

From: Graham Horner <ghorner181@gmail.com>
Sender: "Moonrakers" <moonrakers-bounces@lists.mythic-beasts.com>
Subject: Re: [Moonrakers] Edward Slow
Date: Wed, 3 Mar 2021 11:02:13 +0000
To: moonrakers@lists.mythic-beasts.com

Hello,

Really enjoyed the “archet” email. Was it a word for an old fiddle ?

Just thought I would offer this list of Wiltshire words passed on to me many years ago by my Uncle Doug who played Jonas in the children’s radio programme in the 1950’s written by Ralph Whitlock (another relative). Douglas Horner also used to “give a turn” at local social events in his genuine Wiltshire smock with straw in mouth and a big hat, minus his teeth !

Happy memories!

Ahmoo. A cow. Used by mothers to children, as *‘Look at they pretty ahmoos a-comin!’*

All-a-hoh. Lopsided

Aloud. Smells very bad, as *‘That there meat stinks aloud.’*

Birds’ -wedding-day. St. Valentine’s Day.

Bittish. =Somewhat. *‘Twer a bittish cowld isterday.’*

Bobbish. In good health. *‘Well, an’ how be ‘ee to-day?’ ‘Purty bobbish, thank ‘ee.’*

Buddle. To suffocate in mud. *‘There! if he haven’t a bin an’ amwoast buddled hisel’ in thuck there ditch!’*

Butchers' Guinea-pigs. Woodlice. These were also known as curly-buttons.

Cocky-warny. The game of leap-frog.

Cow-baby. A childish fellow, a simpleton.

Cribble about. To creep about "as old people do".

Crumplings, Crumplens. Small, imperfectly grown apples..

Dumbledore. A bumblebee (which was also known as a humble-bee).

Firk. To worry mentally, to be anxious, as '*Don't firk so,*' or '*Don't firk yourself.*'

Fitty. In good health. '*How be 'ee?' 'Ter'ble fitty.*'

Flamtag. A slatternly woman. Wiltshire folk used several terms to describe women they didn't like, including flib-me-jig, floppetty, he-body, huckmuck, hag-mag, yelding, hummocksing.

Flowse. You 'flowse,' or splash, the water over you in a bath.

Garley-gut. A gluttonous person.

Glory-hole. A place for rubbish or odds and ends, as a housemaid's cupboard, or a lumber room.

Gossiping. A christening.

Hen-hussey. A meddlesome woman (another for the list of words to describe women!)

Hullocky! 'Hullo! look here!'. This is usually pronounced Hellucky, and is a contraction of '*Here look ye!*'

Jiffle. At Bishopstone in the 1830s, an old bell-ringer was supposedly heard to accuse the younger men of having got into a regular 'jiffle' while ringing.

Lady-cow. The Ladybird.

Maggots. Tricks, nonsense. '*Her's at her maggots again.*'

Moonied up. Coddled and "spoilt by injudicious bringing up".

Pissing-candle. The smallest candle in the pound, put in to make up the weight

Quanked. Overpowered by fatigue.

Rumple. To seduce as '*He bin rumplin' that wench o' Bill's again laas' night.*'

Shitsack, or Shitzack. An oak-apple

Skug, Sqwug. A squirrel.

Toad-stabber. A bad blunt knife.

Kind regards

Graham Horner

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