One of the charms of *Word Ways* is to discover the more offbeat communities of the United States which feature in the various articles of its contributors. This factor has even extended to my first reply from a reader of the magazine to my recent request for words of an unusual lexical property ("A Trivial Challenge", February 1989); Martin Gardner drew my attention to the alternate Os of the Wisconsin town Oconomowoc. However, Great Britain has its share of curiously-named towns and villages, and a small selection of these may be of interest.

**COUNTRIES** Egypt, Canada, America, Bohemia, Holland, Ireland, Rhodesia, Scotland, Gibraltar, Palestine, New Zealand

**CITIES, REGIONS** Paris, Canton, Dallas, Dublin, Ostend, Arcadia, Calgary, Dunkirk, New York, Toronto, Normandy, Bethlehem, Charleston, Georgetown, Sebastopol, Philadelphia (I omit examples such as Boston, where the American city has taken its name directly from its British counterpart)

**PEOPLE** Paul, Clive, Lionel, Martin, Charles, Patrick, Shirley, Winston (there is also a Churchill), Mark Cross, Bolton Percy, Burton Agnes, Edith Weston, Countess Wear, Mavis Enderby, Margaret Marsh, Constable Burton (I omit examples such as Cromwell and Washington where the famous surnames denote ancestral origin)

**CREATURES** Ram, Seal, Bunny, Eagle, Potto, Swine, Badger, Black Dog, Barnacle, Cowbit, Duck End, Foxhole, Catbrain, Frog Pool, Crow's Nest, Mousehole, Dog Village, Donkey Town, Duck's Cross

**MISCELLANEOUS** Box, Sea, Ball, Bank, Bean, Beer, Boot, Drum, Gang, Hive, Hole, Lake, Pill, Pool, Sand, Shop, Booze, Brawl, Bride, Bugle, Drift, Fence, Racks, Shelf, Walls, Barley, Barrow, Street, Twenty, Bottoms, Letters, Mucking, Pity Me, Cold Ash, Wide Open, Baker's End, Clock Face, Fairy Cross, Four Throws, Row-of-Trees, Shop Street, Westward Ho, Above Church, Collier's End, Great Snoring, Indian Queens, Cross o' th' Hands, Heart's Delight, Hole-in-the-Wall, Little Comfort, Little Snoring, Plain Dealings, Lower Slaughter, Sixpenny Handley, Barton in the Beans

To set a different ball rolling, the following are the names of British rivers: E, Ba, Og, Add, Ant, Ash, Axe, Box, Doe, Eye, Roy, Rue, Sid, Abel, Alan, Bank, Bran, Bray, Cary, Dane, Dart, Deer, Dove, Earn, Hart, Hope, Idle, Lark, Liza, Mint, Mole, Pang, Pant, Quin, Sand, Shin, Tame, Test, Till, Tone, Went, Wolf, Abbey, Amber, Brain, Bride, Broon, Camel, Chess, Clown, Cover, Creed, Dutch, Fleet, Foulness, Ale, Water, Luther Water, Burn, prefixed nor as a suffix, delights as River.

We Brits also have names (a true one for Brown Willy, our Chicken Head, for example)

Our waterfalls are Thirlmere, Mare's Tail, Nuns

For outcrops there are Old Man of Hoy, The Anchor

Three lakes are Durness, Dam.

Even sandbars have Survey Maps

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