

Title:

Stewkley, Buckinghamshire

Shelfmark:

C908/63

Description:

Harry recalls how as a young boy he used to plait straw in order to supplement the family income. The original recording appears to have been paused on a number of occasions. Newton Longville is a village just to the north of Stewkley.

Lexis:

these here = these; *between and betwixt* = between; *afore* = before; *theirselves* = themselves; *a-two* = two; *a-four* = four; *and all* = too, also, as well; *afeard* = afraid

Phonology:

H-dropping; T-glottaling; glottal reinforcement of /t/ (*white* [wOI?t]); rhoticity

PRICE [OI]; NURSE [@`]; MOUTH [EU]; NORTH [O@`]; FACE [{}I]; LETTER [@`]

note also *Newton* [nu:?=n], *laugh* [lA:f], *off* [O:f], *certain* [s@`?=n], *blue* [blIU], *go* [gu:], *splitters* [splI?@`z] and *splitting* [splI?In], *plaiting* [pla?In], *seen* [sIn], *with* [wI] and *didn't* [dIn?]

Grammar:

preterite *come* (*there was a baker come from Newton Longville*)

zero relative pronoun (*there was a baker_ come from Newton Longville*); relative pronoun → *as* (*you seen these straw hats as they come round with*)

preterite *begun* (*that made me laugh when I begun to think about such things*)

there was + plural complement (*there was three of these here bundles of straws*)

third person feminine subject pronoun → *her* (*her can tell you that*)

third person singular *were* (*weren't the other, Mrs. Beesley, between and betwixt them we'll say; what were it, Mrs. Beesley?; there were one bundle left*); first person singular *were* (*you can tell what a nice boy I were; I were dreading and afeard of that*); second person *was* (*if you was to talk about splitting and plaiting today with these younger ones*)

complementiser, *that* → *as* (*I don't know as they were laid on the tea table; I don't know as they were laid there*)

adjective as adverb (*every one of these straws had to go through separate; so they plait easier*)

zero indefinite article (*you can get out to play for _ hour*)

zero auxiliary (*you _ seen these straw hats as they come round with*)

note the construction *as soon ever you had your tea* = as soon as you'd had your tea

