

KESCOWS NEBES MOY
CORNISH FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

Second Edition

Ian Jackson

*Supplementary to Gerlyver Kescows
and continuously reviewed and expanded*

SECTION 7

HOME

Last updated: 26 November 2025 (18:00)

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.

7-A STRUCTURE

astell tâlenep *f estyll* fascia board

astell teweth *f estyll* weatherboard

balegva *f balegvaow* [overhanging] balcony

balegva Frynk *f balegvaow* French balcony

bùngalow *m* *bùngalows* bungalow
chy dystak *m* *treven* detached house
crowjy *m* *crowjiow* one-room house
daras adenewen *m* *darajow* side door
daras arâg *m* *darajow* front door
daras adhelergh *m* *darajow* back door
daras fenester *m* *darajow* French door(s) / window(s)
daras gorthtan || *m* *darajow* fire door
daras leur *m* *darajow* trap-door
fenester derevel *f* *fenestry* sash window
fenester dormer *f* *fenestry* dormer-window
fenester to *f* *fenestry* skylight
gevelljy || *m* *gevelljiow* || semi-detached house
gorthsogen *f* dampcourse
grisfordh || *f* *grisfordhow* stairway
gwedrans dewblek *m* double glazing
gweyth predn *m* woodwork
jist *m* *jîstys* joist, girder
kenkyth *f* *kenkythyow* villa
kilbost || *m* *kilbostow* || doorpost
kilfenester || *f* *kilfenestry* || bay-window
legghven || *m* *legghveyn* || flag[stone]
meyndy *m* *meyndiow* stone house
min an to *phr* eaves
morthol daras *m* *mortholow* door knocker
nenbren || *m* *nenbrednyer* || [ceiling] beam
oryel *m* *oryels* gallery
parwys *m* *parwysy* partition; party-wall
pedn an daras *phr* lintel (of door)

pedn an fenester *phr* lintel (of window)

penty *m* *pentiw* cottage

penty sowl *m* *pentiw* thatched cottage

pentys *m* *pentysyow* penthouse (all senses)

plaster *m* plaster

plethweyth || **ha pry** *phr* wattle and daub (historical)

poyntyans *m* pointing

res stairys *f* *rêsyow* flight of stairs / steps

styll *m* *stylyow* rafter

tias *m* roofing

to cala *m* *tohow* thatched roof

trùssa *m* *trùssys* truss

veranda *m* *verandas* veranda

7-B ROOMS, SPACES

an leur avàn (awartha) *m* top floor

an leur awoles *m* ground floor

an leur cres *m* mezzanine [floor]

an leur isella *m* basement

an leur kensa *m* first floor

attêsva *f* *attêsvaow* toilet

chy bian *m* toilet

garth *m* & *f* *gardhow* (*gerdhyer*) yard

gorstevel *f* *gorstevelyow* anteroom

hunjy *m* *hunjiow* || dormitory

kegyn adhele~~r~~gh (kilgegyn ||) *f* *kegynow* scullery

kegyn wor'musur (kegyn dhesedhys) *f* *kegynow* fitted kitchen

kegynyk *f* *kegynygow* kitchenette

parleth *m* *parledhow* parlour

pedn stairys *m* landing

pentys *m pentysyow* penthouse (all senses)

rom bêwa *m rômys* living room

rom flehes *m rômys flehes* playroom

rom recêva *m rômys* reception room

set a rômys *m settys* suite (hotel etc)

set demedhyans *m settys* bridal suite

set presydencyal *m settys* presidential suite

spens *m spencys* larder, pantry

stûdyô *m stûdyôs* studio

talgell *f talgellow* buttery, pantry

7-C FIXTURES AND FITTINGS

astell losten *f estyll* skirting-board

balûster *m balûstrow* banister, balustrade

clethren dadô *f clethrednow* dado rail

clethren pyctours *f clethrednow* picture rail

cofyr saw *m cofrow* safe

cornys *m cornysyow* cornice

leur parkê *m* parquet floor

leurlen a'n eyl fos dh'y gela *phr* wall-to-wall carpet

lynôleùm *m lino*[leum]

