plus** “snoot – snout, nose” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*.

4. “snib – nose” Stockton 2001 Q. [?ON; compare Swed. snibb ‘beak’]

5. “snitch” *AT Co.D’m C20/mid*. [*OED* as slang]

6. “Blaa yor nesty dorty bubbly beak, hinny” *Windows Newc* 1917.

not

“ye need-na be afraid” *Stobbs Woodhorn C19/mid*; “nut” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “nut mee” *Wearside Tales* 1879. See also individual verbs

nout, nowt cattle

“nolt or nout – neat cattle” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “nout or nolt – neat, or horned cattle of the ox species” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Darlington Nowt Fair” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA. [ON naut]. *Plus* “nowtman – herdsman, keeper of cattle” *Raine MS Easington* 1526; “nowtfoot – a cow heel” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “some tripe and a nowt foot” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.227 1826. See also **neat**

now directly, as soon as I can

“A’l fetch a one just now” S’m 2004 per BG

nowt, nowse nothing

“I’ll give him nowse at all” *Bedlington* 1761; “nowse” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “we think nowse on’t” *Marshall Newc* 1823; “he de’s nout nor wonnet de nout” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “it was nowt but lees he told him” *Marshall Newc* 1823 p.19; “aboot nowt – worthless” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; “half-nought (pronounced haff-nowght) – half-nothing, price too small to be worth mentioning” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “coal’s nowt but cabbish staaks an’ tatie peelins” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “ah’s gud te nowt” (not up to anything) *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “Ye’ll want for nowt ye’ve got” *EP re ED’m* 1940s; “it’s neither nowt nor summat – neither one thing nor the other” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950, sim. *Cate B’p Auck area* 1987 p.105, *Wdale Gaz* Apr 2005; “thooz getten nowt!” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “nowtbutcanny” (of middling health) *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “the whole truth and nowt but the truth” *Irwin Tyne* 1970–71; “A got nowt” *VIZ* 72 (1995). *EDD* distribution to 1900: nowse – Sco, N’d, D’m. [OE *nauht*, *nauhtes*] *Plus* “donot – an old and low word for a silly or good-for-nothing person of the female sex” *Bell MS Newc* 1815

nowther neither

“nouthir stande na gang” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “nowther tipsy nor lame” *Street Piracy Newc* 1822; “nowther rhyme nor reason” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “nowther” *Tanfield Lea*, 1960, etc.

nutter someone who collects small coal

ex. *Newc* 2001 Q

nyen none, no one

“nane” *RR Weardale* 1569; “thous neahn deef” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “nyen the better” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “hewin nyen on’t” (wouldn’t stand for it) *Hay Ushaw Moor C20/1*; “hes thee nyen? – don’t you have any?” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation N’d, nYx. [OE *nán*]

O

a few oaths

“De’il rive their sark gangs hame to night” *Chicken Benwell* 1720s; “crying, ‘smash, man! lower the sail!’” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805; “Begrike!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.73 1806; “Ods heft!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.75 1806; “Od smash my neave!” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “Gad smash me sark!” *Bell* p.37 Newc 1812; “maw sarties!” *Tracts 4*, Newc ca. 1820; “Deel smash my heart!” *Bell* p.50 Newc 1812; “By my faicks!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.48 1812; “Dang Lunnun!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.50 1812; “Begox!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.51 1823; “‘od bliss him!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.181 1824; “smash, marrow!” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.217 1827; “By gock, thoo’s a quare ‘un.” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “Oh ballzit!” Newc C20/1 via RV; “my father had two modified oaths ‘Ye bugs!’ and ‘By the cringe!’” *AK Tyneside* 1940s; “hadaway to Hell” *JB Dinnington Colliery C20/2*; “yebuggarmar – in approbation” *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “What the frig are yuz aall taakin’ about?” *VIZ* 34 1989

of

“i th’ howl oh wounter” (winter) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “the lot on us”, “boilers av dimensions” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “oot i’ bed” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “stalls full ev apples” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s

off not working

“the kettle has gone off” i.e. an electrical fault, *MD D’ton C20/2*

offens, oftens often

“offens, oftens – the plural of often” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “oftens (pronounced offens, off ’ns) – often” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Oftens (of ’ns)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: offens – D’m, Yx; oftens – N’d, D’m, Yx, Lx, Lincs

ome fumes

“ome – the smoak, reek, stith or vapour of hot liquids is call’d ome ... as the ome of salt pans” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m. *EDD* distribution to 1900: oam – Sco, D’m

one (as pronou)

“we’ll get a one” *Mr/Mrs T Horden C20/1*, sim eD’m 2005 via BG

oney only

“ye shud oney see thor little thatch hoose” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.462 1862; “that’s the outside on’t ony” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “oney” *Tanfield Lea* 1960

onsetter worker at foot of shaft

“onsetter – the person who attaches the corf to the pit-rope at the bottom of the shaft” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “onsetters – men who put the full tubs in and take the empty ones out of the cage at the shaft bottom” *Nicholson* 1880; “the onsetter tyeuk the tubs outa the cage and put Jonty in” *Hay Ushaw Moor C20/1*; “onsetter – in charge of cage at the bottom of shaft” *Northumbrian III C20/2* re Durham collieries.

onstead establishment

“aaltegether we can brag ov a canny bit ‘onsteed’” (shop and assets) *Cuddy Cairt Newc* 1917; ‘the buildings on a farm’ *Viereck* re Gateshead, 1966. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, Lakes, Yx. Compare **heapstead**

ony 1. any, 2. at all (adv)

1. “ony amaunt, secrets” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “ony” *Coxhoe* 1916; “onny – any” *Tanfield Lea* 1960

2. “can ye caulk onney?” *Wearside Tales* 1879. See also **oney**

onywhere anywhere

“he’s onnywheer for a little apple” (is greedy) Ashington C20/mid

oor hour

“about two oors” *Robson Newc* C20/1; “oor” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2

oot out

exx. *Coxhoe* 1916, *Tanfield Lea* 1960; “arye oot tonight?” S’m 1990 per BG

our see wor

outbye 1. outside, 2. towards the shaft or exit of a pit

1. “out-by – a short way from home, not far distant” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “outbye – out of the way, remote” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “It’s varra caad oot bye” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

2. “I was alone ... near 50 yeards out by” *Errington* p.59 Felling/Heworth re 1800s; “out-bye – the direction in any part of a mine towards the shaft” *Nicholson* 1880; “out-bye – at the shaft or bottom of the pit” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; ‘technical, of a miner coming towards the ‘shaft’ in order to get ‘to bank’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “get out-bye as sharp as you can” *JR Seaham* C20/1; ‘places near the shaft’ *JM Dawdon* 1970s, sim *JP S’m* C20/2; ‘[from] outwards to shaft’ *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Durham collieries; “the gallowa’s wandered off outbye” *JM Dawdon* 1970s. Plus “bakby – away from coal face” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2

ower over (prep. and adv.)

“owr ... the hill” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “he gat ower wet” *Marshall Newc* 1823 p.15; “ower – over, too: ‘ower little’, ‘ower large’; ower-tane – overtaken; out-ower – across, beyond or on the other side of a hill; ower-by – over the way” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “thoo’s ower weel fed” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “ower an’ ower” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “not ower far gone” *Coxhoe* 1916; “not owa grand – not too well” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “Far-ower clivvor” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “there’s ower-many cars in th’ street” S’m 2003 via BG; *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Ire, Nth, Notts, Lincs. See also **back ower**, **doon ower**

ower-bye across, over that way

“they had lived at her mother’s – she leaved ower-bye” *Chater Newc* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d

owerman supervisor

“ower-man – an overseer” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “overman – the person who has the daily supervision and responsible charge of the mine, under the direction of the manager or under-manager” *Nicholson* 1880; “overman – man in charge, above the deputy and below the under manager” *JM Dawdon* 1970s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE

owse ox

“ousen – oxen” *Beattie Border Ballads*; “ousen or owsen – oxen” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “owse – ox – plural owsen” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

owse, owt anything

“they never gat owse better than...” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “Can they de owse...” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “as nice as owse” *Marshall Newc* 1823; “owse – any thing”, “owt, ought – any thing” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “oswe, out – ought, anything” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “owt” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.7; “ought (pronounced owght) – anything: ‘ouwght or nowght’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Nor owt but me wiz shaken” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Bob: ‘Owt?’ Tom: ‘Nowt.’” *Windows Newc* 1917; “aw may drink, aw may fight, or dee owt” *Ross Tyne* C19/1 p.5; “has th’ got owt, ‘nowt’ (beggar’s cry) *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “as funny as owt” S’m per BG, 2004. *EDD* distribution to 1900: owse – N’d. [OE áuht, áuhtes]

owther either

“owther – either” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

ox

“Black Ox – misfortune: ‘A! man, the Black Ox hesent stamp on your feet yet.’” *Bell MS Newc* 1815

oxo

“oxo – game of noughts and crosses” *JP S’m* 1990s, *Wood Tees* 2002

oxter armpit

“oxter, oxters (Nth) an armpit, the armpits; Oxtar, Oxtars (D’m)” *Kennet* 1690s; “she has a babby under her oxter” *Bell MS Newc* 1839s; “Oxter – armpit: ‘Oxter-bound,’ stiff in arm and shoulder” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “i’ the oxter pocket” (inside jacket pocket) *Eggleston Upper Weardale* 1877; “oxter – top pocket” *MG Teesdale C20/2*; “not his scalp but his right oxter” *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “he’s got a boil in his oxter” *Cockfield* 2004 E; “hoxters” *Wheatley Hill* 2004 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Ire, Nth. NE 2001: in low use. [OE *oxta*]

P

paaky, parky, pawky choosy

“pauky – saucy, squeamish, scrupulously nice; also proud, insolent, cunning, artful” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “pauky – of a child hard to please” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “pawky – impudent, semi-insolent: ‘as pawky as a pyet’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “pawky (paa:ki) – dainty” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “pawky – fussy, overly particular (esp. of a child)” *JB Shildon C20/mid, Teesdale C20/2 Q*; “parky – fussy about food” *Viereck re Gateshead* 1966, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: ‘shrewd, precocious’ *Sco, Ire, Nth, Lincs. NE* 2001: in use. *Plus* “we weren’t all picky eaters” *MS North Shields C20/2*

paaky chilly

“Minditz paaky theneet” *Dobson Tyne* 1971

paas hands

ex. *NShields C20/mid*. [paws]

Pace Easter

“the fest of Pasche” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “Pase Monday” *Raine MS Ebchester, ca.1571*; “Pasch – Easter” (‘common’ *Raine MS re C19/2*). *EDD* distribution to 1900: *Sco, N’d, C’d, Yx, Lincs.* [AN Pasche]

pace eggs, paste eggs decorated eggs at Eastertide

“Paste-eggs – eggs boiled hard and dyed or stained various colours, given to children about the time of Easter” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “ne place te bool wor peyste eggs noo...” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.396 1840s; “Pace-eggs – eggs boiled hard and stained of divers colours [used] on Easter Monday and Tuesday as playthings for children, and secondly as a viand” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “paste-egg – an egg boiled hard, and ornamented in various ways, used at Easter: ‘Are ye gan t’ the Pasture t’ thraw yer pasteeggs?’” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “An’ to please the pit-laddies at Easter/A dishful o’ giltey pyest-eggs” *Crawhall Newc* 1888; “Paste-eggs – eggs, dyed in a decoction of logwood chips and onion peel, and sold in shops or prepared at home during Easter” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “paste egg – a hard boiled Easter egg [for] boolin and jaapin...” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “‘Pace’, only in ‘Pace-eggs’ – eggs dyed and marbled brown for Easter with onion skins” *PG H’pool C20/2, sim*; “Pace not Paste eggs” *PE Stockton* 2005 (E); “Paste eggs than Pace eggs” *D’ton C20/mid, C20/2, sim. JP S’m C20/2*; “paste-eggs – hard boiled eggs decorated at Easter. We used to break them open on Easter Monday usually by rolling them down a slope” *Wood M’bro C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *Pace eggs – Sco, Nth; Paste eggs – N’d, D’m, nYx, Lx. NE* 2001: both forms in use

paddick frog

“paddock – a young frog” *Kennet* 1690s as *D’m*, ‘Northumberland name for a frog’ *Bell MS Newc* 1830s, ‘frog’ *Gibson C’d* 1880; “a padick” *Errington* p.34 *Felling/Heworth re* 1780s; “paddy – frog” *JB Shildon C20/mid*; “blawn up like a paddick” (full of food) *Lore and language re N’d, C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON *padda* ‘toad’]. *Plus* “paddick’s stails” (toadstalls) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.376 *C19/mid*, “paddock-styul” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s

pagged, etc. exhausted

“I’m proper pagged out”; “It was a real pag walking up Silksworth Row bank” *AB re S’d C20/mid*; “Aam paggered” (exhausted) *TR Deneside* 2004; “I’m fair pagged!” *HH N.Shields* 2004 (E). *EDD* distribution to 1900: *pegged out – C’d*.

palatic see drunk

pan crack unemployment benefit

“My mother explains that originally, on the means test, you got a ‘chitty’ which you gave to the grocer. It got you just enough food for a pan” *Wood re M’bro/Stockton/Redcar C20/mid*; “pancrack – living on benefits decided by means test” *ER M’bro C20/2*; ‘colliery word for the Dole’ *FS H’pool C20/2*

panhaggerty, panacalty dish with meat and potatoes

“panacalty – a concoction of bacon, onions and sliced potatoes baked in a shallow dish in the huge oven.” *Hitchin* p.22 re Dalton-le-Dale 1910s; “penacly – bacon/potatoes/onions cooked in frying pan” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “panhaggerty – a dish containing meat and potatoes” *Geeson N’d/D’m* 1969; “pahnikitee – leftover edible food” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “panhaggerty, panhagglety – a dish containing potatoes, onions and grated cheese ... sometimes left-over meat was used” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “panacalty – corn beef sliced and simmered with parboiled sliced potatoes, peas, gravy and anything else you can hoy into it” *Wood re Teesside* 2003, ‘stuff fried up in pan’ *Roker C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: panhaggerty – N’d

pant drinking fountain, e.g. in Newcastle

“The buildinge of a sufficiente pannte in Sandgate” *Raine MS Newcastle* 1593; “pant – a public fountain. In Newcastle there are several...” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “she (the ghost) sports round the Pant” (Sandgate) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.300 1842; “pant – a fountain of water for public use” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “pant – village water pump” *JB Shildon C20/mid*; “pant – a public fountain” *Geeson N’d/D’m* 1969. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Lincs. [‘pant’ is a known pre-Roman river name]

pap nipple

“pap – the breast: ‘giving the child the pap’; [also] pappy – the breast” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “paap – a pap, a teat” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “pap” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?ON, compare Swed papp(e)]

pappa “the local word for faeces”

DN Seaton Burn, C20/2. [? Du pap ‘soft matter’, Du. pappekak]. *Plus* “Sid’s pappered hesel” *VIZ* 37 ca.1990

parky see **paaky**

parlish dangerous, etc.

“parlish – perilous, dangerous, wonderful” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “parlish – dangerous” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “parlish – remarkable” *Gibson C’d* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [parlous, perilous]

partrick partidge

ex. *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this form, esp. Sco

pash 1. rotten, 2. rainfall

1.”pash – anything rotten to softness: ‘is rotten as pash’” *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs

2. “pash – a heavy fall of rain or snow” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘a short sharp heavy shower’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids. [compare Swed. paska ‘to rain heavily’]. *Plus* “thunderpash – thunder-storm” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849. See also **plash**

paste eggs see **pace eggs**

pat-n-can an untidy mess

“Ee, this hoose looks just like a patt’n-can!” *HW Stanley* 1950s; “get squared up, this place is like a patt’n-can” *GW B’p Auck* 1950s; “The place looks like a pan-can” *MS N.Shields C20/2*; “padden can – somewhere very untidy” *PE* 2004E. *Plus* “rumption – mess, as a room might be in a rumption” *MM Amble* 2005; “ham-sam – untidy” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*

patrens patterns (industrial context)

“patrens, patren-makers not patterns, etc.” *Tyneside* 1930s Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this form Sco, Ire, Lx, EA

pawky see **paaky**

pay 1. to beat, 2. tired out

“pay – to beat, to drub: ‘the rascal pays his wife’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “pay – to beat (a jacket etc.)” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “Pay (pee:u) – ‘I’ll pay your bottom’, a common threat to children” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [pay in sense of ‘pay back’?]

2. “we’re about paid” (exhausted) *Todd* Tyne 1977; “paid – paid, exhausted” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

paze to lever up

“paze – to raise, to force open” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “paze – to lever up (a weight)” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “pazen” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: paise – general. [*OED* peise from OFr peser ‘to weigh’]

pea jacket sailor’s jacket

“I’ll have a new brown pea” *Bell-Harker* Newc C19/1; “pe-jacket – a jacket worn by the old Keelmen on the River Tyne” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “pea jacket – the outer holiday dress of a keelman” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “pea-jacket – a loose rough jacket or short covering with conical buttons of a small size, termed pea-buttons; much used in severe weather by mariners and by watermen on the Tyne” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “their old quid (tobacco) they’ll pop in the pea-jacket cuff” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.44. Distribution: first noted in English 1721. [Du pij-jakker]

pee-dee, p.d. boy working on a keel

“P.D. ran to clear the anchor” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805; “pe-de – a boy employed on board the keel” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “The keels were generally manned by the skipper, two keel bullies and a boy known as the ‘Pee-Dee’” *Mitcalfe* re 1822 p.3; “pee-dee – a young lad in a keel, who has charge of the rudder” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “pee-dee – a miniature marble; on the Tyne ... a small boy” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m. [?Fr pédier for foot servant, or Fr petit (small)]

peelers immature crabs useful as bait

exx. S’d, S’m 2005 (M). *Plus* “softies – small crabs that have shed their shell” *JP* S’m 2005

peesweep, peewit the lapwing

“pee-wit, peez-weep – the lapwing” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “peas weep – a plover so called from its crie” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “peewit – lapwing” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “Peesweep – lapwing, or peewit” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: peesweep Sco, N’d – peewit – general. [imitative of call]. *Plus* “pee-wit-land – cold, wet, bad land which the pee-wit generally haunts” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829

peev alcoholic drink

“peevin, peevan” (a drink) *Yetholm Gypsies* 1882 p.46; “peeve – alcoholic drink: ‘He was proper peeved-up last neet’” *Charver* 2000–2002. [Romany ‘peava’, to drink]

peffy out of breath

ex. swD’m 2004 E [compare *OED* pech/pegh ‘a gasp’ – Scottish?]

peg to run fast

“the polis’ is cummin let’s peg it” *HH* N.Shields 2005

penker egg

“penker – small egg, the first egg(s) of a pullet” *JB* Shildon C20/mid. See also **marbles**

perishment a severe cold

“a perishment o’ cou’d” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Perishment – a violent chill is always described as a ‘perishment of cold’ (pa:ri:sh:ment u kaa:d)” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; ‘frozen in the body’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. D’m, Yx

pet term of endearment

“Ma comely pet” (to a girl) *Marshall* G’head 1806; “maa pet” (dear one, wife) *Haldane* Newc 1879; “pet – a term of endearment. Used between the sexes” *Wood* NE 2002; D’ton 1940s Q; Wheatley Hill 2003 Q; “put the birn in the buggy pet” (to daughter) *HH* N.Shields 2005. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* “petal”, in common use, eD’m

peter waggy an articulated toy or puppet

“dancing and capering like a greet live Peter Wagg” *LPB Newc* 1820s; “peter-waggy – the Northern name for a Harlequin toy” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “When I go to Newcastle Fair/I’ll buy my child a Peter Waggy” H Robson in *Fordyce Newc* 1826. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Tyne

peth path

“peth – a road up a steep hill (e.g. N’d, D’m)” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “peth – a road with a steep ascent, a path” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d. NE2000: in street names. [OE *paeo*]

pew to snow

“pewing on – slight snow falling” Teesside 2001 Q. See also **pule**

phiz face

“phiz” Durham 1839; “a roond gud natur’d phiz” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “fizzog” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. [physiognomy]

pick mining tool

“colpickes – coal picks” *Finchale* 1354; “Pick is a Tool the Miners use to cut down the Cliffs and Rocks of stone to make passages in the Earth” Derbyshire, 1681; “pick – a tool used by a hewer. It consists of an iron about 18 inches long, steeled and sharpened at each end, and weighing from 3 to 6 lbs. in the centre of the head is a hole or eye into which is fixed a shaft of ash about 2 1/2 feet long” *Nicholson* 1880

pick pitch

“dark the night as pick and tar” *Beattie Border Ballads* p.102; “it was pick night” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.10; “the neet was pick-dark” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.442 1862; “pick – pitch: ‘as black as pick’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. [OE *píc*, Fr *pic*]

pickatree see **rainbird**

piggin a pot

“piggin – a wooden cylindrical porringer, made with staves, and bound with hoops like a pail; holds about a pint” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “piggin – a iron pot with two ears, also a wooden pot with a handle” *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

pikelet crumpet

ex. N’d C20/mid via BG; “pikelet – a thin type of crumpet” *Wood Cleve* 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Yx, Lx, Mids. [Welsh *bara pyglyd* ‘dark bread’]

pillar remaining roof support of coal

“pillars – the rectangular masses of coal between the boards” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “broken-pillar working, the removal of the pillars left in the first working for the support of the roof” *Nicholson* 1880; ‘A mining term for the square masses of coal left in a working to support the roof’ *Graham Geordie* 1979; “pillars – 50 yard length of passage” *GC Seaham* C20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx

pineapple weed herb *Matricuria matricurioides*

“half covered by pineapple weed and tufts of grass” *Cate*, B’p Auckland area 1987 p.128

piot magpie

“piots” Rothbury C18/2; “piet, pyet” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “pianet, pyanot, py’net” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “pye-annet – or young magpie, also the common term for the species in Northumberland” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: pyet – esp. Sco, Ire, Nth. [OFr *pie*]. Plus “nanpie – the magpie” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. See also **maggies**

pirn cottonreel

"A cotton reel was a 'pim'" *Nth Words* Northumberland, 1938. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N'd, C'd, Ches

pit coal mine

"Pit – the only word in common talk for a mine. So, a miner is always 'pitman' or 'pittie,' and pit dress is 'pit-claes'" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "pits not coal-mines, pitmen not miners" D'ton 1940s Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, Yx. [OE pytt]

pitch, toss a game of chance

"Pitch an' Toss – two coins ... spun in air till land: all heads (hoyer wins) or all tails (pays out even money). If lands heads and tails, is 'oneses', no result." Wade *South Moor* C20/mid; "Two old-fashioned cartwheel pennies were best for the game" *GP S'm* C20/mid; "Pitch and toss' known as 'The hoy' was very popular with miners in the 50s, perhaps later, and had a little specialised vocabulary of its own. The 'hoyer' or 'chucker' of the two pennies sometimes had an assistant who collected the coins after each throw. He was known as a 'bewver' and for his 'bewwing' might get a little tip if the chucker made a profit. The 3 possibilities were ... 2 heads (chucker wins), 2 tails (chucker loses) and 1 head, 1 tail (no one wins). The last combination, I never knew why, was called '2 bikes'." *LG S'm* C20/mid

pit-heap surface at colliery

"when I got to the pit-heap/the banksman was closing the gate" West Stanley 20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm. See also **heapstead**

pitman collier, mine worker

"the pitman's humble hyem" *MC Tyne* May 1881, etc. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, eD'm. *Plus* "colliery lads" *Bell Newc* re Walker 1812 p.36; "pitties" *EDD* 1900; "wor Bob is a pit lad like the rest i the place" *D'm Chron* 28 Apr 1865

pitmatic, pitmatical 1. the craft of mining, 2. the lingo of North-East pitmen

1. "pitmatics – a jocose term for the technicalities of colliery working" *Heslop* 1890s. [on the model of mathematics]

2. "A great many of the lads, especially from the Durham district, had evidently never been in Newcastle previously, and the air of wonder with which they gazed at the crowds, at the buildings, and especially at the fine folks who occupied the windows, was very amusing. If the quality criticized and quizzed them, the lads returned the compliment, and it was entertaining enough to catch snatches of criticism on the manners and customs of the upper ten thousand of Newcastle, reduced to the purest 'pitmatical', shouted across the streets, as the men and lads belonging to collieries swept by where I stood in the crowd." *Newc Weekly Chron* 19 Apr 1873; "After a few minutes delay in the overman's cabin, thronged with men talking an unintelligible language, known, I was informed, as Pitmatic, we took our places in one of a long train of tubs, which, on a signal being given, started for the heart of the mine." *The Times* 21 Aug 1885 4/4; "I was also acquiring a new language. This was 'pitmatic'. It was a mixture of the broadest dialect of Durham and a number of words (often of foreign origin) used exclusively by pitmen when below ground." *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.70; "The local miners [in Durham] have a curious lingo of their own, which they call 'pitmatik' ... It is only used by the pitmen when they are talking among themselves ... When the pitmen are exchanging stories of colliery life ... they do it in 'pitmatik'..." Priestley *English Journey* ch.10 1934; "pitmatic – miners' dialect" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; "Pitmatic Geordies or 'Yackers'" *Dobson Tyne* 1969; "it taalks deed pitmatic" *Irwin Tyne* 1970; "who needs pitman's shorthand when we've good north east pitmatic" *JM Dawdon* 1970s. *Plus* "I was taut the pit language and got on with my trade very well" *Errington Felling/Heworth* re 1790s p.42

pit-yack mining dialect

ex *PC* re Bedlington, Blyth, Cramlington (E)

pit-yacker pit worker, esp. hewer

"'Pit-yacker' is a self-descriptive term used by miners of the Durham coalfield. It has a half-derisive, half-humorous connotation, and stands in the same relation to pitmen as 'clodhopper' does to a farm labourer." *Hitchin* re Dalton-le-Dale 1910s (preface); "only pit-yackers spoke the pit-yackers' language" *Hitchin* re Seaham 1910s p.70; "a colliery workman who is rough in body and work and not very bright" *CT New Herrington* C20/mid; "pit-yakka – one who works under ground" *McBurnie Glebe Colliery*, C20/mid; "pit-yakker" *Northumbrian III* Winlaton/Marley Hill C20/mid; 'a term of abuse applied to pitmen' *Graham Geordie* 1979 [possibly from pit-yak, mining language; if so 1950s not 1910s]. See also **yakker**

pittle to urinate

"pittle – to make water: 'pittle't all out'" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; "Mary Anne she doesn't care a damn/She lifts up her petticoats and pittles like a man" *PHM S'd* C20/1; "pittle pot" *JS Easington* C20/mid, *CT New Herrington* 1930s ('kept under bed'); "to pittle" *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *Plus* "pittal – urine" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this form N'd, Yx, Lx, Der, Notts, EA.

[piddle] See also **scoit**

pittly bed dandelion

ex. *GP S'm C20/mid*; "pittle-le-bed" *BB Easington Lane 2004*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: pittle-bed – N'd, Notts. Plus "pissy-bed – the dandelion plant" *Bell MS Newc 1815*; "there's a pink among the pissy-beds" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.337 C19/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: piss-a-bed – general

pitterin' whinging

"Pittoring (pit:rún) – low-spirited, complaining: 'Ay, he's pitterin' on'" *Palgrave Hetton 1896*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD'm, EA [imitative]

plack a small coin

"no worth a plack" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.45 1812; "buzzems for a penny, rangers for a plack" *Scrapbook Billy Purvis*, C19/1; "plack – a small coin: 'We'll spend wor hinmost plack...'" *Pitman's Pay G'head 1820s*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, C'd, W'd, Lx. [Flem. placke 'small coin' C15]

plantation any woodland, esp. managed

"Planting/Plantation" *Palgrave Hetton 1896*; "plantation" *TC Parkside 1990s*

plash/y 1. to splash, 2. wet, 3. rain

1. "plash – to splash; a heavy fall or even a shower of rain" *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*; "plash – to splash" *Atkinson Cleve 1868*

2. "plashy – wet under foot: to plash in the dirt..." *Kennet 1690s as Nth*; "ploshy – miry, muddy" *Atkinson Cleve 1868*

3. "plash doon – downpour" *Dobson Tyne 1973*; 'a downpour of rain' *Graham Geordie 1979*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Mids. NE 2001: not in use. [compare OE plæsc 'a pool', Swed plaska 'to splash']

plate slate clay

"plate – in mining, is slate clay ... post (in mining) is sandstone" *Bell MS Newc 1815*

plate a rail (pit term)

"plate rails – cast iron L shaped rails, used underground for the 'tubs' to run along" *Tootle re C19* (L-section rail for 'biscuit' wheels); "plait – plate, tub rail" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

plate-pie a savoury or sweet pie baked and served in a deep plate

ex. *GJ Spennymoor 1950s*

plloat/plote 1. to pluck, 2. to rob, 3. to hit

1. "plloat – to pluck" *Grose 1787*; "plote – to pluck feathers; metaphorically, to chide vehemently..." *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*; "plote – to pluck (a fowl)" *Dinsdale, Teesdale 1849*; "plloat – to strip off or pluck, e.g. feathers from a fowl; to plunder or rifle..." *Atkinson Cleve 1868*; "ti plot it like a guse" *Wearside Tales 1879*; "A blackberry bush or pitch that had been thoroughly picked was called 'plotted'" *JS E'ton 1950s*; "ploating a chicken or other bird meant pulling all the feathers off before cooking" *ER M'bro C20/2*, sim. *BF Billingham C20/mid*, *NShields C20/mid*, *Easington Colliery 2001 Q*, *Trimdon 2002 Q*, *Wheatley Hill 2004 Q*; "plote – pluck or bring down" *Wade South Moor 1966*; "ploht – pluck chicken, remove dangerous loose stone [in a mine]" *Dodd Tanfield C20/2*; "plloat – to pluck and dress a bird" *JR Sacriston C20/2*. *Note* – not recognised by *EDD* which has 'plot – to scald'; *SED* (C20/mid) gives sense 'to pluck' from N'd, D'm, C'd, W'd, Yx. NE 2001: in low use. [Flem/Du ploten 'to pluck']

2. "to plunder or rifle: 'they'll plloat him'" *Atkinson Cleve 1868*; "plloat – to pilfer" *Haswell 2001 Q*; "plloat – to pluck or steal, not hit" *South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M)*; "plloat – well and truly subject to crime: 'the area has been plloated by burglars'" *CC Newc 2003*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: nYx

3. to chide vehemently: 'how she plotes him'" *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*; "I ploated him" (I hit him) *ER M'bro C20/2*; 'to bash or hit' *JP S'm C20/2*; "Certainly in urban Teesside it means to 'inflict great violence upon': It was always my cousin's favourite threat when I'd been teasing

her (I'll plout you)." *VWM*'bro 1980s; "plout – to punch but a hefty wallop, a great crushing knock-out blow." *JS* re Ch-le-St C20/2. *Plus* "plort – to punch or thump" *PG H*'pool 1998

plodge to wade

"plodge – to wade through water, to plunge" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'to wade or walk through water' *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "to paddle; we went plodging or had a plodge at the seaside" *HP* South Gosforth C20/mid; 'to paddle in the sea' *IL* Tow Law C20/mid, *Wood* Tees 2002; "ploj – wade" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; 'dunking one's feet in the water' *FS H*'pool C20/2; 'to wade in water with bare feet' *Graham* Geordie 1979 "gannin plodge" East Boldon 1985. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, C'd, Yx. NE 2001: in common use

plook, pluke pimple

"plook – a pimple, scab" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "ez rank ez flesh-flees on a sheep pluk" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; 'pimples' *Embleton* Newc 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, C'd, Yx. [Gael. pluc]. *Plus* "plooky, plooky-faced – pimples" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "plooky, plooky are your cheeks" *Beattie* Border Ballads p.152

plote see **plout**

plother wet and muddy

"plother – very wet mud especially if including animal manure" *Wood* re rural Teesside C20/2

plout to struggle to walk

"to plout through snow" *MG* Teesdale C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, C'd

pluffer pea-shooter

"get a piece of elderberry, about nine inches long and 3/4 inch in diameter. Hollow out the pith with a screwdriver or six inch nail and this makes an ideal peashooter or 'pluffer'." *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Co.Durham; "wi' thor bit bows an' arrers and pea-pluffers" (pea-shooters) *Dobson* Tyne 1970–71; 'a tube used as a pea-shooter' *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd. *Plus* "pluff – to blow in the face; to explode gunpowder" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. [compare Du ploffen 'to puff, explode']

plunder fishing weight

'used in South Shields c. 1950 for the lump of lead on the end of a hand-held fishing-line *AM*

pode something cute

"pode/poad – a little person; any animal small and neat of its kind" *VR* Spennymoor 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900 Sco

pog a hand up

"Gie us a pog up" *FS* re S'm C20/2. *EDD* 1900: pag 'to carry, lift' Nth, eMids. *Plus* "Gi's a cog up, will ye?" *Heslop* N'd 1890s

poke sack, bag

"ii seckes, iii pooks" Cockerton 1612 via *Atkinson* no.30; "a poke – a sack, a bag" *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; "Poverty writes her name on radle, pat or meal-pock" Durham 1839; 'a narrow bag of the sack description' *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "a poke o' cwols" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "Poke – a sack, or bag (common). 'Flour-poke'." *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "if somebody has had too much beer and too many cigarettes I have heard the phrase used 'by, thoo smell like a poke of devils'" *IL* Willington C20/2; "'smells like a poke o' divils', as a cheap perfume or any (not too) offensive smell" *MM* Amble C20/2; 'hessian sack' *Teward* Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [AN poque] See also **bait poke**

pollis police(man)

"the pollis cam" (emphasis on first syllable) *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.382 1851; "a good heart beats within him for he knocks the pollis doon" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.423 1862; "Ah telt a pollis aboot it" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "a pollis pulled us oot at last" *Robson* Newc C20/1; "the pollisses – Jackson en Jones" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; "Pollis – police" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896, Tanfield Lea, 1960, etc.; "poliss – tribal constabulary" *Dobson* Tyne 1970; "a sergeant and a poliss" *Irwin* Tyne 1970–71; "Morpeth polisses versus Ashington polisses" *Irwin*

Tyne 1970; “phoned the polisses” S’d 2003 via BG. *Plus* “bobby” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.501 1881; “gissie” S’d 1890; “poliss point” (traffic light) Newc, 1966 per BG

pooda gunpowder

“pooda – mine explosive” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

Poolies Hartlepool folk

ex. *VW* 2003

popple the common corn cockle

ex. *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, C’d, Yx, Linx, EA

poppy-pill opium

ex. *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: obsol

porrage porridge

“porrage – hasty-pudding or porridge – oatmeal mixed in boiling water and stirred on the fire till it be considerably thickened. In Durham it is poddish. ‘Put on the poddishpot’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, sim. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

porriwiggle the tadpole

ex. *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx, Leics, EA, Sur. [polliwog ‘wagging head’]. *Plus* “bull heed” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

poss to agitate, to wash

“poss – to dash violently in the water, to beat; ‘to poss clothes’ in what is called a poss-tub” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Poss – to wash clothes by putting them in a ‘poss-tub’ of soap and water, and thumping them with a ‘posstick,’ or short-legged staff, in some places called a ‘dolly’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “to poss the clothes” *RM* Norton C20/mid; “only if you’re passing them in a poss-tub” *PG* H’pool C20/2; “a picture of some Seaham women indulging in the long forgotten art of double passing” *S’d Echo* 7 Jan 1965; “poss – wash in hot water” *LL* Tyneside, 1974. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, wMids. [Fr pousser]. *Plus* “passing tub and staff” *MWN* 19 May 1860; “passing-stick, poss-stick – the staff [used to poss]” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “...the paraphernalia of the laundry: a poss-tub, scrubbing brush, bars of yellow soap and the mighty mangle” *Hitchin* re Dalton-le-Dale p.21 1910s; “poss-stick – a heavy piece of wood with a stalk and heavy foot” *Graham* Geordie 1979, Roker C20/mid; *HP* South Gosforth C20/mid; “poss tub – kept in yard half full of water” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2, Dinnington 1950s Q; “the pounding of primeval poss-tubs” *Dobson* Tyne 1970; “posh – to agitate, e.g. a fire [cf. poss]” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “dolly, dolly-tub – a washing-tub in the form of a barrel” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

post sandstone

exx. *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846 (in pit), *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, Yx, Northants

pot 1. earthenware mug, 2. plaster cast on broken limb, 3. lobster pot, etc.

