

## Byker High Pit Mine

Byker was a high pit mine located in the Newcastle district of Byker.[4] Although no records survive of any mine called "Walker Shore," Walker Collier owned several pits in the neighboring district of Walker.[5] One theory suggests that "Walker Shore" was thus named or nicknamed by reason of its being coastal and extending out under the North Sea;[6] this seems unlikely, as the district is situated ten kilometers inland from the coast. However, some of Walker's pits lay quite close to the river Tyne, so the name may be a reference to the river shore.

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## Gill

A **gill** (pronounced "jill") is a measure of drink similar to a dram, typically 1/4 of a standard English pint.

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## Bumble

This verse was borrowed from *Elsie Marley*[7], and the word was originally "bumbo," which referred to a drink made with liquor, sugar, and water, as well as occasionally spices or fruit.[8] It appears unrelated to modern "bumble" or "bumble bee" cocktails involving honey and gin.[9]

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## The Elsie Marley

The *Elsie Marley* is a jig named for an 18th-century alewife who, along with her husband Ralph, ran a successful public house in County Durham and became somewhat of a local celebrity.[10]

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## Pitman and Keelman

- **Pitman:** A term for any coal miner.
  - **Keelman:** A worker who operated a "keel" — a large, flat-bottomed boat used for transporting coal during the 19th century, common to the Tyne.
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## Trim

**Trim** refers to the process of coal trimming — miners and dockworkers would labor to level out the coal stored in the ship's hold to ensure that it was safe to travel.[11]

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## Geordie Charlton and His Pig

Geordie Charlton and his pig are mentioned in a few other songs (including some versions of *Haul Away Joe*), suggesting that he may have been a contemporary folk figure.