taclow lâcys ha stagys *phr* fixtures and fittings

tapît *m tapîtys* tapestry; carpet

tapît desedhys *m tapîtys* fitted carpet

valans *m valancys* pelmet

wainscot *m* wainscot

7-D FURNITURE

amary gwely *m amarys* bedside cabinet

bord lestry *m bordys* sideboard

bord screfa *m bordys* writing desk, escritoire

bùffet *m* *bùffettys* corner cupboard
bûrô *m* *bûrôs* bureau
cader askellek *f* *caderyow* wing chair
chair brehek serth *m* *chairys* straight backed chair with arms
chair hir *m* *chairys* settle
chair lesca *m* *chairys* rocking-chair
chair medhel *m* *chairys* easy chair
chair serth *m* *chairys* straight backed chair
chair uhel *m* *chairys* high chair
esedhva eglos *f* *esedhvaow* pew
gorheryans mebyl *m* upholstery
gùtrel medhel *m* *gùtrolow* soft furnishings
gwely bian *m* *gweliow* cot
gwely mynk *m* *gweliow* bunk bed
gwely nenlen || *m* *gweliow* four-poster bed
kyst dyllas *f* *kystyow* chest-of-drawers
latha *m* *lathys* slat
lyverva *f* *lyvervaow* bookcase
moos omwysca *f* *mosow* dressing-table
neyth mosow *m* *neythow* nest of tables
predn gwely *m* *prednyer* bedstead
scavel pyanô *f* *scavellow* piano stool
scavel trythroos *f* *scavellow* three-legged stool
tâbel nos *m* *tâblys* bedside table
tùttyn (scavel droos / dreys) *m* *tùttynow* footstool
7-E SMALL CHILDREN
cawn gwary (pyssîn flehes) *m* *cawnow* paddling pool
corlan wary *f* *corladnow* gwary play pen
margh lesca *m* *mergh* rocking-horse

pottyk *m pottygow* potty

presep kerdhes *m presebow kerdhes* carrycot

teddy-ber || *m teddy-bers* || teddy[-bear]

tegen vedhel *f tegednow medhel* soft toy

7-F BEDROOM, BATHROOM

bason omwolhy *m basons* washbasin

clout omwolhy *m cloutys* flannel

dyllas gwely *m dylajow* bedclothes

floss denjak *m* dental floss

flossya *v* floss

gobedner (pednwely ||) *m gobeneryow* pillow

golgh ganow *m* mouthwash

gorher gobedner *m gorheryow* pillowcase

gorthwhës || *m* antiperspirant

gwask lavrak *f* trouser press

gwil troncas *phr* have a bath

is-gobedner *m is-gobeneryow* bolster

kewlet awartha *m kewlettys* bedspread, coverlet

kyst demedhy *f kystyow* trousseau

lûfa *m lûfaow* loofah

lydn seban *m* liquid soap

men pùmys *m* pumice [stone]

merhyk omwolhy *m merhygow* bidet

nappa dohajëdh *m nappys* afternoon nap

polter talcùm *m* talcum powder

pot chambour *m pottow* chamber pot

predn towellow *m prednyer* towel rail

strayl gwely *m straylyow* bedroom rug

tedna an dowr *phr* flush [the toilet]

valans *m valancys* valance

7-G KITCHEN, DINING ROOM

atal boos *col* food waste

atal dassteusya (*eylgelghya*) *col* recycling waste

atal kemmyn *col* general waste

bolla salad *m bollys* salad bowl

bord sygera *m bordys* draining board

cantol tê *f cantolyow* tealight

caraf *m caraflow* carafe

clogh keus *m clegh* cheese bell

clos (rack) **sygera** *f clojow* drying rack (for crockery)

clout lestry *m cloutys* dishcloth

cogen *f cogednow* wooden bowl

coltrebyn (*cantolbren* ||, *chownler*) *m coltrebydnyer* candlestick, candelabra

crackyor know *m crackyoryon* nutcracker

crûet *m crûettys* cruet

folen (*dêlen*) **alùmynyùm** *f* aluminium foil

gevel know *f gevelyow* nutcrackers (hand-held)

gwara gweder *m* glassware

gwynsel wakhe || *f gwynsellow* extractor fan

gwyver degea *m gwyvrow* wire closure

kenen vytel *f* cling-film

kybel lestry *f kyblow* washing-up bowl

laun pysk *m launow* fish slice

lo ledan *f loyow* ladle

lydn golhy lestry *m* washing-up liquid

paper kegyn *m* kitchen toll

pycher *m pychers* pitcher

sagh atal *m seghyer* bin bag / liner

scùrryor *m scùrryoryon* scourer

straylyk tyller *m straylygow* place mat

teyladow *adj* compostable

vessyl *m vessyls* vessel

7-H LAUNDRY, CLEANING

aira *v* air

airfrescor *|| m airfrescoryon ||* air freshener

amary aira *m amarys* airing cupboard

clos (rack) **aira** *f clojow* clothes-horse, drying rack (for clothes)

clout podn *m cloutys* duster

dehen scùrrya *m* cleaner (liquid)

doustya *v* dust

dowr cana *m* bleach

dowra *v* rinse

dygelyonor *m* fly paper; fly spray

ebyl dyllas *m ebylyon* clothes peg

êwnor padn *m* fabric conditioner

ewonel *f ewonellow* spray

gorra in glegh *phr* put in[to] soak

gwascubylen *f gwascubylednow* squeegee [mop]

gwias kefnys *m* cobweb(s)

hornella *v* iron

lînen dyllas *f lînednow* clothes line, washing line

lînen droyllek rag dyllas *phr* rotary clothes line

lydn dygalghhe *|| m* descaler

mopya *v* mop

omwhelseha *|| v* tumble-dry

padel podn *f padellow* dustpan

podn *m* dust (fine)

polter golhy *m* washing powder
remuvyor namow *m* stain remover
rolyor lienyow *m* *rolyoryon* mangle
scubya-sugna *v* vacuum-clean
scùrrya *v* scour; scrub
sebony *v* soap
sehador omwheles (towlor seha) *m* *sehadoryon* tumble dryer
sehador troyllya *m* *sehadoryon* spin dryer
shamy *m* *shamys* chamois leather
sôda golhy *ms* washing soda
sôda loscus *m* caustic soda
starchya (serthy) *v* starch
styfyor êrosol *m* *styfyoryon* aerosol [spray]
troyllseha || *v* spin-dry
7-I NEEDLE, THREAD ETC
bësken || *f* *beskednow* || thimble
box gwrias *m* *boxys* sewing box
crafa *v* tack, stitch roughly
crochetya *v* crochet
crochetyans *m* crochet
crow najeth *m* *crewow* eye (needle)
cryghwrians || *m* smocking
cryghwrias || *v* smock
dasqwia *v* darn
dywria *v* unstitch
gwerthys *f* *gwerthyjyow* spindle
gwias wâr najedhow *phr* knitting
gwrèm *m* *gwremyow* hem
gwremya *v* hem

gwry *m gwriow* stitch (sewing); seam

heb gwry *phr* seamless (incl figuratively)

jyn gwrias *m jynys* sewing machine

jyn nedha *m jynys* spinning jenny

kelly magel *phr* drop a stitch

magel *f maglow* stitch (knitting)

magel adhyhow *f maglow* knit stitch

magel aglêdh *f maglow* purl stitch

nedha *v* spin

ros nedha *f rosow* spinning wheel

sampler *m samplers* sampler

7-J PLUMBING, HEATING, COOLING

airêwnans || *m* air-conditioning

airêwnor || *m airêwnoryon* || air-conditioner

airlebyor || *m airlebyoryon* || humidifier

airsehador || *m airsehadoryon* || dehumidifier

an benbîbel *f* the main (water)

cappa pris nerth *m* energy price cap

cappa sugna *m cappys* plunger (for clearing drain)

carthpoll || *m carthpollow* || cesspit, cesspool

clavel *f clavellys* mantelpiece

côk *m* coke

côlyn [bew] *m côlys [live]* coal

côlyn marow *m côlys* cinder

cowethas dowr *f cowethasow* water company

creundobmer || *m creundomeryow* || storage heater

cûgh *m cûhow* cowl (of stove)

cunor tan *m cunoryon* firelighter

dowr vystyon *m* waste water

dowrargh || *f dowrarhow* || cistern
enesegyans *m* insulation
forn etewy *f fornnow* wood-burning stove, wood burner
forn tobma *f fornnow* domestic boiler
fylgethek *adj* sooty
geothermek *adj* geothermal
gevel tan *f gevelyow* fire tongs
glow cales *m* anthracite
glow coos *m* charcoal
glow dor (glow poll) *m* coal
glow mon *m* slack
glus stanchya *m* sealant
golosk *m* tinder
golow dysqwedhyans *m golowys* pilot light
gwelen tan *f gwelyny* poker
gwynsel tobma *f gwynsellow* fan / blow heater
hern tan *pl* fire irons
jynweyth || **tedna dowr** *m* flush mechanism
ke olas *m keow* fender (hearth)
kelorn glow (trog glow) *m kelornnow* coal scuttle
mailyas pîbellow *m* lagging (on pipes)
megynow *pl* bellows
musurel gass *f musurellow* gas meter
musurel ragtalas *f musurellow* prepayment meter
musurel skentyl *f musurellow* smart meter
musurel tredan *f musurellow* electricity meter
oyl cunys *m* fuel oil, heating oil
pib fednans *f pîbow* overflow [pipe]
pîbednow (pibweyth) plumbing

pîben golghyon *pîbednow* discharge / waste pipe
pùmp tomder *m pùmpys* heat pump
scor effethter nerth *m scôrys* energy efficiency rating
skethen anowf *f skethednow* spill (for lighting)
sqwychel termyn *f sqwychellow* time switch
tan tredan *m tanow* electric fire (old-style)
tanen *f tanednow* spark (from fire)
tanvaglen || *f tanvaglednow* || grate
tap ha canel *phr* stop-cock
tap pellen *m tappys* ball-cock
testscrif || **effecsyon nerth** *m testscrîvowow* || energy performance certificate (EPC)
thermostat *m thermostato* thermostat
tobmer budhys *m tomeryow* immersion heater
tobmer darwaya *m tomeryow* convection heater
tobmer dowr *m tomeryow* water heater, geyser
tobmer dystak *m tomeryow* stand-alone radiator
7-K ELECTRICS, LIGHTING
an bednwyver || *m* the mains (electricity)
an Roosweyth Kenedhlek *m* the National Grid
bollen halogen *f bolednow* halogen bulb
capel istyn liesebyl *m caplys* multi-plug extension cable
chandelêr (coltrebyn crog) *m chandelêrs* chandelier
cunyjyth *m cunyjydhyon* fuel cell
denethor *m denethoryon* generator
flùorwolow || *m golowys* fluorescent light
fros dydro *m* direct current (DC)
fros eilyansus *m* alternating current (AC)
diôd dylla golow *m diôdow* light-emitting diode (LED)
golow hirgul || *m golowys* strip light

golow nens kyl || *m golowys* recessed light, downlight
golowyans *m* lighting
gwynsva wàr an mor *phr* offshore wind farm
gwynsva wàr an tir *phr* onshore wind farm
in euryow le fysky *phr* off-peak
lînen dir *f lînednow tir* landline
neonwollow || *m golowys* neon light
panel howlek *m panellow* solar panel
scochkelgh || *m scochkelhow* || short circuit
scochkelha || *v* short-circuit *intr*
scudel loren *f scudellow* satellite dish
sensour (tavor) *m sensours* sensor, detector
solenoyd *m solenoydow* solenoid
sqwychel tewlhe || *f sqwychellow* dimmer switch
sqwychel trebuchya *f sqwychellow* trip switch
tedherygva *f tedherygvaow* fuse box
tedheryk *m tedherygow* fuse
torrva (dyfygyans) **tredan** *f* power cut, blackout
tredanva gass *f tredanvaow* gas-fired power station
tredanva glow *f tredanvaow* coal-fired power station
tredanva sprusek (atomva) *f tredanvaow* nuclear power station
tùrbîn gwyns *m tùrbînyow* wind turbine
7-L GARDEN
amal losowek *m emlow* herbaceous border
avalednek (aval-lon ||) *f avalenegow* orchard (apples)
basket crog *m baskettys* hanging basket
bath ÿdhyn *m bathys* bird bath
blejyowek *f blejyowegow* flower bed
boosor ÿdhyn *m boosoryon* bird feeder

chair plegya (cader heblek) *m chairys* folding chair
cletherweyth || *m* trellis[work]
corryk lowarth *m corrygow* garden gnome
dor meur y bry (dor poos) *m* clayey soil
dor meur y dewas (dor scav) *m* sandy soil
dor meur y weras *m* rich soil
dowrhe || *v* water
erber (erbyer) *m erbers* kitchen garden
flûrweyth || *m* decking
frûtwëdh || *col frûtwedhen* || fruit trees
goskejwyth *col* bower
gwederjy || (losowjy ||) *m gwederjiow* || greenhouse, glasshouse; conservatory
gwely crog *m gweliow* hammock
gwely lesk *m gweliow* swing seat
gweras (dêlbry ||) *m* humus; humus-rich soil
gweras scavellow *m* mushroom compost
impyans *m impyansow* graft
jarn frûtys *m jarns* orchard
lawns *m lawnjyow* lawn
lo balas *f loyow palas* trowel
lôm *m* loam
lowartha *v* garden
lowarthans *m* gardening
marl *m* marl
meynyk *m meynygow* small stone
overdevys *adj* overgrown
patyô *m patyôs* patio
peulge || *m peulgeow* || fence
pib dowr *m pîbow* hose[pipe]

pot flour *m pottow* flowerpot
pot plansa *m pottow* tub
rolyor *m rolyoryon* roller
roos gwyver *f* wire netting
scobmow men *pl* [stone] chippings
scobmow predn *pl* [wood] chippings
styken *f stykednow* stake
teyla *v* fertilize
teyla bas *phr* mulch *verb*
teylans *m* fertilizer
teylans bas *m* mulch
teylans creftus *m* artificial fertilizer
teylek *f teylegow* compost heap
tobmer patyô *m tomeryow* patio heater
togweyth *ll m* topiary
tomjy *m tomjiow* hothouse
trog plansa *f trogow* planter
whedn *col whednen (whadnel)* weeds
whedna *v* weed
whednladhor *ll m* weedkiller
whenogel *f whenoglow* hoe
7-M DIY
bord estyll *m bordys* trestle table
creftow chy *pl* do-it-yourself (DIY)
creosôt *m* creosote
cyment gweder *m* putty
gevel vian *f gevelyow* pliers
glanheor scubylen *m* brush cleaner
glenyas *m* adhesive

gorlus *m* superglue

gorlusa *v* superglue

gris *m* *grîsys* rung (ladder)

growt *m* grout

growtya *v* grout

growtyans *m* grouting

gwyras wydn *f* white spirit

gwyscas *m* *gwyscosow* coat (paint etc)

iswyscas || *m* *iswyscosow* undercoat (paint etc)

lanwas *m* filler

mynk whel *f* *myncow* workbench

paper emery *m* emery paper

paper grow (tewesy) *m* sandpaper

serieth *f* carpentry

trestel *m* *trestlys* trestle

vernys *m* varnish

7-N STORAGE

bùssa *m* large jar (historically, for salting)

camfor *m* camphor (historical)

cunyjek *f* *cunyjegow* wood store

gwask dyllas *f* clothes press

gwithty glow *m* *gwithtiow* coal store

in pedn an chy *phr* in the roof

ispadna || *v* line (drawer etc)

pelheor gowdhanas *m* moth repellent

sten *m* *stênys* earthenware jar

tregyn *m* *tregydnow* small drawer, compartment (jewellery box etc)

7-O MISCELLANEOUS VOCABULARY

anwyw avell trigva mab den *phr* unfit for human habitation

bond gwethyn (funen wethyn) *m bondys* elastic / rubber band

bûben *f bûbednow* wick

bystyon *pl slops*

cellofên *m cellophane*

daffar horn *m ironmongery, hardware*

ewonel kelyon *f ewonellow* fly spray

fardellans *m packaging*

gwel (gwelweyth) *col* wicker; rattan (loosely)

gwynsel *f gwynsellow* fan

hanafer *m hanafers* hamper

howllen || *f howllednow* || sunshade

kevalaf chy *m equity* (in mortgaged home)

lusewegyn *m lusewegydnnow* ashtray

magteth chy *f megthythyon* housemaid

magteth kegyn *f megthythyon* kitchen maid

magteth parleth *f megthythyon* parlour maid

manbluv || *col* fluff

nackyn paper *m nackyns* tissue (for nose etc)

paper kelyon *m fly paper*

paper owrllyn *m tissue paper* (for wrapping etc)

podyk tôby *m podygow* Toby jug

porslen *m porcelain, bone china*

pryweyth || *m pottery*

scryf scraf *phr* odds and ends

scryp atorny *m scryppys* [lawyer's] briefcase

scryp cadnas *m scryppys* attaché case

scryp lewyador *m scryppys* pilot's case

sketh wor'wheth *m skethow* draught excluder

skeul an berhenieth *phr* the property ladder

sprynga *m spryngys* spring (device)

tiegedhor *m tiegedhoryon* householder

tiegeth *m* housekeeping

towellyk glëb *m towelygow* wet wipe

vern gales *f* lacquer

versel *m verselow* ferrule

wàr an clycket (*catcha*) *phr* on the latch

whel chy *m whelyow* housework

wrappya *v* wrap

wrappyans *m* wrapping

wrappyans bothlek *m* bubble wrap