

Some Aspects of the Pronunciation of English Place-Names (II)

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The first part of this paper (*Researches* No.17, 1981) introduced the subject of irregularly-pronounced English place-names and presented the first half of List A, covering final elements and simplex names which sometimes appear as final elements. Part 2 will conclude List A and begin List B, covering initial elements and remaining simplex names, including those which sometimes appear as initial elements.

I will repeat here some of my criteria for these lists. In the first place, names which are in no way unusual in pronunciation and do not present a problem for the educated native speaker or foreign student will not normally appear except to provide comparisons. In the second place, the lists are not exhaustive although most sizeable or famous localities will be included, along with a number of smaller ones whose pronunciations are of especial interest. There is a certain amount of duplication since many names are irregular in respect of more than one element, but the reader who suspects that a place-name has an unusual pronunciation would be advised to look it up in more than one list. Thus *Happisburgh* (Norf.) will be found under HAPPIS- (List B) but not under -BURGH (List A), since the principal irregularity is contained in the initial element.

List A (continued)

-MAN *Akeman Street* ['eɪkɪmən'stri:t], the Roman road to *Bath* (Avon).

- MEL *Cartmel* (Cumb.) ['kɑ:tɹməl] in *BBC*.
I have heard [-məl] from a local resident.
- MER *Keymer* (W. Sus.) ['ki:mə] or ['kaɪmə].
Eckwall gives only the second of these.
- MERGH *Skelsmergh* (Cumb.) ['skelzmə] or ['skelzmɪə].
- MET *Nymet Rowland* (Dev.) ['nɪmɪt 'rəʊlənd] and nearby *Nymet Tracey* ['nɪmɪt 'treɪsɪ].
- MINSTER Normally [-mɪnstə] as in *Westminster* (Lon.), but *BBC* gives *Leominster* (Here.) as ['lemstə]. Mr Edward Light, in a private communication, gives me *Beaminster* (Dor.) ['bɛmɪstə]. *BBC* and *Eckwall* have ['bɛmɪnstə].
- MOIGNE *Owermoigne* (Dor.) ['əʊəməɪn] in *BBC* and ['əʊməɪn] in *Eckwall*.
- MOND *Richmond* (Sur., W. Yorks.) ['rɪtʃmænd].
- MONT *Beaumont* (Cumb.) ['bi:mənt]; (Ess., Lancs.) ['bəʊmənt], these last two in *Eckwall* but not *BBC*. *Belmont* (Sur., not in *BBC*) ['bel mɒnt].
- MORE Usually [-mɔ:] as in *Littlemore* (Oxon.), but note *Breamore* (Hants.) ['bremə] and *Quernmore* (Lancs.) ['kwɔ:mə] or ['kwɑ:mə].
- MOUTH There is much hesitation between [-məθ] and [-maʊθ].
Alnmouth (N' hum.) is ['ælnmaʊθ] or ['eɪlnmaʊθ], *Avonmouth* (Avon), *Charmouth* (Dor.) are both [-maʊθ], but *Dartmouth* (Dev.) and *Portsmouth* (Hants.) are both [-məθ].
- MOW *Dunmow* (Ess.) ['dʌnməʊ].
- NANCE *Kynance* (Corn.) ['kaɪnəns].
- NE *Balne* (S. Yorks.) ['bɔ:n], *Calne* (Wilts.) ['kɑ:n], *Colne* (Ess., Lancs.) ['kəʊn]. Some speakers undoubtedly insert [l] into *Colne* these days, perhaps by analogy with ['kəʊlnbrʊk], one realisation of *Colnbrook* (Bucks.). *Hoxne* (Suff.) is ['hɒksən] and *Lympne* (Kent) ['lɪm].
- NES *Totnes* (Dev.) ['tɒtnɪs].

- NOR [-nə] in both *Cumnor* (Oxon.) ['kʌmnrə] and *Upton* (Kent), the latter not in *BBC*.
- NUN *Altarnun* (Corn.) [ˌæltə'nʌn].
- OCK Normally [-ək] as in *Challock* (Kent). So also *Crummock Water* (Cum., not in *BBC*). *BBC* gives *Chideock* (Dor.) as [ˈtʃɪdək], but *Eckwall* has [ˈtʃɪdɪk]. The two authorities divide similarly on *Dunchideock* (Dev.). *BBC* gives *Quethiock* (Corn.) as ['kwɛðɪk, 'kwɛθɪk] or ['kwɪðɪk] and *Shevioc* (Corn.) as ['ʃevɪək]. *Eckwall* is silent on how these places are pronounced.
- OP [-əp] in *Wallop* (Hants.), *Salop*, the alternative name for the county of Shropshire, and *Ashop Clough* (Derby.).
- OT *Ayot St. Lawrence* (Herts.) ['eɪət snt 'lɒrəns].
- OUGH *Ellough* (Suff.) ['eləʊ]. See also -BROUGH, CLOUGH etc.
- OVER Normally [-əʊvə] as in *Candover* (Hants.), *Wendover* (Bucks.), but note *Peover* (Ches.) ['pi:və].
- OW *Scottow* (Norf.) ['skɒtəʊ].
- PAS The name *Malpas* is pronounced ['mɔ:l pəs, 'mæpəs] or ['mɔ:pəs] in Ches., and ['məʊpəs] in Corn., according to *BBC*. *Eckwall* gives only ['mɔ:l-] for Ches. and says nothing about Corn.
- PEN *Inkpen* (Berks., not in *BBC*) ['ɪŋkpen], but *Cowpen Bewley* (Cleve.) ['ku:pən 'bjʊ:lɪ].
- PETH [-pəθ] in *Brancepeth* (Dur.) ['brɑ:ns pəθ] and *Morpeth* (N'hum.) ['mɔ:pəθ].
- PORTH Stressed in *Perranporth* (Corn.) [ˌpɛrən 'pɔ:θ].
- QUET *Coquet Island*, *River Coquet*, *Coquetdale* (N'hum.), all ['kəʊkɪt].
- REDY *Cropredy* (Oxon.) ['krɒprɛdɪ].
- RE *Boldre* (Hants.) ['bɔldə]. Older spellings of this place include *Boulder*, and *Eckwall* suggests a connection with a dialect word *boulder* 'bulrush'.
- RES *Hardres* (Kent) ['hɑ:dz].
- RETH *BBC* gives [-rɪθ] for *Shepreth* (Cambs.) but [-rəθ] for *Raw-*

- reth* (Ess.). Both derive from OE *rith* 'stream'. I would imagine that [-rɪθ] and [-rəθ] are in free variation for both names.
- RISE *Acrise* (Kent) ['eɪkri:s, 'eɪkri:s].
- ROCK As a simplex this is ['rɒk] as in *Black Rock* (E.Sus.), but note *Lanhydrock* (Corn). [læn'hɑɪdrək], where the derivation is from the old Cornish saint's name *Hydroc*.
- RUTH *Redruth* (Corn) is [red'ru:θ], with typical Cornish stress-pattern.
- RUTHAN *Bedruthan* (Corn.) [bɪ'drʌðən].
- SAND Usually [-sænd] as in the two places in Corn. called *White-sand Bay* (not in BBC). In the same county, however, note *Cawsand* and *Cawsand Bay* ['kɔ:sənd] according to BBC; this pronunciation may also apply to *Cawsand Beacon* (Dev.).*
- SCALL *Brinscall* (Lancs.) ['brɪnskəl].
- SCEUGH *Haresceugh* (Cumb.) is ['hɛəskju:f] in BBC but ['hɛəskʌf] in EPNS (XX). EPNS gives *Huddlesceugh* as ['hʌdlskʌf]; BBC and *Eckwall* are silent. *Rogersceugh* (Cumb.) is ['rɒdʒəskʌf] in EPNS (XX).
- SEA [-si:] in *Brightlingsea* (Ess.), *Hornsea* and *Withernsea* (both Lincs.) and *Southsea* (Hants.). *Battersea* (Lond.) and *Brinsea* (Avon) are given by BBC as ['bætəsi] and ['brɪnzi]. *Eckwall* gives *Brightlingsea* as ['brɪklɪzi].
- SELL *Horsell* (Sur.) ['hɔ:sl].
- SHAW The expected form is [-ʃɔ:] as in *Ottershaw* (Sur., not in BBC), but note *Strumpshaw* (Norf.) ['strʌmfə].
- SHED See above under -HED. There I postulated a pronunciation ['ʃɛpshɛd] or ['ʃɛpsɛd] for *Shepshed* (Lancs., Leics.) based on their derivation from 'sheep's head'. I have learned from a person working in the Leicestershire village of this name that

* EPNS (IX) curiously gives *Cawsand* (Dev.) as ['kɔsɔn] or ['kɔ:zən].

the common local version is now ['ʃepʃəd], evidently a spelling pronunciation. ['ʃepsəd] is occasionally met with among older residents.

- SHIRE The English shires are commonly pronounced [-ʃə] or [-ʃiə], as in *Hampshire*, *Wiltshire*, *Derbyshire*. This contrasts with the Scottish [-ʃaɪə] in *Perthshire*, *Aberdeenshire*, *Inverness-shire*, all now obsolete as a result of the recent re-organisation of the counties of Britain. Note also the village of *Wilpshire* (Lancs.) ['wɪlpʃə].
- SOKEN Found only in *Thorpe-le-Soken* (Ess.) ['θɔ:pələ'səʊkən].
- SOM *Epsom* (Sur.) ['epsəm].
- SOR [-zə] in *Windsor* (Berks.), For *Edensor* (Derby.), *BBC* gives the alternatives ['enzə, 'ensə].
- STABLE *Whitstable* (Kent, not in *BBC*) ['wɪtstəbl].
- STAPLE *Barnstaple* (Dev., not in *BBC*) ['bɑ:nstəpl].
- STALL There are localities named *Tunstall* in at least eight English counties. *BBC* gives ['tʌnstl] for those in Dur., Staffs. and Suff., and ['tʌnstɔ:l] for Norf. There is no evidence for Kent, Lancs. or N. Yorks. *EPNS* (XIV) has ['tʌnstl] for Hum.
- STEAD *BBC* has [-sted] for *Halstead* (Ess., Kent) and [-stɪd] for *Tunstead* (Norf.). It is not hard to imagine free variation between [-sted] and [-stɪd] for places ending in -STEAD.
- STEVEN *Kesteven* ['kɛstɪvən], the name of one of the now-obsolete administrative divisions of Lincs.
- STON Usually [-stən] as in *Helston* (Corn) ['helstən] and *Royston* (Herts.). But *Cholmondeston* (Ches.) is ['tʃɔmsən] in *BBC* and ['tʃʌmsən] in *Eckwall*. For the pronunciation of the first element, see under CHOL- in List B.
- STONE There is hesitation between [-stən] and [-stəʊn]:
 [-stən]: *Bearstone* (Staffs.) ['bɪəstən], *Biddestone* (Wilts.)
 ['bɪdɪstən], *Brighstone* (IoW) ['brɪəstən], *Folkestone* (Kent) ['fəʊkstən], *Langstone* (Hants.)

- [ˈlæŋstən].
- [-stəʊn]: *Addlestone* (Sur.), *Maidstone* (Kent).
- STY *Corpusty* (Norf.) [ˈkɔ:pəstɪ].
- SULL *Trysull* (Staffs.) [ˈtri:sl] or [ˈtri:zl].
- TER See -ETER above.
- TETH *Toxteth* (Mer.) [ˈtɒkstəθ].
- THORP *Althorp* (N'hants.), the home of the Spenser family, is pronounced [ˈɔ:ltrəp], as everyone in Britain knows since the Royal Wedding, 1981. For some other cases where an historic house is pronounced, at least by its occupants, in a manner different from that expected, and sometimes distinct from the local or even national pronunciation of the nearby village of the same name, see above -HAY(E)S and below COMP-, HARE-, HOL-, WO-. Jilly Cooper, in *Class* (Eyre Methuen, London, 1979), suggests that 'one of the ways the upper classes exclude the classes below is by pronouncing the names of their houses differently from the way they are spelt.'
- THROP *Heythrop* (Oxon.) [ˈhi:θrəp].
- THWAITE *Bassenthwaite* (Cumb.) [ˈbæsənθweɪt] shows the typical pronunciation of this element. *EPNS* (XXI) gives *Great* and *Little Crosthwaite* (Cumb.) as [ˈkrɒsθet]. *BBC* gives the alternatives [ˈslæθweɪt] and [ˈsləʊɪt] for *Slaithwaite* (W.Yorks.).
- TIGH *Olantigh Towers* (Kent), a house near Wye, is given by *BBC* as [ˈɒləntɪ].
- TOFT *Lowestoft* (Suf.) [ˈləʊstɒft, ˈləʊstəft] or [ˈləʊstəf].
- TON Usually [-tən] as in *Aldermaston* (Berks.) [ˈɔ:lðəmə:stən], *Aylburton* (Glos.) [ˈeɪlbɜ:tən], *Allington* (Kent, Lincs., Wilts.) [ˈæliŋtən] and many others. Occasionally, however, the [t] is dropped. *Guston* (Kent) is locally pronounced [ˈgʌsən] (not given in *BBC*). *Launceston* (Corn.) is [ˈlɑ:ns(t)ən] or [ˈlɔ:nsən] in *BBC*. *Eckwall* has only [ˈlɑ:nsən]. *Croxton* (Norf.) is [ˈkrɒkstən]; *Croxton* (Hum.) is [ˈkrɒkstən] or [ˈkrəʊsən];

- Croxton Kerrial* (Lincs.) is ['krəʊsən 'keriəl]. *South Croxton* (Leics.) is ['krəʊsən, 'krəʊstən] or ['krəʊzən].
- TOR Both as a simplex and a final element, this is [tɔ:] in Devon: *Burrator* ['bʌrə 'tɔ:], *Haytor* ['heɪ 'tɔ:], *Hessary Tor* ['hesəri 'tɔ:]. *Bolventor* (Corn.), however, is [bəl 'ventə] and *Cleator* (Cum.) ['kli:tə]. The last of these, at least, is derived from ON *erg* 'a hill pasture' rather than OE *torr* 'a high rock'.
- VANT *Havant* (Hants.) ['hævənt].
- VAULX *Jervaulx* (N. Yorks.) is ['dʒɜ:vəʊ], but *BBC* notes an older local form ['dʒɜ:vɪs] which may still be used by a few speakers. *Rievaulx* (N. Yorks.) ['ri:vəʊ] or ['ri:vəz].
- VOIR *Belvoir* (Leics.), and its Hunt, are both ['bi:və].
- WALL The county of *Cornwall* is ['kɔ:nwəl] in *BBC*, but I have also heard ['kɔ:nwɔ:l]. Mr E. Costigan, whose home is there, thinks Cornish people might prefer [-wɔ:l]. *Blackwall* (Lond., not in *BBC*) is ['blækwɔ:l].
- WAR *Wickwar* (Avon) ['wɪkwɔ:].
- WARDINE A common element in the Marches. There is some diversity in its pronunciation; *Bredwardine* (Here.) [ˌbredwə'daɪn], *Cheswardine* (Shrops.) [ˌtʃɛzwədaɪn], *Leintwardine* (Here.) ['lentwədaɪn] or ['lentwədi:n] and also ['læntədi:n]. *Lugwardine* (Here.) is ['lʌgwədi:n]. *Burton Pedwardine* [ˌpedwədaɪn], unexpectedly in Lincs., takes its name from a Herefordshire family who acquired it by marriage in c. 1280 (*Eckwall*).
- WARK *Aldwark* (Derby.) ['ɔ:ldwæk]; *Newark* (Cams., Glos., Notts.) ['nju:wæk]; *Southwark* (Lond.) ['sʌðək].
- WARP *Fairwarp* (E. Sus.) ['feəwɔ:p].
- WAS *Atrewas* (Staffs.) ['ɔ:lɹəs, 'ɔ:lɹəwəs]. Only the first of these is given by *Eckwall*. *BBC* and *Eckwall* are both silent on the pronunciation of *Buildwas* (Shrops.), but the early form *Byldewas* in *Eckwall* suggests a modern pronunciation ['bɪldwəs].

- WASH *Burwash* (E. Sus.) is ['bɜːwɒʃ] in *BBC*, which adds the quaint information that the inhabitants are called 'Burwashers', pronounced ['bʌrəʃəz]. *Borrowash* (Derby.) is ['bʌrəʊwɒʃ, 'bɒrəʊæʃ] or ['bɒrəʊwɒʃ] in *BBC*; the first only is in *Eckwall*.
- WEAR [-wɪə] in *Kingswear* and *Monkwearmouth*, both in *Dev.*, and in *River Wear* (Tyne).
- WELL *Ewell* (Sur.) ['ju:wəl]. *Eriswell* (Suf.) ['erɪswəl]. *Abbotskerswell* (Dev.) ['æbətʰs'kɜːzwəl] and similarly the nearby *Kingskerswell*. The *River Cherwell* (Oxon.) is ['tʃɑ:wəl] but the *River Irwell* (G. Man.) is ['ɪwəl]. *Rothwell* (Lincs., N'hants., W. Yorks.) is ['rɒθwəl]; *BBC* offers ['rəʊəl] as an alternative for the second of these. A well-known irregular is *Southwell* (Notts.) ['sʌðəl].
- WICH There seem to be four realisations of this final element:
 [-ɪdʒ] or [-ɪtʃ]: *Baswich* (Staffs.) ['bæsɪdʒ, 'bæsɪtʃ];
Norwich (Norf.) ['nɒrɪdʒ, 'nɒrɪtʃ];
Dulwich (Lond.) ['dʌlɪdʒ, 'dʌlɪtʃ],
Greenwich (Lond.) ['grɪnɪdʒ, 'grɪnɪtʃ];
Harwich (Ess.) ['hæɪdʒ, 'hæɪtʃ].
 [-wɪtʃ] or [-wɪdʒ]: *Sandwich* (Kent); ['sændwɪtʃ, 'sændwɪdʒ];
 the second is not in *BBC* but is heard, though more commonly applied to the snack named after Lord Sandwich; the [d] may be omitted in both pronunciations.
 [-wɪtʃ] only: *Bloxwich* (W. Mid.) ['blɒkswɪtʃ], *Ipswich* (Suf.) and the 'salt towns' *Droitwich*, *Middlewich*, *Nantwich*, *Northwich*, all in Ches.
 [-wɪtʃ] or [-ɪtʃ]: *Fordwich* (Kent).
- WICK The three realisations seem to be [-wɪk], [-ɪk] or either, as in these examples:

- [-wɪk]: *Avonwick* (Dev.) ['eɪvənwɪk]; *Aldwick* (W. Sus.), *Elwick* (Dur.), *Exwick* (Dev.), *Painswick* (Glos.).
- [-ɪk]: *Adwick-le-Street* (S. Yorks.), *Barwick* (Herts., Norf., Som.) ['bærɪk], *Barwick-in-Elmet* (W. Yorks.), *Elwick* (N'hum.) *Prestwick* (N'hum.), *Warwick* (War.) ['wɔrɪk], *Berwick* (N'hum.) *Smethwick* (W. Mid.) ['smɛðɪk].
- [-wɪk] or [-ɪk]: *Austwick* (N. Yorks.) ['ɔ:st(w)ɪk], *Butterwick* (Hum., Lincs., N. Yorks.) ['bʌtəwɪk, 'bʌtəɪk], *Crosthewick* (Norf.) ['krɒst(w)ɪk], *Eckwall* also gives ['krɒsɪk]. Note *Barnoldswick* (N. Yorks.) ['bɑ:nəʊldzɪk] or ['bɑ:lɪk], *Childwick* (Herts.) ['tʃɪlɪk].
- WITH In Cornwall, an accented final in *Penwith* [pen'wɪθ], but not in *Cadwith* ['kædʒwɪð, 'kædʒwɪθ]. Elsewhere, usually [-ɪθ]: *Flawith* (N. Yorks.) ['flɔ:ɪθ, 'flɒɪθ]; *Skelwith* (Cum.) ['skelɪθ].
- WOON *Chywoon* (Corn., not in BBC) ['tʃu:n]. *Trewoon* (Corn.) ['tru:ən].
- WORTH BBC usually gives [-wɜθ] as in *Blidworth* (Notts.) ['blɪdwɜθ], but sometimes [-wəθ] as in *Bosworth* (Leics.) ['bɒzswəθ]. The two forms are probably in free variation. *Tamworth* (Staffs.) is ['tæmwɜθ] or ['tæmɜθ].
- WORTHAL *Perranaworthal* (Corn.) [ˌpɛrənə'wɜðəl].
- WORTHY As a simplex, always [wɜðɪ]: *King's Worthy* (Hants., not in BBC) ['kɪŋz'wɜðɪ]. Otherwise may be [-wəðɪ] as in *Holsworthy* (Dev.) and many other West Country localities. *Badgworthy* or *Bagworthy Water*, a stream in Dev. and Som., is ['bædʒəɪ]; *Clapworthy* (Dev.) is ['klæpəɪ]. *Woolfardisworthy* (S. Dev.) is [wʊl'fɑ:dɪswɜðɪ], but the N. Dev. village is ['wʊlzəɪ] and BBC says that it is now spelt *Woolsery*.

However, *Johnston* and the 1980 *Geographia Road Atlas* still show the traditional spelling.

- WRA *Crows-an-Wra* (Corn.) ['kraʊzənreɪ].
- WYCH *Aldwych* (Lond.) ['ɔ:ldwɪtʃ] shows the usual pronunciation.
Note, however, *High Wyck* (Herts.) ['haɪ'waɪtʃ].
- WYCK *Alswyck Hall*, near *Buntingford*, (Herts.) is ['æsɪk].
- WYN *Great* and *Little Bedwyn* (Wilts., not in *BBC*) are ['bedwɪn],
but *Welwyn Garden City* (Herts.) is ['welɪn].
- YARD See above -ARD for *Rudyard Lake* (Staffs.).
- ZION *Marazion* (Corn.) [ˌmæɹə'zæɪən]. (Neither this name nor its
alternative *Market Jew* have any connection with Jews; they
are both derived from an Old Cornish name meaning 'small
market'.)

List B

Initial Elements and Simplex Names, Including Those which May Appear as Initial Elements

Initial elements are far more numerous than final ones. This is obvious from the nature of English place-names, in which general features of the landscape or of social organisation (-COMBE, -WICH, -HAM, BOROUGH) normally come at the end of the name*, being preceded by a more or less open series of elements showing location, size, ownership and the like (WINCH-, NOR-, HARG-, LITTLE-) to give complete names like *Winchcombe*, *Norwich*, *Hargham*, *Littleborough*. Irregularity in the pronunciation of these initial elements being very common, List B will be longer than List A. In setting it out I have tried to balance the requirements of alphabetical order against those of the convenient grouping of recognisable elements; thus *Aby*, being clearly made up of an initial A- plus the common final

* The great exception, of course, is names of Celtic origin. In e.g. *Lanivet* (Corn) 'Nivet's church', *Bodmin* (Corn) 'house of the monks', *Llanwarne* (Here.) 'church by the alder-grove', the more general element comes first.

-BY, will be found before ABRAM.

- A- [eɪ-] in *Abridge* (Ess.), *Aby* (Lincs.), *Acle* (Norf.), *Acomb* (N'hum., N. Yorks.), *Acombe* (Som., not in *BBC*).
[æ-] in *Adel* (W. Yorks.).
- AB- Usually [æb-] as in *Abingdon* (Berks.); note *Abram* (G.Man.) [ˈæbrəm].
- AC- Usually [æk-] as in *Acton* (Lond.), but note *Acrise* (Kent), [ˈeɪkri:s] or [ˈeɪkri:s].
- AD- [æd-] in *Adversane* (W. Sus.), *Adwick-le-Street* (S. Yorks.) [ˈædɪk ləˈstri:t], but [eɪd-] in *Adeyfield* (Herts.) [ˈeɪdɪfɪld] and *River Adur* [ˈeɪdə] (W. Sus.).
- AIS- *Aislaby* (Cleve., N. Yorks., W. Yorks.) [ˈeɪzlbɪ]. See also ASLACK-.
- AL(C)- [ɔ:ls-] in *Alcester* (War.) [ˈɔ:lstə], *Alciston* (E. Sus.) [ˈɔ:lsɪstən] (*Eckwall* gives [ˈɑ:stən]), *Alconbury* (Cambs.) [ˈɔ:lknɒbəri], *BBC* also gives [ˈɔ:kənberi].
- ALD- [ɔ:ld] in *Aldbury* (Herts.) also [ˈɔ:lberi], *Aldwick* (W. Sus.) [ˈɔ:ldwɪk]. *Aldeburgh* (Suff.) is [ˈɔ:lberə].
[æld-] in *Alderwasley* (Derby.) [ˌældəwəzˈli:] or [ˌæləzˈli:].
- AL(F)- Usually [ɔ:lf-] as in *Alford* (Lincs.), *Alfriston* (E. Sus.) [ˈɔ:lfrɪstən] and *Alfreton* (Derby) [ˈɔ:lfrɪtən], (also [ˈɔ:lfrɪtən]). *BBC* gives *Alfold* (Sur.) as [ˈɔ:lfoʊld, ˈælfəʊld] or [ˈɑ:fəʊld].
- ALGER- *Algarkirk* (Lincs.) [ˈɔ:lɡəkɪk] or [ˈɔ:ldzəkɪk].
- ALK- [ˈɔ:lkiŋtən] *Alkington* (Glos.) and (Shrops.), the latter more often [ˈɔ:kɪŋtən] according to *BBC*. *Alkham* (Kent) can be [ˈɔ:lkəm] or [ˈɔ:kəm].
- ALL- [æl-] in *Allerton Mauleverer* (N. Yorks.) [ˈælətən moːˈlevərə] and *Allestree* (Derby.) [ˈæli:stri:] ; also *Allington* (Dor., Kent, Lincs., Wilts. (3)). *Allesley* (W. Mid.) is [ˈɔ:lzlɪ].
- AL(M)- [æl-] in *Almer* (Dor.).
[æm-] or [ɑ:m-] in *Almeley* (Here.).
Almondbury (W. Yorks.) is [ˈeɪmbəri, ˈɑ:mbəri] or [ˈælməndberi].

- (*Eckwall* has ['ɑ:mbrɪ]). *Almondsbury* (Avon) is ['ɑ:mzbəri].
- AL(N)- *River Aln* (N'hum) ['æln]; *Eckwall* also gives ['ɑ:l].
Alnmouth (N'hum.) is ['ælnmauθ]. *Alnham* (N'hum.) is ['ælnəm].
Alne (N. Yorks.) ['ɑ:n].
Great and Little Alne (War.) ['ɑ:n] or ['ɑ:ln].
Alnwick (N'hum.) ['ænrɪk].
- ALRE- *Alresford* (Hants.) is ['ɑ:lzfəd] or ['ɑ:lzfəd], but *Alresford* (Ess.) is ['ɑ:lzfəd] or ['eɪlzfəd].
Alrewas (Staffs.) is ['ɑ:lɾəs] or ['ɑ:lɾəwəs].
- ALS- *Alsager* (Ches.) [ɑ:l'seɪdʒə] or [ɑ:l'sədʒə].
- AL(T)- *Altarnun* (Corn) [æltə'nʌn].
Altofts (W. Yorks.) ['ɑ:ltɔfts] or ['ɑ:ltəs].
Altrincham (G. Man.) ['ɑ:ltrɪŋəm].
- AL(TH)- *Althorpe* (Hum.) ['ɑ:lθɔ:p] but *Althorp* (N'hants.) ['ɑ:ltrɔp].
- ALV- [æv-] in *Alveley* (Shrops.).
 [ælv-] in *Alverdiscott* (Dev.) [ælvə'dɪskɔt] also ['ɑ:lskɔt], in which (less common) case, the place is spelt *Alscott*.
Alveston (Avon.) ['ælvɪstən] and *Alvington* (Glos.) ['ælvɪŋtən]. [ɑ:lv-] in *Alverthorpe* (W. Yorks.), *Alvingham* (Lincs.) and *West Alvington* (Dev.).
Alvescot (Oxon.) is ['ɑ:lskɔt, 'ælskɔt] or ['ælvɪskɔt].
- ALWAL- *Alwalton* (Cams.) ['ɑ:lwɔ:ltən].
- AMPT- *Amphill* (Beds.) ['æmthɪl].
- AN- *Anick* (N'hum.) ['eɪnrɪk] (not to be confused with *Alnwick*, same county, different pronunciation). *Anwick* (Lincs., not in *BBC*) ['ænrɪk] (*Eckwall*).
- ANG- *Angmering* (W. Sus.) ['æŋməɪrɪŋ], but *Angersleigh* (Som.) ['eɪndʒəzli].
- ANNES- *Annesley* (Notts.) is ['ænrɪzli] or ['ænzli].
- APE- *Apethorpe* (N'hants.) is ['æpθɔ:p] or ['eɪpθɔ:p].
- ARUN- *River Arun* (W. Sus.) ['ærən]; *Arundel* (W. Sus.) ['ærəndl].
- ASHAMP- *Ashampstead* (Berks.) ['æʃəmsted]; note stress.

- ASHMOL- *Ashmolean Museum*, in Oxford, [æʃ'məʊliən]. Named after Elias Ashmole, the seventeenth century antiquarian.
- ASHREIGN- *Ashreigney* (Dev.) [æʃ'reɪnɪ]. *Eckwall* gives the place an alternative name, *Ringsash*, which is not in *BBC*.
- ASLACK- *Aslackby* (Lincs.) ['eɪzlɪbɪ]. See above, AIS-.
- ASPA- *Aspatria* (Cumb.) [æs'pæɪtrɪə]. The name derives from *asc-Patrik* 'Patrick's ash' and *Eckwall* comments 'the order of the elements is due to Celtic influence.'
- ASTER- *Asterley* (Shrops.) is ['æstəlɪ] (not in *BBC*) but *Asterby* (Lincs.) is ['eɪstəbɪ].
- ATH- *Athelney* (Som.) and *Athelstone* (Som, War.) are [æθəl-]; *Eckwall* gives the first of these as ['ætəlɪ]. *Atherton* (G. Man.) is either [æð-] or [æθ-] in *BBC*.
- AUGH- *Aughton* (Lancs., near *Lancaster*) is [æftən], but the place of the same name near *Ormskirk* is ['ɔ:tən]. So are the two places of the same name in Hum. and S. Yorks.
- AUST- *Austerfield* (S. Yorks., not in *BBC*) ['ɔ:stəfɪəld]; *Austwick* (N. Yorks.) ['ɔ:st(w)ɪk].
- AVE- *Avebury* (Wilts.) ['eɪvbəri], also ['eɪbəri]. *Averham* (Notts.) ['eərəm], *Aveton Gifford* (Dev.) ['ɔ:tən'dʒɪfəd], also ['eɪvtən'dʒɪfəd].
- AVON- The numerous rivers of this name in various parts of England (cf Welsh *afon* 'river') are usually pronounced ['eɪvən]; so also *Avonmouth* (Avon). However, the S.Dev. river of this name is ['ævən] and so also *Avonwick* village which stands on it.
- BAB- *Babington* (Som., not in *BBC*) ['bæbrɪŋtən], *Babworth* (Notts., not in *BBC*) ['bæbwɜ:θ]; similarly for other localities, but *Babraham* (Cambs.) ['beɪbrəm].
- BAC- *Bacup* (Lancs.) ['beɪkəp].
- BADDES- *North Baddesley* (Hants.) is ['bædzlɪ] but *Baddesley Ensor* (War.) can be either ['bædzɪzɪ] or ['bædzlɪ], according to

BBC.

- BAG- *Baguley* (Ches.) ['bægələ] or ['bæglɪ]; *Bagworthy Water*, a stream in Som., sometimes spelt *Badgworthy*, is ['bædʒərɪ].
- BAL- *Baltham* (Lond.) ['bæləm], *Baldhu* (Corn.) ['bældjuː, 'bɔːldjuː] or ['bɔːlduː]. most others seem to be [bɔːl-] as in *Balcombe* (W.Sus.), *Balby* (S.Yorks.). *Balne* (N.Yorks.) is ['bɔːn].
- BALL- *Ballinger* (Bucks.) ['bæɪndʒə]. *Balliol College*, Oxford, is ['bæɪljəl].
- BAR- *Barfreston* (Kent) is not given in *BBC* or *Eckwall*, but in Isaac Taylor's *Words and Places* (Macmillan, London, 1863) it is spelt *Barfreestone* and given the pronunciation ['bɑːstən]. *Barlborough* (Derby.) is ['bɑːlbərə] or ['bɑːbərə] in *BBC*, *Barlestone* (Leics.) ['bɑːlstəʊn].
- BARH- *BBC* gives *Barham* ['bærəm], without specifying whether this applies to all the villages of this name; they exist in Cambs., Kent and Suff. *Eckwall* gives ['bærəm] for the Kent village only, implying ['bɑːrəm] for the others.
- BARW- *Barwick* (Herts., Norf., Som.) and *Barwick-in-Elmet* (W.Yorks) are all ['bærɪk] according to *BBC*. *EPNS*, *BBC* and *Eckwall* are all silent on *Barwick* (Dev.).
- BAS- *Basford* (Staffs.) is ['bæsfəd] but the suburb of *Nottingham* of the same name is ['bæɪsfəd]. *Basildon* (Berks., Ess.) is ['bæzldən] and *Baslow* (Derby.) ['bæzləʊ].
- BAUGH- No entries in *BBC*. *Eckwall* has *Baughurst* (Hants.) ['bɔːghɜːst]. I would expect *Baughton* (Here.) to be ['bɔːtən].
- BAW- Usually [bɔː-] as in *Bawdeswell* (Norf.) ['bɔːdzwəl], but note *Bawburgh* (Suff.) ['beɪbə] or ['bɔːbərə].
- BEA- *Beaconsfield* (Bucks.) is ['bekənzfiəld] or ['bi:kənzfiəld]; *BBC* notes that the latter is appropriate for the Earldom. *Beaminster* (Dor.) is ['bɛmɪnstə] and Mr E. F. G. Light has heard ['bɛmɪstə]. *Beaworthy* (Dev.) is ['bi:wɔːrɪ] or ['bæʊərɪ].
- BEAR- *Beare Green* (Sur.) ['beə'grɪ:n]; *Beare* (Dev.), *Bearpark* (Dur.)

- and *Bearstone* (Shrops.) all ['bɪə]. *Bearsted* (Kent) ['bæstəd] or ['bæstəd]. *Bearwardcote* (Derby.) ['bærəkət].
- BEAU- This common first element, of Norman French origin, has given rise to several modern pronunciations:
- [bi:-]: *Beauchief* (S. Yorks.) ['bi:tʃɪf], *Beauchamp* (Ess.) ['bi:tʃəm], *Beaumont* (Cum.) ['bi:mənt].
- [bəu-]: *Beaumont* (Ess.) ['bəʊmənt], *Beaumanor* (Leics.) ['bəʊmænə], *Beauesert Park* (Staffs.) ['bəʊdɪzɛə].
BBC also gives another *Beauesert* [bəʊ'deɪət] or [bəʊdɪ'zɛə], which is probably the village in War.
- [bjɜ:-]: *Beaulieu* (Hants.) ['bjɜ:li], *Beausale* (War.) ['bjɜ:sl].
- BED- *Bedale* (N. Yorks.) is ['bi:dɪ], but the local Hunt is ['bi:deɪ].
Bedales School (Hants.) is ['bi:dəɪlz].
- BEIGH- *Beighton* (Derby.) is ['beɪtən], but *Beighton* (Norf.) is ['baɪtən] or ['beɪtən].
- BEL- Usually [bel-] as in *Belthorn* (Lancs.), but note *Belvoir* (Leics.) ['bi:və].
- BERK- The county of *Berkshire* is always ['bɑ:kʃɪə], but *Berkhampstead* (Herts.) can be either ['bɑ:kəmstəd] or ['bɜ:kəmstəd]. Likewise *Berkswell* (W. Mid.) can be ['bɑ:kswel] or ['bɜ:kswel].
Berkeley (Glos.) and *Berkley* (Som.) are both ['bɑ:kli].
- BER(W)- *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (N'hum.) is ['berɪk], and the same pronunciation applies to villages called *Berwick* in E. Sus., Wilts. and elsewhere.
- BETTES- *Betteshanger* (Kent) ['betʃhæŋgə].
- BEVER- *Bevercotes* (Notts.) ['bevəkəʊts].
- BEWAL- *Bewaldeth* (Cumb.) ['bjɜ:'ældəθ].
- BIB- *Bibury* (Oxon.) ['baɪbəri].
- BI(C)- *Bicester* (Oxon.) ['bɪstə].
- BIDE- *Bideford* (Dev.) ['bɪdɪfəd].
- BIDD- *Biddlesden* (Bucks.) is ['bɪldzən], according to BBC. *Eckwall* has ['bɪdl] for *Biddulph* (Staffs.); BBC gives ['bɪdlɪf].

- BIER- ['baɪəɪɪ] in *Bierley* (W. Yorks.) but ['bɪətən] in *Bierton* (Bucks.).
- BIS(H)- [bɪʃ-] in *Bishopwearmouth* (Dev.) and other places having *Bishop*, but [bɪs-] in *Bisham* (Bucks.) ['bɪsəm].
- BLACK- Normally [blæk-] as in *Blackpool* (Lancs., not in BBC) but note *Blackley* (G. Man.) ['bleɪklɪ].
- BLAD- *Bladon* (Oxon.) ['bleɪdən].
- BLEAN This simplex is ['bleɪn] in *Blean* (N. Yorks.) but ['bli:n] in *Blean* (Kent).
- BLIS- *Blisworth* (N'hants.) ['blɪzwɜθ].
- BLITH- *Blithfield* (Staffs.) is ['blɪfɪəld], but I have no information on *Blithbury* in the same county.
- BLYTH- *Blythburgh* (Suff.) ['blaɪbərə]. *Blyth* (N'hum.) and the local *River Blyth* are ['blaɪð].
- BOD- *Bodmin* (Corn.) is ['bɒdmɪn]; *Bodiam* (E. Sus.) can be either ['bɒdɪəm] or ['bɒdɪəm], according to BBC. EPNS (VI) gives ['bɒdʒəm].
- BORROW- Usually [bərəʊ-] as in *Borrowby* (N. Yorks.), but BBC gives *Borrowash* (Derby.) as ['bʌrəʊwɔʃ, 'bɒrəʊɔʃ] or ['bɒrəʊwɔʃ].
- BOS- *Boscastle* (Corn.) is ['bɒskɑ:sl]* but *Boscawen* in the same county is [bəs'kaʊən]. *Bosinney* also has [bəs-]. *Bosham* (W. Sus.) is ['bɒzəm]. and *Bosworth* (Leics.) ['bɒzwəθ].
- BOTH- may be [bɒθ-] or [bɒð-] according to context. *Bothel* (Cum) and *Bothenhampton* (Dor.) are [bɒθ-], but *Bothamsall* (Notts.) is ['bɒðəmsɔ:l].
- BOUGH- There are at least eleven localities in England called *Boughton*. Of these, the ones in Ches. and Kent are pronounced ['bɔ:tən], those in Cambs. and N'hants. ['bɑ:tən], and that in Notts. is either ['bu:tən] or ['bɑ:tən]. I can find no evidence on the remainder.

* see List A under -CASTLE for my comment on BBC's alternative for pronouncing the second element.

- BOUL- *Boulton* (Derby.) and *Boulter's Lock* on the Thames (not in BBC) are [bəʊl-]. *Boulmer* (N'hum.) is ['bu:mə]. *Boultham* (Lincs.) is ['bu:təm] or ['bu:ðəm]. *Boulge* (Suff.) is ['bu:lɔʒ] or ['bəʊldʒ].
- BOUR- There are at least ten places named *Bourton* in England. BBC has ['bɔ:tən] for this name in general, including the well-known *Bourton-on-the-Water* (Oxon.). *Eckwall* appears to show ['bʊətən] for Bucks., Berks., Dor, and Glos., and ['bɔ:tən] for Shrops. and Avon, as well as for *Black Bourton* (Oxon.) and *Bourton-on-Dunsmore* (War.). For the others there is no clue.
- BOV- *Boveney* (Bucks.) and *Bovey Tracy* (Dev.) are both [bʌv-]. *Bovingdon* (Herts.) is ['bʊvɪŋdən] or ['bʌvɪŋdən] and *Bovinger* (Ess.) ['bʊvɪŋdʒə].
- BOW- As a simplex this is *Bow* (Cumb., Dev., Oxon., Lond.) [bəʊ]. As a first element there is more variety. *Bowdon* (G. Man.) is ['bəʊdən] and *Bowness-on-Solway* and *Bowness-on-Windermere* both Cum.) are ['bəʊnes]. BBC gives ['bɔʊdən] for *Bowden*, which appears to cover three places of this name in Dev., one in Wilts., and *Great and Little Bowden* (Leics.). *Bowder Stone* (Cumb.) is ['bɔʊdə]. *Bowland Forest* (Lancs.) is ['bɔlənd].
- BOZ- *Bozeat* (N'hants.) is ['bəʊzɪət] or ['bəʊzət] (the latter only in *Eckwall*).
- BRA- *Brabourne* (Kent) ['brɛɪbɔ:n, 'brɛɪbən]. *Bracon Ash* (Norf.) ['brækən 'æʃ].
- BRAUGH- *Braughing* (Herts.) is ['bræfɪŋ].
- BREA- *Breage* (Corn.) ['brɛɪg, 'brɪ:g]. *Breamore* (Hants.) ['brɛmə]. *Brean* (Som.) ['brɪ:n]. *Breaston* (Derby.) ['brɪ:stən].
- BRED- [brɪ:d-] in *Bredon* (Here.) but [brɛd-] in *Bredwardine* (Here.) [brɛdwə 'daɪn].
- BREIGHT- *Breightmet* (G. Man.) ['brɛɪt mɪt] or ['brɛɪt mɪt].
- BRET- *Brettargh Holt* (Lancs.) ['brɛtə 'həʊlt]. *Bretforton* (Here.)

- [ˈbrefətən] or [ˈbretfətən].
- BRE(W)- *Brewood* (Staffs.) [ˈbru:d].
- BRIDE- *Bridewell* (Lond.) [ˈbrɑ:dwel] but *Bridestow* (Dev.) [ˈbrɪdɪstəʊ].
- BRIG(H)- *Brighstone* (I.O.W.) [ˈbraɪstən] and *Brighton* (E. Sus.) [ˈbraɪtən] but *Brighouse* (W. Yorks.) [ˈbrɪghaʊs].
- BROM- Usually [brɑm-] or [brɒm-]; the first in *Bromham* (Beds., Wilts.) and the latter in *Bromsgrove* (Here.) and *West Bromwich* (W. Mid.) [ˈwest ˈbrɒmɪtʃ]. *BBC* notes that *Bromley* (Kent) used to be pronounced in the first way, but is now only to be found with the second. *Brome* (Suff.) is [ˈbru:m].
- BROUGH- There appear to be five realisations:
 [brʌf] in the simplex *Brough*. There are places of this name in Cum., Derby., Hum. and Notts. also several in N. Yorks. *BBC* simply gives [ˈbrʌf] for Cum. and Yorks., adding that *Brough-under-Stainmore* (Cum.) is normally referred to as plain *Brough*. *Eckwall* gives [ˈbrʊf] for the Yorkshire localities, but this is certainly a local form.
 [brɒf-] in *Broughall* (Shrops.) [ˈbrɒfl].
 [brɔ:-] in *Broughton* (Bucks., Cambs., Cum. and many other counties). The only exceptional *Broughtons* seem to be the ones given below.
 [braʊ-] in *Broughton* (N'hants.).
 [bru:-] in *Brant Broughton* (Lincs.), also in *Brougham* (Cum.), [bru:m].*
- BUILD- *Buildwas* (Shrops.) is not in *BBC*. See -WAS (List A).
- BUL- Normally [bʊl-] as in *Bulford* (Wilts.). Note *Bulwick* (N'hants.) [ˈbʊlɪk] and *Bulphan* (Ess.) [ˈbʊlvən]. *Bulkworthy* (Dev., not in *BBC*) is [ˈbʌlkwɔ:ði]. *Bulkington* (War., Wilts.) are both [ˈbʌlkɪŋtən] in *Eckwall*, but absent from *BBC*. *Bulkeley*

* The one-horse four-wheeled carriage known as a 'brougham' is pronounced [ˈbru:əm] according to the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*.

- (Ches.) is ['bʊklɪ].
- BURGH-** Common as a simplex as well as a first or last element. In the simplex form there are three common realisations: ['bʌrə] in *Burgh-le-Marsh* (Lincs.) and *Burgh-St-Peter* (Suff.) *Burgh Heath* (Sur.) is usually ['bʌrə] but sometimes ['bɜ]. ['bɜŋ] in *Burgh House* (Hampstead, Lon.). *BBC* also gives this pronunciation for a place *Burgh* of unspecified location, probably the *Burgh* in Suff. ['brʌf] in *Burgh-by-Sands* (Cum.).
- As a first element, the usual rendering is [bɜ-] as in *Burghclere* (Hants.) ['bɜ:klɛə] and *Burghfield* (Berks.).
- BURS-** *Burslem* (Staffs.) ['bɜ:zləm].
- BURY** As a simplex, this is pronounced ['bɛrɪ] (as distinct from the [-bɛrɪ] form in final elements): *Bury* (Cams., Dev., Lancs., Som., W. Sus.), *Bury-St-Edmunds* (Suff.).
- BURI-** *Buriton* (Hants.) ['bɛrɪtən].
- CAB-** *Cabourne* (Lincs.) ['kɛɪbɔ:n].
- CAEN-** *Caenby* (Lincs.) ['kɛɪnbɪ, 'kɛɪənbɪ].
- CAER-** This common Welsh first element ('fort') is to be found in *Caer Caradoc* (Shrops.) ['kærə kə'rædɔk].
- CAIUS-** *Caius College* in Cambridge ['ki:z].
- CAL-** Pronounced in a number of different ways according to context: [kɔ:l-] in *Caldecote* and *Caldecott* (many places in Cams., Herts., Leics., N'hants., War., Oxon. and elsewhere) ['kɔ:ldɪkət] and in *Caldbeck* (Cum.) ['kɔ:ldbɛk], also ['kɔ:dbɛk, 'kɔdbɛk]. [kæl-] in *Calcot* (Berks., Glos.) *Calshot* (Hants.), *Calstock* (Corn), *Calthorpe* (Norf.). [kɑ:-] in *Calne* (Wilts.) ['kɑ:n], *Calveley* (Ches.) ['kɑ:vəlɪ], also ['kɑ:vɪɪ], *Calverley* (W. Yorks.) ['kɑ:vəlɪ], also ['kɔ:vɪɪ]. [kɛɪ-] in *Calow* (Derby.) ['kɛɪləʊ], also ['kɔ:ləʊ]. [kɔ:-] in *Calke* (Derby.) ['kɔ:k].
- CAP-** *Capel* (Sur., Kent, Suff.) and *Capel-le-Ferne* (Kent) ['kɛɪpəl].

Capheaton (N'hum.) [kæp'hɪ:tən].

- CARLE- *BBC* gives *Carleton Forehoe* (Norf.) as ['kɑ:lɪtən'fɔ:həʊ], but says that *Carleton Road*. (Lond.) is [kɑ:'li:tən]. There is no indication (nor in *Eckwall*) of the pronunciation of *Carleton* in Cum. (3 places), Dur., N'hants. or a great many other cases.
- CARS- *Carshalton* (Lond.) is now [kɑ:'ʃɔ:lɪtən], but *BBC* points out that the form [kɛɪs'hɔ:tən] existed 'in living memory'. My mother, Mrs N. B. Powell, does in fact remember this pronunciation having been used by the then Rector of Carshalton, the Rev. G. B. Vaux, prior to 1919. It had evidently been in use for some time; Mr A. E. Jones, in his history of Carshalton *From Medieval Manor to London Suburb* quotes a writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* in 1798 referring to Carshalton 'or, as it is absurdly called in its neighbourhood, Case-horton.' Medieval documents suggest an earlier pronunciation with the spelling *Kersaweltone*. As the present-day spelling appears on Blaeu's *Map of Surrey*, 1648, the spoken form [kɛɪs'hɔ:tən] may have co-existed with it for some time and so the modern [kɑ:'ʃɔ:lɪtən] is a good example of the eventual triumph of a spelling-pronunciation.
- CAT- *Eckwall* has ['kætərəm] for *Caterham* (Sur., not in *BBC*) but it may be a misprint; as a local resident I know only the pronunciation ['kɛɪtərəm].
- CA(W)- *Cawood* (Lancs., N. Yorks.) ['kɛɪwʊd].
- CHA- ['tʃeɪkəm] in *Chacombe* (N'hants.).
- CHADDLE- *Chaddleanger* (Dev.) is ['tʃædlhæŋə] or ['tʃæliŋə].
- CHAL- [tʃɔ:l-] in *Chaldon* (Sur.) but [tʃæl-] in *Challock* (Kent) ['tʃælək].
[tʃæl-] in *Chalford* and *Chalgrove* (both Oxon.) and in *Chalvington* (E. Sus.), which can also be pronounced ['tʃɑ:lviŋtən].
Chalfont St Giles and *St Peter* (Bucks.) are ['tʃælfənt] or

- [^htʃɑ:fənt]. *Chalk* (Kent, Wilts., not in *BBC*) [^htʃɔ:k].
- CHARL- *Charlbury* (Oxon.) is [^htʃɔ:lberɪ] in *Eckwall*.
- CHED- *Eckwall* gives *Chedglow* (Wilts.) as [^htʃedʒləʊ]. *Chedzoy* (Som.) is [^htʃedzɔɪ] in *BBC*.
- CHEL- *Chelfham* (Dev.) is [^htʃelfəm] in *BBC* and I can find in no authority, even *EPNS*, any special comment on any unusual pronunciation of this name, but my friend Mr E. F. G. Light has confirmed by letter my recollection of his late mother, Mrs G. H. Light, a former resident of Barnstaple, having used the pronunciation [^htʃɪləm]. *Chelmondiston* (Suff.) is [^htʃemstən]. *Chelmsford* (Ess.) is in *BBC* as [^htʃelmzʃəd] or [^htʃemzʃəd], but the latter must be very rare now. *Chelsham* (Sur.) is [^htʃelfəm].
- CHEN- *Cheney Longville* (Shrops., not in *BBC*) is [^htʃi:nɪ]. *Chenies* (Herts.) is [^htʃeɪnɪz] or [^htʃi:nɪz].
- CHER- *Chertsey* (Sur.) [^htʃɛtsɪ]. *Cherhill* (Wilts.) [^htʃerɪl]. The *River Cherwell* (Oxon.), familiar to generations of undergraduate punters, is [^htʃɑ:wəl].
- CHETTIS- *Chettiscombe* (Dev.) [^htʃetɪskəm] or [^htʃeskəm].
- CHEV- *Chevening* (Kent) [^htʃi:vɪŋ]. *Cheveley Park* (Cambs.) [^htʃi:vɪ]. *Chevington* (Suff.) [^htʃevɪŋtən]. The *Cheviot Hills*, between England and Scotland, are [^htʃi:vɪət] or [^htʃevɪət]. It is worth quoting *BBC* at length on this name: "A theory that the first of these two pronunciations is used north of the Border, and the other on the English side, has been discredited by observation over a long period. The truth appears to be that the former is almost invariably used in the Border country, in both England and Scotland, and that it is speakers from further south who favour the second. A third pronunciation, [^htʃɪvɪət], has been heard in Edinburgh for the cloth of the name."
- CHILD- *Childerditch* (Ess.) [^htʃɪldədɪtʃ] and *Childer Thornton* (Ches.)

- [ˈtʃɪldə]. *Childwall* (Mer.) [ˈtʃɪlwɔ:l]. *Childwick* (Herts.) [ˈtʃɪlɪk], along with *Childwick Bury* and *Childwick Green*.
- CHOL- *Cholsey* (Oxon.) [ˈtʃəʊlzi]. *Cholmondeley* and *Cholmondeston* (Ches.) are respectively [ˈtʃʌmlɪ] and [ˈtʃɒmsən] in *BBC*. *Eckwall* gives the latter as [ˈtʃʌmsən].
- CHY- A Cornish prefix = ‘house’. There appears to be hesitation between [ʃaɪ-], [tʃaɪ-] and [ʃɪ]: *BBC* has *Chyandour* [ˈ(t)ʃaɪəndaʊə], *Chysoyster* [ˈtʃaɪsɔ:stə] and *Chyvelah* [ʃɪˈvi:lə]. There is no entry for *Chyanvounder*. *Eckwall* says nothing about any of these. Mr Edward Costigan of Osaka University, a Cornish resident, tells me that *Chywoon*, near Falmouth, is pronounced [ˈtʃu:n]. *BBC* has *Chynoweth* [ʃɪˈnəʊəθ] as a personal name; perhaps the place-name has the same pronunciation.
- CIREN- *Cirencester* (Glos.) [ˈsaɪrənsɛstə] or [ˈsɪsɪtə]. See List A for the full *BBC* comment.
- CLAP- *Clapworthy* (Dev.) [ˈklæpəri].
- CLAV- *Clavering* (Ess.) [ˈkleɪvəriŋ]. *Claverdon* (War.), *Claverley* (Shrops.), *Claverham* and *Claverton* (both Avon) all take [klæv-].
- CLEHON- *Clehonger* (Here.) is [ˈkleŋgə].
- CLEO- *Cleobury Mortimer* and *North* (Shrops.) [ˈkleɪbəri].
- CLEY [klaɪ] or [kleɪ] in *Cley-next-the-Sea* and *Cockley Cley* (Norf.)
- CLOUGH- As a simplex, this is [ˈklʌf]: *River Clough* (Cum., Yorks.), *Clough Fold* (Lancs.). *Cloughton* (3 places in N. Yorks.) all figure in *BBC* as [ˈklaʊtən] or [ˈkləʊtən].
- CLOV- *Clovelly* (Dev.) [kləʊˈvɛli], but *Cloverley* (Shrops.) [ˈklɒvɛli].
- CLUNGUN- *Clungunford* (Shrops.) [klʌŋˈgʌnfəd].
- COB- *Coberley* (Glos.) [ˈkʌbəlɪ].
- COG- *Cogenhoe* (N’hants) is [ˈkəʊgənhəʊ] or [ˈkʊknəʊ]; *Coggeshall* (Ess.) is [ˈkɒgɪʃl] or [ˈkɒksl]. In both cases the first pronunciation is no doubt more common these days than the second.
- COL- [kəʊl-] in *Colchester* (Ess.), *Colbury* (Herts.),

- [kɒl-] in *Colby* (Cum., Norf.), *Colwall* (Here.), *Colwich* (Staffs.) ['kɒlwɪtʃ], *Colwick* (Notts.) ['kɒlɪk] or ['kɒlwɪk], *Colworth* (W. Sus.) ['kɒlwɜθ], *Colyton* and *Colyford* (Dev.). Places spelt COLL- are [kɒl-] as *Collingbourne Ducis* (Wilts.) *BBC* gives four alternatives for *Coltishall* (Norf.): ['kəʊltɪsl, 'kəʊltɪʃl, 'kəʊltɪsɔ:l, 'kəʊlsl].
- COL(N)- Most places with this spelling are ['kəʊn]: *Colne* (Ess., Lancs.), *Colne Engaine* (Ess.), *Colney Hatch* (Lond.), *Colney Heath* (Herts.), *Coln St Aldwyns* (Glos.). However, *Colnbrook* (Bucks.) is ['kəʊnbrʊk] or ['kəʊlnbrʊk].
- COMB- ['ku:m] in the simplex *Combe*, found in many places in England, especially in Devon, Somerset and the South-West: *Combe Cross*, *Combe Raleigh*, *Combe-in-Teignhead* (all Dev.) etc. Also in *Combyne* (Dev.) ['ku:mpaɪn].
- [kɒm-] in *Combrook* (War.) and [kʌm-] in *Combwich* (Som.) ['kʌmɪdʒ], also ['ku:mɪdʒ, 'ku:mɪtʃ].
- COMP- The name *Compton*, found in many counties, is sometimes [kɒmp-] and sometimes [kʌmp-]. The first is correct for *Compton* (Berks.), *Compton Chamberlayne* (Wilts.) ['kɒmptən tʃeɪmbəlɪn], *Compton Down* (Wilts.), *Compton Pauncefoot* (Som.) ['kɒmptən 'pɔ:nsfʊt], *Compton Valence* (Dor.) ['kɒmptən 'væləns]. The second is correct for *Compton* (2 places in Hants.), and for the historic house *Compton Wynyates* (War.) as pronounced by its occupants; *BBC* gives the local village pronunciation as ['kɒmptən 'wɪnjets]. No less than twenty-four localities named *Compton* are listed in *Johnston's Road Atlas* and in practice there can be little doubt that the two forms [kɒmp-] and [kʌmp-] are in free variation for most of them, with a possible tendency for the latter to predominate in the speech of people who use Conservative R. P. In connection with place names where orthographic o is followed by a nasal consonant in an accented syllable (e. g. BROM-,

COMP-, CON-, etc.) see A. C. Gimson's *Introduction to the Pronunciation of English*, 1962 edition, p. 103, where he mentions [v] and [ʌ] as two common pronunciations for such a spelling, and not only for place-names. He mentions *Bromley* and *Tonbridge* along with *comrade*, *accomplish* etc; see *BBC* on these under BROM- above and TON- below.

CON- As with the previous entry, [kɒn-] and [kʌn-] are both to be found. [kɒn-] is used for *Condicote* (Glos.), *Constantine* (Corn.) ['kɒnstəntaɪn], *Conisbrough* (S. Yorks.) ['kɒnɪsbərə], *Conisholme* (Lincs.) ['kɒnɪshəʊm, 'kɒnɪzhəʊm] or ['kɒnɪʃəʊm], *High and Low Coniscliffe* (Dur.) and *Coniston* (Cum.). [kʌn-] is used for *Condober* (Shrops.) ['kʌndəʊvə], *Constable Burton* (N. Yorks.) and *Melton Constable* (Norf.). *Coningsby* (Lincs.) and *Conyer* (Kent) can be either, according to *BBC*, *Eckwall* has [kʌn-] for *Conington* (Cambs., near Sawtry) but not for *Conington* (Cambs., near Cambridge). *BBC* just gives [kɒn-] without specifying where. *Eckwall's* [kʌn-] for *Coniston* is almost certainly obsolete. *Congresbury* (Avon) is ['ku:mzbəri] in *Eckwall*, but *BBC* says this is a Bristol pronunciation, and gives the local version as ['kɒɪzbəri]. The *Blue Guide* has 'Commsbury'.

COQUET- The *River Coquet* and *Coquetdale* (N'hum.) are ['kəʊkɪt].

COS- [kɒs-] in *Cosford* (War.) and *Cosham* (Hants.) ['kɒsəm], but [kɒz-] in *Cosgrove* (N'hants.). There are three localities named *Cossington* listed in *Eckwall* of which two (Leics., Som.) appear in *Johnston*. *BBC* gives ['kʌsɪŋtən, 'kʌzɪŋtən] without specifying whether this applies to all cases. *Coston* likewise appears in *BBC* without attribution, as ['kəʊsn]. This may be the village in Leics., which is in *Eckwall* as ['kəʊstən] derived from ME *Cāstun*. The same authority gives *Coston* (Norf.) without showing the pronunciation, but giving the medieval spelling *Corston*. I surmise this may now be pronounced ['kɒstən].

