IGPAY WORDS

ANIL
Perth, Australia

I remember loving to converse in Pig Latin (PL) when I was young. (To speak it, start each word with its first vowel, move the preceding consonant/s to the end and add a long A.) Some PL has even entered the language through frequent use (ixnay; amscray!). A couple of PL allusions in the November 2005 Kickshaws inspired me to seek words which in PL become other words phonetically. It’s a bit like Spoonerisms and beheadment synonyms (04-129). Richard Lederer had fun with PL in his delightful Word Circus (Merriam-Webster,’98) and reported eight of the ‘igpay words’ given below. I’ve expanded his list considerably by a systematic study of them with the help of M-W’s rhyming dictionary. I also sought igpay phrases, but I found so many that I quit looking and present only a few of the more apt or amusing examples.

1. IGPAY WORDS

Surprisingly, most pairs are affinitives [as noted]. All words are in Webster’s 3rd NI ‘86 except outspray (nonce vb or n., spray out or what’s sprayed out), unstay (backform.) and vin (French wine).

| bow obey | obeay arrow-dynamics |
| Beau, obey! | watchry of a dominatrix |
| Coke OK | You owe me big for this, C-CI |
| job objet (d’art) | |
| KO A-OK! | antonyms |
| lag agley | prisoner, gone wrong |
| linter interlay | |
| Lo! Olé! | two emotional interjections |
| oh oyez | ditto (linked meanings, Lo = Oyez) |
| lout outlay | extortion, blackmail, freeloading |
| ‘lug’ ugly | stereotypic movie thug |
| plover overplay | |
| plunder underplay | antonyms of sorts |
| rare array | phrase |
| rue hooray | antonyms |
| sass assay | |

2. definitive or redolent IGPAY PHRASES

| brass ass bray | |
| center inter se | within the local circle |
| cheek Eek–Che! | a cheeky ghost |
| clod odd clay | |
| darg ‘arg’! day | an arg day’s work |
| denned ‘in’ day. | or how you end day |
| frill ‘ill fray!’ | minimalism |
| Hate ate, hey? | ate at your insides |
| hedge edge ‘hay’ | |

Kew UK [where it’s at, Gardens-wise]
lass Ass! (Lay?) [male chauvinist igpay]
loaf Oaf lay.
mold Old may. [oldies but moldies]
pew You pay. [coin-operated religion]
pill Ill? Pay! [hard to swallow]
please ease; play [two pleasing nouns]
preach: ‘Each pray.’
predator Editor, prey!
prize Eyes pray. [for it]
profit Off it, pray! [Quit profiteering!]
sacks Ax, eh? [Fires from job.]
sasses ass's say
send End say. [Designate destination.]
sex pose exposé
silly Illy say. [sick humour?]
stall All stay.
stiff If stay. [...dead]
stopped Opt stay.
bark Ark bay [the bark of a bay tree Noah saved from drowning, plus where he kept it, and its guard dog's cry]
‘Fate 8’, fey [perfume ad, “between 7th heaven and cloud 9”]
fowl owl, fey [It’s a bird! It’s a fowl?? It’s supernatural!]
penned End pay. [Pay for your crime—and no more paychecks.]
psychology Eye-college, ye say? [the academic mind’s eye]
puppet ‘up it’ pay [All a dummy gets paid is a hand up its bum.]
slower Ower—sly! [Pay your debts on time or else!]
stern ‘Earn stay!’ [stem parent: “No free ride for my kids!”]
sure your shay [Sho you shay. You’re “sure loaded”!]

Antonyms
bin in-bay [Rubbish!]
plod Odd play! [antonym trying to be a synonym]

3. IGPAY COMPOUNDS
dahl all day, haul all hay, worthy earthy way [life in India]
daily aily day, sour our say, poor o’er pay, dour our day [whinger in India?]
fart Art fey waft, aft-way.
prance Ants prey? Ant spray! [Ants prance in your pants? Ants pay to get in there.]
“View? You’ve a psychic eye kick’s A!” [realtor’s spiel]

Two Choosy Customers
Growl-Al Gray? Dolly Holiday?
Nell: Hell nay! Noah: Oh, a nay.
Crass-Ass Cray? Fanny Annie Fay?
Nell: Hell nay! Noah: Oh, a nay.
Rich-Itch Ray? ‘Phallus’ Alice Faye?
Nell: Hell nay! Noah: Oh, a nay!

(Nell-Noah! (?) HEL NO, A NAY!)

Not Choosy
Manned—and Mac! (West)
[Where there’s a willy there’s a Mae.]

Already Chosen
Zoe & Jose & Jo & OJ
[Inseparable despite Jo & OJ having palindromia]

“King for a Day” rotating Dictatorship roster:
Darwin’s czar Wednesday.
Dewthers, you Thursday.
Don Fry on Friday
‘Dimes’ Hatter, I’m Saturday.

Dyson, eye Sunday.
Damon, a Monday
Rex ‘X-ray Dentist’ Hugh’s in ’tis Tuesday.