

**Title:**

Wisbech, Cambridgeshire

**Shelfmark:**

C1190/08/05

**Recording date:**

24.03.2005

**Speakers:**

Barnes, Chris, b. 1980 Wisbech; male; packaging & energy supervisor (father b. Kings Lynn; mother b. Kings Lynn, post office worker)

Henson, Justin, b. 1969 Wisbech; male; cellar service manager (father b. Lincolnshire, farm labourer; mother b. Lowestoft, farm labourer)

Kirk, Herbert, b. 1953 Wisbech; male; forklift driver (father b. Wisbech, coalman; mother b. Wisbech, housewife)

Robinson, Andrew, b. 1964 Wisbech; male; stores supervisor

Robinson, Stephen, b. 1968 Wisbech; male; foreman brewer

The interviewees all work at Elgood's Brewery in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

PLEASE NOTE: this recording is still awaiting full linguistic description (i.e. phonological, grammatical and spontaneous lexical items).

A summary of the specific lexis elicited by the interviewer is given below.

**ELICITED LEXIS**

- △ see New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English (2006)
- ◀ see Roger's Profanisaurus: The Magna Farta (2007)
- ◇ see Green's Dictionary of Slang (2010)
- △ no previous source (with this sense) identified

<b>pleased</b>	<i>happy; ecstatic; great; over the moon</i>
<b>tired</b>	<i>knackered; tired</i>
<b>unwell</b>	<i>sick; ill; crap ("I feel crap")</i>
<b>hot</b>	<i>steamy; boiling</i>
<b>cold</b>	<i>freezing; fucking cold (of very cold weather)</i>
<b>annoyed</b>	<i>fed up; pissed off</i>
<b>throw</b>	<i>chuck; pelt; sling; throw</i>

<b>play truant</b>	<i>skiving; skive</i>
<b>sleep</b>	<i>going to bed; sleep; snooze; kip</i>
<b>play a game</b>	<i>play; “coming out for a laugh?”</i>
<b>hit hard</b>	<i>chuck; smack; belt; thrash; thump</i>
<b>clothes</b>	<i>clothes; threads</i> (possibly learnt from Miami Vice <sup>1</sup> ); <i>gear</i> (associated with 1960s/The Beatles <sup>2</sup> )
<b>trousers</b>	<i>trousers; jeans; strides</i> (old, used in London)
<b>child’s shoe</b>	<i>plimsolls; trainers</i>
<b>mother</b>	<i>mum; ma</i>
<b>gmother</b>	<i>nana; nan</i>
<b>m partner</b>	<i>boyfriend; mate; partner</i>
<b>friend</b>	<i>mate; pal; buddy; chum; boy</i> (common form of address locally, also used in Norfolk)
<b>gfather</b>	<i>grandad</i>
<b>forgot name</b>	<i>thingummybob<sup>Δ</sup>; whatchamacallit; thingy; boy</i> (to person); <i>old what’s-his-face<sup>Δ</sup></i> (of person)
<b>kit of tools</b>	<i>tool-box; tool-kit</i> (suggested by interviewer)
<b>trendy</b>	<i>prat<sup>Δ</sup>; chav</i> (thought to be slang abbreviation of ‘traveller’, contested: “ <i>chavi</i> ” used of ‘gypsy’); <i>poser; pikeys</i> (suggested by interviewer, used locally of ‘gypsy’)
<b>f partner</b>	<i>the wife; missus; girlfriend; partner</i>
<b>baby</b>	<i>young’un<sup>Δ</sup>; kid; infant; kiddy</i>
<b>rain heavily</b>	<i>pissing down; pour down; piss down; pelting down</i>
<b>toilet</b>	<i>toilet; loo; bog; crapper; throne room<sup>◊</sup></i> (common locally in past especially in pub); <i>turn your bike round<sup>κ</sup></i> (“ <i>I’m just going to turn the bike round</i> ”), <i>spend a penny</i> (of ‘going to the toilet’)
<b>walkway</b>	<i>passageway; alley; passage</i>
<b>long seat</b>	<i>sofa; couch; settee</i>
<b>run water</b>	<i>stream</i>
<b>main room</b>	<i>living-room; lounge</i>
<b>rain lightly</b>	<i>drizzle; spitting; shower</i>
<b>rich</b>	<i>rich; poser; loaded</i>
<b>left-handed</b>	<i>left-handed; “a pain”<sup>◊</sup></i> (suggested jokingly); <i>cock-handed<sup>◊</sup></i>
<b>unattractive</b>	<i>minger; manky; ugly; fucking ugly</i>
<b>lack money</b>	<i>skint; poor</i>
<b>drunk</b>	<i>pissed; well on the way<sup>◊3</sup>; hammered<sup>Δ</sup>; rat-arsed, pissed as a newt</i> (of extreme drunkenness)
<b>pregnant</b>	<i>bun in the oven; up the duff; expecting; in the club</i>
<b>attractive</b>	<i>babe; fit; pretty; smart</i>
<b>insane</b>	<i>insane; mad; crazy; nuts; freak; round the twist</i>
<b>moody</b>	<i>grumpy; snotty</i>

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<sup>1</sup> US TV detective series originally broadcast on NBC between 1984 and 1989.

<sup>2</sup> 1960s Liverpool band, one of most commercially successful and critically acclaimed popular music acts of all time.

<sup>3</sup> See entries for ‘well on’ and ‘well away’.