

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

Christopher Powell

The Changing Pronunciation of Place-Names

Place-names, like other areas of the English language, are subject to change as the years go by; but perhaps there is more conservatism here than elsewhere, especially in the field of pronunciation. It is hard to account for the persistence of such exceptional forms as [ˈglɒstə] for Gloucester, [ˈwʊstə] for *Worcester* and [ˈsʌðək] for *Southwark*, all of which are still usual in British English, unless one accepts that the British are very conservative about the way they pronounce their place-names. Still, it is certain that a great many places whose names have been spelt more or less consistently for the past two hundred years have changed in their pronunciation, as the following evidence shows.

George McKnight, in his *Modern English in the Making*, published by Appleton in 1928 and later reissued as *The Evolution of the English Language* by Dover Press in 1968, quotes an interesting list from Dr Isaac Watts' *The Art of Reading and Writing English*, 1721. This list shows a number of English personal and place-names together with the way they were pronounced at the time. The following is an extract from the list, showing some place-names. I have put an asterick* against the entries which are still commonly pronounced in a similar way to that shown by Watts:

St Albans — St Awbans

Lincoln — Lincon*

Birmingham — Brummijum

London — Lunnun

Berwick — Barrick

Marlborough — Marlburro*

Cirencester — Sisseter

Okehampton — Okkinton

Deptford — Dedfurd

Rotherhith — Redriff

Holborn — Hoburn*

Sevenoak — Sennuck

Apart from the three cases marked, it might be mentioned that in rapid speech the [l] of *St Albans* is inaudible; *Birmingham* is still sometimes referred to as [brʌmidʒəm], but in that case the spelling *Brummagem* is used (cf the well-known music-hall question 'Do you come from Brum?'). *Cirencester*, as noted above (Part I, page 96) is still occasionally pronounced ['sɪsɪtə] though ['saɪrənsɛstə] is more often heard. *Deptford*, in London, is now pronounced ['dɛtfəd] — still not a spelling pronunciation

On the whole, spelling pronunciations of place-names in England are becoming more common. Among names which have changed or are coming to change to a spelling pronunciation the following may be cited:

Alverdiscott (Dev.) from ['ɔ:lskət] to ['ælvə'dɪskət]. According to *BBC* the place is occasionally spelt *Alscott*, which may represent an earlier attempt to rationalise the pronunciation.

Avebury (Wilts.) from ['eɪbəri] to ['eɪvbəri].

Aveton Gifford (Dev.) from ['ɔ:tən'dʒɪfəd] to ['eɪvtən'dʒɪfəd].

Barnoldswick (N. Yorks.) from ['bɑ:lɪk] to ['bɑ:nəldzɪk]

Bawburgh (Suff.) from ['beɪbə] to ['bɔ:bərə].

Berkhamsted (Herts.) from ['bɑ:kəmsted] to ['bɛ:kəmsted].

Bodiam (E. Sus.) from ['bɒdʒəm] to ['bəʊdɪəm] or ['bɒdɪəm].

Bromley (Kent) from ['brʌmlɪ] to ['brʊmlɪ].

Butterwick (Hum., Lincs., N. Yorks.) from ['bʌtərɪk] to ['bʌtəwɪk].

Carshalton (Sur.) now [kɑ:'ʃɔ:ltən] but within living memory [keɪs'hɔ:tən] (see above, Part II, p.80).

Chettiscombe (Dev.) from ['tʃɛskəm] to ['tʃɛtɪskəm].

Cirencester (Glos.) from ['sɪsɪtə] to ['saɪrənsɛstə].

Coggeshall (Ess.) from ['kɒksl] to ['kɒgɪʃl].

Covenhope (Here.) from ['kɒnəp] to ['kəʊvənəp].

Daventry (N'hants.) from ['deɪntrɪ] to ['dævəntrɪ].

Ebrington (Glos.) from ['jʌbətən] to ['ɛbrɪŋtən].

Eynsham (Oxon.) from [ˈɛnʃəm] to [ˈeɪnʃəm].

Goodnestone (Kent) from [ˈɡʌnstən] to [ˈɡʊdnɛstəʊn].

Harrietsham (Kent) from [ˈhæriʃəm] to [ˈhæriətʃəm].

Hunstanton (Norf.) from [ˈhʌnstən] to [hʌnˈstæntən].

Ildridgehay (Derby.) from [ˈɪdɪseɪ] to [ˈaɪdrɪdʒheɪ].

Kedington (Suff.) from [ˈketən] to [ˈkedɪŋtən].

According to *BBC*, older residents of the village use only the shorter form and the village is sometimes spelt *Ketton*, perhaps a forlorn attempt (as with *Alverdiscott*, see above?) to make the orthography conform to the traditional pronunciation. However, modern maps spell the place *Kedington*, and this spelling and pronunciation are no doubt likely to win.

Lasham (Hants.) from [ˈlæʃəm] to [ˈlæʃəm]. This (and *Neatishead*, below) may be typical of what happens to the traditional pronunciation of a place-name when it becomes better known to the world at large. According to *BBC*, the former pronunciation is that of the villagers and the latter (spelling) pronunciation that used by people who attend the Gliding Centre now established outside the village. I have not ever heard the place mentioned on radio or TV, but if (as seems probable) the spelling pronunciation is used by announcers, the older pronunciation will be doomed.

Neatishead (Norf.) from [ˈni:tstɪd] to [ˈni:tɪʃɪd], at least in the speech of service personnel at the RAF station.

Pontefract (W. Yorks.) once [ˈpʌmfɹɪt] is now universally [ˈpɒntɪfrækt], but the old pronunciation survives in the name of ‘Pomfret cakes’.

Roding (Essex) from [ˈruːdɪŋ] to [ˈrəʊdɪŋ]. Of the eight villages (*Abbess Roding*, etc.) containing this name, only one, *White Roding*, retains, according to *BBC*, some trace of the old pronunciation by officially taking the spelling *Roothing*, and on maps only *Roding* is usually to be found.

Rudgwick (W. Sus.) from [ˈrʌdʒɪk] to [ˈrʌdʒwɪk].

Saltfleetby (Lincs.) from [ˈsɒləbɪ] to [ˈsɔːltfliːtbɪ].

Stiffkey (Norf.) from [ˈstɪ:kɪ] or [ˈstɪju:kɪ] to [ˈstɪfkɪ].

Temple Sowerby (Cumb.) from [ˈtemplˈsɔːbɪ] to [ˈtemplˈsəʊəbɪ].

Trottiscliffe (Kent) from [ˈtrɒslɪ] to [ˈtrɒtɪsklɪf].

Uttoxeter (Staffs.) from [ˈʌtʃɪtə] or [ˈʌksɪtə] to [juːˈtɒksɪtə] or even

[ʌ'tɒksitə].

White Waltham (Berks.) from ['waɪt'wɔ:l'təm] to ['waɪt'wɔ:lθəm].

Other place-names with *Waltham* in Essex and elsewhere are mostly already pronounced ['wɔ:lθəm].

Woodnesborough (Kent) from ['wʊnz'bərə] or ['wɪnz'bərə] to ['wʊdnɪz'bərə].

In many of the above cases, the present spelling has been in vogue for centuries, yet until recent times a non-spelling pronunciation prevailed. *Carshalton* is so spelt in Blaeu's *Map of Surrey* (1648), at which time the local speech rendered it as *Case Horton*. The spelling of *Pontefract* is of great antiquity, but until recently it was usual to pronounce it *Pomfret*. Possible reasons for such discrepancies will be discussed in a future instalment of this article. The remainder of this instalment will be devoted to a continuation of List B, covering the irregular pronunciations of initial elements and simplex names.

List B (continued)

- E — *Eton* (Berks.) ['i:tən]. *Ely* (Cambs.) ['i:lɪ]. *Ewood* (Lancs.) ['i:wʊd].
Eridge (Kent) ['erɪdʒ] and *Erith* (Kent) ['ɪrɪθ].
Ewell (Sur.) and *Temple Ewell* (Kent) are both ['ju:wəl].
- EA — *The River Eamont* (Cum.) is ['i:mənt] or ['jæmənt].
- EAK — *Eakring* (Notts.) ['ekrɪŋ] or ['eɪkrɪŋ].
- EAR — *Earsham* (Norf.) ['ɜ:ʃəm].
- EAST — *Easthampstead* (Berks.) is ['i:st'hæmstɪd] or ['i:stəmstɛd].
- EBR — *Ebrington* (Glos.) ['ɛbrɪŋtən] but *BBC* gives the form ['jʌbətən] as one used by older residents.
- ECC — The normal form is that in *Eccleshall* (Staffs.) ['ɛklʃɔ:l], but note *Ecchinswell* (Hants.) ['etʃɪnzwel].
- EDEN — The simplex form *Eden* as in *River Eden* (Kent) is ['i:dən], and similarly in *Edenbridge* (Kent) ['i:dənbrɪdʒ], but *Edensor* (Derby.) is ['enzə] or ['ensə].
- EDIN — *Edingale* (Staffs., not in *BBC*) ['edɪŋeɪl], but *Edington* [Som., Wilts.] ['i:dɪŋtən].
- EGER — *Egerton* (Kent) ['edʒətən].
- EGLOS — A common Cornish first element (church). *Egloshale*

- ['egləs'hɛɪl] and *Egloskerry* ['egləs'kerɪ] show the normal pronunciation.
- EGRE — *Egremont* (Cumb.) ['egrimənt].
- ELSE — *Elsecar* (S.Yorks.) ['elsɪkɑː].
- ELVE — *Elveden* (Suff.) ['elvdən] or ['eldən].
- ERE — The *River Erewash* (Derby., Notts.) is ['erɪwɒʃ], but *Eresby* (Lincs.) is ['iəzbi].
- ESH — *Esher* (Sur.) ['iːʃə]. *Esholt* (W. Yorks.) ['eʃɒlt].
- EU — *Euston* (Lond.) ['juːstən]. *Euxton* (Lancs.) ['ekstən].
- EVE — ['iːv-] in *Evedon* (Lincs.), *Evenley* (N'hants.), *Evenlode* (Glos.) and *Evesham* (Here.), but ['ev-] in *Eversholt* (Beds.) ['evəʃɒlt] and *Everton* (Beds., Hants., Mer., Notts.). *Eckwall* gives ['iːʃəm, 'iːsəm] as alternatives for *Evesham*.
- EW — *Ewelme* (Oxon.) ['ju:welm]. *Ewhurst* (Sur.) ['ju:həːst].
- EXCE — *Exceat* (E. Sus.) ['eksi:t].
- EXE — *Exeter* (Dev.) ['eksɪtə] and *River Exe*, same county, ['eks].
- EY — Both *BBC* and *BG* give *Eyam* (Derby.) as ['iːm]. ['iː-] is also found in *Eype* (Dor.) ['iːp] and *Eydon* (N'hants.) ['iːdən]. ['aɪ-] is used for *Eyke* (Suff.) ['aɪk] and *Eyton upon the Weald Moors* (Shrops.) ['aɪtən ə'pʊn ðə 'wiːld 'mʊəz]. *Eythorne* (Kent) is ['eɪθɔːn] and the various villages called *Eyton* in different parts of Shrops., other than the one mentioned above, all appear to be ['eɪtən].
- EYN — *Eynesbury* (Cambs.) ['eɪnzbəri]. *Eynsford* (Kent) ['eɪnsfəd]. *Eynsham* (Oxon.) is ['eɪnʃəm] or ['eɪnʃəm].
- FAC — *Facit* (Lancs.) ['feɪsɪt].
- FAK — *Fakenham* (Norf.) ['feɪkənəm].
- FAL — *Faldingworth* (Lincs.) ['fɔːldɪŋwɜːθ]. *Falfield* (Avon) ['fælfɪəld].
Falmouth (Corn) ['fælməθ] and *Falstone* (N'hum.) ['fælstəʊn].
- FAN — Usually ['fæn-] as in *Fancott* (Beds.), but *Fanum House* (Lond.), the headquarters of the Automobile Association, is

- [ˈfeinəm].
- FAUGH The simplex *Faugh* (Cumb.) is [ˈfæf].
- FAULK — *Faulkland* (Som.) (not in *BBC*) is [ˈfɔːklænd] but *Faulkbourne* (Ess.) is [ˈfɔːbɜːn] or [ˈfɔːbɔːn].
- FAV — *Faversham* (Kent) [ˈfævəʃəm].
- FAZ — *Fazakerley* (Mer.) [fəˈzækəli].
- FIGHEL — *Figheledean* (Wilts.) [ˈfaɪldiːn].
- FINCH — Although the regular form is [ˈfɪnʃ-] as in *Finchley* (Lond.) there is an irregular pronunciation in *Finchale Priory* (Dur.) [ˈfɪŋkl].
- FLA — *Flawith* (N. Yorks.) is [ˈflɔːwiə] or [ˈflɔːiə].
- FOLK — [ˈfəuk-] in *Folke* (Dor.) and *Folkestone* (Kent) [ˈfəʊkstən], also in *Folkton* (N. Yorks., not in *BBC*). But *Folkingham* (Lincs.) is [ˈfɒkiŋəm] and *Folkington* (E. Sus.) is [ˈfəʊiŋtən].
- FRITH — *Frithelstock* (Dev.) is [ˈfrɪθlʊstɒk] or [ˈfrɪstɒk]. *Frithsden* (Herts.) is [ˈfrɪːzdən] or [ˈfrɪzdən], and *BBC* says it is sometimes spelt *Friesden*.
- FRO — The O is usually short as in *Frocester* (Glos.), and *Frodingham* (Hum.) [ˈfrɒdiŋəm], but *Frome* (Som.), and the several rivers of the same name in the West Country have the pronunciation. [ˈfruːm].
- GALM — *Galmpton* (Dev.) [ˈgæmptən]. cf. *Yealmpton*, below.
- GARBOLD — *Garboldisham* (Norf.) [ˈgɑːblɪʃəm].
- GELDES — *Geldeston* (Norf.) [ˈgeldstən], [ˈgeldəstən] or [ˈgelstən].
- GILL — *Gillingham* (Kent) is [ˈdʒɪliŋəm], but in Dor. and Norf. [ˈgɪliŋəm]. *Gilling* (N. Yorks.) [ˈgɪliŋ].
- GIM — *Gimingham* (Norf.) [ˈgɪmiŋəm].
- GIP — *Gipping* (Suff.) [ˈgɪpiŋ].
- GISLE — *Gisleham* (Suff.) [ˈgɪzləm] or [ˈgɪsləm]; *Gislingham*, same county. [ˈgɪzliŋəm].
- GIV — *Givons Grove* (Sur.) [ˈdʒɪvənz ˈgrəʊv].
- GLAIS — *Glaisdale* (N. Yorks.) [ˈgleɪzdeɪl].
- GLAS — [ˈglɑːs-] in *Glastonbury* (Som.) but [ˈgleɪs-] in *Glaston*

- (Cambs.).
- GLEAD — ['gli:d-] in *Gleadless* (S. Yorks.) ['gli:dlis] and *Gleadthorpe* (N'hants.) ['gli:dθɔ:p].
- GLOU — *Gloucester* (Glos.) ['glɒstə].
- GLYNDE — *Glyndebourne* (E. Sus.), home of the famous opera, ['glaiɪndbɔ:n].
- GNO — *Gnosall* (Staffs.) ['nəʊsl].
- GOD — *Godalming* (Sur.) ['gɒdlɪmɪŋ], *Godmersham* (Kent) ['gɒdməʃəm].
Godrevy (Corn.) is [gə'dri:vɪ], *Godmanchester* (Cambs.) is ['gɒdmən'tʃestə] these days, but for archaic ['gʌmpstə], see - CHESTER in List A.
- GOM — As with names beginning with COM- (see above), names in GOM- show hesitation between ['gɒm-] and ['gʌm-], though the former is now usual.
Gomeldon (Wilts.) ['gɒmɪldən]; *Gomersal* (W. Yorks.) ['gɒməsəl]; *Gomshall* (Sur.) ['gɒmfəl] or ['gʌmfəl].
- GOODNES — *Goodnestone* (Kent) is now usually the spelling pronunciation ['gʊdnestən] instead of the traditional ['gʌnstən].
- GOON — *Goonhavern* (Corn.) is [gə'nævən] or ['gu:n'hævən].
- GOR — ['gɔ:-] in *Goring* (W. Sus. and Oxon.) and *Gorleston* (Norf.) ['gɔ:lstən]
Gorhambury, the mansion of the Earl of Verulam at St Albans (Herts.) is, however, ['gɔ:rəmbəri].
- GOT — *Gotham* (Notts.), perhaps the scene of the exploits of the 'Three Wise Men of Gotham' in the nursery rhyme, is ['gəʊtəm], but I have heard the rhyme repeated with the spelling pronunciation ['gʊθəm].
- GOUD — *Goudhurst* (Kent) ['gəʊdhɜ:st].
- GOUL — *Goulceby* (Lincs.) ['gəʊlsbɪ].
- GOVE — *Goveton* (Dev.) ['gʌvɪtən].
- GRAF — *Grafham* (Cambs.) is given by BBC as ['grɑ:fəm] while *Grafham* (Sur.) is ['græfəm]. There is no evidence on the va-

