

KESCOWS NEBES MOY
CORNISH FOR EVERYDAY LIFE
Second Edition

Ian Jackson

*Supplementary to Gerlyver Kescows
and continuously reviewed and expanded*

SECTION 1

BODY

Last updated: 14 March 2025 (19:00)

A more up-to-date version may be available on-line at lovinglivingcornish

The purpose of *Kescows Nebes Moy* is to enable Cornish conversation about most non-specialist subjects without the need to switch into English. A first edition appeared in 2018. Cornish vocabulary items not found in *Gerlyver Kescows* were presented for the first time in classified lists that take the learner beyond elementary vocabulary, enabling conversation about more technical topics that nonetheless form part of everyday life.

The first edition was necessarily quite experimental, and was confined to just five thousand entries. Much has been learned since the first edition appeared. This second edition is being developed in more comprehensive form on-line. In particular we are considering families wishing to speak Cornish in the home, as well as the challenge of establishing potential for teaching through the medium of Cornish in primary and secondary schools.

We are very grateful to Professor Nicholas Williams and Michael Everson for the opportunity to coordinate these lists with drafts of their *Gerlyver Brâs*.

A word has a single stress accent on the penultimate syllable in the absence of any specific indication. When this accent falls elsewhere, the underlined vowel marks the syllable which is stressed. The symbol || after a word indicates that, instead of a single stress accent, two syllables of the word are given prominence. In the case of a disyllabic word the prominence is usually slightly stronger on the adjectival element.

8-A GENERAL

aparell *m* gear, equipment

assembla *v* assemble, put together

dysassembla *v* disassemble, take apart

8-B TOOLS

alwheth know *m alwhedhow* spanner, wrench

anwan *m anwonow* anvil

bolta *m boltys* bolt

bùshcollan || *f bùshcollanow* || machete

byns *f vice*

casek *f casygy* hod

collel falja *f kellyl* cleaver

corbel *m corblys* bracket

foret *m foretys* drill bit

gedn *m gednow* chisel; wedge

gedna *v* chisel; wedge (sth)

gorthkenter (ryvet) || *f gorthkentrow* || rivet

gorthkentrewy (ryvettya) || *v* rivet

hackhesken || *f hackheskednow* || hacksaw

hesken grèn *f heskednow crèn* circular saw

hesken dreus *f heskednow treus* cross-cut saw

hesken denon *f heskednow tenon* tenon saw

hornorieth *f ironmongery*

jack *m jackow* jack (lifting device)

jackya *v* jack [up]

kelhyn *m kelhydnow* washer

kestedha *v* weld

level gwyras *m leuelyow* spirit level

lorgh horn *m lorhow* crowbar

megynow *pl* bellows

menowes *m menowesow* awl

morben (morthol predn) *m morbednow* mallet

neujen screw *f* screw thread

pib whetha *f pîbow* blowpipe

plain *m plainys* plane (carpentry)

plainya *v plane*

pyck *m pyckys* pick[axe]

pygal *f pygolow* hoe, mattock

pygellas *v hoe*

plebmyk *m plemygow* plumb-line

pynsor *m pynsoryon* pincers, pliers

screw dyben *m screwys* grub screw

screw gorthsedhys (*gwastas*) *m screwys* countersunk screw

screw pedn crowsys *m screwys* Phillips screw

screw pedn slot *m screwys* slotted screw

screwyā *v screw*

slodya *m slodyes* sledge-hammer

soder *m solder*

sodra *v solder*

stanchyn *m stanchydnow* gasket

scysours *pl* scissors

tardar tro (*fîrat*) *m terder* brace-and-bit

8-C MACHINES, INSTRUMENTS

airbosor *|| m airbosoryon* *||* barometer

autoclav *m autoclavow* autoclave

autoclavya *v autoclave*

camva dro *f camvaow tro* turnstile

corn skentyl *m kern* smartspeaker

cresfoesyk *|| m cresfoesygow* *||* centrifuge

frêgel *f frêgellow* shredder

gwaskel *f gwaskellow* compressor

helerghyas *m helerhysy* tracking device

helerghyas gow *m helerhysy* lie detector, polygraph

ink polter *m* toner

jyn posa *m* *jynys* weighing machine

melyn dreys *f* *melynyow treys* treadmill

môtor *m* *môtors* motor

musurel Geiger *f* *musurellow* Geiger counter

musurel golow *f* *musurellow* light meter

musurel kerdhes *f* *musurellow* pedometer

musurel termyn (amserador) *f* *musurellow* chronometer

nywlgorn || *m* *nywlfern* || foghorn

poyntyth *m* *poyntydhyon* pointer

pyston *m* *pystons* piston

sensour olcan *m* *sensours* metal detector

styfel *f* *styfellow* sprinkler (fire, lawn)

