

# **A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

This document is a draft proposal which when mature will be submitted to the *Cornish Language Commission* as part of the Cornish Language Partnership Process

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and is as of this date being made available to the Cornish Language Partnership's *Linguistic Working Group* and to the *general public* for scrutiny and discussion

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## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

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## 0.1. INTRODUCTION

This work is an attempt by a diverse group of users of Cornish to provide the outline of a written form of the language which might serve as a standard for general use. Our group includes fluent speakers of Cornish and professional linguists, some of whom are engaged formally in the Cornish Language Partnership's process to seek a Single Written Form.

We all came to this endeavour with our own preconceptions and preferred forms of the language, whether Medieval, Tudor, or Late. All features of the pronunciation, spelling, accent, and syntax offered below have been widely discussed among us and have been agreed by us all. Although most of us have reservations about this or that aspect of what is being presented below, we all agree that it is probably the closest we are likely to come to a standard language. It should be noted that the standard we offer accommodates a considerable degree of variation at all levels. We believe, nonetheless, that there is an essential unity and coherence in what we propose.

## 0.2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Two guiding principles underpin the proposal. A standard orthography must meet the minimum requirements of Cornish users from every tradition. We insist that, *as far as possible*, the following two requirements be met.

- The spelling system must be based on attested traditional orthographic forms.
- In the orthography the relationship between spelling and sounds must be unambiguous.

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Because the different traditions of Revived Cornish focus on different periods for their reconstructions, it is desirable to centre on a variety of Traditional Cornish to which all can relate. We have used as our starting point for the orthography William Jordan's *Creation of the World* of 1611, while looking forward to John Keigwin, William Rowe, and Nicholas Boson, and back to John Tregear, *Sacrament an Alter*, *Bewnans Kê*, *Beunans Meriasek*, and the Ordinalia. We have, made use of the entire corpus of Traditional Cornish in our attempts to increase the vocabulary and complete our paradigms. This has been a necessary principle of Revived Cornish since its beginnings.

It is probable that some people will find in our proposals elements which are unfamiliar at first. Others may say that we have been too timid. What we propose is by its very nature a compromise, but we have sought to do the following things:

- a) to give due weight to the Cornish scribal tradition of the medieval period, which began its decline with the closure of Glasney in 1548
- b) to offer a form of the language that is in its grammar and syntax close enough to later Cornish to be recognizably the same language
- c) to suggest a variety of Cornish that is sufficiently close to the Celtic toponymy of present-day Cornwall as to appear to be part of the same linguistic tradition
- d) to present a language that looks as though it could be learnt, written, and spoken without undue difficulty
- e) to provide a robust orthography that equips the Revival with spellings which are as unambiguous as possible in their representation of the sounds of Cornish, and which at the same time remain faithful to the forms found in the Cornish texts which are the source of the language.

The spelling we use for the name of the language is ***Kernowak***. This is a compromise between *Cornowok* of the Middle Cornish period (1572) and Lhuyd's *Kernûak*, but it maintains the connection with the toponym *Kernow* 'Cornwall'. *Kernowak* is also one of the spellings used



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by William Gwavas, *c.* 1700. It differs from the forms previously used in Revived Cornish (*Kernewek*, *Curnoack*, *Kernúak*, *Kernowek*) and so privileges none of them. If our proposals, or something like them, are adopted as the form of the language to be taught and used, it will be possible to use ***Kernowak*** for the standard language itself, or ***Kernowak Standard (KS)*** when it is desired to distinguish it from other forms of Revived Cornish.

### 0.3. PARADIGMS

The text below is not a complete description of all aspects of the Cornish language. We have confined ourselves to the current concerns about pronunciation and spelling and have given the paradigms of the more important pronominal pronouns and of some of the most commonly-used verbs.

Because it has proved impossible to reconcile completely the paradigms of the texts of Middle and Tudor Cornish with the more “advanced” inflection of the later period, we have in many instances given both a *literary* and a *colloquial* form. It is not our intention that all forms should be taught to learners. We assume that beginners will be taught the simplest forms, before moving on to learn the more literary paradigms as their knowledge increases.

NOTE: Throughout this presentation we will use the terms “conservative” and “advanced” to describe the choice users may make between forms which are relatively early or relatively late. The terms “literary” and “colloquial” are used in a similar fashion. These are used neutrally, with no connotation; they are simply descriptive of available options.

We have also included a discussion of initial mutations and of verbal syntax. Toward the end of the document we give several texts respelt in the proposed orthography, and a short list of monosyllabic words with renderings in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).

Where examples are given below from the original texts, they have been respelt in the proposed orthography so as not to confuse readers of this proposal.

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### 0.4. AIMS AND ASPIRATIONS

This orthography began its evolution as an attempt by users of Unified Cornish, Revived Late Cornish, and Unified Cornish Revised to converge on a spelling which would allow for the required linguistic diversity while remaining *firmly based on attested traditional orthographic forms*. Along the way we determined that not only could this be done, but that it was also possible to accommodate the requirement of users of Common Cornish, that *the relationship between spelling and sounds must be as unambiguous as possible*.

This orthography is neither “archaic” nor “modernist”. It stands in the middle of the extremes. We believe that students who learn it will be able to put the Charter Fragment, a page from *Pascon Agan Arluth*, a passage from *Bewnans Ke*, a passage from the *Creation of the World*, a text by John Tregear, and a text by William Rowe next to it and recognize them all as the same language. Those who wish to read the Cornish texts in their original spelling will find both earlier and later texts to be familiar.

We hope that this document will give an accurate picture of what we have agreed upon and what we propose. We do not intend this to be a *fait accompli*. We believe our proposal to be robust and inclusive, but we expect that it may be modified after the intense public scrutiny and discussion that will follow its publication.

We believe this document represents a major step forward in the search for an acceptable standard written form. We now appeal to all those seriously interested in a solution that meets the needs of current users and future learners of Cornish alike to join in a discussion on the basis of the principles set out in this preamble.

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### 0.5. SIGNATORIES

*Yth esan ny lebmyn ow profya an lyver bian-ma dha why, cowsoryon agan tavas ny, gen uwelder ha gen own ha crèn y'wedh. Màr qwrêwgh whywhy y dhegeras gen bolonjeth dâ ha úsya an taclow uÿy ynna, na vednyn ny whelas namoy grassys.*

*An jorna-ma, 26 Merth 2007*

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We would very much welcome further signatories to this document. If you support this effort and would like your name to be appear in the list of supporters in the submission to the Commission, please let us know as soon as you can.

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### CHAPTER ONE

#### PRONUNCIATION AND SPELLING

**1.0.** Most learners of Cornish speak English. They come from all over Cornwall and indeed the world, speaking different varieties of English. In order to make as precise as possible the recommended pronunciation, we use the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) as strictly as we can, according to the rules given by the International Phonetic Association.

Many of the sounds of Cornish are similar to those used in English (of one sort or another) but some of them are quite different and must be taught and learnt. This orthography has been devised to give as much information as possible so that when a person sees an unfamiliar word, he or she will be able to pronounce it correctly according to clear rules.

NOTE: This concern is familiar to many in the Cornish Revival. The desire to have a written form of the language which represented sounds clearly is what gave rise to Common Cornish. This orthography attempts to fulfil that desire, while remaining faithful to the historically-attested spelling.

#### 1.1. WORD STRESS

In the IPA, primary word stress is written with a superscript vertical bar, and secondary stress with a subscript vertical bar. In Cornish, words are usually stressed on the penultimate syllable; thus *aval* [ˈævəl] ‘apple’ but *avalow* [əˈvæləʊ] ‘apples’, *mestres* [ˈmɛstriəs] ‘mistress’ but *mestresow* [mɛsˈtriəsəʊ] ‘mistresses’. There are notable exceptions. *Mytern* [mɪˈtɛ.ɪn] ‘king’ is stressed on the second syllable, for example. Some adverbs and prepositions contain proclitic elements, and so are stressed on the second syllable: *ynwedh* [ɪnˈweːð] (or *y’wedh* [əˈweːð]) ‘also’, *adro* [əˈdɪəː] ‘about’, *ales*

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[ə'le:z] 'abroad, far and wide', **dheworth** [ðə'wɔ:θ] 'from', **dherag** [ðə'ræ:ɟ] 'before'. The word **hadre** [hə'dɪe:] 'while, until' is also stressed on the second syllable.

Compound words carry primary and secondary stress, e.g. **tebel-sperys** ['tɛbəl,spɛrɪz] 'evil spirit', **over,devys** ['o:vəɪ,dɛvɪz] 'overgrown'.

NOTE: Spellings in Middle and Late Cornish suggest that the possessive adjectives **agan** 'our', **agas** 'your' and **aga** 'their' had two forms. Since the words never bore full phrasal stress, the stress was weak. There are full forms [æɟən], [æɟəz], [æɟə], and reduced forms whose unstressed syllable was frequently elided or dropped to give [ɟən], [ɟəz], [ɟə]. Our choice for spelling these two forms is **agan** [æɟən], etc., and **gàn** [ɟən], etc.

### 1.2. VOWEL LENGTH

Cornish has two vowel lengths, long and short. The long vowel phonemes are /i: e: æ: o: u: y: ø:/; they occur mostly in stressed monosyllables. Vowels in word-final position are usually long, e.g. **chy** [tʃi:] 'house', **tre** [tɹe:] 'home', **tro** [tɹo:] 'turn', **dâ** [dæ:] 'good', **due** [dø:] 'comes'. A few words like **ha** [hɑ] 'and' are always weakly stressed and do not conform to this rule. There are short phonemic equivalents of all the long vowels, namely /ɪ ɛ æ ɔ ʊ ʏ ø/; they are typically realized as [ɪ ɛ æ ɔ ʊ ʏ œ]. There is also an unstressed vowel /ə/ and there are eight diphthongs /ei æi oi ow æw iw ew 'i:ə/.

In later Cornish pronunciation, some long vowels in stressed monosyllables have a tendency to break, as in **den** 'man' [de:n] > [deən] and **noth** 'naked' [no:θ] > [noəθ].

### 1.3. RULES FOR VOWEL LENGTH

The main indicator of vowel length in monosyllables is the consonant which follows the vowel.

**1.3.1.** A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is *long* before a written single voiced consonant, e.g. **mab** [mæ:b] 'son', **ged** [ge:d] 'leads', **mog** [mo:g] 'smoke', **uj** [y:dʒ], [i:dʒ] 'screech', **hel** [he:l] 'hall', **clem**

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[kle:m] ‘claim’, **den** [de:m] ‘man’, **gwyn** [gwi:n] ‘wine’, **gor** [go:ɹ] ‘knows’. Written <f> [v] and <s> [z] count as voiced consonants, e.g. **gof** [go:v] ‘smith’, **haf** [hæ:v] ‘summer’, **lyf** [li:v] ‘flood’, **les** [le:z] ‘width’, **ros** [ɹo:z] ‘rose’, **tas** [tæ:z] ‘father’.

**1.3.2.** A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is *long* before [ð] (written <dh>), e.g. **bedh** [be:ð] ‘grave’ and **ladh** [læ:ð] ‘kills’. Although [θ] (written <th>) and [x] (written <gh>) are voiceless, stressed vowels in monosyllables before either are also long, e.g. **coth** [ko:θ] ‘old’, **gweh** [gwe:θ] ‘worse’, **sqwyth** [skwi:θ] ‘tired’, and **begh** [be:x] ‘load’, **flogh** [flo:x] ‘child’, **gwygh** [gwi:x] ‘periwinkles’. (This applies even in later Cornish pronunciation where the final [x] is lost.)

**1.3.3.** A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is *short* before a written single voiceless consonant, e.g. **top** [tɒp] ‘top’, **whyp** [wɪp] ‘whip’, **fyt** [fit] ‘fit, bout’. A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is also short before a written double consonant, whether voiceless or voiced, e.g. **bryck** [brɪk] ‘brick’, **coll** [kɒl] ‘loss’, **dall** [dæl] ‘blind’, **jynn** [dʒɪn] ‘contrivance’, **lynn** [lɪn] ‘fluid, liquid’, **garr** [gɒɹ] ‘leg’, **torr** [tɒɹ] ‘womb’, **coss** [kɒs] ‘itch’. A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is also short before a consonant cluster, e.g. **horn** [hɒm] ‘iron’, **part** [pɒɹt] ‘part’, **pysk** [pɪsk] ‘fish’, **cost** [kɒst] ‘cost’, **sqwygh** [skwɪtʃ] ‘spasm’, **box** [bɒks] ‘box-tree’.

NOTE: We write **garr** [gæɹ] ‘leg’ (not **gâr**) because the spelling is attested in the Bodewryd glossary (*Cornish Studies Nine*: 98)

**1.3.4.** A vowel in a stressed monosyllable is *short* before a pre-occluded consonant, e.g. **cabm** [kæ<sup>b</sup>m], [kæm] ‘bent’; **pedn** [pɛ<sup>d</sup>n], [pɛn] ‘head’; **gwydn** [gwi<sup>d</sup>n], [gwi] ‘white’; **tobm** [tɒ<sup>b</sup>m], [tɒm] ‘hot, warm’; **udn** [y<sup>d</sup>n], [ɹ<sup>d</sup>n], [yn], [ɪn] ‘one’.

NOTE: Unified Cornish, Common Cornish, and Unified Cornish Revised all acknowledge the existence of pre-occlusion in Cornish, but tend to discourage its use and do not show it in writing. It has, however, been a feature of the Cornish language since the late

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15th century; it occurs in *Beunans Meriasek* (c. 1504) and is widely attested in place-names. From Jordan's *Creation of the World* (1611) onward, it is written quite commonly. Revived Late Cornish has written pre-occlusion consistently.

Pre-occlusion is quintessentially Cornish and should be written with confidence. Moreover, because pre-occlusion is not reliably predictable, it *must* be written. Speakers who do not use pre-occlusion may ignore it, and pronounce *gwydn* [gwɪ<sup>d</sup>n] as [gwɪn]. But if it is not written, speakers who do wish to pre-occlude may do so in words where it is inappropriate: *swàn* [swɔn] 'swan' should not be pronounced \*[swɔ<sup>d</sup>n]; *gòn* [gɔn] 'I know' does not pre-occlude, and is a different word from *godn* [gɔ<sup>d</sup>n] 'gun' (though *godn* may be pronounced [gɔn]).

**1.3.5.** When a vowel in a stressed monosyllable is *long* but occurs before a voiceless consonant or a consonant cluster, it is written with a CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT: *hòk* [ho:k] 'hawk', *shâp* [ʃæ:p] 'shape', *bêst* [be:st] 'beast', *châst* [tʃæ:st] 'chaste', *côst* [ko:st] 'coast', *gâst* [gæ:st] 'bitch', animal', *stât* [stæ:t] 'state'. Where the high front vowel is long in such cases, it is written <î>, e.g. *chîff* [tʃi:f] 'chief', *scrîff* [skri:f] 'writing', *Crist* [kri:st] 'Christ'.

**1.3.6.** In some words, written <a> in a stressed monosyllable is *long* but may be pronounced either [æ:] or [ɔ:]. In these words, the CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT indicates this option, e.g. *brâs* [bræ:z], [brɔ:z] 'great', *cân* [kæ:n], [kɔ:n] 'song', *clâf* [klæ:v], [klɔ:v] 'sick', *tâl* [tæ:l], [tɔ:l] 'brow', *gwâf* [gwæ:v], [gwɔ:v] 'winter'.

**1.3.7.** When a vowel in a stressed monosyllable is *short* but occurs before a single voiced consonant or <th>, it is written with a GRAVE ACCENT, e.g. *pùb* [pʊb] 'every', *gòn* [gɔn] 'I know', *bèr* [bɛɹ] 'short', *bòr* [bɔɹ] 'fat', *bàth* [bæθ] 'coin', *mèth* [mɛθ] 'shame', *qwèth* [kwɛθ] 'garment'.

NOTE: Diacritical marks are not new to Cornish. Edward Lhuyd used them, as did William Rowe, Thomas Tonkin, William



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Gwavas, and John Boson. Scholars William Pryce, Fred Jago, and Henry Jenner also used them. Nevertheless, diacritical marks are unfamiliar to some users of Cornish, perhaps because Morton Nance chose to confine their use to learning materials, stating that for “ordinary writing, diacritical marks are not used in unified Cornish”. Unfortunately, this led to a lack of clarity in the relation between sound and spelling. This was a perceived shortcoming in Unified Cornish, which gave rise to several competing solutions.

In the proposed orthography, because vowel length is marked in monosyllables by the consonant which follows the vowel, it is necessary to use diacritical marks regularly to indicate vowel length when it is other than expected. In practice, the use of diacritical marks is fairly limited, because most anomalous vowel length is found in loanwords.

The use of diacritical marks in *Kernowak* is obligatory, in order for the reader reliably to make the length distinction between *fòl* [fɔl] ‘crazy’ and *fol* [fo:l] ‘fool’, between *gòn* [gɔn] ‘I know’ and *gon* [go:n] ‘scabbard’, and between *kèth* [kɛθ] ‘same’ and *keth* [ke:θ] ‘slave’ and so on. “Leaving off the accent” is to be considered a spelling error.

In the proposed orthography, diacritical marks are also used to make some other distinctions. Some of these are qualitative. Since unmarked *u* represents the phoneme /y/ (pronounced [y:], [i:] or [ɪ], [ɪ] depending on the following consonant), diacritical marks are used to indicate the phoneme /u/: *û* [u:] and *ù* [ʊ]. A set of words which have special variant pronunciations are marked with the circumflex: compare *bras* [bræ:z] ‘treachery’, with *brâs* [bræ:z], [brɔ:z] ‘great’ and *tal* [tæ:l] ‘pays, must’ with *tâl* [tæ:l], [tɔ:l] ‘forehead’.

A number of homophones may be distinguished by the use of the circumflex, e.g. *a* ‘from’, *â* ‘goes’, *bes* [be:z] ‘world’, *bês* [be:z] ‘finger’, *cog* [ko:g] ‘empty’, *côg* [ko:g] ‘cuckoo’, *ef* [e:v], [e:] ‘he’, *êf* [e:v] ‘drinks’, *er* [e:ɪ] ‘heir’, *êr* [e:ɪ] ‘eagle’, *hel* [he:l] ‘generous’, *hêl* [he:l] ‘hall’, *hos* [ho:z] ‘hoarse’, *hôs* [ho:z] ‘duck’, *ke* [ke:] ‘hedge’, *kê* [ke:] ‘go’, *mor* [mo:ɪ] ‘sea’, *môr* [mo:ɪ] ‘blackberries’, *on* [o:n] ‘we are’, *ôn* [o:n] ‘lamb’, *per* [pe:ɪ]

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‘pears’, **pêr** [pe:ɹ] ‘cauldron’; **ros** [ɹo:z] ‘roses’, **rôs** [ɹo:z] ‘heathland’. (This is similar to the Welsh practice, where the circumflex distinguishes *cân* ‘song’ and *can* ‘flour’; *dôl* ‘meadow’ and *dol* ‘doll’; *gwên* ‘smile’ and *gwen* ‘white f.’; *hÿn* ‘older’ and *hyn* ‘this’.)

Modern fonts and computer systems are well able to represent **â ê î ô û** and **à è ì ò ù** correctly and easily; these letters are used regularly in Welsh and Scottish Gaelic and have been for a long time. Keyboard driver software for these letters has been available for the Macintosh, Windows, and Linux platforms for a long time, and works with standard English-language keyboard hardware. It will be easy to make such resources available to people who do not yet have them. (We have avoided the use of diacritics on **y** because many fonts do not support them, and this would cause difficulties for users.)

### 1.4. SIMPLE VOWELS

#### 1.4.1. Long /i:/ [i:]

This is a long high front vowel. It is written <y> and sometimes <î> in the proposed orthography. Phonetically it can be represented as [i:]. In monosyllables it occurs before voiced consonants and [θ], e.g. **gwyn** [gwi:n] ‘wine’, **fyn** [fi:n] ‘fine’, **prys** [pɹi:z] ‘price’, **kyg** [ki:g] ‘flesh, meat’, **pyb** [pi:b] ‘pipe’, **pyg** [pi:g] ‘point’, **gwyth** [gwi:θ] ‘keeping’, **sqwyth** [skwi:θ] ‘tired’, **gwyр** [gwi:ɹ] ‘true’, **myr** [mi:ɹ] ‘look!’, **gwyl** [gwi:l] ‘do’. In absolute final position it has an allophone [əi], for example in **chy** [tʃi:], [tʃəi] ‘house’; **ky** [ki:], [kəi] ‘dog’; **ny** [ni:], [nəi] ‘we’; **ry** [ɹi:], [ɹəi] ‘to give’, **why** [mi:], [məi] ‘you (pl.)’.

As has been noted, when /i:/ occurs before [f] and [st] it is written <î>, e.g. **scrîff** [skɹi:f] ‘writing’, **Crîst** [kɹi:st] ‘Christ’.

#### 1.4.2. Short /i/ [ɪ]

The corresponding short vowel is somewhat lower and slightly more centralized. It is written <y> and sometimes <î> in the proposed orthography. Phonetically it can be represented as [ɪ]. In monosyllables it occurs before voiceless consonants, e.g. **pryck** [pɹɪk] ‘point’, **lyck** [lɪk] ‘lick’, **qwyck** [kwɪk] ‘quick’, **whyp** [wɪp] ‘whip’, **fyт** [fɪt] ‘match, bout’, **pyт** [pɪt] ‘pit’. It also occurs in monosyllables

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before pre-occluded **n** e.g. **gwydn** [gwr<sup>d</sup>n], [gwɪn] ‘white’, **tydn** [tr<sup>d</sup>n], [tɪn] ‘tight’, **mydn** [mr<sup>d</sup>n], [mɪn] ‘wishes’, and before consonants written double **gyll** [gɪl] ‘can’, **fyll** [fɪl] ‘fails’ and before consonant clusters, e.g. **pysk** [pɪsk] ‘fish’. It also occurs in the stressed syllables of words of more than one syllable, e.g. **kybmyas** [ˈkɪ<sup>b</sup>mjəs], [ˈkɪmjəs] ‘permission, leave’, **whyppya** [ˈwɪpjə] ‘to whip’, **gwyryon** [ˈgwrɪjən] ‘truthful, honest’. It also occurs in unstressed syllables, written <y>, e.g. **kellys** [ˈkɛlɪz] ‘lost’, **cowsys** [ˈkɔʊzɪz] ‘spoken’, **termyn** [ˈtɛ.mɪn] ‘time’ and **flehyk** [ˈflɛhɪk] ‘little child’.

In final position unstressed /i/ tends to raise from [ɪ] to short [i], e.g. **kelly** [ˈkɛli] ‘lose’, **ankevy** [ənˈkɛvi] ‘forget’.

NOTE 1: In stressed open syllables /i/ often alternates with /e/, e.g. **pyjy** and **pejy** ‘pray’, **cryjy** and **crejy** ‘believe’, **scryfa** and **screfa** ‘write’, **myras** and **meras** ‘look’. In the interests of simplicity, we propose one variant only for these words. We recognize that this may not achieve consensus from all users, and we are open to discussion on the matter. We recommend for these words the following forms: **pejy** [ˈpɛdʒɪ] ‘pray’, **crejy** [ˈkɪɛdʒɪ] ‘believe’, **screfa** [ˈskɪɛfə] ‘write’, and **meras** [ˈmɛɛɾəs] ‘look’.

NOTE 2: The word for ‘world’ is written **bys**, **beys**, and **bes** in the texts; the pronunciation was probably [brɪz] at first; becoming [be:z] (the Old Cornish was **bit** [brɪd]). Rowe gives **beaze**, also evidently [be:z]. The word for ‘finger’ is attested in Old Cornish as **bis** and **bes**, probably pronounced [brɪs]; Lhuyd gives **bês**, evidently [be:z]. For simplicity’s sake, we recommend distinguishing the forms **bes** [be:z] ‘world’ and **bês** [be:z] ‘finger’. The proposed orthography writes the word for ‘until’ with a short vowel as **bis** [brɪz].

NOTE 3: **byth** ‘ever’ (with lenited initial **vyth** ‘any’) and **pyth** ‘thing, possession’ have a short vowel. **Byth/vyth** is often written <bith>, <vith> in the texts, and **pyth** is often written <peth>. We therefore recommend the spellings **bith** [brɪθ], **vith** [vrɪθ], and

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**pèth** [pɛθ]. When stressed there is a tendency to lengthen these to [bi:θ] and [vi:θ] and [pe:θ] but this need not be shown in spelling.

### 1.4.3. Long /e:/ [e:]

This is a long mid-high vowel. It is written <e> and sometimes <ê> and <ây> in the proposed orthography. Phonetically it can be represented as [e:]. The long vowel occurs in monosyllables before single voiced consonants, e.g. **den** [de:n] ‘man’, **deg** [de:g] ‘ten’, **wheg** [mɛ:g] ‘sweet’, **gleb** [gle:b] ‘wet’, **nef** [ne:v] ‘heaven’, **ef** [e:v] ‘he’, **sef** [se:v] ‘stands’, **segh** [se:x] ‘dry’, **pel** [pe:l] ‘ball, globe’, **whel** [mɛ:l] ‘work’, **gwel** [gwe:l] ‘field’, **ef a wel** [e:v ə 'we:l] ‘he sees’.

When it occurs before a consonant cluster, length is shown by a circumflex, e.g. **pênt** [pe:nt] ‘paint’.

The spelling <ây> is used in words with an original diphthong [ei] which has simplified to [e:], e.g. **trâylya** ['tɹe:ljə] ‘turn’, **trâytor** ['tɹe:tə] ‘traitor’, **gwâytya** ['gwe:tjə] ‘hope, take care’. Some speakers pronounce these as though they were written <trelyya> ['tɹe:ljə], <treyltor> ['tɹe:tə], <gweytya> ['gwe:tjə]. For simplicity’s sake, only the forms with <ây> are recommended as standard.

NOTE 1: Traditional Cornish normally uses the word **tavas** for ‘language’, although **eyth** ‘language’ is used three times in Tregear, which was not available to Nance when he reconstructed **yeth**. We recommend distinguishing **eth** [e:θ] ‘eight; vapour’, **êth** [e:θ] ‘goest; went’ and **yeth** [e:θ], [je:θ] ‘language’.

NOTE 2: Some words seem to alternate between /i:/ and /e:/ (cf. **bys** ~ **bes** above), e.g. **gwydh** ~ **gwedh** ‘trees’, **fydh** ~ **fedh** ‘faith’, **pryf** ~ **pref** ‘reptile’, **bydh** ~ **bedh** ‘be!’, **dydh** ~ **dedh** ‘day’. In the interests of simplicity we propose one variant only for these words. We recognize that this may not achieve consensus from all users, and we are open to discussion on the matter. We recommend for these words the following forms: **gwedh** [gwe:ð] ‘trees’, **fedh** [fe:ð] ‘faith’, **pref** [pɹe:v] ‘reptile’, **bedh** [be:ð] ‘be!’, **dedh** [de:ð] ‘day’.

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### 1.4.4. Short /e/ [ɛ]

The corresponding short vowel is slightly lower and more centralized than its long counterpart. It is written <e> and sometimes <è> in the proposed orthography. Phonetically it can be represented as [ɛ]. It occurs before voiceless consonants in monosyllables, e.g. **set** [sɛt] ‘sets’, **let** [lɛt] ‘hindrance’ and before pre-occluded **n**, e.g. **tedn** [tɛ<sup>d</sup>n], [tɛn] ‘draws’, **ef a vedn** [e:v ə 'vɛ<sup>d</sup>n], [e:v ə 'vɛn] ‘he will’, **gedn** [gɛ<sup>d</sup>n], [gɛn] ‘wedge’. It also occurs as the stressed vowel in disyllables, e.g. **redya** [ˈrɛdjə] ‘read’, **metya** [ˈmɛtjə] ‘meet’, **mennas** [ˈmɛnəs] ‘will, wish’, **kelly** [ˈkɛli] ‘lose’, **ankevy** [əŋ'kɛvi] ‘forget’. Short [ɛ] occurs in low sentence stress in **mès** [mɛz] ‘but’.

### 1.4.5. Long /æ:/ [æ:]

This is a long mid-low vowel, although its range is rather wide and the vowel can approach cardinal [a:]; it may even approach [ɛ:] on occasion. It occurs in monosyllables before single voiced consonants: e.g. **mab** [mæ:b] ‘son’, **ladh** [læ:ð] ‘kill!’, **gwag** [gwæ:g] ‘hungry’, **tas** [tæ:z] ‘father’, **caf** [kæ:v] ‘cave’, **glan** [glæ:n] ‘clean’, **sham** [ʃæ:m] ‘shame’, **gam** [gæ:m] ‘game’, **ef a dal** [e:v ə dæ:l] ‘he ought’, **car** [kɔ:ɹ] ‘love!’ and before [θ], e.g. **cath** [kæ:θ] ‘cat’, **whath** [mæ:θ] ‘still’.

When /æ:/ occurs before unvoiced consonants or consonant clusters it is marked with a circumflex, e.g. **shâp** [ʃæ:p] ‘shape’, **châss** [tʃæ:s] ‘chase’, **châst** [tʃæ:st] ‘chaste’.

In some words, the **â** marks the optional pronunciations [æ:] or [ɔ:], e.g. **brâs** [bræ:z], [brɔ:z] ‘great’, **cân** [kæ:n], [kɔ:n] ‘song’, **clâf** [klæ:v], [klɔ:v] ‘song’, **gwâf** [gwæ:v], [gwɔ:v] ‘song’. See §1.3.6.

NOTE: We know that /æ:/ was an open-mid vowel for a number of reasons. In the Middle Cornish texts **whath** ‘still’ is often written <wheth> and **fas** ‘face’ is on occasion <feth>. Lhuyd gives Cornish **gêst** ‘bitch’ AB: 46a, corresponding to Welsh **gast**. At BM 3411 the plural of **hal** ‘marsh’ is **hellow**; if the short vowel of **hellow** was /e/, the long vowel was likely to have been at a similar height in the mouth. Moreover, place-names containing **praze** ‘meadow’ (< **pras**) and **glaze** ‘blue’ (< **glas**) suggest that the elements in Cornish had a raised /æ:/ rather than /a:/.

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### 1.4.6. Short /æ/ [æ]

The short equivalent of /æ:/ is lower and slightly more central. Its range is rather wide and the vowel can approach cardinal [a]. It occurs in monosyllables before voiceless consonants, e.g. *whaff* [ˌwæf] ‘gust of wind’, and *sqwat* [skwæt] ‘blow, buffet’. It also occurs before double <ll>, e.g. *dall* [dæl] ‘blind’, *fall* [fæl] ‘failure’. It also occurs before pre-occluded *m* and *n*, e.g. *cabm* [kæ<sup>b</sup>m], [kæm] ‘bent’, *mabm* [mæ<sup>b</sup>m], [mæm] ‘mother’, *tabm* [tæ<sup>b</sup>m], [tæm] ‘bit’, *spladn* [splæ<sup>d</sup>n], [splæn] ‘brilliant, clear’.

It occurs as the stressed vowel in disyllables and polysyllables, e.g. *cara* [ˈkærə] ‘love’, *cana* [ˈkænə] ‘sing’, *canow* [ˈkænoʊ] ‘songs’, *ladha* [ˈlæðə] ‘kill’, *gasa* [ˈgæzə], *gara* [ˈgærə] ‘leave, allow’.

The sound tends to lower to [ɒ] after <w> and before <r>, e.g. *swàn* [swɒn] ‘swan’, *part* [pɒt] ‘part’, *wàr* [wɒɹ] ‘on’, and before <ls>, e.g. *als* [ɒlz] ‘cliff, shore’; *fals* [fɒlz] ‘false’.

NOTE: The sound [ɒ] is like the vowel in English Received Pronunciation *pot* [pɒt]; it is not like RP *half* [hɑːf] or *law* [lɔː]. The sound is like a vowel midway between the Eastern American *cat* [kɑt] and *caught* [kɔt] in those dialects which distinguish them.

### 1.4.7. Long /o:/ [o:]

This is a mid-high rounded back vowel. It is written <o> and sometimes <ô> in the proposed orthography. Phonetically it can be represented as [o:]. It appears in monosyllables before voiced consonants, e.g. *cog* [ko:g] ‘empty’, *of* [o:v] ‘am’, *dof* [do:v] ‘tame’, *ros* [ɹo:z]. It also occurs in *blodh* [blo:ð] ‘years of age’. (A variant of this word, *bloudh* [blu:ð], is also attested.) When it occurs before a voiceless consonant, the length is shown by a circumflex, e.g. *côp* [ko:p] ‘cope’, *grôt* [gɹo:t] ‘groat’, *côst* [ko:st] ‘district’.

In some words and in unstressed position, the vowel sound shortens and lowers to [ɒ], e.g. *bos* [bo:z], [bɒz] ‘be’; *dos* [do:z], [dɒz] ‘come’; *mos* [mo:z], [mɒz] ‘go’. This alternation is left unmarked in the proposed orthography.

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### 1.4.8. Short /o/ [ɔ]

This is the short equivalent of /o:/. It is lower and more central than its long counterpart, usually [ɔ] though sometimes reduced to [ɤ]. It is written <o> and sometimes <ò> and <au> in the proposed orthography. It occurs in monosyllables before a voiceless consonant, e.g. **top** [tɔp] ‘top’, **pot** [pɔt] ‘pot’, **cot** [kɔt] ‘short’ and before consonant clusters and consonants written double, e.g. **orth** [ɔɹθ] ‘upon’, **porth** [pɔɹθ] ‘harbour’, **post** [pɔst] ‘post’, **toll** [tɔl] ‘hole’, **coll** [kɔl] ‘loss’. It also occurs in monosyllables before pre-occluded **m** and **n**, e.g. **tobm** [tɔ<sup>b</sup>m], [tɔm] ‘hot’; **todn** [tɔ<sup>d</sup>n], [tɔn] ‘wave’.

Short /o/ also occurs before /n/ without pre-occlusion in the Cornish for ‘I know’, which we spell **gòn** [gɔn]. The word for ‘gun’ is **gon**, plural **gonnys** in *Beunans Meriasek*. But Lhuyd writes it as <gwdn>. We therefore write the word with pre-occlusion: **godn** [gɔ<sup>d</sup>n], [gɔn] **godnys** [gɔ<sup>d</sup>nɪz], [gɔnɪz]

Short /o/ also occurs as the stressed vowel in disyllables and polysyllables, e.g. **codha** [kɔðə] ‘fall’, **fosow** [ˈfɔzɔʊ] ‘walls’, **orta** [ˈɔɹtə] ‘upon him’, **onen** [ˈɔnən] ‘one’, **bohosak**, **bohojak** [bəˈhɔzək], [bəˈhɔdzək] ‘poor’.

It is written <au> in **Austrya** [ˈɔstɹɪjə] ‘Austria’, **Australya** [ɔsˈtɹæljə] ‘Australia’ and **Austol** [ˈɔstəl], [ˈɔsəl] ‘St Austell’. The words **cons** ‘vagina’ and **cauns** ‘pavement’ are homophones [kɔns]; other words with this sound are also written with <au>, e.g. **chauns** [tʃɔns] ‘chance’, **dauns** [dɔns] ‘dance’, **stauns** [stɔns] ‘stance’, **avauncya** [əˈvɔnsjə] ‘to advance, to promote’, **dauncya** [ˈdɔnsjə] ‘to dance’, **launcya** [ˈlɔnsjə] ‘to lance, to shaft’.

### 1.4.9. Long /u:/ [u:]

This is a high back rounded vowel and is often the reflex of Old Cornish /ui/ and /oi/. It is written <ou> and sometimes <û> in the proposed orthography. Phonetically it can be represented as [u:], e.g. **cous** [ku:z] ‘wood’, **bous** [bu:z] ‘food’, **lous** [lu:z] ‘grey’, **pous** [pu:z] ‘heavy’. It is also written <ou> in borrowings from Middle English **goun** [gu:n] ‘gown’, **cloud** [klu:d] ‘cloud’ and **flour** [flu:ɹ] ‘flower’. It is written <û> in **frût** [fɹu:t] ‘fruit’, **gûn** [gu:n] ‘down’,

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unenclosed land’, **Stûl** [stu:l] ‘Epiphany’. The word **ûsya** ‘use’ is pronounced with an initial [ju:]: [ˈju:zjə].

### 1.4.10. Short /u/ [ʊ]

This, the short equivalent of /u:/, is slightly lower and a little more central than its long counterpart. It is not common and seems to alternate with /o/. In the proposed orthography, because <u> represents /y/, [ʊ] must be written <ù>, e.g. **pùb** [pʊb] ‘every’, **bùs** [bʊz] ‘but’, **bùss** [bʊs] ‘bus’, **lùk** [lʊk] ‘enough’.

NOTE: Because the graph <u> is used for /y:/ and /ɜ:/, a certain number of words which were sometimes written in Middle Cornish with <u> are respelt in this orthography with <o> where such forms are also attested in the texts. Some examples are **cosca** [ˈkɔskə] ‘sleep’, **porpos** ‘purpose’ [ˈpɔɪpɔz], **porposya** ‘intend’ [pɔɪˈpɔzjə], **scollya** ‘scatter, shed’ [ˈskɔljə], **second** ‘second’ [ˈsɛkənd], and **sopposya** ‘assume’ [səˈpɔzjə].

### 1.4.11. Long /y:/ [y:] ~ [i:]

This is a long high rounded front vowel. It is written <u> and occurs in monosyllables before a single voiced consonant and <th>. By the sixteenth century /y:/ was unrounding to become /i:/ with which it fell together. Both pronunciations are acceptable and current: **tus** [ty:z], [ti:z] ‘people’, **Sul** [sy:l], [si:l] ‘Sunday’, **fur** [fy:ɪ], [fi:ɪ] ‘wise’, **uth** [y:θ], [i:θ] ‘horror’, **uj** [y:dʒ], [i:dʒ] ‘howl’.

NOTE: We recommend splitting the word **pur** ‘pure, very’ into two separate items: (i) **pur** [py:ɪ], [pi:ɪ] superlative **purra** [ˈpɪɾɛ], [ˈpɪɾə] ‘pure, complete, utter’, e.g. *Maria gverhes pur* ‘Mary, a pure virgin’, *an purra lader y’n pow* ‘the most inveterate thief in the country’; (ii) **pòr** [pɔɪ] ‘very’ (adverb), e.g. **pòr dhá** ‘very good’, **pòr goth** ‘very old’.

### 1.4.12. Short /y/ [ɪ] ~ [i]

This is the short equivalent of /y:/. It has a tendency to unround and to fall together with /i/ as [i]. It is written <u> and occurs before pre-



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occluded **n** in **udn** [y<sup>d</sup>n], [yn], [r<sup>d</sup>n], [m] ‘one’ and as the stressed vowel in disyllables and polysyllables, e.g. **ujy** [ˈydzi], [ˈɪdzi] ‘is’, **uja** [ˈydʒə], [ˈɪdʒə] ‘howl’, **budhys** [ˈbʏðɪz], [ˈbɪðɪz] ‘drowned’, **dowlujy** [dooˈlɪdzi], [dooˈlɪdzi] ‘devilry’.

### 1.4.13. Long /ø:/ [ø:] ~ [e:]

This is a long mid-high rounded front vowel, [ø:]. It appears in monosyllables before single voiced consonants and <th> and is written <ue> in this orthography. By the sixteenth century /ø:/ was unrounding to become /e:/ with which it fell together. e.g. **ues** [ø:z], [e:z] ‘is’, **dues** [dø:z], [de:z] ‘come!’, **dueth** [dø:θ], [de:θ] ‘came’, **scues** [skø:z], [ske:z] ‘shadow’, **cues** [kø:z], [ke:z] ‘cheese’, **cuen** [kø:n], [ke:n] ‘dogs’, **luer** [lø:ɪ], [le:ɪ] ‘floor’, **luen** [lø:n], [le:n] ‘full’, **muer** [mø:ɪ], [me:ɪ] ‘much’, **bue** [bø:], [be:] ‘was’.

### 1.4.14. Short /ø/ [œ] ~ [ɛ]

This, the short equivalent of /ø:/, is not common. It has a tendency to unround and to fall together with /e/ as [ɛ]. It is written <ue> and occurs as the stressed vowel in the preterite and perfect of the verb **dos** ‘come’, e.g. **duethowgh** [ˈdœθoux], [ˈdɛθoux] ‘you came’ and **redhueva** [ɪəˈdœvə], [ɪəˈdɛvə] ‘he has come’.

### 1.4.15. Schwa /ə/ [ə]

Schwa is the mid-high unrounded neutral vowel. Schwa and /i/ [ɪ] are very common in unstressed final syllables in Cornish. Schwa may be written as <a>, <e> or <o>, for example, in **gwelas** [ˈgweləs] ‘see’, **flehas** [ˈflehəs] ‘children’, **myternes** [mɪˈtɛɪnəs] ‘queen’, **onen** [ˈɔnən] ‘one’, **gwedhen** [ˈgwɛðən] ‘tree’, **colon** [ˈkələn] ‘heart’, **poyson** [ˈpɔɪzən] ‘poison’, and **pryson** [ˈpɪɪzən] ‘prison’.

Schwa is also written finally as <a> in verbal nouns in <ya>, e.g. **redya** [ɪɛdjə] ‘read’, **metya** [ˈmɛtjə] ‘meet’, **aqwytya** [əˈkwɪtjə] ‘pay, requite’; in the third singular subjunctive, e.g. **may halla** [mæiˈhælə] ‘so he may’, **may whrella** [mæiˈhɪɛlə] ‘so he may do’; and in the third person singular masculine of prepositional pronouns, e.g. **gansa** [ˈgænzə] ‘with him’, **dhodha**, [ˈðɔðə], **dodha** [ˈdɔðə] ‘to him’, **dredha** [ˈdɪɛðə] ‘through him’, **ragtha** [ɪɹækθə] ‘for him’,

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*dheworta* [ðə'wɔɪtə] 'from him', *orta* [ˈɔɪtə] 'upon him', *hebtha* [ˈhɛpθə] 'without him' and *anodha* [ə'nɔðə] 'of him'.

NOTE: It would simplify the proposed orthography if one could spell schwa identically everywhere. Unfortunately this is not possible. If we write, for example, *colan* 'heart', *holan* 'salt' and *pellan* 'ball', we make it harder for learners, who have to remember that the plurals are *colonow*, *holanow* and *pellednow* respectively. It is therefore better to use the re-appearing morphological vowel in such cases – and also with feminines in *-es*: *myternes* 'queen' and *mestres* 'mistress'. Schwa, however, can be written in forms that do not in themselves inflect. We recommend, therefore, writing *gwelas* 'see', *kemeras* 'take', *godhvas* 'know', *gortas* 'wait', *cafos/cawas* 'get' as well as *genaf*, *genas*, *genan*, and *esaf* 'am', *esan/eran* 'we are', and *-ans* in all 3rd plurals (if not in *-yns*). This will bring written Cornish closer to the Tudor texts: *gwelas* 'see' TH 3, *kemeras* 'take' TH 5a, *gothfas* 'knowledge' TH 11, *gortas* 'wait' TH 36, *ow kafas* 'getting' TH 11, *genaf* 'with me' BK 2967, *genas* 'with thee' BK 3048, *genan ny* 'with us' TH 40, *esaf* 'I am' BK 3116, *y thesan* 'we are' TH 8, *ne geran* 'we are not' SA 59.

We also write *Kernowak* [kəɪ'nɔ:ək] 'Cornish', *Frenkak* [ˈfɪɛŋkək] 'French', *Godhalak* [gə'ðælək] 'Irish' even though such forms as *Kernoweger* [kɛɪnɔ'ɛgɛɪ] 'Cornish speaker' and *Godhalegy* [gɔðə'leɡi] 'Gaelicize' may be used. We will also have vocalic alternation in *marrak* [ˈmæɾək] 'knight', pl. *marrogyon* [mə'ɾɔɡjən] and *tiak* [ˈti:ək] 'farmer', pl. *tiogow* [ti'ɔɡɔʊ] .

### 1.5. DIPHTHONGS

#### 1.5.1. /ei/ [əi]

This is phonetically /e/ + /i/, but the first element is usually considerably lower, so [əi] is more typical than [ei]; when speakers do use [ei] it sometimes simplifies to [e:]. This diphthong appears as <ey> in both monosyllables and disyllables, *teyr* [təɪ] 'three' (fem.), *seyth* [səiθ] 'seven', *seythvas* [ˈsəiθvəz] 'seventh', *seythen* [ˈsəiθən] 'week'.

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### 1.5.2. /æi/ [æi]

This is phonetically /æ/ + /i/, but the first element may lower to bring the diphthong to [aï]. The sound is found mostly in monosyllables, e.g. **bay** [bæi] ‘kiss’, **fay** [fæi] ‘faith’, **gay** [gæi] ‘gay’, **lay** [læi] ‘lay’, **may** [mæi] ‘so that’, **pray** [præi] ‘prey’. It also occurs in the interjections **ay** [æi] and **hay** [hæi].

As noted above in §1.4.3, <ây> is [e:], an original diphthong [ei] that has fallen together with <e>.

### 1.5.3. /oi/ [ɔi]

This is phonetically /o/ + /i/, but is typically lowered to [ɔi], e.g. **oy** [ɔi] ‘egg’, **noy** [nɔi] ‘nephew’, **noys** [nɔiz] ‘noise’, **oyl** [ɔil] ‘oil’, **poynt** [pɔint] ‘point’, **poyson** [pɔizən] ‘poison’, **voyd** [vɔid] ‘go away!’, **voys** [vɔiz] ‘voice’. The first element of the diphthong may be raised to [ɔi] in **moy** [mɔi], [mɔi] ‘more’.

### 1.5.4. /ow/ [oʊ]

This is pronounced [oʊ] and can stand in both stressed and unstressed syllables. Examples of monosyllables include **glow** [glɔʊ] (or [glu:], and so on) ‘coal’, **cows** [kouz] ‘speech’, **pow** [pɔʊ] ‘country’, **pows** [pɔʊz] ‘garment’, **down** [doʊn] ‘deep’. Examples of stressed /ow/ in disyllables include **cowsal** [ˈkouzəl] ‘speak’, **towlal** [ˈtoʊləl] ‘plan, throw’, **Sowsnak** [ˈsouznək] ‘English’, **mowes** [ˈmoʊəs] ‘girl’, **cowas** [ˈkouəs] ‘shower’. From the sixteenth century onwards, in stressed syllables before a following vowel, the diphthong is sometimes raised to [u:], e.g. **jowal** [ˈdʒoʊəl], [ˈdʒu:əl] ‘jewel’, **Jowan** [ˈdʒoʊən], [ˈdʒu:ən] ‘John’, **Kernowak** [kəˈnoʊək], [kəˈnu:ək] ‘Cornish’.

/ow/ is also found in unstressed syllables, where it is written <ow> as a plural suffix. It is usually pronounced [oʊ] (and is so transcribed here), but this may be reduced to [ɔ] or [ʊ] or [ə], e.g. **levow** [ˈlevoʊ] ‘voices’, **prejyow** [ˈpɹɛdʒoʊ] ‘meals’, **tylleryow** [tɪˈlɛɹjoʊ] ‘places’ and **bledhydnyow** [blɛˈðɹɪnjɔʊ] ‘years’. As an unstressed second person plural ending it is written <owgh>, e.g. **kemerowgh** [kəˈmɛroʊx] ‘take!’, **y fedhowgh** [ə ˈfɛðoʊx] ‘you will be’, **pandr’a lavarowgh?** [pənˈdɹæ: ləˈværoʊx] ‘what are you saying?’, **me a vedn dos genowgh** [me: ə veˈdn do:z ˈɡɛnoʊx] ‘I will come with you’.

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The ending is also pronounced [ɔx] or [ʊx] or [əx], and before *why* is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə].

NOTE: In Cornish <ow> *never* sounds like [aʊ] in RP English or General American *cow* [kaʊ].

### 1.5.5. /æw/ [aʊ]

This is pronounced [aʊ] and is written <aw>, e.g. *maɯ* [maʊ] ‘boy’, *naɯ* [naʊ] ‘nine’, *paɯ* [paʊ] ‘paw’, *saɯ* [saʊ] ‘but, except’.

### 1.5.6. /iw/ [iʊ]

This is pronounced [iʊ] and is written <yw> or sometimes <ew>, e.g. *yɯ* [iʊ] ‘is’, *gwyɯ* [gwiʊ] ‘worthy’, *lyɯ* [liʊ] ‘colour’, *pyɯ* [piʊ] ‘who’, *Dew* [diʊ] ‘God’, *gew* [giʊ] ‘woe’, *pleɯ* [pliʊ] ‘parish’, *trew* [triʊ] ‘alas!’, *bewgh* [biʊx] ‘cow’. In a few words, it is written <u> in *du* [diʊ] ‘black’, *gu* [giʊ] ‘spear’, *tu* [tiʊ] ‘side’ in final position. The sound also occurs in unstressed syllables, for example, *Jesu* [ˈdʒɛziʊ] ‘Jesus’, *hedhyɯ* [ˈhɛðiʊ] ‘today’. Under weak stress [iʊ] may open to [iɔ] as in *yɯ* [iɔ], [iʊ] ‘is’.

NOTE: In the traditional texts, the spelling <iw> appears to be in free variation with the spelling <ew> in many words, e.g. *ew* ‘is’, *gweɯ* ‘worthy’, *leɯ* ‘colour’, *peɯ* ‘who’, *geɯ* ‘spear’; sometimes <ew> alternates with <u>, e.g. *plu* ‘parish’, *tru* ‘alas!’. For simplicity, only one form is recommended in the proposed orthography. The proposed orthography distinguishes between homophones *Dew* [diʊ] ‘God’ and *du* [diʊ] ‘black’, and between *gew* [giʊ] ‘woe’ and *gu* [giʊ] ‘spear’.

### 1.5.7. /ew/ [eʊ]

This is pronounced [eʊ] and is written <êw>, e.g. *bêɯ* [beʊ] ‘alive’, *têɯ* [teʊ] ‘fat’, *brêɯ* [breʊ] ‘wounded’.

In disyllables /ew/ has a tendency to become /oʊ/, e.g. *bêwnans* [ˈbeʊnəns], *bowmans* [ˈboʊnəns] ‘life’; *êwna* [ˈeʊnə], *owna* [ˈoʊnə] ‘mend’; *dêwdhek* [ˈdeʊðɛk], *dowdhek* [ˈdoʊðɛk] ‘twelve’; *dêwla*

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[ˈdeʊlə], **dowla** [ˈdoolə] ‘hands’. In this orthography, both forms are admitted as variants.

### 1.5.8. /iə/ [ˈi:ə]

This is not a true diphthong, since in verse it is treated as a disyllable with stress on the first element. It is written <ia> in this orthography and occurs in forms of the conditional of **bos** ‘be’, e.g. **bian** [ˈbi:ən] ‘I would be, we would be’, **bia** [ˈbi:ə] ‘he would be’, **bias** [ˈbi:əz] ‘you would be’, and **bians** [ˈbi:əns] ‘they would be’. It is also found in **bian** [ˈbi:ən] ‘small’, **lias** [ˈli:əz] ‘many’, and in the name **Maria** [məˈri:ə]. Note the distinction between **provia** [pɹəˈvi:ə] ‘provide’ and **profya** [ˈpɹɔfjə] ‘offer’. Other words which are written with <ia> are **agria** [əˈɡri:ə] ‘to agree’, **annia** [əˈni:ə] ‘to annoy’, **aspia** [asˈpi:ə] ‘to spy’, **cria** [ˈkri:ə] ‘to call, to name’, **destrìa** [desˈtɹi:ə] ‘to destroy’, **dian** [ˈdi:ən] ‘entire’, **gockia** [ɡɔˈki:ə] ‘to be foolish’, **sians** [ˈsi:əns] ‘whim’, **skians** [ˈski:əns] ‘wisdom’, **trial** [ˈtɹi:ə] ‘trial’, **ynnia** [ɹˈni:ə] ‘to urge’.

In a few words, <ie> and <io> are used, e.g. **biowgh** [ˈbi:oux] ‘you (pl.) would be’, **tiogow** [tɹiˈjɔɡoʊ] ‘farmers’ (from **tiak** [ˈti:ək] ‘farmer’). The past participles of verbs in **-ia** are regularly **-ies**: **agries** [əˈɡri:əz] ‘agreed’, **annies** [əˈni:əz] ‘annoyed’, **aspies** [asˈpi:əz] ‘espied’, **cries** [ˈkri:əz], [ˈkɹi:ɹiz] ‘called, named’, **destries** [desˈtɹi:əz] ‘destroyed’, **ynnies** [ɹˈni:əz] ‘urged’.

## 1.6. CONSONANTS

The consonants, apart from **f** and **s**, are much simpler than the vowels and diphthongs. We list them, therefore, under their orthographic, rather than their phonetic forms.

### 1.6.1. <b> [b]

**b** is pronounced [b] as in English *boy*, e.g. in **budhy** [ˈbʊði], [ˈbɹiði] ‘drown’, **brâs** [bræ:z], [brɔ:z], ‘great’, **y bedn** [ɹ ˈbeɰn], [ɹ ˈben] ‘his head’.

### 1.6.2. <c> [k], [s]

**c** has two values. Before **a**, **o** and **u** it is pronounced [k], e.g. **cath** [kæ:θ] ‘cat’, **cot** [kɔt] ‘short’, **cosca** [ˈkɔskə] ‘sleep’; in final

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position it is often written **ck**, e.g. **bryck** [bɹɪk]. Before **e, y** (and **i**) it is pronounced [s], e.g. **certan** [ˈsɛɹtən] ‘certain’, **cyder** [ˈsiːdɛɹ] ‘cider’, **cinema** [ˈsɪnəmə] ‘cinema’. The ending **-cya** is [sjə], e.g. **lacya** [ˈlæsʲə] ‘to tie’. The ending **-ncyā** is [nsjə] as in **chauncya** [ˈtʃənsjə] ‘chance’, **dauncya** [ˈdɔnsjə] ‘dance’, **launcya** [ˈlɔnsjə] ‘lance, shaft’. The ending **-cyon** may alternate between [sjən] and [ʃən], e.g. **nacyon** [ˈnæsʲən], [ˈnæʃən] ‘nation’, **temptacyon** [ˌtɛmpˈtæsʲən], [ˌtɛmpˈtæʃən] ‘temptation’.

### 1.6.3. <ch> [tʃ], [k]

**ch** is pronounced [tʃ] like the *ch* in English *church*, e.g. **chy** [tʃiː], [tʃəi] ‘house’, **chapel** [ˈtʃæpəl] ‘chapel’, **chanjya** [ˈtʃændʒə] ‘change’. In modern borrowings (usually from Greek) **ch** is sometimes pronounced [k] as in, and in the same contexts as, English, e.g. **chemyst** [ˈkɛmɪst] ‘chemist’, **technologyeth** [ˌtɛknɔˈlɔʒjəθ] ‘technology’.

### 1.6.4. <d> [d]

**d** is pronounced [d] as in English ‘dog’, e.g. **dedh** [deːð] ‘day’, **deweth** [ˈdɛwəθ] ‘end’, **dof** [doːv] ‘tame’, **dry** [driː], [driː] ‘bring’.

### 1.6.5. <dh> [ð]

**dh** is a voiced interdental fricative [ð], like the *th* in English *this* and *that*, e.g. **dedh** [deːð] ‘day’, **dhodha** [ˈðɔðə] ‘to him’. Finally and medially after **r** it is often dropped, thus **fordh** [fɔɹð], [fɔɹ], **vordh** [vɔɹð], [vɔɹ] ‘road’, *pl.* **fordhow** [ˈfɔɹðoʊ], [ˈfɔɹoʊ], **vordhow** ‘roads’ [ˈvɔɹðoʊ], [ˈvɔɹoʊ]; **hordh** [hɔɹð], [hɔɹ] ‘ram’.

### 1.6.6. <f> [v], [f]

After a *stressed* long vowel in monosyllables, **f** is [v], e.g. **gwâf** [ɡwæːv], [ɡwɔːv] ‘winter’, **haf** [hæːv] ‘summer’, **nef** [neːv] ‘heaven’, **lef** [leːv] ‘voice’, **of** [oːv] ‘I am’, **dof** [doːv] ‘tame’, **lyf** [liːv] ‘flood’, **pref** [preːv] ‘reptile’. The sound [f] at the end of a monosyllables is written **ff**, e.g. **whaff** [wæf] ‘gust of wind’, **stoff** [stɔf] ‘stuff’.

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After an *unstressed* syllable, **f** has a tendency to disappear, thus original **dêwlef** ‘hands’ becomes **dêwla** [ˈdeʊlə]; note also **enef** [ˈɛnə], [ˈɛnəv] ‘soul’ and **genaf** [ˈɡɛnə], [ˈɡɛnəv].

In initial position **f** is sometimes voiced to [v] in some words in traditional Cornish. (Voicing does not occur with **f** as a product of spirantization: **hy fows** ‘her garment’, **aga fednow** ‘their heads’.) The words in which historical **f** appear as **v** are limited in number. In this orthography, such words may optionally be written with a <v>, providing that it is done consistently. If one writes **folen**, **fenten** should also be written. If one writes **volen**, **venten** should also be written. Examples are **fedna**, **vedna** ‘overflow’; **fenten**, **venten** ‘spring’; **folen**, **volen** ‘page’; **fordh**, **vordh** ‘road’; **forgh**, **vorgh** ‘fork’; **forn**, **vorn** ‘oven’; **fow**, **vow** ‘cave’; **Frenk**, **Vrenk** ‘France’; **Frenkak**, **Vrenkak** ‘French’; **fûg**, **vûg** ‘cavity’.

In compounds where [v] is pronounced in the second element, it is also regularly written, e.g. **fenten** but **penventen** (not **\*penfenten**).

### 1.6.7. <g> [g]

**g** is pronounced like [g] in English *got*, *gimmick*, e.g. **genas** [ˈɡɛnəs] ‘with you’ (singular) and **gansa** [ˈɡænzə] ‘with him’.

### 1.6.8. <gh> [x]

**gh** is pronounced like [x] of the *ch* in Scottish *loch*, e.g. **golgh** [ɡɔlx] ‘wash!’, **kergh** [kɛɹx] ‘fetch!’. There is a tendency for [x] to weaken to [h] or to be lost completely when following a vowel, e.g. e.g. **flogh** [flo:x], [flo:h], [flo:] ‘child’; **whegh** [mɛ:x], [mɛ:h], [mɛ:] ‘six’. (In poetry and similar contexts this may be indicated conventionally as **flo’** or **whe’**.) From the sixteenth century onwards **rg** [ɹx] after a stressed vowel becomes **rth** or **rh**, as in **warlergh** [wɔɹɹ'leɹx], [wɔɹɹ'leɹθ], [wɔɹɹ'leɹ]; **mergh** [mɛɹx], [mɛɹθ] ‘daughter’; **margh** [mæɹx], [mæɹθ] ‘horse’. (In poetry and similar contexts this may be indicated conventionally as **warlerth**, **warler’**, **merth**, or **marth**.)

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### 1.6.9. <gw> [gw]

**gw** is pronounced [gw] before vowels, i.e. as **g** + **w**, e.g. **gwadn** [gwɔ<sup>d</sup>n], [gwɔn], [gwæ<sup>d</sup>n], [gwæn] ‘weak’; **gwyn** [gwi:m] ‘wine’; **gwydn** [gwi<sup>d</sup>n], [gwi:m] ‘white’; **gwelas** [‘gweləs] ‘see’. Before **l** and **r** the **w** is not pronounced, however, e.g. **gwlan** [glæ:m], [glɔ:m] ‘wool’, **gweg** [gwe:g] ‘wife’.

NOTE: Inflected forms of the verb **gwyl** ‘do’ are written with initial **gwr-**. When the initial consonant is lenited, however, the **wr-** is pronounced **r-**, e.g. **me a wra** [me: ə ræ:] ‘I shall do’ and **me a wrug** [me: ə ry:g], [me: ə ri:g] ‘I did’. Something similar occurs when the initial is protracted: **màr qwrussa ef gwelas** [mɔɹ ‘kɹysə e:v ‘gweləs] ‘if he were to see’.

### 1.6.10. <h> [h]

**h** is pronounced [h] as in English *hat*. Cornish words which have **gh** at the end of a syllable change this to **h** at the beginning of a syllable, e.g. **flehas** [‘flɛhəs] ‘children’ (cf. **flogh**), **golhy** [‘gɔlhi] ‘to wash’ (cf. **golgh**), **kerhys** [‘kɛ.ɪhɪz] ‘fetched’ (cf. **kergh**).

### 1.6.11. <j> [dʒ]

**j** is pronounced [dʒ] as in English *judge*, e.g. **jentyl** [‘dʒɛntɪl] ‘gentle’, **jowal** [‘dʒɔʊwəl], [‘dʒu:əl] ‘jewel’, **Jowan** [‘dʒɔʊwən], [‘dʒu:ən] ‘John’, **Jamys** [‘dʒæmɪs] ‘James’. In a number of words **j** alternates with **s** [z], e.g. **wosa** [‘wɔzə], **woja** [‘wɔdʒə], [‘udʒə] ‘after’, **kerensa**, **kerenja** [kə‘rɛnzə], [kə‘rɛndʒə] ‘love’, **usy** [‘vzi], [‘ɹzi], **ujy** [‘vɹdʒi], [‘ɹdʒi] ‘is’.

### 1.6.12. <k> [k]

**k** is pronounced [k] like k in English *kettle*, e.g. **ky** [ki:], [kɔi] ‘dog’, **kelly** [‘kɛli] ‘lose’, **kentrevak** [kən‘tɛvək] ‘neighbour’.

### 1.6.13. <l> [l]

**l** is a dental-alveolar lateral approximant. RP and General American English both have a “clear” or [i]-coloured [l] as in *lick* or *hilly* and a “dark” or [u]-coloured [ɫ] as in *holly* or *milk* (apart



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from dialects which vocalize it to “*miwk*”). It is the “clear” [l] which is closest to the Cornish consonant, e.g. *lous* [lu:z] ‘grey’, *colon* [ˈkɔləŋ] ‘heart’, *fol* [fo:l] ‘fool’.

Intervocalic <lh> in this orthography is used to write a sequence [lh] or a relatively tense geminate [l:], which occurs for instance in the comparative and superlative of adjectives ending in *-ll* (such as *pell* ‘far’, *gwell* ‘better’) which are formed by adding *-ha*, e.g. *pelha* [ˈpɛlhə], [ˈpɛl:ə] ‘further, furthest’, *gwellha* [ˈgwɛlhə], [ˈgwɛl:ə] ‘best’.

### 1.6.14. <m> [m], <n> [n]

**m** and **n** are pronounced [m] and [n] as in English, e.g. *mos* [mo:z], [mɔz] ‘go’, *nessa* [ˈnɛsə] ‘next’, *oma* [ˈɔmə] ‘I am’, *ena* [ˈɛnə] ‘soul’. In some (but not all) short stressed syllables **m** is pronounced [ʰm] with an intrusive but unexploded [b] before it, e.g. *tabm* [tæʰm] ‘bit’ and *obma* [ˈɔʰmə] ‘here’. (As noted above, the un-pre-occluded pronunciations [tæm] and [ˈɔmə] are also permitted.) Similarly, **n** after some (but not all) short stressed syllables is pronounced [ʰn] with an intrusive but unexploded [d] immediately before it, e.g. *gwydn* [gwɪʰn], [gwɪm] ‘white’ and *pedn* [pɛʰn], [pɛn] ‘head’. In the proposed orthography such pre-occluded spellings are regularly shown in writing, e.g. *cabm* [kæʰm], [kæm] ‘bent, wrong’, *lebmāl* [ˈlɛʰmə], [ˈlɛmə] ‘jump’, *lebmyn* [ˈlɛʰmən], [ˈlɛmə] ‘now’, *obma* [ˈɔʰmə], [ˈɔmə] ‘here’, *tabm* [tæʰm], [tæm] ‘bit’, *tobm* [tɔʰm], [tɔm] ‘warm’ and *bledhynyow* [ˈblɛðɪʰnjɔʊ], [ˈblɛðmjɔʊ], ‘years’, *gwydn* [gwɪʰn], [gwɪm] ‘white’, *pedn* [pɛʰn], [pɛn] ‘head’, *taredna* [təˈrɛʰnə], [təˈrɛnə] ‘thunder’ (vb), *todn* [tɔʰn], [tɔn] ‘wave’, *udn* [ɪʰn], [ɪn], [ɪʰn], [m] ‘one’.

NOTE: Some words have two forms, one pre-occluding and one not, e.g. *bednath* [ˈbɛʰnəθ], [ˈbɛnəθ] ‘blessing’ ~ *bannath* [ˈbænəθ] and *mednaf vy* [ˈmɛʰnə vi:], [ˈmɛnə vi:] ‘I wish’ ~ *mannaf vy* [ˈmænə vi:]. Both are permitted in this orthography.

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### 1.6.15. <ng> [ŋ]

**ng** is pronounced [ŋ] as in RP or General American English *sing* in final position, e.g. **spong** [spɔŋ] ‘sponge’, **kyng** [kɪŋ] ‘king’ (not \*[spɔŋg] or \*[kɪŋg]). When preceding [k] or [g], [n] assimilates to [ŋ], as in **ancow** [æŋkɔʊ] ‘death’, **Kevrangow** [kɛvˈɹæŋgɔʊ] (toponym).

### 1.6.16. <p> [p]

**p** is pronounced [p] like *p* in English *pool*, e.g. **pedn** [pɛˈdn], [pɛn] ‘head’, **top** [tɔp] ‘top’.

### 1.6.17. <qw> [kw]

**qw** is pronounced [kw] like the sound in English *queen*, e.g. **qwèth** [kwɛθ] ‘garment’, **qwît** [kwɪ:t] ‘wholly’, **ow qwertha** [ɔʊˈkwɛɹθə] ‘selling’. Before **r**, the **w** is not pronounced, however, e.g. **mâr qwressa** [mɑɹˈkɹɛsə] ‘if he were to’, **ow qwrydnya** [ɔʊˈkɹɪˈnjə], [ɔʊˈkɹɪnjə] ‘wrestling’.

NOTE: Both **qw** and **qu** are found in the texts, but **qw** is less ambiguous; **quressa** could be pronounced \*[kɹˈɹɛsə] and **qwressa** is a better fit with other forms of the same word, **gwressa** and **wressa**.

### 1.6.18. <r> [ɹ] ~ [r]

**r** in initial and absolute final position is an alveolar approximant [ɹ] as in RP and General American *red*, e.g. **ros** [ɹɔ:z] ‘rose’, **dor** [dɔ:ɹ] ‘earth’. It also has this value when in contact with other consonants **porth** [pɔɹθ] ‘entrance, cove’, **scɹefa** [ˈskɹɛfə] ‘write’. In intervocalic position it is a single alveolar tap [r] as in **bara** [ˈbæɹə] ‘bread’. The tap may also reappear across boundaries, e.g. **ger** [gɛ:ɹ] ‘word’, *pl.* **geryow** [ˈgɛɹjɔʊ] ‘words’, **car y das** [ˌkæ:ɹ ɪˈdæ:z] ‘relative of his father’.

NOTE: Lhuyd described hearing an initial voiceless [ɹ̥] occasionally in words like **rag** ‘for’, and said that he believed that

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it may formerly have been more common. This sound is not used in Revived Cornish.

### 1.6.19. <s> [z], [s]

**s** presents problems similar to those of **f**. In final position after a long stressed vowel, **s** is pronounced [z], e.g. **tas** [tæ:z] ‘father’, **bos** [bo:z], [bɔz] ‘be’, **pous** [pu:z] ‘heavy’, **res** [ɹe:z] ‘necessity’, **bés** [be:z] ‘finger’. After a short stressed vowel it is also [z], e.g. **dhys** [ðɪz] ‘to thee’, **bis** [bɪz] ‘until’, **bùs** [bʊz] ‘but’. It is [z] or [s] after an unstressed vowel, though the distribution is not easy to determine. We recommend pronouncing the verbal adjective endings <ys> and <ies> in unstressed syllables as [ɪz] and [i:əz] respectively, e.g. **kellys** [ˈkɛlɪz] ‘lost’, **budhys** [ˈbʊðɪz], [ˈbɪðɪz] ‘drowned’, **agriés** [əˈɡɹi:əz] ‘agreed’, **criés** [ˈkɹi:əz], [ˈkɹɪjɪz] ‘called, named’. We recommend pronouncing unstressed <as> and <es> as [əs], e.g. **genas** [ˈɡenəs] ‘with thee’, **gwelas** [ˈɡwɛləs] ‘to see’, **lias** [ˈli:əs] ‘many’, and **myternes** [mɪˈtɛ.məs] ‘queen’. Some speakers may prefer the optional pronunciation of unstressed <as> and <es> as [əz].

Final **-ls** is pronounced [lɪz], e.g. **als** [ɔlɪz] ‘cliff, shore’; **fals** [fɔlɪz] ‘false’, **gols** [ɡɔlɪz] ‘hair’, **gwels** [ɡwɛlɪz] ‘grass’, **gwyls** [ɡwɪlɪz] ‘wild’, **pals** [pɔlɪz] ‘plentiful’, **sols** [sɔlɪz] ‘shilling’.

Final **-ns** is usually pronounced [nɪz], e.g. **dans** [dænz] ‘tooth’, **gwɛyns** [ɡwɪnz] ‘wind’, **kyns** [kɪnz] ‘before’, **mans** [mænz] ‘crippled’, **mens** [mɛnz] ‘amount, size’, **whans** [wænz] ‘desire’. Sometimes, however, it is pronounced [ns], e.g. in unstressed position in disyllables **bêwnans** [ˈbeɔnəns], **bowmans** [ˈboɔnəns] ‘life’; **bians** [ˈbi:əns] ‘they would be’, or in borrowings **chauns** [tʃɔns] ‘chance’, **dauns** [dɔns] ‘dance’, **stauns** [stɔns] ‘stance’. **Penzans** [penˈzæns] ‘Penzance’ has [ns], though **sans** ‘holy’ is [sænz].

Final **-rs** is usually pronounced [ɹɪz], e.g. **gwɛɹs** [ɡwɛɹɪz] ‘verse’, **ors** [ɔɹɪz] ‘bear’. Sometimes, however, it is pronounced [ɹs], e.g. **fors** [fɔɹs] ‘energy’.

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NOTE: There does not seem to be a reasonable way to disambiguate final [s] in these contexts. Spellings like *\*daunss* and *\*daunç* or *\*forss* and *\*forç* are unappealing. Voice or voiceless postconsonantal *s* is not distinctive, however, and voicing of *dauns* to [dɔnz] or *fors* to [fɔɪz] is permissible.

As with *f* and *v*, there is hesitation in the sources about the nature of initial etymological <s>. In many words, it was clearly pronounced as [z] in the traditional language. In this orthography, such words may optionally be written with a <z>, providing that it is done consistently. If one writes *segh*, *seythen* should also be written. If one writes *zegh*, *zeythen* should also be written. Examples are *Sadorn*, *Zadorn* ‘Saturday’, *Sowsnak*, *Zowsnak* ‘English’, *segh*, *zegh* ‘dry’, *seythen*, *zeythen* ‘week’, *sor*, *zor* ‘anger’ and *Sul*, *Zul* ‘Sunday’.

In toponyms it is permissible to use <z> at all times, e.g. *Eglos Zenar* ‘Zennor’, and *Zawan Orgel* ‘Zawn Organ’. The Cornish for ‘Penzance’ has no pre-occlusion because the stress is on the second element; the name should be spelt *Penzans* [pɛnˈzæns].

### 1.6.20. <sh> [ʃ]

*sh* is pronounced [ʃ] like the sh in English *shop*, e.g. *shoppa* [ʃɔpə] ‘shop’, *sham* [ʃæm] ‘shame’, *shora* [ʃɔrə] ‘paroxysm, fit’. In Revived Cornish, the endings *-syon* and *-ssyon* may alternate between [sjən] and [ʃən], e.g. *passyon* [ˈpæsʃən], [ˈpæsjən] ‘passion’, *posessyon* [ˈpɔːzɛsjən], [ˈpɔːzɛʃən] ‘possession’, *mansyon* [ˈmænsʃən], [ˈmænsjən] ‘mansion’. The word for ‘to punish’ has various forms in the texts; we recommend the form *pūnysha* [ˈpɔnɪʃə].

NOTE: When *s* and *h* come together in compounds, a hyphen may be used to show that the sound is [sh] ([s] + [h]), not [ʃ]; one should write *les-hanow* [ˈleːsˈhænɔʊ] ‘nickname’, rather than *\*leshanow*. When *s* and *h* come together in causative verbs ending in *-he*, an apostrophe may be used for the same purpose; one should write *uskys’he* [ˈʏskɪsˈheː], [ˈɪskɪsˈheː] ‘accelerate’.

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Note that other causative verbs do not take the apostrophe:  
**glanhe** [glæn'he:] 'to clean', **moghhe** [mɔx'he:] 'to increase'.

### 1.6.21. <t> [t]

**t** is a voiceless alveolar plosive [t], e.g. **to** [to:] 'roof', **te** [te:] 'tea'. Before stressed **e** and **y** in certain words **t** has a tendency to be assimilated to [tʃ], e.g. in **te**, **ty** 'you' (singular). These, therefore, have permitted variants **che** [tʃɛ], **chy** [tʃi:].

### 1.6.22. <th> [θ]

**th** is a voiceless interdental fricative [θ] as in English *thing*, e.g. **eth** [e:θ] 'eight', **hy thas** [hɪ θæ:z], 'her father', **bannothow** [bən'noθou], 'blessings'. Finally and medially after **r**, it often becomes **h**, e.g. **gwertha** ['gwɛ.ɪθə], ['gwɛ.ɪhə] 'sell', or is dropped entirely, e.g. **warbarth** 'together' [wɔɪ'bæ.ɪθ], [wɔɪ'bæ.ɪ]. (In poetry and similar contexts this may be indicated conventionally as **gwerha** or **warbar**.) In toponymic signage <r> should be used, e.g. **Por**' 'Par', **Por**' **Ust** 'Priest's Cove'.

### 1.6.23. <w> [w]

**w** is pronounced as [w] in English *wax*, e.g. **ywyl** [ɪ 'wi:l] 'to do it', **wâr** [wɔɪ] 'on'. Before **l** and **r**, however **w**- may be silent, e.g. **anwlas** [ən 'læ:z] 'the kingdom' and **ywreg** [ɪ 're:g] 'his wife'. In initial position **wo**- is sometimes pronounced [ʊ], e.g. **woja** ['ʊdʒə] (but the literary form is **wosa** ['wɔzə]). See also §5.6.1.

### 1.6.24. <wh> [ɰ]

**wh** is voiceless, pronounced [ɰ] like the **wh** of Scottish English and Hiberno-English *whistle*, i.e. with the devoicing clearly audible, e.g. **why** [mi:], [mɛi] 'you (pl.)', **wheg** [me:g] 'sweet', **whel** [me:l] 'work'. In traditional Cornish, however, **wh** and **w** are not always kept clearly separate.

NOTE: The sound of **wh** is not [hw] or [xw]. It is closer to the voiceless bilabial fricative [ɸ]; learners who do not have [ɰ] may try to approximate the sound of **wheg** as [ɸ<sup>w</sup>e:g] or even [f<sup>w</sup>e:g].

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### 1.6.25. <x> [ks]

**x** is pronounced [ks] like *x* in English *vex*, e.g. **vexya** [ˈvɛksjə] ‘vex’.

### 1.6.26. <y> [j]

**y** is pronounced [j] like *y* in English *you*, e.g. **yâr** [jær] ‘hen’, **yagh** [jæ:x] ‘healthy’, **yeyn** [jəm] ‘cold’.

### 1.6.27. <z> [z]

**z** is pronounced [z] like *z* in English *zoo*, e.g. **zegh** [ze:x] ‘dry’, **zeythen** [ˈzɛiθən] ‘week’. See **s** above at §1.6.19.

## 1.7. PUNCTUATION

**1.7.1.** The *hyphen* is used sparingly, as in English, to connect elements of compound words, e.g. **screfa-composter** ‘orthography’. The hyphen is also used with the affixes **-na** ‘this’ and **-ma** ‘that’, e.g. **an lyver-na** ‘this book’, **an bluven-ma** ‘that pen’. This helps to distinguish these particles from **na** ‘not’ and **ma** ‘is’ in the colloquial register. See also §1.6.20.

**1.7.2.** The *apostrophe* is an important part of Cornish orthography, it often indicates the elision of a vowel, as in **dha’gas** (< **dha agas**), **pandr’yw** (< **pandra yw**), or **dhodh’ef** (< **dhodha ef**). In order to ensure good typography, it is best not to leave a space before or after an apostrophe. If after, as in **\*dhodh’ ef**, the trailing apostrophe may be confused with a final single quotation mark; if before, as in **\*dhodh ’ef**, the burden is on the writer to ensure that the apostrophe goes the right direction (that is, that it looks like a 9’ rather than a 6’). Much “helpful” word-processing software will turn an apostrophe after a space into a left single “smart quote”, as in **\*dhodh ‘ef**, and this is an unsightly error. The rule “don’t use a space on either side of an apostrophe” will help ensure better typography in Cornish. (In poetry and similar contexts the apostrophe may be written conventionally, however.)

In this orthography, the apostrophe is used conventionally after the verbal particle **th** in the colloquial register, e.g. **th’eraf vy** (**yth esaf** in the literary register). This is an orthographic convention, not an

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error; *'th eraf vy* is not “more correct”, and the leading apostrophe leads to the \**'th eraf vy* trouble just described.

Note that in other orthographies of Revived Cornish *dha* was combined with *agan*, *agas*, and *aga* differently from the way it was combined with other prepositions. This orthography regularizes *ha'gan* ‘and our’, *na'gan* ‘nor our’, *a'gan* ‘of our’, *dha'gan* ‘to our’, *re'gan* ‘by our’, *y'gan* ‘in our’ (not *dh'agan*).

See also §1.6.20.

**1.7.3.** Because the apostrophe is used quite frequently in Cornish, it can be recommended that “*double quotation marks*” be used for quoted speech, and ‘*single quotation marks*’ for citations within quoted speech. This is advantageous in terms of legibility, because double quotation marks are more easily distinguished from the apostrophe. The choice remains with the writer, however.

**1.8. IPA chart.** On the following page the IPA chart is given.





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CHAPTER TWO

INITIAL MUTATIONS

**2.1 Synopsis.** The mutations can be set out as follows:

	<i>Radical</i>	<i>Lenition</i>	<i>Spirantization</i>	<i>Provection</i>	<i>Mixed I</i>	<i>Mixed II</i>
[p]	<b>p-</b>	<b>b-</b>	<b>f-</b>	—	—	—
[b]	<b>b-</b>	<b>v-</b>	—	<b>p-</b>	<b>f-</b>	<b>v-</b>
[m]	<b>m-</b>	<b>v-</b>	—	—	<b>f-</b>	<b>v-</b>
[f]	<b>f-</b>	<b>v-</b> <small>(optional colloq.)</small>	—	—	—	—
[t]	<b>t-</b>	<b>d-</b>	<b>th-</b>	—	—	—
[d]	<b>d-</b>	<b>dh-</b>	—	<b>t-</b>	<b>t-</b>	<b>t-</b>
[tʃ]	<b>ch-</b>	<b>j-</b>	—	—	—	—
[s]	<b>s-</b>	<b>z-</b> <small>(optional colloq.)</small>	—	—	—	—
[k]	<b>ke-</b>	<b>ge-</b>	<b>he-</b>	—	—	—
	<b>ki-</b>	<b>gi-</b>	<b>hi-</b>	—	—	—
	<b>ky-</b>	<b>gy-</b>	<b>hy-</b>	—	—	—
	<b>ca-</b>	<b>ga-</b>	<b>ha-</b>	—	—	—
	<b>co-</b>	<b>go-</b>	<b>ho-</b>	—	—	—
	<b>cu-</b>	<b>gu-</b>	<b>hu-</b>	—	—	—
[kw]	<b>qw-</b>	<b>gw-</b>	<b>wh-</b>	—	—	—
[kl]	<b>cl-</b>	<b>gl-</b>	—	—	—	—
[ki]	<b>cr-</b>	<b>gr-</b>	—	—	—	—
[kn]	<b>kn-</b>	<b>gn-</b>	—	—	—	—
[g]	<b>ge-</b>	<b>e-</b>	—	<b>ke-</b>	<b>whe-</b>	<b>we-</b>
	<b>gi-</b>	<b>i-</b>	—	<b>ki-</b>	<b>whi-</b>	<b>wi-</b>
	<b>gy-</b>	<b>y-</b>	—	<b>ky-</b>	<b>why-</b>	<b>wy-</b>
	<b>ga-</b>	<b>a-</b>	—	<b>ca-</b>	<b>wha-</b>	<b>wa-</b>
	<b>go-</b>	<b>wo-</b>	—	<b>co-</b>	<b>who-</b>	<b>wo-</b>
	<b>gu-</b>	<b>wu-</b>	—	<b>cu-</b>	<b>whu-</b>	<b>wu-</b>
[gw]	<b>gw-</b>	<b>w-</b>	—	<b>qw-</b>	<b>wh-</b>	<b>w-</b>
[gl]	<b>gl-</b>	<b>l-</b>	—	<b>cl-</b>	—	—
[gɹ]	<b>gre-</b>	<b>re-</b>	—	<b>cre-</b>	—	—
	<b>gri-</b>	<b>ri-</b>	—	<b>cri-</b>	—	—
	<b>gry-</b>	<b>ry-</b>	—	<b>cry-</b>	—	—
	<b>gra-</b>	<b>ra-</b>	—	<b>cra-</b>	—	—
	<b>gro-</b>	<b>wro-</b>	—	<b>cro-</b>	<b>whro-</b>	<b>wro-</b>
	<b>gru-</b>	<b>wru-</b>	—	<b>cru-</b>	<b>whru-</b>	<b>wru-</b>
[gn]	<b>gn-</b>	<b>n-</b>	—	—	—	—
	<i>Root</i>	<i>Soft</i>	<i>Breathed</i>	<i>Hard</i>	<i>Mixed I</i>	<i>Mixed II</i>

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### 2.1. GENERAL REMARKS

The system of initial mutations is an essential part of Cornish grammar. Mutations often mark the gender and tense and mistakes may change the sense entirely.

#### 2.1.1. *Lenition* or *soft mutation* occurs:

- (i) after the articles **an** and **udn** when the following noun is feminine singular; e.g. **an gath** ‘the cat’, **udn wedhen** ‘a tree’.
- (ii) after **an** when the following noun is plural and refers to people – though not in the case of **c/k** or **g**, e.g. **an varchants** ‘the merchants’, **an dus** ‘the men’, but **an Kernowyon** ‘the Cornish’. Late borrowings from English also remain unmutated, e.g. **an profettys** ‘the prophets’.
- (iii) in adjectives which follow a feminine singular noun (e.g. **an venen vian** ‘the little woman’) or plural masculine noun referring to people (e.g. **an dus dhâ** ‘the good men’).
- (iv) after **dêw** ‘two’, e.g. **dêw vaw** ‘two boys’, **dêw vergh** ‘two daughters’.
- (v) after the verbal particles **a** and **ny** and **na**, e.g. **an medhek a vedn dos** ‘the doctor will come’, **na welas ef tra vith** ‘he saw nothing’, **ef a laver na vedn ef dos** ‘he says he will not come’. (The particle **ny** is confined to the literary register.)
- (vi) after **dell** ‘as’ (and its variant **dêr**), e.g. **par dell vue** ‘as it was’; after **fatell** ‘how, that’ and its variant **tell**, e.g. **na wodhya tell wrug hy mos yn kerdh** ‘he did not know that she left’; after **hadre** ‘until, while’ and its variant **dêr**, e.g. **hadre vo obma** ‘while he is here’; after **pan** ‘when’, e.g. **pan wrusta hy gwelas?** ‘when did you see her?’; after **aban** ‘since’, e.g. **aban dhuethans dha Gernow** ‘since they came to Cornwall’; after **dhia ban** ‘since’, e.g. **dhia ban glowas ef a’n mater** ‘since he heard of the matter’; after **mâr** ‘as, so’, e.g. **mâr dhâ o hedna** ‘that was so good’.
- (vii) after **dha, da** ‘your’ (singular), e.g. **ple ma dha vabm** ‘where is your mother?’; after **y** ‘his’, e.g. **nag yw hedna y gy ef** ‘that is not his dog’.

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- (viii) after **a** ‘of, from’, e.g. *me a glowas a venen* ‘I heard of a woman’; after **a** ‘of’ in expressions of quantity, e.g. *muer a dheray* ‘much disturbance’; after **dha, da** ‘to’, e.g. *dha gerhas* ‘to fetch’, *dha dre* ‘home, homewards’; after **dre** ‘through, by’, e.g. *dre vodh Dew* ‘by the will of God’; after **yn** *dadn* ‘under’, e.g. *yn dadn dreys* ‘underfoot’; after **wâr** ‘on, upon’, e.g. *wâr veneth a dhysqwedhaf dhys* ‘upon a mountain I shall indicate to you’; after **re** ‘by’ (in oaths), e.g. *re Vyhal* ‘by St Michael’; after **heb** in the fossilized phrase *heb wow* ‘without a lie’.
- (ix) after some prefixed adjectives, **b, d, g, gw** and **m** are lenited, e.g. *tebel-wesyon* ‘evil fellows’, *drog-vomednow* ‘severe blows’, *gwadn-diak* ‘poor husbandman’, *hager-bref* ‘evil serpent’.

### 2.1.2. Spirantization or *breathed mutation* occurs:

- (i) after **hy, y** ‘her’, e.g. *orth hy themptya* ‘tempting her’, *hy horf* ‘her body’; after **aga** or **gâ** ‘their’, e.g. *me a vedn aga threhy* ‘I will cut them’, *aga holon yw terrys* ‘their heart is broken’.
- (ii) after **ow** ‘my’, e.g. *ow frias* ‘my spouse’, *ow hothman* ‘my friend’, *ow thas* ‘my father’. Spirantization is not normally applied to the verbal noun, as in *orth ow cara* ‘loving me’.
- (iii) after **try** (masc.), **teyr** (fem.) ‘three’, e.g. *try ferson* ‘three persons’, *teyr hath* ‘three cats’.
- (iv) after **na** ‘no, not any’ in *na felha* (though *na velha* also occurs) ‘no longer’, *na hen* ‘not other’, *na hens* ‘no sooner’.

### 2.1.3. *Provection* or *hard mutation* occurs:

- (i) after **mâr, mara** ‘if’, e.g. *mâr tuen ny ha leveral* ‘if we say’, *mara tof* ‘if I come’, *mâr qwressa an den deskys fur na gwelas hemma* ‘if that learned wise man were to see this’.
- (ii) in verbal nouns after the participle-forming particle **ow**, e.g. *ow kelwal* ‘calling’, *ow qwertha* ‘selling’, *ow tos* ‘coming’.

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### 2.1.4. *Mixed mutation Type I* occurs:

- (i) after **ple** ‘where?’, e.g. **ple tof?** ‘where shall I come to?’, **ple fêwgh why?** ‘where were you?’
- (ii) after the particle **y**, e.g. **y fedhaf** ‘I shall be’, **y whòn gwyr** ‘I know truly’.
- (iii) after the conjunction **may** ‘that, where’, e.g. *y’n le may fuen* ‘where we were’, *an uer may tueth* ‘the time when he came’. **May** is particularly common in the expression **may halla** ‘in order that’, e.g. *bis may halla bos jùjys* ‘so that he may be judged’, *may hallaf vy mos* ‘that I may go’.
- (iv) after **maga** ‘as’, e.g. *maga fery avell hók* ‘as merry as a hawk’, *ha myternes maga tâ* ‘and a queen as well’.
- (v) after **yn** in adverbial constructions, e.g. *gòn yn tâ* ‘I know well’, *a behas marthys yn frâs* ‘who sinned wondrous greatly’. Note that after **yn** the word **gwyr** is *always* unmutated: the sense of **yn gwyr** is literally ‘in truth’, rather than ‘truly’.

### 2.1.5. *Mixed mutation Type II* occurs:

- (i) after the second person singular object pronoun **’th**, e.g. *ny a’th wòr dha Pedn an Wlas* ‘we will take you to Land’s End’; after **’th** ‘thy’, e.g. *ty ha’th wreg* ‘thee and thy wife’.

## 2.2. NOTES

Personal and place-names are rarely mutated in writing. This is also the case for foreign words that do not conform to Cornish phonetic type.

Some lexical items always appear in mutated form. In later Cornish, for example, **gwetyas** ‘hope’ is always protected to **qwetyas**, and **carwas** ‘get’ is usually **gawas**. **Gordhyans** ‘praise, glory’ is usually **worryans** in the later language.

The lenition of **ch** > **j** does not always occur where expected, e.g. **da chattal** ‘thy chattels’ for expected **da \*jattal**.

The word **dedh** ‘day’ is usually assimilated to **jedh** after the article, e.g. *y’n jedh hedhyw* ‘today’, *seyth trevath y’n jedh* ‘seven times a day’. Similarly, the word **dyawl** ‘devil’ is usually assimilated to **jawl** after

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the article, e.g. *pandra'n jawl?* 'what the devil?'; in the plural the normal lenition is found: *an dhewolow* 'the devils'.

The word *dor* 'earth' is nasalized after the definite article: *an nor* 'the earth', e.g. *cùssys yw an nor* 'accursed is the earth'.

Final *-th* prevents lenition of the following consonant, e.g. *cath plos* 'dirty cat', not *cath \*blos*.

