



# New Frontiers in Memory Studies



**Natalie Braber (Nottingham Trent)**

Working with 'Pit Talk', the Language of  
Coal Miners in the East Midlands

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This talk explores the unique words and phrases used by coal miners in the East Midlands, revealing how language shaped their working lives and communities. Through oral history interviews, miners shared stories about the terms they used underground and how these changed when people moved in from other regions, like the North-East and Scotland. These conversations show that mining language was more than technical – it was part of local identity and culture. Many miners did not realise how important their words were, but they form a vital part of this heritage. Preserving this language helps keep the history and voices of mining alive.



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