

Title:

Dundee

Shelfmark:

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Recording date:

18.03.2005

**Speakers:**

Duke, Harvey, b. Dundee; male

McCabe, Kevin, b. Mid Craigie, Dundee; male; volunteer reporter

Robertson, Gary, b. Whitfield, Dundee; male; factory assembler

Thomson, Mark, b. St Mary's, Dundee; male; unemployed

Tole, Joseph, b. Charleston, Dundee; male; community worker

The interviewees are all performance poets and writers.

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 Dictionary of the Scots Language (online edition)
- ‡ see Linguistic Atlas of Scotland (1975-1986)
- △ see New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English (2006)
- ◇ see Green's Dictionary of Slang (2010)
- ◆ see Urban Dictionary (online)
- ◊ no previous source (with this sense) identified

pleased	<i>ower the moon</i> ¹ ; <i>chuffed</i> ; <i>made-up</i> (suggested by interviewer, used); <i>happy as fuck</i> ²
tired	<i>fucked</i> ; <i>knackered</i> ; <i>cooked</i> [△] ; <i>puggled</i> [†] (suggested by interviewer, heard used in Fife)
unwell	<i>seik</i> [†] ; <i>no well</i> [†] ; <i>no weel</i> [†]
hot	<i>biling</i> [†] (of weather/kettle); <i>roasting</i> ("roasting today"); <i>burning up</i>
cold	<i>freezing</i> ; <i>Baltic</i> [◇] ; <i>cald</i> [†]
annoyed	<i>pissed off</i> ; <i>pissed aff</i> [‡] ; "you're winding us up stop annoying us"; <i>doing/daeing my head in</i> ⁴

¹ Dictionary of the Scots Language (online) records 'ower' in sense of 'over'.

² New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English (2006) records 'as fuck' in sense of 'intensifier used in combination with adjective'.

throw	<i>chuck; lob</i> (“ <i>I’m going awa to lob that right over there</i> ” ⁵); <i>hurl</i> (thought to be derive from sport ‘hurling’)
play truant	<i>plunk; bunk</i> ^Δ (“ <i>bunk aff the school</i> ” ³); <i>plunking; skive</i> (suggested by interviewer, used of absence from work)
sleep	<i>get the head doon</i> ⁶ ; <i>crash; hae a kip</i> ⁷ ; <i>forty winks</i> (suggested by interviewer, “ <i>away for forty winks, son, give us a chap</i> ” ⁸ used by father)
play a game	<i>wind-up</i> (of teasing someone); <i>gem</i> [†] (“ <i>we’ll play a gem</i> ” of e.g. “ <i>walk the plank or join the crew</i> ” ⁹ / <i>relievo</i> ¹⁰ / <i>underairm tag</i> ¹¹ / <i>kick-the-can</i> ¹²)
hit hard	<i>skelp</i> (“ <i>I’ll skelp ye right in the mouth</i> ” ¹³ , “ <i>I’ll skelp your puss</i> ¹⁴ / <i>ers</i> ” ¹⁵); <i>bang</i> (“ <i>bang his puss</i> ” ¹⁴); <i>crack</i> (of “ <i>crack your jaa</i> ” ¹⁶ / <i>crack in the puss</i> ” ¹⁴); <i>wallop</i> (“ <i>good wallop</i> ”)
clothes	<i>claes</i> (most common); <i>glad rags; kecks</i> (“ <i>get your kecks aff</i> ” ³ used of ‘trousers’)
trousers	<i>breeks</i>
child’s shoe	<i>sannies</i> ^Δ (of “ <i>sand-shoes</i> ”); <i>plimsolls; Borstal breakouts</i> ^Δ (reference to Sham 69 song ¹⁷ used jokingly to own children)
mother	<i>mai</i> ¹⁸ (“ <i>mai and dai</i> ” ¹⁹ common locally in past for ‘mother’ and ‘father’); <i>mum; mother; ma</i>
gmother	(not discussed)
m partner	<i>him</i> ²⁰ ; <i>His Majesty</i> ²¹ ; <i>your lad</i>
friend	<i>pal; mate; buddy; mucker</i> (“ <i>mair of a Dundee word than any o the other anes</i> ” ²²); <i>nighbour</i> [†] (suggested by interviewer, “ <i>all right, neighbour</i> ” used in imitation of speakers from Fife); <i>man</i> (“ <i>all right, man, how’s it going?</i> ” used from Dundee to Forfar)
gfather	<i>grand-da</i> [†]
forgot name	<i>thingy; him; “all right, Jimmy/Jim, how’s it going, eh?”</i> (to person)

³ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘aff’ in sense of ‘off’.

⁴ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘dae’ in sense of ‘to do’.

⁵ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘awa’ in sense of ‘away’.

⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘doon’ in sense of ‘down’.

⁷ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘hae’ in sense of ‘to have’.

⁸ *OED* (online edition) records ‘chap’ in sense of ‘knock/rap at door’.

⁹ Peter & Iona Opie’s *Children’s Games in Street & Playground* (1969: 142-3) records ‘walk the plank or join the crew’ in sense of children’s chasing game.

¹⁰ Peter & Iona Opie’s *Children’s Games in Street & Playground* (1969: 173) records ‘relievo’ in sense of children’s seeking game.

¹¹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘airm’ in sense of ‘arm’; *OED* (online edition) records ‘tag’ in sense of ‘children’s chasing game’.

¹² Peter & Iona Opie’s *Children’s Games in Street & Playground* (1969: 164-6) records ‘kick-the-can’ in sense of ‘children’s chasing game’.

¹³ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’.

¹⁴ *OED* (online edition) records ‘puss’ in sense of ‘face/mouth’.

¹⁵ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ers’ in sense of ‘arse’.

¹⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘jaa’ in sense of ‘jaw’.

¹⁷ Reference, presumably, to 1978 single ‘Borstal Breakout’ by English punk band Sham 69.

¹⁸ Because, Yes’s tweet *I call my parents Mai and Dai. When someone asks who "she" is, I say, "That's my Mommy" ... but I'm childish for that? LMAO hilarious.* (16.11.18 – see https://twitter.com/Naturally_Kelz/status/136860366759137280) includes ‘mai’ in this sense.

¹⁹ Because, Yes’s tweet *I call my parents Mai and Dai. When someone asks who "she" is, I say, "That's my Mommy" ... but I'm childish for that? LMAO hilarious.* (16.11.18 – see https://twitter.com/Naturally_Kelz/status/136860366759137280) includes ‘mai’ and ‘dai’ in this sense.

²⁰ *Green’s Dictionary of Slang* (2010) records ‘her’ in sense of ‘wife’.

²¹ *Wiktionary* (<https://en.wiktionary.org/>) records ‘His Majesty’ in sense of ‘sarcastic way of referring to any pompous/bossy male’.

²² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘mair’ in sense of ‘more’, ‘o’ in sense of ‘of’ and ‘ane’ in sense of ‘one’.

kit of tools	<i>kit of tools</i>
trendy	<i>gadgie</i> ²³ (disputed: used of “ <i>tinkie</i> ” [†]); <i>mink</i> ; <i>neds</i> ; <i>minks</i> , <i>tinkies</i> [†] , <i>minks</i> [♦] (used of “ <i>puir fowk</i> ” ²⁴)
f partner	<i>her</i> [◊] ; <i>lass</i> (“ <i>your lass</i> ”); <i>burd</i> [†] (“ <i>your burd</i> ”)
baby	<i>bairn</i> ; <i>wee ane</i> [†] (pronounced “ <i>wee yin</i> ” [†] locally); <i>wain</i> [†] (used in Glasgow)
rain heavily	<i>pish doon</i> ^{Δ6} ; <i>pishing like fuck</i> ^{Δ25}
toilet	<i>bog</i> ; <i>shithouse</i> ; <i>pisshouse</i> [♦] ; <i>shitey</i> ²⁶ ; <i>throne</i> ; <i>chanty</i> [†] ; <i>watteries</i> [‡] (old); <i>dump house</i> ²⁷ (“ <i>awa for a dump</i> ” ²⁸): <i>cludgie</i> ^Δ (suggested by interviewer, used)
walkway	<i>pend</i> (used in past of e.g. “ <i>Norrie’s Pend</i> ” in Hilltown); <i>pendie</i> ²⁹ (common locally in past, not used now); <i>closie</i> [‡] ; <i>close</i>
long seat	<i>settee</i> ; <i>chair</i> ; <i>couch</i>
run water	<i>burnie</i> ³⁰ (most common locally of “ <i>wee stream</i> ”); <i>burn</i> (suggested by interviewer)
main room	<i>living-room</i>
rain lightly	<i>dreich</i> [†] ; <i>pishing drizzle</i> ^Δ
rich	<i>lucky bastard</i> ^Δ (suggested jokingly): <i>stinking wi money</i> ³¹ ; <i>minted</i> ; <i>loaded</i>
left-handed	<i>pallie jooker</i> ³² ; <i>pallie jookit</i> [‡] ; <i>jooker</i> [◊] ; <i>paddie handit</i> ³³ (used in Charleston)
unattractive	<i>dog</i> (“ <i>deputy dog</i> ” ³⁴); “ <i>ye wid gie me the bolck</i> ” ³⁵ (“ <i>bolck</i> also used for “ <i>being seik</i> ” ³⁶ i.e. ‘to vomit’ ³⁷ , “ <i>the dry bolck</i> ” used for ‘to retch’; <i>hackit</i> [♦] (“ <i>pot hackit</i> ” used for “ <i>really hackit</i> ”); “ <i>she’s got a puss like a joiner’s nail bag</i> ” ³⁸ ; <i>glakit</i> ³⁹ (used for “ <i>stupid-looking</i> ” [†])
lack money	<i>skint</i> (most common); <i>broke</i> (“ <i>I’m broke</i> ”); <i>pennies aa awa</i> ⁴⁰ , <i>nae pennies</i> [†] (“ <i>dad nae pennies</i> ” used to own children); <i>hard up</i> (suggested by interviewer, not used)
drunk	<i>paraletic</i> ^Δ ; <i>pissed</i> ; <i>blooter</i> ^{ed} (“ <i>ye dinna say the T</i> ” ⁴¹ , of being “ <i>on your knees</i> ”); <i>steaming</i> ^Δ (of being “ <i>right out the game</i> ” [♦]); <i>poached</i> [♦] ; “ <i>I only had a few pints</i> ”, <i>tipsy</i> (of being “ <i>no so drunk</i> ” ⁴²)
pregnant	<i>up the kyte</i> ⁴³ (used locally); <i>up the duff</i>

²³ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘gadgie’ in sense of ‘man’.

²⁴ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘puir’ in sense of ‘poor’ and ‘fowk’ in sense of ‘folk’.

²⁵ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘like fuck’ in sense of ‘in similitive phrases indicating extremity or intensity’.

²⁶ *Linguistic Atlas of Scotland* (1975-1986) records ‘shittie’ in this sense.

²⁷ J.C. Hall’s *The Man Behind the Uniform* (2011, p.276) records ‘dump house’ in this sense.

²⁸ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘awa’ in sense of ‘away’; *OED* (online) records ‘dump’ in sense of ‘to defecate’

²⁹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘-ie’ in sense of productive ‘diminutive suffix’.

³⁰ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘-ie’ in sense of ‘diminutive suffix’ incl. ‘burnie’.

³¹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘wi’ in sense of ‘with’.

³² *Linguistic Atlas of Scotland* (1975-1986) records ‘pallie jookered’ in this sense.

³³ *Linguistic Atlas of Scotland* (1975-1986) records ‘poddie handed’ in this sense.

³⁴ Reference, presumably, to *Deputy Dawg*, fictional cartoon dog and deputy sheriff appearing in animated series of same name first broadcast 1962 in USA and 1963 in UK by BBC.

³⁵ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’ and ‘gie’ in sense of ‘to give’; *OED* (online edition) records ‘bolck’ in sense of ‘to vomit’.

³⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘seik’ in sense of ‘sick’.

³⁷ *OED* (online edition) includes ‘bolck’ in this sense.

³⁸ *OED* (online edition) records ‘puss’ in sense of ‘face’; *Urban Dictionary* (online) records ‘face like a roof tiler’s nail bag’ in this sense.

³⁹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘glakit’ in sense of ‘stupid’.

⁴⁰ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘aa’ in sense of ‘all’ and ‘awa’ in sense of ‘away’.

⁴¹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’ and ‘dinna’ in sense of ‘don’t’.

⁴² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘no’ in sense of ‘not’.

⁴³ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘up in the kyte’ in this sense.

attractive *darling; bonny (“bonny lassie”); babe (“she’s a babe, eh?”); a stunner; no so unattractive⁴²*
insane *mental; no right in the head⁴⁴; bonkers; nuts (suggested by interviewer); aff your nut⁴⁵; aff my head⁴⁶*
moody *huffy bastard; schizo*

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⁴⁴ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘no’ in sense of ‘not’; *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) includes ‘not right in the head’ in this sense.

⁴⁵ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘aff’ in sense of ‘off’; *OED* online edition) includes ‘off one’s head’ in this sense.

⁴⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘aff’ in sense of ‘off’; *OED* online edition) includes ‘off one’s nut’ in this sense.