

Title:

Inveraray, Argyll and Bute

Shelfmark:

C1190/43/16

Recording date:

16.03.2005

**Speakers:**

Blyth, Laura, b. 1980 Dumfries; female (father b. Kirkcudbrightshire, caravan park manager; mother b. Giffnock, East Renfrewshire, housewife)

Clark, Donald, b. 1944 Inveraray; male; hotel owner (father b. Inveraray, hotelier; mother b. Glasgow, secretary)

MacKay, Malcolm, b. 1941 Inveraray male (father b. Isle of Raasay, Highland, farmer; mother b. Inveraray, housewife)

Paterson, Dorothy, b. 1934 Glasgow; female (father b. Broughton, Scottish Borders, water engineer; mother b. Liverpool, shop assistant)

Stevenson, Colin, b. 1944 Glasgow; male (father b. Walney Island, Lancashire, doctor; mother b. Glasgow, secretary & housewife)

The interviewees are all friends from the local community.

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 English Dialect Dictionary (1898-1905)
- † 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>happy</i> ; “ <i>I’m on good form</i> ” ¹ ; <i>pleased</i> ; <i>content</i> ; <i>chuffed</i> (“ <i>I’m fair chuffed</i> ” used at school in past); <i>tickety-boo</i> (used locally for “ <i>aye, I’m grand</i> ”); <i>made-up</i> ; “ <i>I’m fair chuffed</i> ” (used at school in past, not heard for some time)
tired	<i>exhausted</i> ; <i>wabbit</i> ; <i>jiggered</i> (“ <i>I’m absolutely jiggered</i> ” of being tired after day’s work); <i>knackered</i> (censured by parents in past due to perceived implication of tiredness after sex, censures own children now); <i>tired</i> ; <i>tha mi sgith</i> ² (Gaelic for “ <i>I’m tired</i> ”); <i>trachled</i> (suggested by interviewer as used of e.g. young mother, “ <i>fair trachled</i> ”); <i>cream crackered</i> ^Δ (rhyming slang for ‘knackered’); <i>scunnered</i> [†] (used for “ <i>fed up</i> ”); <i>fair forfochen</i> ³ (suggested by interviewer, used by mother in past)
unwell	<i>poorly</i> ; <i>out of sorts</i> ; <i>under the weather</i> ; <i>ill</i> ; <i>not the thing</i> ^Δ ; <i>sick</i> ; <i>seik</i> [†] ; <i>wabbit</i> (“ <i>you’re kind of wabbit-looking</i> ” used by mother in past); <i>peely-wally</i> (liked, “ <i>wally</i> ” thought to come from French for ‘china’ ⁴ i.e. pale)
hot	<i>roasting</i> ; <i>nice and toasty</i> (of being “ <i>cosy hot</i> ”); <i>hot</i> (of self); <i>boiling</i> ; <i>spicy hot</i> (of food); <i>flushed</i> (of self); <i>warm</i> ; <i>boiling hot</i> (of e.g. kettle); <i>piping hot</i> (of meal); <i>stoater</i> ⁵ (“ <i>a stoater of a day</i> ”, of hot summer’s day, “ <i>he’s a stoater</i> ” also used for ‘good-looking’ ^Δ , “ <i>stoating drunk</i> ” suggested by interviewer as used for ‘drunk’ ⁶)
cold	<i>freezing</i> (“ <i>freezing cold</i> ”); <i>shivery</i> (of self); <i>cold</i> ; <i>really freezing</i> ; <i>chill</i> ; <i>founert</i> [†] (“ <i>absolutely founert</i> ” used by Irish friends of extreme cold, liked); <i>hillbilly</i> ^Δ (“ <i>it’s hillbilly in here</i> ” Cockney rhyming slang for “ <i>chilly</i> ” used frequently); <i>King Billy</i> ⁷ (“ <i>it’s a bit King Billy</i> ” Glasgow rhyming slang for “ <i>chilly</i> ” used in past, thought to have sectarian connotations due to reference to William of Orange ⁸); <i>nippy</i> (also used of quick-tempered person, “ <i>wee nippie sweetie</i> ” used of bad-tempered person [†] esp. small/domineering female); <i>perishing</i> (of cold day)
annoyed	<i>irritated</i> ; <i>angry</i> ; <i>miffed</i> ; <i>scunnered</i> ; <i>raging</i> (“ <i>I’m raging</i> ”, of being “ <i>incandescent</i> ”); <i>radge</i> (“ <i>going radge</i> ” suggested by interviewer, not known, used in past of person with “ <i>unusually high sex drive</i> ”); <i>blazing mad</i> ⁹ ; <i>wild</i> ; <i>beiling</i> [†] (“ <i>fair beiling</i> ” used in past)
throw	<i>throw</i> (of e.g. ball); <i>chuck</i> (“ <i>chuck something over/away</i> ”); <i>fling</i> (“ <i>fling it over</i> ”, of e.g. slate); <i>toss</i> (“ <i>toss it out/over</i> ”, of e.g. “ <i>chuckie</i> ” i.e. “ <i>wee flat stone</i> ” ¹⁰); <i>pelt</i> (“ <i>pelt it to him</i> ” heard used); <i>pass</i> (of e.g. egg)
play truant	<i>plunk</i> (“ <i>plunk school</i> ”, “ <i>plunk the school</i> ”, “ <i>plunking the school</i> ”); <i>bunking off school</i> ^Δ ; <i>skiving school</i> ; <i>skiving</i> ; <i>dogging</i> [†] (“ <i>dogging school</i> ”); <i>plunking</i> ; <i>plunked school</i> ; <i>dog off school</i>
sleep	<i>sleep</i> ; <i>doze off</i> ; <i>nod off</i> ; <i>have forty winks</i> ; “ <i>I’m going to bed</i> ”; <i>batten down the hatches</i> ¹¹ ; (“ <i>let’s batten down the hatches and get some sleep</i> ” used with family); <i>shut-eye</i> (thought to be Australian); <i>a cat-nap</i> (“ <i>a wee cat-nap</i> ” used by husband); <i>going for a purr</i> ^Δ (suggested by interviewer, liked); “ <i>I’m off to my pit</i> ” (used when younger); <i>off to the bed</i> (used now);