- rious *Graftons* (Ches., Here., N. Yorks., Northants., Oxon., Shrops.) but I would expect ['grɑ:f-].
- GRANT — *Grantchester* (Cambs.) ['grɑ:ntʃɪstə, 'græntʃɪstə]. *Grantham* (Lincs.) ['grænθəm].
- GREA — *Greasby* (Mer.) ['gri:zbɪ]. *Greaseley* (Notts., not in *BBC*) ['gri:zlɪ].
- GREAT — *Greatham* (Cleve.) ['gri:təm] but *Greatham* (Hants., W. Sus.) ['gretəm].
Eckwall notes ['gretwəθ] for *Greatworth* (N'hants.).
Other places beginning with this element (e.g. *Greatford* (Lincs.)) have no special entry for pronunciation in *Eckwall* and are not in *BBC*, so are apparently pronounced with ['greit-].
- GREEN — *Greenwich* (Lond.) ['grɪnɪdʒ] or ['grɪnɪtʃ] or ['grɛnɪtʃ].
- GREY — Normally ['greɪ-] as in *Greystoke* (Cumb.) ['greɪstɒk] (note pronunciation of second element), but note *Greywell* (Hants.) ['greɪwel] but sometimes ['gru:əl].
- GROS — *Grosmont* (N. Yorks.) can be ['grəʊmənt] or ['grəʊsmənt].
Grosvenor in street-names in *London* and elsewhere is ['grəʊvənə].
- GRUNDIS — *Grundisburgh* (Suff.) ['grʌndzɒərə].
- GUILD — *Guildford* (Sur.) ['gɪlfəd].
- GUIS — *Guisborough* (Cleve.) ['gɪzbərə] but *Guiseley* (W. Yorks.) ['gaɪzlɪ] and *Guist* (Norf.) ['gaɪst].
- GUL — *Guldeford* (Kent) ['gɪlfəd]. *Gulval* (Corn.) ['gʌlvəl].
- HAIGH — As a simplex, this is ['heɪ] in *Haigh* (G. Man.) but ['heɪg] in *Haigh* (S. Yorks.). *Haighton* (Lancs.) is ['haɪtən].
- HAL — *Halford* (Shrops.) is ['hɔ:lɪfəd] but *Halford* (War.) is ['hælfəd] or ['hɑ:fəd].
Halford (Dev.) is not given in *BBC* nor is the pronunciation noted in *Eckwall*; the derivation suggests ['hælfəd].
Other places in ['hɔ:l-] are *Halsall* (Lancs.) ['hɔ:sl], *Halstock* (Dor.) ['hɔ:lstɒk] *Haltemprice* (part of *Hull*, Hum.; = *haute*

- emprise*) [ˈhɔɪltəmpraɪs]. [ˈhæɪl-] is used for *Halmore* (Glos.), *Halstead* (Ess.) and *Halsted* (Kent). *Lower Halstow* (Kent) is also with [ˈhæɪl-]. *Halwell* (Dev.) can be either [ˈhæɪlweɪ] or [ˈhɔɪlweɪ].
- Halwill* (Dev.) can be [ˈhæɪlwɪl] or [ˈhɔɪlwɪl]. *Halnaker* (W. Sus.) is [ˈhæɪnəkə]. The name means ‘Half-an-acre’. *Eckwall* gives *Halnaby* (N. Yorks.) as [ˈhɔɪnəbɪ]; this is not in *BBC*.
- HALL — Usually [ˈhæɪl-]: *Hallam* (Derby., S. Yorks.) [ˈhæɪləm], *Hallaton* (Leics.) [ˈhæɪlətən]. However, *Halling* (Kent) is [ˈhɔɪlɪŋ] and *Hallingbury* (Essex) is [ˈhɔɪlɪŋbəri] or [ˈhɔɪlɪŋbəri]. *Eckwall* (but not *BBC*) notes *Hallow* (Here.) as [ˈhɔləu].
- HAMP — Usually [ˈhæmp-] as in *Hampton Court* (Lond.) [ˈhæmptən ˈkɔ:t] and *Hampstead* (Lond.). *Hampden Park* (E. Sus.) is [ˈhæmdən].
- HAPPIS — *Happisburgh* (Norf.) [ˈheɪzbərə].
- HAR — *Harwich* (Ess.) [ˈhæɪɪdʒ] or [ˈhæɪɪtʃ]. *Eckwall* has *Harworth* (Notts.) as [ˈhæəθ].
- HARD — *Hardenhuish* (Wilts.) [ˈhɑːnɪʃ] ; otherwise places with HARD- all appear to be [ˈhɑːd-] *Harden* (W. Mid., W. Yorks. not in *BBC*), [hɑːdən], *Hardwick* (Cambs., Derby. and elsewhere) [ˈhɑːdɪk]. *Eckwall* notes *Hardwick* (Bucks.) as [ˈhɑːdɪk]. *Hardres* (Kent) [ˈhɑːdz].
- HARE — Usually [ˈhɛə-] as in *Harefield* (Herts.), but *Harewood House* (W. Yorks.) is [ˈhɑːwɒd], though *BBC* notes that the nearby village is usually [ˈhɛəwɒd] to the inhabitants.
- HARGH — *Hargham* (Norf.) [ˈhɑːfəm].
- HARRIET — *Harrietsham* (Kent) [ˈhæɪɪətʃəm] or [ˈhæɪɪfəm].
- HARTLE — Usually [ˈhɑːtl-] as in *Hartlebury* (Here.) [ˈhɑːtlbəri], but there is a well-known exception : *Hartlepool* (Cleve.) [ˈhɑːtlɪpuːl].
- HASLE — *Haslemere* (Sur.) [ˈheɪzlmɪə].
- HASLING — *Haslingfield* (Cambs.) [ˈheɪzɪŋfiəld], but *Haslingden* (Lancs.) [ˈhæzɪŋdən].

- HAUGH — There are several realisations of this element: [ˈhɔː-] in *Haugh* (Lincs.), *Haughley* (Suff.) and the various places called *Haughton* (Ches., G. Man., Notts, Shrops. (4 places), Staffs.), also *Haughton Common* (N'hum.) and *Haughton-le-Skerne* (Dur.) [ˈhɔːtən lə ˈskɜːn].
[ˈhɔːf] in *Upper and Nether Haugh* (S. Yorks.).
[ˈhʌf-] in *Haugham* (Kent) [ˈhʌfəm].
[ˈhæf-] in *Haugham* (lincs.) [ˈhæfəm].
Haughmond Hill (Shrops.) can be [ˈhɔːmænd] or [ˈheɪmænd].
- HAULGH *Haulgh* (Lancs.) [ˈhɒf].
- HAUT — *Great and Little Hautbois* (Ess.) [ˈhɔːbɔɪs].
- HAUX — *Hauxwell* (N. Yorks.) [ˈhɔːkswel].
- HAYER — [ˈhæv-] in *Haverigg* (Cumb.) [ˈhævərɪɡ] and *Haverthwaite* (Cumb., not in *BBC*) [ˈhævəθweɪt].
[ˈheɪv-] in *Haverhill* (Suff.) [ˈheɪvrɪl], *Havering-atte-Bower* (Ess.) [ˈheɪvrɪŋ ætɪˈbɔʊə] and *Haveringland* (Norf.) [ˈheɪvrɪŋlənd].
- HAW — Normally [ˈhɔː-] as in *Hawkinge* (Kent) [ˈhɔːkɪndʒ] and *Hawthorn* (Wilts., not in *BBC*). However, *Haworth* (W. Yorks.) is [ˈhɔʊəθ] or [ˈhɔːəθ]. *Hawridge* (Bucks.) is [ˈhæɪrɪdʒ] according to *BBC*., though *Eckwall* gives [ˈhɔːrɪdʒ].
- HE — *Hedon* (Hum.) [ˈhedən].
- HEA — [ˈheɪ-] in *Heamoor* (Corn.). [ˈhiː-] in *Healaugh* (N, Yorks., 2 places) [ˈhiːlə], *Heage* (Derby.) [ˈhiːdʒ] *Heather* (Leics.) [ˈhiːðə] and *Heathfield* (E. Sus.) [ˈhiːθfiəld] *EPNS* (VII) gives this last as [ˈhefl], a form probably now confined to aged local residents.
Heacham (Norf.) is [ˈhetʃəm], also [ˈhiːtʃəm]; *Headingley* (W. Yorks.) and *Headington* (Oxon.) also use [ˈhed-].
- HEDGE — *Eckwall* gives *Hedgeley* (N'hum.) as [ˈhɪdʒlɪ].
- HEDING — *Eckwall* gives *Castle and Sible Hedingham* (Ess.) as [ˈhɪnɪŋgəm] but *BBC* has [ˈhedɪŋəm]. The spelling pronunciation is probably universal by now. *Eckwall's* indication of a

termination in [-gəm] rather than [-əm] seems unusual for a locality so far south.

- HEDNES — *Hednesford* (Staffs.) is ['hɛnzfəd, 'hedʒfəd] in *BBC*. Rather surprisingly, *Eckwall* makes no comment on the pronunciation.
- HEIGH — *Heigham Sound* (Norf.) is presumably the *Heigham* given as ['heɪəm] in *BBC*, but the neighbouring *Potter Heigham* is given as ['heɪəm], ['haɪəm] or ['hæm]. I have heard the last myself. *Heighington* (Lincs.) is [heɪ'ɪŋtən] in *BBC*. *Eckwall* suggests ['heɪŋtən] while *Heighington* (Dur.) is ['haɪŋtən] in both; *BBC* adds ['heɪŋtən] and ['haɪntən] as alternative forms.
- Heighton Street* (E. Sus.) is ['heɪtən] in *Eckwall*.
- HELE The simplex *Hele* (Dev.) is ['hi:ə]. Although *Johnston* marks only one place of this name, the *Geographia Road Atlas* has seven in Dev., and one each in Corn. and Som.
- HELM — *Helmsley* (N.Yorks.) is ['hɛlmzli] or ['hɛmzli] in *BBC*. *Eckwall* gives only the second of these.
- HEP — *Hepburn* (N'hum.) ['hɛbɜ:n]. *Heptonstall* (W. Yorks. not in *BBC*) is now ['hɛptənstɔ:l], but the existence of the related form *Heppenstall* as a family name may indicate a former way of pronouncing the place-name.
- HERE — *Hereford* (Here.) ['herəfəd]. In Shakespeare's time it may have been ['hɜ:fəd]; see *The Penguin Shakespeare*, notes to *Richard II*, 'Actors' Names.'
- HERG — *Hergest* (Here.) ['hɑ:gɪst].
- HERT — *Hertford* (Herts.) ['hɑ:fəd] but *Hertingfordbury* (Herts.) ['hɑ:ɪŋfədberɪ].
- HESS — *Hessle* (Hum.), a suburb of *Hull*, is ['hezl] in *BBC*.
- HETH — *Hethel* (Norf.) ['hi:əl] or ['heəl] This is in *Eckwall*, not *BBC*.
- HEUGH ['hju:f] in the simplex *Heugh* (N'hum.).
- HEV — *Hever* (Kent) ['hi:və].
- HEY — Usually ['heɪ-] as in *Heyford* (N'hants., Oxon.) and *Heydon*

