

## The Hertfordshire Dialect

The Hertfordshire dialect was part of the dialect used across the East Midlands. It had many variations of tone and inflection. The beginnings and endings of words were often clipped and sometimes letters were added to words like 'townd' and 'scrush.' The three main variations in the dialect centred on Tring, Ware and St Albans.

How many words do you know?

1. chaffer	to bargain to complain	/
2. black-'oss	a black horse a large black ant	/
3. blate	to moan to gossip	/
4. hotchel	to slow down to hurry	/
5. dint ought	shouldn't couldn't	/
6. 'edge pooper	a sparrow a duck	/
7. mazzard/croons	cherries blackberries	/
8. mizzy mozzy	confusion neat & tidy	/
9. neckid snail	a slug a dead snail	/
10. tokened	engaged to be married to make a purchase	/
11. scrats	scraps of pork fat scratches	/
12. apern	an apron to open	/
13. tack	food equipment	/
14. then a days	in times past now and again	/
15. wus, wusser, wusserer	Worse Better	/
16. pimnick	A fanciful, silly person	/

	an unpleasant person
17. moggy	an oddly dressed woman a cat /
18. joskin	an amusing person a Hertfordshire bumpkin /
A description of a Hertfordshire woman "she mun dress neat an' sootable and mind her manners, and niver goo gaddin' with flighty moggies or hob nob with a yaller faced pimmick.	
A traditional Hertfordshire rhyme Beeswax an' turpentine Thunder-pitch an' plaster, The more you try to pull it off The wuss it sticks the faster.	

Information obtained from dialect dictionaries available at Hertford Local Studies Library.

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