The textual evidence for mutations does not reveal the neat system that revivalist textbooks and dictionaries have often suggested. Even if one takes into consideration that some writers might have ignored mutation when writing, or that they might have made mistakes, it is clear that mutations *were* sometimes ignored, particularly if mutation would have obscured the sense. The system presented here is itself a very basic introduction and exceptions may well be noted in the remains of traditional Cornish.

## CHAPTER THREE

### NOUNS

#### 3.1. NOUNS IN *-EN* AND *-ES*

Feminine nouns in *-en* [ɛn] usually form their plural in *-ednow* [ˈɛdnoʊ], [ˈɛnoʊ], e.g. *folen* ‘page’ > *folednow*. Feminine nouns in *-es* form their plural in *-esow* [ˈɛzoʊ], e.g. *myternes* ‘queen’ > *myternesow*. The masculine noun *cleves* ‘disease’ has the plural *clevejow*.

Irregular plural formations of nouns in *-en*, *-an* include the following:

*bledhen* f. ‘year’ > *bledhydnyow* (cf. *pymþ myl ha pymþ cans a vledhydnyow* ‘five thousand and five hundred years’ CW 1861-62); though a form *bledhanyow* is also attested (*neb bledhanyow alebma* ‘some years ago’ Nicholas Boson).

*fenten* f. ‘spring’ > *fentydnyow* (cf. the toponym *Penventin-iowe*)

*steren* f. ‘star’ > *steradnow* (cf. *ef a wras an steradnow y’wedh* ‘he made the stars as well’ John Boson)

*taran* m. ‘thunder’ > *tarednow* (cf. *Yeyn kewar, tarednow ha golowas* ‘Cold weather, thunder and lightning’ Pryce).

#### 3.2. DUALS

Like the traditional texts, this orthography does not distinguish between the dual prefix for masculine and feminine nouns, which is *dêw-* in both cases. Here are some examples:

*breggh* f. ‘arm’ > *dêwvreggh* (cf. RD 1265)

*brodn* f. ‘breast’ > *dêwvron* (cf. CW 1909-10)

*clun* f. ‘haunch’ > *dêwglun* ‘buttocks’ (cf. BM 3312)

*fryg* m. ‘nostril’ > *dêwfryk* ‘nose’ (cf. CW 1934)

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**kell** f. ‘testicle’ > **dêwgell** ‘testicles’ (< Breton *divgell*, Welsh *dwy-gaill*)

**glyn** m. ‘knee’ > **dêwlyn** (cf. PA 58a)

**lagas** m. ‘eye’ > **dêwlagas** (cf. PC 1066-67)

**luef** f. ‘hand’ > **dêwla** ‘hands’ (cf. CW 1531)

**scoudh** f. ‘shoulder’, **dêwscodh** (cf. RD 2500).

Several things should be noted about these. In the first place, **dêwla** is the dual/plural both of **luef** ‘hand, arm’ and of **dorn** ‘hand’. When **dorn** means ‘fist’ it has a plural **dornow**:

*ha gans ow dornow a’n gwrydn* ‘and will wrestle him with my fists’ PC 1132

*pôr ankensy gans dornow dhodha wâr an scovarnow rêwgh boxesow trewysy* ‘very harshly with fist give him pitiable blows upon the ears’ PC 1360-62

*ha ren dhodha boxesow gans dornow ha gwelyny* ‘and we’ll give him blows with fists and rods’ PC 1389-90

*ef a vue cùffys gans dornow, kelmys gans lovonow* ‘he was buffeted by fists, bound with ropes’ TH 15a

*me a’n dorn gans ow dornow* ‘I will thump him with my fists’ BK 2651.

In the second place, one can see that by the sixteenth century the dual **dêwlagas** ‘eyes’ has been replaced by the plural **lagasow** or **lagajow**.

*ef a dorras arag agan lagasow* ‘he broke [it] before our eyes’ RD 1491-92

*ow tallhe lagasow an bobel* ‘blinding the eyes of the people’ TH 19a

*na ny’n gwelwyth lagasow* ‘nor will eyes see it’ BK 1975

*gans dha lagasow ales* ‘with your eyes wide open’ CW 694N

*Ha lagajow anjy a vue egerys* ‘And their eyes were opened’ Rowe

*pejwar, blejen, lagajow* ‘four, flower, eyes’ AB: 223.

The dual of **trous** ‘foot’ is attested once only (speaking of piercing Christ’s feet at the crucifixion):

*kentar scon dre dha dhêwdros me a’s gwysk* ‘a nail through your two feet, I will thrust it’ PC 2781-82.

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Otherwise the plural is used:

*corf ha pedn, treys ha dêwla* ‘body and head, feet and hands’ PA 130d  
*ow Arluth, treys ha dêwla* ‘my Lord, hands and feet’ PC 474  
*seghsys y dreys gans dha dhêwbleth* ‘you dried his feet with your two plaits’  
RD 854  
*sqwerdys y dreys ha’y dhêwla* ‘torn his feet and hands’ RD 1266  
*kentrewys gans Yêdhewon treys ha dêwla yredy* ‘nailed by Jews feet and hands  
indeed’ BM 2990-91  
**treys** *ha dêwla kentrewys* ‘feet and hands nailed’ BM 3035  
*spykys brás a horn dre an treys ha dêwla* ‘great spikes of iron through the feet  
and hands’ TH 15a  
*gans agan dêwla ha treys* ‘with our hands and feet’ TH 21a  
*Trous, pl. treys* ‘A foot’ AB: 119b.

Other Celtic languages also use a dual for ‘hands’ and a plural for feet, e.g. Welsh *fy nwylo* ‘my hands’ but *fy nhraed* ‘my feet’; Irish *mo dhá lámh* ‘my hands’ but *mo chosa* ‘my feet’. This distinction is maintained in this orthography: **dorn, luef** > **dêwla** but **trous** > **treys**.

The two nouns **scovarn** ‘ear’ and **pedren** ‘buttock’ are not used in the dual. Only the plural of either is attested:

### A. **scovarnow** ‘ears’

*dhodha wâr an scovarnow* ‘to him on the ears’ PC 1361  
*wâr an scovarnow bysy* ‘assiduously upon the ears’ PC 1391  
*y a vensa stophya aga scovarnow* ‘they would block up their ears’ TH 19  
*gans agan lagasow ha scovarnow* ‘with our eyes and ears’ TH 21a.

### B. **pedrednow** ‘buttocks’

*del wascaf y pedrednow* ‘as I strike his buttocks’ PC 2094  
*Rag esya an pedrednow* ‘To ease the buttocks’ BM 1422.

The simplex **pedren** may be the same word as the word spelt by Lhuyd as *patshan* ‘*clunis*, a buttock’ AB: 48b.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### PRONOUNS

#### 4.1. PERSONAL PRONOUNS

The pronouns from the Middle and Late Cornish texts show a variety of forms. This orthography allows two different paradigms for them, that is, the *literary* and the *colloquial*. The colloquial forms are typically, but not exclusively, derived from Late Cornish.

##### 4.1.1. Disjunctive pronouns

The disjunctive or independent personal pronouns are as follows:

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>me, my</i></b>	<b><i>me, my, ve, vy, avy</i></b>
2	<b><i>te, ty</i></b>	<b><i>che, chy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>ef</i></b>	<b><i>ef</i></b>
3f	<b><i>hy</i></b>	<b><i>hy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>ny</i></b>	<b><i>ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>why</i></b>	<b><i>why</i></b>
3	<b><i>y</i></b>	<b><i>anjy</i></b>

##### 4.1.2. Emphatic suffixed pronouns

The suffixed emphatic pronouns are used regularly as object pronouns with imperative verbs. They are used as object pronouns with non-imperative verbs on occasion as well. With simple inflected verbs the object is normally expressed by a personal object pronoun between particle and verb (see the next section). The objective use of suffixed pronouns should, however, be allowed in colloquial registers. The emphatic suffixed forms of the personal pronouns are as follows:

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<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>vy, ma</b>	<b>vy, ma</b>
2	<b>jy, sy</b>	<b>jy</b>
3m	<b>va, a, ef</b>	<b>va, a, ef, ava</b>
3f	<b>hy</b>	<b>hy</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>ny</b>	<b>ny</b>
2	<b>why</b>	<b>why</b>
3	<b>y</b>	<b>anjy.</b>

### 4.1.3. Objective pronouns

The objective pronouns (“infix pronouns”) are given below. These pronouns are suffixed to the verbal particle **a**, and are shown suffixed to it with the apostrophe. These forms are relatively infrequent in the colloquial register.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>
1	<b>a'm</b>
2	<b>a'th</b> (causes mixed mutation)
3m	<b>a'n</b>
3f	<b>a's</b>
<i>Plural</i>	
1	<b>a'gan</b>
2	<b>a'gas</b>
3	<b>a's.</b>

### 4.1.4. Possessive adjectives

The possessive adjectives are given here. Some of them are suffixed to preposition **a** ‘of’ as in **a'm** ‘of my’, or **dha** ‘to’ as in **dha'm** ‘to my’.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>
1	<b>ow</b> (spirantizes), <b>a'm</b> , <b>dha'm</b>
2	<b>dha</b> (lenites), <b>a'th</b> , <b>dha'th</b> (causes mixed mutation)
3m	<b>y</b> (lenites)
3f	<b>hy, y</b> (spirantizes)

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*Plural*

- 1 **agan, a'gan, dha'gan**
- 2 **agas, a'gas, dha'gas**
- 3 **aga** (spirantizes), **a'ga, dha'ga** (spirantizes).

These have two uses: **A** as objects when the verb is a verbal noun, and **B**, as possessive adjectives:

### **A**

*Mars erowgh why orth **ow** cara vy* 'If you love me'  
*Dar, ny'm clowvyth orth **dha** bejy?* 'Hey, won't you hear me beseeching you?'  
*may hallan vy **y** welas* 'so that I may see it'  
*orth **hy** themptya dha derry an frût erbydn ow dyfen* 'tempting her to pluck the fruit against my prohibition'  
*lebmyn orth **agan** gelwal* 'now calling us'  
*nammag esaf ow merwal orth **agas** gortas* 'I am almost dead waiting for you'  
*ha me a dhalleth **aga** gwyl y* 'and I shall start making them'

### **B**

*sur ef a welvyth **ow thas*** 'certainly he will see my father'  
*dre **dha wreg** y vos terryys* 'that it was broken by your wife'  
*kyn fo **y vewnans** vyth màr detestabyl* 'though his life be never so detestable'  
*rag marow yw an voren gans ow whaffys solabrys ha resys gous **hy holon*** 'for dead is the girl already by my blows and the blood of her heart has poured forth'  
*pan wreta màr goynt fara ow scollya **agan gwara*** 'when you behave so oddly, scattering our wares'  
*me a dhysqwa chy **dha'gas mester*** 'I will show a house to your master'  
*awell olow **aga threys*** 'like the prints of their feet'.

Both functions in Tudor and Late Cornish can be replaced by an emphatic pronoun after the qualified noun or verbal noun. The noun may be preceded by the definite article.

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### 4.2. PREPOSITIONAL PRONOUNS

The prepositional pronouns from the Middle and Late Cornish texts show a variety of forms. This orthography allows both literary and the colloquial paradigms for them.

#### 4.2.1. *dha* ‘to’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>dhybm</i></b>	<b><i>dha vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>dhys</i></b>	<b><i>dha jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>dhodha</i></b>	<b><i>dhodh’ef, dha ef</i></b>
3f	<b><i>dhedhy</i></b>	<b><i>dha hy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>dhèn</i></b>	<b><i>dha ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>dhewgh</i></b>	<b><i>dha why</i></b>
3	<b><i>dhodhans</i></b>	<b><i>dha anjy, dh’anjy</i></b>

Note that in all cases in the above paradigm, initial ***dh-*** may be replaced by ***d-***, e.g. ***dybm, dys, da vy, da jy***, etc.

#### 4.2.2. *gans*, (colloq.) *gen* ‘with’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>genaf</i></b>	<b><i>genaf vy, genama, genam</i></b>
2	<b><i>genas</i></b>	<b><i>genas jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>gansa</i></b>	<b><i>gonsa, gons’ef, gonja</i></b>
3f	<b><i>gensy</i></b>	<b><i>gonsy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>genan</i></b>	<b><i>genan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>genowgh</i></b>	<b><i>genowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>gansans</i></b>	<b><i>gonjans</i></b>

The ending in ***genowgh why*** is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written ***geno’why***.

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### 4.2.3. *yn* ‘in’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>ynnaf</i></b>	<b><i>ynnaf vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>ynnas</i></b>	<b><i>ynnas jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>yinna</i></b>	<b><i>yn ef, eta, etten</i></b>
3f	<b><i>ynhy, ynny</i></b>	<b><i>eta hy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>ynnan</i></b>	<b><i>ynnan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>ynnowgh</i></b>	<b><i>ynnowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>ynnans</i></b>	<b><i>yn anjy, ettans, et anjy.</i></b>

Colloquially *et* ‘in’ is used before the possessive adjectives, and *et an* ‘in the’ may replace *y’n* of the more conservative register.

The ending in *ynnowgh why* is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *yнно’why*.

### 4.2.4. *dheworth, dhort* ‘from’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>dheworthaf</i></b>	<b><i>dhortaf vy, dhortam</i></b>
2	<b><i>dheworthas</i></b>	<b><i>dhorta jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>dheworta</i></b>	<b><i>dhorta, dhort’ef</i></b>
3f	<b><i>dheworty</i></b>	<b><i>dhorty</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>dheworthan</i></b>	<b><i>dhortan ny, dhorth ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>dheworthowgh</i></b>	<b><i>dhortowgh why, dhort why</i></b>
3	<b><i>dhewortans</i></b>	<b><i>dhorans, dhort’anjy .</i></b>

In the colloquial forms *d-* may replace initial *dh-*, e.g. *dorta vy*, *dortam*, etc. Note also that colloquial *dhort* and *dort* may replace the more literary *dheworth*, e.g. *d(h)ort an dalleth* ‘from the beginning’ instead of *dheworth an dalleth*.

The ending in *dhortowgh why* is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *dhorto’why*.

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### 4.2.5. *orth*, *worth* ‘upon’

This prepositional pronoun is not much used in Late Cornish.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>orthaf</i></b>	<b><i>orthaf vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>orthas</i></b>	<b><i>orthas</i></b>
3m	<b><i>orta</i></b>	<b><i>orta ef</i></b>
3f	<b><i>orty</i></b>	<b><i>orty hy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>orthan</i></b>	<b><i>orthan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>orthowgh</i></b>	<b><i>orthowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>ortans</i></b>	<b><i>ort’anjy.</i></b>

In the colloquial forms ***wo-*** may replace initial ***o-***, i.e. ***wortaf***, ***worta ef***, etc.

Colloquially, ***orth an*** may be replaced by ***ort an***, e.g. ***ort an gorhal uja va gwyl gen ascorn scoudh davas*** ‘because of the ship he makes with the shoulder-bone of a sheep’.

The ending in (***w***)***orthowgh why*** is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written (***w***)***ortho’why***.

### 4.2.6. *a* ‘of’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>ahanaf</i></b>	<b><i>ahanaf vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>ahanas</i></b>	<b><i>ahanasta, a chy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>anodha</i></b>	<b><i>nodha</i></b>
3f	<b><i>anedhy</i></b>	<b><i>nodhy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>ahanan</i></b>	<b><i>ahanan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>ahanowgh</i></b>	<b><i>ahanowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>anodhans</i></b>	<b><i>ah’anjy, nonjy.</i></b>

The ending in ***ahanowgh why*** is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written ***ahano’why***.

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### 4.2.7. *wàr* ‘on, upon’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>warnaf</i></b>	<b><i>warnaf vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>warnas</i></b>	<b><i>warna jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>warnodha</i></b>	<b><i>warnodha</i></b>
3f	<b><i>warnedhy</i></b>	<b><i>warnedhy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>warnan</i></b>	<b><i>warnan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>warnowgh</i></b>	<b><i>warnowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>warnodhans</i></b>	<b><i>wàr anjy.</i></b>

The ending in ***warnowgh why*** is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written ***warno'why***.

### 4.2.8. *rag* ‘for’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>ragaf</i></b>	<b><i>ragaf vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>ragas</i></b>	<b><i>ragas jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>ragtha</i></b>	<b><i>racta</i></b>
3f	<b><i>rygthy</i></b>	<b><i>racty</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>ragan</i></b>	<b><i>ragan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>ragowgh</i></b>	<b><i>ragowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>ragthans</i></b>	<b><i>ract'anjy.</i></b>

The ***g*** in the root is devoiced before [θ], as in ***ragtha*** [ˈɹækθə], ***rygthy*** [ˈɹɪkθi], ***ragthans*** [ˈɹækθənz]; before [t] in the colloquial register it is written ***c*** as in ***racta***, ***racty***, ***ract'anjy***.

The ending in ***ragowgh why*** is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written ***rago'why***.

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### 4.2.9. *dherag* ‘before, in front of’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>dheragaf</i></b>	<b><i>dheragaf vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>dheragas</i></b>	<b><i>dheragas jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>dheragtha</i></b>	<b><i>dheracta</i></b>
3f	<b><i>dherygthy</i></b>	<b><i>dheracty</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>dheragan</i></b>	<b><i>dheragan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>dharagowgh</i></b>	<b><i>dheragowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>dheragthans</i></b>	<b><i>dheract’anjy, dheractans.</i></b>

All forms may be written and pronounced with initial *d-* instead of *dh-*. The *g* in the root is devoiced before [θ], as in ***dheragtha*** [ðə'ɹækθə], ***dherygthy*** [ðə'ɹɪkθi], ***dheragthans*** [ðə'ɹækθənz]; before [t] in the colloquial register it is written *c* as in ***dheracta***, ***dheracty***, ***dheract’anjy***.

The ending in ***dheragowgh why*** is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written ***dherago’why***.

### 4.2.10. *reb* ‘beside’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>rebaf</i></b>	<b><i>rebaf vy, rebam</i></b>
2	<b><i>rebas</i></b>	<b><i>rebas jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>rebtha</i></b>	<b><i>repta</i></b>
3f	<b><i>rebthy</i></b>	<b><i>repty</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>reban</i></b>	<b><i>reban ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>rebowgh</i></b>	<b><i>rebowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>rebthans</i></b>	<b><i>rept’anjy.</i></b>

***Heb*** ‘without’ conjugates similarly. The *b* in the root is devoiced before [θ], as in ***rebtha*** [ˈɹɛpθə], ***rebthy*** [ˈɹɛpθi], ***rebthans*** [ˈɹɛpθənz]; before [t] in the colloquial register it is written *p* as in ***repta***, ***repty***, ***rept’anjy***.



## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

The ending in *rebowgh why* is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *rebo'why*.

### 4.2.11. *dre* 'through'

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>dredhaf</i></b>	<b><i>dredhaf vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>dredhas</i></b>	<b><i>dredhas jy</i></b>
3m	<b><i>dredha</i></b>	<b><i>dredh'ef</i></b>
3f	<b><i>dredhy</i></b>	<b><i>dredhy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>dredhan</i></b>	<b><i>dredhan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>dredhowgh</i></b>	<b><i>dredhowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>dredhans</i></b>	<b><i>dredh'anjy</i></b>

The ending in *dredhowgh why* is regularly reduced to [o] or [ə], and in poetry and similar contexts may be written *dredho'why*.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### VERBS

#### 5.0. GENERAL REMARKS

Traditional Cornish has a strong tendency to avoid the use of conjugated forms and instead uses the verbal auxiliaries **bos** ‘be’, **mennas** ‘wish’, **gwyl** ‘do’, **dos** ‘come’, **godhvas** ‘know, be able’, **gallos** ‘be able’, and **gasa** ‘let’, with the verbal noun or verbal adjective. The use of **gwyl** in particular is very widespread at all periods. Many texts make only very infrequent use of verbal forms other than the 3rd singular present, imperfect, and preterite. Instead, they prefer one of the auxiliary verbs. This ought to be the model for the syntax of everyday Revived Cornish. In poetry and other sorts of literature, of course, the more complex conjugated forms have their place.

In the following pages, paradigms are cited throughout in the proposed orthography. It must be remembered that in many cases the forms cited are modern reconstructions, since the relevant part of the verb is unattested in our sources. Most verbs have a present/future, imperfect, and preterite. **Mos** ‘go’ and **dos** ‘come’ have separate perfect forms also. Some verbs (e.g. **bos** ‘be’, **godhvas** ‘know’, **clowas** ‘hear’) have special forms for the future distinct from the present. In the very earliest Middle Cornish the conditional is also a pluperfect; this usage had been lost by the fifteenth century except in **bos** ‘be’.

#### 5.1. **BOS, BONAS** ‘BE’

*Present participle* **ow pos, ow ponas** ‘being’

*Verbal adjective* not used

##### 5.1.1. The short present

‘I am, you are, he is’, etc. This is used to describe what something is rather than its location, and is not with **ow** + the verbal noun.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>of</b>	<b>of vy, oma</b>
2	<b>os, osta, ota</b>	<b>osta, osta jy</b>
3	<b>yw, ywa</b>	<b>yw, ywa</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>on</b>	<b>on ny</b>
2	<b>owgh</b>	<b>owgh why</b>
3	<b>yns</b>	<b>enyj.</b>

### 5.1.2. The long present

*Positive forms:* ‘I am, you are, he is’, etc. This is used to describe location and also used with **ow** + the verbal noun.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>yth esaf, yth esaf vy</b>	<b>th’eraf vy, th’eram</b>
2	<b>yth esas, yth ejas, yth esta, yth esta jy</b>	<b>th’era chy, th’esta</b>
3	<b>yma, yma ef, yma hy</b>	<b>ma, ma ef, ma va, ma hy</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>yth esan, yth esan ny</b>	<b>th’eran ny</b>
2	<b>yth esowgh, yth eso’why</b>	<b>th’erowgh why</b>
3	<b>ymowns, ymownjy</b>	<b>mowns, mownjy</b>

*Negative and relative forms:* ‘I am not, you are not, he is not’, etc. or ‘I who am, you who are, he who is’, etc. These are mostly used with **ow** + the verbal noun. To form the negative, **nynj** or **nyns** is prefixed to the literary forms, and **nag** is prefixed to the colloquial forms. For the literary form **ujy** below, **usy** may also be used.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>esaf, esaf vy</b>	<b>eraf vy, eram</b>
2	<b>esas, ejas, esta, esta jy</b>	<b>era chy, esta</b>
3	<b>ues</b> ‘there is not’, ‘which is’	<b>ês</b>
3mf	<b>ujy, ujy ef, ujy hy</b>	<b>ujy, uja va, uja hy</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### *Plural*

1	<b><i>esan, esan ny</i></b>	<b><i>eran ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>esowgh, esowgh why</i></b>	<b><i>erowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>esans, esans y</i></b>	<b><i>era anjy</i></b>

### **5.1.3. The short imperfect**

‘I was, you were, he was’, etc. This is used to describe a continuous state in the past.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>en</i></b>	<b><i>o ma</i></b>
2	<b><i>es</i></b>	<b><i>o chy</i></b>
3	<b><i>o</i></b>	<b><i>o va, o hy</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>en, en ny</i></b>	<b><i>o ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>êwgh</i></b>	<b><i>o why</i></b>
3	<b><i>êns</i></b>	<b><i>o anjy</i></b>

### **5.1.4. The long imperfect.**

‘I was, you were, he was’, etc. This is used to describe a continuous location in the past. It is also used with **ow** + the verbal noun.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>esen</i></b>	<b><i>eraf vy, eram</i></b>
2	<b><i>eses</i></b>	<b><i>era chy, esta</i></b>
3	<b><i>esa</i></b>	<b><i>era</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>esen</i></b>	<b><i>eran ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>esêwgh</i></b>	<b><i>erowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>esens</i></b>	<b><i>era anjy.</i></b>

NOTE: The vowel in the final syllable in the literary forms of the long imperfect is [ə] as it is in **esas**, **esan**, and **esans** of the long present; the distinction is purely orthographic.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.1.5. The preterite

‘I was, you were, he was’, etc. This is used to describe a past state which is completed.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>buef</b>	<b>bema</b>
2	<b>bues</b>	<b>be chy</b>
3	<b>bue</b>	<b>be</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>buen</b>	<b>ben ny</b>
2	<b>bêwgh why</b>	<b>bêwgh why</b>
3	<b>bowns, bownjy</b>	<b>bowns, be anjy</b>

### 5.1.6. The future

‘I will be, you will be, he will be’, etc. This tense can also be used for a habitual present.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>bedhaf</b>	<b>bedhaf vy, bedhama, bedham</b>
2	<b>bedhys</b>	<b>bedhys</b>
3	<b>bedh, bydh</b>	<b>bedh</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>bedhan</b>	<b>bedhan ny, bedh ny</b>
2	<b>bedhowgh</b>	<b>bedhowgh why, bedh why</b>
3	<b>bedhans</b>	<b>bedhans, bedh anjy</b>

In many cases colloquially, this tense will be replaced by periphrasis: **me a vedn bos dewedhas hanath** ‘I will be late this evening’, **na vannaf vy bos obma avorow** ‘I will not be here tomorrow’ and **a vednowgh why bos pell yn Londres?** ‘will you be long in London?’

### 5.1.7. The habitual past

‘I was being, you were being, he was being’, etc. This is also used as a potential tense in indirect speech, ‘that I would be, that you would be, that he would be’, etc.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>bedhan</b>	<b>me a vedha</b>
2	<b>bedhas</b>	<b>che a vedha</b>
3	<b>bedha</b>	<b>ef a vedha</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>bedhan</b>	<b>ny a vedha</b>
2	<b>bedhowgh</b>	<b>why a vedha</b>
3	<b>bedhans</b>	<b>anjy a vedha</b>

In Middle Cornish, as well as having a habitual sense, this tense is used as describe the future-in-the-past in constructions like **ef a wrug promysya dhybm y fedhan mylweyth dha well** ‘he promised me that I should be a thousand times better’.

### 5.1.8. The subjunctive

Originally Cornish had two subjunctive tenses, but the two have largely fallen together. In this verb the two forms are attested, but their uses are similar. Only the singular form **bo**, however, is used in jussives, e.g. *re bo gras Dew genas* ‘may the grace of God be with you’

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>ben</b>	<b>bo vy</b>
2	<b>bes, besta</b>	<b>bo chy</b>
3	<b>be, bo</b>	<b>bo ef, bo hy</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>ben, ben ny</b>	<b>bo ny</b>
2	<b>bowgh</b>	<b>bowgh why</b>
3	<b>bens, bowns</b>	<b>bo anjy.</b>

The jussive third singular is **re bo** ‘may it be’.

### 5.1.9. The conditional/pluperfect

This uses the old pluperfect stem **bia-**.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>bian</b>	<b>biam</b>
2	<b>bias</b>	<b>bias</b>
3	<b>bia</b>	<b>bia</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*Plural*

1	<b>bian</b>	<b>bian</b>
2	<b>bioŵgh</b>	<b>bioŵgh</b>
3	<b>bians</b>	<b>bians</b>

In colloquial contexts, this tense will be replaced by periphrasis, e.g. **na ve ef dha dhos yn termyn, ny a venja bos yn peryl mernans** ‘had he not come in time, we would have been in mortal danger’.

### 5.1.10. The imperative

In the colloquial register all but the second person singular and plural will be formed periphrastically, e.g. **gesowgh ny dha vos lowen** ‘let’s be happy’, **gerowgh anjy dha vos obma pan vo dâ gonjans** ‘let them be here when they want’. See §5.8.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	—	—
2	<b>bedh</b>	<b>bedh</b>
3	<b>bedhans</b>	—
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>bedhan</b>	—
2	<b>bedhowgh</b>	<b>bedhowgh</b>
3	<b>bedhans</b>	—

### 5.2. Y’M BUES AND THE IDIOMATIC POSSESSIVE

In Middle Cornish the verb **y’*m bues*** ‘I have’ has a tendency to be recharacterized with personal endings, e.g. **ny’gan bedhan** ‘we used not have’ BM 4268, **kyn na’*m boma lowena*** ‘though I may not have joy’ CW 928. Moreover in the second person singular the pronominal element **’*th*** becomes merged with the following **f** and the result is similar to a form of the simple verb **bos** ‘be’ itself, e.g. **te a’*th fydh*** > **te a’*fydh*** > cf. **te a’*vydh*** ‘thou shalt be’. As a result of these two developments the verb **bos** itself acquires possessive sense. Richard Gendall calls this the ‘idiomatic possessive’.

For those who wish to use forms of **y’*m bues***, the paradigms are as follows.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<i>Present</i>	<i>Future</i>	<i>Preterite</i>
<b>y'm bues</b>	<b>y'm bedh</b>	<b>y'm bue</b>
<b>y'th ues</b>	<b>y'fedh</b>	<b>y'fue</b>
<b>y'n jeves m.</b>	<b>y'n jevyth m.</b>	<b>y'n jeva m.</b>
<b>y's teves f.</b>	<b>y's tevyth f.</b>	<b>y's teva f.</b>
<b>y'gan bues</b>	<b>y'gan bedh</b>	<b>y'gan bue</b>
<b>y'gas bues</b>	<b>y'gas bedh</b>	<b>y'gas bue</b>
<b>y's teves</b>	<b>y's tevyth</b>	<b>y's teva</b>
<i>Imperfect</i>	<i>Subjunctive</i>	<i>Conditional</i>
<b>y'm bo</b>	<b>y'm bo</b>	<b>y'm bia</b>
<b>y'fo</b>	<b>y'fo</b>	<b>y'fia</b>
<b>y'n jeva m.</b>	<b>y'n jeffa m.</b>	<b>y'n jevya m.</b>
<b>y's teva f.</b>	<b>y's teffa f.</b>	<b>y's tevy f.</b>
<b>y'gan bo</b>	<b>y'gan bo</b>	<b>y'gan bia</b>
<b>y'gas bo</b>	<b>y'gas bo</b>	<b>y'gas bia</b>
<b>y's teva</b>	<b>y's teffa</b>	<b>y's tevy</b>

The verb **y'm bues** is available in the proposed orthography, because it is an integral part of the traditional language. Since, however, the idiomatic possessive is more productive in Tudor and Late texts, it should be taught to learners in preference to **y'm bues** itself. Those learning Cornish, therefore, should be taught sentences like the following:

*Pan wrug avy clowas hedna, **me a vue** own brâs* ‘When I heard that, I was very afraid’

*Na ve Myhal dha weras dhèn, **ny a via** cudyn gen an wedhen Nadelak* ‘If Michael hadn’t helped us, we would have had a problem with the Christmas tree’

*Pana wober **a vedhowgh why** y’n sodh noweth?* ‘What salary will you have in the new job?’

*Na venjowgh why crejy an plesour **a vian ny**, màr teffowgh why ha gwyl hedna ragan ny* ‘You wouldn’t believe what pleasure it would give us, were you to do that for us.’

*Dre reson why oll dha’m ynnia vy, an horsen cabm **a vedh** an second chauns* ‘Because you all are urging me, the lousy bastard will get a second chance’

*Màr teffa ef ha gwyl tra a’n par-na, **na via ef** kybmyas dos obma nefra arta* ‘If he had done something like that, he would never have been allowed to come here again.’



## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.3. *MENNAS* ‘WILL, WISH’

*Present participle* **ow mennas**

*Verbal adjective* not used

This verb is used in the present with a verbal noun to make the future, e.g. **hy a vedn y welas ena** ‘she will see him there’. Its conditional is also used with a verbal noun to express the conditional of other verbs: **na venja ef crejy, na ve my dh’y glerya dhodha** ‘he wouldn’t have believed, if I hadn’t explained it to him’.

#### 5.3.1. The present

Note that the more literary forms may appear without pre-occlusion. Pre-occlusion is not expected in the second singular **menta**:

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>mednaf, mannaf</b>	<b>mednaf, madam</b>
2	<b>mednys, menta</b>	<b>mednys, menta</b>
3	<b>mydn</b>	<b>medn, medn ava, medn hy</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>mednyn</b>	<b>mednan ny</b>
2	<b>mednowgh</b>	<b>mednowgh why</b>
3	<b>mednans</b>	<b>medn anjy.</b>

#### 5.3.2. The conditional

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>menjan, mensan</b>	<b>menjaf vy, menjam(a)</b>
2	<b>menjas, mensas</b>	<b>menja chy, menjasta</b>
3	<b>menja, mensa</b>	<b>menja ef, menja hy</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>menjan, menjan</b>	<b>menjan ny</b>
2	<b>menjowgh, mensowgh</b>	<b>menjowgh why</b>
3	<b>menjans, mensans</b>	<b>menja anjy, menjans</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

The following forms are used in the literary register:

<i>Preterite</i>	<i>Imperfect</i>	<i>Subjunctive</i>
<b>mednys</b>	<b>mednan</b>	<b>mednan, mydnyf</b>
<b>mensys</b>	<b>mednas</b>	<b>mednas, mydny</b>
<b>mednas</b>	<b>medna</b>	<b>medna</b>
<b>mensyn</b>	<b>mednan</b>	<b>mednan</b>
<b>mensowgh</b>	<b>mednowgh</b>	<b>mednowgh</b>
<b>mensans</b>	<b>mednans</b>	<b>mednans</b>
<i>Imperative</i>		
not used		

### 5.4. GWYL, GUL, GWETHYL ‘DO, MAKE’

*Present participle* **ow qwyl, ow cul, ow qwethyl** ‘doing’

*Verbal adjective* **gwrys** ‘done’

This is a common verb at all periods and it is used as an auxiliary most frequently in the present, the past, the conditional, and the imperative.

#### 5.4.1 The verbal noun

The first matter that needs to be settled, however, is the shape of the verbal noun to be used. There appear originally to have been three separate forms, **gruthyl**, **guthyl** and **gul**. Some believe that **guthyl** and **gul** are the direct origin of **gweel** and **geel** in Late Cornish. Others believe that **gweel** came about analogically from **weel** with lenited initial. It is quite possible that both developments were instrumental in producing the two Late Cornish forms **gweel** and **geel**. We recommend **gwyl** (cf. *gwiel* SA, *gwyle*, *gwyll* CW) as standard, being the most distinctive form and also the form that is easiest to pronounce.

#### 5.4.2. The present/future

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>gwraf, gwrama</b>	<b>gwra vy</b>
2	<b>gwres, gwrêta</b>	<b>gwras, gwra chy</b>
3	<b>gwra</b>	<b>gwra</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### *Plural*

1	<b>gwren</b>	<b>gwren, gwra ny</b>
2	<b>gwrêwgh</b>	<b>gwrêwgh why, gwra why</b>
3	<b>gwròwns</b>	<b>gwròwnjy, gwra anjy</b>

### 5.4.3. The preterite

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>gwrug, gwruga</b>	<b>gwruga vy</b>
2	<b>gwrussys, gwrusta</b>	<b>gwrusta</b>
3	<b>gwrug</b>	<b>gwrug hy, gwruga (va)</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>gwrussyn</b>	<b>gwrugan ny</b>
2	<b>gwrussowgh</b>	<b>gwrugowgh why</b>
3	<b>gwrussans</b>	<b>gwrugans, gwrug anjy</b>

### 5.4.4. The imperfect

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>gwren</b>	<b>gwren vy</b>
2	<b>gwres</b>	<b>gwre chy</b>
3	<b>gwre</b>	<b>gwre</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>gwren</b>	<b>gwren ny</b>
2	<b>gwrêwgh</b>	<b>gwrêwgh why</b>
3	<b>gwrêns</b>	<b>gwrêns anjy</b>

### 5.4.5. The subjunctive

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>gwrellan, gwryllyf</b>	<b>gwrelhan</b>
2	<b>gwrellas, gwrylly</b>	<b>gwrelhas, gwrylhy</b>
3	<b>gwrella</b>	<b>gwrelha</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>gwrellan</b>	<b>gwrelhan ny</b>
2	<b>gwrelowgh</b>	<b>gwrelhowgh why</b>
3	<b>gwrellans</b>	<b>gwrelhans</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.4.6. The conditional

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>gwrussan</b>	<b>gwressan, gwressaf vy</b>
2	<b>gwrussas</b>	<b>gwressas, gwressa chy</b>
3	<b>gwrussa</b>	<b>gwressa</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>gwrussan</b>	<b>gwressan ny</b>
2	<b>gwrussowgh</b>	<b>gwressowgh why</b>
3	<b>gwrussans</b>	<b>gwressa anjy.</b>

### 5.4.7. The imperative

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	—	
2	<b>gwra</b>	<b>gwra jy</b>
3	<b>gwrêns</b>	<b>gwrêns</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>gwren</b>	<b>gwren ny</b>
2	<b>gwrêwgh</b>	<b>gwrêwgh</b>
3	<b>gwrêns</b>	<b>gwrêns</b>

### 5.5. DOS, DONAS ‘COME’

*Present participle* **ow tos, ow tonas** ‘coming’

*Verbal adjective* **devedhys** ‘come’

This verb is used in particular after **mâr** ‘if’ in both real conditions in future time (e.g. **mâr tueva ha dasserhy** ‘if he happens to rise again’ RD 7) and unreal conditions in the past (e.g. *Rag mâr teffa Crîst ha dos yn dalleth an bes whare wosa mab den dha beha* ‘For if Christ had come at the beginning of the world shortly after mankind had sinned’ TH 13a). It is used as an auxiliary in final clauses as well (e.g. *may teffan ha tedna dha’n dor an pryd ues ow râynya ynnan* ‘so that we should tear down the pride which reigns in us’ TH 6a). The two useful auxiliary tenses, therefore, are the present/future and the subjunctive.

**R’effa** is not **relha**, a form of **gwrelha**, the subjunctive of **gwyl**; it is an abbreviation of the (jussive) subjunctive of **dos**, properly **re dheffa**.

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### 5.5.1. The present

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>doj, duef, duema</b>	<b>dema</b>
2	<b>deth, dêta</b>	<b>de chy</b>
3	<b>due, due va</b>	<b>de, de va</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>duen</b>	<b>den ny</b>
2	<b>dêwgh</b>	<b>dêwgh why</b>
3	<b>downs, downs y</b>	<b>de anjy</b>

### 5.5.2. The subjunctive

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>deffan</b>	<b>deffan vy</b>
2	<b>deffas, deffasta</b>	<b>deffas chy</b>
3	<b>deffa</b>	<b>deffa ef, deffa hy</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>deffan</b>	<b>deffan ny</b>
2	<b>deffowgh</b>	<b>deffowgh why</b>
3	<b>deffans</b>	<b>deffa anjy</b>

The following forms are used in the literary register:

<i>Preterite</i>	<i>Imperfect</i>	<i>Perfect</i>
<b>dueth</b>	<b>den</b>	<b>duevaf</b>
<b>duethys</b>	<b>des</b>	<b>duevas</b>
<b>dueth</b>	<b>do</b>	<b>dueva</b>
<b>duethan</b>	<b>den</b>	<b>duevon</b>
<b>duethowgh</b>	<b>dêwgh</b>	<b>duevowgh</b>
<b>duethans</b>	<b>dêns</b>	<b>duevans</b>
<i>Conditional</i>	<i>Imperative</i>	
<b>dothyan</b>	—	
<b>dothyas</b>	<b>dues</b>	
<b>dothya</b>	<b>dêns</b>	
<b>dothyan</b>	<b>duen</b>	
<b>dothyowgh</b>	<b>dêwgh</b>	
<b>dothyans</b>	<b>dêns</b>	

Note that the perfect is a compound of the root **due-** and the preterite **buef**, etc. of **bos**.

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### 5.6. GODHVAS ‘KNOW, BE ABLE’

*Present participle* **ow codhvas** ‘knowing, being able’

*Verbal adjective* **godhvedhys** ‘known’

This verb is used to mean ‘be able, can’ as well as ‘know’. It is used mostly in the present and in the imperfect.

#### 5.6.1. The present

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>gòn</b>	<b>goraf vy, gorama</b> <i>negative na worama</i>
2	<b>godhas, godhasta</b>	<b>gosta</b>
3	<b>gor</b>	<b>gor</b> ; <i>negative na wor</i>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>godhan</b>	<b>goran, goran ny</b>
2	<b>godhowgh</b>	<b>gorowgh why</b>
3	<b>godhans</b>	<b>gor anjy.</b>

Note that in the first person singular **gòn** the vowel is short. Since a pre-occluded form \***godn** is unattested, we write **gòn** with a grave to show that the vowel is not long. **Gòn** is replaced in later Cornish by the analogical **gorama**, **goraf vy**. The lenited colloquial forms **worama** [ˈwɔɾəmɔ], **wosta** [ˈwɔstɔ], **wor** [ˈwɔːɹ], etc. are sometimes pronounced [ˈɔɾəmɔ], [ˈɔstɔ], [ˈɔːɹ]. See also §1.6.23.

#### 5.6.2. The imperfect

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>godhyan</b>	<b>goyan vy</b>
2	<b>godhyas</b>	<b>goyas chy</b>
3	<b>godhya</b>	<b>goya ef/hy</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>godhyan</b>	<b>goyan ny</b>
2	<b>godhyowgh</b>	<b>goyowgh why</b>
3	<b>godhyans</b>	<b>goya anjy.</b>

The lenited colloquial forms **woyan** [ˈwɔjən], **woyas** [ˈwɔjəs], **woya** [ˈwɔjə], etc. are sometimes pronounced [ˈɔjən], [ˈɔjəs], [ˈɔjə]. See also §1.6.23.

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The following forms are used in the literary register:

<i>Preterite</i>	<i>Subjunctive</i>	<i>Conditional</i>
<b>gothfef</b>	<b>goffan; gothfyf</b>	<b>goffyan</b>
<b>gothfes</b>	<b>goffas; gothfy</b>	<b>goffyas</b>
<b>gothfa</b>	<b>goffa</b>	<b>goffya</b>
<b>gothfen</b>	<b>goffan</b>	<b>goffyan</b>
<b>gothfêwgh</b>	<b>goffowgh</b>	<b>goffyowgh</b>
<b>gothfans</b>	<b>goffans</b>	<b>goffyans</b>
<i>Imperative</i>		
—		
<b>goffyth; coll. gor</b>		
<b>goffedhans</b>		
<b>goffedhyn</b>		
<b>goffedhowgh</b>		
<b>goffedhans</b>		

The preterite **\*gothfef**, **\*gothfes**, etc. is unattested anywhere in traditional Cornish. To render the preterite ‘I knew suddenly, I realized’ **me a wrug godhvas** may be used.

### 5.7. GALLOS ‘BE ABLE’

*Present participle* not used

*Verbal adjective* not used

The commonest tenses of this verb are the present-future, the (past) subjunctive and the conditional.

#### 5.7.1. The present/future

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b>gallaf</b>	<b>gellaf vy, gellama, gellam</b>
2	<b>gyllysta, gylta</b>	<b>gellasta</b>
3	<b>gyll, gyllvyth</b> ( <i>future</i> )	<b>gell, gell ava</b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b>gyllyn</b>	<b>gellen ny</b>
2	<b>gylowgh</b>	<b>gellowgh why</b>
3	<b>gyllans</b>	<b>gell anjy.</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.7.2. The subjunctive

The present subjunctive *gyllyf*, *gylly*, *gallo*, etc. is well preserved in the earliest texts but soon yields to the past subjunctive *gallen*, *galles*, *galla*, etc., largely because the third singular forms *gallo* and *galla* became phonetically indistinguishable, as did the second and third persons of the plural. Both are used exclusively after *may* in final clauses.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>may hallan</i></b>	<b><i>m'allaf vy</i></b>
2	<b><i>may hallas</i></b>	<b><i>m'alla chy</i></b>
3	<b><i>may halla</i></b>	<b><i>m'alla, m'alja; m'alla va</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>may hallan</i></b>	<b><i>m'allan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>may hallowgh</i></b>	<b><i>m'allowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>may hallans</i></b>	<b><i>m'alla anjy.</i></b>

### 5.7.3. The conditional

A preterite *ny allas* 'he was not able' also existed in the earlier language. Both the imperfect and the preterite are replaced by the conditional in the later language, presumably by analogy with English: 'I could' in English is both past, e.g. 'I practised and practised and finally I could do it without difficulty' (past sense) and 'If I really practised, I'm sure I could do it' (conditional sense).

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Literary</i>	<i>Colloquial</i>
1	<b><i>galsan, galjan</i></b>	<b><i>galjama</i></b>
2	<b><i>galsas, galjas</i></b>	<b><i>galja chy</i></b>
3	<b><i>galsa, galja</i></b>	<b><i>galja</i></b>
<i>Plural</i>		
1	<b><i>galsan, galjan</i></b>	<b><i>galjan ny</i></b>
2	<b><i>galsowgh, galjowgh</i></b>	<b><i>galjowgh why</i></b>
3	<b><i>galsans, galjans</i></b>	<b><i>galja anjy</i></b>



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The following forms are used in the literary register:

<i>Preterite</i>	<i>Imperfect</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>gyllys</b>	<b>gyllyn</b>	not used
<b>gylsys</b>	<b>gyllys</b>	
<b>gallas</b>	<b>gylla</b>	
<b>gylsyn</b>	<b>gyllyn</b>	
<b>gylsowgh</b>	<b>gylowgh</b>	
<b>galsans</b>	<b>gyllans</b>	

As noted these two tenses in the colloquial register are both replaced by **galjama**, **galja chy**, etc. The imperfect tense of **gallos** is not common, indistinguishable as it is in part from the present. If one needs to say ‘I was not able’ as an imperfect one can use **abel** ‘able’; cf. *ynwedh nynj o mab den abel dha weras y honen yn hemma* ‘also mankind were not able to help themselves in this matter’ TH 12a, *nynj o abel dha’gan gveras ny* ‘he was not able to help us’ TH 13a.

### 5.8. GASA, GARA ‘LEAVE, LET’

*Present participle* **ow casa**, **ow cara** ‘leaving’

*Verbal adjective* **gesys**, **gerys** ‘left’

<i>Present/Future</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>gasaf</b>	<b>gesys</b>	<b>gasan</b>
<b>gesys</b>	<b>gyssys, gysta</b>	<b>gasas</b>
<b>gas</b>	<b>gasas, garas</b>	<b>gasa</b>
<b>gesyn, geryn</b>	<b>gessyn</b>	<b>gasan</b>
<b>gesowgh</b>	<b>gessowgh</b>	<b>gasowgh</b>
<b>gasans</b>	<b>gassans</b>	<b>gasans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>gassan, gyssyf</b>	<b>gassan</b>	—
<b>gasses, gyssy</b>	<b>gassas</b>	<b>gas</b>
<b>gassa</b>	<b>gassa</b>	<b>gasans lit.</b>
<b>gassan</b>	<b>gassan</b>	<b>gesyn</b>
<b>gassowgh</b>	<b>gassowgh</b>	<b>gesowgh</b>
<b>gassans</b>	<b>gassans</b>	<b>gasans lit.</b>

### 5.9. MOS, MONAS ‘GO’

*Present participle* **ow mos**, **ow monas** ‘going’

*Verbal adjective* **gyllys** ‘gone’

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<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>af, ama</b>	<b>êth</b>	<b>en</b>
<b>êth, êta</b>	<b>ethys</b>	<b>es</b>
<b>â</b>	<b>êth</b>	<b>e</b>
<b>en</b>	<b>ethan</b>	<b>en</b>
<b>êwgh</b>	<b>ethowgh</b>	<b>êwgh</b>
<b>ôns</b>	<b>ethans</b>	<b>êns</b>
<i>Perfect (literary)</i>	<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>
<b>galsaf</b>	<b>ellan, yllyf</b>	<b>gylsan</b>
<b>galsas</b>	<b>ellas, ylly</b>	<b>gylsas</b>
<b>gallas</b>	<b>ella</b>	<b>galsa</b>
<b>galsan</b>	<b>ellan</b>	<b>gylsan</b>
<b>galsowgh</b>	<b>ellowgh</b>	<b>gylsowgh</b>
<b>galsans</b>	<b>ellans</b>	<b>galsans</b>
<i>Imperative</i>		
—		
<b>kê, â</b>		
<b>êns</b> <i>lit.</i>		
<b>duen</b>		
<b>kêwgh, êwgh</b>		
<b>êns</b> <i>lit.</i>		

### 5.10. CARA ‘LOVE’

*Present participle* **ow cara** ‘loving’

*Verbal adjective* **kerys** ‘loved’

<i>Present/Future</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>caraf</b>	<b>kerys</b>	<b>caran</b>
<b>kerys, kerta</b>	<b>kerys</b>	<b>caras</b>
<b>car</b>	<b>caras</b>	<b>cara</b>
<b>keryn</b>	<b>keryn</b>	<b>caran</b>
<b>kerowgh</b>	<b>kersowgh</b>	<b>carowgh</b>
<b>carans</b>	<b>carsans</b>	<b>carans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>carran, kyrryf</b>	<b>carsan</b>	—
<b>carras, kyrry</b>	<b>carsas</b>	<b>car</b>
<b>carra</b>	<b>carsa</b>	<b>carans</b> <i>lit.</i>
<b>carran</b>	<b>carsan</b>	<b>keryn</b>
<b>carrowgh</b>	<b>carsowgh</b>	<b>kerowgh</b>
<b>carrans</b>	<b>carsans</b>	<b>carans</b> <i>lit.</i>

Note that this verb also has a 3rd singular future **carvyth**, e.g. **ef a garvyth** ‘he will love’.

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**5.11. CAFOS, CAWAS, GAWAS ‘GET, FIND’**

*Present participle* **ow cafos, ow cawas** ‘getting, finding’

*Verbal adjective* **kefys, kevys** ‘got, found’

<i>Present/Future</i>	<i>Preterite</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>cafaf</b>	<b>kefys</b>	<b>kefyn, kevyn</b>
<b>kefys</b>	<b>kefsys</b>	<b>kefys, kevys</b>
<b>kef</b> ; colloq. <b>câf</b>	<b>caf</b> ; colloq. <b>cavas</b>	<b>kefy, kevy</b>
<b>kefyn</b>	<b>kefsyn</b>	<b>kefyn, kevyn</b>
<b>kefowgh</b>	<b>kefsowgh</b>	<b>kefowgh, kevowgh</b>
<b>cafans</b>	<b>cafsans</b>	<b>kefans, kevans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative (literary)</i>
<b>caffan, kyffyf</b>	<b>cafsan</b>	—
<b>caffas, kyffy</b>	<b>cafsas</b>	<b>caf</b>
<b>caffa</b>	<b>cafsa</b>	<b>cafans, cavans</b>
<b>caffan</b>	<b>cafsan</b>	<b>kefyn, kevyn</b>
<b>caffowgh</b>	<b>cafsowgh</b>	<b>kefowgh, kevowgh</b>
<b>caffans</b>	<b>cafsans</b>	<b>cafeans, cavans</b>

**5.12. CLOWAS ‘HEAR’**

*Present participle* **ow clowas** ‘hearing’

*Verbal adjective* **clowys** ‘heard’

<i>Present/Future</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>clowaf</b> ; colloq. <b>clow vy</b>	<b>clowys</b>	<b>clowan</b>
<b>clowys</b>	<b>clowsys</b>	<b>clowas</b>
<b>clow, clew</b> ;	<b>clowas</b>	<b>clowa</b>
future <b>clowvyth</b>	<b>clowsyn</b>	<b>clowan</b>
<b>clowyn</b>	<b>clowsowgh</b>	<b>clowowgh</b>
<b>clowowgh</b>	<b>clowsans</b>	<b>clowans</b>
<b>clowans</b>		
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>clowvan</b>	<b>clowsan</b>	—
<b>clowvas</b>	<b>clowsas</b>	<b>clow</b>
<b>clowva</b>	<b>clowsa</b>	<b>clowans lit.</b>
<b>clowvan</b>	<b>clowsan</b>	<b>clowyn</b>
<b>clowowgh</b>	<b>clowsowgh</b>	<b>clowowgh</b>
<b>clowvans</b>	<b>clowsans</b>	<b>clowans lit.</b>

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### 5.13. COWSAL, COWS, COWSA ‘SPEAK’

*Present participle* **ow cowsal, ow cows, ow cowska**

*Verbal adjective* **cowsys**

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>cowsaf</b>	<b>cowsys</b>	<b>cowsyn</b>
<b>cowsys</b>	<b>cowssys</b>	<b>cowsys</b>
<b>cows</b>	<b>cowsas</b> <i>lit. and colloq.</i>	<b>cowsy</b>
<b>cowsyn</b>	<b>cowssyn,</b>	<b>cowsyn</b>
<b>cowsowgh</b>	<b>cowssowgh</b>	<b>cowsowgh</b>
<b>cowsans</b>	<b>cowssans</b>	<b>cowsans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>		
<b>cowsan, kewsyf</b>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>cowsas, kewsy</b>	<b>cowssan</b>	—
<b>cowsa</b>	<b>cowssas</b>	<b>cows</b>
<b>cowsan</b>	<b>cowssa</b>	<b>cowsens</b> <i>lit.</i>
<b>cowsowgh</b>	<b>cowssan</b>	<b>cowsyn</b> <i>lit.</i>
<b>cowsans</b>	<b>cowssowgh</b>	<b>cowsowgh</b>
	<b>cowssans</b>	<b>cowsans</b> <i>lit.</i>

### 5.14. DEBRY ‘EAT’

*Present participle* **ow tebry** ‘eating’

*Verbal adjective* **debrys** ‘eaten’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>debraf</b>	<b>debrys</b>	<b>debryn</b>
<b>debrys</b>	<b>depsys</b>	<b>debrys</b>
<b>deber</b> <i>lit. and colloq.</i>	<b>debras</b> <i>lit. and colloq.</i>	<b>debry</b>
<b>debryn</b>	<b>depsyn</b>	<b>debryn</b>
<b>debrowgh</b>	<b>depsowgh</b>	<b>debrowgh</b>
<b>debrans</b>	<b>depsans</b>	<b>debrans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>		
<b>deppran, dyppryf</b>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>deppras, dyppry</b>	<b>depsan</b>	—
<b>deppra</b>	<b>depsas</b>	<b>deber</b> <i>lit. and colloq.</i>
<b>deppran</b>	<b>depsa</b>	<b>debrans</b>
<b>depprowgh</b>	<b>depsan</b>	<b>debryn</b>
<b>depprans</b>	<b>depsowgh</b>	<b>debrowgh</b>
	<b>depsans</b>	<b>debrans</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.15. *DON, DEGY* ‘CARRY’

*Present participle* **ow ton, ow tegy** ‘carrying’

*Verbal adjective* **degys** ‘carried’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>degaf</b>	<b>dug</b>	<b>degyn</b>
<b>degyth</b>	<b>dugas</b>	<b>degys</b>
<b>deg, dog</b>	<b>dug</b>	<b>degy</b>
<b>degan</b>	<b>dugan</b>	<b>degyn</b>
<b>degowgh</b>	<b>dugowgh</b>	<b>degowgh</b>
<b>degans</b>	<b>dugans</b>	<b>degans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative (literary)</i>
<b>degan, dygyf</b>	<b>deksan</b>	—
<b>degas, dygy</b>	<b>deksas</b>	<b>dog</b>
<b>dega, docka</b>	<b>deksa</b>	<b>degans lit.</b>
<b>degan</b>	<b>deksan</b>	<b>degan</b>
<b>degowgh</b>	<b>deksowgh</b>	<b>degowgh, dogowgh</b>
<b>degans, dockans</b>	<b>deksans</b>	<b>degans lit.</b>

### 5.16. *ESEDHA, SEDHA* ‘SIT’

*Present participle* **owth esedha, ow sedha** ‘sitting’

*Verbal adjective* **esedhys, sedhys** ‘sat’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>sedhaf</b>	<b>sedhys</b>	<b>sedhan</b>
<b>sedhys</b>	<b>sethsys</b>	<b>sedhas</b>
<b>eseth; colloq. esa, sedh</b>	<b>sedhas</b>	<b>sedha</b>
<b>sedhyn</b>	<b>sethsyn</b>	<b>sedhan</b>
<b>sedhowgh</b>	<b>sethsowgh</b>	<b>sedhowgh</b>
<b>sedhans</b>	<b>sethsans</b>	<b>sedhans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative (literary)</i>
<b>sedhan, sedhyf</b>	<b>sethsan</b>	—
<b>sedhas, sedhy</b>	<b>sethsas</b>	<b>eseth; colloq. esa</b>
<b>setha</b>	<b>sethsa</b>	<b>sedhans</b>
<b>sedhan</b>	<b>sethsan</b>	<b>esedhowgh;</b>
<b>sedhowgh</b>	<b>sethsowgh</b>	<i>colloq. sedhowgh</i>
<b>sethans</b>	<b>sethsans</b>	<b>sedhyn</b>
		<b>sedhans</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.17. **GELWAL** ‘CALL’

*Present participle* **ow ketwal** ‘calling’

*Verbal adjective* **gelwys** ‘called’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>galwaf</b>	<b>gelwys</b>	<b>gelwyn</b>
<b>gelwys</b>	<b>gelwsys</b>	<b>gelwys</b>
<b>gelow</b>	<b>gelwys</b>	<b>gelwy</b>
<b>gelwyn</b>	<b>gelwsyn</b>	<b>gelwyn</b>
<b>gelwowgh</b>	<b>gelwsowgh</b>	<b>gelwowgh</b>
<b>gelwans</b>	<b>gawlsans</b>	<b>gelwans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>galwan, gylwyf</b>	<b>gawlsan</b>	—
<b>galwas, gylwy</b>	<b>gawlsas</b>	<b>galw; colloq. galwa</b>
<b>galwa</b>	<b>gawlsa</b>	<b>gelwans lit.</b>
<b>galwan</b>	<b>gawlsan</b>	<b>gelwyn</b>
<b>galwowgh</b>	<b>gawlsowgh</b>	<b>gelwowgh</b>
<b>galwans</b>	<b>gawlsans</b>	<b>gelwans lit.</b>

The *w* of **galw** is pronounced before a following vowel only, e.g. **galw y!** [ˈgælwi], [ˈgælwəi] ‘call them!’ but **galw vy!** [ˈgælvi] ‘call me!’.

### 5.18. **GLANHE** ‘CLEAN’

*Present participle* **ow clanhe** ‘cleaning’

*Verbal adjective* **glanhes** ‘cleaned’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>glanhaf</b>	<b>glanhys</b>	<b>glanhyn</b>
<b>glanhyth</b>	<b>glanhasys</b>	<b>glanhys</b>
<b>glanha</b>	<b>glanhas</b>	<b>glanhly</b>
<b>glanhyn</b>	<b>glanhasan</b>	<b>glanhyn</b>
<b>glanhowgh</b>	<b>glanhasowgh</b>	<b>glanhéwgh</b>
<b>glanhôns</b>	<b>glanhasans</b>	<b>glanhêns</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>glanhahen, glanhahyf</b>	<b>glanhasan</b>	—
<b>glanhahes, glanhahy</b>	<b>glanhasas</b>	<b>glanha</b>
<b>glanhaha</b>	<b>glanhasa</b>	<b>glanhêns lit.</b>
<b>glanhahan</b>	<b>glanhasan</b>	<b>glanhén</b>
<b>glanhahowgh</b>	<b>glanhasowgh</b>	<b>glanhéwgh</b>
<b>glanhahans</b>	<b>glanhasans</b>	<b>glanhêns lit.</b>

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.19. **GORTHEBY, GORREBY** ‘REPLY, ANSWER’

*Present participle* **ow cortheby, ow correby** ‘answering’

*Verbal adjective* **gorthebys, gorrebys** ‘answered’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>gorthebaf</b>	<b>gorthebys</b>	<b>gorthebyn</b>
<b>gorthebys</b>	<b>gorthebys</b>	<b>gorthebys</b>
<b>gorthyb</b>	<b>gorthebys;</b>	<b>gortheby</b>
<b>gorthebyn</b>	<i>colloq.</i> <b>gorrebas</b>	<b>gorthebyn</b>
<b>gorthebowgh</b>	<b>gorthebysyn</b>	<b>gorthebowgh</b>
<b>gorthebans</b>	<b>gorthebysowgh</b>	<b>gorthebysyn</b>
	<b>gorthebans</b>	
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative (literary)</i>
<b>gortheban, gorthebyf</b>	<b>gorthebans</b>	—
<b>gorthebas, gortheby</b>	<b>gorthebas</b>	<b>gorthyb</b>
<b>gortheppa</b>	<b>gorthebasa</b>	<b>gorthebans</b>
<b>gortheban</b>	<b>gorthebasa</b>	<b>gorthebyn</b>
<b>gorthebowgh</b>	<b>gorthebans</b>	<b>gorthebowgh</b>
<b>gortheppans</b>	<b>gorthebysowgh</b>	<b>gorthebans</b>
	<b>gorthebans</b>	

### 5.20. **GWELAS** ‘SEE’

*Present participle* **ow qwelas** ‘seeing’

*Verbal adjective* **gwelys** ‘seen’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>gwelaf</b>	<b>gwelys</b>	<b>gwelyn</b>
<b>gwelys, gwelta</b>	<b>gwelys</b>	<b>gwelys</b>
<b>gwel</b>	<b>gwelas</b>	<b>gwely</b>
<b>gwelyn</b>	<b>gwelwyn</b>	<b>gwelyn</b>
<b>gwelowgh</b>	<b>gwelsowgh</b>	<b>gwelowgh</b>
<b>gwelans</b>	<b>gwelwans</b>	<b>gwelans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>gwelhan, gwylyf</b>	<b>gwelwans</b>	—
<b>gwelhas, gwyly</b>	<b>gwelwas</b>	<b>gwel</b>
<b>gwelha</b>	<b>gwelwasa</b>	<b>gwelans lit.</b>
<b>gwelhan</b>	<b>gwelwans</b>	<b>gwelyn</b>
<b>gwelhowgh</b>	<b>gwelwowsowgh</b>	<b>gwelowgh</b>
<b>gwelhans</b>	<b>gwelwans</b>	<b>gwelans lit.</b>

There is a literary 3rd singular future form **gwelvyth**, e.g. **ef a welvyth** ‘he will see’. The subjunctive autonomous form **gweler** is used to mean ‘see!’ in works of reference, etc.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.21. **KEMERAS** ‘TAKE’

*Present participle* **ow kemeras** ‘taking’

*Verbal adjective* **kemerys** ‘taken’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>kemeraf</b>	<b>kemerys</b>	<b>kemeryn</b>
<b>kemerys</b>	<b>kemersys</b>	<b>kemerys</b>
<b>kebmer</b>	<b>kemas</b>	<b>kemery</b>
<b>kemeryn</b>	<b>kemersyn</b>	<b>kemeryn</b>
<b>kemerowgh</b>	<b>kemersowgh</b>	<b>kemerowgh</b>
<b>kemerans</b>	<b>kemersans</b>	<b>kemerans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>kemerran, kemyrryf</b>	<b>kemersan</b>	—
<b>kemerras, kemyrry</b>	<b>kemeras</b>	<b>kebmer</b> <i>lit., colloq.</i>
<b>kemerra</b>	<b>kemera</b>	<b>kemerans</b> <i>lit.</i>
<b>kemerran</b>	<b>kemersan</b>	<b>kemeryn</b>
<b>kemerrowgh</b>	<b>kemersowgh</b>	<b>kemerowgh</b> <i>lit., colloq.</i>
<b>kemerrans</b>	<b>kemersans</b>	<b>kemerans</b> <i>lit.</i>

### 5.22. **LEVERAL, LAVARAL, LAUL** ‘say’

*Present participle* **ow leveral, ow lavaral, ow laul** ‘saying’

*Verbal adjective* **leverys** ‘said’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>lavaraf</b>	<b>leverys</b>	<b>leveryn</b>
<b>leverys, leverta</b>	<b>leversys</b>	<b>leverys</b>
<b>lever; colloq. laver</b>	<b>leverys; colloq. lavaras</b>	<b>levery</b>
<b>leveryn</b>	<b>leversyn</b>	<b>leveryn</b>
<b>leverowgh</b>	<b>leversowgh</b>	<b>leverowgh</b>
<b>leverans</b>	<b>lavarsans</b>	<b>leverans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>lavarran, leverryf</b>	<b>lavarsan</b>	—
<b>lavarras, leverry</b>	<b>lavarsas</b>	<b>lavar</b> <i>lit., colloq.</i>
<b>lavarra</b>	<b>lavarsa</b>	<b>leverans</b> <i>lit.</i>
<b>lavarran</b>	<b>lavarsan</b>	<b>leveryn</b>
<b>lavarrowgh</b>	<b>lavarowgh</b>	<b>leverowgh</b>
<b>lavarrans</b>	<b>lavarsans</b>	<b>leverans</b> <i>lit.</i>



## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.22. **PESY, PEJY** ‘PRAY, ASK’

*Present participle* **ow pesy, ow pejy** ‘praying, asking’

*Verbal adjective* **pesys, pejys** ‘prayed, asked’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>pesaf, pejaf</b>	<b>pesys, pejys</b>	<b>pesyn</b>
<b>pesys</b>	<b>pessys</b>	<b>pesys</b>
<b>pes, pys</b>	<b>pesys, pejys</b>	<b>pesy</b>
<b>pesyn</b>	<b>pessyn</b>	<b>pesyn</b>
<b>pesowgh</b>	<b>pessowgh</b>	<b>pesowgh</b>
<b>pesans</b>	<b>pessans</b>	<b>pesans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative (literary)</i>
<b>peßan, pyssyf</b>	<b>peßan</b>	—
<b>peßas, pyssy</b>	<b>peßas</b>	<b>pes</b>
<b>peßa</b>	<b>peßa</b>	<b>pesans lit.</b>
<b>peßan</b>	<b>peßan</b>	<b>pesyn</b>
<b>peßowgh</b>	<b>peßowgh</b>	<b>pesowgh</b>
<b>peßans</b>	<b>peßans</b>	<b>pesans lit.</b>

The verb **cresy/crejy** ‘believe’ conjugates similarly.

### 5.23. **RY** ‘GIVE’

*Present participle* **ow ry** ‘giving’

*Verbal adjective* **rys, rês** ‘given’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>rof</b>	<b>rys, res</b>	<b>ren</b>
<b>res, rêta</b>	<b>ressys</b>	<b>res</b>
<b>re, ro</b>	<b>ros; colloq. ros</b>	<b>re</b>
<b>ren</b>	<b>resan</b>	<b>ren</b>
<b>rêwgh</b>	<b>resowgh</b>	<b>rêwgh</b>
<b>rêns</b>	<b>rosans</b>	<b>rêns</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>rolhan, ryllyf</b>	<b>rosan</b>	—
<b>rolhas, rylly</b>	<b>rosas</b>	<b>ro, roy</b>
<b>rolha, roy</b>	<b>rosa</b>	<b>rêns</b>
<b>rolhan</b>	<b>rosan</b>	<b>ren</b>
<b>rolhowgh</b>	<b>rosowgh</b>	<b>rêwgh</b>
<b>rolhans</b>	<b>rosans</b>	<b>rêns</b>

The 3rd singular subjunctive **roy** is used as an optative equivalent to **re rolha**, e.g. **Dew roy lowena dhys!** ‘may God give you joy!’ The 2nd singular imperative **ro** is used before consonants, e.g. **ro dhym dha dhorn!** ‘give me your hand!’, whereas **roy** is used before vowels, e.g. **roy e dhym!** ‘give it to me!’.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 5.24. *SEVAL* ‘STAND, RISE’

*Present participle* **ow seval** ‘standing, rising’

*Verbal adjective* **sevys** ‘stood, risen’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>savaf</b>	<b>sevys</b>	<b>sevyn</b>
<b>sevys</b>	<b>sefsys</b>	<b>sevys</b>
<b>sef</b> ; colloq. <b>saf</b>	<b>sevys</b> ; colloq. <b>savas</b>	<b>sevy</b>
<b>sevyn</b>	<b>sefsyn</b>	<b>sevyn</b>
<b>sevowgh</b>	<b>sefsowgh</b>	<b>sevowgh</b>
<b>sevans</b>	<b>safsans</b>	<b>sevans</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
<b>saffan, syffyf</b>	<b>safsan</b>	—
<b>saffas, syffy</b>	<b>safsas</b>	<b>saf</b> ; colloq. <b>sâ</b>
<b>saffa</b>	<b>safsa</b>	<b>sevans</b> lit.
<b>saffan</b>	<b>safsan</b>	<b>sevyn</b>
<b>saffowgh</b>	<b>safsowgh</b>	<b>sevowgh</b>
<b>saffans</b>	<b>safsans</b>	<b>sevans</b> lit.

### 5.25. *DRY* ‘BRING’

*Present participle* **ow try** ‘bringing’

*Verbal adjective* **dres, drys** ‘brought’

<i>Present/Future (literary)</i>	<i>Preterite (literary)</i>	<i>Imperfect (literary)</i>
<b>drôf</b>	<b>dres</b>	<b>dren</b>
<b>drês</b>	<b>dressys</b>	<b>dres</b>
<b>dora</b>	<b>dros</b>	<b>dre</b>
<b>dren</b>	<b>dresan</b>	<b>dren</b>
<b>drêwgh</b>	<b>dresowgh</b>	<b>drêwgh</b>
<b>drôns</b>	<b>drosans</b>	<b>drêns</b>
<i>Subjunctive (literary)</i>	<i>Conditional (literary)</i>	<i>Imperative (literary)</i>
<b>drolhan, dryllyf</b>	<b>drosan</b>	—
<b>drolhas, drylly</b>	<b>drosas</b>	<b>dora, doroy</b>
<b>drolha, droy</b>	<b>drosa</b>	<b>drêns</b>
<b>drolhan</b>	<b>drosan</b>	<b>dren</b>
<b>drolhowgh</b>	<b>drosowgh</b>	<b>drêwgh</b>
<b>drolhans</b>	<b>drosans</b>	<b>drêns</b>

The 3rd singular subjunctive **droy** is used optatively as the equivalent of **re dhrolha** ‘may he bring’. The 2nd singular imperative **dora** is used before consonants, **doroy** before vowels.

## CHAPTER SIX

### SYNTAX

#### 6.1. *NA, NAG FOR NY, NYNJ*

In Middle Cornish there are two negative particles, *ny(nj)* and *na(g)*, *nyns* and *nag* being used before initial vowels in the two verbs *bos* 'be' and *mos* 'go'. *Ny(ns)* is used in main clauses and in the protases of conditional sentences. *Na(g)* on the other hand is found in subordinate clauses and in tag-answers, e.g. *Esta ow cortas? Nag esaf* 'Are you staying? No.' Already by the later sixteenth century, however, *na(g)* is replacing *ny(ns)* and by the middle of the seventeenth century, *na(g)* is universal everywhere. In the traditional texts, the unstressed vowel [ə] of *nag* is sometimes written <y> or <e>, but the final <g> before vowels indicates quite clearly that the particle is *na(g)*, not *ny(ns)*. There can be no doubt that the weakening of all unstressed syllables to schwa was an important factor in the replacement of *ny* by *na*.

In literary contexts, the proposed orthography will allow *ny* and *nyns* or *nynj*, where it is to be expected syntactically. In speech and colloquial writing *na* and *nag* may be used instead.

#### 6.2. VERBAL USAGE

The examples below have been taken from the traditional Cornish texts, of all periods, but chiefly from the sixteenth, seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. In all cases, however, since we will be dealing with syntax rather than phonology, the examples will be respelt as our proposed orthography.

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### 6.3. THE PERIPHRASTIC PRESENT

In Cornish if one wishes to say ‘I live’ or ‘he is living by himself’, one uses the long form of **bos** + **ow** (hard mutation) + verbal noun. This syntax is already to be noted in BM:

*Nynj esas owth attendya an laha del via res* ‘You do not consider that the law, how it was necessary’

*Yn Críst Jesu caradow yth esaf prest ow crejy* ‘in beloved Jesus I believe firmly’.

This should be the default, unmarked method for expressing the present in Revived Cornish:

*Ow bres dhybm yma ow ton y haljas prest ow gveras* ‘My mind suggests to me that you might be able to help me’

*Yma orth ow gohelas drefen ow bos anhedhak* ‘It avoids me because I am diseased’

*Yma ow qwan-rewardya y servyys, re’m ena* ‘He rewards his servants badly, upon my soul’

*Mars esowgh orth ow cara vy, gwethowgh ow comondmentys* ‘If you love me, keep my commandments’

*Esta jy orth ow cara vy moy es an re-ma?* ‘Do you love me more than these?’

*Th’era vy ow cara why y’n colon* ‘I love you in my heart’

*Mâr tuen ny ha leveral nag on ny pehadoryon, yth esan ow tecevy a gan honen ha’n gwryoneth nynj ujjy genan* ‘If we say we are not sinners, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us’

*ha neb a wrella agas despysya why, yma orth ow despysya vy* ‘and who despises you, despises me’

*ha dysqwedha treweth da mylyow wâr anjy ues cara vy ha gwetha geryow vy* ‘and show pity on thousands among those who love me and keep my words’

*Yma lowr onen ow bostya* ‘Many a one boasts’

*Nag eran ny ow kemeras hebma rag comen bara ha dewas* ‘We do not take this for common bread and drink’

*Yth ejas ow cockia dres pob y’n wlas* ‘You are foolish more than everybody in the kingdom’

*Fals dew yma ow conys* ‘He serves a false god’

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Rag **yth esaf ow towtya** a drog ha prospertya bos res mos dha bayn ahas  
'Because I fear it is necessary to go from misfortune and prosperity to  
dreadful torment'

**Yth ejas ow cowsal dá** 'You speak well'

Lebmyñ nyny yw vas an towl mayth **esaf vy ow towtya** y tuen wâr nans 'Now  
the plan is no good so that I fear that we will go down'

**Yth esowgh why ow qwyl** cabm dhodha ef sur 'You surely do him wrong'  
Y'n dyfeth yn mesk beêtas **yma ef prest ow pêwa** 'In the wilderness with  
animals he lives continually'

**Yma ow qwyl** ow holon clâf orth dha glowas y'n tor-ma 'It makes my heart  
sick hearing you at this moment'

**Bêwa yth esaf pùb uer y'n tomder ha yeynder rêw** 'I live continually in heat  
and frosty cold'

ha'y gwredhow dha'n dor ysel **yma ow resak** pòr lel 'and its roots run into  
the low ground very truly'

Kensa orth an hager-awel **uja va gwyl** da dereval warnan ny kenyyver termyn dêr  
eran ny mos dort Pedn an Wlas da Syllan 'First because of the storm he  
causes to rise against us every time we go from Land's End to Scilly'

Tryja, orth an gorhal **uja va gwyl** gen ascorn scoudh dawas 'Third, because of  
the ship he makes with a sheep's shoulder bone'

Ha rag hedna **th'eran ow ry** agan myterneth gorseans dha'n pow ny 'And  
therefore we give our kingly thanks to our land'

Mytern Frenk, **th'eraf vy ow menya** 'The King of France, I mean'

**Ma** ef gân **maga** 'He feeds us'

Y woryoneth oll termyn **ma seval** cref 'His truth stands firm always'

An losowen bian gen y arr nedhys, **ues ow tevy** yn an hallow ny, ues cryes Pleth  
Maria 'The small plant with the twisted stalk, which grows on our hills,  
is called Lady's Tresses'

Fat'**ujy ow colowy ha taredna** 'How it thunders and lightens!'

drefen yn taclow brás **ma anjy** menowgh **ow hedha** gà honen, bûs yn taclow  
munys **yma anjy ow sewya** has gà honen 'because in great things, they  
often stretch themselves, but in small matters, they follow their own  
nature'

**Th'eram ow ry** da why an bel-ma da gwary gen bolonjeth dá 'I give you this  
ball to play with goodwill'.

The same syntax can be used with the imperfect of the long form of  
**bos** to express imperfect sense:

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*Nebas **es**an ow **teby** y fedha hy y'n fordh-ma* 'I little thought it would be like this'

*Y'n termyn passys, pan **esans owth agria** gans an se ha stall a Rom, **yth esans**, hag y a wrug, **floryshya** y'n religion a Críst ha yn rychys a'n bes* 'In the past, when they agreed with the see and stall of Rome, they flourished and did indeed flourish in Christ's religion and in worldly wealth'

*Yth yw marthoijyon dha welas fatell wrug an re-na **esans y ow kemeras** rag aga doctors brás, ha scol-mêsters, y a wrug aga abúsyá, sedúcyá ha'ga mockya even y'n kèth sam mater-ma a'n prymacy* 'It is remarkable to see how those whom they took for their great doctors and schoolmasters, they abused, seduced and mocked them even in this same matter of the primacy'.

### 6.4. THE PERIPHRASTIC FUTURE WITH *MENNAS*

Spoken Cornish has always made the unmarked future by means of the auxiliary verb *mennas* 'will'. Lhuyd himself points out that Cornish says *Me a vedn mos ales* 'I will walk forth', and that the comparable construction (\**Mí a vjnná vjnd ar léd*) would not be understood in Welsh (AB: 250b). Here are some examples from the texts of the periphrastic future:

*Rag an lahys dha ny ues **a vedn hy dampnya** porres* 'For the laws which we have will straightway condemn her'

*Rag màr ny wres me **a vedn y dhon** genaf arta dre* 'For if you don't, I will take it home with me again'

***me a vedn gwyl** yndella* 'I shall do so'

*War y heyn rag dha esya dyllas **me a vedn lesa*** 'On her back I will spread clothes to ease you'

*Gans qwèth me **a vedn cudha** y fas hag onen a'n gwysk* 'With a garment I will cover his face and one can strike him'

***Ny vedn** an vyl harlot cabm awos an bes **dewedha*** 'The vile crooked scoundrel will not finish for all the world'

*Me **a vedn mos** dha'm gwlas* 'I will go to my kingdom'

*Me **a vedn mos** dha veras gwyl gveras dyma màr medn* 'I will go to see whether he will help me'

*Ny **a vedn ombredery** fordh rag y dráylá defry* 'Will will think of a way of converting him indeed'

***Ny vannaf y annia** rag dhybm ny amownt defry* 'I will not annoy him, for it is no use to me'

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*Syra, me a vedn gwyl agas comondment why* ‘Sir, I will do your commandment’

*Obma me a vedn govyn udn qwestyon dha vos assoylyes* ‘Here I will ask one question to be answered’

*Me a vedn debry kens lavyrya mes a jy* ‘I will eat before going out of the house’

*Me a vedn ry dhys yn ro an fenten-ma hag adro dhedhy peder erow dyr* ‘I will give you as a gift this spring and around it four acres of land’

*genas na vannaf flattra na na vannaf usya gow* ‘I shall not wheedle you nor use deceit’

*Yn dewhelyans pehosow gwyl alter me a vedn* ‘As atonement for sins I will build an altar’

*ha an taclow a vedn gwaynya clos dhys rag nefra* ‘and the things will gain everlasting fame for you’

*Y a vedn gweras da’ga tus dendel pèth a’n bes* ‘They will help their husbands earn their living in the world’

*ha pejy gonjans me a vedn* ‘and I will pray for them’

*Pandr’ a vednowgh why gwyl rag lednow rag a’s flogh?* ‘What will you do for clothes for your baby?’

*ha hedna a vedn gâs tobma adhelargh ha arag* ‘and that will warm you behind and in front’

*Me a vedn mos dha whelas whel dha wyl* ‘I will go to look for work’

*Roy dhybm ha me a vedn leveral dhys* ‘Give it to me and I will tell you’

*Obma na vednaf vy ostya bûs y’n nessa chy* ‘Here I will not lodge but in the next house’

*pecar dêr vednowgh why gwelas orth hemma adro dha’n Empirick Angwyn* ‘as you will see by this concerning the Empirick Angwyn’

*Oll an re-ma me a vedn ry dhys màr menta bûs codha dha’n dor ha gordhya vy* ‘All these I will give you if you will only fall down and worship me’

*Rag na vedn an Artuth gâs cawas yn paradhys rag kemas y hanow yn vayn* ‘For the Lord will not accept us in paradise for taking his name in vain’

*Na vedn ef nefra dos ves a gendon* ‘He will never get out of debt’

*Ef a vedn gâs gwyl saw* ‘It will cure you’

*An hern gwâf a vedn gwyl drog da’n hern haf* ‘The winter pilchards will do harm to the summer pilchards.’

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 6.5. THE FUTURE OF *BOS* 'BE'

Most commonly the future of *bos* is expressed by the use of the verb's future tense:

*Me na wòn leveral prag gans pob na vedhaf ledhys* 'I cannot say why I shan't be killed by everybody'  
*Caym, na vedhys yndella* 'Cain, you shall not be thus'  
*parys dha'ga dywosa me a vedh, ow arluth dâ* 'I shall be ready to bleed them, good lord'  
*dha lowenha rag bledhen me a vedh yn pôr certan agas gwelas y'm castell* 'the happier I shall be for a year to see you in my castle in very deed'  
*ha welcom te a vedh* 'and welcome you will be'  
*Cowes nebas, cowes dâ, ha dâ vedh cowsys arta* 'Speak little, speak well and well will be spoken back'.

Colloquially, however, the future tense of this verb may be replaced by *mennas* and the verbal noun:

*Na vannaf bos mâr grefny dh'y wetha oll ow honen* 'I won't be so greedy as to keep it all myself'  
*Rag hedna a vedn bos cowsys adro dha'n pow* 'For that will be spoken about the country'  
*Rag vy dha Dew a vedn bos engrys genas jy* 'For I thy God will be angry with thee'.

The future may also be made by using *gwyl* as the auxiliary:

*Why a wra bos y syra, sera wheg* 'You will be his father, dear sir'  
*Francon-Beljan me a wra bos* 'A Franco-Belgian I shall be'  
*Nena agas lagajow a wra bos egerys, ha why a wra bos pecar ha Dew ow codhwas dâ ha drog* 'Then your eyes will be opened and you will be like God knowing good and evil'  
*ha dha desyr a wra bos dha'th gour ha ef a wra dha rowlya* 'and thy desire will be for thy husband and he will rule thee'.

### 6.6. *GWYL* 'DO' AS THE FUTURE AUXILIARY

The verb *gwyl* can also be used as an auxiliary to form the future:



## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*Messejer, rag dha servys **dha rewardya me a wra*** ‘Messenger, for your service I shall reward you’

*ha hodna **na wra agas decevya na na wra nefra fyllal*** ‘and that will not deceive you, nor will it ever fail’

***Ef a wra agas confortya*** ‘He will comfort you’

*Gwyth vy y’th cof ha’m noy **a wra dha rêwlya*** ‘Keep me in mind and my nephew will rule you’

*ha **me a wra y dhebry*** ‘and I shall eat it’

*Why **a wra cawas** dêr yw an gwas Harry-ma podrak brás* ‘You will find that this fellow Harry is a great scoundrel’

***Ef a wra tyra** wâr men Merlyn, **a wra lesky** Pawl, Penzans ha Newlyn* ‘He will land on Merlin’s stone, will burn Paul, Penzance and Newlyn’

*Wâr dha dôr **che a wra mos** oll dedhyow dha vownans* ‘On thy belly shalt thou go all the days of thy life’

***Ef a wra browy** dha bedn ha **che a wra browy** y wewen* ‘He shall bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise his heel’

*Yn dewhan **che a wra don** flehas* ‘In anguish thou shalt bear children’

*Spern ha ascal **a wra ef dry rag** dhys ha **che a wra debry** a’n losow a’n gwel* ‘Thorns and thistles will it produce for thee and thou shalt eat of the herbs of the field’

*rag a mes a chy **y whra dos** mytern rag rowtya dha pobel Ysrael* ‘for out of thee shall come a king to rule thy people Israel’

*Whegh jorna **che a wra gwyl** whel ha gwyl an pèth ues dhys dha wyl* ‘Six days shalt thou labour and do what that hast to do’

*rag na vedn an Arluth gava dha neb **a wra y henwal** heb otham* ‘for the Lord will not forgive him who will call upon his name needlessly’

*ha alena **ef a wra dos** dha ry brues wâr bêw ha marow* ‘and thence he shall come to just the living and the dead’.

### 6.7. GWYL ‘DO’ AS A PRETERITE AUXILIARY

The preterite tense exists for all full verbs and is frequently used in the texts, particularly in the third person singular. It is less common in other persons. Third person plurals in the preterite are very uncommon and confined largely to the earliest Middle Cornish.

*Ha dêw a dhug dustuny y’n **clowsans** ow leveral pôr wyr y fedna terry an tempel cref* ‘And two bore witness that they heard him say indeed that he would destroy the mighty temple’ PA 91ab

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*y whalsans oll adro mâr caffans gof yredy* ‘they called all around if they might find a smith’ PA 154b  
*onen a welsans ena* ‘they saw one there’ PA 154c  
*hag y lavarsans dhodha* ‘and they said to him’ PA 154d  
*pan y’n lathsans dybyta* ‘when without pity they killed him’ PC 3098  
*dhybm rosans bystyl wherow* ‘they gave me bitter gall’ RD 2601.

It should also be noticed that the syntax of the verbal particle **y** at the head of its clause (seen in four of the above examples) is poorly attested after the earliest Middle Cornish. The commonest way of introducing a non-negative preterite is with abnormal order, as for example in the following examples:

*rag ef a gemeras dor a dhor* ‘for he took earth of earth’  
*orth Jesus ef a gowsas* ‘to Jesus he spoke’  
*Hadre vovens y ow plentya Jesus y’n dor a screfas ha dre vertu an screfa pob dha ves a omdednas* ‘While they were arguing Jesus wrote on the ground and by the power of the writing everyone withdrew away’  
*rag hedna an vuscogyon orta a borthas avy* ‘therefore the crazed ones bore him envy’  
*cavanscues ef a whelas rag own y vonas ledhys* ‘he sought an excuse for fear he would be killed’  
*Nena an venen a welas y bos an frût dâ dha dhebry ha teg dha syght hy lagajow* ‘Then the woman saw that the fruit was good to eat and pleasant to the sight of her eyes’  
*Hy a gemeras radn an frût hag a’n debras hag a ros part dha’n gour Adam* ‘She took some of the fruit and ate it and gave part to the husband Adam’  
*hy a gemeras radn a’n has anodhy* ‘she took some of the fruit of it’  
*hy a ros dha vy dhorth an wedhen* ‘she gave to me from the tree’  
*Ha anjy a glowas lef an Arluth Dew ow kerdhas y’n lowarth* ‘And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden’  
*dhodh’ef an venen a worthebys hag a leverys* ‘to him the woman answered and said’  
*hy a dowlas yn offering a Dhew moy agess’y oll* ‘she has thrown in offering to God more than them all’  
*Ena anjy a varydnyas rag try puns an vledhen gober* ‘Then they bargained for three pounds a year as wages’

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*Anjy a **kemeras** an vordh noweth ha Jowan a **gwethas** an vordh goth* ‘They took the new road and Jowan kept to the old road’

*Ha gans an cry a wrug Jowan gwyl an ladron a **forsakyas** an varchants* ‘And with the cry that Jowan made the robbers forsook the merchants’

At all periods of Cornish, however, the verb **gwyl** has been extensively used as an auxiliary when expressing the simple past:

*An sarf re **wrug ow tholla*** ‘The serpent has deceived me’

*Ef a **wrug ow hossulya** frût anedhy may torran* ‘He advised me to pluck fruit from it’

*me a **wrug trespassya** cref* ‘I transgressed mightily’

*Genaf Dew a **wrug serry*** ‘with me God became angry’

*Me re **wrug y vusura** rag an kèth whel-ma dêwweyth* ‘I have measured it twice for this same work’

*Mahum, darbar hardygras dha neb a **wrug ow throbla*** ‘Mahound, inflict vengeance on him who vexed me’

*Aysyans ef a hedna prag na **wrug y sesya** orth y anow pan gowsys* ‘Let him explain this: why he didn’t seize him when he spoke to him face to face’

*Meryasek pan gampolllys an pab a **wrug y braysya*** ‘When I mentioned Meriasek, the pope praised him’

*De Gwener Crîst Jesu ker a **wrug merwal** ragan ny* ‘On Friday beloved Christ Jesu died for us’

*Whath awos oll hemma na **wrug ef omdedna** y favour dhort anjy* ‘Still in spite of all that he did not remove his favour from them’

*Ena na **wrug ef trega** pell bûs eth dha whelas an pèth o gwell* ‘There he did not stay long but went to look for what was better’

*Ef a **wrug qwetyas** mos dha’n gwelha ternewen* ‘He hoped to go to the better side’

*rag na **wrug avy** byscath **gwelas** scrîff Breten coth vith* ‘for I never saw any ancient British writing’

*Na **wrug avy** byscath **gwelas** lyver Kernowak* ‘I never saw a Cornish book’

*Me a **wrug fanja** gâs lyther seythen alebma* ‘I received your letter a week ago’

*Me a **wrug desky** Kernowak termyn me vue maw* ‘I learnt Cornish when I was a boy’.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 6.8. GASA, GARA 'LEAVE, LET' AND THE IMPERATIVE

There are only two verbs which commonly exhibit third person singular and third person plural forms for the imperative, namely **bos** 'be' and **gwyl** 'do'. Here are some examples of both:

**bedhans** 'let him (it)/them be'

*gans lovan **bedhans** strothys* 'let it be tied with a rope'

*predn dha jyst heb toll na gyl **bedhans** gwrys dhewgh heb whedhlow* 'a beam for a joist without deception or guile let is be made for you without blether'

*yn bason **bedhans** gorrys* 'let it be put in a bason'

*saw dha vodh tej, Arluth, **bedhans** gwrys yn pùb termyn* 'but let your will, O Lord, always be done'

*y'n predn crows **bedhans** gorrys ha trous ha dêwla kelmys* 'let him be put on the cross and his foot and hands bound'

*gans peg **bedhans** stanchurys* 'let them be made staunch with pitch'

*wâr dha lerg **bedhans** rêwyls* 'let them be ruled according to you'

*an benenes ha'n flehas **bedhans** yn mes exylhes* 'the women and the children, let them be exiled away'

***bedhans** kerhys masons plenta* 'let there be fetched masons a-plenty'

*aban yw an predn tellys **bedhans** an ebyl gorrys dredha rag aga lacya* 'since the wood has been drilled, let the pegs be put through them to join them'.