- (Cambs., Norf.) but ['hi:-] in *Heysham* (Lancs.) and *Heythrop* (Oxon.) ['hi:θrəp]. Note also *Heyrod* (G. Man.) ['herəd], whereas *Heywood* (G. Man.), not far off, is ['heɪwʊd].
- HIGH — *Higham* (Kent) is ['haɪəm] but the locality of the same name in S. Yorks. is sometimes ['hɪkəm] according to *BBC*, while *Higham* (Suff.) is sometimes ['hɪgəm]. In all cases the written form appears to be leading to the realisation ['haɪ-].
- HIND — ['hɪnd-] in *Hinderclay* (Suff.) ['hɪndəkleɪ], *Hinderwell* (N. Yorks.) and *Hindlip* (Here.), but ['haɪnd-] in *Hindhead* (Sur.: not in *BBC*).
Hindolveston (Norf.), sometimes spelt *Hindolvestone*, can be either ['hɪndl,vestən] or ['hɪlvɪstən].
- HOATH — *East* and *West Hoathly* (E. Sus.) are [həʊθ'laɪ].
- HOGH — *Hoghton* (Lancs.) ['hɔ:tən].
- HOL — ['hɒl-] in *Holbeach* (Lincs.) ['hɒlbɪ:tʃ], *Holcombe* (Dev.) (but see below), *Holkham* (Norf.) ['hɒlkəm], *Holton Heath* (Dor.), *Holybourne* (Hants.) ['hɒlibɔ:n], *Holyport* (Berks.), *Holwell* (Dev., Dor., Herts., Leics., Oxon.) and certain places called *Holywell*. *BBC* lists these as being in Oxon. and Som., also *Holywell Row* (Suff.), but the map shows no *Holywell* in Oxon. (though there is a *Holywell Street* in the City of Oxford). *Eckwall* adds the information that *Holywell* is pronounced with ['hɒl-] in Cambs., Kent and N'hum., but is ['həʊl-] in the case of *Holywell* (Lincs.). There is no evidence I can find about the pronunciation of *Holywell* in Corn., Dor., Here., N'hum., Tyne, War. and W. Yorks. They may be ['həʊlɪwel]. ['həʊl-] is the realisation of HOL- in *Holbeton* (Dev.) ['həʊlbɪtən], *Holderness* (Hum.) ['həʊldənes], *Holsworthy* (Dev.) ['həʊlzwəði] and *Holton-cum-Beckerling* (Lincs.).
- ['həʊ-] (no [-l-]) is the pronunciation in *Holcombe Burnell* (Dev.) and *Holcombe Rogus* (Som.), *Holmbury St Mary* (Sur.), *Holme-next-the Sea* (Norf.), *Holme Moss Television*

Station (W. Yorks.), *Holmer Green* (Bucks.), *Holmfirth* (W. Yorks.), *Holmpton* (Hum.) [ˈhəʊmtən], and *Hollesley* (Suff.) [ˈhəʊzli]. *Holborn* [Lond.] can be [ˈhəʊbən] or [ˈhəʊlbən], as *BBC* points out. *BBC* gives *Holne* (Dor.) as [ˈhəʊn], but *Eckwall* has [ˈhəʊl].

Holker (Cumb.) is [ˈhʊkə], and *Holnicote* (Som.) is [ˈhʌnɪkət].

HOM — [ˈhəʊm-] in *Homer Green* (Mer.) and in *Homerton* (Lond.) and *Homington* (Wilts.) (neither of the last two in *BBC*). *Homersfield* (Suff.) is [ˈhʊmæzfiəld] or [ˈhʌmæzfiəld] in *BBC*; *Eckwall* only gives the second of these.

HON — As with elements beginning with COMP—, CON— etc. (see above in List B) there is some hesitation between [ˈhɒn-] and [ˈhʌn-]. The first is used for *Honley* (W. Yorks.) and *Honister* (Cum., not in *BBC*) and also for *Honiley* (War.) [ˈhɒnɪli]. The second is found in *Honingham* (Norf.) [ˈhʌnɪŋəm] and the various places incorporating the word ‘honey’, such as *Honeychurch* and *Honeycroft* (both Dev., not in *BBC*). *Honiton* (Dev.) and *Honington* (Suff.) can use either form. *Honing* (Norf.) is [ˈhəʊnɪŋ].

HOR — [ˈhɔː-] in *Horsmonden* (Kent) [ˌhɔːsmənˈden] and *Horsey* (Norf., Som.) [ˈhɔːsi] but note *Horwich* (G. Man.) [ˈhɔːrɪtʃ]. *Eckwall* gives [ˈhɔːrɪdʒ].

HOTH — [ˈhɒθ-] in *Hothead* (Kent) but [ˈhʌð-] in *Hotham* (Hum.) [ˈhʌðəm].

HOUGH — A simplex or first element with several possible or alternative pronunciations:

[ˈhʌf] as a simplex: *Hough* (Ches.) and *Hough-on-the-Hill* (Lincs.)

BBC also lists [ˈhʌf-] for *Hougham* (Lincs.) [ˈhʌfəm].

[ˈhɒf] as an alternative for *Hough-on-the-Hill* and in *Houghall* (Dur.) [ˈhɒfl].

[ˈhəʊ-] for *Houghton* (Cambs.), *Great and Little Houghton*

- (N'hants.) *Houghton-le-Spring* (Tyne) and *Houghton-on-the-Hill* (Leics.).
 ['hɑv-] for *Glass Houghton* (W. Yorks.) ['glɑ:s 'hɑvətən] and *Houghton-le-Side* (Dur.).
 BBC lists either ['hɑv-] or ['həv-] for *Houghton* (Norf.) and *Houghton* (Hants.) but gives the former realisation as more common in the first case, and the latter in the second.
 ['hɔ:-] for *Great* and *Little Houghton* (S. Yorks.), also for *Houghton* (Lancs.), which may also be ['hɑvətən].
- HOV — *Hove* (E. Sus.) is ['həv]. ['hɒv-] is used for *Hovingham* (N. Yorks.) ['hɒvɪŋəm] and *Hoveringham* (Notts.) ['hɒvərɪŋəm]. *Hoveton* (Norf.) is ['hɒftən, 'hɑftən] or ['hɒvɪtən].
- HOW — Usually ['hɑv-] as in *Howden* (Hum.), but *Howick* (N'hum.) is ['həvɪk].
Howsham (N. Yorks.) is ['hɑvʃəm, 'hɑvʒəm] or ['hɑvzəm].
Howley (Som.) is ['həʊlɪ].
- HULME A simplex; ['hju:m] in both *Hulme* (G. Man.) and *Hulme* (Staffs.); the latter may also be ['hu:m].
- HUN — *Hunstanton* [Norf.] may be ['hʌnstən] or [hʌn'stæntən].
- HUTH — There are two places called *Huthwaite*: BBC gives ['hʌθweɪt] or ['hju:θweɪt] without specifying whether the Notts. or N. Yorks. one is intended, or both. *Eckwall* specifies ['hʌθweɪt] for the first.
- HUY — *Huyton* (Mer.) ['haɪtən].
- I — ['aɪ-] in *Idle* (W. Yorks.) ['aɪdl], *Iden* (E. Sus.) ['aɪdən], *Iken* (Suff.) ['aɪkən] *Ilam* (Staffs.) ['aɪləm] and *Isham* (N'hants.) ['aɪʃəm], but ['ɪ-] in *Icomb* (Glos.) ['ɪkəm].
- ID — *Idless* (Corn.) is ['ɪdləs]. *Ideford* (Dev.) is ['ɪdfəd]. *Ildridge-hay* (Derby.) can be ['ɪdrɪdʒheɪ] or ['ɪdɪseɪ].
- IGH — *Ightham* (Kent) ['aɪtəm].
- IS — ['ɪs-] in *Isfield* (E. Sus.), but ('ɪz-] in *Isington* (Hants.) ['ɪzɪŋtən] and ['aɪz-] in *Isleworth* (Lond.) ['aɪzlwɜ:θ].
- JER — BBC notes that *Jervaulx Abbey* (N. Yorks.) is now pro-

nounced [ˈdʒɜːvəʊ] but that some local speakers still use [ˈdʒɑːvɪs].

