Addlands Glossary

Addlands (i.e. headlands): the border of ploughland which is ploughed last of all.

All about in one’s head: become light-headed.

Annoy (the road etc.): obstruct.

Awlman: cobbler.

Bad ways: infected.

Bait: as a noun, snack between meals (elevens’s).

Beast-house: cow-shed.

Beethy: soft, not quite dry (esp. of an apple, or hay and corn in bad condition).

Bellock: to bawl, bellow.

Bettermost: denotes a person of superior education or social standing.

Big-sorted: conceited, proud.

Boss: name for a husband, or the master of a farm, house etc.

Boughten: bought (i.e. not homemade).

Brassy: brazen.

Breach: a heap, pile.

Brumhook: short handled bill-hook.

Bruns: fire logs.

Burnskin: excitable, lively.

Bwgan: scarecrow.

Bwnt: butt

Cag: tear.

Call a person: to run him down behind his back.

Chock: suddenly, dead (i.e. “stop dead” etc.)

Copp: ridge in ploughland.

Boodge: to stuff bushes into a gap in a hedge (etc.).

Boont/ bwnt: as hile, though also the action of a young animal bumping its head against the udder of its mother.

Chats: dead sticks for kindling.

Chavel: to gnaw, champ.

Chaw: wad of chewing tobacco.

Chawm: crack in ground caused by hot or dry weather.

Cleck: gossip.

Come by: instruction to sheepdog to get behind sheep.

Come some shape: get better after sickness.

Comical: queer, unusual.

Consarn: confound.

Corpses candle: mythical light that appears over or about a bog.

Couse: to course, chase off.

Cratch: rack for hay or straw above manger. Also sheep cratch: wheeled feeding trough.

Crink: anything small.

Cruddledy sky: mackerel sky.

Cubs: special cupboards where geese are put to sit.

Cues: iron plates formerly put on the feet of droved cattle.

Daggy: having wool at hind end of a sheep.

Daunting: (of pain) wearisome, irksome.

Doddle: nonsense.

Doubt: I doubt = no doubt.

Edge of night: gloaming.

Ellern: elder (tree, wood).

Emsin: to put your hand to your heart. (Probably a relic of Welsh *ymswyno*, to cross yourself.)

Expect: I expect = I know for certain.

Falter: to go sick.

Feg: rough or dead grass.

Fern: bracken.

Fettle: to repair, put in order etc.

Fled: flew.

Flem: a manmade stream.

Flummery: once-popular Radnorshire dish made from ground oatmeal boiled to a jelly.

Gambrel: notched wooden arm for suspending a carcass.

Gangrel: tall, awkward man (all arms and legs).

Gapesing: to wander aimlessly.

Get away by: instruction to sheepdog to pass sheep and bring them back.

Gid: ‘the gid’ is a sheep disease (water on the brain).

Gieland: face of a precipice.

Glat: a gap in a hedge. As a verb, to mend the gap.

Glore: to do with extreme heat.

Gone down: derelict.

Greet: on friendly terms.

Gully: catkin of the willow.

Have come but just = have just come.

Heavy on foot: pregnant.

Hetherings: long sticks used for binding hedge stakes together.

High-shouldered: proud.

Hile: (of animals) to strike with the horns.

Hold towards: to prefer (chapel etc).

Hump: to carry.

Isaac: scythe (from the name of the maker).

Journ: energetic, full of purpose, keen.

Kank: bad temper.

Keen: to sharpen.

Kindle: to bring forth young.

Knobble: to hammer feebly.

Larp: big etc. (larp of a boy).

Larper: lad, youth.

Lattermath: aftermath, the second growth of grass in a hayfield.

Lep: leap

Listening to the wnts: dead.

Log (of a…): thickset, esp. of cattle.

Lug: to cart harn, corn etc.

Lumper: a youth.

Matted: covered (e.g. a tree matted with blossom).

Mawn: peat (same as Welsh word by pronounced *mourn* instead of *moun* (as in mound).

Mex: to clean out.

Middling: Only fairly well. (Pretty middling = a rather worse condition.)

Mimmockin: puny.

Missed to: failed to.

Mixen: midden, dungheap.

Moither: to talk in a crazy way.

Month’s Mind: funeral oration on a deceased person, usually preached the first or second Sunday after death.

Mooch: loiter about.

Muckery: damp and close.

Nettle: get on with a job.

Not out (fourteen): Not quite (fourteen).

Nub: a small lump.

On times: sometimes.

Ordinary: as middling.

Out for: near.

Overstep the traces: go against parental control (from horses).

Pell wool: scraps of wool caught on twigs, fences etc.

Pentis: the shed attached to a smithy where the horses are shod.

Piece: field.

Piefinch: chaffinch.

Piert: in good health, brisk, in a state of merriment from visiting a pub.

Pitch: steep bit of road.

Place: a house with a small quantity of land.

Pleach: to lay a hedge by intertwining growing shoots between stakes.

Plock: small field, paddock.

Poochy: dirty, muddy.

Poother: muddle about on a job.

Pother: to shake, poke, bother etc.

Prill: a small stream.

Prodigal: haughty, proud.

Pushing: very nearly (as in ‘pushing two’).

Put over the door: turned out.

Pwn: to beat, strike, hammer.

Pwntrel: thick-head, good-for-nothing.

Quick: thorn cutting planted to fill gap in hedge.

Quist: chap, fellow etc. Also wood pigeon.

Rack: path through wood, bracken etc.

Rascal: a poor sort of place.

Reen: furrow in ploughland.

Rise: to get.

Romilly: in tangled or confused condition.

Rowsel: to bring something to notice.

Sally: willow.

Sclem: thief, glutton. Also verb, to steal, stray from field to get to other grass.

Scrat: a miserly person. Also verb, to gather, pick, scratch. (In ‘scratting on’, to survive, keep going).

Seacrow: seagull.

Shade: shelter.

Sight: a lot.

Sinking: losing condition (of cattle etc.).

Skeiny: straight, thin (of hair etc.).

Skith: a thin covering.

Skute: sideways, aslant. Of a path etc., to go diagonally.

Slang: narrow piece of land.

Slike: slippery.

Smewl: to smile through one’s teeth.

Snaffle: to take on the sly.

Sniping: sharp, biting etc.

Sprite: lively.

Squeeze your ears against your head: listen carefully.

Squint-backed: crook-backed.

Squit: nonsense.

Starving: cold.

Swye: pivoted arm on a mantelpiece for suspending a kettle.

Tabber: to knock lightly, to flutter.

Tack: hired pasturage.

Take one’s home in one’s pocket: leave home and furniture to seek shelter elsewhere.

Tare: eager, importunate, troublesome.

Tempest: thunderstorm.

There is no heed to him: there is no telling what he is after or may do.

Tiddler: lamb fed by hand.

Tidy: attractive.

Tight on: very nearly.

Tile: to cover (as in stallion with mare).

Timbered: light timbered = light boned, etc.

Toolston: half-wit.

Tump: hillock, mound, heap.

Tush: to draw, drag.

Unhackle: to unharness, undress.

Urchin: hedgehog.

Usurp: encroach upon.

Wad: a small heap or bundle.

Weepy: wet (of land).

What is he upon? = What is he after?

Whilcar: long, low, shaftless vehicle with two wheels in centre and runners (or a snout) in front.

Wimberry: whinberry.

Wittan: rowan.

Wnt: mole.

Yean: to lamb.