**gwrêns** 'let him (it)/them do'

*Yn y Dhew y whrug fydhya; lebmyn **gwrêns** y dhylyfrya* 'In his God he trusted; now let him deliver him'

*pob a'y du **gwrêns** aspia ow qwandra mars ues trâytor* 'let each man espy on his side whether any traitor is wandering about'

*anodha ef **gwrêns** dell vedn pan glowva y lavarow* 'let him do what he wants with him, when he hears his utterances'

*neb na whetha **gwrêns** fanya* 'whoever does not blow, let him fan'

***gwrêns** an nor dry rag gwêls* 'let the earth bring forth grass'

***Gwrêns** bos ebron yn cres an dower ha **gwrêns** ef dybarth an dower ort an dower* 'Let there be a firmament in the middle of the water and let it divide the water from the water'

***Gwrêns** an dower yn dadn an nef bos contellys warbarth da udn tyller ha **gwrêns** an tyr zegh dysqwedhas* 'Let the water under the heavens be collected together to one place and let the dry land appear'

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*Gwrêns bos golow y'n ebron nef da dybarth dedh ort an nos, ha gwrêns anjy bos rag synesow, rag termynnyow, ha rag dedhyow ha bledhynnyow* 'Let there be light in the firmament of heaven to separate day from the night, and let them be for signes, for time and for days and years.'

Increasingly, however, imperatives of persons other than the second singular and second plural are expressed by the use of **gasa** 'leave, let'. Here are some examples taken from the texts:

*gesowgh hy abarth Malan y'n mortar sqwat dha godha* 'let it in the devil's name fall neatly into the mortice!'

*ha gesowgh vy dh'y handla* 'and let me touch him'

*Gesowgh ny dha wyl den dha'gan similitud ha hevelep ny* 'Let us make man in our similitude and likeness'

*gesowgh ny dha gawas recours dha'n tryssa chapter a Jenesis* 'let us have recourse to the third chapter of Genesis'

*gesowgh ny dha vos war a re a'n par-na* 'let us be wary of people like that'

*Gesowgh ny dha veras war agan treys* 'Let us look at our feet'

*Rag hedna gesowgh ny dha venegas agan honen dha Dhew* 'Therefore let us confess ourselves to God'

*ha gesowgh ny dha repentya* 'and let us repent'

*gesowgh ny dha ajwon agan oberow agan honen* 'let us acknowledge our own deeds'

*Gesowgh ny oll dha wyl agan confesyon* 'Let us all make our confession'

*Gesowgh ny lebmyn dha aswon agan honen* 'Let us now know ourselves'

*Gesen ny dha consydra an circumstans a'n dra* 'Let us consider the circumstance of the matter'

*Gas an hanath-ma a vernans dha vos dheworthaf vy* 'Let this cup of death pass from me'

*Gas vy dha entra ayy* 'let me enter in'

*Dues nes, gas vy dh'y welas* 'Come here, let me see it'

*Gorta, gas vy dh'y dava* 'Wait, let me touch him'

*Gas ny dha vos alebma* 'Let us go hence'

*Na esowgh ny dha vos methak dha gonfessya* 'Let us not be ashamed to confess'

*Na esyn usya argumentys mès usya examplys Críst* 'Let us not use arguments but the examples of Christ'

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*Na esyn ny meras wâr an bara ha'n dewas yw sethys dheragan* 'Let us not look upon the bread which is set before us'

*Gerowgh ny gwyl den y'n awen ny* 'Let us make man in our own image'.

### 6.9. CONDITIONAL SENTENCES

Conditional sentences are either real or unreal. Real conditions in future time are those, for example, like 'If he is there tonight, I'll give him your message' or 'She will ring, if she needs help', i.e. **Mâr pedh ef ena hanath, me a vedn ry dha vessaj dodha** and **Hy a vedn gelwal, mâr pedh othem dedhy a weras**. Note that in Cornish the *if*-clause (protasis) contains **bos** 'to be', the verb must go into the future:

*Oll ow hows why a'n clowas: laverowgh mâr pedh sawys* 'You have heard all my words: say if he is to be saved'

*Unweyth mâr pedh den marow, y sperys nefra heb wow bith ny dhue yn y vody* 'If a man is once dead, his spirit will never return to his body'

*Mâr pedh res dhybm yndella yn hanow Dew uhelha genas me â* 'If I must thus in the name of the highest God I will go with you'

*rag ef a verow, nynj ues dowt, mâr pedh kevys a-ugh an dor* 'for he will die, there is no doubt, if he is found above ground'

*Me a feth, re'n Arluth Dew, mâr pedh res dhybm yn dha le hag â dredha gans ow gu* 'I will conquer, by the Lord God, if it is necessary in your place and will run through him with my spear'

*mâr pedh hy frût hy tastys te a vedh dampnys ragtha* 'if its fruit is tasted, you will be condemned for it'

*yn fordh-ma mâr pedh tollys, me a vedh compas gansa* 'in this way if she is deceived, I shall be even with him'

*mara pedhowgh repentys an kèth plag a wra voydya* 'if you repent, the same plague will go away'

*Rag hedna mâr pedh tra vith gwres dha gwetha Kernowak, ef a dal bos gen an re-na yw genys obma* 'Therefore if something is done to maintain Cornish, it must be done by those born here'.

With verbs other than **bos** in the *if*-clause it is normal to use **dos** (+ **ha**) as an auxiliary:

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**mâr tue** *neb gwas* **ha ladra** *an gwel dheworthan pryva, mèth vedh oll dha'gan ehan* 'if some fellow steals the rods from us surreptitiously, it will be a disgrace to all our kindred'

**mâr tue** *va* **ha dasserhy**, *muer a dus a wra crejy ynna y vos Dew a nef* 'if he rises again, many will believe in him that he is God from heaven'

**mara tuen ha debatya**, *marnas an eyl party obma ow tyberth pôr wyr ny wharth* 'if we debate, only one party here will be laughing when they leave'

*ha* **mâr tuen leveral** *na wrussyn peha, ny a wra ef gowak* 'and if we say we have not sinned, we render him mendacious'

Rag **mâr têwgh** *why* **ha cara** *an re ujj orth agas cara why, pana reward a vedhowgh why?* 'For if you love those who love you, what reward will you have?'

*pandr'a vednowgh leveral* **mâr tuema dysqwedhas** *dhowgh certain taclow eral muer moy ages helma?* 'what will you say, if I show you certain other things much greater than this?'

**Mâr têwgh why demondya** *prag y whrug an eglos dowys mâr galys onderstondyng a'n keth artykel-ma, geryow an sryptor a yll bos esy onderstondys* 'If you ask why the church chose such a hard understanding of this same article, the words of scripture can easily be understood'

**Mâr têwgh why ha gortas** *ynnaf vy, ha ow geryow vy ynnowgh why, govynowgh an pèth a vednowgh, hag ef a vedh rys dhewhy* 'If you remain in me and my words in you, ask whatever you want, and it will be given you'

**Mara tof ha** *trewelas, ny vêdh mab den ow gwelas rag terror* 'If I go into a frenzy, no man will dare look at me for terror'

rag **mâr tuema ha rowtya ha fernewy ha stowtya**, *na vedh mab den na'm dowtya* 'for if I swagger and rage and dominate, there will be no man who will not fear me'

*Gwlas nef dha'n ena ny a vedh a hes,* **mâr tuen ny gwyl** *dâ wâr an bes* 'The kingdom of heaven we will get for our souls at length, if we do good in the world'

*Bôs* **mâr tue onen ha leveral** *dèr alja tawas an Britas coth dos dha'n uhelder-ma ynvedh, mâr pe anjy mâr fortydnyes, th'era vy mâr pell dort naha yn dadn an tawas ow dama ha ow pow...* 'But if someone says that the language of the ancient Britons could have come to this height also, had they been sufficiently lucky, I am so far from disparaging the language of my mother and my country...'

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Unreal conditions in English usually contain ‘would/should’ in the apodosis (the clause without ‘if’), e.g. ‘If you saw him, you would recognize him’ (future time) and ‘If you had seen him, you would have recognized him’ (past time). Cornish, like the other Celtic languages, does not distinguish sentences of that kind from each other. The easiest way of expressing both in Cornish is to use *màr* + subjunctive of *dos* (+ *ha*) + verb in the protasis and the conditional of *mennas/gwyl* + verb in the apodosis:

*Màr teffas ha’y welas, che a venja y ajwon* ‘If you saw him, you would recognize him/If you had seen him, you would have recognized him’.

The only way to distinguish unreal conditions in future from unreal conditions in past time, is by the context:

**A** *Unreal condition in the future*

*Màr teffas ha gwyl hedna, nefra na venjan vy cowsal orthas arta* ‘If you were to do that, I would never speak to you again’

**B** *Unreal condition in the past*

*Màr teffas ha gwyl hedna, byscath na venjan vy cowsal orthas arta* ‘If you had done that, I would never have spoken to you again.’

Instead of *màr teffa* to introduce the protasis, one may also use *màr qwressa*. Here are some examples from the texts of some of both **A** and **B** (it should be noted that complete examples of **A** are not frequent):

**A**

*fatla, màr teffa ha contradycsyon ha varyans chauncya dha vos drehevys wàr qwestyon bian, na gotha dhèn nena yn cas a’n par-na carwas recours dha’n moyha auncyent eglos?* ‘Why, if both contradiction and difference were to happen to arise about a small question, should we then not in such a case have recourse to the most ancient church?’

*y whrug dha re anedha mos dha’n dre ha degelmy an asen ha dry gansa ha leveral yredy màr teffa tus ha gwetha bos dha Dhew dha wyl gensy* ‘He got some of them to go to the village and untie the ass and bring her with them



## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

and to say indeed if people were to prevent them, that God had need of her'

*Mâr qwressa an den deskys fur-na gwelas hemma, ef a venja cawas fraga y owna yn screfa-composter* 'If that learned, wise man were to see this, he would have reason to emend it in orthography'

### B

*Mâr teffa an oll brodereth obeya accordyng dha'n comondmentys a Dheue, na venja den vith styrrya na gwaya warbydn an collejys po company a brontyryon* 'If the whole fraternity had obeyed according to God's ordinances, no one would have stirred or moved against the colleges or company of priests'

*Rag mâr teffa Crîst ha dos yn dalleth an bes whare woja mab den dha beha ha dha vos kellys, tus a wrussa sopposya mâr teffa Dew aga sùffra dha úsya aga natural powers, y a venja obtâynya salvacyon yn tâ lower heb gveras vith aral yn party Dew* 'For if Christ had come in the beginning of the world soon after mankind sinned and was lost, people would have imagined, if God let them enjoy their natural powers, they would have obtained salvation well enough without any other assistance on the part of God'

*Mâr teffa an epscobow ha'n brontyryon y'n termyn passys, ynwedh an dus leg, deskys ha practysya aga dâta ha'ga vocacyons, dre an examfyl-ma, surly na wrussa an eglos a Crîst dos dha'n dysonor ha'n dysordyr a welsan ny* 'If the bishops and the priests in times past, and also the laity, had taught and practised their duty and vocation, by this example, surely the church of Christ would not have come to the dishonour and disorder that we have seen.

Negative unreal conditions are introduced by *na ve* as can be seen from the following examples:

*Na ve bos fals an den-ma, ny'n drossan ny bis dysa* 'Had this man not been false, we would not have brought him to you'

*Gallos warnaf ny vias na ve y vos grauntys dhys dhorth uhelha arluth* 'You would have no power over me, had it not been granted you from a higher Lord'

*Maria, na ve dha ras, gòn gwyr y fian dyswrys* 'Mary, had it not been for thy grace, I should have been destroyed'

*Na ve y vos gwyr sans, mâr lias merkyl dyblans biñh ny wrussa* 'Were he not a true saint, clearly he would have done so many miracles'

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*Dodha oll yth on sensys: lias obma devorys gans an dhragon ongrassys **na ve** ef sur a via* ‘We are all beholden to him: many here would have been devoured by the wicked dragon, had it not been for him’

*Ha **na ve** agan savyour Críst yntendys dha ry dha Beder specyal auctoryta a-ugh aga hensa, pana othem via cows hemma?* ‘And had our Saviour not intended to give Peter special authority above his fellows, what need would there have been to utter this?’

*Surlly, na venjan crejy an awayl, **na ve** an Catholyk Eglos dha ry dhybm experyens* ‘Surely, wouldn’t believe the gospel, had the Catholic Church not given me experience’

*An keth offys-ma na venja Peder kemas, **na ve** Críst dha ry dhodha an auctoryta* ‘This same function Peter would not have undertaken, had Christ not given him the authority’

***Na ve** me dha’th cara, na venjan dha cossulya dha vos bargayn màr vrâs gwrys* ‘If I did not love thee, I would not advise thee that such a great bargain be made’

***Na ve** me dha’th cara, na venjan awos neb tra yn man dha vos exalrys* ‘If I did not love thee, I would not for anything wish thee to be high exalted’

*Njy a dhodhya gans an ger, **na ve** ow maw dha’m lettya* ‘We would have come at the command, had not my servant stopped me’.

In the proposed orthography, conditions can be introduced by **mâr tue**, **mâr teffa** and **na ve** and the conditional can be made, for example, either by **me a venja gwyl** or **me a wressa gwyl**.

### 6.10. INDIRECT STATEMENT

The easiest way of introducing indirect statement in Cornish is with either **dell** or **fatell** immediately before the verb. This has been in Cornish since the period of the earliest texts:

*Udn venen dhâ a welas **dell o** Jesus dystryppys* ‘A good woman saw that Jesus had been stripped’

*Lebmyr ny a yll gwelas lavar Dew maga **dell wra** neb a vydna y glowas* ‘Now we can see that the word of God feeds anyone who will hear it’.

*A dus vas, why re welas **fatell formyas** Dew an Tâs nef ha nor warlergh y vres* ‘Good people, you have seen that God the Father created heaven and earth according to his wish’

*Arluth, me a’gas gwarnyas **fatell esa** turant brâs er agas pydn drehevys* ‘Lord, I warned you that a great tyrant had risen against you.’

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

In the later language **dell** is reduced to **dêr** and **fatell** to **tell** > **têr**. Here are some examples of both:

*ef a lavaras dêr o va "gever oll" 'he said it was "all goats"'*

*Me a or hemma ort e whor, an Kernowak, dêr ywa va talvedhys bûs nebas 'I know this from its sister, Cornish, that it is valued but little'*

*Bûs mâr te onen ha leveral dêr alja tavas an Brittes coth dos dha'n uhelder-ma ynwedh 'But if someone says that the language of the ancient Britons could have reached this height also'*

*Pan wrug an venen gwelas têr o an wedhen dá rag bous ha dêr o hy blonk dha'n lagajow 'When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes'*

*Pan wrug an venen gwelas têr o an wedhen dá rag bous 'When the woman saw that the tree was good for food'*

*ha anjy woya tell era anjy yn noth 'and they knew that they were naked'*

*Pyw a wrug leveral dhys tell esta yn noth? 'Who told you you were naked?'*

*Ha Dew a welas an golow têr o va dá 'And God saw the light, that it was good'.*

CHAPTER SEVEN

TEXTS

**7.1. From *The Creation of the World***

*Ego sum Alpha et Omega*

heb dalleth na dewethfa

pòr wyr me yw,

Obma ajy dha'n cloudys 4

wàr fas an dowr yn certan

try ferson yn udn dewjys

ow kesrâynya bìs vyckan

yn muer onor ha vertu. 8

Me ha'w Mab ha'n Sperys Sans

try yth on yn udn substans,

comprehendys yn udn Dew.

Me yw henwys Dew an Tas, 12

ollgallosak dres pùb dra.

Scon y fedh gwrys dèr ow ras

nef, plas rial dha'm trygva

ha'w thron sedha ow bodh yw 16

may fo hedna.

Ha'n nor ynwedh awolas

scon worth compas a vedh gwrys.

Hodna a vedh ow scaval drous 20

rag ow flesour pùb pres

ha dha'm onor maga tâ.

Nef obma yw gwrys genaf

orth ow dewjys yn certan, 24

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

hag ynny y fedh gorrys neb a'm gordh gans joy ha cân. Naw ordyr elath gloryes. y a vedh rial ha spladn; canhasow dhybm danvenys rag ow servya bis vyckan me a vedn may fowns nefra.	28
Lebmyn pùb ordyr dh'y se me a vedn may fo gorrys, ha pùb onen dh'y dhegre a vedh gorrys dha'm servys pan vednaf vy comondya.	32 36
Obma nessa dha'm tron vy an kensa try a vedh gwrys, Cherùbyn an uhelha te a vedh – dues rag uskys, Serafyn, ynwedh Tronys.	40
Ow gordhya oll why a wra par dell yw ow bodh nefra obma pùb pres.	44
Ha te, Lucyfer golow, yndella yw dha hanow, ugh pùb el te a esa'.	
A'n kensa ordyr te yw. Gwâyt ow gordhya wâr bob tu, dhysa jy par dell gotha.	48
Y'n second degre y fedh gwrys try ordyr moy yn certan. Dues rag dhybm, Pryncypatys! Te a sedh obma poran, Potestas y'n barth aral.	52

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Domynacyon y'n tu-ma ow praysya hag ow laudya ow hanow nefra heb gyl an tressa degre awolas.	56
Me a vedn try ordyr moy, Arghelath, order pòr vrâs, dêwgh arag obma dha vy ha Vertutys kekefrys.	60
Ha'n elath y'n barth dyhow why a sedh obma heb wow. Dhybm y fedhowgh canhajow hag y whrêwgh ow arhadow gans joy brâs ha cân pùb pres.	64 68
Lebmyn pan yw dhyma gwrys nef ha nor orth bodh ow bres. ha'n naw ordyr collenwys ha'n kensa jorna spedys me a's son gans ow ganow.	72
Ha me a vedn dyskydnya dha'n nor yn dadn an cloudys hag ow bodh gwehyl ena me a vedn may fo gwelys ow bosaf Dew heb parow.	76
Lebmyn an second jorna gwraf broster adhe Kempys y'n ebron ues awartha; me a vedn bos golow gwrys,	80
hag ynwedh bos dyberthva sur ynter an jedh ha'n nos. Ny fyll dhybm conduk a dra wàr an bes dèr ow gallos.	84

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

An mor brâs yn cot termyn adro dha'm tyr a vedh drys rag y wetha pòr ylyn orth harlotry prest pùb pres.	88
An tressa dedh me a wra dha'n gwedh seval yn bàn ha don delyow teg ha dâ ha flourys wheg yn certan.	92
Ow bolonjeth yw hedna may tockans ynna pòr spladn frûtys dha'm bodh rag maga suel a dheg bêwnans hogan.	96
An peswera dedh bedh gwrys an howl ha'n lor yn tevry ha'n ster ynwedh kekefrys rag gwyl golow benary. 'Re-ma yw fyn gonedhys: ow bednath y rof dhedh'y.	100 104
An pympas dedh orth ow bres an poscas heb falladow hag oll an edhyn kefrys me a's gwra dha'm plegadow hag oll an bestas y'n bes gans prevas a bùb sortow. An re-ma yw oll teg gwrys. Me a's son warbarth heb wow.	108 112

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 7.2. *The Charter Fragment*

Goslow, ty coweth, bith na borth mèth, dyeskyn ha powas ha dhyma dues nes.	4
Mar codhas dha les, ha dhys y rof mowes, ha fest onen deg. Genas mara plek, a, tan hyhy.	8
Kebmer hy dha'th wreg. Sconya dhys ny vèk ha ty a vydh hy.	12
Hy a vydh gwre'ty dhâ dhys dha sensy; pòr wyr a lavara', ha, govyn warty.	16
Lebmyn y'th torn my a's re, ha wàr an Greth my a'n te, nag ues hy far a'n barth-ma dha pons Tamar.	20
My a'th pes, warty bydh dâ, hag oll dha vodh hy a wra, rag flogh yw ha gensy soth, ha gas hy dha gafos hy bodh.	24
Kyns mos dhybma ebmowgh. Êwgh alebma ha fystenowgh.	



**A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

Dalleth avar yn freth. Dar, war own ma portha, ef omsettya worthas sy cabm na vetha.	28
Mar a'th ergh dhys gwyl neb tra. Lavar dhesy "Bìth ny vednaf!" Lavar dhodha, "Gwraf mar mednyth." Awos a alla, ny wra tra vith.	32
Y'n uer-na y'th sens dha vos mestres, hedyr vêwhy hag arlodhes. Cas o gansa re'n Oferen. Cùrtes yw ha deboner, dhys dregyn ny wra.	36
Mar a'n kefyth yn danjer, sens e fast yndella!	40

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 7.3. From *Bêwnans Meryasek*

#### SERVUS

Tremenys yw dyogel	1088
lebmyñ genan an chanel, <i>ma fay</i> , holm' yw speda deg.	
Devedhys on bis y'n tyr.	
Lebmyñ qwyk dha'gas desyr	1092
gwrêwgh why londya, Meryasek.	
An men re wrug ynclynya	
y'n tyr rag dha receva,	
gras dha Jesu gallosak.	1096

#### MERIADOCUS

Dew re'n talla dhewgh, tus vas.	
Arluth Jesu luen a ras	
re'm gedya y'n fordh welha.	
Dha'm nessevyn maras af	1100
gansa temptys y fedhaf	
tro ha lüst an bes-ma.	

#### BRITTONUS

Dremas, bedh war pèth ylly!	
Bleydh brâs y'n for'-na defry	1104
pòr wyr yma.	
Mara tue yn dha ogas,	
ef a wra scollya dha wous.	
Ellas, ottava ena!	1108

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### MERIADOCUS

Bêst, dhys me a worhebmy  
dhyma na wrylly dregyn  
na dha Gristyon benytha.  
Na gebmer own vith, dremas, 1112  
dh'y handla sur ef a'm gas.  
Myr, pòr whar yn ketelma  
ow sewya ef a levas.  
Trespas vith ny wra profya. 1116

### BRITTONUS

Sur te yw den benegas.  
Lias den ef re ladhas  
ha flehas prest y'n pow-ma.  
Dhysa jy senjys ass on! 1120  
Ottava kepar hag ôn  
a vo dof orth dha sewya.

### MERIADOCUS

Gwyl trespas dhybm ny brofyas  
nag ef ny'n jevyth dregyn. 1124  
Yn hanow Crîst mab Gwyrhes  
dhys, bêst, me a worhebmy  
mos dha'n gwylfos.  
Gans mab den na wra mellya 1128  
nefra awoja helma.  
Abarth Jesu awartha  
y'th fordh gwra mos.

**A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

Me a vydn mos dha'n gwylfos, ena ermyt pòr wyr bos may hallan gordhya ow Dew, na ven temptys	1132
gans tus an bes hadre ven bêw.	1136
Obma sur ryb an castel gelwys Pontelyn defry wàr an meneth dyogel	1140
hag orth an ryver surly a Josselyn chapel gwethyl me a vydn rag gordhya Maria wydn,	1144
kynth yw tyller gwyls ha yeyn. <i>[ascendit ad montem</i> Gordhyans dha Grïst mab magteth myl pass sur yw an meneth dheworth an grownd byteweth.	1148
Dew a'm gweras! Ow chy fowndya sur ha growndya mannaf uskys.	1152
<i>[Chapel a-ready. Here he weareth a russet mantel and a beard</i>	

#### 7.4. *Nebas geryow adro dha Kernowak*

Gàn tavas Kernowak yw màr pell gwadnhes, ùs na ellen scant qwetyas dha y welas crefhe arta, rag pecar dèr wrug an Sowson y dhanvon y'n pow ydn-ma an kensa, yndelna yma stella ow tegy warnodha heb gara dhodha tylher vith bús adro dha'n als ha'n mor; oll ywa va clappys lebmyñ ogasty yw dorth Pedn an Wlas dha'n Carrak Lous, ha tua Por' Ia ha Redruth, ha arta dort an Lizard tua Hellys ha Falmouth; ha an pow-na, an ydna dew codna tyr es en hester adro dha ugans myldyr, ha bús qwarter, po hanter an lester-na. Y'n tylher ydn-ma hag oll, ma moy Sowsnak clappys dèr ues a Kernowak, rag radn a ell bos kevys na ell scant clappya na godhvas Kernowak, bús scant den vith bús a or godhvas ha clappya Sowsnak. Rag hedna, hevel dem calys yw dha gwyl dodha gortas ha dos adro arta, rag woja an tus goth dha merwal yn kerdh, ny a wel an tus yonk dha y clappya le ha le, ha lacka ha lacka. Ha yndelna ef a vedn leha dort termyn dha termyn, rag an tavas Sowsnak [yw] clappys màr dà vell yn tylher vith y'n wlas aves a'n treven ha'n...

Nag yw an pobel coth dha bos scoudhyes wàr naneyl, pecar dèr vednowgh why gwelas ort hemma adro dha'n Empirick Angwyn, an brossa ha an cotha fratyer mesk oll an clappyers Kernowak adhedhas. Rag gofydnyes dha desmygya *Gevern Anko*, ef a wrug predery wàr *gever* bús nacovas adro an ger *cof*, devedhys dhort *perth yn cof*. Tra a'n par-na me a glowas adro dha'n Carrak Men Ombor'.

Rag hedna, màr pedh tra vith gwrys dha gwetha Kernowak, ef a dal bos gen an re-na yw genys obma, ha deskys dà, kevys bús menowgh. Rag nag yns bús nebas, bús dèw po try a worama anedha. Mesk anjy onen yw gwynhes ha deskys dres oll an re eral a vue deract'anjy polta pò a vedn dos woja va dres lycklod. Yndelna yw, pan na vedh nappyth gwrys lebmyñ etta, na scant a vedn a bos gwrys woja hemma, awos bos dodha va màr vuer godhvas yn lias tavas pecar ha dha Greckyan, Hebran. Me a glowas leveral.... Màr qwressa an den

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deskys fur-na gwelas hemma, ef a venja cawas fraga y owna yn screfa-composter, &c.

Whath hemma a ell mos rag bolonjeth leg, rag na wrug avy byscath gwelas scriff Breten coth vith. An lytherow wâr an men bedh ues yn Eglos Beryan, na woran pandra dha wyl anodha. Ha men aral yn Madron yn Gûnyow Bosolo henwys “Men Screfys” dha’n jorna-ma, ow tegy na woran pana lytherow naneyl.

An pèth yw gwelys genaf vy dha bos godhvedhys ha dysmygys yw lavar wâr cota den brâs yn arhans a ught dha cans blodh coth lebmyn, marhak yn pedn west Pow Densher, ha kellys (pecar del hevel) gen y mab lien, ow mos tua y bargen tyr yn Pedn an Wlas. Ef a vue kevys adhedwedhas gen onen a wrug gwyl ke ha gwerthys. An gwas, a wrug y perna, a wrug y dhanvon dha’n kensa scoren a’n chy-na uja tregys lebmyn nes dha’n Carrak Lous yn Cous. An geryow warnodha: *CAR DEW DRES PÛB TRA*, lebmyn nebas ken cowsys. Mâr dewedhas (pecar dèr hevel) th’era Kernowak y’n pow-na, ha lebmyn nag ues bûs nebas y’n pow-ma – an pèth ues gwyl dhybm crejy dèr vedn ava dowedha yn kerdh.

Rag me ow honen a vue genys yn colon an pow-na yw an Kernowak moyha cowsys, ha whath ma cof dhybm, pan nag o ma bûs dro dha whegh blodh coth, na aljama y clappya na scant y godhvas. An wher, th’erama predery, th’o dhorth sians ow dama tefna an pobel chy ha an kentrevogyon dha clappya tra vith dha vy bûs Sowsnak. Ma cof dhybm cawas tra a’n par-ma yn lyver Arluth an Meneth adro dha y dhescans Latyn. Hag obma, mâr pedhama kybmyas dha gwyl semblans gân Aulsen coth brâs:

*Parvum Haerediolum Majorum regna meorum  
Quod Proavus, quod Avus, quod Pater excoluit*

Nebas gân tyr, gân tyreth, ha bian reveth,  
tylher ow syra, syra wydn, hengyck ynwedh.

Nena ow mos ales dha scol, ha woja hedna ow mos dha Frenk, nag ues cof dhybm dha godhvas muer y’n tavas Kernowak lebma ow tos dha gawas tra gwyl y’n bes. Ha lebmyn th’erama ow towla dha gwelas mâr

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

pell etna ogasty vell lias a'n kentrevogyon; ha ma dhybm màr vuer kerenja racta, bùm na ellam ry dhodha moy tèr gothfya dhybm, rag th'yw scant *townak* dha bos gwelys yn lias geryow, a dal bos gwres yn madn dort an Latyn pò an Sowsnak. Ha na or den vith dort paneyl a wrug an coll-ma kensa dos, dort an Romans meskys gen an Britas, pò woja hedna dort an Sowson, martesen dort an dew. Bùm th'erama ow whelas y'n scriff-ma (màr muer dèr ellama) dha gorra an ger-na atenewen a wra desmygya gàn tavas ny senjys dha re eral.

Ma lyver bian rebam adro dha'n Arlodhes Kernow, screfys rag an flehas neb bledhanyow alebma, adro dha volen deg warn ugans, lebma leverys genaf vy an pèth a worama adro dha'n tavas Kernowak, fatla ef a wrug dos... mos ales a'n Breton ha an Kembrions ha'n Kernowyon mesk anjy; nag ywa lycklod dèr vedn ava bos tregys pell heb merwal yn kerdh ha dos dha tra vith. Th'eram soppoja yndelma dha'n leha rag an Breton ha an Kernowyon, awos bos an Frenkak fyn parys dha kemeras wàr an neyl ha an Sowsnak nobla wàr y gela. Na woraf vy dèr ell an Kembrion gwyl rag dha gwetha gà tavas, bùm me a or hemma ort y whor, an Kernowak, dèr yw ava talvedhys bùm nebas dha bos gwrys, warbarth ha gen an Sowsnak, an pèth yw parys dha ry polta gwell dhodha dèr uja va kemerys dorta. Ha whath an Sowson martesen a alja gawas maga nebas skians vell an Britas et gà clappya gà fordh, pan wrug anjy dos dres obma y'n kensa dalleth, lebma gàn gwell nef ny ha'n gwayn gàn enys dà a wrug gà dry dha'n uhelder-ma... bùm màr tue onen ha leveral dèr alja tavas an Britas coth dos dha'n uhelder-ma ynwedh, màr pe anjy màr fortydnyes, th'eraf vy màr pell dorth naha yn dadn an tavas ow dama ha ow pow, as rag y kerenja dèr oma parys dha leveral yndelna ynwedh, ha da sconha, le dèr wressa lyver *An Haf an Arlodhes Kernow* bos kevys yn dèwla ow flehas ùja hemma, radn a alja bos parys dha leveral dèr erama gwyl nebas a Kernowak, awos dèr venjama gwyl ow honen dha bos devedhys dres mor, bùm ma bos gwelys gen pana colon dhâ th'erama ow leveral oll an sompel rag an Kernowak.

Ha ef a dal bos Ancow y honen a vedn predery dèr erama ow crejy hedna dha vos gwyr yw screfys ena, rag tra vith aral bùm dha gwyl wys. Ha lebmyd dèr ywa devedhys et ow bres, me a vedn gwyl deweth an scriff-ma dort an dewetha rym ves a'n kensa Càn Horace:

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*Quod si me lyricis vatibus inseres,  
Sublimi feriam sydera vertice.*

Màr pedham, Francan-Beljyan me wra bos  
Pecar dèr yw Sowson-Kernow, vedh onor vrâs.



### 7.5. *Genesis 3* by William Rowe

**3** Lebmyn an hager-bref o moy fals avell onen vith oll a'n bêstas a'n gwel a rug an Arluth Dew gwyl. Hag ef a lavaras dha'n venen, "Ea! A wrug Dew leveral, te na wres debry a kynever gwedhen a'n lowarth?" <sup>2</sup>Ha'n venen a lavaras dha'n hager-bref, "Ny a ell debry dhewort oll an gwedh a'n lowarth; <sup>3</sup>bùs dhewort an wedhen ues yn cres an lowarth, Dew a lavaras, 'Why na wra debry anodhy, na na wrêwgh why e thochya, lès why a verow.'" <sup>4</sup>Ha an hager-bref a lavaras dha'n venen, "Why na wra sur merwal. <sup>5</sup>Rag Dew a wor, y'n jorna a wrêwgh debry anodhy, nena agas lagajow a wra bos egerys, ha why a wra bos pecar ha Dew ow codhvas dâ ha drog." <sup>6</sup>Pan wrug an venen gwelas tèr o an wedhen dâ rag bous, ha dèr o hy blook dha'n lagajow, ha gwedhen dha vos desyrys dha gwyl onen fur, hy a gemeras radn a'n has anodhy ha wrug debry, hag a ros radn dh'y gour gansy, hag ef a wrug debry. <sup>7</sup>Ha lagajow anjy vue egerys ha anjy a wodhya tell era anjy yn noth; ha anjy a wrias delkyow fyges warbarth ha a wras dh'anjy aprodnyow.

<sup>8</sup>Ha anjy a glowas lef an Arluth Dew ow kerdhas y'n lowarth yn yeynder an jedh; ha Adam ha'y wreg êth dha gudha dhewort derag an Arluth Dew yn mesk an gwedh a'n lowarth. <sup>9</sup>Ha'n Arluth Dew a grias dha Adam ha lavaras dhodha "Pleth esta?" <sup>10</sup>Hag ef a lavaras, "Me a glowas dha lef y'n lowarth, ha me a vue own, rag th'eram yn noth, ha me êth dha gudha." <sup>11</sup>Ha ef a gowsas, "Pyw a wrug leveral dhys tell esta yn noth? A wrusta debry dhewort an wedhen a wrug avy leveral dhys na wresta debry?" <sup>12</sup>Ha an den a gowsas, "An venen a wrusta ry dha vy, hy a ros dha vy dhewort an wedhen, ha vy a wrug debry." <sup>13</sup>Ha an Arluth Dew a gowsas dha'n venen, "Pandryw hemma ues gwrys genas?" Ha an venen a worrebas, "An hager-bref a dollas vy, ha vy a wrug debry."

<sup>14</sup>Ha an Arluth Dew a lavaras dha'n hager-bref,  
"Drefen te dha wyl hemma,  
th'os chy mollethys

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

dres oll an chattal  
ha dres kenyer bêst a'n gwel.  
Wâr dha dorr te a wra mos  
oll dedhyow dha vownans.  
<sup>15</sup>Ha ve a vedn gorra sor  
yntre te ha an venen  
ha yntre an has te ha'y has hy.  
Ef a wra browy dha pedn  
ha che a wra browy y gwewen.”

<sup>16</sup>Dha'n venen ef a cowsas,  
“Me a vedn muer cressya  
dha dewhan ha dha omdhon.  
Yn dewhan te a wra don flehas;  
ha dha desyrya a wra bos dha'th gour  
ha ef a wra dha rowlya.”

<sup>17</sup>Ha dha Adam ef a gowsas, “Drefen te dha goslowas dha talla dha  
wreg ha a wrug debry dhewort an wedhen a wrug avy leveral dhys  
'te na wras debry anodhy,'  
Cùssys yw an nor rag dha kerenja.  
Gen dewhan te a wra debry anodha  
oll dedhyow dha vownans.  
<sup>18</sup>Spern ha ascal a wra ef dry rag dhys,  
ha te wra debry a'n losow an gwel.  
<sup>19</sup>Yn whes dha godna tâl  
te a wra debry dha vara  
dèr bo te dha trâylya dha nor,  
rag a vesta te a vue kemerys.  
Rag doust os  
ha dha doust te a wra trâylya.”

<sup>20</sup>Ha Adam a grias hanow y wreg Eva drefen o hy dama a oll  
bowa. <sup>21</sup>Ha dha Adam ha y wreg a wrug an Arluth Dew gwyl pows  
crohen, ha a's goreras.

<sup>22</sup>Ha an Arluth Dew a wrug leveral, “Merowgh, an den yw  
devedhys pecar ha onen a ny, da odhvas dâ ha drog. Ha lebmyl lès ef  
a wòr rag y dhorn ha kemeras y'wedh dhewort an gwedhen bownans

## **A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

ha debry, ha bowa rag nefra.”<sup>23</sup>Rag hedna an Arluth Dew danvonas ef arag dhewort paradhys, dha gonys an nor, dhewort neb a vue a kemerys. <sup>24</sup>Yndella ef a helhas mes an den, ha ef a worras el a nef ha cledha tan a wrug trâylya kenyer vordh, dha gwetha an vordh a’n gwedhen a vownans.

**7.6. *Cân Nadelak* by Henry Jenner, 1901**

Yn pedn an vledhen, pan o gwâf gwydn,  
Bue genys Mab Dew a Varia wydn,  
Rag sawya dhorth pehas an bes-ma,  
Ha bownans rag dry dha'n bobel dhâ.

Y whrug cana an El dha'n bugelath y'n gwel,  
Hedna o cân pòr lowenak dha whel:  
“Gordhyans dha Dhew ujy'n Nef brâs,  
Cres war an tyr dha dus a vodh vas!”

A ves an dhuryan wâr degol an Stûl,  
A dhueth tus fur, o Myternow oll,  
Ha anjy wrug dos aberth y'n bowjy,  
Hag obma wrug gordhya gân Arluth ny.

Ha ny a vedn mos dha wordhya gansans,  
Tus fur, ha bugeleth ha chattal oll myns.  
Yn termyn Offeren ny a vedn e welas,  
Pan wra ef dyskydna rag dha'gan whelas.

Dew r'effa sawya coth Gernow wheg,  
Dhort Pedn an Wolas bis Tamar teg,  
Ha'y gwetha nefra y'n garenja ef,  
Dha wordhya Mab Dew ha Myternes Nef.

Bednath Nadelak geno'why re bo  
Dhort an Tas Dew ny, ha dhorth y Flogh,  
Ha dhorth Dama Dew, an Vaghteth lan:–  
Hedna yw deweth dha oll ow hân.

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### 7.7. *Gwaynten yn Kernow* by Henry Jenner, c. 1903

Gwaynten yn Kernow! Ma mys Me ow tos;  
Flourys egor, ydhyn bian a gan  
Gwerdh yw an gwedh, rudhyk yn blejow glan  
Avalow yw an jarnow, wâr pùb rôs  
Sawor an eythyn melyn oll an nos  
A lenow an âyr, warlergh howlsedhas spladn,  
A wrug golowy'n dodn las avel tan;  
Ha son an mor a worthyp lef an cous.  
Re wryllyf bos yn Kernow! Lowenak  
Clowaf lef todn, ha gwaynten devedhys,  
Gwelaf gûn las Mor Havren, gwyls ha wheg,  
Gwelaf blejow, vell hunros benygys  
Govy! ny dhre dhyma gân gwaynten teg,  
Dyvres a'm bro, neb whecter yn Londres.

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**7.8. *Bro Goth Agan Tasow* by Henry Jenner, c. 1929**

Bro goth agan Tasow, dha flehas a'th car,  
Gwlas ger an Howlsedhas, pan vro yw dha bar?  
Wàr oll an norves th'on ny scollys ales,  
Mès oll gàn kerensa yw dhys.

Kernow! Kernow! Ny a gar Kernow!  
Hadre vedh mor glan vell fos yn dha dro,  
Th'on "Onen hag Oll" rag Kernow!

Gwlascor Mytern Arthur, an Sansow, ha'n Gral,  
Moy kerys genan nyns yw tyreth aral.  
Ynnas sy pùb carrak, nans, meneth ha chy,  
A berth cof gàn tavas coth ny.

Kernow! Kernow! Ny a gar Kernow!  
Hadre vedh mor glan vell fos yn dha dro,  
Th'on "Onen hag Oll" rag Kernow!

Yn tewelder an bal ha wàr dodnow an mor,  
Pan esan ow qwandra dre dyryow tramor,  
Yn pùb le pynag hag yn kenyver bro  
Re drâylyan colodnow dhyso.

Kernow! Kernow! Ny a gar Kernow!  
Hadre vedh mor glan vell fos yn dha dro,  
Th'on "Onen hag Oll" rag Kernow!

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 7.9. *Sapientes (An Dus Doth)* by A. S. D. Smith (Caradar)

Yth esa mytern kyns war onen a'n cytas Romanek hag ef a ordenas seyth den dha rêwlya an cyta. Ha'n dus-na a wrug omry dha gontell owr hag arhans ha gemmow, bis ma'n jeva an moyha bohojak anodhans moy rychys a'n bes-ma ès an mytern y honen. Ha hedna a wrussans, wosa y dha gemeras cossul warbarth, may hallans ladha an mytern ha radna y wlascor yntredhans, ha hedna dre nerth ha gallos aga rychys.

Ha pùb nos yth esa an mytern ow qwelas dre hun pêr ha seyth trous yn dadna ha mog owth eskydna anodha, kepar ha pan ve tan vrâs yn dadna. Hag y tueth gwryhon a'n re-na erbydn y lagajow, dell esa va ow teby ha'y dhalla.

Hag ena ef a dhanvonas cannajow dha bùb le warlergh dewynyon hunrosow. Hag y happyas dha'n cannajow dos erbydn gwas yonk a gafas gans Dew an sperys a dhewynyeth dha styrya hunrosow ha vysyons a'n termyn a dhue bis vyckan. Ha'n gwas a vue drys adherag an mytern, ha wosa y dhos, an mytern a dheryvas orta y hunros.

“Ea,” yn medh an gwas, “desky dha hunros dhys me a wra, ha kefrys ry dhys cossul. Ha mar ny wrêta warlergh ow hossul, y whervyth dhys ha te a wra dyfuna kepar del welta dre hun. Otobma dha hunros,” yn medh an gwas. “Yma an pêr esta ow qwelas dre hun owth arwedha an cyta-ma. An seyth trous yw an seyth den ujj orth y rêwlya, hag y ow pryjyon gans gorlanwes a rychys ha gallos hag ow tarbary trâyson er dha bydn, mar ny wrêta aga ladha a dermyn.”

Mès ny wrug an mytern warlergh cossul an gwas hag y a'n ladhas hag a gemeras y wlascor dheworta.

Yndella te ny venta kemeras ow hossul adro dha'th vab ha tus fur Rom, hag y orth dha sawdhanas ha'th tolla dre lavarow, ow cortas dha ladha ha kemeras dha wlascor dheworthys, mar ny wrêta aga ladha a dermyn.”

“War ow fedh,” yn medh ef, “y a vedh ledhys avorow.”

## **A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

Ha ternos, muer y sòr, mos dha'n seneth ef a wrug hag erhy cregy y vab ha tus fur Rom gansa. Hag ena y sevys Jesse yn badn ha cowsal yndelma arag an bobel oll.

“Ny goudh dha arluth bos fekyl na gasa falsury ha gow dh'y lewyas. Ha kepar del wrug an vyternes tolla an mytern adro dha'n marrak y'n termyn ues passys, yndella y whra dha wreg dha dolla tejy.”

“Fatell vue hedna?” yn medh ef.

“Re Dhew a'm ros! Ny'n deryvaf, marnas te a rolha dha er na vedh ledhys an mab hedhyw.”

“Na vedh ledhys,” yn medh an Emprou.



### **7.10. From *Rebellyans* by Myghal Palmer**

Dres oll an pow an nos na yth esa own, yn pùb treveglos hag yn pùb chy, dhia Awan Tamar bis yn Pedn an Wlas. Penvenyster an Governans Cres dhe Sen Jory a gowsas orth an bobel wâr an bellwolak, ha'y eryow hardh a dhros dhe'n Gernowyon fyenasow brâs ow tochya an termyn esa ow tos. Mar ny wre an uthwesyon Gernowek gelwys Lu an Gof cessa aga omsettyans wâr an Creslu Arbednek ha wâr sodhogyon an Governour Jeneral, an Lu Cresednek a venja dos dres or an Tamar hag omsettya wâr an omsevysy. Mar menna pobel Conteth Kernow scodhya an rebels, kyn nag esa whans dhe'n governans omlath warbydn an Gernowyon aga honen, an Lu a venja dystrowy pùb tra y'ga fordh heb mercy, treven hag eglosyow kyn fe – pynag oll tyller a vedha kefys udn rebel ervys. Dres an mysow tremenys an governans a wrug gwyl pùb tra y'ga gallos dhe gawas unverheans ynter an omsevysy ha'n auctoryta cres, saw heb sowyn vith.

Pùb termyn oll esyly Lu an Gof a besyas gans aga drogoberow. Dêw dhedh alenna y fue omsettyans wâr Jy Consel an Governour Jeneral yn Try Verow, ha pejwar esel a'n Consel a vue ledhys pan dardhas tanbellen y'ga mesk. Warlergh selreth an Republyk Sowsnak, Conteth Kernow o ran a'n Republyk, wosa an bobel dhe votya dhe remaynya ynna y'n gwerynvota arbednek nans o dêw vledhen. Kyn fia croffal yn Kernow an Sowson o tregys yn Kernow dhe allos votya gans an Gernowyon deythyak, ny ylly dyffrans vith bos gwrys ynter an dhêw vagas. An proces democratek o hedna. Ervyrys vue an mater ha nys esa ger moy dhe leveral.