- KEAR — [ˈkɜːz-] in *Kearsley* (G. Man.) and *Kearsney* (Kent) [ˈkɜːzɪ].
- KED — *Kedington* (Suff.) is, according to *BBC*, sometimes spelt *Ketton* and always pronounced [ˈketən] by older residents. The spelling pronunciation [ˈkediŋtən] is also found. *Kedleston* (Derby.) is [ˈkedlɪstən].
- KEIGH — *Keighley* (W. Yorks.) [ˈkiːθli].
- KEIS — *Keisby* (Lincs.) is [ˈkeɪzbɪ] or [ˈkeɪsbɪ].
- KELM — *Kelmescot* (Oxon.) [ˈkɛmskət]. *Eckwall* spells it *Kelmescott*.
- KEMP — *Kempsey* (Here.) is [ˈkɛmsɪ] or [ˈkɛmzɪ], with no [p]. *Kempton Park*, the racecourse near London (not in *BBC*) is [ˈkɛmptən].
- KENID — *Kenidjack* (Corn.) is [kəˈnɪdʒæk].
- KERE — *Keresley* (W. Mid.) [ˈkɑːzli].
- KES — *Kesgrave* (Suff.) [ˈkɛzgrɛɪv]. *Kesteven*, the now obsolete administrative division of Lincs. is [ˈkestɪvən]. *Keswick* (Cumb., Norf.) are both [ˈkezɪk].
- KEY — *Keyingham* (Hum.) can be [ˈkeɪɪŋəm, ˈkenɪnhəm] or [ˈkeɪɪŋhəm]. *Keymer* (W. Sus.) is [ˈkiːmə] or [ˈkaɪmə]. *Keysoe* (Beds.) is [ˈkiːsəʊ] (*Eckwall* has [ˈkeɪsəʊ]). *Keynsham* (Avon) [ˈkeɪɪŋfəm]. *Keyston* (Cams.) is not given in *BBC*, but in *Eckwall* as [ˈkestən].
- KIN — *Kinwarton* (War.) is [ˈkɪnətən] or [ˈkɪnwətən] in *BBC*, but *Eckwall* has only the former.
- KIRK — There are many localities named *Kirkby*, often in conjunction with personal names; these will be dealt with in List C. Of the plain instances of *Kirkby*, that in Mer. is given by *Eckwall* as [ˈkɜːbɪ] and is probably the one intended by *BBC*. For *Kirkby* (N. Yorks.) *EPNS* gives no help on pronunciation. For *Kirkby* (Lincs.) and *Kirkby-on-Bain* (same county) I can

- not at present find any evidence. *Kirkby Moorside* and *Kirkby Malham* (both N. Yorks.) are both ['kɜ:bɪ] according to *BBC*. *Kirkby-in-Ashfield* (Notts.) is ['kɜ:kɪ]. *Kirkby Thore* (Cum.) is ['kɜ:bɪ] in *BBC*.
- Kirkby-in-Furness* (same county) is not in *BBC*; again, *EPNS* is no help. See also List C for further localities called *Kirkby*.
- KIVE — *Kiveton* (S. Yorks.) is ['kɪvɪtən].
- KNAI — *Knaith* (Lincs.) is ['neɪð, 'neɪθ].
- KNARES — *Knaresborough* (N. Yorks.) ['neəzbərə].
- KNIGHT — The various places called *Knighton* in Leics., War., Wilts., etc., all appear to be ['naɪtən], but *BBC* curiously lists *Knighton* (Hants.) as [kɪ'naɪtən].
- KNIVE — *Kniveton* (Derby.) is ['naɪvtən] or ['nɪftən].
- KNOWES — *Knowesgate* (N'hum.) is ['nəʊzgeɪt].
- KNOW — *Eckwall* lists *Knowstone* (Dev., not in *BBC*) as ['nəʊstəʊn]. *BBC* gives *Knowle* as ['nəʊl]; there are places of this name in Avon, Dor., Shrops., Som. and W. Mid.
- KNYP — *Knypersley* (Staffs.) is ['naɪpɜzlɪ].
- KY — *Kynance* (Corn.) ['kaɪnəns].
- KYRE — *Kyre* (Here.) is not in *BBC*, but *Eckwall* says it is pronounced ['kɪə].
- LAC — ['leɪk-] in *Lacock* (Wilts.) but *Lackenby* (Cleve.) is ['lækənbɪ].
- LAIRA *Laira* (Dev., in *Plymouth*) is ['leərə].
- LAD — *Lakenheath* (Suff.) ['leɪkənhi:θ].
- LA — *Lamarsh* (Ess.) is [lɑ: mɑ:f] or ['læməf]. *Lamas* (Norf.) is ['læməs].
- LAM — *Lamesley* (Tyne) is ['leɪmzɪlɪ].
- LAN — Usually [læn-] as in *Lancaster* (Lancs.) and Cornish names like *Landewednack* [ˌlændɪ'wednæk] and *Lanteglos* [ˌlæn'te(ɪ)gɫɒs]. *Lancing* (W. Sus.), however, is [ˌlɑ:nsɪŋ].
- LAS — *Lasham* (Hants.) is ['læsəm] to people in the village and ['læʃəm] to users of the Gliding Centre, according to *BBC*.

See the list at the beginning of this article.

- LATH — *Lathbury* (Bucks.) is [ˈlæθbəri] but *Lathom* (Lancs.) is [ˈleɪðəm].
- LAU — *Laughern* (Here.) is [ˈlɔːn]. [ˈlɔː-] is also found in *Laughton* (Leics., Lincs., E. Sus., S. Yorks.) [ˈlɔːtən].
Launcells (Corn.) is [ˈlɑːnsəlz] or [ˈlænsəlz] and *Launceston* (same county) is [ˈlɑːnsən, ˈlɑːnstən] or [ˈlɔːnsən].
- LAV — [ˈlæv-] in *Lavenham* (Suff.), *Laverstock* (Wilts.) and *Laverstock* (Hants.).
BBC gives the *River Laver* (N. Yorks.) as [ˈlɑːvə]; *EPNS* (XII) gives *Laver* (Ess.) as [ˈleɪvə], but *Eckwall* has [ˈlɑːvə].
- LAW — [ˈlɔː-] in *Lawshall* (Suff.) [ˈlɔːʃl] and *Lawhitton* (Corn) [ˈlɔːwɪtən], also [ˈlɑːwɪtən].
- LAZ — [ˈleɪz-] in *Lazonby* (Cum.) [ˈleɪzənbi].
- LEAD — [ˈled-] in *Leadenham* (Suff.) [ˈledənəm] and *Leadenhall Street* (Lond.) [ˈledənhɔːl].
- LEAM — [ˈlem-] in *Leamington* (War.) [ˈlemɪŋtən].
- LEAS — [ˈliːz-] in *Leasingthorne* (Dur.) but [ˈliːs-] in *Leasowe* (Ches.) [ˈliːsəʊ].
- LEAV — [ˈliːv-] in *Leavening* (N. Yorks.) [ˈliːvɪŋ].
- LEGH *Legh Manor* (W. Sus., not in *BBC*) is [ˈliː].
- LEIC — *Leicester* (Leics.) [ˈlestə].
- LEIGH (S) [ˈliː] in *Leigh* (G. Man.) *Leigh-on-Sea* (Ess.) and *Leigh Green* (Kent).
[ˈlaɪ] in *Leigh* (Sur., Kent., Dor.) and *Leigh Court* (Dev.)
Leigh-on-Mendip (Som.) can be either.
Great and Little Leighs (Ess.) are [ˈleɪz].
Cases of *Leigh* added to personal names will be discussed in List C.
- LEINT — *Leintwardine* (Here.) is [ˈlentwədaɪn, ˈlentwədiːn] or [ˈlæntədiːn].
- LEIS — *Leiston* (Suff.) [ˈleɪstən].
- LEITH *Leith Hill* (Sur.) [ˈliːθ].

- LEL — *Lelant* (Corn.) is [lə'lənt].
- LEO — *Leominster* (Here.) ['lemstə].
- LES — This Cornish first element (from Cornish *lis* 'a palace') is pronounced with the weak vowel [ə] in *Lescudjack* [ləs'kʌdʒæk] and similarly in *Leskernick* [ləs'kɜ:nɪk] and *Lestowder* [lə'stʌudə] (neither in *BBC*) but with [e] and voiced -S in *Lesnewth* [lez'nju:θ].
- LEV — *Leven* (Hum.) is ['li:vən] but *Levens* (Cum.) is ['levənz]. *Levenshulme* (G. Man.) is ['levənzɦju:m]. *North* and *South Leverton* (Notts.) are both ['levətən].
- LEW — *Lew Down* or *Lewdown* (Dev.) ['lu:'daʊn] but *Lewannick* (Corn.) [lə'wɒnɪk] and *Lewarne* (same county) [lə'wɔ:n]. *Lewell* (Dor., not in *BBC*) is ['lu:əl]. *Lewes* (E. Sus.) ['lu:wɪs].
- LEY — *Leycett* (Staffs.) ['lɪsɪt, 'ləɪsɪt]. ['leɪ-] is used for *Leybourne* (Kent) ['leɪbɔ:n], *Leyburn* (N. Yorks.), *Leyland* (Lancs.) ['leɪlənd], and *Leydown* (Kent). *Leyhill* (Bucks.) is ['leɪhɪl] but *Leyhill* (Derby.) is ['li:hɪl]. *Leytonstone* (Lond.) is ['leɪtənstəʊn].
- LEZ — *Lezant* (Corn) [lə'zænt]. *Leziate* (Norf.) is ['ledʒet] in *Eckwall* but *BBC* shows ['lezɪət] as the more common pronunciation, another instance of spelling overcoming the traditional usage.
- LILLE — *Lilleshall* (Shrops.) ['lɪlɪʃl].
- LIVER — *Liverpool* (Mer.) is ['lɪvəpu:l] but the pronunciation ['laɪvə] is used for the *Royal Liver Building* in the city, named after the mythological Liver Bird associated with the city's origins.
- LLAN — This is of course a Welsh element (= 'enclosure, especially for a church') but it is not uncommon on the English side of the border in the so-called 'Marcher Country' of Hereford, Shropshire, Worcester and Gloucester. *BBC* gives *Llanwarne* (Here.) as [læn'wɔ:n] and *Llanymblodwel* (Shrops.) as [lænə'blɒdwel]. *Llanthony* (the Abbey in Glos. as well as

the town in Gwent) is given as [ʔæn'təʊnɪ]. English people, even educated ones, who are not familiar with the Welsh language will tend to pronounce these places with [l-] or with [əl-], an approximation to the Welsh [ʔ-] within the terms of the English phonemic system.