1. “in private they were o’er a pot” *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; “pots o’erturn’d, and glasses broken!” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “the boody pots (of beer) went roon an’ roond” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “pot – an earthenware mug: ‘a pot o’ coffee’” S’m 1990s per BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Mids. *Plus* “pot py – meat and dough boiled” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

2. “pot – the cast on a broken leg” *GP* S’m 1990s. *Plus* “chalk – a plaster cast” S’d 2001 Q

3. ‘trap ... for crabs and lobsters ... invariably called a pot in cobles’ *Hill* Flamborough 1970s

pote poet

exx. *Haldane* Newc 1879, *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2

pout, paut to kick

“pout – to kick or strike with the feet” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “paut, poat – to kick gently or move with the feet” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “paut – to finger or paw” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE potian]

pow top of head

“carrot-pow’d Jenny’s Jacky” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “Time laid his cauld hand on his pow” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.354 1849; “pow – the poll or head (human)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids [poll]. *Plus* “crut – top of head” N.Shields C20/mid Q; “pow-head – a tadpole before it has legs” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

powl, powlen pole

“the powl tuen down” *Marshall Newc* 1823 p.23; “aw dream’d aw was at the North Powl” *Ross Tyne* p.23 C19/1; “powlens” (wooden poles, levers) *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s

priest

“Priest (praest) – a clergyman is always so called” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

prod a goad

“prod – a prick” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; ‘a prick or skewer’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

prog to poke or prick

“prog, proggle – to prick, to pierce; a prog; progly – prickly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “they wez buzy proggin’ me aall ower” *Robson Newc* C20/1; “Aa progged it wi’ one o’ Polly’s hat pins” *Robson Newc* C20/1; “to poke with s.thing pointed or sharp, hence proggie mat” South Shields C20/2 Q (see next entry); “...any feul knaas that sheep canna prog” *Dobson Tyne* 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

proggie mat home-made rug

“proggy mat – made from hessian base with woven lengths of fabric” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “a proggie mat made with clippings of cloth about 2 inches long and a progger” *JS Easington* C20/mid; “progee mat – home-made rug” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “it takes ten sheep to make one proggy mat...” *Dobson Tyne* 1972. See also **clooty, hookie mat**

proggles prickles, etc.

“prog, proggle – to prick, to pierce; a prog”; “progils” (prickles of a hedgehog) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “proggle – a thorn” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, wMids. *Plus* “proddle” (to prod) *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid

progly prickly

“progly – prickly” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s, *Wade South Moor*, 1966; “Progily” (hedgehog nickname) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2

pross to gossip

att. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846, *Blenkinsopp Tees* 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Yx, Lincs. [prose]

puar pure, very

“lse pure weel” *EDD* wYx 1900; “‘Puar’ and ‘puarly’ are used to emphasise something: ‘It’s puarly mint, man’” *Charver* 2000–2002. *Plus* “clean gyen”, “clean daft” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s

pubble plump

“pubble – plump, full: usually said of corn or grain when well perfected” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “as pubble as a partridge” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [?Fris. pumpel]

puddick undersize fish

'any fish too small to sell in a market' *GP S'm* C20/mid. [?puddick]

puddings intestines

"there cam a balloon, but some gav its puddins a slit" *Tracts* 4, Newc c. 1820; "A'll pull thy puddin's oot!" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "puddens – innards/intestines: 'careful, you'll hurt ya puddens' e.g. while lifting" *MS N.Shields* 2004. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Ches, Lincs

puffler pit representative

'spokesman/negotiator for a team on a shift of men down the pit' New Herrington C20/mid; "puffler – man in charge of long wall in mine" *Sacriston* C20/2 per BG. Tootle 1995 as Warks, Lx

pug, puggie to rob a bird's nest

"pug a nest – to destroy or spoil a (bird's) nest" *Spennymoor* C20/mid; "a nest that was robbed and destroyed was puggied as in 'some rotten bugger has puggied it'" *JS Easington*, 1950s; "if we destroyed a nest we 'puggied it'" *JR Sacriston* C20/2

pule to sleet

"pule – to sleet, or to fall as a mixture of snow and sleet: "'t pules an' snaws sae'" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, nYx. See also **pew**

pump to break wind

ex. *CT* New Herrington 1930s, *CP S'm* 1996, *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2, etc.; "pump off" Teesside 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, neLx. NE 2001: in use. *Plus* "another word we used at school was to boff" *PG H'pool* C20/2; "trump – the politer term" *CT* New Herrington 1930s

punch to kick

"punch – to strike with the feet, to thrust as with a point" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "punch – noun/vb – kick" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "punch – to kick about with the feet in bed in a restless manner: 'Lie still an' dinna punch us that way'" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. See also **bunch**

pund pond (money or weight)

"I'll bet a pund tiv a hayseed" (a certain bet) *DN* N'd C20/2 [OE pund]

puoy punt pole

"puoy – a long pole with an iron fork at the end, used by keelmen on the Tyne to puoy or push their keels on" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "puoy, puy or pouie – a long pole, with an iron spike or spikes, at the end; used in propelling keels in shallow water, or when it is inconvenient to use sails or oars" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "Bobby Gowlan' comes puoying his keel up" *Green* Wearside 1879 re C19/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: puy – N'd, D'm, Notts, Lincs, EA

puss brown hare

ex. B'd Castle 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, C'd, Yx

put to push, propel

'to but, to push with the horns' *Meriton* nYx 1683; "to putte – to push with head or horns as a cow" *Kennet* 1690s as Yx; "putting the tram" *Collier's Rant* Newc C18/2; "putting a keel" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "after putting the men three fives" (tubs) *Shield Row* C20/1; "to propel a keel with a powey is called to put or to set" *Graham* Geordie 1979. *Note*: a considerable range of contexts is given for the word 'put' in *Heslop*. *Plus* "puttin in kaad – becoming cold" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

putter a youth employed in moving coal tubs

“putter – a boy who works the tram” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “putter – a boy in the workings of a coal pit who pushes or propels the corf or corves on a tram or rolley along the rolley way from where the hewer is working to the foot of the shaft” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “Putters are commonly young men from 16 to 20 years old” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “hand-putter or barrowman – one who puts without the assistance of a pony”

putter a youth employed in moving coal tubs

Nicholson 1880; “pony-putter – a lad who brings the tubs from the working places to the flat with a pony” *Nicholson* 1880; “The ‘putter’ is a lad who ‘puts,’ or shoves the full tubs from the hewer’s ‘cavil’ to the ‘flat’, and takes the empty ones in to him” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “person who transports tubs to the coal-face from a flat or passer-by. Sometimes by hand or pony.” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery, C20/mid*; “putter – works with the tubs” *JM Dawdon* 1970s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, D’m, Lx, Yx, Ches. See also **foal**

putting the job of propelling tubs of coal in a pit

“my putting’s a’ done” *Collier’s Rant Newc C18/2*; “putting-hewer – a young hewer who is liable to be called upon to put if necessary” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

Q

qu—see also **tw**—, **wh**—

quarles quarries

“quarles – a large flat brick made of fire clay and used for flews in hot walls, etc.” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “Engine house was completed in November 1935. We are told that it will be in use for about 60 years. We are putting this note on the quarrels hoping it will be found.” *Dawdon Colliery Dec* 1935

quean, wheen 1. woman, 2. disreputable woman

1. “this is a gloomy quean, says Tommy Linn” *NChorister D’m*, C18/2; “quean – a term of abuse to a female; [but] not always used in a reproachful sense: ‘a sturdy quean’, ‘a good-like quean’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “weean – a female, a woman, a wife” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “wander about like the rest o’ young queens” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, S.W. [OE *cwéne* ‘(any) woman’]

2. “Thou art a base, beggerlie, scurvie queane” *Raine MS Newcastle* 1607. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

queen-cat, wheen-cat she-cat

“wheen-cat – a queen-cat ...” *Ray* 1674 *Grose* 1787; “queen-cat” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “queenie and carl-cat” *GP S’m* 1950s; “queenie” eD’m. 2001 Q; “tom-cat and queen-cat” *Seaburn C20/2 Q*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: C’D, D’m, Yx. *Plus* “bess-cat” *Teesdale. C20/2 Q*. See also **carle**

queens heads postage stamps

“put on twee Queens’ heads” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

quex goose

“a broad quex – a brood goose” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s

quey, whye young heifer

‘A heifer of any age up to 3 years, or until she has a calf’ (*EDD*); “excellent queys from 2 to 3 years old” *Newc Courant* 7 Oct 1826; “whye or quey – a heifer” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “quey – generally pronounced whye” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “your whey’s doon i’ the born” *Parker Tyne Valley* 1896 p.69; “Quey stirk (waay stau:k) – 2-year-old heifer” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “quey – a heifer” *Upper Teesdale* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [ON *kvíga*]

quick (of trees and bushes)

1. “quicken-tree – the mountain ash” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. [OE *cwic* – ‘living’]

2. hedging plants: “qwhykwode – thorns, quick-wood hedge” *Finchale* (1487–8) “quicks – young hawthorn trees or bushes” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “wicks – plants [for a hedge]” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “whicks – thorns” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. See also **whick**

R

r the Northumberland burr

“a difficulty in pronouncing the letter r, which they cannot deliver from the tongue without a horrid jarring in the throat” Defoe *A tour of the whole island* 1720s; “the rough sound of ‘r’, as it is pronounced by the natives of Durham, who sound it in their throats with a disagreeable rattling.” 1798 per Beal p.167 1999; “maek gam of wor bur” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.50 1812; “an’ say wor burr becomes us weel” *Oliver Newc* 1824 p.8 (re Newcastle); “to speak wi’ bunch of bear-awms in his hause” (barley beards in the throat) Denham Tracts C19; “The Northumbrian growls it out from the bottom of his throat” *Haldane Newc* 1879 p.9; “the Geordie ‘R’” *Dobson Tyne* 1970...” this is both rolling and guttural” *Dobson Tyne* 1969

raa see **raw**

rackless thoughtless, careless

ex. *Viereck* re Gateshead, 1966. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON raékja, OE récan]. *Plus* “rack – to care: ‘never rack you’” *Grose* 1787

rack, rax out change, improve

“it’s ganta rac” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; ‘said of weather going to improve’ *MG Teesdale* C20/2; Middleton in Teesdale 2001 Q; “to rax out – to clear up [of weather]” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. [?ON rek; compare Eng. rack ‘flying clouds’]

racken, reckon-crook pot-hanger

“one paire of rackes, a paire of tonges and a reckon crooke with a paire of pott kilps” Darlington via Atkinson no.24 1610; “racen, a racken or racen – pot-hangers in Yorkshire; in the bishoprick of Durham a racen-crouk” *Kennet* 1690s; reckon-cruck – a crook hung on a bar in the chimney of most country houses, on which they hung the kale pot on” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “Recking-crook (krook) not (kruok) – a crook hanging over the fire for pans to hang from” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs. [OE racente, ON rekendr ‘chain’]. See also **brandreth**

rackle violent

‘violent, headstrong’ *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; ‘rackle – disorderly (of a person)’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849

radge rage, wildness

“when that childre play and rage” (romp), “Cuthbert, it acords noht the to rage” (of Cuthbert as a child playing) *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “radged – furious mad” nYx 1890s per *EDD*; “he flew into a raj (rage, but pronounced radge)” *IA S’m* 1950s, 60s; “radge” (noun, adj or verb) *Charver* 2000-2002

radgy an angry or wild person

“He’s a proper radgee” *Charver* 2000–2002; “radgie – charva, specifically of the aggressive persuasion” www.urbanDictionary.com; “radgie-gadgie – angry old man” *Newc* 2001 Q

raff heap, refuse, lumber, etc.

“raff – abundance, a great quantity, a great number: ‘a raff of fellows’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [compare Swed. raffs ‘rubbish’]. *Plus* “raff-yard – timberyard” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, ‘scrap yard’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid [compare Gm Raf ‘beam of wood’]; “raff-yard – scrapyard” *Dobson Tyne* 1973

raffled snarled up

“P.D. ran te clear the anchor/It’s raffled.’ right loudly he roar’d” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.27 1805; “raffle – to become confused in one’s intellect: ‘he is beginning to raffle’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, W’d, Yx, Lx. [?ravel, or Du. rafelen ‘to tangle’]

rageous furious, violent

“rageous – in a rage, in excessive pain, violent” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “that dog o’ yours is rageous” wYx C20/mid per *EDD*; “rageous – outrageous (violent and delirious)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs. [OFr rageux]

raggies ragworms

‘used as fishing bait’ *DP S’m* 2000

raim see **rame**

raggy ‘stony, of shale’

ex. *Barrass Consett* 1893

rain-bird woodpecker

“rain-birds, rain-fowl – popular names for woodpeckers” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [‘said to be vociferous when rain is impending’ *OED*]. *Plus* “pickatree – woodpecker” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, W’d, Yx

rake course, direction, stretch

“Whyt Barne Rake” *Durham* C16/2; “ratch – the straight course of a navigable river. The word is used on the Tyne in the same sense as Reach on the Thames. The Newcastle keelmen generally call it Rack.” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “a rake to Hartley Burn” (journey) C’d 1880 per *EDD*. [ON rák, OE raécan]. *Plus* “she’s raking up the dyke” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.29 1812; “ryak’n about – roaming around” Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “always rakin’ the roads – never in e.g. of a bad housewife” *MS N.Shields* 2004; “rax – to reach” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

ram rancid

“ram – foetid, rank...: ‘a ram smell’, ‘a ram taste’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “ram – acrid or pungent (of a smell)” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “ma pipe’s varry ram an ah mun hed rimed oot” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; ‘rancid’ *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “ram – rancid (re butter, bacon)” *JB* Shildon C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Ches, Lincs, Dor. [cf. Ice. ramr]. *Plus* “if we left the cinema and described the film as ‘ram!’ we meant ‘lousy!, boring!, rubbish!’” *LG S’m* C20/2

ramage rough

“ramage – violent, rude, as the man was very ramage with the lass” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. [OFr ramage]

rame, raim to complain, moan, etc.

“to rame – to weep or cry” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “rame, ream – to cry aloud, to ask over and over again in a teasing manner; raming, reaming – crying” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “rame. To ply one with questions, as children love to do: ‘What’s tha ramin’ o’ me for?’ ‘He just raimed my life out for sixpence’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “raim – grumble excessively” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “to talk or call fretfully: ‘he just raimed away...’” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “raim – to moan” Ferryhill 2001 Q; “stop riming on about that” *JS* Easington C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, part of Mids. [ON hreim-r ‘a scream or cry’]

rammel 1. brushwood. 2. types of stone, 3. rubbish, mine waste

1. “for carraege of rammell 5s.” *Raine* MS York 1584; “rammel meaning rubbish: ‘the boot sale was full of rammell’” *TH* Wheatley Hill 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth, Mids. [AN ramaille ‘branches, loppings’]

2. rammel – a thin piece of coarse cannel coal which lies at the top of the marketable coal” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “ramble – a thin stratum of shale, often found lying immediately above the seam of coal” *Nicholson* 1880; “rammul – small stone from mine roof” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “rammel – stone that gets mixed with the coal” Wade South Moor 1966. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, D’m, Ches, Shrop

3. “rammel – rubbish (originally mine waste): ‘the boot sale was full of rammell’ *TH* Wheatley Hill (E); “rammel – copper coins as well as the stone mixed with the coal: ‘Aa’ve got a pocket full of rammell’ (small change) *LS S’m* C20/2

rammel to ramble

“death rammels on throo lane an’ square” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.241 1829

rampageous boisterous, disorderly

ex. *JS Easington* C20/mid; 'over the top' *MB Coxhoe* C20/mid; "rampageous – rough" *Sedgefield* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* "ye ramp rider!" (riotous) *Beattie* *Border Ballads* p.145

ramper? skateboarder

"sweating like a ramper" *AM* re Brandon 2005

ramstam impetuous

"ramstam – thoughtless: 'a rackle ram-stam wife'" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N'd, Northants, Beds

randy a noisy, vulgar woman (without immoral connotations)

"D'ye want me to make a randy of meself?" *AK* re N'd 1940s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

range see **rench**

rant be voluble, etc.

"rant – evangelise, angry uncontrolled speech" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; 'a lively song with chorus' *Graham* *Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [Du ranten 'to rave']. *Plus* "ranty – excited; wild with passion, drink or excitement" *Atkinson* *Cleve* 1868; "Ranters – Primitive Methodists" *Palgrave* *Hetton* 1896

rap to signal from shaft to engine room

"he rapped 'Men On' to the brakesman/and away Aa went in the cage" *West Stanley* C20/1; "the' rapped the cage ter bank" *Hay Ushaw Moor* C20/1; "then the banksman will rap them (the men) down" *GP* S'm C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, nStaffs [imitative, noted C14 on]

rapper 1. signal mechanism at pit shaft, 2. flexible metal strip used in N'd/D'm version of sword dancing

1."rapper – a lever placed at the top of a shaft or inclined plane, to one end of which a hammer is attached, and to the other a line, communicating with the bottom of the shaft or incline. Its use is to give signals when everything is ready at the bottom for drawing away" *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, wYx

2. "the rapper ... was [probably] discovered by accident when mining tools were adapted to be used as improvised swords" www.rapper.org.uk. [the metal strip with handles each end probably started off as an implement to scrape down horses (and pit ponies?)]. *Plus* "wafter – play sword" *Graham* *Tyne* 1980

rarf

'idiot' *VW* re H'pool 2003. *Plus* "The 'Rarfies' (pronounced rarfies) – a large comprehensive to the west of North Shields" *HH* (E) [?Ralph]

raspberry 1. **rasp**, 2. **hindberry**

1. ex. *Grose* 1787; "rasp – raspberry, both the bush and its fruit" *Brockett* *Newc & Nth* 1829; *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; *Palgrave* *Hetton* 1896; eD'm 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. NE 2001: in use

2. "hind-berries – raspberries" *Ray* *Nth* 1674; 'raspberries (*Rubus Idæus*)' *Bailey* *Co.Durham* 1810; *Brockett* *Newc & Nth* 1829

ratch see **rake**

ratchet hound

"[people suppose] the noise of the wild swans flying high upon the heights, to be spirits, or (as they call them here in the North) Gabriel-Ratchets" *Raine* MS 1647; "Gabriel-ratchet (pronounced Gaabrl-ratchet) – a name for a yelping sound heard at night, more or less resembling the cry of hounds or yelping of dogs" *Atkinson* *Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: ratch – Sco, N'd, Lakes. [OE *ræce*]

ratherlings mostly

'for the most part' *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846

ratten rat

"ratten – the ... rat" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "ratten trap" *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Ches, Der, Shrop. [ME *raton*]

rattle-scawp mischievous fellow

Palgrave Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE

rattly-bags see **thunnor**

raw, raa row of terrace houses

"of the towne on the este rawe" (east row or street) *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "We leve i' yen raw" *Marshall* G'head 1806; "raw – a row of buildings, the side of a street" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "the folks o' wor raw" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.359 1849; "a colliery raw" *Jesmond* 1891; "roond the raws ... the youngsters hugg'd the teup" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "the pit raa" *Graham Geordie* 1979; "raa – terrace row" *Thornley* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

rax to stretch

"and raxed him where he stood" (stretched himself to full height) *Reed Border Ballads* C16; "rax – to stretch or strain: riving and raxing" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "rax – to stretch; to strain" *Nicholson* 1880; "He raxed his-sel' oot" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "to rax yourself to the point of injury, e.g. strain or sprain" *Darlington* 1940s (Q); "rax that blether an' we'll myek a foot ball" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "raxed mi shackles – sprained my wrist" *Umpleby Staithe* c. 1935; "rax – [to] stretch, strain (an object)" *JB Shildon* C20/mid; "he's raxed hissell – strained a muscle" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950s; "rax me new shoes for us" *IA S'm* 1950s, 60s, *GP S'm* 1950s; "I've raxed me bike" (bent frame) *cenD'm* 2001 Q; "to rax out – to make item fit easier" *Wheatley Hill* 2002 Q; "diwent swing on the chair or you'll rax it" *AD Hebburn* 2003 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Lincs. [OE *raxan*]

reckling runt of litter

"reckling – an unhealthy child, pig or lamb; the nestling, or smaller bird in a nest" *Grose* 1787; "wreckling... the youngest or weakest of the breed among animals" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "My sister was 18 and my brother 14 when I was born, so I was the 'recklin'" *JB Shildon*, 1930s, 1940s, sim. *GP S'm* C20/mid; "A recklin is the runt of a pig litter" *Wood* re rural Teesside C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. NE 2001: in use. [ON *recklingr* 'an exile'] *Plus* "crit – the smallest of a litter, etc.: 'Tom's the crit i' the family" *Heslop N'd* 1890s

red to tidy, clean, etc.

"red – to untangle or separate" *Grose* 1787; "red – to put in order, to clear, to disentangle: 'to red up the house'" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, "red (up) – to tidy up (one's hair)" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "ye shud red up yer place", "red yor hair" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "redding – clearing away the stones produced by blasting, falls, &c." *Nicholson* 1880, sim. *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "daily housework was always 'redding up'" *Nth Words* N'd, 1938. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd. [reden 'to make ready']. *Plus* "the king's redding caim" (comb) *Beattie* *Border Ballads* p.174

reed red

"reed" *Anderson* Newcastle 1593; "a read why calf" *Darlington*, 1610 per *Atkinson* no.25; "leyke twe little reed tatees" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "stars o' reed glass" *Tracts* 4, Newc c. 1820; "reed an' blue fire" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.415 1853; "as reed as a fox" *Lakeland* re C'd 1856; "his fingers was reed raw" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950, "reed raa" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, NI, N'd, C'd. [OE *read*]

reek smoke (noun and vb)

"reek – smoke ... in the North they pronoun it reek and use it indifferently for all sorts of smoak" *Kennet* 1690s; "whei cowers biv the chimlay reek?" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.51 1823; "Reek (rae:k) – smoke, e.g. Baccy-reek, Powder-reek" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "powderreek" *Wade* South Moor 1966, *JR Haswell* C20/mid; "reek – pipe smoke" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950; "the chimleys reekin badly" *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *rec*, ON *reykr*]. *Plus* "reeky – smoky" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

reesty rancid esp. of bacon

“reasty – rancid, particularly applied to bacon” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, “...spoilt by long keeping” 1846; “reesty – rancid, discoloured and having a bad taste” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘rotten (of bacon)’ *JB Shildon C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: reasty – general. [OFr resté ‘left over, stale’]

reet right (noun and adj.)

“reet” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “reet frae wrang discerning” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.45 1812; “reet as a tripet” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “thoo’s about reet there, Tommy” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “reet forrad” (straight ahead)?N’d, *NCM* 1900–1901; “not reet iv his head” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Nth

rench, etc. to rinse

ex. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “range the pot out” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “wrench out a cup” *ER M’bro C20/2*; “rainch” *Thornley* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON hræinsa ‘to cleanse’]

renky well-shaped

“rencky – great and boisterous” *Kennet* 1690s as Yx; “renky – tall and well-made, athletic” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: nYx. *Plus* “renty – well-shaped ... of horses or cows” *Grose* 1787

rezzy reservoir

ex. *Trimdon C20/2 Q*

rice, rise brushwood

“None shall cut rise ... on Allenton Common” *Raine MS Hexham*, 1664; “rice – hedging wood” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “rice – dead thorns fixed to form a fence” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s extra; ‘brushwood’ *Smith Weardale* 1883. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE hrís]

ride to ride on a plundering expeditions

“ryding” (cattle) raiding *Beattie Border Ballads*; “ride – to go out on horseback to rob; rider – a moss-trooper, or robber on the Borders” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, W’d – now obsol. [OE geridan]. *Plus* ‘a raid’ e.g. poem *RR D’m C16/mid*

rieve, reave to plunder

“thai slew, thai brent, thai robbed, thai reved” *Cuthbert C15/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, C’d, Yx. [OE réafian]. *Plus* “riever, reaver – a border thief” per *EDD*

rift to belch

“rift – to belch; also to plow out grass land” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “riften – belching” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950, *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON ripta ‘to break’]

rig ridge

“rygg” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “coming over the Dry-rig” *RR Weardale* 1569; “rig – a ridge, an eminence; rig-and-fur, rig-and-rein – ridge and furrow” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “rigg – the ridge of any object: ‘Ah’ll lig thee on tha’ rigg’ (back)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Furrows are called ‘rigs’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids, EA. [OE hrycge, ON hrycg] *Plus* “riggin – back (bone): ‘he went flat on his riggin’” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*

riddy ready

“awl riddy” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*

rime to clean out with a drilling motion

“rimed out – cleaned out” (of a pipe) *Embleton Newc* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, W’d, Yx, Lx, Lincs, Dor. [OE r’yman ‘to make room’]

rind hoar frost

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “Rind – rime, hoar-frost: ‘There’s a heavy (or, thick) rind on’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “rhind” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE. [dubious OE hrinde]

ripe to rifle

“ripe – to search, to steal privately, to plunder: ‘to ripe for stones in the foundation of an old wall’, ‘he riped the nest’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘to quarry stones’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “ripe – to rifle or search: ‘Aw catch’d him ripin’ maw breeches pocket’” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE r’ypan]

rive 1. to tear, rip, 2. a rent

1. “the yong man sarke, of some ryvyng had a marke” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “I shall rive him out of the earth that ever giveth him one grote of my geare” *Raine* MS Newcastle, 1586; “paid for fellyng of wood and ryving of spilys” (Bishop of Durham’s accounts, ca. 1515) via *Brockett* Newc 1846; “De’il rive their sark gangs hame tonight” *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; “rove my breeks” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “rive – to separate into parts by applying force to each side” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “he was fit to rive swarth” (to tear up the ground with vexation) *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “rave – did rive, tore” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “rowen – p.p. of rive: ‘rowen fra tegither’ (torn asunder)” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Please sir, he’s ruwen a leaf out” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “hes rowen his claes te bits” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Ire, Nth, EA. NE 2001: in common use. [ON rifa] *Plus* “cheggle – to tear roughly apart” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

2. “rive – a rent or tear” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘a rent in a garment’ *Graham* Geordie 1979; ‘large tear or rip’ *JP* S’m C20/2

rock hard, tough

“they’ll think we’re rock” *VIZ* 37 ca.1990

rolley four-wheel vehicle

“rolley – a small waggon (with four little wheels) for conveying the corf” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; ‘similar in construction to a tram but larger; a long carriage for conveying the corfs or tubs of coals from the crane or flat to the bottom of the shaft, drawn by horses’; *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; ‘a carriage used to carry corves along the horse-roads underground. The roley was contrived as an improvement upon the tram, upon which a single corf was placed; a horse drawing one, two, or three corves at a time’ *Nicholson* 1880; “rolley – what is called a ‘trolley’ in some parts, i.e. an open waggon for carrying heavy goods, such as beer-barrels or packing-cases” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “rolly – four-wheeled, flat, farm cart, with front wheels plus small driver’s platform swivelling” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; “rolley – Pitmatic for trolley” *Leslie* Newc 1992. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx, Lincs, Norf, i.e. East coast

rolly way road in pit

“rolley-way – the under-ground waggon-way along which the rolleys travel” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘way laid with iron on which the roley travels’ *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; ‘the horse road underground’ *Nicholson* 1880; ‘haulage road’ *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Durham collieries; “rolleewai – underground railway” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2, Dinnington 1950s Q

roof upper surface of pit tunnel

“roof closing (large fall in coal mine)” *JM* Thornaby C20/2

rook, roke mist

“rook, rouk – a mist or fog” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “rook – mist, rooky – misty – the mist or sea fret” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “roaky – misty” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “roke – a thick fog” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “It’s a thick rook the neet” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: roak – general. [?ON, compare reek]. *Plus* “roky – foggy” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “rooky” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

roondabout traffic roundabout

“roondaboot” *Dobson* Tyne 1972 (preferred to circle)

roondy coal marketable for domestic use

“lumps o’ roondy coal” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.516 1872; “Then, smack! the roondie an’ the small/Aw skelps off the back-end” *Barrass*

Stanley 1892; 'large lump of coal' *JM Thornaby C20/2*, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; "artefacts ... constructed from bits of roondy coal" *Dobson Tyne 1970*; "roundies – round coal" *Ferryhill, Seaham 2001 Q*. [i.e. a useful size when coal to be placed on the fire with tongs]

roop/y hoarse

"a roop – of the North a hoarsness, and hoars voic[e]s occasioned by a cold" *Kennet 1690s*; "roup – hoarsnees of voice – to be roupy, to be hoarse" *Bell MS Newc 1830s*; "folks wi' roups" *Tracts 4*, *Newc 1850*; "roopy – husky (of the voice). (Always used)" *Palgrave Hetton 1896*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: roupy – general. *Plus* "rooped – hoarse: 'He's roop'd wuv a sair throat'" *Luckley Alnwick 1870s*

rout, rowt 1. to bellow, 2. a loud noise

1. "the rowtinge and blaringe" *Raine MS EYorks 1641*; "sax poor ca's [calves] ... a'routing loud for their minnie" *Beattie Border Ballads p.74*; "rowting – bellowing of an ox" *Bailey Co.Durham 1810*; "roughting – the lowing or bellowing of cattle" *Bell MS Newc 1815*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Lincs. NE 2001: not in use. [ON rauta]. *Plus* "blorting – to bellow" *Middleton in Teesdale 2001 Q*

2. "div'nt ye mak' sic a rout" *Allan's Tyneside Songs p.47 1812*

rowk to search

"to search or look: 'I rowked in a drawer'" *MG Teesdale C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: roak – N'd, C'd; roke – wYx, etc.

rowst arousing

"rowst – get the men to work after their blaa (breather) was finished" *JS Easington C20/mid*

rozzel, rozin – to warm

"rossel – to heat, to roast" *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*; "rozzle – resin. Also, to warm oneself: 'He rozzled his hide'" (by the fire) *Palgrave Hetton 1896*; "rozzel yor shins" *Graham Geordie 1979*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs, Shrop. *Plus* "rozzla – very hot day" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; "rozin'd – comfortably tipsy" *Pitman's Pay G'head 1820s*; "he rosin'd wor gobs wiv a glass o' French brandy" *Allan's Tyneside Songs p.295 1842*

runch wild mustard

"runches,unch balls – charlock when it is dry and withered" *Kennet 1690s* as Nth; "runch – a general name for wild mustard, white mustard, and wild radish" *Bailey Co.Durham 1810*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, C'd, Yx. [?AN runche 'bramble']

S

sackless innocent, ineffective

“sackless – innocent, faultless” *Ray* 1674; “a sackless man goeing to jaole” *Raine* MS Croukley 1681; “a sackless dog” *Oiling* G’head 1826; ‘simple, weak, helpless, innocent’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘simple, easy to be imposed upon, and born down’ *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; ‘foolish, senseless’ *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “he’s a greet sackless cuddy” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “I was working with a Stokesley joiner who described another joiner, whom he considered incompetent, as sackless”, “a sackless nowt” *Wood* C20/2; ‘idiotic’ *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; ‘drunk’ *Weardale, Teesdale* 2001 Q; ‘silly’ *Wheatley Hill* 2002 Q; “sackless – useless” eD’ m 2001 Q; “ye sackless bugger!” cen D’ m Q 2001. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: in use. [ON saklauss]

sair, sare sore(ly), bad(ly)

“sare – much, greatly: as sare hurt, sare pained” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “sare – sore, painful; very much, greatly, intensely: ‘sare hadden’ very much distressed by pain or sickness” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “he oft had sair wark for ti myek a bit fend” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.489 1862; “sair upset” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “bonny an’ sair – very upset” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth [OE sár]

sally

to sway a boat from side to side *Heslop* N’d 1890s. *Plus* “salliers – waves or wake made by boat, swinner, etc.” *MS* N.Shields 2005

Sand-dancers folk of South Shields

2002 per BG. [possibly from Arab seamen settled there in the 1910s]

sands the beach

“Aa yes gannin down the sands – are you going to the beach” *HH* N.Shields C20/2

sand-shoes plimsolls

ex. GJ Spennymoor 1950s; *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *Plus* “Jimmy’s – plimssoles, used for P.E. at school” *FS* H’pool C20/2

sand-strake

“sand-strake is the first range of strakes or planks laid next the keel” *Wm Scoresby* (Whity) 1820 qu. *OED*; “sandstrake” *C/GR* Amble C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. [ME strake]. *Plus* ‘strake or single range of plank from bow to stern in a coble’ *Hill* Flamborough 1970s

Santy Santa Claus

“Santee Klaas” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; S’ m 1990s per BG. *Plus* “Afore w’ gan t’ bed an’ th’ fires damped down ar’s ganna send a note t’ Santa. If mi motha an’ fatha ‘ll help us spell an’ a can hev a small piece o’ paper arl tell’ m wat best gift a want then fowld it tight an hoy it up th’ chimla. If it dissent come down e’ ll hev gorrit. If it diz come down arl try again till it dissent.” *CT* New Herrington 1930s

sark shirt, shift

“the yong man sarke” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “the sark that he had on his back” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.171; “brave ruffled sark” *Bells* re Carlisle 1802; “my pit sark” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “when I cam to Walker wark/I had ne coat nor ne pit sark” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.36; “Dolly Coxon’s pawnd her sark” (shift) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.29 1812; “sark – shirt ... smock, a shift” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “sark – a shirt; also a shift or chemise: ‘stripped tiv his sark-sleeves’” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “she gat oot i’ bed wi nowt but hor sark” (slip) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “sark – shirt” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [ON serkr, OE serc; notably forms part of the word ‘berserker’ (a raging Viking warrior, either because of his ‘bear-shirt’ or ‘bareshirt’)]. *Plus* “top-sark – rough woollen overshirt” *Gibson* C’d 1880; “body-sark – vest” *Utpon* 1950 N’d, D’ m. See also **shart**

sarra to serve

“sarred t’ swine” *Egglesstone* Weardale 1870s; “your reet sarac – serves you right” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution

to 1900: sarrow –general

sartin certain

“aw’s sartin” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.410 C19/mid; “sartin – certain” Tanfield Lea, 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Ire, Eng

satisfised satisfied

“Satisfised. The invariable mispronunciation of ‘satisfied.’ (saat:is:faa:yzd.)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

saugh the willow

“saugh – the great round-leaved willow” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA. [OE Ang *salh*]. *Plus* “sauve” Dinsdale mid-Tees 1849

sca—see also **ska**—

scad to scald

“scadding of peas – a custom in the North of boiling the common grey-peas in their shell” *Grose* 1787; “skadded his gob – with hot tea” *PHm S’d* C20/1; “a big pint pot full o’ scaddin’ het sweet tea” *Grieves Tyne* 1975

scallion young onion

“Scallion – a young onion, before the bulb has formed. A favourite dish is scallion and lettuce” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; ‘spring onions’ *JB Shildon* C20/mid

scar cliff, bare place on hillside

“Salt Skare/Salt Skars, Long-Skares” rocks off the Tees per John Seller *The English Pilot* 1671 vol.1 p.11; “scarre – a cliff or lone rock on the dry land” *Grose* 1787; “scar (sometimes pronounced scaur) – the face of a precipitous rock, or stony bank; a rocky surface, at the foot of the sea-cliffs, or below the barrow beach, nearly awash” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON *sker* ‘sea-reef’]

scarecrow 1. **flaycraw**, 2. other

1. “flaa craw – a stick stuck in the middle of a field or garden and dressed with old cloaths to frighten birds” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “a flae craw” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “flaycrow and scallywag came from the dales, and the Scottish influence appears with tattybogle used twice” *Crocker* 1983

2. “flay-boggle – a hobgoblin, an apparition; also a scarecrow” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “tateebogle – a scarecrow in a potato field” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “tattie boggle” *Newc* 2001 Q

scart scratch (noun and vb)

“sic a dream as gar’d me scart me lug” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.312 1827; “Threat, ‘may the Deil scart you frae top to tae’” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “I divvent care the scart iv a nail for his politics” *Parker Tyne Valley* 1896 p.79. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, C’d, Yx. See also **scrat**

Scenty Eddie effeminate man

“Scenty Eddie – said of anyone effeminate; believed to be a comment on Edward VIII when he visited the North East as Prince of Wales” *BL Winlaton* 1950s

scobbie chaffinch

“Scobbie – chaffinch. Not so common as ‘sheelie’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, C’d, W’d, Yx, Warks

scoit to urinate

ex. *GP S'm C20/2*. [ON skjóta, OE scéotan 'to shoot']. See also **pittle**

scon to punish

"scon – to strike or inflict punishment; a common word amongst the coal miners" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846

sconce pretence, trick (noun and vb)

"Man, it's as plain as A B C, for all 'twad seem a sconce" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s, *AM South Shields C20/1*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, Yx.
"sconce – to bear tales which are untrue or magnified" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

sconce a seat

"sconce – a fixed seat at one side of the fireplace in the old large open chimney" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; 'a settle' *Teward Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid*; "skonss – seat near fire" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; 'a seat at the side of an old chimney' *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* "sconce – a screen" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

scoot to squirt, etc.

'to squirt' *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* "skooted – go quickly" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. [ON skjóta, OE scéotan]

scooter syringe

ex. *Bell MS Newc* 1815; *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; 'a squirt or syringe' *Embleton Tyne* 1897

scoury stone whitener

"scoury stone – a product used to whiten the doorstep" *Spennymoor C20/mid Q*

scrab crabapple

"nuttess, scrabbess & eggess" *Durham C16/2*; "scrab – a wild apple, the crab" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd. [variant of crab; or cf. Swed skrabba]. *Plus* "scrab apples – fir cones" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s

scraffle hands 1. to scramble, 2. to search for, with

1. "a shot tower se hee/that biv it ye might scraffle to heaven" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.48 1812; "scraffle – to scramble, to climb up by the help of the hands; scraffling – working hard to obtain a livelihood" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "I came scraffling my way through the market" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "what ivvor set me to scraffle into that waggon?" *Haldane Newc* 1879. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Northants, Warks. [?Du schrabbelen]

2. "skraffin – searching with hand" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. *Plus* "grafun – search, using hand" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; "grafflin – searching for something with one's hand" *Graham Geordie* 1979

scrammel to **scramble**

ex. *Bell MS Newc* 1815, *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s, *CT New Herrington* 1930s; "nip into the sail locker there, scrammel over the spare sails..." *Green Wearside* 1879 re C19/1

scran food

"rob them o' scran" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; "scran – food, victuals: 'scran-time' (meal-time)" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; 'food' *Graham Geordie* 1979. Charver 2000-2002; "went to pick some scran up" (fast food?) N'd per BG 2004; 'pejorative for provisions ... the chaps I now who use it are ex Merchant Marine' *PB* in *The Guardian* N&Q online Jan 2005. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general, plus USA. [scran cannot logically derive, as some assume, from Norw. 'scran' meaning lean, shrivelled; Ice. 'skran' (rubbish, odds and ends) only dates to the 18th century, but ties in with British naval usage: "scran bag – the lost property office of the Royal navy. It is usually a cell into which all clothing left lying about and all unclaimed belongings are dumped" Gerald O'Driscoll *Sailors have a word for it* (1943). In the UK, the context is often one of slang or cant usage, including Romany, but its exact application to food may have been influenced by the Dutch verb schransen "to gorge oneself"] *Plus* "policeman scranning in the back of their van" Hexham 1990s per AM

scranch to crunch

“scranch – to grind any hard or crackling substance between the teeth” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Geeson*, N'd/D'm 1969. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [compare Flem. schranzen]. *Plus* “scranchings ... the bits and pieces of hard fried batter which used to be found in a pennorth of chips” *AK Newc* 1950s; “scranchum – a sort of thin hard baked spice or ginger bread” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “skranshum – overcooked pork skin” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2

scrat to scratch

ex. *Atkinson Cleve* 1868, *Geeson* N'd/D'm 1969; “scratting around for odd jobs” *Wood Tees* 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?AN escrat – thus *Geeson*]. See also **scart**

screeners pit surface workers

“screeners” (surface workers who sorted coal by sizes) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2

scribbly jack etc. yellow-hammer

ex. *Crook C20/2 Q*; “scribble-chat – yellowhammer” *Newton Aycliffe* 2001 Q. [from pattern on eggs?]

scringe to grate, to squeeze

“skreenge or skringe – to squeeze violently” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “scringed his teeth” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “when a boy sharpens his slate-pencil with a knife, he says it makes his teeth ‘scringe’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “skrinjed teeth – grated teeth” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Yx, Mids, EA, Kt. [variant of cringe?]

scrog/gy bush(y)

“scrog – a stunted bush or shrub; scroggy – full of old stunted trees or bushes” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “scroggy – rugged, rough, rude, as scroggy briers” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, EA

scrow a mess

ex. *TP Alston*, 2003 [pron. 'au']. *EDD* as disorder, uproar

scrub to rub

“Where Aw horse the scrubbin full uns (tubs)Up for eighteen pence a score” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “there wiz a fahl o' styen ... an he gat scubb'd and scrush'd vary bad” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “you scrub past broken timbers” *Moreland, Dawdon* 1980. [compare MDu schrubben]

scrudge to crowd

“Ye niver see'd the church sae scrudg'd as we wur there thegither” *Marshall Newc* 1823; “skrudge – to crowd or squeeze close” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “scrudge – nearly the same as ‘scrounge’” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: scrouge – general [Fr escrager, escracer (Atkinson)]

scrunch to crush or crowd together

“scrounge or scrunge – to crowd, to squeeze” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “‘What are ye scroungin' us for?’” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; *KH Stockton* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

scrush crush (noun and vb)

“scrubb'd and scrush'd vary bad” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “skrush – crush” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; ‘a crush’ *IA S'm* 1950s, 60s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N.I., Notts, Essex, Dev. NE 2001: in use

scud 1. to speed, 2. to hit, 3. to skim

1. “to skud or skud away – to make haste” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “scud – small clouds ... or to run scudding along” *Bell MS Newc* 1815

2. “scudded ’em aal ower” (balls in a game) *GP S’m* 1950s; “scudded ’em – beat them up” *S’m* 1990s per BG. [compare *Sco* skudge, ‘to buffet’, *Du* schudden ‘to shake’]

3. “scud – to remove a superficial covering, (to skim with a spade)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

scudder a beating

ex. EP Southwick C20/mid

scuffer to do fussily

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

scug to hide

“to scug his deadly sin” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.135; “skugg” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “scug yourselves away” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *Sco*, Nth. [ON skugge ‘shadow’]

scumfish to smother

“she thout she wad ha’ been skumfeesht wi the steyth” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “scumfish – to smother, to suffocate with smoke” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Aw was half scumfish’d wi’ the stoor” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “amaist scumfish’d” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; ‘sufocated, too hot’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “skumfish – lack of air causing illness or death” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “to choke with smoke: ‘The chimley’s been smokin’ till aa’s fair scumfished’” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “fair scumfished – exhausted” Gateshead 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *Sco*, Nth, Lancs] [AN descomforter ‘to destroy, make grieve’]. See also **mafted**, **smoor**

scunner 1. a dislike, an aversion, etc., 2. to dislike

1. “dinna spier (ask) how things is gan for fear ye git a scunner (sharp answer)” *Northumbrian Words III* C20/mid re Kielder; “he’s tyen a scunner at her” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “skunna – strong aversion to” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *Sco*, N.I., N’d, Yx, Lx

2. “scunner – to nauseate, to feel disgust, to loathe; to shy, as a horse...; a man ... who shrinks through fear” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “scunner – to be afraid, to turn from or avoid ... ‘she never scunnered it’” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “Scunner – to flinch, or give signs of pain. ‘He never scunnered that blow on the heed’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; ‘to dislike, reject’ *Dobson* Tyne 1973; “scunner – to shudder with dislike” Ashington 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *Sco*, Ire, N’d

scutboard stern of coble

‘stout transverse board secured over the top of the stern ... also scudboard’ *Hill* Flamborough 1970s. *Plus* “scut-top not board” *FT* Cullercoats 2003; “scut” C/GR Amble C20/2. [ON scutr stem or stern of vessel; or from scut ‘tail’]

se see **so**

sea-coal 1. coal as opposed to charcoal, 2. coal shipped by sea, 3. coal found on the shore, 4. coal mined from under the sea

1. “sæ-col” (the mineral jet) ca. 1050; “carbo maris” (sea-coal) – coal as opposed to other fuels, Medieval Latin; “carbones maritimi” *Finchale* (1358-9). [OE cól – any hot burning substance, wood, charcoal, etc.]

2. “The City of London, and Parts adjacent, as also all the South of England, are supplied with Coals, called therefore Sea-coal, from Newcastle upon Tyne, and from the coast of Durham and Northumberland.” *Defoe* *Tour through the Whole Island of Great Britain* 1720s

3. “The vaynes of the se-coles be sometyme upon clives of the se, as round about Coket Island.” *Leland*, C16; “Along the coast road between Sunderland and Seaham Harbour, we came upon quite a number of men riding or wheeling bicycles loaded with two or three small sacks of coal. I heard afterwards that these men descend very steep and dangerous cliffs near Seaham Harbour and pick up coal from the shore. They were now going to Sunderland to sell the coal.” *JB* Priestley 1934; ‘recycled coal from sea-shore’ *GP S’m* 1950s.

4. “sea coal – coal worked from under the bed of the sea” *Nicholson* 1880; ‘coal from under the sea’ *Dawdon* C20/2

sea-fret coastal fog

“Quite often in June sea-frets or fogs hide the days are longest” Coulthard, 1934, p.57; “sea-fret – a west mist or haze proceeding from the sea inland” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “sea-fret/fret – fine rain, heavy mist” *JB Shildon C20/mid*, *Graham Geordie* 1979, S’m 2000 per BG; “fret – a mist, or sea-fog” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE coast. NE 2001: in use

sea-maw gull

ex *Beattie* Border Ballads p.182

seaves rushes

“he began the seives graythe” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “seaves – rushes” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “seave – a rush; seavy – overgrown with rushes: ‘seavy ground’ (Hexhamshire)” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “seve-light – a rush light” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Ches, Lincs. [ON sef]

sec such

“T’ was seck a bang an’ sec a flash” *Lakeland re C’d C20*; “en seck like” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “sek – such” *JB Shildon C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: seck – N’d, C’d. W’d. [OE swelc]. See also **sic**

see

“aw so” (I saw) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “And Ralphey fra St Nich’las spire/Seed aw the world around him” *Marshall Newc* 1823 p.18; “Aw seed it” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *NWC* 16 Jan 1886, Sup., p.5, *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*, etc.

seem’ly seemingly

‘common for apparently’ *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

seggy second

“seggy – second (in children’s games)” *Wood Cleve* 2002

segs blakeys, half-moon of metal to fit front and back of soles of shoes

‘round headed small metal studs’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; “there was nothing quite like sliding to school on your segs making nice sparks for all of 2 days before they became quite blunt” (seaham.com website 2002). [segment]

sel’ self

ex. *Ray* 1674; “by the sel on’t” (under its own power, by itself) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.203 1827; “sell – pronoun, self: mysell, hissell, hersell, yoursell. Plural, sells” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

selled, selt sold

“seld” *Beattie* Border Ballads; “sell’d” *Meriton nYx* 1683; “Sen t’ horses was selt” *Lakeland re C’d* 1856. NE 2001: in use. [OE selde (pret.)]

sen since

“sen, sin, sune – since” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “sen-sine, sin-sine – since such and such a time” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

set 1. to accompany someone, or start them on their way, 2. to employ (set on), 3. to propel, 4. to put in place, 5. to free (set away)

1. “The did me entreat/to set them up street” *Street Piracy* (Newcastle, 1822); ‘to accompany one a part of the distance he is going’ *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “I will set you home”, “I was setten part of the way” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “She knew that he wad wait outside, te ... set hor hyem” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “set yi yem? – take you home?” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

2. “Gan down to Scotty Owen/He’s sure to set yer on” *Lore and language re Houghton Pit*, 1920s

3. “set – to propel, to push forward: ‘setting a keel’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829

4. “aw wish thou wad set some buttons o’ my trousers” *Green Wearside* 1879 re C19/1; “Set is the ordinary expression for ‘put’ e.g. ‘set on the dishes’, ‘set out the fowls’ (drive them out of doors), etc.” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

5. “th’ ducks must be awl set away” (freed) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2

set a sequence of tubs

“the full set ... of 65 tubs” *Hitchin* re Seaham 1930s p.109; ‘a number of tubs the manager decides shall be hauled by any electric or compressed driven hauler’ *McBurnie* Glebe Colliery, C20/mid; “bump the set – get into trouble” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

set pot washing vessel

‘iron pot set in brickwork with fire grate under to boil washing’ *CT* New Herrington 1930s; ‘a large iron bowl incased in brick, with a fire underneath, used for boiling’ *Spennymoor* C20/mid; “large cast iron bowl with wooden lid; filled with water, fire set underneath for washing clothes” *GP S’m* C20/mid

seugh a channel

“seugh or saugh – a wet ditch; also a subterranean vault or channel, cut through a hill to drain a mine” *Grose* 1787. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, Lx, Ches. [compare *Du zoeg*]

seun soon

“seughn, seun” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “seun empty” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.191 1824; “syun” *Durham* 1916; “syun” *Tanfield Lea* 1960, etc.

shackle wrist

“shackle – the wrist; Scots, shackle-bone – the wrist bone” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “shackle b’yan – wrist bone” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “sheckle byan” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; “shekel – wrist” *MG Teesdale* C20/2. [abbrev. of shackle-bone]

shades curtains

“shaid” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m, nYx, wYx

shale 1. to drag feet, 2. to peel

1. “shale – to drag or scrape feet on ground esp. shaling” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general.

2. “shale – to peel, to shell” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829

shall 1. positive forms, 2. negative forms

1. “this sall be thine” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “I’s gie ye...” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.38; “wese – we will or shall” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Ise – I shall, and sometimes I am” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “ye shud only seen us gannin” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.451 1862; “neebody sud drink watter” *Haldane* Newc 1879. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sall – Sco, Nth

2. “ye shanna gan aside us” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “sannot – shall not” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849

shan poor

ex. *VW* re H’pool 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d as ‘pitiful, silly’ [?Romany]

shangy 1. a disturbance, 2. scrap iron

1. “shangy – a hubbub or row or crowdly main where one fights over another” *Bell* MS Newc 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d

2. “shangy – scrap iron” *Newc* 2001 Q

sharen, share cow dung

“sharen ... cow sharen – cow dung” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Share – cow-dung” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *scearn*, ON *skarn*]. *Plus* “scambees – a beetle” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846

sharp sudden, quick

“mak’ sharp! – make haste!” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “[Aal sharp did] – /Aa:l shaap dae:d/– I’ll do it quickly” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “mak sharp – get a move on” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “ye’re reet, it’s sharper that way” S’m 2003 per BG; “A’m usually there far too sharp” S’m 2005 per BG

shart shirt

“sharte” *Anderson* Newcastle 1568; “my shart lap” (shirt tail) *Errington* p.67 Felling/Heworth re 1800s; “sharts and shifts were wet wi’ sweet” (at dancing) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.155 1827 “wiv the varry sharts on that they were born in” (stripped to the waist) *Wearside Tales* 1879; “shairt” *JR* Crook C20/mid; “shart” *JS* re Sacriston C20/2, Dinnington 1950s Q, etc. *Plus* “body shart – vest” *JO* re High Thornley/Rowland’s Gill 1930s–1940s in *Nth Words*; “at the face they generally wore a body shart (sleeved vest) and pit hoggors (cotton pants fastened below the knee with tape)” *Northumbrian III* C20/mid re Winlaton/Marley Hill

shearers, shears automatic face cutting machines in the mines

“it’s AFC’s and shearers that cut and load the coal” Moreland, Dawdon 1980; “Oh! me lads ye shud see ‘em gannin/The shears fra the ‘retreaters’ leave the advancin faces stannin” *Taylor* Dawdon C20/2

sheelie see **chaffinch**

shem shame

ex. *Brockett* 1829 re Newc; “for shem”, “shem o’ them” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “I was shem – embarrassed, ashamed” S’d 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Ire, N’d

shibbin’-leather shoe-lace

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “shibb’n” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Yx. [shoe-band]. See also **whang**

shiel seasonal shelter

“About the beginyng of Aprill they take the moste parte of there cattell & go with them uppe onto highe landes – towarde the Borders of Scotlands, & there buylde them lodges or sheales.” *Raine* MS 1542; “as it were Nomades ... who frome the moneth of Aprill unto August, lye out scattering and summering (as they tearme it) with their cattell in little cottages here and there which they call Sheales and Shealings” Camden 1600 qu. Reed *Border Ballads* p.27; “shiel, shieling – originally a temporary hut or cabin for those who had the care of sheep on the moors” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “shield – such turf houses as shepherds build to watch their flocks on the moors, also fishermen’s houses” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “The word ‘shiel’, from which Shields is derived, means a shelter, in this case for fishermen” *Coulthard* p.125–6 1934. [ME *schéle* –?southernisation of ON *skále*, or *skiól* ‘a shelter’]

Shields South and North Shields

“Up wi’ smoky Shields” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.31 1812; “sum keelmen wer’ gaun doon te Sheels” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.219 1827; “tegether like the folks iv Sheels” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.237 1829

shifter 1. part-time pit worker; surface worker, 2. superintendent

1. “shifters – underground workmen employed at miscellaneous work, such as timbering roleyways, taking up bottom stone or taking down top to make height where necessary, setting doors, building stoppings, redding falls, &c.” *Nicholson* 1880; “Aw’m a poor aud shifter noo” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s

2. “mahsta shifta – in charge of night shift” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “master-shifter – a person who has responsible charge of the mine during the night” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m

shiggy to wriggle

“shiggy down ropes” Newc 1940s via AK; “shiggy sweets out of a bag” *BL* Spennymoor C20/mid

shigs shares

“shigs and arters” (share of left-over applecore, etc.) South Shields C20/2 Q

shill to shell

“shill – to shell (peas)” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘to separate, to shell’ *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “shillin’ them beans” *Wearside Tales* 1879. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

shippen cow-house

ex. *Ray* 1674, *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *scypen*]

shire to decant

“Shire – to pour off water or any liquid in such a way as to leave the sediment” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [OE *scíran* ‘to clarify’]

s hirley way of working a coal-pile

“shirley – [to] repeatedly shovel mixture of coal and coal dust to top of pile, to reveal larger pieces of coal” *JB Shildon* C20/mid

s hirr’l to slide on ice

ex. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “thor’s a grand shirl on t’pond” *Penrith Observer* 17 May 1898. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth [compare Gm *shurren* ‘to slide on ice’]

shive a slice

“a shive oh butter an breed” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s, sim. *Graham* Geordie 1979; “shive – a slice, as [of] a loaf, an apple, a turnip (ON *skífa*)” *Atkinson* Cleve 1858; “It is easy from a cut loaf to steal a shive” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; exx. *AT* Co.D’m C20/mid, Ferryhill 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON *skíva*, OFris *skíve*] Plus “shive” (noun and vb) *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

shog, shoggle to jog

“shoggle – to shake, to joggle” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “shog, shoggle” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “shog” *Wearside Tales* 1879. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

shoon shoes

“my half shoon” *Collier’s Rant* Newc C18/2; “to cobble their canny pit shoon” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.39; “Her high-heel’d shoon wi’ buckles breet”, “half-shoon – old shoes with the toes cut off” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “shun” *MG* Teesdale C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this form, Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [OE plural *scón* (pronounced ‘shoon’)]

shoor sure

“Awze sure of thee impidence!” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “Aw shoor aw dinnot know what the lads are gettin’ to now” *JS* South Shields C19/mid; “aw shoor aw will” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “Aa’s shoorer!” S’m 2003 via BG

shooter shoulder

“braid shouthers” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “strite frae the shooter” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation esp. Sco, N’d, Lx, Ches.

shot to throw

ex. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “shot it over here will you?” *PG* H’pool 1998, as commoner than ‘hoy’

shotstick rod to ram charge etc., home

“Shotstick – a round stick on which a paper cartridge is rolled (mining term)” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “he chased me wi’ the shot-stick/But Aw lick’d him te the flat!” *Barrass* Stanley 1892. Plus “shot up – after kurving, you shot up i.e. fired the shots” *JK* Leasingthorne C20/2

shows a fair

“as in ‘the Amble shows’, the old Amble Feast, once held in August of each year” *MM* C20/2; “Aw man, he’s away to the shows” (A bit daft, being silly) *IL* Willington 2005

shuggy swing 1. **shuggy**, 2. **shuggy shew**, 3. **shuggy-boat**

1. “Give me a shuggy... a ‘shuggy’ is also a see-saw” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “a swing is a ‘shuggy’ [in mining villages] ... on Tyneside it is a ‘hiky’.” *Nth Words* 1938; “a’I give yer a shuggie” (mother to baby) *GB* Leeholme 1920s/30s

2. “shuggy-shew – a swing” *Grose* 1787; ‘a swing for children’ *Bell* MS Newc 1815; ‘a swing, a long rope fastened at each end and thrown over a beam’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “gannin’ up in a shuggy shoo” *Robson* Newc C20/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, M’d, nYx, Northants

3. “shuggy-boat – small fairground swing for two children, with upholstered ropes like bell-ropes” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; ‘those big boat-like swings that a number of people can get in that you get at old-fashioned fairgrounds’ *PGH* pool C20/2; “lorchin like a shuggyboat” *Dobson* Tyne 1969; “shuggyboat – a swing ... with seats across like a boat” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, Tyne. NE 2001: in use

shull, shool shovel

“on[e] dozen shoolis” *Raine* MS Durham City 1543-54; “spades, shewlys & gades” *Durham* C16/2; “shull or shuil – a spade or shovel” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “showell” *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “shool” Tanfield Lea, 1960; “a shyuel o’ coal” *Dobson* Tyne 1969. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE scuff]. *Plus* “shull-bane – the shoulder bone” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829

si—see also under **sy**—

sic, sicken such

“for euery sik defaute” *Anderson* Newcastle 1480; “to play them sicken a part” *RR* Weardale 1569; “in sike a fear” Rothbury C18/2; “sic, sik, sike – such” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “sik (with long ‘i’), sike – such; sikan before vowels” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Av nivvor knaan sike like – never known anything like it” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sic – Sco, Ire, Nth; sike – Yx, Lx. [OE swilc]. *Plus* “sic-leyke fwoak” (similar) *Bewick* Tyne 1790s. See also **sec**

siddle to pick out

“Siddle – to pick out or choose the best of anything” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

sill base statum

“sill – (in mining) the bed” *Bell* MS Newc 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, C’d, Staffs. [OE, ON syll]

sile see **syle**

siller silver

“siller buckles on his knee” ‘Bobby Shaftoe’ C18; “silla, silva – silver” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, N’d, C’d

sin syne ago, since then

“sixty years sin seyne” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “sine – afterwards” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Sin – since, ago” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sin – general; syne – Sco, Ire, Nth

sind to rinse

“sind – to wash out, to rinse” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ME sind]

singin’ hinny cake with currants

“singing hinny – a cake made of flour, butter and currants and baked on a girdle – and gets their name from the quantity of butter causing them to fizz on the girdle – sometimes called ‘spice fizzers’” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “strang lyac’d tea and singin’ hinnies” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head