¹ *Collins Dictionary* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) includes ‘in good form’ in this sense.

² *Am Faclair Beag* (<http://www.faclair.com/>) includes ‘sgith’ in this sense.

³ *A Dictionary of Scottish Phrase & Fable* (2012) records ‘fair forfochen’ in this sense.

⁴ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘wally’ in sense of ‘porcelain’.

⁵ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) records ‘stoater’ in sense of ‘something excellent’.

⁶ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) records ‘stoated’ in this sense.

⁷ *Cockney Rhyming Slang* (<http://www.cockneyrhymingslang.co.uk/>) records ‘Uncle Billy’ in this sense.

⁸ *Wikipedia* King William III of England (1650-1702).

⁹ *Collins Dictionary* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) includes ‘blazing’ in this sense.

¹⁰ *OED* (online edition) includes ‘chuckie’ in this sense.

¹¹ *Collins Dictionary* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) records ‘batten down the hatches’ in sense of ‘to prepare for action/crisis’.

	<i>going for a sleep; go for a kip; have a kip; hitting the hay</i> (used by mother of bedtime in past)
play a game	<i>play</i> (of e.g. football/shinty/tennis); <i>playing; dressing up</i> ^Δ
hit hard	<i>skelp</i> (used in past of e.g. “ <i>skelp on the bottom</i> ”); <i>wallop</i> (used in past of e.g. “ <i>wallop round the ear</i> ”); <i>batter; thump; scud</i> (“ <i>scud something</i> ”, used in past of e.g. “ <i>scud round the ear</i> ”); <i>whack; spank; smack; crack it hard</i> (of e.g. ball)
clothes	<i>togs; gear; kit; “I’m getting my glad rags on”</i> (of clothes worn for going out); <i>clothes</i> (“ <i>working/casual/housework clothes</i> ”, “ <i>veggieing clothes</i> ” worn for “ <i>veggieing out on a Sunday</i> ” ¹²); <i>claes</i> (suggested by interviewer, not used); “ <i>go and put something decent on</i> ” ^Δ (of clothes worn for going out)
trousers	<i>trousers; pants; slacks</i> (used in past); <i>jeans; trews; flannels; breeks</i> (used in past); <i>troosers</i> [†] (“ <i>good troosers and working troosers</i> ”)
child’s shoe	<i>sand-shoes</i> (used at primary school in past, embarrassed own children when asking for ‘sand-shoes’ recently in shop instead of “ <i>trainers</i> ”); <i>gutties</i> [†] ; <i>baffies</i> ¹³ (of women’s light “ <i>shapeless</i> ”/canvas shoes, also used for ‘slippers’ [†]); <i>plimsolls</i> (“ <i>posh</i> ”); <i>pumps; trainers</i> (used by own children); <i>sneakers</i> (modern, used by “ <i>neds</i> ”); <i>gym shoes</i> (used in secondary school in past); <i>gym shoes</i> (used at secondary school in past)
mother	<i>mum</i> (to own mother); <i>mother</i> (used to own mother when “ <i>angry</i> ”, of own mother when older, “ <i>how’s your mother?</i> ” used of other’s mother); <i>the old dear</i> (“ <i>your old dear</i> ” common locally, used when older); <i>the auld yin</i> [†] (common locally); <i>mama</i> (used as young child as father from Raasay); <i>mummy, mammy</i> (used by young children locally)
gmother	<i>granny, nanny</i> (used to distinguish between paternal/maternal grandmother); <i>gran; seanmhair</i> ¹⁴ (Gaelic for ‘grandmother’ not used locally as much as “ <i>shenar</i> ” for ‘grandfather’)
m partner	<i>himself</i> ¹⁵ (“ <i>translation of Gaelic</i> ”); <i>the other half</i> (heard used); <i>husband; bidie in</i> [†] ; <i>partner</i> (of e.g. “ <i>folk you dance with</i> ”)
friend	<i>pal; mate; friend</i>
gfather	<i>mucker</i> ^Δ (used by own granddaughter of maternal grandfather due to childhood pronunciation of surname ‘McCulloch’); <i>grandpa; papa</i> ^Δ ; <i>shenar</i> [†] (Gaelic for ‘grandfather’, used by own granddaughter to self)
forgot name	<i>what’s-his-name</i> (used now); <i>thingummy</i> (used when younger); <i>thingummyjiggy</i> ¹⁶ ; <i>thingummyjig</i> ^Δ ; <i>what-d’ye-call-’em; thingummyjiggery</i> ¹⁷ ; <i>yon; thingmejig</i> ^Δ
kit of tools	<i>tool-box; set of tools; tool bag; gibbles</i> ¹⁸ (suggested by interviewer as used in Pitlochry); <i>bass</i> [†] (suggested by interviewer as used of joiner’s bag, “ <i>joiner’s bass</i> ” used by older generation of “ <i>hessian-type bag with big handles</i> ”); <i>gear</i> (suggested by interviewer)
trendy	<i>spiv</i> (used in Glasgow of “ <i>trendy boys</i> ” in past); <i>tarty</i> (of female wearing “ <i>flash jewellery</i> ”); <i>Teddy boy, ned, chancer</i> (of male); <i>with it</i> (used negatively); <i>bakie</i> ^Δ (“ <i>the bakies and neds</i> ”, used at school in Dumbarton in past for female “ <i>ned</i> ”); <i>bling bling</i> (“ <i>check out his bling bling</i> ”, current, derogatory); <i>a gaudy</i> ^Δ ; <i>a trollop</i>

¹² *OED* (online edition) records ‘veg out’ in sense of ‘to do nothing as way of relaxing’.

¹³ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘baffie’ in sense of ‘bedroom slipper’.

¹⁴ *Am Faclair Beag* (<http://www.faclair.com/>) includes ‘seanmhair’ in this sense.

¹⁵ *Green’s Dictionary of Slang* (2010) records ‘herself’ in sense of ‘wife’.

¹⁶ Katie Dale’s *Mummies* (2016, p.31) includes ‘thingummyjiggy’ in this sense.

¹⁷ Ian K’s tweet *Wow!! That horse thingummyjiggery is pretty impressive!* (21.01.18 – see https://twitter.com/3rd_Doctor/status/955111816731996161) includes ‘thingummyjiggery’ in this sense.

¹⁸ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘gibble’ in sense of ‘tool’.