- LON — *London* ['lʌndən].
- LONG — *Longhoughton* (N'hum.) [lɒŋ'hautən, lɒŋ'həʊtən]. *Longsled-dale* (Cum.) [lɒŋ'slɪdl].
- LOOS — ['lu:s-] in *Loose* (Kent) and *Loosley Row* (Bucks.).
- LOSE — *Loseley Park* (Sur.) is ['ləʊzli].
- LOS — *Lostwithiel* (Corn.) [lɒst'wɪθiəl].
- LOTH — *Lothbury* (Lond.) is either ['ləʊθbəri] or ['lɒθbəri].
- LOUGH — ['lʌf-] in *Loughborough* (Leics.) ['lʌfbərə] and *Loughrigg* (Cum.) ['lʌfrɪg]. ['lʌv-] in *Loughton* (Bucks., Ess.).
- LOUTH — *Louth* (Lincs.) ['lʌʊθ].
- LOW — *Lowick* (Cum., N'hants.); ['ləʊɪk] for the latter *Eckwall* also has ['lʌfɪk]. *Lowick* (N'hum.) is also ['ləʊɪk], but there is an alternative form ['lʌɪk]. *Lowton* (Dev.) is ['ləʊtən].
- LOWD — *Lowdham* (Notts.) ['ləʊdəm].
- LOWES — ['ləʊs-] in *Lowestoft* (Suff.) ['ləʊstɒft, 'ləʊstəf(t)] but ['ləʊz-] in *Loweswater* (Cum.) ['ləʊzɔ:tə] and *Lowesby* (Leics.) ['ləʊzbi].
- LOWTH — *Lowther* (Cum.) ['ləʊðə].
- LUB — ['lʌb-] in *Lubham* (Leice.) ['lʌbənəm].
- LUD — ['lʌd-] in *Ludlow* (Shrops.) ['lʌdləʊ]. *Ludgershall* (Bucks., Wilts.) is ['lʌdgəʃəl]; *BBC* and *Eckwall* also give ['lʌgəʃəl] for the Wilts. one and *Eckwall* has ['lɜ:gəʃəl] for Bucks.
- LUT — *Luton* (Beds.) ['lu:tən].
- LYM — ['laɪm] in *Lyme Regis* (Dev.) ['laɪm 'ri:dʒɪs].
 ['lɪm-] in *Lyminge* (Kent) ['lɪmɪndʒ], though ['laɪmɪndʒ] is also given in *BBC*. ['lɪm] is also used for *Lympne* (Kent). *Eckwall* has ['lɪmstə] for *Lyminster* (W. Sus.), but *BBC* gives ['lɪmɪnstə]. *Lympstone* (Dev.) is ['lɪmpstən].

- LYTH — ['lɪð-] in *Lytham St Annes* (Lancs.) ['lɪðəm] but ['laɪð] in the simplex *Lythe* (N. Yorks. not in *BBC*). *Lyth* (Cum.) is ['laɪθ] in *BBC*; *Eckwall* also gives ['li:θ].
- LYVE — *Lyveden* (N'hants.) is ['lɪvdən].
- MABLE — *Mablethorpe* (Lincs., not in *BBC*) ['meɪb|θɔ:p].
- MACCLES — *Macclesfield* (Ches.) ['mæk|lzfɪəld].
- MADE — *Madeley* (Shrops. Staffs.) ['meɪdlɪ], but *Eckwall* has ['mædhɜ:st] for *Madehurst* (W. Sus.).
- MADRES — *Madresfield* (Here.) ['mædɜ:zfɪəld].
- MAG — ['mæg-] in *Magdalen Laver* (Ess., not in *BBC*) ['mægdələn 'leɪvə], but ['mɔ:-] in *Magdalen College* (Oxford) and *Magdalene College* (Cambridge) both ['mɔ:dlɪn]. *Maghull* (Mer.) [mə'gʌl].
- MAISE — *Maisemore* (Glos.) ['meɪzmɔ:].
- MAL — ['mɔ:l-] in *Malborough* (Dev.) ['mɔ:lbərə], also in *Maldon* (Ess.) and *New Malden* (Sur.): so also *Malton* (N. Yorks.) *Malvern* (Here.) can be ['mɔ:lvən] or ['mɔ:vən]. *Malpas* (Ches.) is ['mɔ:lpəs, 'mælpəs] or ['mɔ:pəs]. *Malpas* (Corn.) is ['məpəs].
- MALL — *The Mall*, the drive leading to Buckingham Palace in *London*, is [ðə 'mæl].
- MALME — *Malmesbury* (Wilts.) ['mɑ:mzbəri].
- MAN — *Manchester* ['mæntʃɪstə, 'mæntʃestə] *Manaton* (Dev.) ['mænətən], *Manuden* (Ess.) ['mænjudən]. *Manea* (Corn.) ['meɪni].
- MAPLE — Usually [meɪpl-] as in *Mapledurham* (Oxon., not in *BBC*) [meɪpl'dʌrəm] and *Mapledurwell* (Hants.) [meɪpl'dɜ:wel]. However, *Mapleton* (Derby., Kent) can be ['meɪpltən] or ['mæpltən] according to *BBC*.
- MAR — Usually [mɑ:-] *Margate* (Kent) ['mɑ:geɪt], *Margaretting* (Ess.) [mɑ:gə'retɪŋ]. *Marazion* (Corn.) is [mæɪə'zəɪən]. *Marham* (Norf.) is listed in *BBC* as ['mæɪəm] in local parlance and ['mɑ:rəm] to per-

- sonnel of the local RAF station. *Marholm* (Cambs.) is [ˈmæɾəm].
- MARL — *Marlborough* (Wills.) [ˈmɑ:l(b(ə)rə].
- MARY — [ˈmɛəri-] for *Marystow* (Dev.) [ˈmɛəriˌstəʊ] and *Mary Tavy* (Dev.) [ˈmɛəri ˈteɪvɪ] but *Marylebone* (Lond.) is [ˈmæɾələbən, ˈmæriˌbən] or [ˈmɑ:lɪbən].
- MAS — [ˈmæz-] in *Masbrough* (S. Yorks.) but [ˈmæs-] in *Masham* (N. Yorks.) [ˈmæsəm], though *BBC* notes [ˈmæʃəm] as an alternative pronunciation.
- MATH — [ˈmeɪð-] in *Mathon* (Here., not in *BBC*) [ˈmeɪðən].
- MAUG — *Maugersbury* (Glos.) [ˈmɑ:zbəri].
- MAUGH — *Maughenby* (Cum.), so spelt in *BBC* but *Maughonby* in *Eckwall*, is [ˈmæfənbi].
- MAUT — *Mautby* (Norf.) [ˈmɑ:bi].
- MEA — *Measham* (Leics., not in *BBC*) [ˈmeɪʃəm] (in *EPNS*).
Meaford (Staffs.) [ˈmeɪfəd]; *Meathop* (Cum.) [ˈmi:θəp] and *Meavy* (Dev.) [ˈmi:vɪ]. *Meaux* (N. Yorks.) [ˈmju:z].
- MEDMEN — *Medmenham* (Bucks.) [ˈmednəm].
- MELMER — *Melmerby* (Cumb., N. Yorks.) [ˈmelməbi] or [ˈmeləbi].
 Once more, the spelling pronunciation seems to be gaining, as *Eckwall* (1936) only shows the second form.
- MEOL — [mel-] in *Meols* (Ches.) [ˈmelz], but [ˈmi:l-] in *Meols* (Lancs.) and *Meole Brace* (Shrops.) [ˈmi:lˈbreɪs].
- MEON — *East and West Meon* (Hants.) are [ˈmiən].
- MEOP — *Meopham* (Kent) [ˈmeɒəm].
- MERE — [ˈmɪə-] in *Mere* (Wilts. and Ches.) also *Meretown* (Staffs., not in *BBC*) and *Meresborough* (Kent, not in *BBC*) [ˈmɪəzbərə]. However, [ˈmɛri-] is found in *Merevale* (War.) [ˈmɛriˌveɪl] and *Mereworth* (Kent) [ˈmɛriwəθ].
- MERS — *Merstham* (Sur.) [ˈmɜ:stəm], and *Mersham* (Kent) [ˈmɜ:ʃəm]. *Eckwall* gives *Mersea* (Ess.) as [ˈmɑ:zi], but *BBC* has [ˈmɜ:zi]. The former pronunciation is probably now obsolete.