1820s; “singin-hinnie or stinging-hinny – a rich kneaded cake; indispensable in a pitman’s family” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Maw granny likes spice singin’ hinnies” *Crawhall* Newc 1888; “Singing hinny – a kind of girdle-cake, common among old folk. (Name imported from the North.) Now generally called Spice Cake” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

sipe to leak or ooze out

“to sipe – to soak or drain. ‘to sipe thro’” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “sipe – to drain a pot or other vessel: ‘he’s siping the pots’ i.e. he’s draining the pots after other people’s drinking” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “sipe – to leak, to ooze or drain out slowly through a small crevice” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “The watter’s sipin’ oot” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA. [OE *sypian*]. *Plus* “sipings – the drainings of a vessel after any fluid has been poured out of it” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “siping – a very small feeder of water” *Nicholson* 1880

sivin etc. seven

“seevent” (seventh) *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “seeben” *Egglestone*, Weardale 1870s; “sivin” *Dobson* Tyne 1972; “sivinty” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation esp. Ire

sk—see also under **sc**—

skabbee underhand tactics

ex. *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, Lx, Mids

skale to spread

“to skale – skaling – to dress on clean grass land in the Spring intended to be laid away for meadows” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “a’s just gannen te scale that muck” *Teward* Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco. Nth

skane, skeen to shell

‘to cut shell fish out the the shell’ (*EDD*); “we’re skaning mussels” nYx 1873 per *EDD*; “skane – taking mussels out of shells” *Umpleby* Staithes c. 1935; “skeen or scaled mussels” *JH* S’m C20/mid; “skaning – cleaning limpets for use as bait” Amble per BG 2003. [perhaps from Gaelic *sgain* ‘a knife’]

skankin’ disgusting

“skankin – foul-smelling, bad, stinking” Charver 2000–2002

skar rock, crag, etc

‘rock, crag, cliff, sunken or low rock cf. skerry’ OED; Salt Skare/Salt Skars, long-Skares – rocks off the Tees per John Seller *The English Pilot* (1671) [ON *sker* ‘reef’]

skate a kite

“scate – a paper kite” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Paper-skyetts” (kites) *Crawhall* Newc 1888. [?variant of kite]

skeel wooden pail

“skeel – a cylindrical milking pail, with a handle made by one of the staves being a little longer than the rest” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “Skeel – a peculiarly-shaped bucket (broader at bottom than top, with upright stave projecting from rim, to serve as a handle), formerly used in colliery villages to carry water for household use. They were carried on women’s heads on a ‘wase’, and a piece of wood was made to float on the top, to prevent the water from splashing over” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896, sim. *Umpleby* Staithes c. 1935. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, wMids. [ON *skjóla* ‘pail’]

skeet a guide runner

‘wooden lining for pit shaft’ *GP* S’m C20/mid; “skeets – cage guides in pit shaft” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m. *Plus* ‘skid, transverse log or sleeper used for launching [a coble]’ *Hill* Flamborough 1970s. [?ON *skjótt* ‘swift’]

skeets boots

“skeets – boots esp. football boots” Newc 2001 Q

skeffin' nasty

“skeffin' – disgusting, generally” *TR Deneside* 2004

skeg a glance

“skeg – a quick glance: ‘have a skeg’” *Wood Cleve* 2002; “Aa've just settle me bairns te bed and aa've hed a good skeg (quick look)” *HH N.Shields* 2005. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx

skelly to squint

“she skelly's wiv her eyes” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.149 1827. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [?from ON; compare Norw skjelga]

skelp to slap or hit

“skelp 'im and batter 'im” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.70 1805; “the drums they're skelpin” *Marshall G'head* 1806; “skelp – to slap, to strike with the open hand” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “skelp – to beat – as that child deserves to be skelped” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; “the roondie an' the small Aw skelps off the backend” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “aa had mare than me share o' skelpins” *Robson Newc* C20/1; “Aal skelp thee lug'ole” *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950; ‘to strike with the open hand particularly on the behind or the cheek’ *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. NE 2001: in use. [compare Ice. sklefa]

skemmy pigeon

“see the skemmies tiv his duckit flee” Tyne *MC* May 1881; “Skemmy – the common blue or farmer's pigeon, often kept by boys as a pet” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “he (the miner) gambles with his pigeons or 'skemmies” *Coulthard* p.71 1934; “skemmie would be a poor bird, a bird below standard” South Moor (Stanley) 2003 per BG. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm. *Plus* “skemmie ... thin/small/weak” *CT New Herrington* 1930s. See also **cushat**. *Plus* “skems – pigeons” *Umpleby Staithes* c. 1935

skep 1. basket, 2. frame for winding long baited line on prior to fishing, 3. beehive

1. “skepe – a basket ... made of whicker work or rushes” *Finchale* 1397; “she bair thre skepful of sand to the said alter” *Raine MS Sedgefield* 1570; “skep – a basket of rushes or wicker work” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘a basket of willow or flag-fabric’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “skep – cattle-feeder” *Teesdale* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: low use. [OE sceppe, ON skeppa]. See also **bee-hive**

2. ‘willow pallet on which a baited long line was coiled’ *Hill Flamborough* 1970s; *Yorx* 2003 per BG. *Plus* “swill not skep” *FT Cullercoats* 2003; “swole – box or frame for lines” *C/GR Amble* C20/2

3. “bee-skep – this is the old-fashioned straw bee-hive ... formed of a straw rope about 3/4” in diameter which is put into coils that are wrapped and sewn together...” *Robson Birtley* 1880s, 1980s; “skep – beehive” *wD'm.* 2001Q

skeul 1. school, 2. to gamble

1. “skeul” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “trainin skeals fur thievs an pickpockets” *MWN* 3 Mar 1860; “has thee been skyul?”, “skiul-boss – teacher” *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Yx, C'd

2. “skyull'd away the pay” Tyne *MC* May 1881

skilly gruel, thin porridge

“skilly – oatmeal and water” *Robson* 1849 Tyne; “Wat is breed en skilly for/But just te muaik ye smaul?” (re prison) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “Skilly is very weak compared [to crowdie]” *Nth Words* Blyth, 1938; “skillee – soup (jail)” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general/slang. NE 2001: in low use. [from skilligalee]

skinch 'pax' (a truce) in children's games

“Skinch – meaning he is not liable to be caught and made prisoner” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “skinch on high, skinch on wood” att. *GP S'm* C20/mid; “skinch was common in our street in Easington, you crossed your fingers as you claimed it” *JS Easington* C20/mid; “skincheez” (pax) *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71. *Plus* “kingy – truce” *Wood Eaglescliffe* 2002

skipper captain of a boat

“The keels were generally manned by the skipper, two keel bullies and a boy known as the ‘Pee-Dee’” *Mitcalfe* p.3 re 1822; “if owt in the keel was deun rang, the skipper wad curse” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.153 1827. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, N’d. [MDu schipper]

skit sarcasm, practical joking, etc.

“took some skit – meant took some scoff or leg pulling” *JS Easington* 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

skite exit (noun and vb)

“I cam aboard the Admiral and bade them stryke in the Kyngys name of England, and they bade me skyte...” 1449 *English Trade* pp.274–5; “The putter lad had teun his skite” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “skite off – run away” *ER M’bro C20/2*, Teesside 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, Yx. [ON sk’yt—with sense ‘shoot’; or compare Norw. skit ‘dirt, filth’]

skitter/s diarrhoea

“skitter – (verb) ... vulgar name for the diarrhoea” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “the screaming skitters” *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “inter-intestinal skitters” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “the gallowa ... skitters there an’ aw!” Moreland, Dawdon 1980. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, C’d, Yx, S.W.

skrike yell

“at what tyme the said Herrison wyfe gave a skrike” *Raine MS Lanchester* ca.1573; “[he] gave a skrike, & turned round, & fell downe dead” *Raine MS EYorks*, 1668; “Aw gav a skrike” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.182 1824; ‘to shriek or crie out’ *Bell MS Newc* 1830s; ‘to scream, shriek’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “he gav a greet skrike” *Embleton Tyne* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON skrikja ‘to scream’, compare Norw. skrika (vb)]

Skuet-enders inhabitants of (eastern) South Shields

ex. *BWS*.Shields re C19

slabs, slabstones sink and draining board

ex. *GP S’m* 1950s

sladder to spill

ex. *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

sladdery muddy

“sladdery walking” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “sladdery – dirty, muddy, e.g. of road” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘muddy’ *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931

slaister to do s.thing poorly

“slaistering – doing any thing in a awkward, untidy manner” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “slayster – leaves work in unfinished state” (?noun) *Nth Words* N’d, 1938; “a lax/languid/sluggish way of going about one’s work – ‘slaisterin about with that bucket and mop’” *BJ* re Cockfield C20/mid; “howay man gie ower slaisterin’ on – dragging the feet” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “slaistering – to trail feet” *Weardale, Teesdale* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

slake tidal mud

“slake – accumulation of mud or slime, especially in a river” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘soft muddy ground left bare by the tide’ *EDD* 1900; “Jarra Slax” *Irwin Tyne* 1970–71. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, Tyne, D’m, C’d

slape slippery

‘slippery, smooth’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “as slape as glass” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; *Teward* Nebiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD*

distribution to 1900: Nth and parts of Mids. NE 2001: not in use. [ON sleipur] See also **slippy**

slaita slater

“slaita – roof repairer” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

slaver 1. to drool, dribble, 2. to talk nonsense, 3. nonsense

1. “remarks on slaving” Bedlington, 1761; “blutherin and sl[a]verin” (of a baby) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “Slavering Nell” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “slaver – to eject saliva from the mouth” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “slav’er – to dribble” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?ON; compare Ice. slafra]

2. “ye slaverin cull” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.221 1827; “slawerin’ on” (talking nonsense) *GP S’m C20/mid. EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx, Lincs

3. “slawa – drivel” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “slawer – saliva; cheek, impudence; or just talk” *Wood Tees* 2002; “Less of ya slaver i.e. you can’t get round me” *MS N.Shields* 2004

sleck small coal

“sleck – small pit-coal” *Ray* 1674, *Grose* 1787, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Nth, Mids. [?Flem. sleck]

sleck to quench

“sleck – to cool in water; to quench: ‘to sleck your thirst’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. See also **slocken**

sled pit transport

“sled or sledge – a wooden frame upon which the corves were drawn previous to the introduction of wheels and rails, and still used occasionally in leading to a stow-board” *Nicholson* 1880

slee sly

“If they be never so slee” *Noah’s Ark Newc C15/16*; “he was sorry that he had dronke to anie such slee carle as he was” *Raine MS Langhorsley* 1606; “slee” *Durham* 1916, *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, N’d, D’m, C’d

slem poorly done

“slem – to work shoddily” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931; “slem – bad, ill-done (of work); untrustworthy (of a worker)” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Lakes, Yx

slip pinafore

“slip – a child’s pinafore” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “slip – a sort of child’s apron” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “a pinafore was a ‘slip’” *Nth Words Northumberland*, 1938; *Graham Geordie* 1979

slippy slippery

ex. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “Slippy – slippery (always used)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in common use

slocken to quench

“a fyre to slokyn” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “the lime was slockened” *Raine MS Newcastle* 1654; ‘to put out or extinguish’ *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “Get slocken’d lads! fadder pays aw’.” *Bells (nC’d)* 1815; “to slocken your thirst” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “monny watters cannot slocken luv” *Moore Weardale* 1859; “wad he’ slockened ony bit drouth ’at he might a had” *Haldane Newc* 1879; ‘to quench’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids. [ON slokna]. See also **sleck**

slogger to walk untidily

“Slogger – to walk with the stockings hanging loosely” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, D’m, Northants

slush 1. hardworking/hardworker, 2. to work hard, 3. a greedy drinker

1. “slush hewer – a hard working coal miner” Wade *South Moor* C20/mid; “The slush, ay!’ cried aud Bill McGee/He works ower hard, ne doot...” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx

2. “Aw slush an’ fill like fire and fun” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx

3. “slush – a person greedy of drink” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; ‘a reproachful term for a dirty person, a greedy eater’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘a greedy eater or drinker’ *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

smack to taste

“an’ smack’d the yell” (ale) *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.299 1831. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Lakes. [OE smæc (noun)] See also **smatch**

smally small

“a smally bairn” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “smally – little, puny, undergrown” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Aw’m just a smaaly laddy” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “Smally (smaa:li): ‘That’s a smally bit bairn” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE

smash to crush

ex. Bailey D’m 1810. [compare Norw. smaska ‘to crush’]. See also **oaths**

smasher fruit pie about 4 inches diameter

“smasher – a small standing pie of gooseberries” *Bell* MS Newc 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, nYx

smatch 1. to overcook, 2. flavour (noun)

1. “smatched – bit burned, off-taste” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; “smatch – unpleasant taste” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

2. “smatch – a savour, flavour or taste: ‘a smatch o’ London” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Nth, Mids. [OE smæc]. See also **smack**

smit 1. any infection, 2. to infect

1. “smit, smittle – infection” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Smit – an infectious disease: ‘He’ll get the smit” (i. e. catch the disease) *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “got the smit” (a cold) *CT* New Herrington 1930s; “more precisely ‘the smit,’ e.g. the flu – but, yes, it’s any infection: ‘he’s got the smit” *PG* H’pool C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, D’m, Yx. [OE smitte ‘polution’]. *Plus* “smit was also used in taking a fancy to a young man or woman to the extent that they eventually clicked and went out steady” *JS* Easington C20/mid; “got the smit – pregnant” S’d 2001 Q

2. “smit, smittle – to infect” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “smit – to infect” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; *Todd* Tyne 1977

smittle, smittlish 1. contagious, 2. to infect, 3. infection (noun)

1. “smittleish – infectious” *Grose* 1787; “smittle, smittlish – infectious, contagious” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “its smittal when owt new o’ that kind’s started” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “Is’t smittle?” (Is it catching?) *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “smittle – infectious Upper Teesdale Q 2001. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

2. “smittle – to infect” *Ray* 1674; *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids

3. “smittle – infection” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Yx

smock shift

“smock – the under linen of a female” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. See also **sark**

Smoggies the people of Teesside

ex. *Wood* 2003

smoor to smother

exx. *Bell* MS Newc 1815, *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “smoor, smorr, smurr – to smother” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, eMids, EA. [?MDu smören]. See also **scumfish**

snake stones ammonites

“snake-stones – petrified shell fish or ammonites” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: nYx and parts of Mids

snagger a knife for harvesting turnips with a an extra point on the back of the blade

“when the ground was frosty, the point was stuck in the turnip to get a grip to pull it out by, then the blade side was used to top and tail it” *SM* Ho'ton/Penshaw C20/mid; ‘a knife to cut vegetables with’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, C'd, Yx. [? ON; compare Norw. snag ‘spike’]. See also **turnip**

snanny, snammy, snarter see **turnip**

sneck door latch: 1. noun, 2. verb

1. “gat hyem ... and when lifting the sneck...” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.142 1816; “sneck – the latch or fastening of a door or gate” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “sneck – the latch (small bar of metal) of a door or wicket” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “lift t' snek en cum in” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “Aa lifted the sneck an' waaked reet in” *Other Eye* Newc ca.1890; “He/she can just go run up a shutter and play with the sneck!” (expressing irritation with someone) *NF* Jarrow 1930s, 1940s (compare: “Oh, go and run up a shutter!” *AM* S.Shields C20); “sneck – horizontal bar at an outdoor gate plus the pivoted thumb-lever which lifts the sneck... ‘rattle the sneck’ – vibrate the thumb-lever without lifting the ‘latch’ to draw attention to caller” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; “netty sneck” *IA* S'm 1950s,60s; “my dad always used to tell me not to leave the sneck up when I went to his allotment i.e. keep the gate securely closed” *RM* Norton C20/mid; “sneck-lifter – the price of a pint” *Crocker* Tees 1983; “cage sneck – a movable part of the cage by which the tubs are kept in the cage during their passage in the shaft” *Nicholson* 1888; “he clambered up it (i.e. backyard gate), using the sneck for a toe-hold” *Cate* p.70 B'p Auckland area 1987; “sneck – catch on a yale lock” *GD* S'm 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids, EA; as vb – Sco, Nth, Mids. NE 2001: in use. [ME sneck ‘latch’, compare OE *twi-snæcce* ‘twopronged’]. Plus “sneck in snout – expression meaning a spanner in the works” *Spennymoor* C20/mid; compare “a sneck before one's snout” *EDD* C'd, Yx, Derbys, 1900. See also **nose, snib**

2. “sneck – latch [the door]” *Ray* 1674; “to sneck a door – to shut it, or latch it” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “...it is also used as a verb: ‘to sneck the door’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829

sned 1. to cut, 2. handle

1.”sned – to lop, to cut: ‘to sned sticks’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “sneddin’ – fine line, offcuts of fishing line” *GP* S'm 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [OE *snaédan*]

2. “sned – the long shank or handel of a scythe” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: snead – general

snedder slim

“snedder – slim, slender: ‘a snether woman’” *Kennet* 1690s as D'm. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm; snether – Yx

snell sharp, keen

“a cauld day and a snell” *Beattie* Border Ballads p.118; “snell – sharp, cold, as a ‘snell wind’, a sharp piercing wind, ‘a snell morning’, a bitter cold morning” *Kennet* 1690s as D'm; “snell – sharp, keen: as snell air” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Lincs [OE *snel*, ON *snjallr*]

snew snowed

“it snew all day” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “snew – did snow” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

snib latch

“snib than sneck” (door latch) *KH* Stockton C20/2; “snib – the swivelling bit of wood that serves to shut a cupboard door or gate” (E). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire. See also **nose**

snicket see **cut**

snig an eel

ex. *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general (not Sco)

sniggle snare (noun and vb)

“to sniggle, to fish for eels” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “snickle, sniggle – a snare or wire for the capture of hares or rabbits” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “snigglies – wire noose for catching rabbits” *GP* S’m 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

snirls, snurls nostrils

“snurls – nostrils” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “snirls, snirrels (pronounced snolls) – the nostrils” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, Yx

snitch see **nose**

snite to wipe

“snite your nose” *Ray* 1674; “snite – to wipe the nose [by hand]” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx, Lincs, EA. [OE sn’ytan, ON sn’yta]

snod smooth (noun and vb)

“snod, snog – smoothe, sleek ... as He is snodly gear’d or snogly gear’d ... wheat ears are said to be ‘snod’ when they have no beards or awms” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “snod, snodden – to smooth down” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “snod – a careful, close person” *Robson* Tyne 1849; “gay and snod – cunning” *Tyneside Grammar* 1880s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, Yx, Lx. [compare ON sno, oinn ‘bald’]

snood the short piece of line that linked hook to main fishing line

ex. Amble per BG 2003; “snood with hook attached” *JH* S’m C20/mid; ‘esp re long line’ *JP* S’m 2005. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N.I., N’d, nYx, Derbys, Suff, Kt. [OE snód]

snook, etc. to sniff

“a little black bitch ... snoaking at a juniper bush” *Raine* MS Ushaw, 1674/75; “to snawk – to smell” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “snoke – to smell, to pry about curiously...” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “snoke, snook – to smell at; also pronounced snoork”, “tak’ a lang snoork” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “snorkin’ ‘n’ snoor’n” (snorting) *Egglesstone* Weardale 1870s; “snowkin’ like pigs at a sew” *Gibson* C’d 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [?ON; compare Norw. snöka, Swed. snoka ‘to sniff’]

snook headland – see **nose**

snotter to have a runny nose

“snotters – bubbles: ‘he snotters and sleeps’ [of] a man who falls a sleep when he is drunk” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “snotter – to snivel, to sob or cry” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, parts of Mids. *Plus* “snotterclout – handkerchief” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, nYx

so

“see doon sat Andra” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “sae, se” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “se fast” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “se” Durham 1916, Tanfield Lea, 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sae – Sco; see – N’d; soa – Yx. See also **sec**

soft mild and wet

“Soft – wet (of the weather)” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* “pick the soft out of – to take the mickey out of’

sonsy lucky, pleasant

“sonsy – lucky” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “soncy or sonsy – pleasant, agreeable, engaging; as applied to a person’s looks” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Sonsy – nice, jolly-looking, stout (of persons). Imported from the North, and not commonly heard” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “sonsee – pleasant” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. NE 2001: not in use. [?Gaelic]. *Plus* “[a witness] did heare the said Jane Patterson ... call the said Elizabeth Scott, ‘unsoncy readheaded fox’, and that she was ill to meet withall first in a morninge” *Raine* MS Swalwell 1618

soom to swim

“to soom through Tyne” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.70 1805; “we’ll a’ soom or sink” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.71 1805; “soom – the Northumbrian pronunciation of swim; soomer – a swimmer: ‘a top soomer’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “ah’s gan to hev a soom doon at Cullercoats” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “soom – to swim” Tanfield Lea 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d

sooss 1. to fall, 2. a fall

“sooss – to fall with force; to cause anything to fall so into water” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “a clumsy, heavy fall: ‘he tumbled sooss into the gutter’” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; ‘to bounce up and down; to lap up’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [imitative]

2. ‘a heavy, clumsy fall; the sound caused by the act of falling’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “a heavy fall: ‘He went down with such a sooss’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *Plus* “sooss, marra!” (sorry, when bumping into someone) *TC* re Dawdon Pit, C20/2

sooss to lap up

‘to lap like a dog’ *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “sooss – to lap up (e.g. milk, of a dog)” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “to lap water etc., as a dog does” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, EA

soossenger sausage

“Ah’ll fry the’ a soossenger te the supper” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sausinger – D’m, Yx, Lx, wMids

spait heavy rain

“spait of rain – a great fall of rain” *Bailey* Co.D’m 1810; “spe’e’at – a heavy shower” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

spales, spiles 1. splinters, 2. ‘stakes used in making an embankment’ *EDD*

1. “spale, spail, spyel, spell – a chipping of wood, or splinter” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “spales or spyalls – refuse chips for firing” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. See also **spell, spelk**

2. “paid for fellyng of wood and ryving of spilys” (Bishop of Durham’s accounts, ca. 1515) via *Brockett* Newc 1846; “The Spiles” (made ground near Seaham North Dock) *GP* 1998. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, W’d, Lx, EA. [variant of piles] *Plus* “I think they’ll have spiled them” (driven posts into ground). *JH* S’m C20/mid

spane to wean

“Her lambs were not then spaned” *Raine* MS Walton 1605/06; “sp[y]aned – weaned” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “he’s a face that would spyen a calf” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “spean, spaen or spane – to wean a child; to deprive a creature of its mother’s milk” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “spyaned” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [OFr espanir]

spang to spring in the air

“spangin’ – jumping, leaping: ‘a flea ... amang war blankets spangen’” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “spang – to leap with elastic force, to spring” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth

spanghew to fling hard

“spanghew – to throw with violence. The word is sometimes used to express a barbarous operation on the toad, a reptile to which rustics have a great antipathy” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘to cause to move with force or velocity’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘to fling, project, e.g. a frog’ *Gibson C’d* 1880; “spanghew’d – spread out, flattened” *Egglestone Weardale* 1877. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, parts of Mids. *Plus* “spangued out – forced out by pressure” (of a pit prop) *Wade South Moor* 1966

spar to close

“spar, spare – to shut, to close. A very common word in the North” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d, W’d, Derbys, Norf. [MDu sparre, OFr esparre]

spark 1. to splash, 2. to hit

1. “to splash, to make foul with mud: ‘I’ve spark’d my boots’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N.I. N’d

2. “spark – to hit someone” Charver 2000–2002

sparty marshy

“sparty-ground – ground wet, and with rushes here and there” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, D’m. [spart ‘dwarf rush’]

speel to climb

“speel, speil – to climb, to clamber” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, C’d. *Plus* “then doon te Sheels a’ hands did speel” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.416 1862

speir to ask, enquire

“of me to spir” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “gude fellows that spier for me” *Beattie Border Ballads* p.83; “he would speere them there lease againe” *Raine MS Ryton* 1662; “I’m laith to spier questions on moon shiney nights” N’d C19 per BG Texts p.93; “Speer – inquire. This word is rare, being an importation from the North” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “dinna spier how things is gan” *Northumbrian Words III C20/mid* re Kielder. *EDD* distribution to 1900: speer – Sco, Ire, Nth, parts of Mids. [OE spyrian, ON spyrja]

spelk splinter, splint, etc.

“Four spelkes athwart, and one top spelk are sufficient” (in constructing a hive) *Raine MS* 1648; “the splints or splinters of wood used in binding up of broken bones are called spelks” *Kennet* 1690s; “spelk – a small plinter from wood ... also ... a tall raw boned lad: ‘hes [sic] a spelk of a fellow’” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “spelk – a small splinter, a thatching stick; a little, slender creature” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “spelks – hazel pins used in thatching” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “A slim-built, smaal spelk ov a lad” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “spelk – a thorn or splinter in the flesh. Also of anything insignificant: ‘A spelk of a thing’, ‘He’s just a spelk of a lad’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “spelk – wood splinter, small weak person” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “Aw’ve getten a spelk i’ my hand” *Graham Geordie* 1979. “Aa’ve gorra spelk in me finga” *SS Consett (E)*, sim. *JS Ch-le-S* 1960s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. NE 2001: in use. [OE spelc] See next entry

spell splinter, etc.

“spelles” *Raine MS EYorks* 1641; “spale, spail, spyel, spell – a chipping of wood, or splinter” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “spell – splinter” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “spell, not spelk” D’ton C20/mid, C20/2, B’d Castle, Teesdale 2001 Q; “Why did the magician give up magic? Because he one of his spells got stuck in his finger” *Wood Cleve* 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON spela] See also **spelk**, **spales**

spennish licorice

“Spanish – licorice, or Spanish juice. (Pron. ‘Spennish.’)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “spennish” NShields C20/mid Q; ‘licorice strips’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid

spice 1. gingerbread, 2. (imported) dried fruit esp. currants

1. “spice – gingerbread” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, C’d, nYx

2. “spice – dried fruit. Hence, spice-cake, a cake full of currants” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Spice – the only name known for currant-cake.

'Cake' always means tea-cake" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, Yx, D'm, Derbys

spice-kyek tea-cake

"a good speyce suet keayk" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "then Sunday comes – wi' friends te tea,/when spice-kyeks florish..." *Wilson Newc* C19/mid; "spice-cakes – teacakes enriched with currants" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "a spice loaf is made of dough and mixed with raisins, currants, allspice, ginger and different other aromatics" *Embleton Tyne* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm, Yx. *Plus* "fizzer – a singing hinnie without spice" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846

spiles see **spales**

spink a spark

"a spink of fire – a spark" *Kennet* 1690s as D'm; "spink – a spark of fire or light" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "not a spink of leet" *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D'm. See also **chaffinch**

splent stony coal

"splent – a hard substance (almost coal, but stony – burns in the fire but leaves a large mass). It is part of the seam in the Brockwell. It lies at the foot of the seam in some parts, therefore the seam is then kurved at the top" *JK Leasingthorne* C20/2

spletter pit worker

"the spletter, his daddy" *Marshall G'head* 1806. [from split? compare: "ma heed's fit to splet" *Cuddy Cairt Newc* 1917]

spoach to look around or search for

"to have a wander, as in 'I had a good spoach around the shops in town today'" *MM Amble* 2005

spout 1. spout, drainpipe, 2. narrow entry to crab pot

1. "Three doors past the broken spyut – when you don't know the precise location or where someone lives, and don't much care" *AM S.Shields* C20/mid

2. 'way into a Flamborough pot for a crab' *Hill* 1970s; "'monk' not 'spout'" *FT Cullercoats* 2003

sprag cod

"sprag – codling" *Umpleby Staithe*s ca. 1930; "big cod – only two sprags to a box" *JP S'm* 2005

sprent sprinkled

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sprent as inf. of vb – esp. Sco, Nth

spuggy sparrow

"Looks tha, thar's a spuggy, man!" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "spuggy – any common-orgarden little bird, not just a sparrow. I remember the kids I taught in Hull in the 70s divided birds into two kinds – spuggies and seagulls; i.e. land birds and sea birds." *JS* from Chester-le-Street C20/mid; "there gans a spuggi" *East Boldon* 1985; 'a sparrow, also a spiritualist' *ER M'bro* C20/2; "spuggy or spacka" *IA S'm* 1950s,60s; "spuggie or spug" *Roker* C20/mid; "ah want gyeuses not spuggies" *Dobson Tyne* 1970–71; "spuggy – any small bird" *JR Sacriston* C20/2; "spuggy – sparrow" *S'd* 2002 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD'm; spug – Sco, N'd, Warks, Worcs. NE 2001: in use. *Plus* "to take a spuggy's ticket – to climb over a fence to get free view of football/cricket match" *LG* re Seaham C20th/mid; "spuggy's ticket – a free look obtained at a paying spectacle, usually from up a height" *AK Tyneside*, 1950s; "dickyhedgie – the hedgesparrow" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "cuddy – the hedge-sparrow" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "bluey – house or hedge sparrow" *MS N.Shields* 2004

squally-mashed obliterated

ex. *GP S'm* C20/mid. *Plus* "molly-squash – to inflict great violence upon" *Wood M'bro* C20/2; "mangle-shredded" *CT* New Herrington 1930s [variant on smash?]

squeaker young pigeon

ex. Gosforth C20/2 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sth (of swift, partidge)

squench to quench

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [variant of quench]

squitts quits

>“skwitts – all square after gambling” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “squits – equal, even” (ending a contest) *Wood* Tees 2002

staithe jetty, landing stage

“staithe – often pronounced steeth or steith, a place to lay up and to load coals at ... The word occurs in a demise from the Prior of Tynemouth, AD 1338” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “staithe – a quay, a permanent stage or platform by the water-side to facilitate shipping or landing goods; an embankment or sea-wall” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Staithe (stae:uths) – the shipping stage belonging to a colliery” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Lincs, EA. [ON st, o, OE stæ, o ‘shore’]

stanchels uprights, bars

“iron for stanshalls of wyndowes” *Raine* MS *Embleton* N’d 1586; “door stanchels” *Oliver* Newc 1824 p.16; *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.237 1829; “Doorstaingels (‘g’ soft, as in ‘angel’) – door-frames” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Tyne – obsol. [OFr estanchele]

stane, styen stone

“leanin on the hud steahyn” (mantlepiece?) *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “styen-caad” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: stane – Sco, N’d; steean – Nth; styen – D’m, C’d. [OE stán]

stang a pole

“the said Jane did so abuse her husband [that she] was carried upon a stang about the towne” *Raine* MS Heighington, 1609; “stang – wooden bar or pole” *Ray* 1674; “stang – a piece of wood used by butchers to keep the feet of sheep, etc. extended till cold” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [OE stæng, ON stǫng]

stang sting

“stang – the sting of a bee etc.” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “stang – to shoot with pain, as in the tooth-ache” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth, Lincs. [ON stanga (vb)]. See also **dragonfly**

stangie?hen-pecked husband

“the snobs and stangies i’ the Garth” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.310 1827; “an’ at a stangie’s shop a bowt/a cover for me heed, man” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.298 1831

staple pit access

“the staple ... its purpose was to lower full tubs to another level” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.69 1910s

starling 1. **stiggie**, 2. **stashie**, 3. **stinker**

1.”stiggie” Gosforth C20/2 Q 2. “stashies” CT Co.D’m, C20 3. “stinker” cenD’m 2001, *PE* Seaton Carew C20/1; *Wood* re Teesside 2004

starn stars

“starn – stars; starneys – little stars” *Bell* MS Newc 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON stjarna (star), OE steorran]

starp to walk with long strides

ex. *AT* Co.D'm C20/mid

starrish strong (of drug)

“starrish – powerful; as medicine that is too much for the strength of the patient” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd. [from steer adj. 'strong', OE *stiere*]

starving cold

“starve[d] – to suffer from extreme cold” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “My grandma always said she was ‘starvin’ when she was very cold, but this sounded quaint to us” *AWre* Tynemouth 1950s; “When my parents were v. cold they said they were starving.” *DH* Consett, mid C20th; “starved or starving meaning cold” D'ton 1940s Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *steorfan* 'to perish']

stee ladder

ex. *Ray* 1674, *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “stee or stey” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “stee” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “stee, stegh” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “tak hehd o' this stee – ladder” *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950; *JB* Shildon C20/mid; Upper Teesdale 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: sty – Nth, eMids. [ON *stige*]. *Plus* “lether – Northumberland for ladder” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s

steed opening, place. etc.