- COTE- *Cotesbach* (Leics.) ['kəʊtsbætʃ]. *Cotehele* (Corn.) [kə'ti:l, kət'hi:l].
- COTH- *Cotheridge* (Here.) ['kʊðərɪdʒ]. *Cotherstone* (Dur.) ['kʌðəstən]. *Cothelstone* (Som.) ['kʌðlɪstən] or ['kʊtlɪstən].
- COT- The standard is [kʊt-] as in *Cotswolds*, the hills to the west of Oxford, but note *Coton* (Cambs., Derby., Shrops., Staffs.) ['kəʊtən].
- COUGH- *Coughton* (Here.) ['kəʊtən]. *Coughton* (War.) ['kəʊtən] or ['kəʊtən], the former pronunciation being used for the historic house *Coughton Court*.
- COUL- *Coulton* (N. Yorks., not in *BBC*) ['ku:lɪtən]. *Coulsdon* (Lond.) ['ku:lzdən] or ['kəʊlsdən]. As a long-time local resident, I can say that I have rarely heard the second of these.
- COURT- *Eckwall* has ['kɔ:tɪŋhɔ:l] for *Courteenhall* (N'hants.).
- COVE- As for COMP- there is hesitation between [kʊv-] and [kʌv-]. *Eovent Garden* (Lond.) is ['kʊvənt, 'kʌvənt], and *Coventry* (W. Mid.) ['kʊvəntri, 'kʌvəntri]; *BBC* notes 'the first is appropriate for the Earl of Coventry. The second, however, is commonly used in the expression, 'to send someone to Coventry'. *Coverack* (Corn.) is ['kʌvəræk] or ['kʊvəræk]. A number of places are pronounced with COVE- as [kəʊv-]: *Coven* (Staffs.) ['kəʊvən], *Covehithe* (Suff.) ['kəʊvhaɪð], *Coveney* (Cambs.) ['kəʊvni], *Covenham* (Lincs.) ['kəʊvənəm]. *Covenhope* (Here.) is ['kʊnəp] or the spelling pronunciation ['kəʊvənheʊp].
- COW- *Cowley* is a common place-name. There are at least eleven: Bucks., Dev. (2), Derby. (2), Glos., Lond. (2), Oxon., Staffs. and S. Yorks. *BBC* gives *Cowley* (Oxon.) as ['kəʊli], and the same for Yorks. (presumably the S. Yorks. instance) but in the latter case an alternative ['kəʊli]. There seems to be no information available about the way the others are pronounced, but [kəʊ-] seems likely. *Cowling* (Lancs.) is ['kəʊlɪŋ, 'kəʊlɪŋ] but in N. Yorks. ['kəʊlɪŋ] only. *Cowlinge* (Suff.) is ['ku:lɪndʒ]

- and *Cowpen Bewley* (Cleve.) ['ku:pən 'bjʊ:lɪ]. *Cowbit* (Lincs.) is ['kʌbɪt] in *BBC*, but *BG* gives 'Coubitt'.
- CRAD- *Cradley* (Here.) ['krædlɪ], but *Cradley* and *Cradley Heath* (W. Mid.) are ['kreɪdlɪ].
- CRED- *Crediton* (Dev.) ['kredɪtən], but *Credenhill* (Here.) ['kredənɦɪl] or ['kri:dənɦɪl].
- CRIGH- *Crichel Down* (Dor.) ['krɪtʃl], but *Crich* (Derby.) ['kraɪtʃ].
- CROM- *Cromford* (Derby.) ['krɒmfəd] in *BBC* but ['krʌmfəd] in *Eckwall*. *Cromer* (Herts., Norf.) is ['krəʊmə].
- CRON- *Cron dall* (Hants.) ['krɒndl] or ['krʌndl]; *Crondon* (Ess.) and *Cronton* (Mer.) are both with ['krɒn-] (neither in *BBC*).
- CROUCH *Crouch End* (Lond.) ['kraʊtʃ].
- CROUGH- ['krəʊ-] is used for *Croughton* (N'hants.).
- CROW- ['krəʊ-] in *Crowcombe* (Som.), *Crowborough* (E. Sus.) and most other places beginning CROW-; note, however, that *Crowle* (Hum.) is ['krəʊl] or ['kru:l], and *Crowle* (Here.) ['krəʊl] or ['kraʊl]. Places in Cornwall use ['kraʊ-]: *Crowlas* ['kraʊləs], *Crowan* ['kraʊən], *Crows-an-wra* ['kraʊzənreɪ].
- CROX- *Croxton* (Norf.) ['krɒkstən], but in Lincs. there is an alternative ['krəʊsən]. *Croxton Kerrial* (Leics.) is ['krəʊsən 'kerɪəl]. *South Croxton* in the same county can be ['krəʊsən, 'krəʊstən] or ['krəʊzən] according to *BBC*.
- CUCK- ['kʊk-] in *Cuckfield* and *Cuckmere* (E. Sus.), but ['kʌk] in *Cuckney* (Notts.).
- CUX- ['kʌks-] in *Cuxwold* (Lincs.) ['kʌkswəʊld], but *Cuxham* (Oxon.) is ['kʊksəm] or ['kʌksəm] according to *BBC* (*Eckwall* gives only the former alternative).
- DAV- *Davenham* (Ches.) ['deɪvənəm, 'deɪnəm]; *Davidstow* (Corn.) ['deɪvɪdstəʊ]. *Daventry* (N'hants.) ['dævəntri, 'deɪntri]. Since the opening of the broadcasting transmitter at Daventry and local urban development, the latter (traditional) form has

- been dying out.
- DEBEN- *Debenham* (Suff.) is ['debənəm], but the local *River Deben* is ['di:bən].
- DEIGH- *Deighton* is the name of two places in N. Yorks. On the evidence of *EPNS(V)* the one in the old North Riding is ['di:tən], and the similar origin of that in the old East Riding and the 14th century spelling *Digton* suggest a similar modern rendering. *Kirk Deighton* (W. Yorks.) is ['kɜk'di:tən].
- DEO- *Deopham* (Norf.) ['di:pəm, 'di:fəm].
- DEPT- *Deptford* (Lond.) ['detfəd].
- DERBY- [dɑ:bɪ] in *Derby* and *Derbyshire*.
- DERE- *Dereham* (Norf.) ['dɪərəm].
- DERWENT The simplex river name (Cum., Derby., Dur., N'hum., N.Yorks.) is ['dɜwənt] and so is *Derwentwater* (Cum.). *BBC* notes the pronunciation ['dɑ:wənt] for the personal name of Baron Derwent.
- DEV- The county of *Devon* is ['devən] and *Devoran* (Corn.) is ['devrən] but the *River Devon* (Leics., Notts.) is ['di:vən]. The unaccented form in *Devizes* (Wilts.) gives [dɪ'vaɪzɪz].
- DINE- *Dinedor* (Here.) ['daɪndɔ:].
- DIPT- *Diptford* (Dev.) ['dɪpfəd].
- DON- [dɒn-, dʌn-] alternatives, as for COMPT- etc. *Donington* (Lincs., Shrops.) is ['dɒnɪŋtən], but *Castle Donington* (Derby.) is ['kɑ:sl 'dʌnɪŋtən]. *Donington-on-Bain* (Lincs.) can use either [dɒn-] or [dʌn-] according to *BBC*. There is no entry in *BBC* for *Donington-le-Heath* (Leics.). All these places appear from *Eckwall* to have similar derivations and to have been spelt in various ways in the past, sometimes with *o* and sometimes with *u*. Probably, as with COMPT-, there is free variation in the way different people say at least some of these names. Places called *Donnington* in several counties all appear to be [dɒn-], except that *Eckwall* has *Donnington* (W. Sus.)

- as ['dauntən]. *Donkleywood* (N'hum.) is ['dʌŋklɪwʊd].
- DOUGH- *Doughton* (Glos., Norf.) ['dʌftən].
- DOVE- *Doveridge* (Derby.) ['dʌvrɪdʒ], *Dovenby* (Cumb.) ['dʌvənbrɪ].
The *River Dove* (Derby.) can apparently be ['dʌv] or ['dəʊv],
but the valley is *Dovedale* ['dʌvdəɪl]. *Dover* (Kent), *Dover-*
court (Ess., not in *BBC*) and *Dover Beck* (Notts., not in *BBC*)
are all ['dəʊvə]. *Eckwall* has *Doverdale* (Here.) as ['dɔːdəɪl];
BBC has no entry for the place but gives the title of Baron
Doverdale as ['dʌvədəɪl].
- DRAUGH- *Draughton* (N'hants.) is ['drɔːtən] but (N. Yorks.) ['dræftən].
- DRIGH- *Drighlington* (W. Yorks.) ['drɪ(g)lɪŋtən].
- DUKIN- *Dukinfield* (G. Man.) ['dʌkɪnfɪəld].
- DUL- *Dulwich* (Lond.) ['dʌlɪtʃ, 'dʌlɪdʒ], *Duloe* (Corn.) ['djuːləʊ].
- DUR- *Durham* (Dur.) ['dʌrəm] and *Durweston* (Dor.) ['dʌrɪstən].
Dursley (Glos.) [dɜːzlɪ].

(to be continued)