Nys o re helergh dhe omry ha sawya an bobel Gernowek dheworth drog. Mar teffa an rebels ha kemenessa gans an Governour Jeneral hag assentya dhe dhascor aga arvow, ny venja dalleth an assault, mès y talvya dhodhans ambosa dhe omry kyns whegh uer gordhewar an nessa jedh. Mar ny wrêns yndella, an Lu Cresednek a venja tremena an or gans nerth pòr gref – tancow, artillery hevuf, dêw vyl soudor ha lonchydhyon fusednow. Mar teffans ha dos, uthék drog via an damaj, hag y fia lies person ledhys – benenes, flehas ha tus coth y'ga mesk, rag nag esa chauns dhe wyl dyffrans ynter an rebels ha'n dus kebmyrn.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 7.11. *Den Bohojak a'n Poscas* and a poem by Neil Kennedy

Me a venja lavaral dhewgh drolla a wrug avy clowas adhedwedhas. Y'n termyn ues passys, pell dha'n uer-ma, th'era tregys yn Porth Enys den bohojak an poscas. Hen yw da lavaral poscader, mar menno'why. Den coth o ef, pejwar ugans bloudh, gyllys lous y vlêw ha cabm y geyn. Rag hedna y wreg a venja ef dha worra y rûsow adenewen ha trega wâr an tyr heb mos da mor na velha. Lias gweth hy a gompollas an dra ha wâr an deweth ef a assentyas. Nag o pell warlergh pan wrug commencya cawas blêwak y vownans pùb jorna ha hyr y dhedhyow war an dor, ow mos pub pres dha'n auls m'aljava gwelas an mor ha'n cockow tuag an Garrak Louz ha pelha. Re th'o re, sur lowr ha bedn gwaynten ef a bernas cock m'aljava dalleth poskecha arta. Dar! Lowender pub jorna awos hager-awel ha yeynder. An todnow a wrug dereval vell menedhyow bûs an den o lowen na whath. Gans hedna y wreg o trobllys, ow predery pub uer bos gwedhves. Na woia tabm vith an gwelha pèth dha wyl. Hy êth yndella gwelas an pronter, neb un Sows jentyl ha wheg na woia tra vith a'n mor, na whath bownans an boscadars, rag th'o devedhys a'n Tyreth Cres. Hen yw tyller cries "Bir-ming-ham" y'n Sowsnak nobla. Na worama mar qwrugo'why clowas anodha. Me a glowas fatell yw brossa vell Penzans. Na amownt...

Medh an den caradow: "Gerowgh cavow dha wandra, Benen vas! Na berth dowt, rag me a vedn cows dodha wâr an Zul."

Andelha, medh an pronter dha'n poscader: "Fatell wrug merwal gàs zyra?"

"Y'n mor," medh an poscader, "Budhy a wrug."

"Ha fatell a wrug merwal gàs syra wydn?"

"Budhys ve ow zyra wydn y'wedh, pecar ha ow zyra."

"Hag y zyra ef?"

"Y'n mor, y'wedh!"

"Ha'gas gorhyk?"

"Y'n mor, devry!"

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

Lebmyn medh an pronter, “Nag ues own dha why bos budhys y’wedh? Na venja why kyns gortas wàr an dor alebma rag, m’alja gàs dedhyow bos hydr?”

Ha’n poscader a worrebas yndella, ow lavaral, “Fatell a wrug gàs zyra why merwal?”

“Et y wely,” medh an pronter.

“Ha’gas zyra wydn?”

“Dar! Et y wely, y’wedh.”

“Ah!” medh an poscader coth lebmyn: “Why a venja cosca hanath aberveth gàs gwely, na whath?!”

• • •

Brylly ow clappya, geryow fur, brabm an gath,  
sylly ow neyja, losow hydr, brabm an nath,  
kencras ow mos da godha ’dadn  
goubman ha hùjes bùly kern.  
Pandr’yw hedna? Crogen las, lagas rous,  
dew baw deracta, ’terry, ’trehy  
ganow ’egery, ’tebry kyg,  
legest yth ywa! Ma va ow tos, ebal stowt,  
Onen a’n brossa, uthyk bros, nag es dowt.  
Yma an byvan-bùvans groovin’  
’contell an browyon dhorth y ly.

### 7.12. The American Declaration of Independence

*“Conservative” register*

YTH ESAN NY ow sensy an poyntys-ma a wryoneth dha vos dyblans hag apert, hen yw dha styrya, bos pùb den oll eqwal an eyl dha gela, hag y oll dha receva dheworth aga Gwrier certan gwryow na ell bos kemerys dhewortans, y’ga mesk an re-ma: Bêwnans, Lyberta ha Sewya Lowena. — Rag assûrya an gwryow-ma y fue Governansow settys yn badn y’n bobel, hag yma power ewn an rêwlisy ow powas wâr acord an dus governys, — Pynag oll termyn a vo Form vith a Governans ow codras a dhystrowy an towlow-ma, yma Gwyr gans an Dus a’y janjya boneyl y settya a denewen, ha dha dhereval Governans noweth dhodhans aga honen, orth y fowndya wâr an sort a benrêwlys hag ow restry y bowers warlergh an maner, a hevel dhodhans an moyha lyckly dha dhry dhodhans Sawment ha Lowena. Yma an Furneth yn tevry ow cossulya na gothfya chanjya Governansow a dhuryans hyr rag resons scaf ha brottal; ha rag henna yma pùb experyans ow tysqwedhas bos an dus dha voy parys dha wodheval, pan yll drog bos perthys, avell ewna an cas esans y ynna dre settya a denewen an formys a rêwl yns y ûsys dhodhans. Saw pan usy tebelvâysty pell orth aga abûsya, ow whelas pùb termyn an kèth Towl hag ow tysqwedhas y vos whensys dha’ga gorra yn dadn gallos an purra Turant, y a’s tevas an gwyr, y a’s tevas an devar, a dowlal an kèth sam Governans na dhewar aga heyn, hag a brovia dhodhans Scous noweth rag aga sawment y’n termyn a dhue. A’n sort-ma re bue an sùffrans ha’n perthyans a’n Colonys-ma; hag a’n sort-ma yw an plêt usy orth aga honstryna dha janjya an System a’ga Governans. Nyns yw ystory a’n Mytern a Vreten Vuer y’n jedh hedhyw tra vith ken es tebelvâysty ha myschef arta hag arta, nag esa towl vith aral dhodha ès settya y honen yn badn avell Turant heb ambos y’n Stâtys-ma.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*“Advanced” register*

TH'ERAN NY ow senjy an an poyntys-ma a wryyoneth dha vos dyblans hag apert, hen yw dha styrya, y fue kennyver den formys eqwal an eyl dha gela, hag anjy oll dha receva dheworth an Gwrier anjy certan gwryow na ell bos kemerys dhewortanjy, mesk anjy ma an re-ma: Bownans, Lyberta ha Sewya Lowender. — Rag assûrya an gwryow-ma y fue Governansow settys yn madn y'n bobel, ha ma power own an rêwlars ow powas wâr acord an dus governys, — Pynag oll termyn a vo Form vith a Governans ow codras a dhystrowy an tolow-ma, ma Gwyr gans an Dus a'y janjya boneyl y settya a denewen yn tian, ha dha dhereval Governans noweth dhodhans aga honen, orth y fowndya wâr an sort a benrêwlys hag ow restry y bowers warlergh an maner, a hevel dhodhans an moyha lyckly dha dhry dhodhans Sawment ha Felycyta. Ma an Furneth yn tevry ow cossulya na gothfya chanjya Governansow a dhuryans hyr rag resons scaf ha brottal; ha rag hedna ma kennyver experyans ow shoya bos an dus dha voy parys dha wodheval, pan ell drog bos perthys, avell owna an cas anjy dre settya a denewen an formys a rêwl era anjy ûsys dhodhans. Saw pan wra tebel-vâystry aga abûsya dres termyn hyr, ow whelas pùb termyn an kèth Towl hag ow tysqwedhas y vos whensys dha'ga gorra yn dadn gallos an purra Turant, anjy a vedh an gwyr, anjy a vedh an devar, a dowlal an kèth sam Governans-na dhewar an keyn anjy, hag a brovia dhodhans Scous noweth rag aga sawment y'n termyn a dhue. A'n sort-ma re bue an sùffrans ha'n perthyans a'n Colonys-ma; hag a'n sort-ma yw an plêt uja ow constryna anjy dha janjya an System a'n Governans anjy. Nag yw ystory a'n Mytern a Vreten Vuer y'n jedh hedhyw tra vith ken es tebel-vâystry ha myschef arta hag arta, nag era towl vith aral dhodha ès settya y honen yn madn avell Turant heb ambos y'n Stâtys-ma.

**7.13. *Pride and Prejudice* (Chapter 1) by Jane Austen**

Yth yw gwryoneth aswonys gen kenyer onen, mars ues fortyn brâs gen den heb demedhy, yma othem dhodha a wreg. Ny fors pana vohes yw godhvedhys adro dha golon a dhen a'n par-na, pan wra ef dos aberth yn tyreth rag an kensa pres, y fedh an gwryoneth-ma màr fast yn pednow a'n meynys oll adro, mayth ywa consydrys avell pèth teythyak a onen bo y gela a'ga myrhas y.

“A Vester Bennet wheg,” medh y wre'ty dhodha udn jorna, “a wrussowgh why clowas tell yw Park Netherfield settys dha nebonen worteweth?”

Mester Bennet a worthebys na wrug ef y glowas.

“Saw yth ywa settys,” medh hy dhodha; “rag y fue Mestres Long namnygen obma, ha hy a gowsas orthaf ow tochya oll an mater.”

Ny worthebys Mester Bennet tra vith.

“A ny via dâ genowgh clowas pyw a wrug y gemeras?” a grias y wreg, cot hy ferthyans.

“Dâ via genowgh why y leveral dhybm, ha nag ues tra vith genama warbydn y glowas.”

Y fue hedna lowr rag galow dedhy.

“Dar, a brias wheg, why a dal godhvas, Mestres Long a laver tell vue Netherfield kemerys gen den yonk, brâs y rychys, ujj ow tos dheworth an north a Bow an Sowson; tell wrug ef dos dha'n dor de Lun passys yn caryaj brâs pejwar margh may halla whythra an tyller, hag y fue va kebmys plesys gansa, may whrug ef acordya heb let gen Mester Morris; tell vedn ef bos tregys ena kys degol Myhal, ha radn a'y servans a vedh y'n chy kys deweth an seythen nessa.”

“Pandr' yw y hanow?”

“Bingley.”

“Ywa demedhys bo heb demedhy?”

“O! heb demedhy, a brias wheg, yn sur! Den heb gwreg ha rychys brâs gansa; pejwar bô pypm myl puns y'n vledhen. Ass yw hedna rial dra rag agan myrhas ny!”

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

“Pa vaner? Pa vaner a ell hedna gwyl dyfrans dhodhans?”

“Mester Bennet wheg,” y wreg a worthebys, “Fatla ellowgh why bos màr sqwythus! Why a dalvya godhvas tell erama ow predery ef dha dhemedhy onen anodhans.”

“Yw hedna y dowl ef rag bos tregys obma?”

“Y dowl ef! Whedhlow! Fatla ellowgh why cowsal yndella! Saw martesen ef a vedn codha yn kerenja gen onen anodhans. Rag hedna why a dal y vysytya pycotter may teffa ef.”

“Nag erama ow qwelas occasyon rag hedna. Why ha’n mowysy a ell mos, boken why a alja aga danvon aga honen oll bis dhodha, ha hedna martesen a via whath dha well. Why yw màr semly avell den vith a’n myrhas ha dres lycklod why a wra plesya Mester Bingley moy es onen vith anodhans.”

“Ow frias wheg, th’erowgh why ow flattra genama. Yn gwyr kyns obma me a vue ow radn vy a decter, saw na vednaf vy leveral ow bosa tra vith specyal lebmyn. Pan ues pypm mergh cowldevys gen benen, na dalvya dhedhy predery a’y thecter hy honen.”

“Yn fenowgh yn cas a’n par-na na vedh muer a decter gen an venen a alja hy kemeras preder vith anodha.”

“Saw, a brias wheg, why a res porres mos ha vysytya Mester Bingley pan dheffa ef dha’n tyreth-ma.”

“Hedna yw moy es a vednaf promysya, trest dhybm.”

“Saw, gwrêwgh consydra agas myrhas. Na ellowgh why desmygy pana sort a varyaj a via hedna rag onen anodhans. Ma Syr William hag Arlodhes Lûcas determys dha vos dhodha rag an porpos-na only, rag why a wor na wrownjy yn jeneral vysytya den vith noweth devedhys dha’n tyreth-ma. Why a res mos yn tevry, rag na ellen yn mos dh’y vysytya màr na wrêwgh why ynwedh.”

“Why yw re dhênty yn gwyr. Th’eram ow crejy tell vedn Mester Bingley bos pòr lowen dha’gas gwelas why; ha me a vedn danvon dhodha dêr agas dorn why lyther cot ow ry dhodha kybmyas dha dhemedhy an voves anodhans a vo va moyhya plesys gonsy; saw res vedh dhybm gorra aberveth ger dà rag ow Lizzy vian wheg.”

“Da via genama màr teffowgh why seval orth gwyl tra vith kepar. Nag yw Lizzy tabm vith gwell ès an re eral, ha me a wor nag yw hy

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

bith màr deg vell Jane na bith màr vedal vell Lydia. Bùs why a vedh orth hy favera hy pùb termyn.”

“Nag ues tra vith ynnans, a venja comendya onen anodhans,” a worthebys ef, “mowes wocky heb skians yw kennyver onen anodhans; saw yma yn Lizzy moy a skians ès yn hy wherath.”

“Mester Bennet, fatl’ellowgh why abûsya agas flehas agas honen yn kepar maner? Why a gaf plesour brâs orth ow vexya vy. Nag ues treweth vith oll genowgh a’m nervow trewethek vy.”

“Cabmgemerys owgh why ena, a brias wheg. Revrans brâs a’m bues rag agas nervow. Cothmans coth on ny an eyl dh’y gela. Me a’gas clowas why dha wyl mencyon anodhans gen muer a vry dres moy ès ugans bledhen.”

“A! Na worowgh why fatl’erama ow sùffra!”

“Saw yma dhybm govenak why dha gawas sawment, ha bewa ha gwelas lias den yonk ha pypm myl puns dhodhans y’n vledhen ow tos dha’n costys-ma.”

“Na vedh prow vith y’n mater dha ny, màr tue ugans den a’n par-na obma, dre reson na vednowgh why aga vysytya.”

“Trest dhybm, ow frias wheg, pan vo ugans anodhans y’n pow, me a vedn vysytya kennyver onen anodhans.”

Den coynt o Mester Bennet hag ynna va yth o kemyskys skentoleth, ges wherow, omrêwl ha sians, ha ny vue teyr warn ugans bledhen hyr lowr rag gwyl dh’y wreg convedhas pa vaner den o va. Nyns o hy bres hy màr galys dha onderstondya. Gwadn o skians Mestres Bennet, bohes hy dyscas, dyantel hy natur. Pan nag esa hy pys dâ, yth esa hy ow crejy tell o hy nervow clâf. Nag esa dhedhy y’n bownans saw udn negys, demedhy hy myrhas; solas hy bownans o vysytya ha newodhow.



## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

### 7.14. **Pedn bloudh Olly Orsyk** by Veronika Marék

*Whedhel rag flehas vian. Tytel Ungarak: **Boribon születésnapja.***

“Metty'n dâ dha jy, Olly Orsyk. A wosta pana jorna yw hedhyw?”  
a wovydnias Jenny-Nora

“Na worama. Lavar dhybm, me a'th pys!”

“Na vednaf leveral. Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora.

Woja haunsel anjy êth yn mes dha'n lowarth ha Jenny-Nora a gontellas muer a flourys.

“Rag fraga a wrusta contell oll an flourys-na?” a wovydnias Olly.

“Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora ha gorra an flourys aberth yn lester.

Woja hedna Olly a wrug gortas y'n chy, saw Jenny-Nora êth dha neb udn tyller. Na wrug hy egery dha Olly pleth era hy ow mos.

Pan wrug hy dos arta tre, Olly a vue marth hag ef a wovydnias:  
“Pandr'yw an fardel brâs-na?”

“Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora ha hy a wrug kelas an fardel heb let.

Warlergh pres ly Jenny-Nora a bobas tesen vrâs rônd.

“Rag fraga a wrusta tesen?” a wovydnias Olly, brâs y varthojyon.

“Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora ha hy a worras an desen y'n yeyner.

Nenna hy a agoras an amary ha tedna yn mes an pows tecka era dhedhy.

“Rag fraga a wrusta gwysca an pows tecka ues genas jy?” a wovydnias Olly, muer y breder.

“Pryveth yw!” a worrebas Jenny-Nora. “Ha te ynwedh a res crybya dha vlêw jy!”

Anjy a glowas clogh an darras ow seny: ting-a-ling!

Ostysy o devedhys: Harry, ha'y gy, Bessy.

Lebmyn na wrug Olly govyn rag frag a dhuethans. Ef a woya solabrys tell o va “pryveth”. Anjy eth aberth y'n chambour ha Jenny-Nora a wrug degea an darras BOBM! yn y fas.

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

“Ma pùb tra pryveth! Na worama convedhas tra vith! Me ow honen a vedn mos ales y’n bes!” medh Olly gen sor brâs ha mos yn mes a’n chy. Mès Jenny-Nora a bonyas wàr y lergth.

“Na wra diank dhorth an chy. Te yw bobba bian! Dues aberveth!”

“Na wosta woja pùb tra? Hedhyw yw dha bedn bloudh jy. Hedhyw te yw teyr bloudh!”

Olly a gemeras marth brâs.

“Th’eram ow convedhas lebmyn! Rag hedna yth o pub tra pryveth! Ria!”

Nenna kenyer onen a leveras keslowena dha Olly ha ry dodh’ef an royow: an càr bian rudh ha’n chocolats.

Olly a whethas ha dyfudhy an teyr hantol. Ha Jenny-Nora a gemeras wyth a radna an desen yntredh’anjy. Anjy a wrug debry hag eva ha cawas lowender brâs – an jorna-na, pedn bloudh Olly Orsyk.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### SENTENCES FROM THE TRADITIONAL TEXTS

#### 8.1. GREETINGS AND MISCELLANEOUS EXPRESSIONS

*Mettyñ dâ dha why* ‘Good morning to you’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

*Serys, dha why lowena* ‘Greetings, gentlemen’ (PC 2154)

*Dùrda da why, sera* ‘Good morrow to you, sir’ (Andrew Borde 1547)

*Dùrsona dewgh, maghteth* ‘God speed you, girl’ (Andrew Borde 1547)

*Dew re’gas blessya* ‘God bless you’ (Richard Symonds 1644)

*Bednath Críst dhys ha bednath dha vabm nefra* ‘The blessing of Christ to you and your mother’s blessing always’ (BM 224-25)

*Vatla yw genowgh why?* ‘How are you?’ (Andrew Borde 1547)

*Dâ, Dew re dalla dha why* ‘Well, thank you’ (Andrew Borde 1547)

*Yth of vy pòr lowen dha’gas gwelas why an mettyñ-ma* ‘I am very pleased to see you this morning’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

*Lowena ha luen yehas dha’m arluth* ‘Joy and complete health to my lord’ (BK 2677-78)

*Th’of vy lowen gâs gwelas why yn yehas dâ* ‘I am glad to see you in good health’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

*Pana nowedhys ues genas?* ‘What news have you?’ (CW 1886)

*Bedhowgh why lowenak* ‘Be merry’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

*Myhal, sera, dhewgh gromercy* ‘By St Michael, thank you, sir’ (CW 599)

*Gromercy dha why warbarth* ‘Thank you together’ (BM 258)

*Dues abarth dha ny ha wolcom che a vedh* ‘Come with us and you will be welcome’ (AB: 252a)

*Th’of vy lowen dha clowas dhort why* ‘I am glad to hear from you’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

**Rag very spît dyswrys of qwît. Pandr'a wrama? Trew, trew, trew!** 'For very rage I am quite undone. What shall I do? Woe, woe, woe!' (BK 1016-18)

**Ow holon yw ogas trogh** 'My heart is almost broken' (CW 1228)

**Ellas, pandr'a vedh gwrys? Hemma yw yeyn nowodhow! Ow holon yth yw terrys. Y fenjan ow bos marow! Soweth bythqweth bos formys!** 'Alas, what is to be done? This is wretched news. My heart is broken. I want to die! Pity that I was ever created!' (CW 1261-65)

**Govy rag ankenujy! Ellas ha gew!** 'Woe is me for misery! Alas and alack!' (BK 1014-15)

**Yth oma pòr dewhanhes orth dha welas y'n stât-ma** 'I am very sorry to see you in this state' (CW 1225-26)

**Gwellha dha jer** 'Cheer up!' (CW 1308)

**Genas yth of dysplesys** 'I am displeased with you' (BM 400)

**Kynth owgh genaf dysplesys, yth yw oll a'm anvoth vy** 'Though you are displeased with me, it is all against my will' (BM 492-93)

**Esta jy orth ow cara vy?** 'Do you love me?' (TH 43)

**Th'eraf vy ow cara why yn colon** 'I love you in heart' (ACB opposite F f 2)

**Me a'gas car deg mylblek moy es ow mabm** 'I love you ten thousand times more than I love my mother' (BK 2925-26)

**Muer senjys of dha'th cara dell os body heb parow** 'I am greatly bound to love, as you are a peerless person' (BK 395-96)

**Anvenowgh a vo gwelys, dystowgh y fedh ankevys** 'Who is seen infrequently is immediately forgotten' (BK 2996-97)

**Py hanow os, benen vas?** 'What is your name, madam?' (RD 1697)

**Senjys on ny dha why** 'We are indebted to you' (AB: 252a)

**Me a vedn gâs pardona why** 'I'll pardon you' (AB: 244c)

**Pywa ues ena abarth Dew?** 'Who's there, in the name of God?' (AB: 253a)

**Ma agan yehas ny dhèn** 'We have our health' (AB: 242a)

**Me a vedn gâs gwelas arta gordhewar** 'I'll see you again in the evening' (AB: 244c)

**Benatew genowgh** 'Farewell' (Andrew Borde 1547)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

- Lebmyn ma cas dhèn dha vos lowen*** ‘Now we have cause to be merry’ (AB: 253a)
- Me a’s gwerth dheugh a dheg warn ugans sterlyn*** ‘I will sell it to you for thirty pounds’ (PC 1553-54)
- Maga lias tèr ues fowt dheugh*** ‘As many as you have occasion for’ (AB: 232a)
- Re a udn dra na dal tra vith*** ‘Too much of one thing is no good’ (ACB F f)
- Prag na dhueta nes rag cows orthaf ha talkya?*** ‘Why don’t you come nearer to speak to me and converse?’ (OM 149-50)
- Me a res mos dha Londres mes a dhornow*** ‘I have to go to London immediately’ (Bilbao MS)
- Praga? Pandr’yw an mater?*** ‘Why? What’s the matter?’ (CW 2329)
- Praga? Pandr’yw an fesky ues genas?*** ‘Why? What’s your hurry?’ (BM 2099-2100)
- Pes myldyr ues alebma dha Londres?*** ‘How many miles is it from here to London?’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
- Sera, try hans myldyr*** ‘Three hundred miles, sir’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
- Na wren strechya na felha*** ‘we will delay no further’ (PC 2334)
- Na vednaf pelha lettya*** ‘I will delay no longer’ (PC 1612)
- Me re settyas ow holon*** ‘I intend’ (Bodewryd MS 5)
- Yn dadn ambos yth esas*** ‘You’re under contract’ (PC 2259)
- Avorow dêwgh adermyn*** ‘Come early tomorrow’ (OM 2843)
- Gwra owna gàs fordhow hedhyw po avorow*** ‘Amend your ways today or tomorrow’ (William Gwavas c. 1728)
- Th’of vy gàs gwas ysel*** ‘I am your humble servant’ (ACB opposite F f 2)
- Me a vedn prest dha servya*** ‘I will continually serve you’ (BM 3851)
- Na vednaf vy na moy agas gelwal why servants, mès cothmans*** ‘I will no longer call you servants, but friends’ (TH 35a)
- Duen ny lebmyn wor’tu tre*** ‘Let’s go home now’ (PC 3213)
- Lebmyn pob oll eskydnans yn hanow a’n Tas Dew ker ha wor’tu tre festynans*** ‘Let everyone now mount in the name of the Father, dear God, and let him hasten home’ (OM 2002-03)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

- Mos alebma me a vedn gwelha gallaf*** ‘I will go hence as best I can’ (CW 1709-10)
- Alebma duen ny dha dre*** ‘Let us go home hence’ (RD 805)
- Mars yw dhys dewan gwysca an corn, roy ef tre arta*** ‘If you are grieved to wear the horn [of a cuckold], give it back home again’ (Oliver Oldwanton c. 1565-70)
- Me a venja mos tre mâr menta*** ‘I would go home, if you will’ (ACB F f 2)
- Menjam*** ‘I will’ (ACB F f 2)
- Gas ny dha vos alebma*** ‘Let’s go’ (CW 1333)
- Rag mèth duen ny alebma dha gudha yn tyller clos*** ‘Let us go hence for shame to hide in a secret place’ (CW 865-66)
- Me a vedn mos ales*** ‘I will go about’ (AB: 250b)
- Me a ell mos dèr an hol contry*** ‘I may go through the whole country’ (Bilbao MS)
- Gen Tobmas pyber ha’y dhen*** ‘With Thomas the piper and his man’ (Bilbao MS)
- Na ell ef clowas vith*** ‘He cannot hear at all’ (AB: 249a)
- Grêwgh vy dha welas*** ‘Show me’ (AB: 250b)
- Rag dowt na vedha na moy godhevys dhewgh rag an jedh-ma*** ‘Lest there be no more offered you this day’ (AB: 250b)
- Na woraf vy screfa na moy*** ‘I can write no more’ (AB: 250b)
- Dues yn rag*** ‘Come forward’ (PC 1817)
- Ef a rug hedhas rag y vregh*** ‘He stretched forth his arm’ (AB: 250b)
- Th’era vy orth a’s pesy*** ‘I desire you’ (AB: 250b)
- Yma cof dha vy*** ‘I remember’ (AB: 250b)
- Parys dha derry yw*** ‘It’s ready to break’ (AB: 250c)

### 8.2. KINGS AND QUEENS

- Ma dha vy trial yn cort an Vyternes*** ‘I have a trial in the Queen’s Court’ (Bilbao MS)
- Me a vedn mos heb bern lebmyrn dha gort an Mytern*** ‘I will now go without concern to the King’s court’ (BM 3176-77)
- Ma dha ny mytern dâ ha myternes maga tâ*** ‘We have a good king and queen as well’ (John Tonkin c. 1692, LAM: 224)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

***Gorran ef yn y dron avel mytern yn y se may halla bos cùrynys kepar dell vue dhèn erhys gans y das kyns tremena*** ‘Let us set him on this throne as a king in his seat so that he may be crowned as his father commanded us before he died’ (OM 2372-76)

***Bos cùrynys me a vedn mytern in Breten ywys. Pynag a gows er ow fydn, ef a’n prenvyth hag yn tydn. Cùryn vy adhesempys!*** ‘I will be crowned king of Britain indeed. Whoever speaks against me will pay for it and dearly. Crown me forthwith!’ (BK 3075-79)

***Mytern Jamys a wrug qwetyas y stoppya bùs ef na alja*** ‘King James tried to stop him but he could not’ (John Tonkin c. 1692, LAM: 224)

***Ma mytern ny ow tos tre bedn wâf*** ‘Our king is coming home by winter’ (John Tonkin c. 1692, LAM: 226)

***Ea, ynwedh ef a’n gwrug mytern hag emprour y’n norves*** ‘Yes he also made him king and emperor in the world’ (TH 2)

***Myternath gwlasow, subjectys, tus jentyl, rych ha bohajak, ymowns ow tos obma dha’n bes ha’w mos yn kerdh alebma*** ‘Kings of countries, subjects, gentlefolk, rich and poor, they come here into the world and go hence’ (TH 6a)

***Mos dha’n mor yn servys an Vyternes*** ‘To go to sea in the Queen’s Service’ (Bilbao MS)

### 8.3. INSULTS AND IMPRECATIONS

***Pandr’yw hedna dhysa?*** ‘What’s it got to do with you?’ (RD 1642)

***Kê dha honen ha gwra gwell*** ‘Go yourself and do better’ (PC 2285)

***Sens dha glap!*** ‘Shut your mouth!’ (RD 1113)

***Taw ha na gows, te venen*** ‘Be quiet and don’t speak, woman’ (RD 917)

***Taw, flattores, na gows moy. Na vednaf dhysa crejy*** ‘Silence, jabbering woman, speak no more. I won’t believe you’ (RD 1067)

***A, owt warnas, drog-venen, wortu pan wrussys cola!*** ‘A, damn you, you evil woman, that you ever listened to him!’ (OM 221-22)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

- Me a'n dorn gans ow dornow may clamderha rag ewn uth*** 'I will batter him with my fists so he will faint in sheer horror' (BK 2651-52)
- Sqwatyaf dha bedn ha'th coloven dheworth dha scoudh gans dha godna kepar ha goudh, te mab hora*** 'I'll smash your head and spinal column from your shoulder and neck like a goose, you son of a whore' (BK 2159-64)
- Gans ow whyp me a'n châss, ma kertha garow y gabm*** 'I'll chase him with my whip so that he walks with an unsteady gait' (PC 1196-97)
- Me a grys by Godys fas an harlot re dhyllas brabm*** 'By God's face I believe the scoundrel has farted' (PC 1199-200)
- Te horsen, na'gan brag ny!*** 'Don't threaten us, you bastard!' (BM 1228)
- Kê wâr dha gabm*** 'Steady on!' (BM 1048)
- Na wra flattra na gwyl ges*** 'Don't wheedle or mock' (PC 2277)
- Nag owgh lemen gowygyon*** 'You're just liars' (RD 1510)
- Worteweth crog a'th tag*** 'In the end a noose will throttle you' (PC 1818)
- Te pedn boba lagajak, ro gorthyp vas*** 'You goggle-eyed gargoyle, give a proper answer!' (BK 210-11)
- Na gows kebmys whedhlow*** 'Don't talk so much nonsense' (PC 1898)
- Taw, taw, harlot, dha'th cregy!*** 'Shut up, you scoundrel, hang you!' (BK 472)
- Gas cres, rag sham!*** 'Silence, for shame!' (BK 2204)
- A dhrog-dheweth re vyrwhy!*** 'May you die a nasty death!' (BK 472)
- Owt warnas, tebel-venen!*** 'Damn you, evil woman!' (BK 1210)
- Yn mes a'm golak omdedn!*** 'Get out of my sight!' (BK 304)
- Dha gossulyow yw muscok*** 'Your advice is insane' (BK 993)
- Desempys gwef ow golak!*** 'Flee my sight this instant!' (BK 994)
- Mollatew yn da las!*** 'God's curse on your guts!' (RCarew 1602, LAM: 272)
- Myl venjans warnas jy!*** 'A thousand vengeances upon you!' (RCarew 1602, LAM: 272)



## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

***A, mollath dha'n horsen cabm!*** 'Oh, curse the crooked bastard!' (CW 804)

***Te vyl brathky!*** 'You vile cur!' (PC 2087)

***Tety valy, brabm an gath—nag ues edrak dhyma whath***  
'Fiddle-sticks, the cat's fart—I'm still not sorry' (CW 1305-06)

***Ass yw an den-na gocky!*** 'How silly that man is!' (PC 1662)

***Why a wra cawas an gwas brâs zyger-na ow cosca wâr an gorha***  
'You will find that great lazy fellow sleeping on the hay' (AB: 248a)

***Fatla a dhuethowgh why obma?*** 'How did you get here?' (RD 193)

***A, harlot, drog re fary gans dha govanscosow gow!*** 'Hey, you scoundrel, damn you with your lying excuses!' (BK 459-60)

***Me na senjaf udn brabm plos a'n cas*** 'I don't care a smelly fart in the matter' (PC 2268)

***Me a wostel, te a'n pren awos oll dha goyntury*** 'I bet, you'll pay for it in spite of all your cleverness' (BK 924-25)

***Pedn brâs, a vednowgh why bos cregys*** 'Fathead, do you want to be hanged?' (Richard Brome 1632)

***Taw, dha'th cregy, te fol crothak!*** 'Silence, be hanged, you cantakerous fool!' (CW 1103, 1105)

***Taw, dha'th cregy, gaja muer*** 'Silence, be hanged, you braggart!' (BK 176)

***Ny dêr ascorn lavar teg*** 'Fair words break no bones' (BK 1021)

***Na amownt dhybm resna genas*** 'There's no point in arguing with you' (CW 2395-96)

***Genowgh farwel*** 'Farewell to you' (BK 2884).

### 8.4. MEN, WOMEN, AND MARRIAGE

***Dew roy dhewgh gwyl honesta*** 'May God grant that you behave chastely' (BK 2747)

***Omgwethan ny gans del glas agan pryvyta pòr glos*** 'Let us cover up tightly our private parts with green leaves' (CW 858-59)

***Arlodhes, gwydn avell gwrys, duen dha'n chambour, me a'th pys, may hallan omacowntya*** 'Lady, white as crystal, let's go to the bedroom, please, so that we can get to know each other' (BK 2981-83)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

***Dre von bêw ow herenja te a vedh bis venary*** ‘As long as we live you will have my love forever’ (CW 847-48)

***Bythqweth me ny welys benen dhybm a well plekya whath yn neb le*** ‘Never did I see anywhere a woman that pleased me more’ (OM 2107-09)

***An hager-mowwysy nag yns vas; mowns yn kennyver toll rag meras rag an pèth ues mos—kemerowgh wyth gàs cal*** ‘The naughty girls are no good; there in every corner looking for what is going—take care of your cock’ (John Boson)

***Lewd yma owth ombrevy*** ‘She is showing herself to be wicked’ (BK 3001)

***Ogh, govy pan vuef genys! Gans moreth yth of lenwys wâr dha lergth ow arluth wheg—saw bydnar re dhewhylly, genas me a wra pejy, ha hedna a via teg*** ‘Alas that I was born! I am filled with grief in missing you, my sweet lord—but never may you return, I will pray for you, and that would be nice’ (OM 2193-98)

***Lebmyn an ostes a’n chy, hy a consylyas gen neb udn vanagh era y’n tre dha destria an den coth yn gwely y’n termyn a’n nos*** ‘Now the landlady, she conspired with a certain monk who was in the town, to kill the old man in the bed during the night’ (AB: 252a)

***Ef a dhelatyas an termyn m’alla va prevy era y wreg gwetha compas et y gever—era po nag era*** ‘He spun out the time so that he could prove whether his wife was remaining faithful to him—was she or wasn’t she’ (AB: 253a)

***A, Dew a vedn shamys ow bos ha’m garr settys dèr hy ben*** ‘O, God wishes me to be disgraced with one leg crossed over the other’ (BK 3301-02)

***Me a vedn dha avauncya ha martesen dha launcya, re Syn Torpyn!*** ‘I will advance you, and perhaps shaft you, by St Turpin!’ (BK 1174-76)

***Demedhowgh Jowan, an den, dha Agnes, an venen*** ‘Marry John, the man, to Agnes the woman’ (Parson Drake c. 1636, LAM; 212)

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***Drefen ow bonas benen te a ell dhybm deryvas*** ‘Since I am a woman, you can tell me’ (OM 161-2)

***Dhys y rof mowes ha fest onen deg*** ‘I give you a girl and a very pretty one’ (CF 6-7)

***Kebmer hy dha’th wreg—sconya dhys ny vêk*** ‘Take her as your wife—she won’t try to deny you’ (CF 10-1)

***Te a vedh hy—hy a vedh gwre’ty dhâ*** ‘You will have her—she’ll be a good wife’ (CF 12-3)

***Lavar dhodha, “Gwra mâr mednys”—awos a alla na wra tra vîth. Y’n uer-na y’th sens jy dha vos mestres hedyr vêwhy hag arlodhes*** ‘Say to him, “Do as you wish”—so that he does nothing, however he try. Then he will realize you are mistress as long as you live and the woman in charge’ (CF 33-6)

***Benen vas ha dremas*** ‘Bride and groom’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

***Rag hedna woja hemma yn chât gwren ny kesvewa ha carnal joy y’n bes-ma ny a vedn warbarth naha*** ‘Therefore hereafter let us live chastely together and in this world we will together renounce sexual pleasure’ (CW 1313-15)

***Fy dha blos lüstys an bes!*** ‘Fie to the dirty lusts of the world!’ (BM 427)

***Saw na wrêwgh collenwal lüstys an kyg, rag an kyg a wra whans contrary dha’n sperys ha’n sperys contrary dha’n kyg*** ‘But do not satisfy the lusts of the flesh, for the flesh will desire contrary to the spirit, and the spirit contrary to the flesh’ (TH 16a)

***Yn dewan che a wra don flehas, ha dha desyrya a wra bos dha’th gour ha ef a wra dha rowlya*** ‘In anguish shalt thou bear children, and thy desire will be for your husband and he shall rule over thee’ (William Rowe)

***Me ny vednaf growedha benytha gans corf Eva*** ‘I do not wish ever to lie carnally with Eve’ (OM 624-25)

***Moy ès udn wreg dhybm yma dha’m plesour rag gwyl gansa*** ‘I have more than one woman for me to do my pleasure with them’ (CW 1451-52)

***Ha’n mowysy lowr plenty yma dhybm. Nynj yns dênty. Me as kef pan vednaf vy. Ny sparyaf anothanjy malbew onen a vo teg*** ‘And of the girls I have plenty enough. They’re not

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choosy. I get them when I want. I don't spare a damned one of them who's good-looking' (CW 1455-59)

***Arluth, gyvyans dha'm ena! Govy pan wruga peha gans corf a'n debel-venen!*** 'Lord, pardon to my soul! Woe is me that I sinned with the body of the evil woman!' (OM 2249-51)

***Dhyma vy why a ros gwreg. Hodna yw oll dha vlamya*** 'You gave me a wife. She is entirely to blame' (CW 877-78)

***Ha pan wrug ef dos dha'n darras, ef a venja clowas den aral y'n gwely*** 'And when he got to the door he thought he could hear another man in the bed' (AB: 253a)

***Kensa bledhen byrla ha bay, nessa bledhen lull ha lay*** 'The first year (of marriage) hugging an kissing, the next year lullaby' (ACB F f)

***Sen Pawl a gomondyas an gwer dha gara aga gwregath*** 'St Paul commanded the husbands to love their wives' (TH 31)

***Res yw dhybm cowsal devry orth ow gwreg kyns mos a dre. Mars ellan heb cows orty, hy holon hy a dorsa*** 'I must indeed speak to my wife before leaving home. If I went without speaking to her, her heart would break' (OM 2171-74)

***Ma lias gwreg lacka vell zeg*** 'There are many wives worse than brewer's grains' (James Jenkins c. 1700)

***Ha ma lias benen pecar an gwenen; y a vedn gweras dha'ga tus dendyl pèth a'n bes*** 'And there are many women like the bees; they will help their husbands earn worldly wealth' (James Jenkins c. 1700)

### 8.5. BABIES AND CHILDREN

***Brâs yw an venen-na*** 'That woman is pregnant' (AB: 243c)

***Pan wrugowgh why mos y' kergh, th'era vy gyllys try mys gen flogh*** 'When you left, I was three months pregnant' (AB: 253a)

***Ma flogh genaf genys*** 'I have borne a child' (OM 672)

***Flogh bian noweth genys*** 'A little new-born child' (OM 806)

***An vabm a gebmer mèth traweythyow rag bos mabmeth*** 'The mother is sometimes embarrassed to be breast-feeding' (SA 59a)

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***Lowr mabm a wòr hy flehas dha venenas eral dha vaga***  
'Many a mother sends her children to other women to be nursed'  
(SA 59)

***Dha dre, mabmethow, totta, why ha'gas flehas vian*** 'Home  
with you immediately, nursing mothers, you and your babies' (BM  
1675-76)

***Hen yw re nebas màr qwren flogh vith denethy*** 'That is too  
little if we have any child' (OM 389-90)

***Pandr'a vednowgh why gwyl rag lednow rag a's flogh?*** 'What  
will you do for clothes for your baby?' (Chygywyn 1698, ACB  
opposite G g)

***Me a vedn dha'n benenas ry mona bous ha dewas dha perna  
ha dha'n flehas dyllas dà*** 'I will give money to the women to  
buy food and drink and nice clothes for the children' (BM 1671-74)

***Syra, dama ha vy ow honen*** 'Father, mother and I myself' (Bilbao  
MS)

***Me, ow gwreg ha flehas*** 'I, my wife and children' (Bilbao MS)

***Me ha'm gwreg ha'm flogh bian*** 'I my wife and my little child'  
(OM 397)

***Tus, benenas ha flehas ymowns obma devedhys*** 'Men, women  
and children have come here' (OM 1611-12)

***Olowgh rag agas flehas ha ragowgh agas honen*** 'Weep for  
your children and for yourselves' (PA 169a)

***Flehas heb skians a vedn gwyl aga sians*** 'Children without  
sense will do their whim' (James Jenkins c. 1700)

### 8.6. RELATIVES

***Rag dha gerenja, tas ker*** 'For thy sake, dear father' (ACB opposite  
F f)

***Ujy gàs tas bew?*** 'Is your father living?' (AB: 246a)

***Ow thas yw coth ha sqwythys*** 'My father is old and tired' (OM  
737)

***Yma ef pòr haval dhys*** 'He is very like you' (AB: 242b)

***Yw hodna gàs whor why?*** 'Is that your sister?' (AB: 244c)

***Yw an vovwes-na gàs whor?*** 'Is that girl your sister?' (AB: 246a)

***Govyn ef worth y vroder*** 'Ask his brother' (AB: 242b)

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### 8.7. HYGIENE

***Desempys êwgh y'n geryn*** 'Get into the bath-tub immediately'  
(BK 1144)

***Dhybm na as trous na luef na vo golhys*** 'Leave neither foot nor  
hand of mine unwashed' (PA 46d)

***Y'n bason bedhans gorrys ha me a's golgh desempys*** 'Let it  
be put in the basin and I will wash you immediately' (PC 842-43)

***Golhans pob treys y gela ahanowgh*** 'Let everyone of you wash  
each other's feet' (PC 877-78)

***Gans dowr y whraf dha wolhy*** 'I will wash you with water' (BM  
744)

***Me a wolgh scon ow dêwla a wel dhewgh kettep onen*** 'I will  
wash my hands in the sight of you, every one' (PC 2499-500).