styllel *f* *styllellow* still

theodolît *m* *theodolítow* theodolite

8-D PLANT, HEAVY MACHINERY

ardar ergh *m* *erder* snowplough

derryck *m* *derrycks* derrick

forghlyftyor || *m* *forghlyftyoryon* || forklift truck

forn lim *f* *ffornow* lime kiln

fornys whetha *f* *fornycyow* blast furnace

gwyns *f* *gwyncys* winch

jyn crâna cùntell frûtys *m* *jynys* cherry-picker

jyn hâlya *m* *jynys* hoist

jyn palas *m* *jynys* digger, excavator

jyn rolya *m* *jynys* steamroller

kern *f* *kernyow* hopper

palet *m* *paletty*s pallet

powerjy || *m* *powerjiow* || powerhouse (incl figuratively)

rôsla cramyas *m* caterpillar tracks

soler oyl *m* *soleryow* oil rig

sùmp *m* *sùmpys* sump

tarow dur *m* *terewy* bulldozer

tedhla (*tedhva*, chy *tedha*) *m* *tedhleow* foundry

tedhor *m* *tedhoryon* smelter (*also* foundryman)

tùrbîn *m* *tùrbînyow* turbine

whêlros || *f* *whêlrosow* || fly-wheel

8-E COMBUSTION, EXPLOSIVES

dînamît *m* dynamite

dîsel *m* diesel

dyblom *adj* unleaded

dygarbonegyans *m* decarbonization

faclen *f* *faclednow* torch

facly *v* flame

fûs *m* *fûsys* fuse

gorloskel *f* *gorloskellow* incinerator

gorvok carbon *m* carbon emission(s)

helerghyas mog *m* *helerhysy* smoke detector

jelygnît *m* gelignite

jyn loskvan aberveth *m* *jynys* internal combustion engine

loscor Bunsen (*bùnsen*) *m* *loscoryon* Bunsen burner

loscor gwyras *m* *loscoryon* spirit burner / lamp

loskvan *m* combustion

nîtroglyceryn || *m* nitroglycerin[e]

tardhor *m* *tardhoryon* detonator

towlor flàm *m* *towloryon* flame thrower

8-F FLUIDS

canel dowr *m* *canellys* hydrant

cawn *m cawnow* trough

condyt *m condytys* conduit

cuva *m cuvys* tub

hydraulek *adj* hydraulic

keryn *f kerynyow* tub, vat

pypet *m pypettys* pipette

shûta *m shûtys* chute

tedhlester || *m tedhlestrys* || crucible, melting-pot (incl figuratively)

ùrnal *m ùrnals* urinal

8-G WEAPONS

See 39 WAR for modern armaments

barel *m barellys* barrel (of gun)

