The Slovene word 
'charcoal' belongs to a well-established family of words in Indo-European, among them Vedic Sanskrit ángāram, Modern Persian angist, Old Russian anglis, Lithuanian anglis, Russian ugol', Polish węgiel, all with the meaning 'coal' or, more primitively, 'glowing coal,' that is to say: fire preserved in the form of hot embers that are kept alive and then rekindled by blowing on the flame. But there is another kindred word-group belonging to the British Isles that has not been connected with oglje and its cognates until now.

This group in first attested in a glossary of the tenth century as Old Irish aingel 'light, fire,' with the explanation solus nó griaanda nó fáilid 'light, either sunny or joyous.' In Modern Irish and Scots Gaelic the word has the form aingeal, in Manx the form aile. But from Scots Gaelic, in the early sixteenth century, English borrowed the term as ingle 'fire,' a word abundantly attested in the northern British dialects and in the compound inglenook 'the nook or corner beside the hearthfire; chimney corner.' These affinities have been noted by Alexander MacBain in his etymological dictionary of Scots Gaelic, but have been ignored by Slavicists. The earliest attested instance of the English word is from 1508, the very beginning of the Modern English period.

The English homonym ingle 'catamite' is not connected. Albanian has the word thëngjill 'coal, glowing coal,' which Vittore Pisani sought to ascribe to an Indo-European form with initial *k-, but which Norbert Jokl had decades earlier explained as a loanword from the South Slavic *vogil.'

In Modern Slovene oglje has narrowed its meaning to 'charcoal,' so that France Bezlj is misleading when he glosses the Baltic and Indic cognates with 'oglje.' The Contemporary Slovene equivalent of 'coal' is, rather, premo. The wide distribution of the Indo-European etymon, from Vedic Sanskrit to Modern Irish, points to an origin in distant antiquity, when man had not as yet learned to make fire, but could only keep it alive in the form of glowing embers for future use. At the same time, for reasons that I shall set forth in detail elsewhere, I would deny any connection between this word and Slovene oganj, Lithuanian ugnis and Latin ignis 'fire,' which I ascribe to a later stage of prehistory.

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NOTES

4. The earliest quotation of ingle in this meaning is from Thomas Nashe’s Strange News of 1592; another occurs in Ben Jonson’s Epicene of 1609. Jonson employs the variant ningle in The Case Is Altered of 1598. Both forms were also used as verbs, as is attested in John Florio’s Italian-English Dictionary A World of Words of 1598, and in Giovanni Torriano’s 1659 revision of Florio entitled A Dictionary Italian and English. Although the origin of this word is unknown, J.Z. Eglinton has suggested to me that the source is the homonym aingeal in Irish.
and Scots Gaelic with the meaning 'angel', from Medieval Latin angelus, whence also Lithuanian ėngelas and Slovene angel. The borrowing late in the Elizabethan era may have been facilitated by the earlier adaptation of aingeal to ingle 'fire', and the erotic connotations of the homonym gave inglenook itself the slang meaning 'female pudendum.'