f partner	<i>bidie in</i> [†] (of unmarried live-in partner equivalent to modern “ <i>partner</i> ”, liked); <i>wife</i> ; <i>the missus</i> , <i>the wife</i> (“ <i>I need to ask the wife</i> ” used by own husband of self); <i>her indoors</i> (used by father of own wife); <i>partner</i> (suggested by interviewer, “ <i>this is my partner</i> ” used before marriage in preference to “ <i>boyfriend</i> ”); <i>She-Who-Must-Be-Obeyed</i> , <i>better half</i> (heard used)
baby	<i>baby</i> (most common, of young baby); <i>wee one</i> (“ <i>how’s the wee one?</i> ”, of slightly older baby); <i>wain</i> [†] (of slightly older baby); <i>bairn</i> ; <i>babby</i> [†] ; <i>the young one</i> , <i>laddie</i> , <i>lassie</i> , <i>wee man</i> [†] , <i>wee fella</i> ¹⁹ , <i>lad</i> , <i>lass</i> , <i>youngster</i> , <i>young girl</i> (of young child)
rain heavily	<i>liquid sunshine</i> [△] ; <i>downpours</i> ; <i>raining cats and dogs</i> ; <i>bucketing</i> ²⁰ ; <i>pouring</i> ; <i>plump</i> (of “ <i>sudden heavy downpour</i> ”); <i>pour</i> ; <i>bucketing rain</i> ²⁰ ; <i>pouring rain</i> ; <i>pissing down</i> ; <i>chucking it down</i> [△] ; <i>coming down like stair-rods</i> , <i>pelting</i> (suggested by interviewer); <i>mooring</i> (suggested by interviewer as used in Shetland of snow-storm [†] , not known)
toilet	<i>cludgie</i> [△] ; <i>privy</i> ; <i>the wee house</i> [‡] (used of outside toilet on farm in past); <i>lavvy</i> ; <i>bathroom</i> ; <i>toilet</i> ; <i>lavatory</i> ; “ <i>I’m going to the wee boys’ room</i> ” ²¹ (used by husband in pub); <i>call of nature</i> ; “ <i>I’m going for a Jimmy Riddle</i> ” (rhyming slang for ‘going to the toilet to urinate’); <i>loo</i> ; <i>lav</i> (abbreviation for “ <i>lavatory</i> ” used in past); <i>the bog</i> (suggested by interviewer, used at school in past)
walkway	<i>close</i> (of covered walkway); <i>lane</i> (“ <i>up the lane</i> ”); <i>alley</i> (of uncovered walkway); <i>alleyway</i> ; <i>vennel</i> (suggested by interviewer, not used, associated with Dumfries); <i>pend</i> (suggested by interviewer, used of walkway between buildings to distinguish from “ <i>close</i> ” between houses)
long seat	<i>settee</i> ; <i>couch</i> ; <i>sofa</i> ; <i>bench</i> (used in past of wooden seat in kitchen in contrast to soft “ <i>sofa</i> ”, “ <i>resting chair</i> ” used by interviewer’s grandmother)
run water	<i>burn</i> (universal locally); <i>stream</i>
main room	<i>living-room</i> ; <i>sitting-room</i> ; <i>lounge</i> ; <i>parlour</i> (used by aunts in past); <i>kitchen</i> (used on farm in past); <i>the good room</i> [△] (used on farm in past of room reserved for “ <i>high days and holidays</i> ”); <i>front room</i>
rain lightly	<i>spitting</i> ; <i>drizzle</i> ; <i>smur</i> (used frequently of “ <i>soft gentle rain</i> ”); <i>soft</i> [†] (“ <i>soft rain</i> ”); <i>dreich</i> [†] , <i>drab</i> ²²
rich	<i>wealthy</i> ; <i>well-heeled</i> ; “ <i>they’ve plenty of money</i> ”; “ <i>they’re not short of a bob or two</i> ” ²³ ; <i>minted</i> (“ <i>he’s minted</i> ”, current locally, thought to originate in Glasgow); <i>making ends meet</i> ²⁴ (“ <i>understatement</i> ”); <i>hell of a well off</i> ²⁵ ; <i>loaded</i> ; “ <i>he’s no short o a bob or two</i> ” ²⁶ ; <i>weel off</i> [†] (of person “ <i>who’s got a bob or two</i> ” ²⁷); <i>well off</i>
left-handed	<i>corrie fisted</i> [‡] (most common locally, thought to come from Clan Kerr ²⁸); <i>pallie jookit</i> [‡] , <i>corrie pawed</i> [‡] , <i>sinister</i> (suggested by interviewer); <i>cack-handed</i> (suggested by interviewer, disputed: thought to be used for ‘clumsy’)

¹⁹ Stokedpapa’s tweet ...*took the wee-fella to the movies the other day. He coped a treat.* (20.09.16 – see <https://twitter.com/stokedpapa/status/778333577335504896>) includes ‘wee fella’ in this sense.

²⁰ *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) includes ‘bucket down’ in this sense.

²¹ *OED* (online edition) records ‘wee’ in sense of ‘little’ and ‘little boys’ room’ in this sense.

²² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘drab’ in sense of ‘to spot/stain’.

²³ *Cambridge Dictionary* (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org>) includes ‘not short of a bob or two’ in this sense.

²⁴ *Cambridge Dictionary* (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org>) records ‘make ends meet’ in sense of ‘to have just enough money to pay for the things that you need’.

²⁵ *OED* (online edition) records ‘hell of a’ in sense of ‘exceedingly’.

²⁶ *Cambridge Dictionary* (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org>) includes ‘not short of a bob or two’ in this sense; *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘o’ in sense of ‘of’.

²⁷ *OED* (online edition) records ‘a ... or two’ in sense of ‘a few’.

²⁸ *Wikipedia* Scottish border reiver clan popularly associated with left-handedness.

unattractive	<i>not very braw</i> (“ <i>she’s not very braw</i> ”); <i>plain</i> ; <i>no bonny</i> ; <i>ugly</i> ; <i>not my cup of tea</i> ²⁹ ; “ <i>she’s no oil painting</i> ”
lack money	<i>skint</i> (most common locally); <i>penniless</i> (“ <i>so-and-so lost their job and they found themself penniless</i> ”); <i>he’s got a hole in his pocket</i> ³⁰ (used by father, also used for ‘spendthrift’); <i>financially embarrassed</i> [♦]
drunk	<i>over-refreshed</i> ³¹ (“ <i>understatement</i> ”); <i>mortal</i> , <i>stoating</i> ⁶ (used frequently): <i>blooter</i> ; <i>legless</i> ; <i>fou</i> (of “ <i>getting well on</i> ”); <i>puggled</i> [♠] ; <i>gey fou</i> ³² (of being “ <i>past redemption</i> ”)
pregnant	<i>bun in the oven</i> (used frequently); <i>expecting</i> (“ <i>she’s expecting</i> ” commonly whispered in past); <i>up the duff</i> (heard used); <i>having a baby</i> (“ <i>politer</i> ”); <i>up the pole</i> ; <i>a wee trout in the burn</i> ³³ ; “ <i>she’s nine months on</i> ” ³⁴ (used euphemistically in past); “ <i>it was a race between the midwife and the minister</i> ” [♠] (used in Glasgow in past); “ <i>she’s round the point</i> ” [♠] (used in past of/by Islanders due to need to round Ardlamont Point when travelling to Glasgow)
attractive	<i>gorgeous</i> (used frequently); <i>lovely</i> ; <i>good-looking</i> ; <i>braw</i> ; <i>bonny</i> (of person, also used of e.g. “ <i>productive</i> ” sheep/cow); <i>fine</i> (“ <i>a fine-looking girl/fine specimen</i> ”), <i>braw lassie</i> , “ <i>she’s a wee cracker</i> ” (of female)
insane	<i>daft</i> (most common); <i>stupid</i> ; <i>loony</i> , <i>lunatic</i> , <i>loopy</i> (used in past); <i>loop the loop</i> [♠] (“ <i>she’s loop the loop</i> ” used by friends, also thought to be Cockney rhyming slang for ‘soup’ [♠]); <i>not wise</i> (“ <i>she’s no very wise</i> ”); <i>mad</i> (“ <i>not politically correct</i> ”); <i>not the full shilling</i> [♠] ; <i>a sandwich short of a picnic</i> [♠] ; <i>not the brightest button in the box</i> ³⁵
moody	<i>crabbit</i> [†] (common locally, of being “ <i>nippy</i> ”); <i>thrawn</i> (used by father from Dumfriesshire of “ <i>her indoors</i> ” i.e. own wife, also used of “ <i>determined/stubborn</i> ” person, pronounced “ <i>thran</i> ” in Belfast); <i>sulky</i> ; <i>dour</i> ; <i>droll</i> ³⁶

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²⁹ *OED* (online edition) records ‘one’s cup of tea’ in sense of ‘what interests/suits one’.

³⁰ *OED* (online edition) records ‘money burns a hole in one’s pocket’ in this sense.

³¹ *Oxford Dictionary* (<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com>) includes ‘over-refreshed’ in this sense.

³² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘gey’ in sense of ‘very/really’.

³³ *The Concise Scots Dictionary* (1996) records ‘there’s a trout in the well’ in this sense.

³⁴ *OED* (online edition) records ‘gone’ in this sense.

³⁵ Sally Annakin’s *The Widow* (2007, p.105) includes ‘not the brightest button in the box’ in this sense.

³⁶ *English Dialect Dictionary* (1898-1905) records ‘droll’ in sense of ‘rude/unmanageable’.