bûmerang *m bûmerangow* boomerang

cartryjen *f cartydjednow* cartridge

cûlbren || *m cûlbrednyer* || cudgel, cosh

culgledha || *m culgledhydhyow* || rapier

dagyer *m dagyers* dagger

fustwarak || (arblast) *f fustwaregow* || crossbow

godn clamdera *m godnys* stun gun

godn hir *m godnys* rifle

goon *f gonow* sheath, scabbard; quiver

guw *m guwyow* spear, javelin

morwuw || *m morwuwyow* || harpoon

pib whetha *f pîbow* blowpipe

pystol *m pystolow* pistol

pystol tro *m pystolow* revolver

sqwych sawder *m sqwychys* safety catch

taser *m taseryow* taser

taserya *v* taser

8-H ELECTRICS, LIGHTING

anôd *m anôdow* anode

begh re *m overload*

beghya re *phr overload verb*

capel keseghlek *m caplys coaxial cable*

cathôd *m cathôdow* cathode

clethren luhes *f clethrednow* lightning conductor

diôd *m diôdow* diode

dora *v earth*

dynamô *m dynamôs* dynamo

dyberthva kelgh *f dyberthvaow* circuit breaker

electrôd *m electrôdow* electrode

flahel *f flahellow* flashlamp

gavelador (encrunyor) *m gaveladoryon* capacitor, condenser

golow whelas *m golowys* searchlight

gorlenwel *v overcharge*

gorvegh *m gorvehow* overload

gwyvrans *m wiring*

hanter-hùmbrynyas || *m hanter-hùmbrynkysy* || semiconductor

hydrô-tredanek *adj hydro-electric*

jàg tredan *m jaggys* electric shock

livwolow || *m livwolowys* || floodlight

lûmen *m lûmenow* lumen: reposition eventually to 17-B Measurement

pantograf *m pantografow* pantograph

pednyn *m penydnnow* terminal

resystor *m resystoryon* resistor

spotwolow || *m spotwolowys* || spotlight

transystor *m transystoryon* transistor

tredanhe || *v electrify*

volteth *m voltedhow* voltage

8-I AUDIO-VISUAL

airlorgh || *m airlorhow* || aerial, antenna

astell sqwychya *f estyll* switchboard

cabester clôwes *m cabestrow* audio induction loop

clôsyá *v* zoom in

clôwel *f cloyellow* hearing-aid

corn côwsel *m kern* megaphone

corn gwarnya *m kern* siren

corrwelor || *m corrweloryon* || microscope

crior *m crioryon* loudspeaker

degemeryth *m degemerydhyon* receiver

fônya *v* (orth) [tele]phone

gweder whedhy *m gwedrow* magnifying glass

gwedryk *m gwedrygow* lens

gwedryk elyn ledan *m gwedrygow* wide-angle lens

hirder fôcal *m focal* length

intercom *m intercomow* intercom

jyn projectya *m jynys* projector

mycroscôp || *m mycroscôpow* || microscope

peryscôp || *m peryscôpow* || periscope

projectour *m projectours* projector

projectya *v* project

radar *m radar*

scrin plasma *m scrînyow* plasma screen

sonar *m sonar*

sonwhethfyor || *m sonwhethfyoryon* || amplifier

stîlùs *m stîlùsow* stilus

tônyor *m tônyoryon* tuner

trovard || *m trovordys* || turntable

ugh-projectour || *m ugh-projectours* || overhead projector

8-J ICT

amowntyorva *f amowntyorvaow* terminal

bùffra *v* buffer

bysya *v* stroke (screen, touchpad)

capel êtherroos || *m caplys* ethernet cable

copy scodhya *m copiow* back-up [copy]

cov hapkergh || *m* random access memory (RAM)

cov redya only *phr* read only memory (ROM)

cùky *m cükys* cookie

dyffresyas scrin *m dyffresy* screen saver

dygħtyans manylyon *m* data processing

dyvrewyona *v* defragment

eylya tys ha tas *phr* toggle

fiber-optyk || *adj* fibre-optic

gwelen USB *f gwelyn* USB stick

helerghyas *m helerhysy* tracker

jyn sarchya *v jynys* search engine

kelscrefans || *m* encryption

manylek *f manylegow* database

nowedhyans *m nowedhyansow* update (software)

omhevellar neyja *m omhevelloryon* flight simulator

panel rēwlya *m panellow* control panel, dashboard, console

poryth *m porydhyon* browser

scoos gorthvirek || *m scojow* antivirus protection

pad tava *m paddys* touchpad

scrin tava *m scrīnyow* touchscreen

skians creftus *m* artificial intelligence (AI)

8-K MISCELLANEOUS VOCABULARY

alarm ladron *m* burglar alarm

alarm sawder corf *m* rape alarm

alarm tan *m* fire alarm

astell cres *f* *estyll* centreboard

bahow predn *pl* stilts

baneryk (penon) *m* *banerygow* pennant; *pl* bunting

brenyansow *m* instructions

cabmek (cans) *m* *camegow* rim (of wheel)

carhara *v* fetter, shackle; handcuff

carharow dêwla *pl* handcuffs

corn tan *m* *kern* tinder-box

crenyth *m* *crenydhyon* vibrator

êhelbyn || *m* *êhelbydnow* || lynchpin (incl figuratively)

floren kesnyver *f* *florednaw* combination lock

lappa *m* *lappys* flap

men prov *m* *meyn* touchstone (incl figuratively)

pêklen *f* *pêklednow* tarpaulin

ros lovan *f* *rosow* pulley

sparyon (darnow parys) *pl* spare parts

tednven || *m* *tednveyn* || magnet