### 8.8. FOOD AND DRINK

***Dha berna bous ha dewas an keth re-na a spedyas*** 'to buy food  
and drink those same people hurried' (PA 42ab)

***Bara ha dewas*** 'Food and drink' (SA 63a)

***Tàn dhys dewas ha bous*** 'Here's food and drink for you' (BM  
4243)

***Mollatew y'n gegyn—scant yw an dewas ha'n bous*** 'God's  
curse in the kitchen—food and drink are scarce' (BM 3928-29)

***Gwag of vy. A wraf vy gawas haunsel?*** 'I am hungry. Shall I  
have breakfast?' (ACB opposite F f 2)

***Lebmyn dyfreth of ha gwag pòr wyr dres oll tus y'n bes*** 'Now  
I am weak and hungry indeed beyond all people in the world' (CW  
1173-74)

***Unweyth a caffan haunsel, me a wressa amendya*** 'If only I  
could have breakfast, I should improve' (BM 110-12)

***Na wra den bêwa dre vara y honen*** 'Man does not live by bread  
alone' (William Rowe)

***Mab den heb ken es bara bith ny'n jevas oll bêwnans*** 'Man  
with bread only will never live all his life' (PC 65-66)

***Nag on ny kelmys dha refrâynya dheworth kyg porhel*** 'We  
are not bound to refrain from pork' (TH 27a)

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- Gorra an bara y'n forn** 'To put the bread in the oven' (ACB opposite F f 2)
- Yw an bara pebys lùk?** 'Is the bread baked enough?' (ACB opposite F f 2)
- Ma wreg vy ow pobas mettyñ** 'My wife is baking this morning' (AB: 251a)
- Hy a wra gwyl tesen ragas dha dhos dre dha dha wreg** 'She will make you a cake of bread to take home to your wife' (AB: 251a)
- Ostes, ues bous dâ dha why?** 'Hostess, have you good food?' (Andrew Borde 1547)
- Ues cues? Ues po nag ues. Mars ues cues, dro cues. Pan nag ues cues, dro an pèth ues** 'Is there cheese? There is or there isn't. If there is, bring cheese. If there isn't cheese, bring what there is' (ACB F f)
- Woja cows ha lavyrya an vaner a via dâ, kemeras croust hag eva** 'After talking and working, it would be a good idea to have a little to eat and drink' (OM 1899-1901)
- Saw gwadn rêwl yma obma, na ellen lyvya kyns mos** 'This is a bad arrangement that we can't have lunch before leaving' (BM 3925-26)
- Gwag yw dhybm an pengasen** 'My belly is empty' (BM 3927)
- Bydnar re gyffy dha gon!** 'May you never get your supper!' (BM 1020)
- Evowgh gâs cowl** 'Drink your soup' (AB: 231c)
- Erbys an goverow a vedh ow bous dha'm prejyow** 'The herbs of the streams will be my food for my meals' (BM 1971-72)
- Ma anjy ow rostya ha pryjyan** 'They are roasting and boiling' (AB: 248a)
- Ma bous lowr certan obma warbydn soper** 'There is certainly enough food here for supper' (PC 688-89)
- Es conys dhewgh?** 'Have you supped?' (AB: 242a)
- Ny a vedn pôr wyr kyns mos warbarth dha dhebry** 'We will very truly first go together to eat' (BM 264-65)
- Na ell ef aga debry** 'He cannot eat them' (AB: 244c)
- Rêwgh bous dha vy, ostes dâ** 'Bring me food, good hostess' (Andrew Borde 1547)

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- Benen, drêwgh poscas dha vy*** ‘Woman, bring me fish’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
- Debrowgh morgy yn mys Me rag dha wyl maw*** ‘Eat a dog-fish in May to make a boy’ (ACB opposite F f)
- Maghteth, drêwgh oyow hag amanyd dha vy*** ‘Maid, bring me eggs and butter’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
- Drêwgh qwart gwyn dha vy*** ‘Bring me a quart of wine’ (Andrew Borde 1547)
- Duen ny, glebyn agan myn lebmyn, cowetha jentyl*** ‘Come, let’s wet our whistles, good friends’ (BM 3276-77)
- Gwedren a wyn, gwedren a’n gwyn*** ‘A glass of wine, a glass of the wine’ (AB: 242a)
- Gwyn na cyder ny ûsya*** ‘He used to drink neither wine nor cider’ (BM 4451)
- Na gwyn ny ûsyan badna*** ‘Nor of wine do we drink any drop’ (CW 1474)
- Na evaf cyder na gwyn na dewas marnas dower pur*** ‘I drink neither cider nor wine nor any drink but pure water’ (BM 1969-70)
- Coref bo gwyn a caffan vy, dower ny efsan*** ‘Were I to get ale or wine, I’d drink no water’ (BM 661-61)
- Y’n tavarn sur owth eva ymowns, pur rudh aga myn*** ‘They’re drinking in the pub and their mouths are bright red with wine’ (BM 3308-09)
- Dues nes hag assay an pot—dha jy ef a gost grôt kyns dyberth*** ‘Come here and try the pot; it’ll cost you a groat before you go’ (BM 3325-27)
- Botler, festyn heb lettya—dora dhybm an gwyn gwelha*** ‘Butler, hurry without stopping—bring me the best wine’ (OM 1903-94)
- Y’n pow-ma nyns ues gwell gwyn*** ‘In this land there is no better wine’ (OM 1914)
- An dewas yw dê ha cler*** ‘The drink is good and clear’ (OM 1918)
- Ha why a ell eva coref gwelha mars ues dhewgh brag*** ‘And you can drink the best beer if you have malt’ (James Jenkins c. 1700)
- Na wrêwgh eva re, mès eva rag a’s sehas, ha hedna, moy bo le, a vedn gwetha corf yn yehas*** ‘Don’t drink too much, but



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drink for your thirst, and that, more or less, will keep body in health' (William Gwavas *c.* 1728)

***Y ûryn otta obma—towl e yn dha weder glas*** 'Here is his urine; pour it into your blue glass' (BM 1444-45)

### 8.9 CLOTHING

***An hevys adro y geyn*** 'The shirt on his back' (AB: 250a)

***An lodrow adro agas garrow*** 'The stockings on your legs' (AB: 250a)

***Gwescowgh an gentar-ma et eskys vy*** 'Knock this nail into my shoe' (AB: 230c)

***An eskyjyow adro agas treys*** 'The shoes on your feet' (AB: 250a)

***Dysk dha eskyjyow qwyck dha ves*** 'Take your shoes off quickly' (OM 1406)

***Ef a lavarar fatell o ef ûnwordhy rag bocla y eskyjyow*** 'He said that he was unworthy to buckle his shoes' (TH 8)

***An vanak adro agas dorn*** 'The glove on your hand' (AB: 250a)

***Hy a wor gwyl padn dê gen hy gwlan*** 'She can make good cloth with her wool' (James Jenkins *c.* 1700)

***Kemerowgh wyth a'gas lavrak pous*** 'Take care of your heavy trousers' (John Boson 1709)

***Yma gâs dyllas gwrys*** 'Your clothes are made' (AB: 248b)

***Cawas an bows-na heb gwry ues y'th kerhyn me a vedn*** 'I will to have that seamless garment that is about you' (RD 1921-22)

***Udn flogh yonk gwydn y dhyllas*** 'A young child in white clothes' (PA 254c)

***Y dhyllas a vue gwrys maga whydn avell an ergh*** 'His clothes became as white as snow' (TH 56a)

***Otobma dyllas dha'gas qwetha—fystenowgh, bedhans gwyskys*** 'Here are clothes to clothe you—let them be put on' (CW 977-78)

***Rêwgh dhybm qwêth rag ow hudha; me yw noth ha'n gwyns yw yeyn*** 'Give me a garment to cover myself; I am naked and the wind is cold' (BM 3041-42)

***Pyw a wrug leveral dhys tell esta yn noth?*** 'Who told you you were naked?' (William Rowe)

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***Gwysk dha dhyllas y'th kerhyn*** 'Put your clothes on' (BM 3003)

***Dha vantel gas yn gaja. Me a'n bedh rag ow waja ha te a greg re'n ow thas*** 'Leave your cloak as pledge. I will have it for my pay and you can hang upon my word' (PC 1186-88)

***Dieth via bonas rys qwèth a'n par-ma dha jaudyn*** 'It would be a pity to give a garment like this to a scoundrel' (PC 1791-92)

***Yn le ow dyllas owrlyn, pùrpor, padnow fyn, lebmyn me a wysk qwèth lous*** 'Instead of my silken clothes, satin, purple, fine fabrics, now I shall wear grey cloth.' (BM 1965-67)

### 8.10. MONEY

***Goslow dha vy, che den màr fur, dha neb ma muer a pèth ha lias tyr*** 'Listen to me, you man so wise, who has much wealth and many lands' (James Jenkins *c.* 1700)

***Lowen bledhen noweth ha benen yonk ha mona lowr gans a's gwreg*** 'A happy new year and a young woman and may your wife have money enough' (John Boson 1709)

***Me a'n pren dheworthas. Otta an mona parys*** 'I'll buy it from you; here is the money ready' (PC 1555-56)

***Na venja pe an mona sur*** 'He surely wouldn't pay the money' (John Tonkin *c.* 1695)

***Pronter ef a hevel sur—yma mona gans hedna*** 'He seems to be a priest—he will have money' (BM 1903-04)

***Kepar hag udn ladar ef a ell robbya lias den*** 'like a robber he can rob many people' (TH 25a)

***Ha anjy a worras an naw puns y'n desen*** 'And they put the nine pounds in the cake' (AB: 251a)

***Due yw an mona re'm fay*** 'The money is gone, upon my faith' (BM 1873)

***Ha an mona anjy a gavas ha'n bara anjy a dhebras*** 'And they found the money and ate the bread' (AB: 253a)

***Na vedn ef nefra dos ves a gendon*** 'He'll never get out of debt' (AB: 230c)

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### 8.11. FISHES, BIRDS, AND ANIMALS

***Otta an poscas, ydhyn y'n âyr ha bêstas*** 'Here are the fishes, birds of the air and animals' (CW 397-98)

***Chattal, ydhyn, ha bestas*** 'Cattle, birds, and animals' (CW 2482-83)

***Margh ha casak hag asen, ky ha cath ha logosen*** 'Horse and mare and ass, dog and cat and mouse' (CW 406-07)

***Bewgh, lejak, ha lewgh*** 'Cow, heifer, and calf' (Bilbao MS)

***Dall yw an gasak-na*** 'That mare is blind' (AB: 243c)

***Bewgh yw bêst heb parow dha vab den*** 'A cow is a peerless animal for mankind' (OM 124-45)

***Tarow, ojyan, ha denowas*** 'Bull, ox, and steer' (Bilbao MS)

***Casak, margh, ha ebal*** 'Mare, horse, and colt' (Bilbao MS)

***Ues leth lùk gen an vewgh?*** 'Has the cow enough milk?' (ACB F f 2)

***Medhow yw an hogh-na*** 'That pig is drunk' (AB: 243c)

***Gorra ow thus dha'n fer dha wertha ohan*** 'To send my men to the fair to sell oxen' (ACB opposite F f 2)

***Margh yw bêst heb parow dha vab den rag omweras*** 'A horse is an unequalled animal for give assistance to mankind' (OM 124-25)

***Ma margh dh'ow broder vy*** 'My brother has a horse' (AB: 242a)

***Yma'n den ow gwertha an margh*** 'The man is selling the horse' (AB: 246c)

***Na wrêwgh y berna*** 'Do not buy it' (AB: 244c)

***Py ma dhybm ow margh morel?*** 'Where has my jet-black horse got to?' (BM 2111)

***Ny dhesefsan y fedna an pack-casak bonas mâr hell ha kebmys dewanhes*** 'I would not have guessed that the pack-mare would have been so slow and so out of condition' (BK 388-91).

***Gavar, ewyges, carow, davas*** 'Goat, hind, stag, sheep' (OM 125-26)

***Hordh, davas, hag ôn*** 'Ram, sheep, and lamb' (Bilbao MS)

***Devas, eyn, gever, ha menas*** 'Sheep, lambs, goats, and kids' (Bilbao MS)

***An bêstas ha'n ohan ha'n devygyow oll y'n gwel*** 'The beasts and the oxen and all the sheep in the field' (CW 1069-70)

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- Ma whegh bewgh dhodha, dêw margh, ha try cans lodn davas** ‘He has six cows, two horses and three hundred sheep’ (AB: 244a)
- Kepar hag ôn wâr geyn lowarn po brathky** ‘Like a lamb on the back of a fox or fierce dog’ (OM 895)
- Lebma fo an bugel medhel, an lowarn a leha an devysyow** ‘Where the shepherd is slack, the fox reduces the sheep’ (BM 2979-81)
- Neb na gar y gy a’n gwra devydar** ‘Who does not love his dog makes him a sheep-worrier’ (Scawen MSS)
- Yma obma cuen munys** ‘Here are some small dogs’ (BM 3223)
- Kepar ha lyon owth uja** ‘Like a roaring lion’ (TH 3a)
- Hedhyw me a wel carow** ‘I shall see a stag today’ (BM 3235)
- Me a wor y letsta sur abarth a’m cous radn a’m kyrwas** ‘I know that you have stolen from inside my forest some of my stags’ (BK 104-06)
- Ef re dhanvonas kyrwas yn le ohan dha’m gweras** ‘He has sent stags instead of oxen to assist me’ (BK 832-33)
- Saw yth enjy y’n golon rampyng bleydhas settys rag devorya** ‘But they are at heart ravenous wolves intent on devouring’ (TH 19a)
- Yma an gôg y’n lowarth awartha** ‘The cuckoo is in the upper garden’ (Ustick MSS)
- Goudh ha yar** ‘Goose and hen’ (OM 129)
- Hôs, payon, colom, grugyar, swàn, bargos, bryny ha’n êr** ‘Duck, peacock, dove, partridge, swan, buzzard, crows and the eagle’ (OM 131-32)
- Colom wheg glas hy lagas** ‘A sweet dove with blue eyes’ (OM 1109)
- Grugyar teg hag awhesyth** ‘A fair partridge and a lark’ (OM 1203)
- Dêw gopyl a gelemmy, dof gans pluf gwydn** ‘Two pairs of doves, tame with white plumage’ (BK 2045-46)
- Pan y’th clowys ow kelwal, muskegys moy es gwennal y’n fordh orth hy lowena** ‘When I heard you calling, I went more wild with pleasure than a swallow in her joy by the road’ (BK 1108-10)

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**An golom yw devedhys ha gensy branch olyf glas** ‘The dove has come with a green olive branch’ (CW 2461-62)

**Me a offryn teyr bran vrâs, marthys rownd aga mellow. Y a dal denerow whegh. Me a’s kerhas pôr wyr dhewar geyn margh mes a hallow** ‘I will offer three large ravens, with very round joints. They are worth sixpence. I indeed fetched them yesterday on horseback from the moors’ (BM 3407-11)

**Me a wrug gwelas an carnow ujn an gùllys ha’n ydhyn moreral ow qwyl aga neythow** ‘I saw the rocks where the gulls and other sea birds make their nests’ (AB: 245a)

**Porpas, sowmens, syllias** ‘Porpoise, salmon, eels’ (OM 136)

**Lenesow ha barvusy** ‘Ling and cod’ (OM 138)

**Mès me a drovyas udn pysk brâs, naw y lostyow** ‘But I found a big fish with nine tails’ (Noel Cater 1698, LAM: 228)

**Ydhyn, bêstas, prevyon** ‘Birds, beasts and reptiles’ (OM 1160)

**Kê abervath, te harlot, y’n pryson yn mesk prevas** ‘Go inside, you scoundrel, into the prison among the insects (BK 418-19)

**Gans nader yth of gwadnhes** ‘I have been weakened by a snake’ (OM 1756)

**Serpont yw hy, uth hy gwelas** ‘It is a snake, horrible to behold’ (OM 1451-52)

**Dha weth vedhans dha’n cronek** ‘They will be the worse for the toad’ (PC 2732)

**Shyndys of gans cronek du ha whedhys gans y venym** ‘I have been injured by a black toad and swollen by its poison’ (OM 1778).

**Cronek an hager-dhu** ‘Toad, the ugly black one’ (Ascribed to Dolly Pentreath by William Bottrell).

### 8.12. THE WEATHER

**Hager-awel hag awel deg** ‘Bad weather and good weather’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

**Kensa ort an hagar-awel uja va gwyl da dereval warnan ny kenyver termyn dèr eran ny mos dort Pedn an Wlas da Syllan** ‘First because of the storm he raises against us every time we go from Land’s End to Scilly’ (Nicholas Boson)

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***Fatla ujj ow colowy ha taredna!*** ‘How it thunders and lightens!’

(AB: 248a)

***Lowas ha taran*** ‘Thunder and lightning’ (RD 129)

***Yeyn kewar, tarednow ha golowas*** ‘Cold weather, thunder and lightning’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

***Ny’m let glaw na tarednys*** ‘Neither rain nor thunder will stop me’

(BK 3029)

***Yma ow cul ergh*** ‘It snows’ (AB: 250b)

***Yma ow cul kesar*** ‘It hails’ (AB: 250bc)

***Ergħ, rêw, gwyns, ha clehy ha kesar*** ‘Snow, frost, wind, icicles and hail’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

***Yma ow tegensewa hager-gowas*** ‘A nasty shower is threatening’

(OM 1079-80)

***Otta cowas p̄r ahas. Na’s perth den mara pes pell*** ‘Here

comes a very nasty shower. No one will withstand it if it last long’

(OM 1081-82)

***Hedna a wra gwetha na dheffa glaw abervath*** ‘That will ensure that rain won’t come in’ (OM 1075-76)

***Gallas an glaw dha ves glan*** ‘The rain has quite cleared up’ (OM

1097)

***Yma an gwyns ow whetha ha’n mor ow tereval f̄ol*** ‘The wind

is blowing and the sea rising wildly’ (BM 601-02)

***Menowgh gans ergh ha clehy me re bue yn mes dre nos***

‘Often in snow and ice I have been out all night’ (BM 3055-56)

***Cabmdhavas y’n mettyn, glaw a ell bos etten*** ‘Rainbow in the

morning, rain may be in it’ (ACB F f)

***An gabmdhavas yn tevry pesqwyth may’s gwelhowgh why***

***hy, remembra ahanowgh why me a wra bis venary*** ‘The

rainbow indeed whenever you see it, I shall remember you for ever’

(CW 2501-04)

***Rag own why dha godha po an rêw dha derry ha why dha***

***vos budhys*** ‘Lest you fall, or the ice break and you be drowned’

(AB: 250a)

### 8.13. CALENDAR

***Ma dêwdhek mys y'n vledhen*** 'There are twelve months in the year' (Bilbao MS)

***An vledhen yw dêwdhek seythen ha dêwgans*** 'The year is fifty-two weeks' (Bilbao MS)

***Qwarter bledhen yw trydhek seythen*** 'Quarter of a year is thirteen weeks' (Bilbao MS)

***Hanter bledhen yw whegh seythen warn ugans*** 'Half a year is twenty-six weeks' (Bilbao MS)

***An jorna-ma wâr seythen*** 'this day week' ACB O

***Yn haf porth cof gwâf*** 'In summer remember winter' (Lhuyd MSS)

***Gwâf yn haf dêr bo Golowan; ha haf yn gwâf dêr bo Nadelak*** 'Winter in summer until midsummer; and summer in winter until Christmas' (Ustick MSS)

***De Halan Gwâf mettyrn yn eglos Lalant*** 'On All Saints' Day in the morning in Lelant church' (Depositions of Exeter Consistory Court 1572)

***An whefas dedh yn Gortheran ha'n gela vedh mys Êst certan orth ow desyr an ethvas dedh; ha'n tressa mys Gwydn-gala, de Gol Myhal yw hedna. Yn plew Noala nefra an kêth feryow-ma a vedh*** 'The sixth day of July and the other in August indeed as I wish, the eighth day; and the third, September; that is Michaelmas. In the parish of Noala these same festivals will be for ever' (BM 2070-79)

***An degvas dedh mys Hedra y'n bledhen myl whegh cans dêwgans ha try*** 'The tenth day of October in the year 1643' (John Keigwin)

***Flogh a vue genys yn mys Merth, ny a drohas y vugel yn mys Êst. Ef a ros towl dha Pronter Pawl mys Du ken Nadelak*** 'A baby was born in March, we cut his navel in August. He gave a fall to the Vicar of Paul in November before Christmas' (William Gwavas c. 1728, ACB folio before G g)

***An kensa jorna a mys Hedra an contell, yn plew Pawl, yn Kernow teg yn bloudh Crîst an Arluth wheg myl seyth cans ha hanter deg*** 'The meeting on the first day of October in

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

the parish of Paul, in fair Cornwall in the year of Christ the sweet Lord 1705' (Thomas Boson 1705, BF: 38)

***Y'n bledhen a'n Dew Arluth ny, 1710. William Gwavas a'n Tempel Cres yn Londres yn Pow an Brethon*** 'In the year of our Lord God, 1710. William Gwavas from the Middle Temple in London in Britain' (William Gwavas 1710, LAM: 238)

***Dort Newlyn y'n Blew Pawl, 22 Êst 1711*** 'From Newlyn in the paris of Paul, 22 August 1711' (William Gwavas, LAM: 238)

***Adheworth Newlyn, y'n Blew Pawl, an 22vas mys Êst, 1711*** 'From Newlyn, in the parish of Paul, the 22nd of August, 1711' (Oliver Pender, LAM: 238)

***Screfys wâr an kensa dedh a'n mys Kevardhu 1736*** 'Written on the first day of the month of December' (William Gwavas).

### 8.14. THE COUNTRYSIDE, FLOWERS, AND TREES

***Kê aberth y'n pow the wandra udn pols bian*** 'Go into the country to wander for a while' (RD 1634-35)

***Na sorran may teffu gwedh ha losow*** 'Let us not be angry that trees and herbs may grow' (Lhuyd MSS)

***An losowen bian gen y arr nedhys, ues ow tevy yn an hallow ny, ues cries Pleth Maria*** 'The small plant with the twisted stalk, which grows on our hills, is called Lady's Tresses (*Spiranthes spiralis*)' (AB: 245a)

***Lowr flourys a bûb ehan y'n plas-ma otta tevys—ha frûtys wâr bub gwedhen y tef gwâf ha haf kefrys*** 'Look, there are many flowers of every kind growing here—and fruit on every tree grow winter and summer as well' (CW 364-66)

***Me a vedn mos dha wandra obma yn mesk an flourys*** 'I shall go to wander here among the flowers' (CW 539-40)

***Ena yth esa plenty a bûb kynda a frûtys*** 'There were plenty of kinds of fruit there' (TH 2)

***Gwedh crabbys na dhora frût dâ vîth*** 'Crab-apple trees that bear no good fruit' (TH 9)

***Myr, ot obma teyr sprusen a dhueth mes a'n aval-ma*** 'Look. here are three pips that came out this apple' (CW 1845-46)



## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

***Dreys, spern, lynas, ha spedhas*** ‘Brambles, thorns, nettles, and briars’ (TH 9)

***Cref yw gwredhyow an spedhas mayth yw ow dêwvreggh terrys wortans menowgh ow qweytha*** ‘Tough are the roots of the briars so that my arms are broken by working at them again and again’ (OM 687-89)

***Praga y’gas kerthow why y tef lynas yn erbers heb gonys vith?*** ‘Why in your territory do nettles grow without any cultivation?’ (BK 2295-97)

***Ena yth esa flourys ha frûtys teg aga lyw dha’gan maga*** ‘There were flowers there and pleasant fruits to feed us’ (CW 1050-52)

***Spern y teg dhys ha spedhas ha’n erbys a’n kèth dor-na, te a dheber*** ‘It will bear thorns and brambles for you and the herbs of the same ground you will eat’ (CW 947-49)

***Spern hag ascal a wra ef dry rag dhys*** ‘Thorns and thistles it will produce for you’ (William Rowe)

***Rag delkyow sevy a wra mowysy teg*** ‘For strawberry leaves make girls fair’ (Chygwyn, ACB opposite G g)

***Êwgh dewhans dha’n erberow ha contellowgh yn fysy erbys rag gwethyl dowrow*** ‘Go immediately to the herb gardens and busily collect herbs to make fragrances’ (BK 2986-89).

### 8.15. AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

***Pana whel a ellasta gwyl? Pùb whel oll*** ‘What work can you do? All kinds of work’ (AB: 251a)

***Res yw porres lavyrya ha gonys an bes obma dha gawas dha ny sosten*** ‘It is very necessary to cultivate the world here to get food for us’ (CW 1079-81)

***Gorra an ohan y’n ardar*** ‘To put the oxen to the plough’ (ACB F f 2)

***Aras an kensa an todn*** ‘First plough the lea’ (ACB F f 2)

***Gorra tus y’n skybar dha droshyan*** ‘To send men to the barn to thresh’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

***Gorra an voves dha shakya an cala*** ‘To put the maid to shake the straw’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

- Bargydnya gen den dha vos dha'n whel sten*** 'To bargain with a man to go to a tin-work' (ACB opposite F f 2)
- Ry dha stenor deg puns y'n vledhen*** 'To give the tinner ten pounds a year' (ACB opposite F f 2)
- Carya an sten dha'n fog*** 'To carry the tin to the furnace' (ACB opposite F f 2)
- Sten Sen Agnes yw an gwelha sten yn Kernow*** 'St Agnes tin is the best tin in Cornwall' (ACB opposite F f)
- Whelas tus dha trehy kesow*** 'To seek men to cut turf' (ACB F f 2)
- Whelas pobel dha trehy eythyn*** 'To seek people to cut furze' (ACB F f 2)
- Me a gontell dreyn ha spern ha glos dha lesky*** 'I will gather brambles and thorns and cow-dung to burn' (CW 1091-92)
- Danvon rag tus dha drehy gorha*** 'To send for men to cut hay' (ACB F f 2)
- Whelas mejwesyon dha vejy an ys*** 'To seek reapers to reap the corn' (ACB F f 2)
- Ys y'n nor*** 'Corn in the ground' (Bilbao MS)
- Trehy grownd beten rag gonys sogal*** 'Cut beat land to grow rye' (Bilbao MS)
- Barlys, gwanath, ha kergh*** 'Barley, wheat, and oats' (Bilbao MS)
- Dha jarjy a vedh wàr kergh, barlys, ha gwanath*** 'Your charge shall be over oats, barley, and wheat' (CW 1065-66)
- Bara, blues, ha brudnyon*** 'Bread, flour, and groats' (Bilbao MS)
- Whelas colmoryon dha gelmy an ys*** 'To seek binders to bind the corn' (ACB F f 2)

### 8.16. THE BLACKSMITH

- Mos dha'n gof dha hernya an vergh*** 'To go to the smith to shoe the horses' (ACB F f 2)
- Gorra an sogh ha'n trohar dha'n gof*** 'To send the share and the coulter to the smith' (ACB F f 2)
- Gorra an dens harrow dha'n gof dha lebma*** 'To send the harrow tines to the smith to sharpen' (ACB F f 2)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

*Ny wòn gof yn oll Kernow a whetha gans megydnaw certan  
bìth well* ‘I know no smith in all Cornwall who would blow any  
better with bellows indeed’ (PC 2712-14)

*Whath kentrow dhedha nynj o* ‘They did not yet have nails’ (PA  
154a)

*Te, gwra try hentar dha ny* ‘You, make three nails for us’ (PA 154d)

*Danvon rag myl kentrow* ‘Send for a thousand nails’ (Bilbao MS)

### 8.17. CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING

*Darbar lym ha pry, meyn whel, slodyas ha gednow* ‘Provide  
mortar and clay, building stones, sledge-hammers and chisels’ (OM  
2317-18)

*Gans ow bol noweth lebmys me a sqwat pùb pys tymber*  
‘With my newly sharpened axe I shall split each piece of timber’  
(CW 2283-84)

*Me a vedn trehy tednow ha lathys teg ha corblys* ‘I will cut  
beams, struts and brackets’ (OM 2445-46)

*Ass oma sqwyth prednyer derow ow trehy* ‘How tired I am  
cutting oak planks’ (OM 1009-10)

*Màr lel y sensys dha lyn kyns es trehy wâr an predn, re got  
o a gevelyn* ‘So accurately did you hold your line before cutting  
the plank, it was too long by a cubit’ (OM 2518-20)

*Myr, obma dha wober* ‘Look, here are your wages’ (AB: 251a)

### 8.18. FISHING

*Gorra an rùsow y’n dowr rag hern* ‘To put the nets in the water  
for pilchards’ (Bilbao MS)

*Pana prys rag hern?* ‘What price for pilchards?’ (ACB opposite  
F f 2)

*Prys dâ* ‘A good price’ (ACB opposite F f 2)

*Ha kennyver benen ha cawel a try hans hern wâr hy heyn* ‘And  
every woman with a basket of three hundred pilchards on her  
back’ (John Boson, Pilchard rhyme)

*Ny a via prys dâ rag an sten ha rag an hern* ‘We should have a  
good price for tin and for pilchards’ (John Tonkin c. 1695)

## A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

- Ma own dha vy ma deweth dha nessa bledhen adro dha'n hern*** 'I am afraid there is an end until next year with the pilchards' (Oliver Pender 1711, LAM: 238)
- An hern gwâf a vedn gwyl drog dha'n hern haf*** 'The winter pilchards will harm the summer pilchards' (Oliver Pender 1711, LAM: 238)
- Mos dha'n mor dha gachya poscas*** 'To go to sea to catch fish' (ACB F f 2)
- Me a glowas, a glowas, a glowas an tros, an tros, an tros a'n poscas munys*** 'I heard, heard, heard, the noise, noise, noise of the tiny fish' (Noel Cater 1698)
- Tedna cans myl warbarth*** 'To catch a hundred thousand together' (ACB F f 2)
- A vednowgh why mos dha drig?*** 'Will you go to the strand?' (ACB F f 2)

### 8.19. PLACE-NAMES

- An Dûk a'n jevyth pòr wyr rag y lavyr oll an tyr a Dhowr Hombyr dha Scotlond*** 'The Duke will get for his labour all the land from the River Humber to Scotland' (BK 3235-37)
- A oll an gwlasow yn Cristoneth nyns ues onen an jevas màr vuer caus dha favera an se ha'n stall a Rom dell jevas Ynglond*** 'Of all the countries in Christendom none has as much cause to favour the see and stall of Rome as has England' (TH 51)
- Nena mos ales dha scol ha woja hedna mos dha Frenk*** 'Then I went away to school and after that to France' (Nicholas Boson)
- Nena ef eth yn kerdh rag Frenk rag debry an taclow yw pòr trynk*** 'Then he went away to France to eat things that are very bitter' (John Tonkin c. 1693)
- Brethonek Pow Lesaw yn Frenk*** 'The Brythonic of Brittany in France' (AB: 222)
- Ha ef dha Wordhen êth y honen*** 'And he to Ireland went himself' (John Tonkin c. 1693)
- Yma tregys yn Kembra yn Urbe Legionum*** 'He lives in Wales in the City of the Legions' (BK 1292-93)

## 8.20. CORNISH AND THE CELTIC LANGUAGES

***Gàn tavas Kernowak yw màr pell gwadnhes, ùs na ellen scant qwetyas dha y welas crefhe arta*** ‘Our Cornish language is so far weakened that we can hardly hope to see it strengthen again’ (Nicholas Boson *c.* 1675)

***Ma moy Sowsnak clappys dell ujj Kernowak*** ‘There is more English spoken than Cornish’ (Nicholas Boson *c.* 1675)

***Radn a ell bos kevys na ell scant clappya na godhvas Kernowak, bùs scant den vith bùs a or godhvas ha clappya Sowsnak*** ‘Some can be found who can hardly speak or understand Cornish, but hardly anyone who cannot understand and speak English’ (Nicholas Boson *c.* 1675)

***Ne alja ef clappya na screfa Kernowak pecar ha why*** ‘He could not speak nor write Cornish like you’ (Oliver Pender 1711)

***Gomar mab Jafet mab Noy a vue an kensa den a wrug clappya Kernowak y’n termyn a vue Tour Babel derevys*** ‘Gomer son of Japhet son of Noah was the first man to talk Cornish at the time when the Tower of Babel was built’ (John Boson 1710)

***An Kelesonak pò an Scot-Vrethonak ues leverys yn Uheldyr an Alban hag yn gwlascor Wordhen*** ‘The Caledonian or Scot-British which is spoken in the Highlands of Scotland and in the Kingdom of Ireland’ (AB: 222)

***Pò dell yw hy cries genan ny yn Kembra, an Lesawak*** ‘or as we in Wales call it, *Llydaweg* (Breton)’ (AB: 222)

***Yn tavas Greca, Latyn ha’n Ebbrow, yn Frenkak ha Kernowak deskys dâ*** ‘Learned well in Greek, Latin, Hebrew, in French and Cornish’ (John Boson 1716)

***Ny a ell gwelas hag ajwon an tavas Kernowak dha vos tavas coth ha treweth yw y vos kellys*** ‘We can see and recognise that the Cornish language is an ancient tongue and it is a shame that it should be lost’ (John Boson 1710)

***Muer a gormola dha why wâr tyr ha mor ha yn pùb chy rag agas gerlyvryn dâ a’n Kernowak y’n pow-ma*** ‘Great praise to you on land and sea and in every house for your fine dictionary of the Cornish of this country’ (William Gwavas 1736)

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***Me a wrug scantlowr clowas udn ger Sowsnak cowsys y'n  
cok rag seythen warbarth*** 'I hardly heard a single word of  
English spoken in the boat for a week altogether' (William Bodinar  
1776)

***Na wrug avy byscath gwelas lyver Kernowak*** 'I never saw a  
Cornish book' (William Bodinar 1776)

***An Kernowak yw oll nekevys gen pobel yonk*** 'Cornish is all  
forgotten by young people' (William Bodinar 1776)

***Yw hemma screfa Kernowak dâ?*** 'Is this good Cornish writing?  
(William Gwavas 1710)

***Nag of vy whath hanter-den Kernowak dâ dha screfa da why***  
'I am still not half a good Cornishman to write to you' (William  
Gwavas 1711)

***Ellozgh why clappya Kernowak? Gellam.*** 'Can you speak  
Cornish? Yes' (ACB opposite F f 2)

***Me na vednaf cowsa Sowsnak*** 'I will not speak English' (Richard  
Carew 1602, LAM: 272).

CHAPTER NINE

RECOMMENDED SPELLING OF  
MONOSYLLABLES

This list is not exhaustive.

<b>a</b> [æ] ‘from’	<b>bàth</b> [bæθ] ‘coin’
<b>â</b> [æ:] ‘goes’	<b>bay</b> [bæi] ‘kiss’
<b>abm</b> [æ <sup>b</sup> m], [æm] ‘kiss’	<b>bây</b> [be:] ‘bay’
<b>agh</b> [æ:x] ‘progeny’	<b>bedh</b> [be:ð] ‘grave’
<b>agh</b> [æ:x] ‘oh!’	<b>bedh</b> [be:ð] ‘will be, be!’
<b>als</b> [ɒlz] ‘shore’	<b>bêdh</b> [be:ð] ‘dares’
<b>ar</b> [ɒ:r] ‘arable land’	<b>begh</b> [be:x] ‘load’
<b>art</b> [ɒ:ɪt] ‘art’	<b>bell</b> [bɛl] ‘war’
<b>ass</b> [æs] ‘how!’	<b>ben</b> [be:n] ‘stem, trunk’
<b>âyr</b> [e:r] ‘air’	<b>benk</b> [beŋk] ‘bench’
<b>bad</b> [bæ:d] ‘bad’	<b>ber</b> [be:r] ‘roasting spit’
<b>bagh</b> [bæ:x] ‘dungeon’	<b>bèr</b> [be:r] ‘short’
<b>bagh</b> [bæ:x] ‘hook’	<b>bes</b> [be:z] ‘world’
<b>back</b> [bæk] ‘breakwater’	<b>bês</b> [be:z] ‘finger’
<b>bal</b> [bæ:l] ‘mine’	<b>bêst</b> [be:st] ‘animal’
<b>badh</b> [bæ:ð] ‘bath’	<b>bêw</b> [beʊ] ‘alive’
<b>badh</b> [bæ:ð] ‘boar’	<b>bêw</b> [beʊ] ‘lives’
<b>badn</b> [bæ <sup>d</sup> n], [bæn] ‘height’ <i>cf.</i>	<b>bewgh</b> [biʊx] ‘cow’
<b>yn badn</b> [ən <sup>b</sup> æ <sup>d</sup> n], [ən <sup>b</sup> bæn],	<b>bis</b> [biz] ‘until’
<b>yn madn</b> [ə <sup>m</sup> æ <sup>d</sup> n], [ə <sup>m</sup> bæn]	<b>bith</b> [bɪθ] ‘ever’
‘upwards’, <b>a vadm</b> [ə <sup>v</sup> æ <sup>d</sup> n],	<b>blam</b> [blæ:m] ‘blame’
[ə <sup>v</sup> bæn] ‘upstairs’	<b>blas</b> [blæ:z] ‘taste’
<b>bâr</b> [bɒ:r] ‘branch’	<b>blodh</b> [blo:ð] ‘year of age’ pv
<b>bas</b> [bæ:z] ‘shallow’	<b>bloudh</b> [blu:ð] ‘year of age’
<b>bas</b> [bæ:z] ‘becomes shallow’	<b>blow</b> [blou] ‘blue’
<b>bat</b> [bæt] ‘cudgel’	<b>bleyn</b> [blɛin] ‘top’

A PROPOSED SINGLE WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<b>bleydh</b> [blɛið] ‘wolf’	<b>bry</b> [b.ɹi:] ‘value’
<b>blues</b> [blø:z] ‘flower, meal’	<b>bryck</b> [b.ɹɪk] ‘brick’
<b>bo</b> [bo:] ‘would be’	<b>bryf</b> [b.ɹi:v] ‘bleats’
<b>bò</b> [bɔ] ‘if’	<b>budh</b> [by:ð], [bi:ð] ‘drowns’
<b>bobm</b> [bɔ <sup>b</sup> m] ‘thump’	<b>bùs</b> [bøz] ‘but’
<b>bock</b> [bɔk] ‘billy-goat’	<b>bùsh</b> [bøʃ] ‘bush’
<b>bogh</b> [bo:x] ‘buck’	<b>bùss</b> [bøs] ‘bus’
<b>bol</b> [bo:l] ‘hatchet’	<b>caf</b> [kæ:v] ‘cave’
<b>bolgh</b> [bɔlx] ‘gap’	<b>caf</b> [kæ:v] ‘will get’
<b>bòr</b> [bɔɹ] ‘fat’	<b>cal</b> [kæ:l] ‘sly’
<b>bos</b> [bo:z] ‘be’	<b>càl</b> [kæl] ‘penis’
<b>bòs</b> [bɔz] ‘bush’	<b>call</b> [kæl] ‘tungstate of iron’
<b>bôst</b> [bo:st] ‘boast’	<b>cabm</b> [kæ <sup>b</sup> m], [kæm] ‘crooked’
<b>bodh</b> [bo:ð] ‘wish’	<b>cabm</b> [kæ <sup>b</sup> m], [kæm] ‘step’
<b>bòth</b> [bɔθ] ‘nave of wheel’	<b>cân</b> [kæ:n], [kɔ:n] ‘song’
<b>bous</b> [bu:z] ‘food’	<b>càn</b> [kæn] ‘very white’
<b>brabm</b> [bræ <sup>b</sup> m] ‘fart’	<b>car</b> [kɔ:ɹ] ‘kinsman’
<b>braf</b> [bræ:v] ‘fine’	<b>car</b> [kɔ:ɹ] ‘love!’
<b>brag</b> [bræ:g] ‘malt’	<b>càr</b> [kɔɹ] ‘car, cart’
<b>brag</b> [bræ:g] ‘threatens’	<b>cas</b> [kæ:z] ‘battle’
<b>bran</b> [bræ:m] ‘raven’	<b>cas</b> [kæ:z] ‘case, cause’
<b>bras</b> [bræ:z] ‘treachery’	<b>cas</b> [kæ:z] ‘hatred’
<b>brâs</b> [bræ:z], [brɔ:z] ‘great’	<b>cas</b> [kæ:z] ‘hates’
<b>bregh</b> [brɛ:x] ‘arm’	<b>câst</b> [kæ:st] ‘trick’
<b>bres</b> [brɛ:z] ‘mind’	<b>cath</b> [kæ:θ] ‘cat’
<b>brês</b> [brɛ:z] ‘womb’	<b>châst</b> [tʃæ:st] ‘chaste’
<b>brêst</b> [brɛ:st] ‘breast’	<b>châyr</b> [tʃɛ:ɹ] ‘chair’
<b>brêst</b> [brɛ:st] ‘brass’	<b>chêk</b> [tʃɛ:k] ‘cauldron, kettle’
<b>brêw</b> [brɛø] ‘wounded’	<b>cher</b> [tʃɛ:ɹ] ‘aspect, cheer’
<b>breyth</b> [brɛiθ] ‘speckled’	<b>chet</b> [tʃɛt] ‘fellow, chit’
<b>brodn</b> [brɔ <sup>d</sup> n] ‘breast’	<b>chîff</b> [tʃi:f] ‘chief’
<b>brogh</b> [brɔ:x] ‘badger’	<b>chy</b> [tʃi:], [tʃɔi] ‘house’
<b>bros</b> [brɔ:z] ‘prick, point’	<b>chyl</b> [tʃi:l] ‘child’
<b>bros</b> [brɔ:z] ‘stew’	<b>clâf</b> [klæ:v], [klɔ:v] ‘sick’
<b>brow</b> [brɔø] ‘quern’	<b>clap</b> [klæp] ‘jabber’
<b>brues</b> [brø:z] ‘judgment’	<b>class</b> [klæs] ‘class’





A PROPOSED SINGLE WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<b>cues</b> [kø:z], [kez] ‘cheese’	<b>dren</b> [dɹe:m] ‘thorn’, <i>pl.</i> <b>dreyn</b>
<b>cuf</b> [ky:v], [ki:v] ‘loving, amiable’	[dɹəm]
<b>cul</b> [ky:l], [ki:l] ‘narrow’	<b>dres</b> [dɹe:z] ‘beyond’
<b>da</b> [də] ‘thy’	<b>drog</b> [dɹo:g] ‘evil’
<b>da</b> [də] ‘thy’	<b>dry</b> [dɹi:], [dɹɪ] ‘bring’
<b>dâ</b> [dæ:] ‘good’	<b>du</b> [diø] ‘black’
<b>dall</b> [dæl] ‘blind’	<b>due</b> [dø:], [de:] ‘finished’
<b>dans</b> [dænz] ‘tooth’, <i>pl.</i> <b>dens</b>	<b>due</b> [dø:], [de:] ‘comes’
[dænz]	<b>dûk</b> [du:k] ‘duke’
<b>dâr</b> [dɔ:ɹ] ‘what, eh?’	<b>dyn</b> [di:n] ‘hill-fort’
<b>dauns</b> [dɔns] ‘dance’	<b>ef</b> [e:v], [e:] ‘he’
<b>de</b> [de:] ‘yesterday’	<b>êf</b> [e:v] ‘drinks’
<b>dedh</b> [de:ð] ‘day’	<b>el</b> [e:l] ‘angel’
<b>del</b> [de:l] ‘leaves’	<b>er</b> [e:ɹ] ‘heir’
<b>dell</b> [dɛl] ‘as’	<b>êr</b> [e:ɹ] ‘eagle’
<b>den</b> [de:m] ‘man, person’	<b>es</b> [e:z] ‘ease’
<b>dèr</b> [dɛ:ɹ], [dɛɹ] ‘through’	<b>ès</b> [ɔz] ‘than’
<b>Dew</b> [diø] ‘God’	<b>êst</b> [e:st] ‘August’
<b>dêw</b> [de:w] ‘two’	<b>et</b> [ɛt] ‘in’ <i>pv</i>
<b>*dha</b> [ðə] ‘thy’	<b>eth</b> [e:θ] ‘eight’
<b>*dha</b> [ðə] ‘to’	<b>êth</b> [e:θ] ‘vapour’
<b>dhèn</b> [ðɛn] ‘to us’	<b>eyl</b> [ɛil] ‘one’
<b>dof</b> [do:v] ‘tame’	<b>fa</b> [fæ:] ‘beans’
<b>dol</b> [do:l] ‘meady’	<b>faf</b> [fæ:v] ‘beans’ <i>pv</i> .
<b>dol</b> [do:l] ‘dole’	<b>fas</b> [fæ:z] ‘face’
<b>dor</b> [do:ɹ] ‘earth’	<b>fast</b> [fæst] ‘fast, firm’
<b>dos</b> [do:z] ‘come’	<b>fay</b> [fæi] ‘faith’
<b>doth</b> [do:θ] ‘discreet’	<b>fedh</b> [fe:ð] ‘faith’
<b>dour</b> [du:ɹ] ‘scrupulously’	<b>fel</b> [fe:l] ‘crafty, clever’
<b>dowr</b> [doo:ɹ] ‘water’	<b>fell</b> [fel] ‘cruel, destructive’
<b>dowt</b> [doot] ‘fear’	<b>fer</b> [fe:ɹ] ‘fair’
<b>dral</b> [dɹæl] ‘scrap’	<b>fest</b> [fɛst] ‘extremely’
<b>dre</b> [dɹe:] ‘home’	<b>feth</b> [fe:θ] ‘overcomes’
<b>drè</b> [dɹɛ] ‘through’	<b>fler</b> [fle:ɹ] ‘stink’
<b>drêm</b> [dɹe:m] ‘lament’	<b>flogh</b> [flo:x] ‘child’
	<b>flour</b> [flu:ɹ] ‘flower’