- MESNE *Cliffords Mesne* (Glos.) ['klɪfədz'mi:n.].
- MEVA — *Mevagissey* (Corn.) [ˌmevə'gɪsɪ] [ˌmevə'gɪzi].
- MICHEL — *Micheldever* (Hants.) ['mitʃɪdevə].
- MILDEN — *Mildenhall* (Suff.) is ['mɪldənho:l] but *Mildenhall* (Wilts.) can be either pronounced in the same way, or spelt *Minal* and pronounced ['maɪnɔ:l], according to *BBC*. *Eckwall* just gives the full spelling and the pronunciation ['maɪnɔ:l] for the Wilts. locality.
- MINE — *Minety* (Wilts.) ['maɪntɪ].
- MININGS — *Miningsby* (Lincs.) ['mɪnɪŋzbɪ].
- MISER — *Miserden* (Glos.) ['mɪzədən].
- MOGGER — *Moggerhanger* (Beds.) is ['mɔ:hæŋə] in *Eckwall*; *BBC* spells it *Muggerhanger* and gives the pronunciation ['mʊəhæŋə].
- MOL — *Molash* (Kent) ['mɒʃlæʃ]; *Molesey* (Sur.) ['məʊlɪ].
- MONGE — *Mongeham* (Kent) and *Mongewell* (Oxon.) are ['mʌŋdʒ-] in *BBC*. *Eckwall* has the same pronunciation for the first of these; the other is given as ['mʌŋdʒəl].
- MONK — ['mʌŋk-] in *Monkton* (Dev.), *Monkwearmouth* (Tyne) etc.
- MONN — The *River Monnow* ['mʌnəʊ] is in Here., though *Monmouth* is in Gwent, and therefore in Wales.
- MONY — *Monyash* (Derby.) ['mʌnɪæʃ]. *Monylaws* (N'hum., not in *BBC*) ['mʌnɪlɔ:z].
- MORE — ['mɔ:-] in *Morebath* and *Moreleigh* (Dev.) and the numerous *Moretons* (Dev., Dor., Ess., Staffs., etc.). However, ['mɔrɪ-] in *Moresby* (Cumb.) ['mɔrɪsbɪ].
- MOR — *Morwick* (N'hum., not in *BBC*) is ['mɔrɪk] in *Eckwall*. Otherwise as in *Morpeth* (N'hum.) ['mɔ:pəθ], also *Morvah* ['mɔ:və] and *Morval* ['mɔ:vəl], both Corn. (the latter not in *BBC*). *Morwenstow* (same county) is ['mɔ:wɪnstəʊ].
- MOTHE — *Mothecombe* (Dev.) ['mʌðɪkəm].
- MOUL — ['məʊl-] in *Moulsecoomb* (W. Sus.) ['məʊlzkəm], *Moulsford* (Oxon.) ['məʊlzfəd] *Moulsham* (Ess.) ['məʊlʃəm] and *Moul-*

- soe (Bucks.) ['mʌlsəu], according to *BBC*. *Eckwall* gives [ˈmʊlʃəm] and ['mʌlsəu] for the last two.
- MOUS — *Mousehold Heath* (Norf.) ['maʊʃhəʊld] but *Mousehole* (Corn.) ['maʊzl].
- MOW — ['maʊ-] in *Mow Cop* (Staffs.) and *Mowsley* (Leics.). The latter can also be ['məʊzl].
- MUDE — *Mudford* (Dor.) ['mʌdɪfəd].
- MUNDES — *Mundesley* (Norf.) ['mʌnzli].
- MUNGRIS — *Mungrisdale* (Cumb.) [ˌmʌnˈɡraɪzdeɪl].
- MUS — *BBC* gives *Muston* as ['mʌs(t)ən] without specifying whether the locality in Leics. or that in N. Yorks., or both, is intended.
- MYTH — ['mɪθ-] in *Mythop* (Lancs.) ['mɪθəp] but ['maɪð-] in *Mythom* and *Mytholmroyd* (W. Yorks.) ['maɪðəmrɔɪd].
- NA — *Naburn* (N. Yorks., not in *BBC*) is ['neɪbɜ:n].
- NANCE — *Nancegollan* (Corn.) [ˌnænsɪ'gɒləŋ] but *Nancekuke* (same county) [ˌnæns'kju:k].
- NANJI — *Nanjizal Bay* (Corn.) [ˌnæn'dʒɪzl].
- NAS — *Nasty* (Herts.) ['nɑ:stɪ]. *Naseby* (N'hants., not in *BBC*) ['neɪzbɪ].
- NAV — *Navenby* (Lincs.) ['neɪvənbɪ].
- NAW — *Naworth* (Cumb.) ['nɑʊəθ] or ['nɑ:wəθ].
- NEATIS — *Neatishead* (Norf.) is ['ni:tstɪd] to the villagers and ['ni:tɪʃɪd] to the personnel at the RAF Station, according to *BBC*.
Yet another incidence of the encroachment of a spelling pronunciation.
- NETTES — *Netteswell* (Ess.) ['netswel].
- NIT — *Niton* (IoW) ['naitən].
- NONE — *Nonely* (Shrops.) ['nʌnəli]. *Nonsuch* (Sur.) ['nʌnsʌtʃ] or [nɒnsʌtʃ].
- NOR — *Norham* (N'hum.) ['nɒrəm]. *Norwich* (Norf.) ['nɒrɪdʒ]. or ['nɒrɪtʃ].

- NORTH — Usually ['nɔ:θ-] as in *Northampton* (N'hants.) [nɔ:θæmptən]. However, the traditional pronunciation of *Northiam* (E. Sus.), given in *EPNS* (VII), is ['nɔ:dʒəm], though *BBC* gives the spelling pronunciation ['nɔ:θiəm], which is no doubt current today. *BBC* gives *Northleigh* (Dev., 2 localities) as ['nɔ:θli], but has ['nɔ:lɪ] as an alternative form for the place of that name near *Goodleigh*.
- NOW — *Nowton* (Suff.) ['nɔʊtən].
- NUN — *Nuneaton* (War.) [nʌn'i:tən]. *Nunwick* (N. Yorks.) ['nʌnɪk].
- NYMP — *Bishop's Nympton* (Dev.) ['bɪʃəps 'nɪmptən].
- O — ['əu-] in *Over* (Ches.) but ['u:-] in *Over* (Glos.) ['u:və].
Oby (Norf.) is ['əʊbɪ] and *Osea Island* (Ess.) ['əʊzɪ, 'əʊsɪ].
- OARE — *Oare* (Kent, not in *BBC*) ['ɔ:].
- OATH — *Oath* (Som.) ['əʊð].
- ODI — *Odiham* (Hants.) ['əʊdɪəm].
- OFF — ['ɒf-] in *Offwell* (Dev., not in *BBC*) ['ɒfwel] and *Offham* (Kent) but ['əʊf-] in *Offham* (W. Sus.) ['əʊfəm].
- OG — *Ogwell* (Dev.) ['əʊgwel] but *Ogston* (Derby., not in *BBC*) is ['ɒgstən].
- OL — *Olantigh Towers*, a country house in Kent, is ['ɒləntɪ 'təʊəz].
Olney (Bucks.) is ['əʊlnɪ] or ['əʊsnɪ]. Neither *BBC* nor *Eckwall* clarify the pronunciation of the place of the same name in N'hants.
Olveston (Avon) is ['əʊlvɪstən] or ['əʊlstən].
- ONE — *Onecote* (Staffs.) is ['ɒnkət] in *BBC* and *Eckwall*, but neither is enlightening about *Onehouse* (Suff.). The derivation (from OE *ana* = 'lonely') suggests a traditional pronunciation *['ɒnhʌʊs], but the spelling may by now have induced ['wʌnhʌʊs].
- OS — ['əʊz-] in *Osney* (Oxon.), ['ɒs-] in *Ospringe* (Kent) and ['ɒz-] in *Osmaston* (Derby.) ['ɒzməstən] and *Oswestry* (Shrops.) ['ɒzwestrɪ], also ['ɒzɪstrɪ].