“yat steed”, “midden steed” *Teward* Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid

steg a gander

“I am neyther goos-steler nor steg steiler” *Raine* MS Sedgefield ca.1570; “steg – a gander” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “steg – a gander” Upper Teesdale 2001 Q; *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, EA. [ON *steggi* 'a male bird']

stell a large open drain

ex. *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

stemples staples in a wall serving as a vertical ladder

“stemples ... a rude and apparently dangerous staircase” (in lead mine) *Alston* 1833. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx, Derbys, Card, Corn

stick strike (noun and vb)

“stick – a stand or combination among workmen, generally in regard to wages; what is elsewhere called a strike” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘among colliers means when they confederate not to work without advanced wages’ *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm

stick an' clout umbrella

“Stick and Clout – cant name for an umbrella” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896

sticks furniture

“And when we flit, the landlord stops/Ma sticks till a' the rent be paid” *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s

stife poor air

“stife – close, oppressive, occasioning difficulty of breathing: ‘as stife as a dungeon’” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “it teuk us aall wor time te see yen anuther in the kitchin, an' the stife wez aaful” *Robson* Newc C20/1; “a fug in the air I always associate with frying chips – ‘stife’ would be coming from the pan” *PG* H'pool C20/2; “lead miners used to call the smoke and fumes from explosives ‘the stife’ – you would walk back through it to the face, cap lamp just lighting the rails, unable to breathe” *SV* E; “I have heard that ‘stife’ or ‘stithe’ was the cloud of gas or whatever that was given off after shotblasting down the mines” *DE* Shildon C20/2; “open the door and let the stife out” *Marske* C20/2 via *Wood*; “thors an aaful stife in heor” (smell) *Dobson* Tyne 1970; “stife – choking smoke” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “stife – used down the mines and also used to describe the blue fog from an overheated and greasy oven” 2000 E; “stife – thick smoke” Upper Teesdale 2001 Q; Tyneside, B'd Castle 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, D'm, C'd, Pem, Suff. NE 2001: in use. [ON *stifla* – to choke]. See also **stithe**

stifey fuggy, stifling

“stifey – close, suffocating” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “frying chips ... the room would be ‘stifey’: ‘By, it’s stifie in here!’” *PGH* pool C20/2. “stifie – stifling” *Teesside* 2001 Q

stime dim light

“stime – a dim ray of light” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘young beast about 1 year old’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; “‘A canno’ see a stime’ – often said by one whose eyesight is bad” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth

stinker stalling

ex. *PE* re *Seaton Carew* C20/1, cenD’m. 2001 Q, *VW* re *Teesside* 2004

stirk young cow or ox

“stirkis – young male cattle in their first year” *Finchale* 1447-8; “sturk – young bullock or heifer” *Ray* 1674; “stirk – a yearling ox or heifer” *Bailey Co.* Durham 1810; “stirk – heifer, 1–2 years old” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘young beast about 1-year-old’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [OE *stirc* ‘calf’]

stite as soon as, sooner, rather

“Stite – equally, as soon: ‘Stite him as me’ (the sense is often ‘much rather’)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “A might stite gan hyem” (might as well...) *Nth Words*, *Seaton Sluice*, 1938. “myt as styt – may as well” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE. [as *tite*] See also **astite**, **tite**

stithe bad atmosphere

“stithe – hard, sever, pungent” *Ray* 1674; “she thout she wad ha’ been skumfeesht wi the steyth” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “stithe – strong, stiff, e.g. stithe cheese” *Grose* 1787; “styth – foul air: ‘Through smoke and styth’” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; ‘a black suffocating damp in a colliery’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “stithe – pungent smell” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “stithe – carbonic acid gas, often found in old workings, and evolved in most shallow mines” *Nicholson* 1880; “stithe – unpleasant, smokey atmosphere” *JB Shildon* C20/mid; “stythe – the products of the combustion of fire-damp” *Nicholson* 1880; “my mother said stithe” (Horden): “the kitchen was full of stithe’ (steam, etc.)” *JR Sacriston* C20/2; “styth – mine gas, CO₂” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “stythe (with hard th) – gas, methane” *South Moor (Stanley)* 2003 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. N’d, D’m, C’d, nYx. [OE *stí*, o ‘strong, harsh’]. See also **stife**

stob post

“The stoby road’s a stoby place, / And some o’ the stobs are la’ [low]” *Bell Newc* 1812; “stob – a stump, a post” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “stob – pointed stick” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “stob – the stump of a tree; a short post” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “as fond as a stob” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “stack stob – pointed stick used in thatching stacks” *JB Shildon* C20/mid; ‘also a gibbet’ *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Leics, Northants, USA. [?C14 variant of *stub*]. *Plus* “stoop – a gatepost. *Upper Teesdale* 2001 Q

stobbie unfledged bird

ex. *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m

stone-men pit workers

“stone-men – men employed in driving stone drifts, taking up bottom, or taking down top stone to make height for horses, &c.” *Nicholson* 1880; ‘The Stoneman’s Song’ *Johnny Handle* 1958

stooks supporting pillar of coal

“stook – the remains of the pillar of coal after it has been jenkined” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; [in reducing the pillars of coal...] “this last bit is the stook” *Hitchin* re *Seaham* 1920s p.106; “stooks – coal pillars left to support roof” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE, Northants

stoppings barrier put up in pit

“stoppings – a barrier of plank, brick or stone ... in a coal mine” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “stopping – a wall built in any excavation for the purpose of conducting air further into the mine” *Nicholson* 1880; ‘brick wall in pit’ *JR Seaham C20/1*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, nYx, nStaffs

stopple pipe-stem

“a pipe stopple – a piece of a tobacco pipe” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “if he haddent bad teeth he wad eaten the stopple” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.219 1817; “Pipe-stopp

storken to congeal

“storkin or storken – to grow stiff: as melted fat cooled again” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “stirken – to cool and stiffen, as gravy does/stau:kn” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “storken’d – fat that has set” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Ork, Nth. [ON storkna]

stot an ox

“stottes – male cattle from one to four years old” *Finchale* (1363-4); “iiii stotys pris xl (pound)” Reed *Border ballads* re 1582 p.26; “a gowden stote” *Raine MS?Durham* 1581; ‘young bullock or steer’ *Ray* 1674; ‘a two years old ox’ *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; ‘a young ox from one to four years old’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘bull stirk’ Upper Teesdale 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Derbys, Lincs, Sx. [OE stot, ON stútr]

stot 1. to bounce, move quickly (intrans.), 2. to (make) bounce (trans.)

1. “stot – to rebound from the ground, to strike any elastic body so as to cause it to rebound” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “aw’d see him stot bi me ... on his aud wooden peg” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.490 1862; “By, he wes stottin” (jumping up and down with anger) *Hay Ushaw Moor C20/1*; ‘to hurry’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; “stotting down with rain” *JS Easington* 1950s; “the hailstones wis stotin [sic] off the hoose-tops” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “stot out!” – stop that!, keep away! *TR S’m*, 2002; “a stotting headache” Blyth 2003 per BG; “stot along – hurry” Wheatley Hill 2002 Q.

2. “stot the ball” *IA S’m* 1950s,60s; *HP South Gosforth C20/mid*; “Aa’ll stot ye” *S’m* 2000 per BG; “A’ll stot one off you” Jarrow 2005 (M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, C’d. NE 2001: in common use. [“The Dutch verb ‘stoten’ is closer [than stuiten] ... the [Dutch] word for ‘tappets’ by the way is ‘kleppstotters’.” Peter Cain. The vb is first noted ME in C14 (“he stotayde and stelkett and starede full brode” *Parlement of the Thre Ages*), in Scots 1513 on, in the NE in C19. Possibly Common Germanic – compare ON stauta – reinforced by Dutch]

stotty (cake) flat round loaf

“Oven bottom cake is known as ‘stotty cake’ in mining villages” *Nth Words Northumberland* 1938; “stotty kyek” *PHm S’d C20/1*; “stotty cuak – usually made from surplus dough after bread making, also the oven has sufficiently cooled” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “stottee kyek – large flat loaf” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “the State Stotty-Cake factories” *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “stotty-cake – flat loaves, ovenbottom bread” *LL Tyneside* 1974, *Graham Geordie* 1979, Wheatley Hill 2004 Q, etc. NE 2001: in use. [from ‘stot’ (to bounce) in sense of resilience of a yeast-based bread. Term made popular by commercial bakers?]. *Plus* “stotty-bun” *S’m* 2002 per BG. See also **fadge**

stound hurt (noun/vb)

“stound – to ache, to smart, to be in pain” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; ‘numbing pain caused by a blow’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘an ache, pang’ *Gibson C’d* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?OFr estoner]

stoup/stoop – see **stob**

stour 1. dust in motion, 2. disturbance, commotion, riot

1. “stour – dust” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “ye’ll get yor een a’ full o’ stour” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.245 1827; “dust floating in the air: ‘midst dust and stour” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “stoor – dust in motion; stoory – dusty” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “Stoury Sunday” (re snow storm) *Alston* 1833; “cabs ’ill dash ’mang slush and stowre” *Tracts 4*, Newc 1850; “such a stour – dust from sweeping up” *Nth Words*, N’d 1938. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Derbys

2. “he wex sa hate (hot) in slike a stour” (commotion, struggle) *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “was sore wounded in that stour” *RR Weardale* 1569; “arms and armour ... that sav’d wor lads in mony a stour” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.303 1848; “dinnet clash the door/or myek ony idle stor” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.478 1863; “what a stor mun he’ been at his disappearance” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “When Aa cum hyem sic a stoor wis on” *Other Eye Newc* ca.1890. [AN estur ‘tumult’]

stoury gruel

“stoury – oatmeal and beer warmed together with a little sugar added to it” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “water gruell with ginger and sugar” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s

stowed (off) 1. packed out, 2. fed up

1. “stowed off – shaft bottom road full of coal-tubs” *Northumbrian III* C20/2 re Durham collieries; “stowd off – no more room” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; sim. eD’m C20/2, Tyne, nwD’m 2001 Q; “stowed out” *PG H*’pool 1998, S’d 2003 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE

2. “stowed off – fed up” Ch-le-St 2002, South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M); “stowed off with homework” *JS* Easington 1950s

stramash to devastate, devastation

“stramash – to beat, to bang, to break irreparably, to destroy; [noun] a complete otherthrow, with great breakage and confusion: ‘he made a sad stramash among the pots and pans”” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “stramash – to dash or smash in pieces” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx. [variant on smash?]

stramp to trample (upon)

‘to tread on’ *Bell* MS Newc 1815; ‘trample’ *Palgrave* Hetton 1896, *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “dinna stramp ower the clean floor” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, NE. [variant of tramp]

stravaigin’ wandering about

“Wiv a’ the stravagin aw wanted a munch” *Marshall* Newc 1823; “stravaigin’ – strolling about” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “cum stravagin’ this way” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.244 1842. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, Australia. [Med.Latin extravagare]. Plus “vaig – to wander, to roam (Fr vaguer)” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829

strenkle to sprinkle

“and strenkill it (holy water) opon hir” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “strenkle a leapyt (little bit?) ov sugar ont” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “strinkle – to scatter grain down to fowls: ‘strinkle to them”” *Bell* MS Newc 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d; strinkle – Sco, Nth, eMids, EA

strike

“struck up, re rabbit mating” *JR* Crook C20/mid

strike to kick

“ez orr Peter sed to Jack Featherston’s gallowa when it streäk em ower twee dykes ’n’ a lonnen” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “streak – struck, tossed” *Eggleston* Weardale 1877. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx, nLincs

strite straight

ex. Durham 1916; “strite off yem” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Yx

strunt/y the tail

“strunt – the tail or rump; strunty – any thing short or contracted” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx, eMids, EA

stumor something or someone striking

“a stumor of a goal” *JS* re Ryhope 1950s; “stiumor – an incompetent person” *GP* S’m C20/mid; ‘sort of person – usually female – whose behaviour makes one gasp, either because it is so stupid, or so shrewd’ *Viereck* re Gateshead 1966; “styooma – difficult person or situation” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “stumer – an unusual person, also means stupid” *Dobson* Tyne 1973

suit

“you’d suit it’ rather than ‘it’d suit you”” *AK* re Newc C20/mid

summat, summick something

“summic” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.420 1862; “summic, summat ... ‘tell you summic’” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “nowt or summat” *Cate* p.105 B’p Auckland area 1987; “sumbuk” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “summik like that” *VIZ* 51 1990s. [summat equals somewhat]

sump place where water collects (in pit)

“Sumps are holes sunk in Drifts to the depth of two or three yards, more or less” Derbyshire, 1681; “sump – a dirty settleing of water” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “Sump wet – wet to the skin” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “sump-wet – very wet” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; ‘at the bottom of the shaft, a standage for water’ *Wade South Moor* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

sunshower raining whilst the sun is shining

ex. *JS Easington* C20/mid, *ER M’bro* C20/2

sup drink (noun/vb)

“sup – a small quantity of any liquid” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “Ah try’d a sup tea” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “Sup (suop) – a drop: ‘A sup rain’, ‘ha’e a sup milk, will tha?’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “sup up, the dog’s won – everything is fine today” *Spennymoor* C20/mid

swads (pea) pods

ex. *Bell MS Newc* 1815, “beans ... swads an’ all” *Green Wearside* 1879 re C19/1; “swad – a peascod” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “pea swads” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, EA

swaimish bashful

“swameish – shy, bashful” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “swamish, sweamish” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “swaimish, swaimous – hesitating, diffident, bashful or shy: ‘I felt swaimish at asking’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. C’d, Yx. [AN escoymous ‘squeamish’]

swally a dip

“swelly or swally – a small basin or dish in the strata produced by undulation” *Nicholson* 1880; “Thor’s a hitch an’ then a swally” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “Swalley (swaul:i) – a hollow place: ‘The village lies right in a swalley’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; *JR Seaham* C20/1; “swalley – a deep gutter” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; “swallee – dip in ground” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “a depression in the roadway underground” *JM Thoraby* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, wYx, Warks, Glos

swang swamp

ex. *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. [?swamp; but note OE wang ‘flat plain’]

swape steering oar

“swape – a long oar used on board of the keels in the Tyne to steer by” *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Tyne, Yx, Lincs. [ON sveip – of circular motion]. *Plus* “there’s a nasty turn with a double swape” (?bend in passage in pit) *Moreland Dawdon* 1980

swarth a fetch

“swarth – the ghost of a dying man” *Ray* 1674 re C’d; ‘the spirit or ghost of a dying man called in Yorkshire a waff’ *Kennet* 1690s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: C’d, Yx. [OE swart ‘black’; compare also Sco warth/wraith]. See also **waff**

swattle swallow noisily

“to swattle some yell” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.187 1824. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA

sweal to flare

“swale, sweal – to singe or burn, to waste or blaze away” *Ray* 1674; “swealing of a candle: meeting or guttering of a candle, as proverbial saying in the north, see how the candle sweals” *Kennet* 1690s; “swale, sweal – to singe or burn, as to sweal a hog. Also to waste or blaze

away, as, the candle sweals” *Grose* 1787; “sweal – to melt, to waste or blaze, to burn away rapidly, as a candle when exposed to the wind” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “sweal – to gutter, as a candle does in a current of air” *Nicholson* 1880; “sweelin doon the wind” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “sweal/sweadle – to waste away as candle in wind” *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931; ‘to turn quickly, blaze up’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; “swale – [to] burn heather on moors” *JB Shildon C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE swaélan ‘to burn’]

sweir stubborn

“Hawkie is a sweir beast and Hawkie winna wade the watter” C19/1 via *Graham Geordie* 1979. [OE swaér ‘grievous, difficult’, ON svárr]

swill large shallow basket

“swil – a sort of flat wide basket used by flesh carriers and fish wives in Newcastle” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; ‘a round basket of unpeeled willows’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, EA

swipes drink, ?ale

“as stale as swipes kept ower lang i’ the huddock” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.188, 1824. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Yx, Lx, loMan

sy—see also **si**—

syke, sike runlet

“in a dirty syke”, “in syke nor ditch” *Beattie Border Ballads* p.106, 209; “unto the full letch or sike of the said more” *Raine MS Winston* 1606; “sike – little rivulet” *Ray* 1674; “syke – a small brook” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “sike – ditch, water-channel” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “syke – a streamlet, a rill of water; a small run draining out of a bog” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘ditch with running water’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA. [ON sík, OE síc]

syle rafter

“syles – principal rafters of a house” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [OE s’yl ‘pillar’]

syle strainer

“a mylke syle” *Raine MS?York*, 1553/54; ‘a strainer’ *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; ‘strainer for milk’ [preparatory to using the separator] *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; ‘a sieve’ Upper Teesdale 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [?ON; compare Swed. sil]

T

t', th' the

"t' byuk" Durham 1916; sim. *Moore* Weardale 1859, *JB Shildon* C20/mid; "all th' meat" (the) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: C'd, Yx, Lx

taa toe

"tae – the toe, according to the Scottish form" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "taas – toes" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: tae – Sco; teea – Yx

taak talk

"meynde what their, taokin about" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "taak" Durham 1916, *Haldane* Newc 1879; "whee's A taakin te – who am I talking to" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950. *Plus* "a taaky chep" *Haldane* Newc 1879

tab cigarette

"gizza draw of your tab" *JS Easington* 1950s; "giz a tab" *Dobson* Tyne 1970; "heyegorrennytabswespatzon" (filter tips) East Boldon 1985; "tab ends" *VIZ* 96 (1999). NE 2001: in use. [brand-name 'Ogden's Tabs']. *Plus* "a butt was called a dump" *JS Easington* 1950s, sim. *Graham* Geordie 1979; "Nipper – child, also a discarded cigarette or one which has been 'nipped' out" *FS* H'pool C20/2; "giz a swaller" (a turn on a cigarette) IA S'm 1950s,60s; "binger – cigarette end..." save me your binger" *ER* M'bro C20/2; "pitchy kissy, knocky downy, blowy ower – cigarette card games" *ER* M'bro C20/2

tack horse gear

ex. *GP* S'm C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Ire, wMids. [tackle] *Plus* "tack – smokeable narcotic of dubious strength" Charver 2000–2002

tadger 1. a child, 2. a tadpole, 3. penis

1, 2. exx. *JP* S'm 1960s

3. "Doctor Tadger" *Dobson* Tyne 1972; "tadger" *PG* H'pool C20/2; "me todger" *VIZ* 45, 1990s. *Plus* "dog pyntle" Reed *Border ballads* p.24 re C16; "chucky" eD'm 1990; "kellee" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

taggerman scrap dealer

ex. *GP* S'm 1950s. [tagger 'tinned sheet iron']

taistrel a rogue

"tastrill – a cunning rogue" *Grose* 1787; "taistrel, testril – a rude or prankish kid" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; 'a wastrel' *Gibson* C'd 1880; 'an ill-mannered boy; one given to playing pranks' *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; "taystrel – mischief e.g. a young boy" *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [a sixpence]

tak take: 1. tak forms, 2. tyek forms

1. "tack – to take" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "tak' ho'd – to undertake an office or special performance or duty" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "t traction engines ... cud tak't up te Kil'ope Cross" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "aw'se gawn ti tak it tiv the maister's house" *Wearside Tales* 1879; "tak the wite" (take the weight) *JS Easington* C20/mid; "Aam ganni tak off – run away" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950; "teuk the lead" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "Aw champt the bit an' teuk the bridle" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; "thai had the childe tane" *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "a journey ta'en" *RR* Weardale 1569; "she's teun a fit" *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; "they've tuen'd up [the pavement]" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.245 1827; "teun hyem on a barrow" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.252 1829; "aw've teun the yaller fever wi' snuffin goold dust" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.400 C19/mid; "well tune with, i.e. is very popular" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896, "ta'en – dead" *NCM* 1/21–31 wN'd 1900; 'admired' Durham 1916; "yu'v tack'n a hamma t' crack a nut" *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "tyun ahad – fire well lit" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "I went to the football but all the seats were chun" *JP* S'm C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: tak – Sco, Nth, Mids

2. “tyek – take” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “t’yak” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “tuaik” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “tyek” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s, *Tanfield Lea*, 1960; “tyekkin in watta – nerves spoiling contestant’s game” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “tekkin’ a broon” *Irwin Tyne* 1970; “ye wouldn’t hev tu tek it yem afta” *VIZ* 34 (1989)

tally tallow

“he’d skin a louse for its tally” *Ashington* C20/mid

tallyman any due collector

“on pay-day a stream of tallymen, club agents, money-lenders and insurance men passed through the house” *Hitchin* re Dalton-le-Dale p.18 1910s; “tallyman or tick man” *IA S’m* 1950s, 60s; ‘due collector, HP instalment collector’ *EP Southwick* C20/mid; “talleeman – credit collector” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; ‘due collector’ *D’m* 2001 Q, *Trimdon* 2002 Q. [AN tallie]. *Plus* “provy man” – *Tyneside* C20/mid Q

tang, teng 1. to sting, 2. the tongue of a buckle

1. “tang, teng – to sting” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “tenged – stung” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks, sim. *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “teng” sting *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, eMids. [ON tunge ‘sharp point’] See also **dragonfly**

2. “tang – the tongue of a buckle; the prong of a knife or other article which runs into and is fixed in the handle” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868

tappy-lappy in a rush, headlong

“commin tappy lappy ovr the Stob-Cross Hill” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; ‘as hard as you can, applied to running’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “away we went, tappy-lappy down the lonnin” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.505 1891; ‘pell-mell, helter-skelter’ *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “tappeelapee – happy-go-lucky” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2; “gannin’ tappy-lappy oot the toon in a cloud o’ dust” *Dobson Tyne* 1971; “the twee boxers went ti’d tappy-lappy...”, ‘to rush aimlessly and blindly’ *Graham Geordie* 1979; “ter gan up ter toon, tappy lappy” *MS North Shields* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. *Plus* “gannin tap-happy doon the lonnin” (happily, cheerfully) *BL Winlaton* 1950s

tara, tata see goodbye

tarry-tout tarred string

“Tarry tow – a single strand of rope steeped in tar” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “hemp rope tarred for use in wet conditions” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery* C20/mid; ‘thick treated string used to tie hewer’s token to tub’ *GP S’m* 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: eD’m]. *Plus* “tooty tar – a piece of rope impregnated with tar handy for lighting fires” *JG Annfield Plain* 1930s; “the sound of tokens jangling on a piece of strig” *Moreland Seaham* 1980

tash on the pull

“To gan tashing – lads eyeig girls” *BL Winlaton* 1960s; “the lads used to go tashing to the dance hall” *FS* (E)

tasher painter in shipyard

ex. *BL Winlaton* 1960s

tatie potato 1. tatie, 2. tattie, tattie, 3. chetty

1. “tatees an soat” (salt) *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “She peels the taties wi’ her teeth” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “the Tatie Market” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.237 1829; “taties, tripe, and greens” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.197 1838; “ther was ony amount o’ tatees en turnips” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “tormuts and carrots and taties” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.554 1891 re S’d; “tatie” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid; “tatie – potato, or a stupid person” *Charver* 2000–2002

2. “aw’ve tetties te boil” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.399 C19/mid; “Ye’re just the scrubbiest bits o’ tetties I iver saw” *Parker Tyne Valley* 1896 p.79; “Tetties Aa-laa Fish Shop” (chips) *Windows Newc* 1917; “tetty-flavoured crisps” *Dobson Tyne* 1972; “I hev nee tatties” *Graham Geordie* 1979; “tattie watta” *VIZ* 48, 1990s; “tattie boggle” (scarecrow) *Newc* 2001 Q; “tatties” *Barnard Castle* 2001 Q; “it hit me like a sack a tatties” *Newc* 2004 per BG; “tattie shed – he means a potato packing warehouse!” *CKBS N’d* 2005

3. “chetties” *JP S’m* C20/2; “chyetties” *Tyneside* 2001 Q; “chetties” *Thornley* 2001 Q; “chats – small potatoes not worth peeling, ususally fried in skins” *Wood Tees* 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general; ‘tattie’ typical of Sco? NE 2001: in common use. *Plus* “tatie pit” (small-scale coal mine) *S’m* C20/2 via BG; “Tettyhowkaz – agricultural or peasant Geordies” *Dobson Tyne* 1970; “tatie-pie – potato clamp (heap of potatoes covered in straw then earth, for storage)” *JB Shildon* C20/mid. See also **scarecrow**

tatty tattoo

ex. Tyne 2003 Q

tave 1. senseless action, 2. heavy walking

1. "taving – random or delirious motion" Brockett Newc & Nth 1846; "tave (pronounced teeav) – to sprawl or fidget about" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868
2. "t'yav, tave – to walk laboriously e.g. over a ploughed field" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "taav – to wade in mud" *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general [?ON; compare Norw. tava 'to toil']

taw see **marbles**

tawm, tome fishing line (e.g. of horsehair)

"tome – a hair line for fishing" *Grose* 1787 as C'd; "tawm" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "tawm, tome, tam – a fishing line: 'a long twine tam'" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "pull'n horse hairs oot ed tail te mak fish'n taums" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth. [ON taumr 'cord, line']

taws 1. leather strap, 2. punishment with same

1. 'a leather strap used by schoolmasters for chastising children' *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'a leather strap partly cut into long strips, tails or tags' *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "Taws (taa:z, taaz) – a leathern strap for punishing naughty children, to be seen hanging up in many cottages. It is like a carriage-window strap, cut into a fringe at one end" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N'd, D'm, C'd
2. "you could hear them screamin' as they got thor taws" Tynemouth C20/1 re training ship; "taws – punishment" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "a good towsin" – a good thrashing Tynemouth C20/2 Q

te see **to**

tee too

"aw mun away tee" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "Prince Albert tee" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.303 1848; "tee – too" Tanfield Lea 1960

teem to pour out (transitive)

"[penalty] for temynge fylthee tubbs in the water of Ouse" *Raine* MS York, 1540s; "team – to empty a cart, by turning it up, to pour out" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "it was just like teamin' cau'd watter down mi back" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "teem – to pour out: 'teem oot the milk'" *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; "A teapot with a well-turned spout is called a 'good teemer.'" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; 'referred to tipping a load of coals, bricks or sand off a lorry or cart in the street as well as pouring down with rain' *JS* Easington C20/mid; "teem oot the scaddin' het oil" *Dobson* Tyne 1970–71; "team oot the tea" *Graham* Geordie 1979; "teem that out down the sink" *Wood* Tyne 2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON tæma 'to empty']. *Plus* "On the staiths, 'teemers' put the brakes on to the wagons, open the bottom and let the coal into the hoppers" *Coulthard* p.108 1934 re Ashington

tell

"wyse monkes ... teld him thus" *Cuthbert* C15/mid; "it was nowt but lees he teld him" *Marshall* p.19 Newc 1823; "yen o' the beuks thet tellt ye hoo it's aall dyun" *Robson* Newc C20/1; "Ah telt a pollis about it" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; "a telt th'" (I told you so) *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "Aah towld ye he cudna be telt" *Leslie* Newc 1992. *EDD* distribution to 1900: telled – general; telt – Sco, Nth. [OE pret. tealde]

temse a fine sieve

"temes – a temse, a sieve of hair cloth" (for flour preparation) Finchale 1449-50; "tempse – a fine cloth or silk sieve" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "temse – a sieve made of hair, used in the dressing of flour" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE temesian (vb)]

teng see **tang**

teufit lapwing

"tewfet" *Grose* 1787; "tuiffit – the lapwing or plover; tuiffit-land – cold, wet, bad land only fit for the tuiffit" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "tuffit – a lapwing" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

teum see **toom**

tew, chew 1. to work hard, 2. to mess about, aggravate, trouble, 3. (noun) hard work, trouble

1. “thou is a tuing sow” (energetic lass) *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; “tew – to struggle, toil: ‘we had to tue on wi’ a nasty scabby roof” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “tue – to labour long, to work hard, to be fatigued by repeated or continued exertion: ‘tuing on’, ‘a tuing life’, ‘sare tues” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “to tue – to labour till tired, or diligently: ‘here have I been tuing all day for you and your bairns’ – a usual salutation by the wife on her husband’s return from an ale house” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “tew – to toil, to take trouble, to fidget or move uneasily: ‘a tewing bairn’ (a restless child), ‘a tewing hay-time’ (a wet and unfavourable season)” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “tew’d – overworked, struggling” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “choo-in – exhausting ... physically rough” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “Aa’ve tew’d at the job till Aa’s paid (exhausted)” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “tew on – to bother or struggle on” *Sacriston* 2004 E. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth, eMids, Lincs. [OE *tawian*, to work at, also to harass]

2. “tewing – teasing, disordering, harassing” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “tew – to tire; to ruffle, mess up” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “She fairly tewed his life out” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “‘tewing,’ of work, means tedious” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “tewed – fatigued: ‘it’s been a tewing job” *Wade* *South Moor* C20/mid; “chewed to death – harassed” *Spennymoor* C20/mid Q, *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “stop chewing me about” (stop messing me about) *PGH*’pool C20/2; “tew – to tumble about, to ruffle, to rumple” *Dobson* Tyne 1973 (as archaic); “a right tew on” (an awkward job) B’p Auckland 2001 Q; “tewed meaning overworked” *Upper Teesdale* 2001 Q; “chewed” eD’m 2001 Q; “cannot be tewed” (bothered with) *KH* Stockton C20/2, eD’m, B.Auck Q 2001. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Lincs. NE 2001: in use

3. “we reach’d the Moor wi’ sairish tews” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.139 1816; “wor aud wife [mother] has sair tues to raise the penny for Monday mornin’s” [i.e. to pay for school] *Corvan* Newc 1840s; “We’d sair tues amang us to manage wor keel” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.442 1862; “‘too much chew’ – too much of a carry-on to do something ... or simply ‘chewy’, an adjective for a task difficult to perform” *PGH*’pool C20/2; “getting a lot of chew” (hassle) *KH* Stockton C20/2; “tyoo – chew, laboured effort” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *Plus* “chewy – an adjective for a task difficult to perform” *PGH*’pool C20/2. *Plus* “tew – bless you!” (anon., hopefully with a sense of shame, 2000 Q)

thack thatch (noun and vb)

“ryvyng of thak” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “thack, theak, theaking – thatch [noun]”, “thack, theak – to thatch” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *lþacian*]. See also **theek**

tharf kyek a bread or biscuit

“they never gat owse better than thaaf keahyk” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “tharf cake, a girdle cake made of flour and water” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “thauf-cake or tharf-cake – a cake made of unfermented dough – chiefly of rye and barley – rolled very thin and baked hard [for keeping]” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “tharf cyek – made of dough left over ... also called fadge cake, and is commonly eaten at tea time” *Embleton* Tyne 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Derbys. [OE *lþacian* ‘unleavened’; *lþorf*-bread in *Cursor Mundi* C14/1]. *Plus* “tharfish – somewhat reluctant or backward; shy, timorous: ‘a tharfish kind of a bairn”” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

that

“at – that, which” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “let somebody talk et hez seen t’world” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “ony o’ the ‘at’s been there” *Haldane* Newc 1870. *EDD* distribution to 1900: at – Nth, Sco, Ire. [‘at is either a reduced form or genuinely reflects ON at]. *Plus* “Aw’ll sing ye the best thit Aw knaw” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *Note*: ‘that’ is commoner as relative pronoun than ‘which’

thee see **thoo**

theek to thatch

“wi’ ae lock o’ his gowden hair/we’ll theek our nest when it grows bare” *Reed* *Border Ballads* C16; “Wor canny houses duffit theek’d—Wor canny wives within ‘em—” (thatched with turf, divots) *Oiling* G’head 1826. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs, Northants. [?OE *lþeccan*]. *Plus* “Jemmy Grame the theaker lad” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s

them those (demon. adj.)

“gie us some, them new’uns” S’m 2000 per BG, etc. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *paém*, oblique case]

there see **thor**

thereckly directly

ex. *Wearside Tales* 1879; “she’ll be dry thereckely” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “(the) rekklee – directly” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

they, them (pronoun)

“a place th’ call Stanley” (they) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “thae, tha” (they) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “them thit wis prisint” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “thame” (them) *Embleton Newc* 1897; “they think it’s great, them” N’d 2004 pr BG

thill the floor of a coal seam, etc.

“thill – in mining, clay” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “thill – the surface upon which a tram runs” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “thill – the bottom stone of a coal seam” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846, *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Yx

thir, thur – these

“thir folk in earth I made of nought” *Noah’s Ark* Newc C15/16; “thir Weardale-men” *RR* Weardale 1569; “thur – these” *Kennet* 1690s as Yorks; “thur, thor – these, those” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “thur – these” *Eggleston* Weardale 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N.I., Nth; thur more typical of NE, thir of Sco. [*Cursor Mundi* C14/1 first uses thir as plural of this; compare ON *lpeir*]. See also **thor**

thirl drill, twist

“the cauld blasts o’ the winter wind/that thirl’d thro’ my heart” Newc C19/1 (Scots); ‘to pierce or stab, to perforate, to bore’ *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids

thivel stick

“thivel – a stick for stirring hasty pudding” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “nee bigger then a thyvel” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “thive – a wooden stick for stirring with e.g. cream before churning it into butter” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [? ON; compare Olce *lpefja* ‘to make thick’]

thocking panting, gasping?

“thockin and blowin” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Tyne

thoft, toft – thwart or cross-seat in a coble (small boat)

“thoft” *FT* re Northumberland 2003, *Whitby* 2003 per BG; “carlin toft” foremost toft *Hill* Flamborough 1970s, “carling thoft” *FT* re Northumberland 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, nYx, nLincs. [OE *lpoft*, ON *popta*]

thon that

“thon – that (over there)” *JB* Shildon C20/mid; “thon’s” (that is) *Todd* Tyne 1977. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, D’m. [only recorded 1800 plus – formation from yon]

thonder yonder

exx. *Bell* MS Newc 1815, *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s, *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “doon the quay thonder” *Corvan Newc* 1840s; “torn [turn] off thonder” *Haldane Newc* 1879. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, wMids, EA. [from yonder]

thoo, tha, thee you (sg): 1. nom.sg. (subject), 2. acc.sg. (object), 3. gen. (possessive)

1. nom.sg.: “thous neahn deef” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “How’s tou?” *Bells* re Carlisle, 1802; “Thou naws” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “cannot thoo...?” *NWC* 16 Jan 1886, Sup. p.5; “thoo gans”, “again thoo come back” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “how is ta?” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “thoo best o’ wives” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “where is the gannin the day, Bill?” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “thoo sees” *Durham* 1916, *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: thoo – Sco, Nth. [OE *lþú*]

2. acc.sg.: “thee” *Collier’s Wedding* Newc 1720s; “aw’ll sing thee a tune” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.88 1807; “it waz kind o’ thee” (oblique) *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “Aw wad knock th’ doon” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “te thoo” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “tha” – you (nom/acc.sg.) *Durham* 1916’ “Aa’ll tell thee” *Durham* 1916 [OE *pé*]

3. gen. “thee Fayther” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “thee twee breests” *Moore* Weardale 1859; “tha ni’em” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “thaa” *Haldane, Newc* 1879; “thee beuk en thee slate” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “thee care – your car” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. [OE *lþín*] See also **ye** (pl.)

thor 1. those, 2. their, they're, 3. there

1. "thur, thor – these, those" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "yen o' thor men o' war" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "thor drinks" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s. [generally reckoned a variant of thir, but possibly distinct]

2. "thor prairs" *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "thor evil star" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "thor – their, they're" *Dobson Tyne* 1972; "thor wiser nor thor dads noo, the lads o' bonny Tyne" *Haldane Newc* 1879

3. "thor issent a doot" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.243 1842; "thor's" (there is) *Barrass Stanley* 1890s, *Tanfield Lea* 1960

thowle oak tholepin

ex. *Hill Flamborough* 1970s; "thowle" *C/GR Amble C20/2*

thowt thought (pret.vb)

"aw thowt" *Wearside Tales* 1879, *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*, *Durham* 1916, *Tanfield Lea*, 1960

thrang, throng 1. crowd, 2. crowded, 3. busy

1. "off, helter-skelter wi' the thrang" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.298 1831; "it middle at thrang in iverybody's shop" *MWN* 16 Nov 1861; "thrang, throng – a confused crowd; a state of bustle, confusion: 'i' t' varry thrang on 't'" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "Ah follow'd t' thrang" *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; "mixt up, th' thrang" (crowd, throng) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*. [OE *geprang*, ON *pr ng*]

2. "the streets 'ill be se thrang, man" *Tracts 4*, *Newc* c. 1820; "as thrang as three in a bed", "as thrang as hens on a muck midden" *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; "throng – busy; inconveniently crowded (always used)" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "throng – crowded" *Dobson Tyne* 1973

3. "throng in getting in [i.e. carting away] the Roman monuments lately dug up neare Adle Mill" *Raine MS* 1702; "nit ower thrang wi' wark" *Bells re Carlisle*, 1802; "As throng as Thropp's wife when she hanged herself with the dishclout" *Raine MS* as current saying *C19/2*; "the condition of being very busy: 'T' missis's in a vast o' thrang wiv her cheeses" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "ye better come back the morn, hinny, wor very thrang the day, ye see" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "he wis varry thrang wi' summic" *Haldane Newc* 1879; "thrang – throng, busy" *Tanfield Lea* 1960; "through me throngs – through my chorse" *MS N.Shields* 2004. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *Sco*, *lre*, *Nth*, *Mids*. *Plus* "heaving – really crowded" *GP S'm C20/2*, etc.

thraw, thraa to throw

"thrawn owerboard" *Bell Newc* 1812 p.8; "as fast as I could thraw a coal" *Bell Newc* 1812 p.37; "thae started to thraw" (vomit) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation *Sco*, *lre*, *Nth*. [OE *lpraéwan*] *Plus* "the corpse began to thaw (twist) *Beattie* *Border Ballads* p.134

threap 1. to rebuke, 2. to insist

1. ex. *Ray* 1674; "threap, threapen – to blame, rebuke, reprove or chide" *Grose* 1787. [OE *lpréapian* 'to rebuke']

2. "Yet still aw cannot help but wonder/When aw's threep out o' what's se clear" (argued) *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; 'to persist vehemently in assertion or argument' *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "she threeps doon it is" *Embleton Tyne* 1897. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

thrimmel to trickle (money)

"thrimmel – to draw money reluctantly from the pocket... 'The parish now, wi' miser's care,/Mun thrimmel out some sma' relief'", "the reckoning they/Get thrimmel'd out, and toddle hyem" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; "Wor geordies [guineas] now we thrimmel'd oot" *Marshall Newc* 1823. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *thrimble* – *Sco*, *Nth*

thropple, thrapple windpipe, throat

"ma thropple was ready to gizen (crack with thirst)" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.49 1812; "byeth had their throppels weel wet" (with ale) *Tracts 4*, *Newc* ca. 1820; "thropple – throat, windpipe" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896, *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; "thrapple – throat" *JH Ashington C20/2*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: *thrapple* – *Sco*, *N'd*

throstle the thrush

ex. *Grose* 1787, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “whissel’d like a throssel” *Egglesstone* Weardale 1870s; “the song-thrush is sometimes called ‘thros’le,’ but more often ‘greybird’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *prostl*]

thrum to purr

ex. *Dobson* Tyne 1973; “the cat’s ... thrummin” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA. [imitative]. *Plus* “threethrums – the purr of a cat” *Tyneside Grammar* 1880s, Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “thrums – wool for rug making” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

thunnor thunder

ex. *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “My motherin-law use to hide under the table: ‘Rattleybags is coming’” *BL* Winlaton 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth, Derbys, Lincs. [OE *lþunor*]. *Plus* “thunner-pash – thunder-shower” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Egglesstone* Weardale 1877; “thunner-stane – quartz pebble” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “rattly-bags – thunder” *LG* S’m C20/2

tidy-betty a fender (for kitchen range)

“Tidy betty – a short fender across the grate, without a bottom” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; *MR* S’m 1930s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Yx, Lincs, Derbys

tied obliged

“obliged, compelled, sure, certain: ‘I’m tied to go’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “A’s tied to gan” (forced to go) *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; ‘obliged’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this sense Sco, Nth, Notts, Lincs

tiggy game of tag

“tiggy – the child’s game of ‘touch’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “tig or tiggy for a children’s chasing game” *RM* Norton C20/mid; “tuggie than tiggy” *Gosforth* C20/2 Q. *Plus* “thou ... was ower bissy tigger on woh Jemmy Grame” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “tig” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *KH* Stockton C20/2, M’bro, Stockton. D’ton 2001 Q; “tacky – a game in which one is appointed to pursue and catch the others” *Viereck* re Gateshead 1966. *EDD* distribution to 1900: tig – Nth, Corn. NE 2001: in use. See also **kicky-can**

till to

“they thought tul a’ had their prey”, “for tul have been at home again” *RR* Weardale 1569; “till – to or unto. It is still quite common in many parts of N’d” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “til um – to him” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “till his wife at heym” *Haldane* Newc 1870; “he did nowt till her” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s – extra. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [ON, OE (Northumbrian) *til*]

timmer timber

ex. *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “keep ya timmer in – look after yourself’ *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backforth; “just the right timmer – just the right size” *McBurnie* Glebe Colliery, C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth. *Plus* “This [i.e.beer] was the kind o’ belly timmir/For myekin pitmen strang and tuiff” *Pitman’s Pay* pt.3, Gateshead 1829; “belly-timber – food” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

tite soon

“sho als tite was hale” (immediately) *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “I may as tite be a ladye as thou a lord” *Raine* MS Durham, 1587; “titter – rather, sooner” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “tite – soon, easily, well” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Ah wad as tite gan as stay” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868, “I was there titter than you” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Aa might as tight deun wivoot” *Other Eye* Newc, ca.1890. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON *titt* ‘often’]. See also **stite**

titty sister

“Care ... wi’ his blear-e-ed titty, Grief” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

tium see toom

to, tiv, tin etc.

“rudely they fell tea their meat” *Rothbury* C18/2; “tid” (to it) *Marshall* G’head 1806; “frev a needle tiv an anchor” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “tiv-a-

tee – to a T” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “tin (before vowel) – to” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “up tut knees ie dyke watter” M’bro *MWN* 28 Jan 1860; “tud” (to it, to the) *Egglestone Weardale* 1877; “te”, “ti”, “tiv him” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “arl good things cum tiwa n’end” *CT New Herrington* 1930s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: tiv – N’d, C’d, wD’m, Yx.

tod fox

“a tod has frightened me” *Beattie Border Ballads* p.17; “tod – a name for the fox” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “if you sarra (serve) the tod/you maun bear up his tale” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Lincs

toit to totter

“toyte – to totter like old age” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s, *Gibson C’d* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, NE, Corn. *Plus* “toitle – to upset” (?to tip up) *Blenkinsopp Teesdale* 1931

tomahawk pit tool (combined pick and hammer)

“tomahawk – a type of hammer used by man laying railway in the pit. Head 1 ft long with chisel and hammer ends; shaft 2 feet long” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: wYx

tommy-shop a system using vouchers issued as part of pay (common early C19)

“Tomme shop – where miners compelled to shop (now obsolete)” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “the pay ticket, otherwise the ticket directing the deduction for ‘tommy’; ‘tommy’ being one of the names for ‘truck’” *MWN* 21 Apr 1860. *Plus* “tommy boxes – food tins of local steelworkers” *ER M’bro C20/2*; “tommy box” *Teesside steelworks* 2001 Q

too see **tee**

toom, teum, chum empty

“some tounes wex nere tome” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “toom, tume – empty” *Ray* 1674; “toom, teum, tume – empty, void” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “ju-um – empty” *Grose* 1787; “a tyum cellar” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “toom or teum – empty: ‘a teum cart’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “Aw’ve fill’d an’ sent away the tubs thit com in teum”; “Aw rattled the full uns an’ teum uns along” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “ah brak a tyum teapot” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “tyum meant empty” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.70 1910s; “an empty tub was called a ‘tuman’ ... we referred to anything empty as ‘tume’” *BW West Auckland C20/mid*; “chum – empty” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*; “chum uns” (empty tubs) *JP S’m C20/2*, Wade *South Moor C20/mid*, *JM Dawdon* 1980; “chummins, chummings – often wrote as plural for chum, when referring to a load of empty tubs” *McBurnie Glebe Colliery C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. [OE *tóm*, ON *tóm*r]

toon town

“we dress’d worsells smart, cam to toon” *Tracts 4*, *Newc* ca. 1820; “low parts of the toon” *Durham* 1916; “Newcassel is at yence byeth a toon and a county” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.158 1840; “gan to th’ toon” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “Canny Toon – Newcastle” *Dobson Tyne* 1973; “Toon army” (Newcastle United supporters) 1970s? [OE *tún*]

toot look-out

“keep toot – act as a look-out” *Charver* 2000–2002. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx, Lx, Mids. [also source of place-names like Toot Hill]

top prepared section of coal face

“top – the portion of a coal seam after the nicking and kirving processes are performed, left to be detached by the ‘shot’” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846

topping crest

“toppin – crest e.g. of a bird, or a person’s hair” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “cyem ‘er topping!’ (comb...) – take some of the conceit out of her” *Hull MS wNewc* 1880s; “our hair was just a little topping on the front” *JR Haswell C20/mid*; “toppin – fringe” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Nth

toppy choppy

“topy – choppy sea” Hutton Henry 2001 Q

torfle to fall down and die (of animals)

ex. Brockett Newc & Nth 1846; “towp, towple – to totter or fall over” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

tormit see **turnip**

tor to turn

“she tornd the lock”, “aw tornd roond” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “tornd” Durham 1916

tosser coin

“Aa hewent got a tosser” att. *GP S’m* C20/2. See also **pitch, toss**

tram vehicle for coal

“tram – a small sledge, used in collieries, for conveying the corf” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “tram – a small carriage upon which a corf or basket is placed; or it sometimes means two boys who have charge of this carriage, the one drawing and the other pushing it” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “tram – a small carriage on four wheels ... used in coal mines to bring the coals from the hewers to the crane” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “tram – a wooden carriage upon which the corves used to be conveyed along a tramway. The term still applies to the part of a tub to which the box is bolted” *Nicholson* 1880; “Strictly speaking, a bogey has the flange on the wheel, while in the case of the tram, the flange is on the rail” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “Down the pit, a bogey with an iron pin about two feet long, at each of the four corners, to prevent the timber and rails from falling off, would be called a ‘honey tram’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “A tram ... had a bogey like a coal-tub, but in place of a superstructure of wood it had four metal bars, one at each corner. Usually these were used for transporting props.” *Hitchin* re Seaham 1920s p.79. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m. [first recorded ca. 1800]. *Plus* “off the way – off the boards on which the tram ought to run” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s

trapper boy worker in pit

“trapper – a lad who had the charge of a door in the mine, for preserving the circulation of the air” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “trapper – a boy whose business it is to attend to the trap-doors in a coal-mine [for ventilation]” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “trapper – a little boy, whose employment consists in opening and shutting a trap-door when required for the passage of tubs” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m. [from trap ‘a ventilating door in a pit’ (*EDD*)]

trashing tiring

“I had a lovely holiday but the journey was very trashing” *AK* Newc 1950s; “trashed – worn out, e.g ‘aam trashed’” *G’head* 2003 (E). *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. *Plus* “trash – exhausting work” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

tret treated, pret. of ‘to treat’

“he tret them so kind”, “hoo thae ad been tret” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “the bairns had been badly tretten” *Graham* Geordie 1979; “the miners tret them (the ponies) kindly for they earned a man his pay” Moreland, Dawdon 1980; “the neighbours tret your house just like their own” *JM* Dawdon 1980. *EDD* distribution to 1900: tret – Sco. [OFr *treter*]

trig true

“trig – true, faithful: ‘my loyalty’s trig’ (from song *Canny Newcastle*)” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Jim Jemieson kens that your courage is trig” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.299 1842. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ON *tryggr* ‘trusty’]

trig to stuff

“to trig – to overeat” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “trigg’d with a good dinner” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs

trigged out dessed smartly

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: ?Yx. [for rigged? cf. troll for roll, trolley/rolley] *Plus* “a; things trig (neat) by breakfast time” NCM 1/86–90 C’d 1900

“wooden pegs ... to fasten the planks” on a keelboat – *Mitcalfe* re 1822

trod footpath

“they may lawfullye followe there goodes with a sleuthe hounde the trodde thereof” *Reed* Border Ballads p.45 re N'd C16; “trod – a beaten path” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; ‘a beaten foot path through a field’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “a green trod” *Blenkinsopp* Teesdale 1931; “Ther’s good trods gam till t’ top” *Lakeland* re C’d C20. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs. [OE trod ‘treading’]. *Plus* “foot-gang – the path from a cottage etc across a field to the road” *Bell* MS Newc 1815

troll roll

“troll – to roll or be rolled” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

trollibags intestines

“black puddings [from] Tib Trollibag’s stand” *Bell* Newc 1812 p.41; “Gallowgate for trolley bags” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.29 1812; “trollibobs, trollibogs – entrails: ‘tripies and trollibobs’” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: trollibags – Sco, Nth, EA; trollibobs – Yx, Lx, Worcs, Suf, Hants

trousers

“pulled up mee troosers” *Parker* Tyne Valley 1896 p.69. *Plus* “foston trousers – tied with string at knees” *PH* S’d, 1950s; “fustins” (pit trousers) *Northumbrian III* 1990 re Backworth. See also **breeks, keks**

trots a bar or stick of wood with snood (short line) and hook attached

“to put the trots in – a method of fishing from the beach. A trot was placed on the sand at low tide; the suction of the sand buried and held the trot secure; at the next low tide, the trot could be checked to see if a fish was hooked.” *JH* S’m C20/mid

tub mine vehicle

“tub – an open-topped box of wood or iron, bolted to a tram; used in conveying coals from the working places to the surface” *Nicholson* 1880; “Tub. (too:b, toob, tuob) – a coal-waggon used down the pit, holding from 6 to 8 cwt.” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this sense NE. [ME tubbe]

tufty buns small bread rolls

‘small bread buns’ *TM* Parkside 1950s; “tuffies – small bread rolls” *IA* S’m 1950s, 60s, GD (Co.D’m) C20/2, Thornley 2001 Q. [compare “tough cake” (plain bun), eD’m, sDev, *EDD* 1900]

tug to rob a bird nest

“tug – to rob, to destroy: ‘to tug a nest’”

Brockett Newc & Nth 1829; *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this sense N’d, D’m. *Plus* “huggee – rob bird’s nest” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2

tunger – see turnip

tup 1. ram, 2. tub of coal marking holiday break

1. “Mr Donkin’s tups will be shown at Sandoe, on the 21st instant” *Newc Courant* 2 Aug 1823; *exx. Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Tup (tyoop) – a ‘tupe’ or ‘teup’ is a ram” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “tup – male (entire) sheep, ram” *JB* Shildon C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

2. “tyup – the last basket or corf sent up out of the pit at the end of the year. The name is got from a tup’s horn accompanying it. ‘Bussin’ the tyup’ is covering the coals with lighted candles, which the lads beg, borrow, or steal, for the occasion. It is an expression of their joy at the gaudy days or holidays which take place generally after this event” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “roond the raws one heul doo day, the youngsters hugg’d the teup” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s www.ebook3000.com

turnip 1. **tomip**, etc., 2. **bagie**, 3. **naggie**, 4. **narkie**, 5. **nasher**, 6. **neep**, 7. **snadger**, **snadgie**, 8. **snagger**, 9. **snanny**. 10. **snarter**, 11. **snasha**, 12. **tunger**, **tungie**, 13. **yammy**

1. "I had to lead turnups upon a sledge" *Errington Felling/Heworth* re 1790s p.42; "tormit – turnip" *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s, Tanfield Lea 1960, *Graham Geordie* 1979; "iz big iz a turmit" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.418 1862; "on'y three turmots iv a five yacker field" *Wearside Tales* 1879; "turnip snagging, when turnip pinching" *JR Crook* C20/mid; "tunnip snaggin'" (harvesting) Saltburn, Cleveland C20/2 per VW; "turnip lanterns" *Lakeland* re C'd C20; "tonnup or snashie" *BW Middle Herrington* C20/mid; "turnep – turnip or swede" *JB Shildon* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: tonnup eYx. [first element implies 'round' (cf. 'tower') either from French tour or cf. Swed. tur; second element is næp, a root vegetable, from OE/Latin.]

2. "...in the North [Nothumberland] they [turnips] were 'bagies'" *Nth Words*, 1938; "howing the baigies – hoeing the turnips" *Nth Words*, N'd, 1938; "bagie or baggie – one variety of the Swedish turnip, the purple top" Geeson, N'd/D'm 1969; "bagie" *Dobson Tyne* 1969, Blyth, Newbiggin 2002 Q. [Swed. rutabaga; Geeson's 1969 claim that 'rutabaga' is Latin does not seem justified]. *Note*: also used in USA

3. "naggies – turnip lanterns" Jarrow 1970s per GL; "nagger" Wheatley Hill 2004 Q; "naggie" S'm 2002 Q

4. "narkie" *JP* re Sunderland C20/2, S'd 2001 Q; "narkie kickin'" (game) Southwick 1980s; "narky" Hoton, S.Hylton 2002 Q

5. "nasher" *CT* New Herrington, C20/mid; 'because the animals used to gnash it' *SM Ho'ton/Penshaw* C20/2; "nashy" S'd 2001 Q

6. "neep" Tyneside C20/mid, S'd, B Auck, Blyth, Newbiggin 2002 Q. [OE naép – also source of second element in **turnip**]

7. "snadger" *FS* Shotton Colliery 1930s, *TP* S'd 1960s, Birtley 2003 per BG, Ch-le-St 2002, Stanley, Hoton, Ch-le-ST 2002 Q; "Turnips are 'snadgers' on Tyneside" *Nth Words* 1938; "snadgers or snannies" *RV Winlaton* 1950s; "snadgie" Cleadon Park, South Shields, Tyneside C20/2 Q Jarrow 2005 (M), "snajie" South Shields C20/2 Q. [variant of 'snagger' – see next entry]

8. "snagger or tunger" *JM* Thornaby C20/2; "snaggers – definitely at Easington Colliery for turnip." *JS* Easington C20/mid; "been hoein' snaggers – turnips" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950; "My friend fron Horden knew the orange one as a snagger" (E); "snagger – when too frosty to pull [turnip] out by top, you stick the point of the snagger in to get a grip, then the main blade for topping and tailing. Hand harvesting continued until about 1990; every farm would have turnips as a crop" *SM Ho'ton/Penshaw* C20/2; "snagger" South Moor (Stanley) 2003 (M), Wear Valley, B'p Auck, H'pool, Lanchester, Fencehouses 1930s, Stanley C20/2, Ch-le-St, Thornley, Wheatley Hill, Wingate 2002 2001 Q. [derived from the tool for harvesting the crop, thus "tunnip snaggin'" (harvesting) Saltburn, Cleveland C20/2 per *Wood*]

9. "In Seaton Burn it was 'snanny' and we had to run fast to avoid getting 'arses skelped' when we nicked them from the farmer's fields" *DN* Seaton Burn, C20/2; "snanny" *KE* Winlaton mid 20C/mid, *MB* Coxhoe C20/mid, Dinnington 1950s, *RV* Winlaton 1950s, Gosforth C20/2, Gateshead 2001 Q; "snammy" NShields C20/mid

10. "snarter" *JP* S'm C20/2. [ON snarr, neut.snart 'severe, sharp']

11. "snasha" *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; "tonnup or snashie" *BW* Middle Herrington C20/mid

12. "I seem to remember people also saying 'tunjer'" *FS* Shotton Colliery 1930s; "snagger or tunger" *JM* Thornaby C20/2; "tungiesnackin'" (harvesting) M'bro per *Wood* C20/2; "tunгы" M'bro 2001 Q

13. "yammy" S'd 2001 Q *Note*: The variety of terms attest the importance of this crop as both animal and human feed ("Turnips ... form the chief winter feed for sheep" *Coulthard* p.62 1934); it would be a standard crop on every farm, and its familiarity might have led to the diversity of names

tussy-pegs teeth

exx. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid, *FS* H'pool C20/2

tuther (the) other

"the tother" *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; "the yen better nor the tother" *Other Eye* Newc ca.1890; "the tuther month" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; *JB* Shildon C20/mid; *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

twang 1. boast, affectation, vanity, 2. talking posh, 3. local intonation, dialect

1. "Yet some may think't a twang" *Shields Song Book* (South Shields, 1826); *EDD* distribution to 1900: in sense 'a lie' – N'd, Lincs, Glos

2. "twang as in some one talking affectedly ower posh" *JS* Easington C20/mid. *Plus* "twangy – with odd or affected intonation" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

3. “wor aad Newcassel Twang” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.576 ca.1890; ‘dialect, local speech’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; ‘intonation’ Benny Graham 1980s per BG; “twang – dialect esp. sound of” *Ferryhill* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [imitative]

twank to smack, etc.

ex. *GP* S’m C20/mid; ‘to punish with a strap or cane’ *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Lincs, EA. [imitative]. *Plus* “twankin’ – playing truant” *GP* S’m 1960s

twat 1. the female genitalia, 2. term of insult

1. ex. S’m 1950s, etc.

2. “y’ bad-moothered little twat” *VIZ* 42 ca.1990; “whether you think im a twat or not” (seaham.com website 2002)

twattle to fondle

“twattle – to treat caressingly, to fondle, to coax” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Yx. [from twat]. *Plus* “be-twattled – confounded, overpowered, stupefied, infatuated” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “betottled, betwattled – bewildered, confused or confounded, stupefied” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868

twee two

“either ane or twa” *RR* Weardale 1569; “twee horns full of grease” *Collier’s Rant* Newc, C18/2; “leyke twe little reed tatees” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “twea – two” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “its eyes like twee little pyerl buttons did shine” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.142 1816; “twea – two; tweasome – two in company” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “an’ cut him in twee halves” ‘Lambton Worm’ 1867; “a twee-shillin’-bit” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “atween the twee leets” (at twilight) *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “twee twinnies” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; *EP* Southwick C20/mid; “twe – two” Tanfield Lea, 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: twa – Sco, Yx; twe – N’d; twee – Tyne; tweeah – eYx. NE 2001: no longer in use, perhaps because of similarity to and risk of confusion with ‘three’. [OE *twá*]. See also **atwee**

twilt quilt

“Her twilted petticoat” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “twilt – a bed cover” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “twult – a quilt” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “twilt – quilt” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, EA

twinnie a twin

“Mary Jane an Dorothy Ann, them’s twee twinnies” *Embleton* *Embleton* Tyne 1897; ‘either of a pair of twins’ *EP* Southwick C20/mid

twiny fretful

“twiny – fretful, uneasy” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; ‘peevish, fretful’ *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth. *Plus* “twine – to cry” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829, ‘to be fretful’ *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

twist(y) 1. to moan, complain, 2. whingeing (adj), 3. a quarrel

1. “twisting – discontented” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; ‘subdued complaining, crying (by child)’ *JB* Shildon C20/mid; ‘to whinge’ *JP* S’m C20/2; “to twist/twine – to complain” B’d Castle 2001 Q; “twistin on” cenDm 2001 Q. NE 2001: in use

2. “twisty – cross, out of humour” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Where aal the twisty, twiney, bad-tempered aad beggars come frev ’at gets puttin inti cabins beats me!” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “a twisty bairn” *IA* S’m 1950s,60s, sim. Gateshead 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, C’d, Yx; “twisting” eD’m. NE 2001: in use

3. “Twist – quarrel, disagreement: ‘They’re all atwist’, ‘Hes thoo hadden a twist?’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “full, twist becos he’d just woken up” (i.e. irritable). S’m 2004 via BG

twitchbell see **earwig**

twok to steal (esp. a car), to joyride

“D/side Twocker Squad” (grafitti, S’m, 2000); “If Elton John is so ****ing rich, how come his wig looks like it’s been twocked of a ****soden

tramp?" (Letter to *VIZ*, 2001). [taking without owner's consent]

tyke, tike dog

ex. *Kennet* 1690s as Yx; "mony a tike did him attend" Rothbury C18/2; "landlords were styen-hearted tykes" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.177 1824 Newc; "tike or tyke – a blunt or vulgar fellow ... also a name for a dog" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "tike tyke – a dog, a cur; a churlish or mean and low person; (playfully) a hungry child: ' a nest of hungry tykes' (a family)" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "Tyke – Yorkshire person" *JB Shildon C20/mid*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids, EA, USA. [ON tik 'female dog']

tyooth tooth

ex. Durham 1916. See also **axletooth**, **(tooth)wark**

tyun see **tak**

U

understrapper underling

“undastrappa” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; *Graham* Geordie 1979. [*OED* exx. 1700 on]

unket?unusual

“uncots – treasure, queer things or out-of-theway things, stored by as valuables” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “unket, unkened – strange or relating [to] strangers: ‘an unkett folk’” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [ME unkidd ‘uncouth’]

upaheight high up

“saw Cleopatra’s Needle stuck’n’ up aheet like a railway train set up on end” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “up a hyt” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “up-aheyte” *Todd* Tyne 1977; *GP* S’m 1998. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, W’d, Yx

upcast mine shaft

“an upcast (pronounced upkest) shaft in a coal-mine is one used to promote a circulation or upward draft of air” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; ‘the shaft by which the return air is discharged from the mine’ *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d, D’m

upcast to reproach

“upcast – to upbraid; [noun] a taunt, reproach” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Upcast – throw in one’s teeth, taunt with” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “if aa was to de see, ye wad cast it up to me fyece” *Heslop* N’d 1890s; “gie ower up-kesting that – stop reminding me” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth. *Plus* “upkast – reminder of past grievance” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2. See also **cast**

upgrown adult

“Upgrown – grown up, adult (always used)” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

upskutle to knock over; to annoy someone

ex. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid

urchin hedgehog

“p[ai]d for 4 urcheons’ heads, 6 d.” *Raine* MS Whitekirk 1673/74; “Tommy Linn had no saddle to put on, but two urchin skins” *NChorister* D’m C18/2; ‘a hedgehog, also a dwarfish ... or deformed person’ *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “hurchin, or urchin – a hedgehog” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [AN herison, hereson ‘hedgehog’]

urled pinched

‘stinted in growth’ *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; ‘pinched with cold’ *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth

us see **me, we**

V

vage a struggle to do something

“it’s a vage to reach” *MG Teesdale C20/2*; ‘difficult journey, a struggle’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; ‘something that’s an effort or a struggle to do’ *Middleton in Teesdale (E)*. [?related to voyage]

varnigh very nearly

“thor eggs wad jawp an’ var-ny crack a styen” *MC Tyne May 1881*; “thouise varney ten minits late” *West Stanley C20/1*; “vannear” *Lakeland re C’d C20*; “its vennigh kennor – near knocking off time” *Dunn B’p Auck 1950*; *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. [‘varry’ (very) plus ‘nigh’]

varry very

“its varra true, sed Jenny the Gardner” *Bewick Tyne 1790s*; “a varra deaal” (a large quantity) *Atkinson Cleve 1868*; *Wearside Tales 1879*; “varry painful” *Dobson Tyne 1972*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Yx

vast vast amount, a lot (of)

“sheed seen a vast o’ the world” *Bewick Tyne 1790s*; “I’ve seen a vast of obstinate awd men like you” *JS South Shields C19/mid*; “kindness dis a vast” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs p.477 1863*; “he’s a vast aader nor he leuks” *Haldane Newc 1879*; “thor wis a vast o’ folk i’ the chapel” *Graham Geordie 1979*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

vend combination of North East pit-owners to regulate the price of coal (C19/1)

“vends – a limited sale of coal, as arranged by the ‘trade’: ‘They were not hamper’d. then wi’ vends’” *Pitman’s Pay G’head 1820s*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. N’d, D’m

viewer pit manager

“Viewer – the manager of a coal-mine. So, ‘under-viewer’ (under-manager)” *Palgrave Hetton 1896*; ‘the manager of a colliery’ *Graham Geordie 1979*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, Staffs

vine pencil

“vine-pencil – a black lead pencil” *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*; “Vine – a lead-pencil (always used). ‘Pencil’ always means slatepencil” *Palgrave Hetton 1896*; ‘pencil’ *Spennymoor C20/mid*, *Viereck re Gateshead 1966*, *Dobson 9 Newc 1974*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, C’d. [vine charcoal, used for writing]. *Plus* “keely-vine – a black-lead pencil” *Brockett Newc & Nth 1829*; “wad pencil” (graphite) *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*

vision television

ex. *IL Tow Law C20/2*

W

waak to walk

“in Aa waaks as large as life” *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; “Aw ... wawk'd gotherly in” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “waakin” Durham 1916. *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.217 1837. See also **wark** (work/pain)

waal coal face

“waal – wall, hard coal face” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

waff 1. air, 2. a spirit

1. “waff o' cawd – a slight cold” (infection) *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; “waff – a slight motion of the hand; a slight puff of wind” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; ‘a breath or smell’ *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; ‘rush of air’ *Dobson Newc* 1974. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [waff?; compare Norw. veift ‘puff of wind’]

2. “the spirit or ghost of a dying man called in Yorkshire a waff” *Kennet* 1690s; “waff – an apparition in the exact resemblance of a person, supposed to be seen just before or soon after death” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “waff – fetch, doppelganger” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, Yx

play the wag play truant

“thor's ne playce te play the wag noo” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.396 C19/mid; “aa cud hev tyeken a prize for wez (who's) playin' the wag” *Robson Newc C20/1*; “ye played the wag from Sunday Skeul as weel” *Irwin Tyne* 1970–71. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm, Lx, Oxf, London, Australia. *Plus* “play the nick – truancy” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*. See also **twank**

wag at the wa' pendulum clock

ex. *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.485 1862. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd

waggonway track for coal vehicles

“waggon way – a rail way on which the coals are conveyed from the Pits in waggons to the staiths on the Tyne, Wear, and Blyth” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “these days there was ne iron rails, the waggon-ways were wood” (re Stephenson's time) *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.463 1862; “wagon-way – the railway upon which the coals are taken away from the screens. the rolley-way is also called the wagon-way” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N'd, D'm. *Plus* “a wagonway-man ... was a general handyman, an experienced miner, who had a vague authority over the boys in his district” *Hitchin* re Seaham p.65 1910s

waggy see **peter waggy**

wailer pit worker

“wailer – a person employed on the pit heap at the mouth of the pit to wail or pick out the stones and brasses from out of amongst the coals” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “waila – cleaning coal in picking belts” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

wairsh insipid

“Life wad be varra wairch without 'em” (lasses) *Pitman's Pay G'head* 1820s; “wairsh, wearch, werch – thin, watery, weak, insipid” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “she hezzent put ony salt i' the breid, an' its as wairsh as waiter”, “also weak, wishy-washy: ‘wairsh port’” *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; “welsh” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid*; “wairsh – tasteless” Tanfield Lea 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids [ME werische]. *Plus* “Warsh (waa:sh) – faint, from loss of food” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896

wake see **lyke wake**

waked woke

“next mornin he waked up” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “waked up” Durham 1916

walls-end quality coal

“Walls-End – a name extensively used for Newcastle coals ... The coals from this place being at one time of the most valuable description, other coalowners began to append to the name of their coals the favourite term of Walls-end, no matter from whence they came” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “best Dawdon wallsend” *GP S’m re* 1946

wallyment, wullemot guillemot

“wullemot/wullyment – the guillemot” *Heslop Tyne* 1890s. *Plus* “Bairn, thou’s as white as a wallyment” (?) *Parker Tyne Valley* 1896 p.65

wame belly

“weary byens and empty wyem” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “had fu’ been the wame o’ Bob Cranky” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.96 1814; “wame – the womb or belly” *Bell MS Newc* 1815. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Derbys. *Plus* “give us yell and aw’ll drink ma wameful” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.89

wang-tooth molar

“wang-tooth – the jaw-tooth” *Grose* 1787; “wang-tooth – a molar tooth or grinder” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Derbys, Lincs. [OE wang ‘cheek’]

wankle wobbly, uncertain

“wankle – wobbly, wavery” *Ray* 1674; “wankle weather – uncertain, changeable” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “wankle – uncertain” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “as wankle as a wet seck” *Gibson C’d* 1880; ‘weak, tottering’ *Smith Weardale* 1883; “wankley – weak, unsteady on your feet” *Teward Nebiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid.* *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE wanco]

wappies wasps

ex. *JO re High Thornley/Rowlands Gill*, 1930s–1940s in *Nth Words*. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d. *Plus* “waps – a wasp” *Grose* 1787.

play war be very angry, etc.

“Me mam’ll play war with me” *AK Tyne* mid 20C

wark 1. work (noun), 2. to work

1. “when I cam to Walker wark/I had ne coat nor ne pit sark” *Bell Newc* 1812 p.36; “awl kines, wark” *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; “when things gan wrang wi’ wark or pay” *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; “ye’ll niwvor need te gan te wark” *Dobson Tyne* 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth. *Plus* “wark-folks – labourers, workpeople” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “waukrife” (work experienced) *Wearside Tales* 1879

2. “he can neither wark nor want” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “he’s warked as debbity” *Tyne MC* May 1881

wark 1. to ache, 2. ache, pain

1. “wark – to ake” *Ray* 1674; “my head werkes, my teeth werke” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; *Embleton, Newc* 1897; “it’s warken – aching” *Teward Nebiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid.* *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids, EA Shrop

2. “wark – an ache, sharp pain: ‘teeath-wark’, ‘heead-wark’” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; “tiuthwark – toothache” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “belly wark” *Weardale, Teesdale* 2001 Q. [OE wærc ‘pain’]. *Plus* “aixes – bodily pains or the ague” *Bell MS Newc* 1815. See also **waak** (walk)

warrant, warnd to be sure, be certain

“I’ll warr’nt ye’ve had a merry day” *Chicken Benwell* 1720s; “aw warn’t ye aw thought they luck’d pretty” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.48 1812; “Aa’s warned – I warrant” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “Aa warnstha” (I daresay) *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; “ah warnd thoo hezn’t been abed ahl neet, noo?” *Embleton Tyne* 1897; “A wairm’d a will” (I bet I will) *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “Aa-warnd ye think yorsel’ cliwor?” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OFr warantir]

warse, warst worse, worst

“warse – worse” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “mickle the better and no’ the war” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “gettin warse and warse” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “warst” Durham 1916; “warse” Tanfield Lea, 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth

warsle to wrestle

“warsel – struggle” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “warsle – to strive, to wrestle” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, N’d, W’d, C’d, Yx

was 1. was (preterite singular), 2. were (pret. pl.)

1. “wis leukin at” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “he wis comin yem” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “wes” Durham 1916, Tanfield Lea, 1960; “I war flayed to tell ye a plain tale”?N’d, *NCM* 1900–1901

2. “Wor cares war few” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “we wannit iv a partickler hurry” *Wearside Tales* 1879; “what we war tawkin’ about” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.444 1862

wath a ford

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Lincs. [ON vao]

watter water

“waiter or waeter – the Newcastle pronunciation of water” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “rum weak as watter” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.246 1827; “he had smelt the salt watter” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.221 1842; “waiter” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “neebody sud drink watter” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “it wes cummin doon hyel wettor” *Cuddy Cairt* Newc 1917, sim. *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “gone ower watter – emigrated” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950, sim. *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “wettor” *Todd* Tyne 1977. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation esp. Sco, Nth

wattie see **hare**

waup curlew

“when the waups are on the heights” *Northumbrian Words III* C20/mid re Kielder

wavy tin corrugated iron

att. *GP* S’m 1980s of Houghton Pit workers in Seaham. (‘A large amount of ‘corrugated’ sheeting was used during the 1950s and early 1960s for placing above and behind roof supports to hold back loose ground. Much of the sheeting was reclaimed scrap from WW2 Nissen air raid shelters.’ *Tootle*)

wawk see **waak**

wax soap

“Aall I say is t’wax wur i’t watter dish an t’watterdish were i’t windy” (the soap was in the soap-dish and the soap-dish in the window) *Burdon* D’m 1850s, 1860s

wax grow

“A vast o’ bairns and ha’-waxed folk dingt doon t’ steg’s hoose wi steans an clarts” (A number of half-grown folk and children knocked down the goose house with stones and peats) *Burdon* Dm 1850s, 1860s [OE weaxan]

waxa see **excellent**

waysgoose day out

“Waysgoose – day trip of the workpeople belonging to a firm or company” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896 [term first noted 1683]

we, us

"as wuh say" (we) *Dobson* Tyne 1972; "worra wuz ganna dee?" *VIZ* 48; "worsells" (ourselves) *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; "huz" *Marshall* G'head 1806, *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; "huz colliers" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.177 1824. See also **me**

weans children

'children, little ones' *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; "weeans, weeans – wee-ones, children (Sco. weans)" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Lincs. ['wee one']. See also **bairn**

wedge money

ex. G'head 2001 Q. See also **brass, lowie**

weel well

"weel eneugh" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "Walker pit's deun weel for me" *Bell* Newc 1812 p.36; "Ye may weel ax" *Parker* Tyne Valley 1896 p.87; "weel" *Tanfield* Lea, 1960. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Nth

weeny tiny

"weeny – very little" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; "tiny... Only heard once, from a native of S. Shields" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; *Dodd* MS *Tanfield* Lea C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. *Plus* "the wee worms" *Beattie* Border Ballads p.144. *Plus* "the wee worms" *Beattie* Border Ballads p.144

wend 1. to go, 2. a turning

1. ex. *Ray* 1674

2. "wend or wiend – a narrow street or small court (D'ton, Stockton)" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, D'm, W'd. [OE *windan* 'to turn, go']

weshin', wishin' washing

"wishinge" *Anderson* Newcastle 1624; "a rainy weshin' day" T. Wilson *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.264 1831. *EDD* distribution to 1900: wesh – C'd, Yx, Lx, Mids

whang shoelace, thong

"whangs – leather thongs" *Grose* 1787, *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; 'a small leather thong such as is used for tying shoes', 'a belt round the waist' *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; "whaing (hwaeng) – boot-lace" *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. NE 2001: not in use. [thwang 'thong'] See also **shibbin'-leather**

what

"whatten – what kind of, what: 'whatten o'clock is it?'" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "Aa mun find oot ... whattan road Aa's gannan" *Haldane* Newc 1879; "a diwent naw warrit means" *CT* New Herrington 1930s; "what'n humour he's in" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

what for why

"what for nut?" (why not) *Green* Wearside 1879 re C19/1; "What for de they put oranges intiv the pigs' mooths?*" *NWC* 16 Jan 1886 Sup. p.5; "what for? says the Pee-dee" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.153 1927; "what are ye off school for?" D, S'm 2003. [after model of Old English 'for hwi...?' (for what, why)]. *Plus* "'Cos for! – reply to 'What for?'" *FS* Shotton Colliery 1930s. *Wey thoo maun be a fuy! not te knaa that – It's becaas they cannot put them intiv the pigs onywhor else."

we who

"we's that with ye?" *Chicken* Benwell 1720s; "we dos thou tig on wee?" *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; "we's thou, man?" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.293 1825; "and show'd plain whee was rook and whee was pigeon" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.238 1829; "I dinna care whe he is" *Haldane* Newc 1879; "'It's time for ye ti tak a wife,' said Smoggins to his son. 'Whee's sall Aa tak?' axes the young hopeful." Newc C19/2; "wheese thee think thou's taaking te?" *Shield* Row C20/1; "think weel, maw man, wi' whe ye play" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.417 1862; "Ah diwent care

whese ghost ye are" *Irwin* Tyne 1970; "weezon the bar?" East Boldon 1985. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Nth. [OE hwa 'who', hwæs 'whose' – in direct questions]

wheezles wheeze (noun and vb)

1. wheezles (respiratory disease): "cats wi' the wheezles" *Barrass* Stanley 1890s
2. "wheeze – to wheeze" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, N.I., D'm, C'd

whemmel to overturn

"whemmel, whommel or whummel – to turn upside down, to tumble over" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; 'to upset or turn over' *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; 'to up-turn a barrow to empty it' *Smith* Weardale 1883; "whum'le – to invert as a basin or bowl over a plate of cut bread to keep it moist" *Robson* Birtley 1880s, 1890s; "whemm'l'd – fallen over" *Teward* Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids. [whelm]

wherry boat esp. on the Tyne

"the vessel came in contact with a small Highland wherry from Mull and Icolmkill, which immediately sunk" *Newc Courant* 17 Aug 1822 p.4; "Aw thowt aw'd myek a voyage to Shiels/lv Jemmy Joneson's whurry" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.51 1823; "whurry – wherry, large boat; a sort of barge or lighter" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "Aw've the wherry o' poor Jimmy Johnson/An' aw hev both the oars, mast and sail" *Ross* Tyne p.1 C19/1. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, EA. *Note* example in store at Beamish Open Air Museum gives dimension 42ft, 19 ft, with 4ft 6 in draft when loaded

whey see **quey**

whick alive, lively

"whick – quick – used in the cry of fresh fish at Newcastle: 'whick-an-alive'" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "whick – alive e.g. which-hedge" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "as whick as onny lop (flea)" Tyne *MC* May 1881. [quick, OE cwic] See also **quick**

whickens couchgrass

"quicken or quicken grass – a general name for all creeping or stoloniferous grasses or plants, which give the farmer so much trouble to eradicate" *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; "wicken-grass, wickens – twitch, couch or couch-grass" *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. See also **quicks**

whiet quiet

"can't you be whiet, whiles?" *Smith* Weardale 1883; "ther tongues niwver lay whyte" *Lakeland* re C'd 1901

while until

"while that thou come again" *Noah's Ark* Newc C15/16; "a yonge black calfe, to be brong up about house whel saint tillinmas" *Darlington* 1610 via *Atkinson* no.25; "Nor to presu[m]e for sell, whyles they have [r]ong the come bell" *Durham* C16/2; "while – until, before: "wait while I come", "not while night"

Atkinson Cleve 1868; "Ah'll be stayin while Friday" *Wood* re Cleveland C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [OE hwile]

whiles sometimes

"and whiles I gaed, and whiles I sat" *Beattie* Border Ballads p.162; "whiles gannin', whiles baith fairly down", "...march away, whiles in, whiles out o' step" *Marshall* G'head 1806; "it rains whiles" *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; "she's kind o' kittle i' the temper, whiles" *Embleton* Tyne 1897; "A whiles think hes aal right" *Dunn* B'p Auck 1950; "whiles" *Alston* 2001 Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

whilk which (rel.pron.)

"whilk – who, which what. ... whilk – somebody, a certain person" *Kennet* 1690s as D'm; "aw whilk while" *Rothbury* C18/2; "whilks Trunks? i.e. which is trumps?" *Bell* MS Newc 1815; "whilk – which" *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s, *Moore* Weardale 1859, *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; "any yan o' whilk" *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation Sco, Yx [OE hwilk]

whin hard stone

“whynn – hard stone – in mining” *Bell MS Newc* 1815; “whin or whinstone.—greenstone; an igneous rock; but the term is usually applied by borers and sinkers to any exceptionally hard rock that emits a sharp sound under the hammer or chisel; usually a greenstone or siliceous sandstone” *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth

whinge to whine, complain

“dinna whinge and whipe” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “haud you whinjin gob” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.361 1849; D’ton 1940s Q. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth [?OE hwinsian]

whins gorse bushes

“the whinnes shall pricke thee to the bare bane” Beattie Border Ballads p.176; “xiii loods of fures or whynnes” *Raine MS Castle Eden* 1576/77; “whinns, for baking” expenses, Sherburn Hospital, 1686 via *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1846; “lay drunk among the whins” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.207 1827; “the whins and bents and strang sea air” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.468 1862. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. NE 2001: in use. [ON? compare Norw. hvine]. *Plus* “whinney-bush” *Wood* re rural Teesside C20/2, Trimdon 2002 Q

whisht peace, quiet

“had thy wisht” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “as wisht as a mouse” *Bells* re Carlisle 1802; “whisht! – be silent, hush!” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “whisht lads, haad yor gobs...” ‘Lambton Worm’ 1867; “Whisht (hwisht). hush!” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

whussel to whistle

“the fifes are whuslin’ lood an’ clear” *Marshall G’head* 1806; “whussel – a corruption of whistle” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “whusseld” (pret.) *Barrass Stanley* 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N.I., C’d, N’d

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wup 1. a whip, 2. to whip

1. “Hoo te splice a guy whup” *Barrass Consett* 1897

2. “he whupt it aw off iva a crack” *Tracks 4*, Newc ca. 1820

why well!, why!

“Wi aw thowt there was ne harm in that, man” *Street Piracy Newc* 1822; “Y man!” *Egglestone Weardale* 1870s; “Wey!” (well, why...) *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; “wey! – why!” *Tanfield Lea* 1960; “why like?” *VIZ* 78 1996

why-aye! certainly, of course

“Ae-hy” *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; “eigh-wye – a careless mode of expressing assent – yes, yes” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “wia – well, yes, why!” *Dinsdale mid-Tees* 1849; “Wey ay (wai:aa:y) (why, ay!) – to be sure! (v. common)” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “why aye hinny – certainly darling” *Dobson Tyne* 1969; “whyaye – definitely yes” *JB Shildon C20/mid*, ‘undoubtedly’ *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*, ‘of course’ *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: why-aye – eD’m, nYx, eYx

wicken-grass, wicks see **whickens, quick**

wife, wifie woman

“to man or wyfe” *Cuthbert C15/mid*; “a fitt seete for brydgrumes, bryds, and sike wyves to sit in” *Raine MS Chester-le-Street* 1612; “awd wife” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.237 1829; “wife – any woman, whether married or not” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “wor aud wife” (mother) *Corvan Newc* 1840s; “astonished the wifie did seem” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.308 1862; ‘any staid woman’ *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: wifie – Sco. [OE wif-mon]

will 1. present tense, 2. past tense

1. "will for shall, and would for should ... passim in the North Countreie" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; "winnot – will not" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "aw winnot believe't" *Green Wearside* 1879; "aw wanna hev barley breed" *Luckley Alnwick* 1870s; "twinnit wesh" (will not work) *Chater Newc* 1880; "winnet" *Barrass Stanley* 1890s; "winnut – won't" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950; 'Wain't, winnot – won't" *MM S.Shields C20/2; C20/2*; "wee-ant" (won't) *Wood re Cleveland C20/2; EDD* distribution to 1900: winna – Sco, Nth, Mids; winnut etc. Nth, Derbys

2. "it wad set aw his wits astear" *Rothbury C18/2*; "if he haddent bad teeth he wad eaten the stopple" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.219 1817; "you wad thought his feet was myed o' styen" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.155 1827; "whe iver wad thowt..." *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.243 1842; "eff aw hadn't been a good scholar, aw wad lost me set" *Wearside Tales* 1879; "wadn't, wadint" *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "neebody wad knawn nowt" *Other Eye Newc* ca.1890; "wadint – wouldn't" *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

willick whelk

"willicks – the shell fish periwinkle" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "willock – standard black whelk on rocks below high tide; buck willock – same but yellow shell; bull willock – same as buck, yellow, but 'massive', only found out at sea, sneaked selves into crab pots etc., seeking the bait." *JH S'm C20/mid*; "the willick or periwinkle is a small univalve mollusc found on the rocks of the Geordieland coast" *Dobson Tyne* 1972. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE *wioloc*]. Plus "bull-willik" S'd, S'm 2001 Q; "pennywilks" *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.406 1862; "checkers – periwinkles: 'Thoo's browt checkers like mice een" *Umpleby Staithes* c. 1935

win to access coal underground, etc.

"yon are the hills of heaven ... where you will never win" *Beattie Border Ballads* p.194; "for wynenge stones to the said worke, viii d." *Raine MS Embleton, N'd, 1584*; "win – to get: as winning stones, to get stones in a quarry" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "during this month a seam of coal, four feet 2 inches thick, was won at Greencroft Colliery" *Latimer, Records* re Aug 1840; "win – to get (something) by effort" *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; "win – to reach, attain to: "wan yamm" (home) *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "win – coal is won when it is proved and a position attained so that it can be worked and brought to bank" *Nicholson* 1880. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, D'm, Yx. [OE *gewinnan*]

wind-berry bilberry

"wind-berry – bilberry or whortleberry" *Ray* 1674; "win- or wind-berry – a bilbury or wortleberry" *Grose* 1787. *EDD* distribution to 1900: wimberry – esp. Lx, wMids. See also **bleaberry**

windy pick pneumatic pick

"small pneumatic drill used in hewing" *JM Dawdon* 1980; "a windy pick ... for breaking stones and hewing coals" *Moreland Seaham* 1980. Plus "pompom – pneumatic drill in pit" *JR Seaham C20/1*; "jigger" *BL Winlaton* 1960s,70s

witch-wood the mountain ash

ex. *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Nth, Suff

wite 1. punishment, blame, 2. to blame, punish, 3. weight

1. "Od [God's] wheyte leet on him!" *Bells* re Carlisle 1802; "Wite – blame: 'He got the wyte on't'" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "he'll hey ta tak wyte, he did it" *Teward Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid*

2. "G—d wheyte her ... for beheavin se to maw bayrne" *Bewick Tyne*, 1790s; "wite – to reproach, to blame" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: esp. Sco, Ire, Nth. [OE *witan* 'to blame']

3. "wite" (weight) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*

with

"what he did weed" (with it), "puft wea pride" *Rothbury C18/2*; "wiv, woh" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s; "wiv – with, esp. before vowel: "wiv 'imself" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "wiv us/win us" *Tyneside grammar* 1880s; "wid" (with it) *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*; "wi – with, wiv before a vowel" *Tanfield Lea* 1960; "aa'm gannin' oot win Penelope the neet" *MM S.Shields C20/2*

wizzen'd dried, shrivelled

"wizened – dried, shrivelled, shrunk" *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; "as a wizzen'd aud wife" *Bell MS Newc* 1815; "wizened, wizzened, wizzent" *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Esp. Sco, Nth. [OE *wisnian*, ON *visna*] See also **guizzen**, **kizzen**

wobbit no...

“Wobbit – an introductory word: ‘Wobbit thou’ll not’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: D’m, Lincs. [why plus but]

wokey damp

“wooky – moist, sappy” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; “voky – damp, moist, juicy [plus weaky]” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “weaky, weeky – moist, watery, juicy, full of sap” *Atkinson Cleve* 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: weaky – Nth, Worcs; woky, oakey – D’m; voky – N’d

won to dwell

“the man that wons yon foreste intill” *Beattie Border Ballads* p.57; “where woon you?” *Ray* 1674. [OE *wunian*]

wor our

“this is wor pay week” *Collier’s Rant Newc* C18/2; “wor – our; worsells – ourselves” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “wor Nan” (wife of speaker) *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “Our – used in calling members of a family: ‘Coom hayer, oor Jumzie!’” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “worsells” *Durham* 1916; “Wor lads at th’ church social an’ a want t’ see we ‘es dancing wi” *CT New Herrington* 1930s; “wor pit village” *Irwin Tyne* 1970. [OE *úre*]

workie someone troublesome

“workie or workie-ticket – a troublemaker, awkward customer” *MM S.Shields* C20/2 re Tyneside railways

worm dragon, serpent

“the Long Worm of Lambton is celebrated at Lambton near Chester le Street, Durham, and its well, hill etc. shown...” *Bell MS Newc* 1830s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N’d. [OE *wyrn* ‘worm, reptile, dragon’ i.e. animal of serpentine form]. See also **hagworm**

worrit, werrit to worry, torment

“werrit – to tease. Not so violent a metaphor as tue” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “he set his dog on to worrit wor cat” *Graham Geordie* 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

wow treacle?

“wovy an’ bread – bread and treacle” *Dunn B’p Auck* 1950; “treacle-wow – treacle beer” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s. Plus “wow-tin – fishermen’s lunch tin” *Umpleby Staithes* c. 1935

wowl to howl

“wowl – to cry or howl” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “wowlen on – complaining” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this form, esp. NE, EA. Plus “wowly – irritable” *MB Coxhoe* C20/mid. See also **yowl**

wrang wrong

“nowt cam wrang te Geordy” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “eff he thinks aw’s e a fule, he’s a lang way wrang” *Wearside Tales* 1879, etc.

(get) wrang get into trouble, be told off

“you’ll get wrong off your Mam, etc.” *FS Wingate* 1940s; “If yer diwent dee yer hermwerk yer’ll get wrang off the teacher” *NA S’d* 1960s; “gan wrange – get into trouble” *Newc* 2001 Q; “yihl get rang” *JP S’m* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: phrase – Sco, N’d, Yx, Lx. NE 2001: in use

wrought worked

“wrought out – worn out” *Pitman’s Pay G’head* 1820s; “Geordy wrout hard” *Haldane Newc* 1879; “I’ve rowt it owt” *Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale* C20/mid

wuddy noose

"jilted, dreamt of knife and wuddy" *Newcastle Magazine* p.177 14 Aug 1872. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd, nYx. [withy]

wullimot guillemot

ex. WS Seahouses via *AR*; "white as a wulliment" *Parker Tyne Valley* 1896

wunter winter

"i th' howl oh wounter" *Bewick Tyne* 1790s

X

x

the mark a pitman was expected to make (rather than a signature) on the Yearly Bonds, setting out terms of pit pay and employment in the first half of the 19th century. "My maternal grandfather used an X when signing a document – an operation that scared him stiff." *Hitchin* re Dalton-le-Dale 1910s p.15

Y

yacker acre

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849, *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “a five yacker field” *Wearside Tales* 1879. See also **yakker**

yaits oats

“yets” *Grose* 1787 re N’d; “yaits” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “yeats, hay and grass” *Rothbury* C18/2. [OE átan]. See also **haver**

yak etc. the oak

“trees of ake” *Raine* MS Durham 1439; “akes” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “a twig o’ yeck” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “he’s as hard as yek and iron” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. [OE ác]

yakker?worker

“yacker – a labourer” *RM Norton* C20/mid; “Yackas and Keekers – the excavating Geordies or pit-men” *Dobson* Tyne 1970; “yakka – ignorant deviation of pitman” *Dodd* MS Tanfield Lea C20/2; “yacker – pit lad” *NShields* C20/mid Q; “yacker – pit worker (hewer)” *Wheatley Hill* 2002 Q; “coal yacker” (miner) *JM Thornaby* C20/2; “pit yakker – a pitman” *Graham* Geordie 1979 (where source as ‘yark’, a heavy blow); “farm-yakkers” *Wood* Cleve 2002; “aad yakker” meaning old pit worker, *GD* Co.D’m 2004 E. [possibly yacker derived from yark or hack; but also ‘yacker’ meaning chatterbox, an Australian word first noted in print in the UK in 1959 or ‘yakka’, strenuous labour, from Aborigine into Australian English 1847]. See also **pit-yakker**

yal, yell ale, beer

“some drank yell” *Bells* re Carlisle 1802; “yal – ale” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “tyest the yell and stop a bit” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “nowther yal ner porter” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “a quiet pint o’ yell” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “ower-much yall – too much to drink” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950. [OE ealu]

yallow yellow

“yellow – yellow” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “as yallow as a marigowld” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s

yammer 1. to talk incessantly, complain

1. “yammering and shouting” *Bewick* Tyne 1790s; “yammer – to cry like a dog in pain” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “yammering on frae morn till neet” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “yammer – to fret, to whine, to complain” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “yammerin’ hoods” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.236 1829; “yammer – to rattle on” *Gibson* C’d 1880; “yammering – continually grumbling” *Nth Words* Whickham, N’d 1938; “yammerin’ – always nagging” *Nth Words* N’d 1938; “stop yammering on about it” *IA* S’m 1950s,60s; “giv ower yammerin’” *Graham* Geordie 1979. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth, Mids, USA. [OE geomrian, MDu jammeren]. *Plus* “a ranterfied priest/that gets paid for his lees an’ his yammer” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.366 1849

yammy see turnip

yan, ane one

“ilk ane fra othir” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “either ane or twa” *RR* Weardale 1569; “yan – one; yance – once” *Kennet* 1690s as Nth; “Ane neet gannin hame” *Street Piracy* Newc 1822; “yan neat” (one night) *Marshall* G’head 1806; “every yen” (everyone) *Oiling* G’head 1826; “that yan day” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “yen o’ wor hewers” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “yen an’ twenty weeks” *MC* Tyne May 1881; “A cannot gie ye yan” *Dunn* B’p Auck 1950; “iwey yan went heeam” *Wdale Gaz* Apr 2005. [OE án (with long vowel) remained ‘an’ in the North, with the ‘a’ breaking to ‘ia’, ‘ie’, etc.] NE 2001: “yan, twee, tree” reported in use Upper Weardale ca.1940 Q

yance once

“yance (ance) – once” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “yance mare aw’s free” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “yence – once” *Tanfield Lea* 1960; yance bitt’n, twicet shy” *cenD’m* C20/2 Q. [ME ánes]. *Plus* “wonce” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.238 1829

yare ready, active

“yare – sharp, ready” *Kennet* 1690s as D’m; ‘nimble, ready’ Ray 1737. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE gearu pronounced yaru]. *Note:* At the opening of Shakespeare’s *Tempest*, does the boatswain’s use of ‘what cheer’, ‘yare’, ‘ahold’ suggest the scene is set on a collier?

yark to thrash

“yark or yerk – to wrench or twist forcibly; to jerk” plus “yark – to beat soundly, to correct severely” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “yarking – violent, as yarking pains – also to beat as ‘I’ll yark you weil’” *Bell* MS Newc 1830s; “aw’ll yark his byens” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.420 1862; “yark – to strike, to flog” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “aw’ll yark yor hide” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s, *Other Eye* Newc ca.1890; “givum agud yarkin” *Dobson* Tyne 1970-71. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this sense Sco, Nth. [ME yerk]. *Plus* “yark – a sharp blow” *Todd* Tyne 1977; ‘yarkin’-good baking’ Bedlington (M)

yarp to talk on and on

yarp – to yammer on” *PG* H’pool C20/2; “yarp on” (talking nonsense) *ER* M’bro C20/2. [?harp on]

yatter to chatter away

“listen to that lot yattering” re children talking. *GP* S’m 1950s. *EDD* distribution to 1900 Sco, N’d

yaud, yade a horse

“yade – a horse (Nth); yaud – a horse in Yorkshire” *Kennet* 1690s; “it’s a running yade, says Tommy Linn” *NChorister* D’m C18/2; “he was a yawde steiller” *Raine* MS?Durham 1564; “yaude – a horse” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “yad – a worn-out horse” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “yaud or yawd – a horse, a jade” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “yaud, yode – a nag, a mare” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ON jalda ‘mare’]

yaup to yelp

“yaup – to cry loudly and incessantly, to lament; to yelp as a dog” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, Mids. [imitative; compare yap, yelp]

ye you (pl.)

“ye” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “ye pay no les” *Durham* C16/2; “with ye” (sg) *Collier’s Wedding* Newc 1720s; “yil” (you will) *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2; “to a stranger...’ye’ (yae)” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896; “just like yee and me” *Irwin* Tyne 1970; “ye’ve not even started, ye!” S’m per BG 2003. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE gé pronounced yay]. See also **thoo, you**

year, eer

“year – used for the plural as well as the singular: ‘I henna seen him this twenty year’” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1846; “these mony eers” *Haldane* Newc 1879; “when ah wiz nobbut aboot sixteen ear ahd” *Embleton* Tyne 1897; “six year” S’m 1990 per BG. [OE gear, neut. plural, pronounced year]. *Plus* “In Durham, yule-tide was a double holiday, for we ... shared hogmanay with the Scots. We called this Newrus.” *Hitchin* re Dalton-le-Dale p.22 1910s

yearth, orth earth

“yearth” *Pitman’s Pay* G’head 1820s; “the goold frae the yerth” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.367 1849; “yerth” Dinsdale, mid Tees 1849; “yeth” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid; “this mighty orth” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.421 1862; “orth” *Barrass* nD’m 1893. *Plus* “yerd – a fox earth” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810

yebile able

“as lang as wour yebile” *Marshall* G’head 1806; “bein yebile te buy” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s. *Plus* “yebliins – maybe – or perhaps” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “yables, yebliins, yeablesae, yebblesee – perhaps; cf. abliins” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829.

yeckey echo

“wor vera hills yeckey the peels” *Oiling* G’head 1826

yedde urine

ex. Upper W'dale per BG 2005. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, N'd

yell whole

“then a yel heap o' stuff” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.313 1827; “the yell o' the lot” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.408 1862; “a yell hedgehog” *Armstrong Tanfield* C19/2; “yell watta – excessive rain, water from top and bottom of miners' working place” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: in this pronunciation N'd, C'd. See also **yal**

yellow-yowley yellow-hammer

“yellow-yowley – a Northern name for the yellow bunting or yellow hammer” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “they've a bunch ov hair upon their jaws/just like a yowley's nest” *Allan's Tyneside Songs* p.468 1862; “Yowley or yellow yowley (yuw-li) – the yellow-hammer”

Palgrave Hetton 1896; “yella-yowlee” *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea* C20/2. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Ire, Nth

yem see **hame**

yep, aup ape

“yap – ape” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “aup – a wayward child; an ape” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “yap, yep – an opprobrious epithet to a youngster; ape” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “aup – mischievous child” *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849

yest yeast

ex. *ER M'bro* C20/2. [OE (Ang)?gest, LWS gist pronounced yist]. *Plus* “yesty kyek” (stotty cake) *BL Blaydon* 1940s–1960s. See also **barm**

yet, yate 1. gate, 2. roadway, 3. right of way

1. “the toune yate” *Cuthbert* C15/mid; “yat – gate” *Bailey Co.Durham* 1810; “fit to loup a yett or stile” *Pitman's Pay* G'head 1820s; “as old as Pandon-yate” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “he saa him clim ower a yett” (stile?) *Haldane Newc* 1879; “the Moor Yate” *Bell* re Long Benton Newc 1812 p.106; “iron yetts” *Egglestone* Weardale 1870s; “yat-stoups – gate posts” *Umpleby* Staithes c. 1935; “yet” *Teward* Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid. [OE geat pronounced yat]

2. “at the bryge ende apone the yatt” *Anderson* Newcastle 1503; “yet or yate also is used for a village street” *Bell* MS Tyne 1830s

3. “O yet! O yet! O yet! O yet!” ‘make way’ *Durham* C16/2; “Tarsetburn! And Tarretburn!, Yet! Yet! Yet!!!” *Denham Tracts* C19?re Tyne regatta. See also **gate**

yetlin' pan, cauldron

“yetlings pro fixis – pans for cooking fish” *Finchale* 1411; “yecklin, yetlin – a cast metal pot with three legs used for making broth in” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “yetling – a small metal pan or boiler wth a bow handle” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829; “yettlin – a hemispherical metal pot with three legs and a bow handle, much used for boiling porridge and potatoes” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “away he gans te the fire an' lifts off the yetlin' boilin' an' steamin' (kettle) *Haldane Newc* 1879; “kail pot or yettlin” *Nth Words* Alnwick re 1880 approx.; “yettling – a gypsy pot” *Robson* Birtley 1880s, 1890s. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth. [ME yet, OE geótan ‘to pour’]

yewd went

“yewd, yod – went; yewing – going” *Ray* 1674; “yed” (went) *Gill* re Lincs C17/1. [OE éode]. See also **go**

yon that (at a distance)

“What's yon?” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Yon (adj.), Yonder (adv.). That, there; generally, of objects pointed out. Sometimes, of distant things” *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; “yon – that (over there)” *JB Shildon* C20/mid. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. [OE geon pronounced yon]. See also **thon**

you

“yuz” (plural) *VIZ* 34 (1989); “Wheer’s you’s ganning?” *Fellgate* 2003 per BG; “where-as yous been?” S’m per BG 2004; “how sad R use” S’m grafitti, 2004. [after Irish/Liverpool there is a tendency to create a new plural (yous, ye’s)]. See also **thoo, ye**

yor 1. you’re, 2. your

1. “aw think yor reet” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.494 1871

2. “yor” *Armstrong* Tanfield C19/2, Tanfield Lea 1960; “yer severence pay” *Dobson* Tyne 1972. *Plus* “yorsel – yourself” Tanfield Lea 1960, “yersel – yourself” *Dobson* Tyne 1972

young ‘un lad, youngster

“an’ sweers ‘twas the deevil or else ‘twas a yungin” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.467 1862; “our young ‘un” (a younger brother) *IA* S’m 1950s, 60s. NE 2001: in use

youp?yelp

“Wardal folk cudn’t mak hed er tail wotivver the wer youpin about” *Wdale Gaz* Apr 2005

yowl to howl

ex. *Kennet* 1690s as Nth, Teward Newbigginin-Teesdale C20/mid; “yowl – to howl like a dog” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “aw yool’d oot” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.53 1823; “startid yowlan” *Lakeland* re C’d C20. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general. See also **wowl**

yuck to chuck

“yuck uz that hammer ower”/“we got yucked owt, the pub last neet” *JR* Sacriston (E); “yuck a beut” *DD* S’m (E); ‘heuck” S’d 2005(M). *EDD* distribution to 1900: ?Yx

yuck to throw

“yuck uz that hammer ower”/“we got yucked owt, the pub last neet” *JR* Sacriston (E); “yuck a beut” *DD* S’m (E); “Heck” S’d 2005 (M)

yuke itch (noun and vb)

“yewk – the [itc]h (D’m) ... to yuck – to itch, to have an itching in the skin (Nth)” *Kennet* 1690s; “yuke – to itch” *Bailey* Co.Durham 1810; “uke – to itch” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868. *EDD* distribution to 1900: yewk – esp. Sco, Ire, Nth. [ME yeke, MDu jeuken]

Yule the Christmas season

“Yule – the time of Christmas” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “merry were the days o’ yule” *Allan’s Tyneside Songs* p.354 1849; “Yule – Christmas. Hence ‘Yule-dough’, ‘Yule-clog’. Yuletide ‘is becoming commoner than it was a short time ago, but most people say ‘Christmas’” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: Sco, Nth, eMids. [OE geól, pronounced yole, ON jól]. *Plus* “Yu-gams – Christmas games” *Ray* 1674. See also **Kersmas**

yule-clog yule log

ex. *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849; “Yule-clog – the large log specially provided for burning, and burnt, on Christmas Eve” *Atkinson* Cleve 1868; “Yule-clog” *Palgrave* Hetton 1896. *EDD* distribution to 1900: N’d, D’m, W’d, Yx

yule-doo Christmas biscuit, etc.

“a kind of baby or little image of paste” Brand *Popular Antiquities* 1795 via *EDD*; “Yule-dough – a figure of a woman made of paste and spices meant as a remembrance of the Virgin Mary, given to young persons on Christmas Day” *Bell* MS Newc 1815; “Yule-dough – a Christmas cake, or rather a little image of paste studded with currants” *Brockett* Newc & Nth 1829; “Yule doo – a small image made of dough, with a couple of currants for eyes” *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s; “roond the raws one heul doo day, the youngsters hugg’d the teup” *Barrass* Stanley 1890s; “hule-doo/yule-doo – a figure made in gingerbread or dough ... hands touched in front and two eyes of currants” *Heslop* Tyne 1880s; “Yule-doo’ is a kind of currant cake made in shape of a baby and given to children at Christmas. Not so many years ago the ‘putter lad’ expected his ‘hewer’ to bring him the ‘yule-doo’. If the hewer failed to bring one, the putter would take the hewer’s clothes, put them into a ‘tub’,

fill it up with rubbish, and send it 'to bank'; or if the 'doo' was not well made, the putter nailed it to a tub and wrote the hewer's name underneath" *Palgrave Hetton* 1896; "Yule-do: These small cakes made with ginger or currants were often formed into small figures, with dried fruit for eyes, and were given to children, we now know them better as gingerbread men." *Farne website* [re C20/1?]; "Yull-doo – gingerbread man with hands joined" *Dobson Newc* 1974. *EDD* distribution to 1900: NE. *Plus* "Yoodle-doo – Xmas box to putter" *JP S'm re C20/mid*

yulley see **huly**

yuuk huge

ex. *Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2*

yuven etc. oven

"yown, yune – an oven" *Atkinson Cleve* 1868; "yuven" *Armstrong Tanfield C19/2*. *Embleton Newc* 1897; "the inside o' the uven wez reed het" *Robson Newc C20/1*; "A hev a bakin' o' bread i' th' yuven" *Dunn B'p Auck* 1950; "Yuv'in" *Teward Newbiggin-in Teesdale C20/mid*

Z

izzard z

“izzard, izzet – the letter z” *Brockett Newc & Nth* 1829, *Dinsdale* mid-Tees 1849. *EDD* distribution to 1900: general

zookers

“Zookers – a sort of exclamation” *Bell MS Newc* 1815

Sources and abbreviations

Initials alone usually represent individual communications, as part of the Durham & Tyneside Dialect Group's questionnaire survey of 2001 – marked Q – or subsequent discussion and correspondence. Bear in mind such entries may relate to an earlier state of dialect. E marks an e-mail response, M a contribution at a dialect meeting.

Abbreviations of place names

B'd Castle – Barnard Castle

B'p Auck – Bishop Auckland

C'd – Cumberland

Ch-le-St – Chester-le-Street

Cleve – Cleveland

D'm – Durham (county)

D'ton – Darlington

e – east

G'head – Gateshead

Hetton – Hetton-le-Hole

Ho'ton – Houghton-le-Spring

H'pool – Hartlepool

ire – Ireland

Lx – Lancashrre

n, N – north

N'd – Northumberland

Newc – Newcastle

N.I. – Northern Ireland

Nth – North of England

Sco – Scotland

s, S – south

S.Shields – South Shields

S'd – Sunderland

S'm – Seaham

Tyne – Tyneside

w – west

W'd – Westmorland

Yx – Yorkshire

Plus standard county name abbreviations

Note: in the context of distribution to 1900, reckoned via the *EDD* (*English Dialect Dictionary*), Nth implies counties of England from the Humber north; NE implies a combination of Northumberland, Co. Durham and Cleveland.

Abbreviations relating to language

adj – adjective

adv – adverb

AN – Anglo-Norman (also known as OFr, Old Fench)

C – century

Dan Danish

Du – Dutch

ex. – example (from)

Flem – Flemish

Fr – French

Fris – Frisian

Gm – German

Ice – Icelandic

intrans. – intransitive verb

M – middle period

ME – Middle English (ca.1100–1450)

ModE – Modern English (ca.1450 on)

O – old period

obso. – obsolete, out of use

OE – Old English, the language of the Anglo-Saxons to ca.1100

ON – Old Norse, the language of the Vikings

p.pt. – past or passive participle

prep. – preposition

pret. – preterite or past tense

Swed – Swedish

trans. – transitive verb

vb. – verb

Abbreviations of printed sources

3M – Third Marquis of Londonderry *Letter to Lord Ashley* 1842

Aberdeens. 1993 – William Morris Wilson *Speak of the North East* (1993)

Allan's Tyneside Songs – C19/mid, *Allan's Illustrated Edition of Tyneside Songs*, ed. David Harker (Newcastle upon Tyne, 1972) (specific page or date supplied where necessary)

Alston 1833 – Thomas Sopwith *An Account of the Mining Districts of Alston Moor, Weardale, and Teesdale* (W.Davison, Alnwick, 1833) [BL]

Anderson – JJ Anderson *Records of Early English Drama* vol.7, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Toronto, 1982) (Gives company records relating to mystery play performances)

Armstrong Tanfield C19/2 – poems of Tommy Armstrong via Ross Forbes (ed.) *Polisses and candymen: the complete works of Tommy Armstrong, the pitman poet* (The Tommy Armstrong Trust, Consett, 1987)

Ashington C20/mid – Joe Holland in *Northern, Geordie, Posh and other languages* compiled by Jean Crocker, 1986 (Joe started school in 1924)

Atkinson Cleve 1868 – *A glossary of the Cleveland dialect* by JC Atkinson (London, 1868) [particularly useful for analysis of words and careful definitions]

Atkinson D'ton (plus date) – JA Atkinson *et al. Darlington Wills 1600-1625* (Surtees Society vol.201, 1993) than

Beattie Border Ballads – *Border Ballads* ed. Wm Beattie (Penguin, 1952)

Bailey Co.D'm 1810 – John Bailey's *General view of the agriculture of the County of Durham* (1810) (apparently an independent effort)

Barrass Consett 1897 – Alexander Barrass *The Pitman's Social Neet* (Consett, 1897)

Bedlington 1761 – anon. *The will of a certain northern vicar* (London, 1765) [NCL L042 vol.10] (deliver'd in sixty one/by me, the vicar of B -d - -g - -n)

Bell Newc 1812 – *Rhymes of Northern Bards* ed. John Bell (Newcastle, 1812) *Bell MS Newc 1815* or *Bell MS Newc 1830s* – Newcastle University Bell-White MS 12

Bells – *A Garland of Bells*, printed for John Bell, Newcastle, 1815

Bell-Harker – Newc C19/1 – Dave Harker (ed.) *Songs from the Manuscript Collection of John Bell* (Surtees Society, vol.196, 1985)

Bewick Tyne 1790s – Thomas Bewick *The howdy and the upgetting – two tales of sixty years sin seyne, as related by the late Thomas Bewick of Newcastle, in the Tyne Side dialect* (London: printed for the admirers of native merit, 1850)

Blenkinsopp Teesdale 1931 – RW Blenkinsopp *The Teesdale dialect* (Barnard Castle, 1931)

'Bobby Shaftoe' C18 – with variants from RR Terry *Salt Sea Ballads* (London, 1931)

Boldon Book c.1185 ed. David Austin (Chichester, 1982)

Brockett Newc & Nth 1846 – John Trotter Brockett *A glossary of North Country words in use ...* (Newcastle: T. & J. Hodgson, 1825), second edn 1829, third edn 1846 [Brockett died 1842, aged 54; his main collecting seems to have been work of the 1810s, 1820s]

Brockie D'm 1886 – Wm Brockie *Legends and Superstitions of County Durham* (Sunderland, 1886) *Burdon D'm 1850s, 1860s* – Elizabeth Burdon, *Before my Time and Since: being a selection of weird, winsome and wagish tales culled from the annals of the Burdon family and other sources ...* (1922)

Carlaw Teesside 1870 – Thomas Carlaw *A choice collection of original Teesside songs, comic and sentimental* (Stockton, 1870)

Cate B'p Auck 1987 – Dick Cate *Ghost dog* (1987)

Charver 2000–2002 – from contributions to *Newcastle Stuff*, 2000–2002, the magazine edited by Marshal Hall

Chater, Newc (plus date) – *Chater's Illustrated Annual* 1880s [NCL]

Chicken Benwell 1720s – Edward Chicken, *The collier's wedding* (second edn, Newcastle, 1764) Written 1720s re miners at Benwell

Corvan Newc 1840s – Ned Corvan 'The Toon Improvement Bill'

Coulthard 1934 – EM Coulthard *From Tweed to Tees: a short geography of North Eastern England* Edinburgh, London: Johnston, 1934

Coxhoe 1916 – John Salisbury *Me and Jake* (London, 1916) via Beamish

Crawhall Newc 1888 – *Newcassel Songs*, 1888 – Joseph Crawhall ed. *A Beuk o' Newcassel Sangs* (Newcastle, 1888)

Crawhall N'd 1880 – Joseph Crawhall *Border notes and mixty-maxy* (1880)

Cresswell Newc 1883 – James Creswell *Local and other songs* (Newcastle, 1883)

Crocker (place) 1983 – Jean Crocker *Accent on the North East* (Darlington, 1983)

Cuddy Cairt – 'The Cuddy-Cairt' (a Jacky Robison story) in *Tyneside Stories and Recitations, collected, edited and retold by CE Catcheside-Warrington* (Windows, Newcastle, 1917)

Cuthbert C15/mid – *The Life of St Cuthbert in English Verse c. AD 1450* (Durham: Surtees Society vol.87, 1891)

Denham Tracts – MA Denham *The Denham Tracts* (London, 1892)

Derbyshire, 1681 – Thomas Houghton *Rara Avis in Terris: or the Compleat Miner* (London, William Soper, 1681) Book 2 includes a glossary, relevant to lead mining in Derbyshire, with very few words coinciding with North East usage

Dinsdale mid-Tees 1849 – Frederick T Dinsdale's *A Glossary of Provincial Words used in Teesdale in the County of Durham* (London, 1849) The area covered is from Middleton in Teesdale to

Darlington and north of the Tees for 9 or 10 miles along this route.

Dobson Tyne 1969 – *Larn yersel Geordie* (1969)

Dobson Tyne 1970 – *Histry o’ the Geordies, Advanced Geordie palaver*

Dobson Tyne 1970/71 – *Hadrian and the Geordie Wall, Stotty Cake Row*

Dobson Tyne 1971 – *Supergeordie*

Dobson Tyne 1972 – *Aald Geordie’s Almanack*

Dobson Tyne 1973 – *A light-hearted guide to Geordieland*

Dobson Tyne 1974 – *A Geordie dictionary*

Dodd MS Tanfield Lea C20/2 – handwritten card index at Beamish Open Air Museum. 1950s on

Douglass – Dave Douglass *Pit talk in Co. Durham* (1973)

D’im Chron – *Durham Chronicle*

Dunn B’p Auck C20/mid – Nelson Dunn ‘Dinna Tark si Fond’ tape cassette 2002. (specifically Evenwood/Ranwshaws ca.1950)

Durham 1590s – ed. B Colgrave and CE Wright, ‘An Elizabethan poem about Durham’ in *Durham University Journal* vol.32 (n.s.1) 1940, 161–8

Durham 1839 – *The British Minstrel* Newcastle Central Library, Local Tracts vol.11

East Boldon ca. 1985 – via Gerry Ash, pub quiz, ca. 1985

EDD – *English Dialect Dictionary* ed. Joseph Wright (6 vols , Oxford 1898–1905) This presents accumulated information from ca. 1700 to the 1890s – thus ‘to 1900’, not ‘at 1900’

Egglestone Weardale 1870s – William Egglestone, *Betty Podkin’s visit to Auckland Flower Show*(Stanhope, 1876) and *Betty Podkin’s letter ted Queen on Cleopatra’s Needle* (London, 1877)

Egglestone Weardale 1886 – WM Egglestone, *Weardale names of field and fell* (Stanhope, 1886)

Elliot Tyne 1971 – *The Geordie Bible* (ca. 1971)

Embleton Tyne 1897 – D Embleton *Local dialect dialogues* ca.1897

English trade – *English trade in the Middle Ages* by L Salzman (Oxford, 1931)

Errington Felling/Heworth (plus date) – *Coals on rail or the reason of my wrighting: the autobiography of Anthony Errington from 1778 to around 1825* ed. PEH Hair (Liverpool University Press, 1988)

Finchale (date) – *Deeds of Finchale Priory* ed. J Raine MS (Surtees Society, vol.6, 1837) [based on the glossary – comments date from 1837]

Fordyce Newc 1826 – W?T Fordyce *The Newcastle Song Book 1826*

Fox – Adam Fox *Oral and literature culture in England 1500–1700* (OUP 2000)

Geeson N’d/D’m 1969 – Cecil Geeson *A Northumberland and Durham word book* (Newcastle: Hill 1969) [contains a fair amount of retropective material; some useful etymological notes]

Gibson C’d 1880 – Alexander C Gibson’s *The Folk-Speech of Cumberland* (London 1880) [Entries relevant to North East dialect are selected from the glossary on pp.163–208]

Gill – Alexander Gil’s *Logonomia Anglica* (2nd edn, London 1621) [re Lincolnshire]

Graham Geordie 1979 – Frank Graham *The New Geordie Dictionary* (Newcastle) [includes a fair proportion of historic material]

Green Wearside re 1820s – John Green *Tales and ballads of Wearside* (Sunderland 1879)

Grieves Tyne 1975 – *Original stories and poems by Harry Grieves of Holywell* (1975-7)

Grose 1787 – Francis Grose’s *Provincial Glossary*

Haldane Newc 1879 – Harry Haldane’s pamphlet *Geordie’s Last* (second edition, Newcastle: *The Daily Journal*, 1879)

Hay Ushaw Moor C20/1 – James Hay *Spider and other tales of pit village life* (Amra Imprint, Seaham, 2003)

Heslop N’d 1890s – R Oliver Heslop *Northumberland Words: A glossary of words used in the County of Northumberland and on the Tyneside* (2

- vois, English Dialect Society, 1893–4), first appeared as a series of articles in the *Newcastle Evening Chronicle*, in the 1880s [often retrospective]
- Hill* Flamborough 1970s – R Oliver Hill and JEG McKee *The English Coble* (National Maritime Museum, 1978)
- Hitchin* re Dalton-le-Dale 1910s, Seaham 1920s – George Hitchin *Pit-Yacker* (Cape, London, 1962)
- Horsley* Jesmond 1891 – James Horsley 'Lays of Jesmond & Tyneside songs and poems' (Newcastle, 1891)
- Hull* MS wNewc 1880s – Rev. JE Hull 'A popular introduction to the Tyneside dialect', typescript in the Archives of the Natural History Society of Northumbria, Hancock Museum [partly published and overlapping with his *Tyneside Grammar*]
- Irwin* 1970 – *The Geordie Joke Book* by Dick Irwin and Scott Dobson (1970)
- Irwin* 1970/1971 – *Geordie at the club* (1971 or earlier), *Geordie on the beer* (1971 or earlier)
- Jamieson Scots Dictionary* 1808 – John Jamieson *An etymological dictionary of the Scottish language* (2 vols, Edinburgh, 1808)
- Johnson* – Margot Johnson 'The Geordie: coins, lamps ships or people?' *Northern Notes* vol.2 (1969-1970) pt 4, pp.47-50
- Kennet* (place) 1690s – Bishop *Kennet's* 'Etymological Collections of English Words and Provincial Expressions', a manuscript dictionary surviving as British Library MS Lansdowne 1033 (vol. 99 of Bishop *Kennet's* Collection), compiled in the 1690s. [Words anticipated in Ray are not included]
- Lakeland* 2003 – *Lakeland Dialect* vol.64 (2003)
- Latimer Records* – John Latimer *Local Records* (Newcastle, 1857)
- Leslie* Newc 1992 – Stephen Leslie ed. *Offishal Geordie Dictionary including Euro-Geordie* (Berwick 1992)
- LL* – Mike Shields: 'Dialects of North-East England', *Lore & Language* 10, 1974, pp.3–9) – covering an up to 5 miles north and south of the Lower Tyne
- Lloyd* – *Come all ye bold miners* ed. AL Lloyd (1978)
- Lore and language* – *Northumbrian lore and language* compiled by Jean Crocker (1980s) *Luckley* Alnwick 1870s – John Lamb Luckley's *The Alnwick Language* in Newcastle Central Library.
- McBurnie* Glebe Colliery, C20/mid – Geordie McBurney, 'Pitman's glossary' as taken down by Ada Radford ca.1970 re period 1924–1968 *The Maister* Shields C19/1 – George H Haswell *The Maister: a century of Tyneside life* (London: Walter Scott, 1895) [esp. re period 1800–1840 in Shields and Tynemouth]
- MacDonald* Sco. re 1820s – George MacDonald *Castle Warlock* (1882)
- Marshall* G'head 1806 – *The Northern Minstrel or Gateshead Songster* ed. J Marshall (Gateshead, 1806)
- Marshall* Newc 1823 – *A collection of original Newcastle songs* (Newcastle: J Marshall, 4th edn, 1823)
- MC* – *The Monthly Chronicle* Newcastle, 1880s
- Meriton* nYx 1683 – George Meriton *A Yorkshire dialogue* 1683 repr. Yorks Dialect Soc 1959
- Mitcalfe* – W.Stanley Mitcalfe 'The history of the keelmen and their strike in 1822' *Archaeologia Aeliana* 4th series, vol.14, 1937 1–16
- Mitford* Newc C19/2 – 'Pitman's Courtship' by William Mitford in *A Beuk o' Newcassel Sangs* ed. Joseph Cawhall, 1888
- Moreland* Seaham 1980 – Jim Moreland *Just One Man* (Durham: English Folk Dance & Song Soc, 1980)
- Moore* Weardale 1859 – Thomas Moore *The Song of Solomon in the Durham Dialect as spoken at St John's Chapel, Weardale*, 1859
- MWN* – *Middlesbrough Weekly News*
- NChorister* D'm 1809 – *North-County Chorister* ed. J Ritson (Durham, 1802; London, 1809)
- NCM* N'd 1900 – *Northern Counties Magazine* (Newcastle, vol.1, 1900-1901) 'A tale of Dead Lad's Rigg' by Halliwell Sutcliffe
- NDN* – *Northern Daily News*
- N'd 1995 (rural/children) – Andrea Simmelbauer 'The dialect of Northumberland: a lexical investigation' *Anglistische Forschungen* 275 (2000) 145–147 [involving 58 schoolchildren from rural backgrounds]
- Newc Courant* – *Newcastle Courant*
- Newc Jnl* – *Newcastle Journal*

Nicholson 1880 – WE Nicholson *A glossary of terms used in the coal trade of Northumberland and Durham* (Newcastle, 1888) [Nicholson recognises and draws on a previous list of mining words, GC Greenwell's 1849 glossary with the same title]

NM – *Northern Magpie* vols.1–2, 1888–1889 (Newcastle based)

Noah's Ark Newc C15/16 – as printed in Henry Bourne's *History of Newcastle* (1736)

Northumbrian III – *Northumbrian Words and Ways* vol.3, compiled by Jean Crocker, 1990

NT – *Northern Tribune* vol.1 1854

Nth Words 1938 – *Old North Country Words* 1938, Newcastle Central Library L427.8

NWC – Newcastle Weekly Chronicle

Oiling G'd 1826 – Thomas Wilson 'The oiling of Dicky's wig' from the *Tyne Mercury* 18 Jul 1826

Oliver Newc 1824 – Wm Oliver *Collection of original local songs and other pieces* (Newcastle, 1824) *Other Eye – His Other Eye* anon. pamphlet, ca.1890, Newcastle. [NCL Central Library, Local Tracts vol.42]

Owen Macdonald – "Dying words of ... Owen Macdonald" broadsheet, 1752 [Newcastle Central Library]

Palgrave Hetton 1896 – FMT Palgrave: *A list of words and phrases in everyday use by the natives of Hetton-le-Hole in the County of Durham* (English Dialect Society, vol.74, 1896)

Parker Tyne Valley 1896 – Joseph Parker *Tyne folk: masks, faces and shadows* (London, 1896) [Includes dialect speech from area around Haltwhistle, Wylam, Corbridge, Acomb, Matfen, Ovington, etc.]

Pitman's Pay G'head 1820s – written by Thomas Wilson, published in three parts in the journal *The Newcastle Magazine* in 1826, 1828, 1830. [A 'collected' edition, with glossary, was issued with an introduction by the author, in 1843, also used here]

Purvis C19/mid – Life of Billy Purvis (Newcastle & Sunderland, 1875)

Raine MS – James Raine, BL MS Egerton 2868 [uses wills of the Diocese of Durham, wills of the Diocese of York, and records of trials held in York Castle, plus some early printed books and diaries]

Raistrick Yx – *Old Yorkshire Dales* (Arthur Raistrick, 1967)

Ray 1674 – John Ray *Collection of English words, not generally used* (London, 1674). Also 1737 edition

Reed Border Ballads 1991 – James Reed *The Border Ballads* (1973; Stocksfield: Spredden Press, 1991)

Ritson N'd 1793 – *The Northumberland Garland* (Newcastle, 1793, London 1809)

RLS – Robert Louis Stevenson *The Merry Men* 1891 [Scottish dialect]

Robson Birtley 1880s, 1890s – Helena H. Clark 'More Northumbrian Lore: Extracts from the diaries of a north country naturalist' *Journal of the University of Newcastle Agricultural Society* 21 (1967) 3–7

Robson Newc C20/1 – WJ Robson *The Adventures of Jackie Robison* Newcastle, 1890s

Robson Tyne 1849 – JP Robson *Songs of the Bards of the Tyne* (Newcastle ca.1849) [includes glossary]

RR Weardale 1569 – 'The Rookhope Ride' in *The Bishopric Garland* ed. J Ritson (Stockton, 1784, Newcastle 1908)

Ross Tyne C19/1 – John Ross (printer) *Songs of the Tyne, being a collection of popular local songs*

Rothbury, C18/2 – 'Ecky's Mare' in J Ritson (ed.) *Newcastle Garland*

Scrapbook Tyne – *Scrapbook of Tyneside songs* [Newcastle Central Library L427.82]

S'd Echo – *Sunderland Echo*

Shields Song Book (South Shields, 1826)

Smith Weardale 1883 – W. Herbert Smith *Walks in Weardale* (Claypath, Durham, 1883)

Spennymoor C20/mid – taken down by Jean Crocker "in conversation with a lady from Spennymoor concerning words which related to household objects ... used normally in her young days" and published in *Accent on the North East: dialect jottings* (Darlington, 1983)

Stobbs Woodhorn C19/mid – John Stobbs *Snelly the Tyelyor: a Northumbrian Legend anent the Shadowless Man* (und.) [Newcastle Central Library, Local Tracts, vol.104/9]

Street Piracy (Newcastle, 1822) – *A new song entitled Street Piracy, or, Lantern Justice, to which is added, The dying reflections of Poor Snap*

(Newcastle Central Library, Local Tracts, vol.104/12)

Stukeley – William Stukeley *Itinerarium curiosum* (London, 1776) vol.2 *Iter Boreale* RS Surtees *Handley Cross* (London, 1854)

Tanfield Lea 1960 – from a list compiled by the local Women's Institute and forwarded by Gerry Ash

Taylor Dawdon C20/2 – Ernie Taylor, dialect songs at Dawdon Pit

Teward Newbiggin-in-Teesdale C20/mid – Kathleen Teward *Teisdal' en howt'was spok'h* (Teesdale, 2003)

Todd Tyne 1974 – George Todd *Todd's Geordie words and phrases* (Newc, 1977)

Tootle Harry Tootle, Acington, website <http://website.lineone.net/~coalming/>:

Tracts 4, Newc c. 1820 – *Local Tracts* (Newcastle Central Library, L042) items 48, 72, 98

Tweddell Cleve 1875 – GM Tweddell *Rhymes and Sketches to illustrate the Cleveland Dialect* (Stokesley, 1875) [includes glossary]

Tyneside grammar 1880s – JE Hull 'A grammar of Tyneside' *The Vasculum* (Newcastle) vol.8 no.4 (1922) 55–60, 105–107, 117–121 [re Belsay, Stocksfield, Whittonstall on west, Blyth, Cleadon on east; period 1870-1890]

Upton 1950 – Clive Upton *Survey of English Dialects – dictionary and grammar* (London, 1994)

Umpleby Staithes c. 1935 – A Stanley Umpleby *The dialect of Staithes c. 1935*

Viereck – Wolfgang Viereck *Phonetische Analyse des Dialekts von Gateshead-upon-Tyne/Co. Durham* (Hamburg, 1966)

Wade South Moor C20/mid – Fred Wade *The story of South Moor: a mining village situated in the north western part of Co.Durham* typescript, 1966 plus Fred Wade *Annfield Plain*, typescript 1966, and *The Story of West Stanley* (typescript 1956)

Weardale Nickstick – magazine edited by Wm Egglestone in 1870s [BL]

Wdale Gaz – *Weardale Gazette*

West Stanley C20/1 – 'Johnny Fry the Putter' via Fred Wade *Story of West Stanley* pp.372–3

Wilson Newc C19/mid – Joe Wilson 'Cum te maw shop'

Windows – *Tyneside Stories and Recitations, collected, edited and retold by CE Catcheside-Warrington* (Windows, Newcastle, 1917)

Wood M'bro 2002, etc. – Vic Wood, inc. website www.communicate.co.uk/ne/teespeak/

Yetholm Gypsies – Joseph Lucas *The Yetholm history of the Gypsies* (Kelso, 1882)

Contact note

Bill Griffiths is Co-ordinator of the Durham & Tyneside Dialect Group, set up in 1998 "to promote the awareness of dialect English as spoken now and formerly in the North East". In 2001, with funding from Tomorrow's History, a dialect questionnaire was distributed; over 500 responses received, and many 'new' words reported, giving an indication of how little attention had been paid to the region's dialect over the past 50 years or more.

The DTDG provide talks for local community groups, issue a newsletter three times a year, and maintain a website at www.pitmatic.co.uk – all useful ways of disseminating and collecting dialect information, and keeping in touch with dialect enthusiasts in the region (and beyond). Continuing collaboration with the Centre for Northern Studies at Northumbria University in Newcastle has produced a number of publications; while to the south, a friendly association with Vic Wood and the Tees Valley Dialect Group helped assess dialect developments in both areas. The DTDG have a stall at the Durham Miners Gala (second Saturday in July) and hold a dialect day each year in Newcastle as part of the Heritage Open Days scheme.

If you would like further information or want to participate, you are welcome to get in touch with Bill Griffiths either through the Centre for Northern Studies, Bolbec Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1SE, or direct at 21 Alfred Street, Seaham, Co.Durham SR7 7LH.

Notes

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Back Cover Material

Abackabeyont, Bait-Poke, Cracket – Drucken, Etten, Fettle, Guissie-Pig, Hoy, Inbye, Jowl, Kist, Lonnin', Marra, Nowt Or Owt, Plote, Queen-Cat, Recklin', Skinch, Tew, Upcast, Vine, Willok, Yem, Zookers!

If you enjoy finding out about dialect words – how and where and when they were used – and where they come from – we think this is the best guide yet to help you explore the world of North East dialect.

BILL GRIFFITHS settled in Seaham, Co.Durham in 1990, in a sad decade for traditional trades and communities. Sometimes it seemed that only dialect was left as evidence of the centuries of hard work and social commitment that shaped the North East.

With its love of story-telling, antique diction and dark humour, dialect seems to typify the best of the North East in a way that can never be outmoded but will always sparkle with optimism and inventiveness.

Bill has made good use of his PhD in Old English to help record, research and explain the special features of this dialect, which is as old as the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, and as fresh as the stottie-cake in your local bakers.

“In this dictionary Bill Griffiths provides a vivid guide, not only to the distinctive vocabulary of the North East, but also the ways in which dialect words contain echoes of the long history of the region and its people. By explaining the terminology he helps us to understand the place.”

Professor Keith Wrightson
Yale University