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<b>flows</b> [flouʒ] ‘trifling talk’	<b>gay</b> [gæi] ‘noble, fine’
<b>fo</b> [fo:] ‘flight’	<b>ged</b> [ge:d] ‘leads’
<b>fol</b> [fo:l] ‘fool’	<b>gedn</b> [ge <sup>d</sup> n] ‘chisel’
<b>fōl</b> [fɔl] ‘foolish, crazy, wild’	<b>gel</b> [ge:l] ‘leech’
<b>fordh</b> [fɔɪð], [fɔɪ] ‘way’ (in poetry <b>for</b> )	<b>gell</b> [gɛl] ‘brown, tawny’
<b>forgh</b> [fɔɪx] ‘fork’	<b>gen</b> [ge:n] ‘mouth’
<b>form</b> [fɔɪm] ‘form’	<b>ger</b> [ge:i] ‘word’
<b>forn</b> [fɔɪn] ‘oven’	<b>ges</b> [ge:z] ‘mockery’
<b>fors</b> [fɔɪs] ‘energy’	<b>ges</b> [ge:z] ‘jests’
<b>fos</b> [fo:z] ‘ditch’	<b>gew</b> [giʊ] ‘woe’
<b>fow</b> [foʊ] ‘cave, den’	<b>gladn</b> [glæ <sup>d</sup> n], [glæn] ‘bank, brink’
<b>fowt</b> [foʊt] ‘fault’	<b>glan</b> [glæ:n] ‘clean, pure’
<b>freth</b> [fɹe:θ] ‘eloquent’	<b>glas</b> [glæ:z] ‘blue, glaucous’
<b>frodn</b> [fɹɔ <sup>d</sup> n], [fɹɔn] ‘bridle’	<b>glaw</b> [glæʊ] ‘rain’
<b>fros</b> [fɹɔ:z] ‘stream’	<b>gleb</b> [gle:b] ‘wet’
<b>fros</b> [fɹɔ:z] ‘tumult’	<b>gledh</b> [gle:ð] ‘chickweed’
<b>frût</b> [fɹu:t] ‘fruit’	<b>glen</b> [gle:n] ‘sticks’
<b>fryg</b> [fɹi:g] ‘nostril’	<b>glew</b> [gliʊ] ‘clear, transparent’
<b>fug</b> [fy:g], [fi:g] ‘sham; fictitious’	<b>glos</b> [glo:z] ‘pain, anguish’
<b>fur</b> [fy:ɹ], [fi:ɹ] ‘wise’	<b>glow</b> [gloʊ] ‘charcoal, coal’
<b>fust</b> [fyst], [fɪst] ‘cudgel, flail’	<b>glus</b> [gly:z], [gli:z] ‘glue’
<b>fy</b> [fi:] ‘fie!’	<b>glûth</b> [glu:θ] ‘dew’
<b>fyll</b> [fil] ‘fails’	<b>gnas</b> [gnæ:z] ‘nature, quality’
<b>fyn</b> [fi:n] ‘fine, payment’	<b>godn</b> [gɔ <sup>d</sup> n], [gɔn] ‘gun’
<b>fyn</b> [fi:n] ‘fine, delicate’	<b>gof</b> [go:v] ‘smith’
<b>fyn</b> [fi:n] ‘end’	<b>gol</b> [go:l] ‘sail’
<b>fyt</b> [fɪt] ‘bout’	<b>gol</b> [go:l] ‘feast’
<b>gaf</b> [gæ:v] ‘forgive!’	<b>golgh</b> [gɔlx] ‘wash!’
<b>gal</b> [gæ:l] ‘outcast’	<b>gols</b> [gɔlz] ‘hair’
<b>gam</b> [gæ:m] ‘game’	<b>gon</b> [go:n] ‘sheath, scabbard’
<b>garr</b> [gɔɹ] ‘leg’	<b>gòn</b> [gɔn] ‘I know’
<b>garth</b> [gɔɹθ] ‘enclosure, garden’	<b>gor</b> [go:ɹ] ‘knows’
<b>gas</b> [gæ:z] ‘leave, allow!’	<b>goudh</b> [gu:ð] ‘goose’
<b>gass</b> [gæs] ‘gas’	<b>gour</b> [gu:ɹ] ‘husband’
<b>gâst</b> [gæ:st] ‘bitch’	<b>gous</b> [gu:z] ‘blood’

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<b>gouth</b> [gu:θ] ‘pride’	<b>gwel</b> [gwe:l] ‘rods’
<b>gouth</b> [gu:θ] ‘vein’	<b>gwell</b> [gwɛl] ‘better’
<b>gouth</b> [gu:θ] ‘stream’	<b>gwels</b> [gwɛlz] ‘grass’
<b>gouth</b> [gu:θ] ‘wild’	<b>gwèn</b> [gwɛn] ‘anus’
<b>gow</b> [gou] ‘lie, falsehood’	<b>gwer</b> [gwe:r] ‘green’
<b>gradh</b> [græ:ð] ‘step, grade’	<b>gwergh</b> [gwɛrɣ] ‘virginal’
<b>gras</b> [græ:z] ‘thanks, grace’	<b>gwers</b> [gwɛrɰ] ‘verse’
<b>graunt</b> [grɑnt] ‘grant’	<b>gwerth</b> [gwɛrθ] ‘sells’
<b>gre</b> [grɛ:] ‘status’	<b>gwest</b> [gwɛst] ‘lodging’
<b>grêff</b> [grɛ:f] ‘grief’	<b>gweθ</b> [gwe:θ] ‘worse’
<b>Grêk</b> [grɛ:k] ‘Greek’	<b>gwêws</b> [gweʊs] ‘lip’
<b>gròn</b> [grɔn] ‘mass, bundle’	<b>gweyth</b> [gwɛiθ] ‘act, work’
<b>grôt</b> [grɔ:t] ‘groat’	<b>gweyth</b> [gwɛiθ] ‘time, occasion’
<b>grow</b> [grɔʊ] ‘gravel’	<b>gwyth</b> [gwi:θ] ‘care’
<b>grownd</b> [grɔʊnd] ‘ground’	<b>gwlan</b> [glæ:n], [glɔ:n] ‘wool’
<b>grueff</b> [grɔɛf], [grɛf] ‘front of body’	<b>gwlas</b> [glæ:z] ‘kingdom, country’
<b>grug</b> [grɪ:g], [grɪ:g] ‘heather, ling’	<b>gwragh</b> [græ:x] ‘hag, old woman’
<b>gryll</b> [grɪl] ‘spider-crab’	<b>gwredh</b> [grɛ:ð] ‘roots’
<b>gu</b> [giʊ] ‘spear’	<b>gwreg</b> [grɛ:g] ‘wife, woman’
<b>gul</b> [gwi:l], [gy:l], [gi:l] ‘do’	<b>gwrek</b> [grɛk] ‘wreck’
<b>gwadn</b> [gwæ <sup>d</sup> n], [gwæn], [gwɔ <sup>d</sup> n], [gwɔn] ‘weak’	<b>gwrem</b> [grɛm] ‘hem’
<b>gwâf</b> [gwæ:v], [gwɔ:v] ‘winter’	<b>gwry</b> [grɪ:], [grɛi] ‘seam’
<b>gwag</b> [gwæ:g] ‘empty, hungry’	<b>gwrys</b> [grɪ:z] ‘crystal’
<b>gwall</b> [gwɔl] ‘mischance’	<b>gwrys</b> [grɪ:z] ‘made, done’
<b>gwan</b> [gwæ:n] ‘stab’	<b>gwy</b> [gwi:], [gwɛi] ‘twists, weaves’
<b>gwan</b> [gwæ:n] ‘stabs’	<b>gwydn</b> [gwi <sup>d</sup> n], [gwm] ‘white’
<b>gwàr</b> [gwɔr] ‘nape of neck’	<b>gwydn</b> [gwi <sup>d</sup> n], [gwm] ‘white colour’
<b>gwas</b> [gwæ:z] ‘youth, servant’	<b>gwyg</b> [gwi:g] ‘churchtown, village’
<b>gwedh</b> [gwe:ð] ‘trees’	<b>gwygh</b> [gwi:x] ‘periwinkles’
<b>gwel</b> [gwe:l] ‘sight’	<b>gwyl</b> [gwi:l], [gy:l], [gi:l] ‘do’
<b>gwel</b> [gwe:l] ‘sees’	<b>gwyll</b> [gwɪl] ‘vagrant, beggar’
<b>gwel</b> [gwe:l] ‘field’	
<b>gwel</b> [gwe:l] ‘barm, yeast’	

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<b>gwyls</b> [gwɪlz] ‘wild’	<b>hòn</b> [hɔn] ‘that’
<b>gwyn</b> [gwi:n] ‘wine’	<b>hònd</b> [ho:nd] ‘hound’
<b>gwyns</b> [gwi:nz] ‘wind’	<b>hordh</b> [hɔ:ð], [hɔ:] ‘ram’ (in poetry <b>hor</b> )
<b>gwyns</b> [gwi:nz] ‘windlass’	<b>horn</b> [hɔ:m] ‘iron’
<b>gwyr</b> [gwi:ɹ] ‘true’	<b>hos</b> [ho:z] ‘hoarse’
<b>gwys</b> [gwi:z] ‘breeding sow’	<b>hòs</b> [ho:z] ‘duck’
<b>gwysk</b> [gwi:sk] ‘clothes, apparel’	<b>hot</b> [hɔt] ‘hat’
<b>gwysk</b> [gwi:sk] ‘strikes’	<b>howl</b> [hoʊl] ‘sun’
<b>gwyw</b> [gwiʊ] ‘worthy’	<b>huedh</b> [hø:ð], [he:ð] ‘at ease’
<b>gyk</b> [gɪk] ‘least sound’	<b>huk</b> [hɪk], [hɪk] ‘hooded cloak’
<b>gyl</b> [gi:l] ‘guile, trickery’	<b>hun</b> [hy:n], [hi:n] ‘sleep’
<b>gyrr</b> [gi:ɹ] ‘gripes’	<b>hus</b> [hy:z], [hi:z] ‘magic’
<b>gys</b> [gi:z] ‘fashion, guise’	<b>hy</b> [hi:], [həi] ‘she’
<b>*ha</b> [ha] ‘and’	<b>hyg</b> [hi:g] ‘hook’
<b>haf</b> [hæ:v] ‘summer’	<b>hyr</b> [hi:ɹ] ‘long’
<b>hal</b> [hæ:l] ‘moor, down’	<b>jag</b> [dʒæ:g] ‘jolt’
<b>hap</b> [hæp] ‘chance’	<b>jàm</b> [dʒæm] ‘jam’
<b>heb</b> [he:b] ‘without’	<b>jêt</b> [dʒe:t] ‘jot, iota’
<b>hedh</b> [he:ð] ‘ceases’	<b>jîst</b> [dʒi:st] ‘beam, joist’
<b>hêl</b> [he:l] ‘hall’	<b>jùj</b> [dʒʊdʒ] ‘judge’
<b>hel</b> [he:l] ‘generous’	<b>joust</b> [dʒu:st] ‘joust’
<b>hell</b> [hɛl] ‘tardy, reluctant’	<b>jynn</b> [dʒɪn] ‘contrivance’
<b>hèm</b> [hɛm] ‘this’	<b>kê</b> [ke:] ‘go’
<b>hen</b> [he:n] ‘old’	<b>ke</b> [ke:] ‘hedge’
<b>hèn</b> [hɛn] ‘that’	<b>kel</b> [ke:l] ‘hiding, shelter’
<b>hern</b> [hɛ:m] ‘pilchards’	<b>kell</b> [kɛl] ‘testicle’
<b>hes</b> [he:z] ‘length’	<b>Kelt</b> [kɛlt] ‘Celt’
<b>hes</b> [he:z] ‘swarm’	<b>ken</b> [ke:n] ‘cause, case’
<b>hes</b> [he:z] ‘swarms’	<b>ken</b> [ke:m] ‘other’
<b>hesp</b> [hɛsp] ‘hasp’	<b>kèn</b> [kɛn] ‘skin, peel’
<b>heyl</b> [həil] ‘estuary’	<b>kerdh</b> [kɛ:ð] ‘walk!’
<b>hogh</b> [ho:x] ‘pig’	<b>kergh</b> [kɛ:ɹ] ‘oats’
<b>hòk</b> [ho:k] ‘hawk’	<b>kern</b> [kɛ:m] ‘round’
<b>hol</b> [ho:l] ‘whole’	<b>keth</b> [ke:θ] ‘slave’
<b>hol</b> [ho:l] ‘follows’	<b>kèth</b> [kɛθ] ‘same’
<b>hòm</b> [hɔm] ‘this’	

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<b>kew</b> [kiʊ] ‘enclosure’	<b>lesk</b> [ləsk] ‘rocking’
<b>keyn</b> [kəɪn] ‘back’	<b>leth</b> [le:θ] ‘milk’
<b>knack</b> [knæk] ‘crack’	<b>lew</b> [liʊ] ‘mist’
<b>knes</b> [kne:z] ‘skin’	<b>lêw</b> [leʊ] ‘rudder’
<b>knew</b> [kniʊ] ‘fleece’	<b>lewgh</b> [liʊx] ‘calf’
<b>know</b> [knou] ‘nuts’	<b>lo</b> [lo:] ‘spoon’
<b>knouk</b> [knu:k] ‘knock’	<b>lobm</b> [lɔʰm], [lɔm] ‘bare, naked’
<b>ky</b> [ki:], [kəi] ‘dog’	<b>lodn</b> [lɔʰn], [lɔn] ‘animal, brute’
<b>kyf</b> [ki:v] ‘gets’	<b>log</b> [lo:g] ‘monastic cell’
<b>kyg</b> [ki:g] ‘flesh, meat’	<b>logh</b> [lo:x] ‘lake, inlet’
<b>kyl</b> [ki:l] ‘skittle’	<b>logh</b> [lo:x] ‘remiss’
<b>kyll</b> [kɪl] ‘nook’	<b>lôk</b> [lo:k] ‘look’
<b>kyng</b> [kɪŋ] ‘king’	<b>long</b> [lɔŋ] ‘belongs’
<b>kyns</b> [kɪnz] ‘before’	<b>lonk</b> [lɔŋk] ‘gullet’
<b>kyst</b> [kɪst] ‘chest’	<b>lour</b> [lu:ɹ] ‘moon’
<b>labm</b> [læʰm], [læm] ‘jump’	<b>lorgh</b> [lɔɹx] ‘staff’
<b>labm</b> [læʰm], [læm] ‘jump!’	<b>los</b> [lo:z] ‘soiled’
<b>ladn</b> [læʰn], [læn] ‘monastic enclosure’	<b>loss</b> [lɔs] ‘loss’
<b>lash</b> [læʃ] ‘lash’	<b>lost</b> [lɔst] ‘tail’
<b>læss</b> [læs] ‘lace’	<b>lous</b> [lu:z] ‘grey’
<b>last</b> [læst] ‘nastiness’	<b>low</b> [loʊ] ‘lice’
<b>làth</b> [læθ] ‘yard’	<b>lows</b> [louz] ‘negligent’
<b>lay</b> [læi] ‘religious law’	<b>lu</b> [liʊ] ‘army’
<b>le</b> [le:] ‘place’	<b>lùk</b> [lɔk] ‘enough’
<b>le</b> [le:] ‘less’	<b>lùk</b> [lɔk] ‘luck’
<b>led</b> [le:d] ‘lead!’	<b>luer</b> [lø:ɹ], [le:ɹ] ‘ground, floor’
<b>ledn</b> [leʰn], [lɛn] ‘cloth’	<b>Lun</b> [ly:m], [li:m] ‘Monday’
<b>lef</b> [le:v] ‘voice’	<b>lùst</b> [lɔst] ‘lust, desire’
<b>leg</b> [le:g] ‘lay, non-clerical’	<b>ly</b> [li:] ‘lunch’
<b>leggh</b> [le:x] ‘flat rock’	<b>lybm</b> [lɹʰm], [lɪm] ‘sharp’
<b>len</b> [le:n] ‘faithful’	<b>lyf</b> [li:v] ‘flood’
<b>lergh</b> [lɛɹx] ‘track’	<b>lym</b> [li:m] ‘lime’
<b>les</b> [le:z] ‘width’	<b>lyn</b> [li:n] ‘flax’
<b>les</b> [le:z] ‘profit, advantage’	<b>lyn</b> [li:n] ‘line’
<b>lês</b> [le:z] ‘court’	<b>lynn</b> [lɪn] ‘fluid, liquid’
	<b>lys</b> [li:z] ‘mud’

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<b>lyst</b> [list] ‘list-yard’	<b>meth</b> [me:θ] ‘fosterage’
<b>lyth</b> [li:θ] ‘flounder’	<b>mèth</b> [mɛθ] ‘shame’
<b>lyw</b> [liʊ] ‘colour’	<b>mèth</b> [mɛθ] ‘failure’
<b>mab</b> [mæ:b] ‘son’	<b>meyth</b> [mɛiθ] ‘whey’
<b>mad</b> [mæ:d] ‘mad’	<b>mog</b> [mo:g] ‘smoke’
<b>mal</b> [mæ:l] ‘blast, the Devil!’	<b>mogh</b> [mo:x] ‘pigs’
<b>màl</b> [mæl] ‘readiness’	<b>mol</b> [mo:l] ‘clot’
<b>mabm</b> [mæ <sup>b</sup> m], [mæm] ‘mother’	<b>mol</b> [mo:l] ‘bald, round-topped’
<b>màn</b> [mæn] ‘anything, nothing’	<b>mon</b> [mo:n] ‘slender’
<b>mans</b> [mænz] ‘crippled’	<b>mòn</b> [mɔn] ‘fish offal’
<b>màr</b> [mɔ:ɹ] ‘as’	<b>mor</b> [mo:ɹ] ‘sea’
<b>màr</b> [mɔ:ɹ] ‘if, doubt’	<b>môr</b> [mo:ɹ] ‘blackberries’
<b>margh</b> [mɔ:ɹx] ‘horse’	<b>mos</b> [mo:z] ‘go’
<b>marth</b> [mɔ:ɹθ] ‘astonishment’	<b>most</b> [mɔst] ‘dirty water’
<b>mas</b> [mæ:z] ‘good’	<b>moy</b> [mɔi], [mɔi] ‘more’
<b>maw</b> [mæʊ] ‘boy’	<b>mous</b> [mu:z] ‘table’
<b>Me</b> [me:] ‘May’	<b>muer</b> [mø:ɹ], [me:ɹ] ‘great’
<b>medh</b> [me:ð] ‘mead’	<b>mûn</b> [mu:n] ‘mineral ore’
<b>mèdh</b> [mɛð] ‘says’	<b>mûs</b> [mu:z] ‘moss’
<b>medn</b> [mɛ <sup>d</sup> n], [mɛn] ‘will’	<b>myl</b> [mi:l] ‘thousand’
<b>meg</b> [me:g] ‘smokes’	<b>myl</b> [mi:l] ‘animal’
<b>mel</b> [me:l] ‘honey’	<b>myll</b> [mil] ‘poppy’
<b>mell</b> [mɛl] ‘joint’	<b>myn</b> [mi:n] ‘edge, mouth’
<b>mêk</b> [me:k] ‘pretends’	<b>myr</b> [mi:ɹ] ‘appearance’
<b>men</b> [me:n] ‘stone’	<b>myr</b> [mi:ɹ] ‘look!’
<b>men</b> [me:n] ‘powerful’	<b>myrr</b> [mɹɹ] ‘myrrh’
<b>mèn</b> [mɛn] ‘kid goat’	<b>mys</b> [mi:z] ‘month’
<b>mens</b> [mɛnz] ‘amount, size’	<b>nagh</b> [næ:x] ‘denial’
<b>mer</b> [me:ɹ] ‘mayor’	<b>nàm</b> [næm] ‘fault’
<b>mergh</b> [mɛ:ɹx] ‘daughter’	<b>nàth</b> [næθ] ‘puffin’
<b>merk</b> [mɛ:k] ‘mark’	<b>naw</b> [næʊ] ‘nine’
<b>Merth</b> [mɛ:ɹθ] ‘Tuesday’	<b>neb</b> [ne:b] ‘some’
<b>mes</b> [me:z] ‘thumb’	<b>nef</b> [ne:v] ‘heaven’
<b>mès</b> [mɛz] ‘but’	<b>nen</b> [ne:n] ‘roof, ceiling’
<b>mesk</b> [mɛsk] ‘middle’	<b>nes</b> [ne:z] ‘nearer’
	<b>neyth</b> [nɛiθ] ‘nest’

**A PROPOSED SINGLE WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

<b>nor</b> [no:ɹ] ‘world’	<b>pâs</b> [pæ:z], [pɔ:z] ‘cough’
<b>nos</b> [no:z] ‘night’	<b>Pask</b> [pæsk] ‘Easter’
<b>nôs</b> [nɔz] ‘mark, token’	<b>pass</b> [pæs] ‘pace’
<b>noth</b> [no:θ] ‘naked’	<b>pât</b> [pæ:t] ‘pate’
<b>nown</b> [noʊn] ‘hunger’	<b>paw</b> [pæʊ] ‘paw’
<b>noy</b> [nɔi] ‘nephew’	<b>pâyn</b> [pe:n] ‘pain’
<b>noys</b> [nɔiz] ‘noise’	<b>pâys</b> [pe:z] ‘peace!’
<b>nues</b> [nø:z], [ne:z] ‘thread’	<b>pe</b> [pe:] ‘pay’
<b>o</b> [o:] ‘was’	<b>pedn</b> [pe <sup>d</sup> n], [pen] ‘head’
<b>ogh</b> [o:x] ‘oh’	<b>pegh</b> [pe:x] ‘sin’
<b>ol</b> [o:l] ‘track’	<b>pêk</b> [pe:k] ‘pitch’
<b>oll</b> [ɔl] ‘all’	<b>pel</b> [pe:l] ‘ball’
<b>on</b> [o:n] ‘we are’	<b>pell</b> [pɛl] ‘far’
<b>ôn</b> [o:n] ‘lamb’	<b>per</b> [pe:ɹ] ‘pears’
<b>or</b> [o:ɹ] ‘very cold’	<b>pêr</b> [pe:ɹ] ‘cauldron’
<b>òr</b> [ɔɹ] ‘edge’	<b>pes</b> [pe:z] ‘continues’
<b>ors</b> [ɔɹs] ‘bear’	<b>pèth</b> [peθ] ‘thing; property’
<b>ôst</b> [o:st] ‘host, army’	<b>pla</b> [plæ:] ‘plague, pest’
<b>ôst</b> [o:st] ‘host’	<b>plag</b> [plæ:g] ‘plague’
<b>ous</b> [u:z] ‘age’	<b>plank</b> [plæŋk] ‘plank’
<b>ow</b> [oʊ], [ə] ‘my’	<b>plas</b> [plæ:z] ‘mansion’
<b>own</b> [oʊn] ‘fear’	<b>plass</b> [plæs] ‘place at table’
<b>owr</b> [oʊɹ] ‘hour’	<b>plât</b> [plæ:t] ‘plate’
<b>owr</b> [oʊɹ] ‘gold’	<b>platt</b> [plæt] ‘splayed’
<b>oy</b> [ɔi] ‘egg’	<b>plâyn</b> [ple:n] ‘full, complete’
<b>oyl</b> [ɔil] ‘oil’	<b>pleg</b> [ple:g] ‘yields, pleases’
<b>pab</b> [pæ:b] ‘pope’	<b>plen</b> [ple:n] ‘arena’
<b>padn</b> [pæ <sup>d</sup> n] ‘cloth’	<b>plet</b> [plɛt] ‘plight’
<b>pal</b> [pæ:l] ‘shovel’	<b>pleth</b> [ple:θ] ‘plait of hair’
<b>pall</b> [pæl] ‘pall’	<b>plew</b> [pliʊ] ‘parish’
<b>palm</b> [pælm] ‘palm’	<b>plobm</b> [plɔ <sup>b</sup> m], [plɔm] ‘lead’
<b>pals</b> [pɔlz] ‘plentiful’	<b>plos</b> [plo:z] ‘dirty’
<b>pàn</b> [pæn] ‘when’	<b>plownt</b> [ploʊnt] ‘disseminates’
<b>par</b> [pɔ:ɹ] ‘equal’	<b>pluf</b> [ply:v], [pli:v] ‘feathers’
<b>part</b> [pɔɹt] ‘part’	<b>pob</b> [pɔ:b] ‘everybody’
<b>parth</b> [pɔɹθ] ‘part, side’	<b>pòr</b> [pɔɹ] ‘very’



A PROPOSED SINGLE WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<b>pow</b> [pou] ‘country’	<b>re</b> [ɹe:] ‘some’
<b>pows</b> [pouz] ‘garment’	<b>re</b> [ɹe:] ‘too much’
<b>poynt</b> [pɔɪnt] ‘point’	<b>red</b> [ɹe:d] ‘reads’
<b>pras</b> [pɹæ:z] ‘meadow’	<b>ref</b> [ɹe:v] ‘shovel’
<b>pratt</b> [pɹæt] ‘trick’	<b>reff</b> [ɹɛf] ‘presumption’
<b>predn</b> [pɹɛ <sup>d</sup> n], [pɹɛn] ‘tree, log’	<b>rent</b> [ɹɛnt] ‘rent’
<b>pref</b> [pɹe:v] ‘reptile’	<b>res</b> [ɹe:z] ‘necessity’
<b>pres</b> [pɹe:z] ‘time, meal’	<b>res</b> [ɹe:z] ‘ford’
<b>prest</b> [pɹɛst] ‘ready’	<b>rew</b> [ɹiʊ] ‘succession, line’
<b>prof</b> [pɹo:v] ‘proof’	<b>rêw</b> [ɹeʊ] ‘frost’
<b>prow</b> [pɹioʊ] ‘advantage’	<b>rêwl</b> [ɹeʊl] ‘rule’
<b>prowt</b> [pɹioʊt] ‘proud’	<b>ro</b> [ɹo:] ‘gift’
<b>pryck</b> [pɹɪk] ‘point’	<b>rol</b> [ɹo:l] ‘list’
<b>prys</b> [pɹi:z] ‘price’	<b>rom</b> [ɹo:m] ‘room’
<b>pùb</b> [pʊb] ‘every’	<b>Rom</b> [ɹo:m] ‘Rome’
<b>pur</b> [py:ɹ], [pi:ɹ] ‘pure, inveterate’	<b>ros</b> [ɹo:z] ‘gave’
<b>pyb</b> [pi:b] ‘pipe’	<b>ros</b> [ɹo:z] ‘roses’
<b>pydn</b> [pɹ <sup>d</sup> n], [pɹm] ‘pin’	<b>rôs</b> [ɹo:z] ‘heathland’
<b>pyl</b> [pi:l] ‘hillock’	<b>roth</b> [ɹo:θ] ‘order, form’
<b>pyl</b> [pi:l] ‘head of arrow’	<b>rous</b> [ɹu:z] ‘net’
<b>pyn</b> [pi:n] ‘pain, punishment’	<b>row</b> [ɹioʊ] ‘row of houses’
<b>pys</b> [pi:z] ‘begs’	<b>rudh</b> [ɹy:ð], [ɹi:ð] ‘red’
<b>pys</b> [pi:z] ‘paid, satisfied’	<b>ruen</b> [ɹø:n], [ɹe:n] ‘seal (mammal)’
<b>pysk</b> [pɹɪsk] ‘fish’	<b>ruen</b> [ɹø:n], [ɹe:n] ‘horsehair’
<b>pytt</b> [pɪt] ‘pit’	<b>rusk</b> [ɹɹsk], [ɹɹsk] ‘rind’
<b>pyth</b> [pi:θ] ‘stingy’	<b>rûth</b> [ɹu:θ] ‘crowd’
<b>pyw</b> [piʊ] ‘who’	<b>ry</b> [ɹi:], [ɹɔi] ‘give’
<b>qwart</b> [kwɔɹt] ‘quart’	<b>rych</b> [ɹɪtʃ] ‘rich’
<b>qwèth</b> [kwɛθ] ‘garment’	<b>rym</b> [ɹi:m] ‘rhyme’
<b>qwît</b> [kwɪ:t] ‘wholly’	<b>ryn</b> [ɹi:n] ‘promontory’
<b>qwyck</b> [kwɪk] ‘quick’	<b>sad</b> [sæ:d] ‘grave’
<b>qwyt</b> [kwɪt] ‘free, quit’	<b>saf</b> [sæ:v] ‘erect posture’
<b>rag</b> [ɹæ:g] ‘for’	<b>saf</b> [sæ:v] ‘stand!’
<b>radn</b> [ɹæ <sup>d</sup> n], [ɹɛn] ‘share’	<b>sagh</b> [sæ:x] ‘bag’
<b>ras</b> [ɹæ:z] ‘grace, blessing’	<b>sall</b> [sæl] ‘salted’

A PROPOSED SINGLE WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

<b>saw</b> [sæʊ] ‘load’	<b>slym</b> [sli:m] ‘slime’
<b>saw</b> [sæʊ] ‘safe, hale’	<b>slynk</b> [sliŋk] ‘slide’
<b>scaf</b> [skæ:v] ‘light’	<b>slyp</b> [sli:p] ‘slips’
<b>scant</b> [skænt] ‘scarce’	<b>smât</b> [smæt:t] ‘hardy’
<b>scarf</b> [skɑ:f] ‘scarf, joint’	<b>smoth</b> [smo:θ] ‘smooth’
<b>scol</b> [sko:l] ‘school’	<b>snell</b> [snɛl] ‘fast’
<b>scoll</b> [skɔl] ‘waste’	<b>snod</b> [sno:d] ‘ribbon’
<b>scòn</b> [skɔn] ‘soon’	<b>sobm</b> [sɔb:m], [sɔm] ‘sum’
<b>scous</b> [sku:z] ‘shield’	<b>sogh</b> [so:x] ‘ploughshare’
<b>scout</b> [sku:t] ‘skit, howden’	<b>sogh</b> [so:x] ‘blunt’
<b>scrîff</b> [skri:f] ‘writing’	<b>sols</b> [sɔlz] ‘shilling’
<b>scrîff</b> [skri:f] ‘writes’	<b>sòn</b> [sɔn] ‘sound’
<b>scruth</b> [skɹy:θ], [skri:θ] ‘shiver’	<b>sor</b> [so:ɹ] ‘anger’
<b>scues</b> [skø:z], [ske:z] ‘shade’	<b>sos</b> [so:z] ‘friends’
<b>se</b> [se:] ‘seat’	<b>soudh</b> [su:ð] ‘job’
<b>sedh</b> [se:ð] ‘sits’	<b>souf</b> [su:f] ‘tallow’
<b>sedh</b> [se:ð] ‘depth’	<b>soul</b> [su:l] ‘soul’
<b>sef</b> [se:v] ‘stands’	<b>Sows</b> [soʊz] ‘Englishman’
<b>seg</b> [se:g] ‘brewer’s grains’	<b>sowl</b> [soʊl] ‘thatch’
<b>segh</b> [se:x] ‘dry’	<b>spal</b> [spæ:l] ‘fine, mulct’
<b>sel</b> [se:l] ‘seal’	<b>spas</b> [spæ:z] ‘space’
<b>sel</b> [se:l] ‘foundation’	<b>sped</b> [spe:d] ‘succeeds’
<b>ser</b> [se:ɹ] ‘artificer’	<b>spît</b> [spi:t] ‘spite’
<b>serth</b> [se:θ] ‘straight’	<b>spladn</b> [splæ <sup>d</sup> n], [splæn] ‘bright, clear’
<b>set</b> [set] ‘sets’	<b>spong</b> [spɔŋ] ‘sponge’
<b>seth</b> [se:θ] ‘pot, jar’	<b>sprus</b> [sprɹy:z], [spɹi:z] ‘pips’
<b>seth</b> [se:θ] ‘arrow’	<b>spyg</b> [spy:g] ‘spike’
<b>seyth</b> [sɛiθ] ‘seven’	<b>sqwatt</b> [skwæt] ‘blow, buffet’
<b>shâk</b> [ʃæ:k] ‘shakes’	<b>sqwyth</b> [skwitʃ] ‘spasm’
<b>sham</b> [ʃæ:m] ‘shame’	<b>sqwyr</b> [skwi:ɹ] ‘standard, pattern’
<b>shâp</b> [ʃæ:p] ‘shape’	<b>sqwyth</b> [skwi:θ] ‘tired’
<b>sherp</b> [ʃɛ:ɹp] ‘sharp’	<b>stag</b> [stæ:g] ‘tether’
<b>sket</b> [skɛt] ‘straightway’	<b>stanch</b> [stæntʃ] ‘watertight’
<b>skèth</b> [skeθ] ‘tatter’	<b>stap</b> [stæp] ‘step’
<b>slâk</b> [slæ:k] ‘slackens’	
<b>sley</b> [slɛi] ‘cunning’	

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<b>stark</b> [stɔ:k] ‘fixedly’	<b>tack</b> [tæk] ‘nails, secures’
<b>stât</b> [stæ:t] ‘state’	<b>tâl</b> [tæ:l], [tɔ:l] ‘forehead’
<b>stauns</b> [stɔ:ns] ‘stance’	<b>tal</b> [tæ:l] ‘pays, must’
<b>stebm</b> [stɛ <sup>b</sup> m], [stɛm] ‘bend’	<b>tan</b> [tæ:n] ‘fire’
<b>sten</b> [stɛ:n] ‘tin’	<b>tàn</b> [tæn] ‘take!’
<b>ster</b> [ste:r] ‘star’	<b>tas</b> [tæ:z] ‘father’
<b>stlaf</b> [stlæ:v] ‘lispings’	<b>te</b> [te:] ‘tea’
<b>stoff</b> [stɔf] ‘goods’	<b>tedn</b> [tɛ <sup>d</sup> n], [tɛn] ‘pulls’
<b>stock</b> [stɔk] ‘stock’	<b>tɛf</b> [tɛ:v] ‘grows’
<b>stol</b> [sto:l] ‘stole’	<b>teg</b> [te:g] ‘beautiful’
<b>stowt</b> [stout] ‘stout’	<b>tell</b> [tɛl] ‘holes’
<b>straft</b> [stræft] ‘immediately’	<b>tell</b> [tɛl] ‘that’ (< <b>fatell</b> )
<b>stras</b> [stræ:z] ‘low ground’	<b>tèr</b> [tɛ:r] ‘breaks’
<b>strâyl</b> [stɛ:r] ‘mat’	<b>tes</b> [te:z] ‘heat’
<b>strâyt</b> [stræ:t] ‘straight’	<b>test</b> [tɛst] ‘witness’
<b>strech</b> [stɛtʃ] ‘delay’	<b>têw</b> [te:w] ‘fat’
<b>strem</b> [stɛ:m] ‘stream’	<b>teyl</b> [tɔil] ‘manure’
<b>strêt</b> [stɛ:t] ‘street’	<b>teyr</b> [tɔ:r] ‘three’ (fem.)
<b>strew</b> [stɛ:r] ‘sneeze’	<b>to</b> [to:] ‘roof’
<b>strîff</b> [stɛ:r] ‘strife’	<b>tobm</b> [tɔ <sup>b</sup> m], [tɔm] ‘warm’
<b>strîk</b> [stɛ:r] ‘nimble’	<b>todn</b> [tɔ <sup>d</sup> n], [tɔn] ‘wave’
<b>strong</b> [stɔŋ] ‘stagnant’	<b>todn</b> [tɔ <sup>d</sup> n], [tɔn] ‘unploughed land’
<b>stroth</b> [stɔ:θ] ‘tight’	<b>toll</b> [tɔl] ‘hole’
<b>stryl</b> [stɛ:l] ‘curry-comb’	<b>toll</b> [tɔl] ‘tax’
<b>stryng</b> [stɛŋ] ‘clasp’	<b>toll</b> [tɔl] ‘deceit’
<b>Stûl</b> [stu:l] ‘Epiphany’	<b>ton</b> [tɔ:n] ‘tone’
<b>styf</b> [stɛ:v] ‘jet’	<b>top</b> [tɔp] ‘top’
<b>styll</b> [stɛl] ‘board’	<b>torgh</b> [tɔx] ‘boar’
<b>Sul</b> [sy:l], [si:l] ‘Sunday’	<b>torgh</b> [tɔx] ‘wreath’
<b>suel</b> [sø:l], [se:l] ‘as many’	<b>torn</b> [tɔ:n] ‘turn, time’ (but <b>y’n</b> <b>tor’ ma</b> ‘at the moment’)
<b>sur</b> [sy:r], [si:r] ‘sure’	<b>torr</b> [tɔ:r] ‘belly’
<b>swàn</b> [swɔn] ‘swan’	<b>torth</b> [tɔθ], [tɔ:r] ‘loaf’ (in poetry <b>tor</b> )
<b>syght</b> [sɛxt] ‘sight’	<b>tos</b> [to:z] ‘dough’
<b>sym</b> [si:m] ‘monkey’	
<b>syn</b> [si:n] ‘sign’	
<b>tag</b> [tæ:g] ‘suffocates’	

**A PROPOSED SINGLE WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

<b>toth</b> [to:θ] ‘haste’	<b>tyr</b> [ti:ɪ] ‘land’
<b>tour</b> [tu:ɪ] ‘tower’	<b>udn</b> [y <sup>d</sup> n], [ɣn], [ɪ <sup>d</sup> n], [m] ‘one’
<b>towch</b> [tɔʊtʃ] ‘touch, moment’	<b>uer</b> [ø:ɪ], [e:ɪ] ‘hour’
<b>towl</b> [toʊl] ‘plan’	<b>uj</b> [y:dʒ], [i:dʒ] ‘screech’
<b>townt</b> [toʊnt] ‘impudent’	<b>ûs</b> [ju:z] ‘usage’
<b>tra</b> [tɹæ:] ‘thing’	<b>uth</b> [y:θ], [i:θ] ‘horror’
<b>trap</b> [tɹæp] ‘step-stile’	<b>vas</b> [væ:z] ‘useful’
<b>tre</b> [tɹe:] ‘town’	<b>vew</b> [viʊ] ‘view’
<b>trenk</b> [tɹɛŋk] ‘sour, acid’	<b>vordh</b> [vɔɪð], [vɔɪ] ‘way’ (in poetry <b>vor</b> )
<b>tres</b> [tɹe:z] ‘way, track’	<b>voyd</b> [vɔid] ‘empty’
<b>trɛst</b> [tɹɛst] ‘trust’	<b>voys</b> [vɔiz] ‘voice’
<b>trɛth</b> [tɹe:θ] ‘sandy beach’	<b>vyl</b> [vi:l] ‘vile’
<b>trew</b> [tɹiʊ] ‘alas!’	<b>war</b> [wæ:ɪ] ‘aware’
<b>trêw</b> [tɹɛʊ] ‘spits’	<b>war</b> [wæ:ɪ] ‘beware!’
<b>tro</b> [tɹɔ:] ‘turn’	<b>wàr</b> [wɔɪ] ‘on’
<b>trobm</b> [tɹɔ <sup>b</sup> m], [tɹɔm] ‘sudden’	<b>wâst</b> [wæ:st] ‘waist’
<b>troggh</b> [tɹɔ:x] ‘cracked’	<b>well</b> [wɛl] ‘well!’
<b>trock</b> [tɹɔk] ‘large box, coffin’	<b>whaff</b> [wæf] ‘wallop’
<b>tron</b> [tɹɔ:n] ‘throne’	<b>whans</b> [wænz] ‘desire’
<b>tros</b> [tɹɔ:z] ‘noise’	<b>whath</b> [wæ:θ] ‘still, yet’
<b>trous</b> [tɹu:z] ‘foot’	<b>whɛg</b> [wɛ:g] ‘sweet’
<b>trues</b> [tɹø:z], [tɹe:z] ‘thwart, contrary’	<b>whɛgh</b> [wɛ:x] ‘six’
<b>trûth</b> [tɹu:θ] ‘trout’	<b>whɛj</b> [wɛdʒ] ‘vomits’
<b>try</b> [tɹi:], [tɹɪ] ‘three’	<b>whel</b> [wɛ:l] ‘work’
<b>tryg</b> [tɹi:g] ‘ebb’	<b>wher</b> [wɛ:ɪ] ‘ails’
<b>tryg</b> [tɹi:g] ‘will dwell’	<b>whes</b> [wɛ:z] ‘sweat’
<b>tryst</b> [tɹɪst] ‘sad’	<b>wheth</b> [wɛ:θ] ‘blast, breath’
<b>tu</b> [tiʊ] ‘side’	<b>whor</b> [wɔɔ:ɪ] ‘sister’
<b>tuedh</b> [tø:ð], [tɛ:ð] ‘melts’	<b>whyl</b> [wɪ:l] ‘beetle’
<b>tus</b> [ty:z], [ti:z] ‘people’	<b>whyp</b> [wɪp] ‘whip’
<b>ty</b> [ti:], [tɔɪ] ‘oath’	<b>woud</b> [wu:d] ‘furious’
<b>tyd</b> [ti:d] ‘tide’	<b>wrynch</b> [ɪmtʃ] ‘stratagem’
<b>tydn</b> [tɪ <sup>d</sup> n], [tn] ‘firm, tight’	<b>yagh</b> [jæ:x] ‘healthy’
<b>tym</b> [ti:m] ‘thyme’	<b>yes</b> [jɛ:z] ‘confess’
<b>tyn</b> [ti:n] ‘bottom’	<b>yeth</b> [ɛ:θ], [jɛ:θ] ‘language’

#### A PROPOSED SINGLE WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH

**yeyn** [jəin] ‘cold’

**ydn** [r<sup>d</sup>n], [m] ‘narrow’

**\*yn** [m] ‘in’

**yonk** [jɔŋk] ‘young’

**yorgh** [jɔɹx] ‘roebuck’

**yorl** [jɔɹl] ‘earl’

**yos** [jo:z] ‘hasty pudding’

**Yow** [jɔʊ] ‘Thursday’

**ys** [i:z] ‘corn’

**yw** [iʊ] ([ɪʊ] in weak stress) ‘is’

**A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

**CHAPTER TEN**

**SUMMARY OF VOWEL SPELLINGS**

This is a list of the written vowel letters and the short and long sounds they make in context with other letters. Note that this list was drawn up the weekend before the publication of Revision 11. It is an early draft and may contain errors and omissions.

<i>Written</i>	<i>when stressed and followed by</i>	<i>is pronounced</i>	<i>as</i>
<b>a</b>	<b>b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, s, th</b>	long	æ:
<b>a</b>	<b>r</b>	long	ɒ:
<b>e</b>	<b>b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, r, s, th</b>	long	e:
<b>o</b>	—	long	o:
<b>u</b>	—	long	y: ~ i:
<b>y</b>	—	long	i:
<b>i</b>	—	long	i:
<b>û</b>	<i>regardless of the following consonant, and except in <b>ûsya</b> where it is [ju:]</i>	long	u:
<b>ou</b>	<i>regardless of the following consonant</i>	long	u:
<b>ue</b>	<i>generally, regardless of the following consonant</i>	long	ø ~ e:

**A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

<b>a</b>	<b>bm, c, ch, ck, dn, k, ll, mm, nn, ns, nt, sk, ss, st, x</b>	short	æ
<b>a</b>	<b>ls, rf, rgh, rn, rr, rs, rt, rth</b> <i>and also after w</i>	short	ɒ
<b>e</b>	<b>bm, c, ch, ck, dn, k, ll, ls, mm, nn, ns, nt, rf, rgh, rn, rr, rs, rt, rth, sk, ss, st, x</b>	short	ɛ
<b>o</b>	--	short	ɔ
<b>u</b>	--	short	y ~ ɪ
<b>y</b>	--	short	ɪ
<b>i</b>	--	short	ɪ
<b>ù</b>	<i>regardless of the following consonant</i>	short	ʊ
<b>ue</b>	<i>rarely, and not in monosyllables, regardless of the following consonant</i>	short	œ ~ ɛ
<b>au</b>	<i>regardless of the following consonant</i>	short	ɔ
<b>â</b>	<b>bm, c, ch, ck, dn, k, ll, mm, nn, ns, nt, sk, ss, st, x</b>	long	æ:
<b>â</b>	<b>f, n, s</b>	long	æ: ~ ɒ:
<b>ê</b>	<b>bm, c, ch, ck, dn, k, ll, mm, nn, ns, nt, sk, ss, st, x</b>	long	e:
<b>î</b>	--	long	i:
<b>ô</b>	--	long	o:

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<b>à</b>	<b>b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, s, th</b>	short	æ
<b>â</b>	<b>r</b>	short	ɒ
<b>è</b>	<b>b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, r, s, th</b>	short	ɛ
<b>ì</b>	–"–	short	ɪ
<b>ò</b>	–"–	short	ɔ
<b>ay</b>	<i>sometimes raised to [ai]</i>		æi
<b>ây</b>	<i>always</i>	long	e:
<b>ey</b>	<i>sometimes raised to [ei] or [e:]</i>		əi
<b>oy</b>	<i>sometimes raised to [oi]</i>		ɔi
<b>aw</b>	<i>always</i>		aʊ
<b>ow</b>	<i>generally, sometimes raised to [u:]; finally often [ɔ], [ʊ], or [ə]</i>		oʊ
<b>yw</b>	<i>generally, sometimes [ɪʊ] when stressed</i>		iʊ
<b>ew</b>	–"–		iʊ
<b>u</b>	–"– <i>only in final position as in <b>du, Jesu</b></i>		iʊ
<b>êw</b>	<i>always</i>		eʊ
<b>ia</b>	<i>always</i>		i:ə



**A PROPOSED STANDARD WRITTEN FORM OF CORNISH**

<b>a</b>	<i>when unstressed, especially in final position</i>	short	ə
<b>e</b>	<i>when unstressed, especially in final position</i>	short	ə
<b>o</b>	<i>when unstressed, especially in final position</i>	short	ə
<b>y</b>	<i>when unstressed, especially in final position</i>	short	ɪ
<b>â</b>	<b>b, d, dh, g, gh, j, l, m, r, th</b> <i>orthographically, only in a few homophones</i>	long	a:
<b>ê</b>	<b>b, d, dh, f, g, gh, j, l, m, n, r, s, th</b> <i>orthographically, only in a few homophones</i>	long	e:
<b>ô</b>	–"–	long	o: