

Dialect and Oral History: The East Midlands

AUDIO RECORD*

Recording:

Reference	A71
Dialect Location	Gunthorpe, Nottinghamshire
Date of interview	1982

Interviewee:

Gender	Male
Date of birth / age	1902
Occupation	Agriculture

Summary/Transcript:

Extract taken from
03:29- 05:50

Ah don't make it too bad (laughs) it did though I've known him come home with pigs (...) couple of little pigs he he u/ he had pigs and cows and (...)

Chickens

oh-aye about hundred or two chickens

And he used to keep those and that's how he made some extra money or

yes think that

was that you mean that's what you fed on?

yeah (...) we had two two or three cows and an old pony to run about with and they they had what you lot never have seen (...) er (...) saw pit

mmm pit saw

the man one man in the bottom and the other on this (...) frame and they had a tree and they used to pull it with hand (...) and uh one in the bottom pull it down and uh my dad would pull it back you see and cut planks out

yeah

That's old fashioned isn't it?

oh it is yeah

then there was a/ in our yard this uh see if it is being moved it be still there but it'll be moved by now there was a great big ring of I don't know whether it was slate or steel it'd be steel and that's where they use to put the wheels on that the cart wheels without a rim on and you'd have a big fire burning here with its rims on then they would carry them out a great long (...)

tongs

tongs things just fits in and put it on top of the wheel the round round the outside

was there smoking?

and then we go round with water and there would be hammering them on to tighten them (...) and then you'd keep slicking it off with this water and it'd be running into a trough and you'd still fetch it and use again (...) and it that I've known them do as many as sixty a day and it were wicked hard work

and how many men would it take to do?

two only two (...)

*This audio record was created as part of *An investigation into dialect through oral history: The East Midlands*, awarded a British Academy Small Research Grant (SG110642) for 2011-2012.

Principal Investigator: Diane Davies (University of Leicester); Co-Researcher: Natalie Braber (Nottingham Trent University); Research Assistant: Jennifer Beard (University of Leicester)

so they'd be keeping at it all day to do (...) non-stop

yeah they'd have this great old wood fire going a I've helped I've been teeming water in old what do you call them (unintelligible) (...) (laughs) old ((name)) he worked for us (laughs)

Linguistic description:

Phonology

Feature	Example(s)	Comments
FOOT/STRUT → [ʊ]	come – [kʊm] hundred – [ʊndrəd]	Consistent
happY vowel	pony – [pəʊnɪ] only – [əʊnlɪ] but sixty – [sɪksti]	Frequent but inconsistent
Monophthongisation /aɪ/ → [a:]	I've – [æv]	Consistent for this word
/aɪ/ → [ɪ]	by – [bɪ] my – [mɪ]	Consistent for these words
/əʊ/ → [ʊ]	go – [gʊ]	Frequent but inconsistent
/eɪ/ → [i]	they – [ði]	Consistent
Vowel variation: /i:/ → [ɪ]	see – [sɪ]	Occurs once
NURSE → [ɒ]	burning – [bɒnɪŋ] worked – [wɒkt] were – [wɒ]	Consistent
/æ/ → [ɛ]	had – [ɛd]	Consistent for this word
/ɔ:/ → [æ]	water – [wætə]	Occurs once – inconsistent for this word
L-vocalisation	old – [ɒʊd]	Consistent for this word
T-glottalisation	don't - [dəʊnʔ] about – [əbɑ:ʔ]	Frequent but not consistent
Th-fronting	whether – [wɛvə]	Occurs once
H-dropping	him – [ɪm] home – [əʊm]	Consistent

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	<-ng> → [ŋ]	he – [i] going – [gəʊŋ] teaming – [ti:mɪŋ]	Consistent
	Elision	with – [wi] about – [baʊt] used – [jus]	Consistent
	Voicing: /s/ → [z]	this – [ðɪz]	Occurs once

Lexis	Item	Meaning	Comments
	Slicking - [slɪkɪŋ]	wiping/washing	“slicking it off”
	Teeming – [ti:mɪŋ]	soaking/filling	“teeming water in”
	Wicked	Awfully/really	“wicked hard work”; intensifier

Morphology and Grammar	Feature	Example(s)	Comments
	Zero relative pronoun	“Ø think that” “Ø cut planks out” “it and use Ø again”	Frequent but inconsistent – ‘I’, ‘ <u>he</u> would’ / ‘ <u>it</u> would’, ‘it’
	Zero infinitive ‘to’	“him Ø come home”	Occurs once
	Non-standard contraction	[ɪnɪʔ]	Occurs once
	Non-standard preposition	“with hand”	‘by hand’, occurs once
	Zero indefinite article	“and Ø old pony”	‘an’, occurs once
	Zero modal verb	“Ø cut planks out” “bottom Ø pull it down”	‘he <u>would</u> ’ / ‘it <u>would</u> ’ ‘bottom <u>would</u> pull it down’
	Non-standard position of adverb	“what you lot never have seen”	Occurs once

Further comments: