Glossary of terms

This glossary provides an explanation of some of the dialect terms used in this thesis together with words commonly used within the Celto-Cornish speech community. It also includes terms commonly used within the English folk revivalist speech community, which provides a useful comparison.

Term	***Gloss***	***Anglo Cornish Dialect***	***Celto-Cornish Movement***	***Folk Revival***
Bagas	Group / Band – Cornish language [1] e.g Bagas Degol (Feast Day Band), Bagas Porthia (St Ives Band), Bagas Crowd (Fiddle Band)		√	
Bal	Mine – Dialect and Cornish language[2]	√	√	
Bal Maiden	Woman surface worker employed to dress ore in significant for their independent earnings.	√		
Ballad	The term used by Child[3] and folk song collectors to describe a narrative song.		√	√
Barn Dance	Social dance: introduced from America in 1950s as term for informal folk dancing with a caller			√
Bodhran	Hand Drum – see Crawdy Crawn		√	√
Ceili / Ceilidh	Social dance: derived from Gaelic term for a social gathering became strongly associated with dance in early twentieth century. Normally associated with a caller but some organisations simply put up a list of dances at the beginning of the evening in the expectation that people with either know the dance or “sit it out”.[4] Sometimes there is an expectation that there will be spots during the ceili for singers or dance displays.		√	√
Chain	1 Long line of people linked hand in hand 2 Figure in a dance - a form of reel for three or more people where hands are grasped left then right as people pass each other [5]			√

Term	***Gloss***	***Anglo Cornish Dialect***	***Celto-Cornish Movement***	***Folk Revival***
Christmas Play	The guize dance traditions were strongly associated with Christmas and sometimes referred to in dialect, especially Old Cornwall Society references as "the Christmas Play".[6]	√		
Clog Dance	Dance performed in wooden shoes which make a characteristic percussive sound. Styles are associated with specific areas e.g. Lancashire[7]			√
Cloaze	Clothes - Dialect[8]	√	√	
Come All Ye	A singing event where anyone is invited to take a turn.			√
Cotswold Morris	A group of ritual dances for men, each dance originating from a specific village in the English Costwolds.			√
Country Dance	Except where coined for a particular style of dance such as "The Scottish Country Dance Society" this is largely interchangeable with "folk dance"			√
Cousin Jack / Jinny	Cornish person living abroad	√	√	
Crowdy Crawn / Croder Croghen	Skin stretched over a circular frame to make a simple drum – doubles up as a receptacle for odds and ends	√	√	
Crowd	A Fiddle[9]	√	√	
De Gol ./ Degol / Duggle	A feast day [10]	√	√	
Dialect	Cornish dialect of English which includes Cornish language words and expressions using Cornish grammar or word order.	√	√	
Dialect Reader	Someone who reads a dialect story from a prepared text (in contrast to a droll or story teller whose performance is based on memory	√	√	

Term	***Gloss***	***Anglo Cornish Dialect***	***Celto-Cornish Movement***	***Folk Revival***
	and improvisation).			
Display Team	Literally a group of people who rehearse a dance performance. In Cornwall this is significantly in contrast to the English tradition of describing a display team as a "side"		√	
Dosi - Do	"Face your partner across the set and change places with them passing right shoulder to right shoulder. Go backwards into your place passing left shoulder to left shoulder."[11]			√
Droll / Droll Teller	Story Teller [12]	√	√	
Durns	Door posts[13]	√		
English / British Folk Revival	Although what constitutes a folk "revival" has been the subject of some debate it is the convention to talk in terms of the first revival in terms of the relatively select group of enthusiasts during the first half of the 20th Century and the second revival as a much wider movement in the second. The extent to which this is an English or a British revival is debatable.			√
Faddy	Old term for Furry – processional dance[14]	√		
Fish Jouster / Fish wife	Women who sold fish, popular as images for the Newlyn School of artists and stylised with fish basket, black bonnet shaped to help carry the basket with a band across the forehead and a scarlet red or tartan cloak.	√	√	
Flora / Floral	Flora Day at Helston. Flora and Floral often used instead of Furry	√	√	
Fooche	To Throw out / to shove[15]	√	√	

Term	***Gloss***	***Anglo Cornish Dialect***	***Celto-Cornish Movement***	***Folk Revival***
Fool	A introducer or interrupter in a Morris dance or mummers play			√
Foot Dancing	Alternative dialect term for scoot dancing[16])	√		
Furry	Processional Dance[17]	√	√	
Gaukum	A fool or a clown, derived from Cornish "Goky" meaning fool. [18]	√	√	
Geysor	Fool / Jester possible antecedent for Guizer In Nance's dictionary[19] Ges and Gesyor are jest and jester, Gys is fashion, custom ..... guise See "Guizer" below.		√	
Gook	Kind of Sun Bonnet featuring in photographs of Bal Maidens but also used in other industries such as farming. Courtney spells as Gowk[20]	√	√	
Gorsedh (Cornish) Gorseth (alternative spelling)	A college of bards affiliated to the Gorsedds of Wales and Brittany which has the broad aim of promoting Cornwall's language, culture and Celtic identity.		√	
Guize Dance / Geeze Dance / Guizer / Goosey dance	Dancers who disguise themselves covering faces in soot or blacking, wearing a veil or wearing a mask who process from venue to venue where they sing, perform a dance, or perform a play Guisers are a universal custom and an obvious descriptive for any custom where people dress up or disguise themselves. In Cornish dialect this becomes Guize, Geeze or Goosey dancing and there may be an etymological relationship with the Cornish for Fool as Jago suggested: "Guise Dance: A kind of comical or Bal masque at Christmas. Polwhele calls is the guise or disguise dance, for so the Cornish pronounce	√	√	

Term	***Gloss***	***Anglo Cornish Dialect***	***Celto-Cornish Movement***	***Folk Revival***
	guise (geeze). This dance answers to the mummers of Devon, and the Morrice dancers of Oxfordshire &c. In Celtic Cornish ges, means mockery, a jest."[21]			
Hay	A Reel, a figure of eight shape in a dance			√
Hobby Horse	Mock horse costume / shape worn by a mummer or Morris dancer			√
Jan	John – Dialect eg. Uncle Jan Trenoodle	√	√	
Keenly Lode	A promising lode of ore [22]	√	√	
Kernewek	Cornish Language		√	
Lancers	Country Dance – part of quadrilles – "sets"			√
Lapyor	Step Dancer in dialect, Lappior and Lappiores appear with the Latin gloss Saltator and Saltatrix respectively in the Vocubularium Cornicum[23],	√	√	
Lattapouch	A specific step dance recalled by Edward Veale as danced in 1895 [24]. Known to Courtney as "an old Cornish dance" and spelt as Letterpooch"[25]			
Lowender	Festival[26] e.g. Lowender Peran		√	
Mayer	Those taking part in the May Day Processions at Padstow	√	√	√
Mazey Day	The Saturday of Penzance's Golowan festival of music and dance - Mazed is bewildered [27] and Maze Monday was notoriously the day after the miners pay day when they were hung-over.	√	√	

Term	***Gloss***	***Anglo Cornish Dialect***	***Celto-Cornish Movement***	***Folk Revival***
Mock Mayor	A mock mayor elected to preside over Misrule on a feast day, sometimes part of a mock court.[28]		√	√
Mouth Music / lyricing / diddling	Singing for dancing with either nonsense words or just sounds.		√	√
Mummers Play	An improvised folk play where characters like St George, Dragons, Robin hood, and "The doctor" act out a death and resurrection scenario usually drawing on contemporary issues or gossip shared with the audience.		√	√
Nos Lowen / Noswyth Lowen	Night / night time festival, literally happy night borrowed by Nance from the Welsh *Noswaith Llawen* and the Breton *Fest Noz*[29]		√	
Obby Oss	The Hobby Horse featured in Padstow's May Day Festivities.	√	√	√
Pen Glas /Glaz	Horses Skull on a pole used in the Penzance area historically[30] and revived by Cornish Dance display groups in 1980s and the Golowan festival in 1990s.	√	√	
Polka	A style of dance in 2/2 time which originated in Bohemia c. 1830 and quickly spread across Europe. It features couples and fairly fast movement.		√	√
Processional Dance	A dance formation with dancers in pairs, one pair behind each other, in Cornwall this is classically the Furry dance.		√	√
Quadrille Set	A quadrille is a style of dance popular in the nineteenth century country houses based on a figure of four couples in a square.			√
Racca	Meal time entertainment, appears with the Latin gloss comedia in as the Vocubularium	√	√	

Term	***Gloss***	***Anglo Cornish Dialect***	***Celto-Cornish Movement***	***Folk Revival***
	Cornicum.[31]			
Rapper	A Style of dance from the North East of England each dancer has two "Sword" blades with swivel handles at either end with the other end held by another dancer. Involves elaborate hard shoe footwork and is seen as industrial in origin.			√
Recorder (Old Cornwall)	In addition to the usual offices of Chairmen, secretary and treasurer each Old Cornwall Society has a "recorder" whose task it is to make records of folklore, dialect and and historical matters relating to their area.		√	
Reel / Three hand reel– type of dance in Cornwall	In Cornwall a Scoot dance with more than one person is often referred to as a reel or three hand reel, regardless of the choreography, number of dancers or the type of music played. Mr Martins reel for example is a circular dance to a hornpipe rhythm.	√	√	
Reel – dance term	A figure of eight movement by dancers.		√	√
Right / Left hand Star	Alison Davey et al. *Scoot Dances, Troyls, Furrys and Tea Treats: The Cornish Dance Tradition.* (London: Francis Boutle & Co, 2009) p 59 "For a right hand star, dancers place right hands together at shoulder height and dance clockwise. This is often followed by the left hand star, where dancers take left hands and turn anti-clockwise".			√
Scoot dance / scoots	Hard shoe step dance from Cornwall defined by the footwear. Scoots are the metal plates fixed to the heel and toe of shoes to make them longer lasting. They make a satisfying clack which can be used to provide rhythmic accompaniment to a melody. Appears as "Scute" in Jago's dictionary.[32]	√	√	

Term	***Gloss***	***Anglo Cornish Dialect***	***Celto-Cornish Movement***	***Folk Revival***
Serpent	The serpent dance featured in Tea Treats[33]	√	√	
Session	Music or singing session typically in a pub, festival or party.		√	√
Sets	Generally referring to Irish set dancing involving a quadrille formation of dancers, four couples in a square "set".			√
Shallal	A processional band playing improvised percussion instruments – historically an "infernal band" that sets out to serenade victims. – a serenade of pots and kettles.[34]	√	√	
Shout	Contemporary term for a (pub) singing session .		√	
Side	Term for a Dance display team.			√
Step Dance	Dance with emphasis on rhythms provided by feet – some cross over with tap dancing.[35]		√	√
Story Teller	Genre of folk entertainer telling stories.		√	√
Tea Treat	Party / feast held during summer months, organised by village, local chapel or church.	√	√	
Troyl / Troil / Troyll	An informal folk dance, barn dance or literally a fish cellar dance in late Victorian and Edwardian Newquay.[36] Term is rooted in the Cornish for a reel, a turn or a spiral. [37]	√	√	
Troylie	Dialect variation of troyl used to describe dancing games "we'm off to troylie" (Joy Stephenson).	√	√	
Wrastle	Wrestle – Dialect	√	√	

Notes

[1] Robert Morton Nance, *Cornish-English Dictionary*. (Marazion, Worden, 1955).

[2] Robert Morton Nance, *Cornish-English Dictionary* .

[3] Francis James Child, *English and Scottish Ballads,* (Boston, Little, Brown and Co / Moore Wilstach, Keys and Co,1857).

[4] John P Cullaine, *Encyclopaedia of Ireland,* (Dublin Gill and Macmillan. 2003), p. 176.

[5] Alison Davey et al. *Scoot Dances, Troyls, Furrys and Tea Treats: The Cornish Dance Tradition,* (London: Francis Boutle & Co, 2009), p. 59.

[6] Eg "Newlyn Christmas Play", *Old Cornwall,* 1953, vol. 5, no. 4, p. 156.

[7] Caroline Radcliffe,"The Ladies Clog Dancing Contest of 1898", in *Step Change : New Views on Traditional Dance*. Ed Georgina Boyse, (London: Francis Boutle, 2001).

[8] Fred W. P. Jago, "Glossary" *The Ancient Language and the Dialect of Cornwall* (Truro, Netherton and Worth, 1882).

[9] Jago's Glossary.

[10] Jago's Glossary,

[11] Alison Davey et al. *Scoot Dances, p. 58.*

[12] Jago's Glossary.

[13] Ken Phillips, *A Glossary of Cornish Dialect, Padstow,* Tabb House,1998).

[14] Polwhele, Richard. *The History of Cornwall*. (London, Cadell and Davies, 1803), p. 138, also Jago's Glossary.

[15] Jago's Glossary.

[16] Michael Tangy, Redruth Old Cornwall Society Recorder, collected from fishermen in 1974,correspondence with author, 22/07/10.

[17] Jago's Glossary.

[18] William Sandys *Specimens of Cornish Provincial Dialect Selected and Arranged by Uncle Jan Trenoodle*. (London: J.R. Smith, 1846).

[19] Robert Morton Nance, *Cornish-English Dictionary*.

[20] Margaret Ann Courtney, and Thomas Q Couch, *Glossary of Words in Use in Cornwall: West Cornwall by Miss M.A. Courtney: East Cornwall by Thomas Q. Couch,* English Dialect Society, (London, Trübner & Co, 1880).
Also in Jago's Glossary.

[21] Jago's Glossary.

[22] Margaret Courtney *Glossary of Words in Use in Cornwall* .

[23] Jago's Glossary, *The Ancient Language* ibid , also Vocabularium Cornicum.

[24] Edward Veale , *The Notebook Of Edward Veale*, Newquay Old Cornwall Society Museum, Councils Offices, Marcus Hill, Newquay.

[25] Margaret Courtney *Glossary of Words in Use in Cornwall;*
Also in Jago's Glossary.

[26] Robert Morton Nance, *Cornish-English Dictionary*.

[27] Margaret Courtney *Glossary of Words in Use in Cornwall.*

[28] W T Martin, "Mock Mayors in Cornwall", *Old Cornwall,* Vol 1, no 3, 1926. Also participant observation Polperro Mock Mayor, 3rd Saturday in June 2005 – 2010.

[29] Robert Morton Nance, *Cornish-English Dictionary*.

[30] Richard Edmonds, *The Land's End District : Its Antiquities, Natural History, Natural Phenomena and Scenery,* (Penzance,John Russell Smith, 1862).

[31] Vocabularium Cornicum, Cottonian Library, Oxford.

[32] Jago's Glossary.

[33] Alison and Merv Davey, *Clay Country Customs, (St Austell,* Rescorla festival project 2008).

[34] Jago's Glossary.

[35] Caroline Radcliffe, "The Ladies Clog Dancing Contest of 1898".

[36] Teague - Husband, S. Old Newquay. (Newquay, F E Williams,1923), p. 20; M Haigh, M and D Woolgrove, (Newquay, G.J. Publications, 1974), p. 15; Edward Veale , *The Notebook.*

[37] William Borlase, *Antiquities, Historical and Monumental of Cornwall,* (Oxford W. Jackson, 1758 - second enlarged edition1769), p. 459. "Troill a turning reel; Ar [Armorican i.e. Breton]. A term in Hunting"; Robert Williams *Lexicon Cornu-Britannicum: A Dictionary of the Ancient Celtic Language of Cornwal, (Llandovery, Roderic, 1865)* p. 346 "TROILLIA, v. a. To turn, to whirl. Pollan troillia, a whirlpool. Lhtyd, 61. W. troelli. Arm. troidella: Jago' Glossary, "A Tinner's Feast; Margaret A. Courtney 'Cornish Feasts and Feasten', *The Folk-Lore Journal*, Vol. 4,No. 3,Taylor&Francis, 1886, p 272–273, "A Tinners Feast".