- OT — *Otham* (Kent) ['θətəm]. *Othery* (Som.) ['əθðəri].
- OUGHT — *Oughtershaw* (N. Yorks.) and *Oughterside* (Cum.) take ['aʊt], but *Oughtibridge* (S. Yorks.) is ['u:tɪbrɪdʒ, 'aʊtɪbrɪdʒ] or ['ɔ:tɪbrɪdʒ] or ['əʊtɪbrɪdʒ] *Oughtrington* (Ches.) is ['u:trɪŋtən].
- OUL — ['aʊl-] in *Oulton* (Norf., Staffs., Suff., W. Yorks.).
- OUN — *Oundle* (N'hants.) ['aʊndl].
- OUS — The various rivers named *Ouse* in E. Sus., N'hants., N. Yorks. and elsewhere appear to be universally ['u:z], though the name is not listed in *BBC*. *Ousby* (Cumb.) is ['u:zbɪ]. *Ousden* (Suff., sometimes spelt *Owsden* according to *BBC*) is ['aʊzdən]. *Ouston* (Dur., 2 in N'hum.) ['aʊstən].
- OVEN — *Ovenden* (W. Yorks.) ['ɒvəndən].
- OVING — *BBC* gives both localities called *Oving* (Bucks., W. Sus.) as ['əʊvɪŋ], but the second of these was certainly ['u:vɪŋ] until recently; see *EPNS* (VI) ; *Eckwall* gives this pronunciation for both of them. *Ovingham* (N'hum.) is ['ɒvɪndʒəm]. *Ovington* (Norf.) is ['əʊvɪŋtən] but *Ovington* (Dur.) ['ɒvɪŋtən]. There is no indication for *Ovington* (Ess.). *Eckwall* has ['u:vɪŋdi:n] for *Ovingdean* (W. Sus.) but this is by now probably ['əʊvɪŋdi:n] as with *Oving*.
- OWER — *Owermoigne* (Dor.) ['əʊəməɔɪn], but *Owersby* (Lincs.) ['aʊəzbɪ].
- OWL — *Owlerton* (S. Yorks.) ['əʊlətən] and *Owler Bar* (Derby.) ['əʊlə'ba:].
- OWM — *Owmby* (Lincs.) ['əʊmbɪ].
- OWSLE — *Owslebury* (Hants.) is ['aʊslbəri] or ['ʌzlbəri] in *BBC*. *Eckwall* gives only the second of these.
- OZEN — *Ozengell Grange*, a country house in Kent, is ['əʊzəŋgəl].
- PAIGN — *Paignton* (Dev.) ['peɪntən].
- PAK — *Pakenham* (Suff.) ['pækənəm].
- PAL — *Palgrave* (Suff.) ['pælgreɪv].
- PALL — *Palling* (Norf.) ['pɔ:lɪŋ]. *Pallion* (Dur.) ['pæliən]. *Pall Mall*,

- the street in London, is now commonly [ˈpælˈmæɪ], but many people still use the traditional pronunciation [ˈpeɪˈmɛɪ].
- PAR — *Parham* (Suff., W. Sus.) is [ˈpærəm]; so is *Parham Park*, the great house at the latter place.
- PARKES — *Parkeston Quay* (Ess.) is [ˈpɑːkstən].
- PAS — *Eckwall* gives *Paston* as [ˈpɑːstən] for N'hum. and [ˈpɑːstən] for Norf., but *BBC* mentions neither.
- PAUL — [ˈpɑːl-] in *Paulerspury* (N'hants.) [ˈpɑːləzɹəri] and *Pauperhaugh* (N'hum.) [ˈpɑːpəhɑːf].
- PAV — *Pavenham* (Beds.) [ˈpeɪvənəm].
- PEL — *Pelaw* (Tyne) [ˈpiːlə] or [ˈpiːləː]. *Pelynt* (Corn.) [pəˈlɪnt] or [ˈplɪnt].
- PEO — *Peover* (Ches.) [ˈpiːvə]. *Peopleton* (Here., not in *BBC*) [ˈpiːplətən] (*Eckwall*).
- PEN — *Pendomer* (Som.) [penˈdɔʊmə]. *Penistone* (S. Yorks.) [ˈpenɪstən] *Penyghent* (N. Yorks.) [ˈpenɪɡent].
- PEP — *Peper Harrow* (Sur.) [ˈpepəˈhærəʊ].
- PERRAN — *Perranaworthal* (Corn.) [ˌpɛrənəˈwɜːðl]. *Perranuthoe* (Corn.) [ˌpɛrənˈjuːθnəʊ] or [ˌpɛrənˈlθnəʊ]. *Perranzabuloe* (Corn.) [ˌpɛrənˈzæbjʊləʊ].
- PIPE — *Pipewell* (N'hants.) [ˈpɪpweɪl].
- PLAI — [ˈpleɪ-] in *Plaiſtow* (Derby., Here.), *Plaitford* (Hants.). [ˈplæs-] in *Plaiſtow* (W. Sus.), *Plaiſtow* (Lond.). This last is more commonly [ˈplɑːstəʊ] according to *BBC*. [ˌplɑːs-] in *Plaiſtow* (Kent), which may sometimes be [ˈpleɪs-], says *BBC*.
- PLEAS — [ˈplez-] in *Pleasington* (Lancs.) and *Pleasley* (Derby.)
- PLYM — [ˈplɪm-] in *Plymouth* [ˈplɪməθ] and *Plympton* [ˈplɪmtən], both in Dev. The latter is not in *BBC*.
- POL — [ˈpəʊl-] in *Polden Hill* (Som.) and *Polstead* (Suff.), also in *Poling* (W. Sus.) *Poltimore* (Dev.) [ˈpəʊltɪmə]. However, it is [pɒl-] in Cornish names such as *Polbathic* [pɒlˈbæθɪk], *Poldhu* [pɒlˈdʒuː], *Polperro* [pɒlˈpɛrəʊ], *Polruan* [pɒlˈruːən],

- Polwhele* [pɒl'wi:l], *Polzeath* [pɒl'zeθ].
- PON — [pɒn-] in *Pontesbury* (Shrops.) [ˈpɒntɪzbəri], *Pontop* (Dur.) [ˈpɒntɒp], *Ponsanooth* (Corn.) [pɒnz'nu:θ]. *Ponsonby* (Cum.) can be pronounced with [ˈpɒn-] or, more usually, [ˈpʌnsənbi]. *Pontefract* (W. Yorks.) was once locally [ˈpɒmfɹɪt] or [ˈpʌmfɹɪt], but now [ˈp nɪfrækt]. *BBC* points out that the older form is usual in describing the well-known 'Pomfret cakes'. *Ponteland* (N'hum.) is [pɒn'tɪlənd].
- PORTES — *Portesham* (Dor.) [ˈpɔ:tɪʃəm].
- PORTH — *Porthallow* (Corn., 2) [pɔ:'θæləʊ]. *Porthoustock* (Corn.) [pɔ:'θəʊstɒk] or [ˈpraʊstɒk].
- PORTIS — *Portishead* (Som.) [ˈpɔ:tɪʃhed].
- PORT — *Portscatho* (Corn.) [pɔ:t'skæθəʊ].
- POST — [ˈpəʊs-] in *Postling* (Kent) and *Postcombe* (Oxon.), also *Postbridge* (Dev., not in *BBC*). *BBC* gives *Postwick* (Norf.) as [ˈpɒzɪk] but *Eckwall* has [ˈpɒsɪk]. *Postern* (Derby.) and *Poston* (Here.) are both probably [ˈpɒstən], though neither *BBC*, *Eckwall* nor *EPNS* are any help on the matter. (*BBC* gives [ˈpɒstən] for the surname *Poston*).
- POUGH — *Poughill* (Corn.) is [ˈpɒfɪl] or [ˈpʌfɪl]; *Poughill* (Dev.), [ˈpəʊɪl]. *Eckwall* only gives the second alternative for the Cornish one.
- POUL — [ˈpəʊl-] in *Poulshot* (Wilts.) and *Poultney* (Leics.). [ˈpaʊ-] in *Poulner* (Hants.) [paʊnə]. [ˈpu:l-] in *Poulton-le-Fylde* (Lancs.) [ˈpu:ltən lə ˈfaɪld]. There are other *Poultons* in Glos., Mer. and Wilts. and a *Poulston* in Dev.; *BBC*, *Eckwall* and *EPNS* give no help regarding pronunciation.
- POV — *Povey Cross* (Sur.) [ˈpəʊvɪ ˈkrɒs]. *Eckwall* has [ˈpɒv-] for *Povington* (Dor., not in *BBC*).
- POW — *Powburn* (N'hum.) [ˈpaʊbɜ:n]. *Powick* (Here.) [ˈpəʊɪk].
- PRAH — *Prah Sands* (Corn.) [ˈpreɪ]. Sometimes spelt *Praa* or *Praah*.

- POYN — *Eckwall* gives [ˈpʌnɪnz] for *Poynings* (W. Sus.), but it is not in *BBC*. I have only ever heard [ˈpɔɪnɪŋz]. Probably *Eckwall*'s form is an old local one.
- PRED — *Predannack* (Corn.) [ˈpredənæk] or [ˈprednæk].
- PRINK — *Prinknash*, the famous Abbey in Glos., is [ˈprɪnɪdʒ]. *Eckwall* curiously makes no mention of the pronunciation.
- PRO — *Probus* (Corn.) [ˈprəʊbəs].
- PRUD — *Prudhoe* (N'hum.) [ˈprʌdəʊ] or [ˈprʌdhəʊ].
- PUD — *Pudsey* (W. Yorks.) [ˈpʌdsɪ].
- PUNC — *Puncknowle* (Dor.) [ˈpʌnl].
- PYLE *Pyle* (IoW) [ˈpail].
- PYTCH — *Pytchley* (N'hants.) [ˈpaɪtʃli]. (see WYCH, List A).

(to be continued)