

Title:

Penicuik, Midlothian

Shelfmark:

C1190/43/26

Recording date:

05.03.2005



Speakers:

Cairns, Sheila, b. 1952 Penicuik; female (father b. Penicuik, painter & decorator; mother b. Aberdeen, lab technician)

Cullen, Doreen, b. 1946 Penicuik; female (father b. Penicuik, marine engineer; mother b. Penicuik, laundry wife)

Hutchison, Mose, b. 1949 Penicuik; female (father b. Edinburgh, master blacksmith; mother b. Penicuik, Post Office cashier)

Lothian, Godfrey (Goff), b. 1938 Penicuik; male (father b. Roslin, Midlothian, paper mill worker; mother b. Auchendinny, Midlothian, paper mill worker)

McQueenie, Kenneth, b. 1958; male (father b. Edinburgh, barber; mother b. Edinburgh, full-time mother)

The interviewees have all been friends since childhood.

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)
 Δ 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 *chuffed*; *happy*; *gled*[†] (“I’ll be gled when this is all over”); *glad*; *fair chuffed*, *chuffed to bits*[◆] (most common)

tired *knacked*^Δ; *knackered* (most common, not used in presence of e.g. father, thought to be modern, censured as child in past); *puggled*[†] (rarely used); *wrecked*[◇] (also used for ‘drunk’);

sleeping on your feet; absolutely knackered; “could fall asleep on a razor blade”¹; shattered; wabbit (pronounced “wobbit” locally); “I could sleep on a claes-line”²; fair knackered

unwell *wabbit; “I feel so ill”; down in the dumps³; confined to your barracks⁴; no that well; no the full shilling⁵; no quite right⁶; peely-wally (suggested by interviewer, used, used by parents); no weel[†]; feeling sick; ill; under the weather; a bit poorly*

hot *roasting (most common, “I’m roasting, so I am”); sweating; biling[†] (“just like tatties”⁷); sweltering*

cold *freezing, cold (most common); Baltic[◊] (suggested by interviewer, heard occasionally, “God, it’s absolutely Baltic outside”, modern); gay freezing⁸, awfy freezing⁹ (of extreme cold)*

annoyed *fair flaming¹⁰ (of extreme annoyance); blazing mad¹¹ (of considerable annoyance, pronounced “bleezing mad”¹² locally); upset (of slight annoyance); flaming¹⁰ (of being “really/seriously pissed off”); raging (“absolutely raging”); like a bull at a gate¹³; fuming (“really/bloody fuming”); miffed; fair roused (used frequently)*

throw *chuck (of e.g. stone); skiff[†] (of skimming flat stone on pond); hurl (liked, esp. of powerful throw)*

play truant *skip the scuil¹⁴; skiving*

sleep *kip; lie-doon¹⁵ (“going for a lie-doon/wee lie-doon”, of “shifty” daytime sleep); kip; sleeping (of sleep at night); forty winks (of daytime sleep in chair); snooze; wee nap (of daytime sleep)*

play a game *“are you coming out?”; “we’ll hae a game”¹⁶; playing; “are you coming out to play?”; will we go and play such-and-such a game?; “are you haeing a game?”¹⁶*

hit hard *clout; wallop; thump; batter (of e.g. door); belt (of person); skelp (of person, liked)*

clothes *claes (“it’s high time you were into that room and picked all thae claes up”¹⁷); clothes; gear, rig-out (suggested by interviewer, heard used of “Sunday best”); outfit (suggested by interviewer, not used); dressed to kill¹⁸ (of “Sunday best”)*

¹ Sue’s tweet *Just finished, i’m so tired, could sleep on the side of a razor blade, my body is aching, 52 boxes of freaken xmas cards i’ve emptied, :(* (29.10.09 – see https://twitter.com/sue_x_x/status/5264921959) includes ‘sleep on the edge of a razor blade’ in this sense.

² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘claes-line’ in sense of ‘clothes-line’; *The Phrase Finder* (<https://www.phrases.org.uk>) records ‘sleep on a clothes-line’ in sense of ‘sleep very soundly’.

³ *Collins Dictionary* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) includes ‘down in the dumps’ in this sense.

⁴ Richard Bowyer’s *Dictionary of Military Terms* (1999) records ‘confined to barracks’ in sense of ‘punishment by which soldier is not allowed to leave barracks’.

⁵ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘no’ in sense of ‘not’; *Green’s Dictionary of Slang* (2010) records ‘not the full shilling’ in sense of ‘not very intelligent/eccentric’.

⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘no’ in sense of ‘not’.

⁷ *OED* (online edition) records ‘tatties’ in sense of ‘potato’.

⁸ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘gey’ in sense of ‘very/really’.

⁹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘awfy’ in sense of ‘awfully’.

¹⁰ *Collins Dictionary* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) includes ‘flaming’ in this sense.

¹¹ *Collins Dictionary* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>) includes ‘blazing’ in this sense.

¹² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘bleeze’ in sense of ‘to blaze’.

¹³ *Oxford Dictionaries Online* (<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com>) records ‘like a bull at a gate’ in sense of ‘taking action hastily/without thought’.

¹⁴ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘scuil’ in sense of ‘school’.

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

¹⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘hae’ in sense of ‘to have’.

¹⁷ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘thae’ in sense of ‘those’.

¹⁸ *OED* (online edition) records ‘dressed to kill’ in sense of ‘to dress showily/impressively’.

trousers	<i>troosers</i> [†] (“ <i>slang for trousers</i> ”, “ <i>Donald where’s your ...?</i> ” ¹⁹); <i>flannels</i> (used in past of school trousers); <i>strides</i> (“ <i>a bit Australian/awfy modern</i> ” ⁹); <i>breeks</i> (liked, also used for “ <i>knickers/kecks</i> ” i.e. ‘underwear’); <i>trousers</i> (used at work in Oxfam shop ²⁰); <i>slacks</i> (suggested by interviewer, used of women’s trousers); <i>trews</i> (suggested by interviewer, used of tartan trousers/trousers worn by soldiers)
child’s shoe	<i>gym shoes</i> (“ <i>where’s your gym shoes?</i> ” used by teacher); <i>jimmies</i> ^Δ , <i>rubbers</i> (most common); <i>plimsolls</i> ; <i>gutties</i> [†] (heard used, also used for “ <i>catapult</i> ” [†])
mother	<i>mum</i> (used as young child); <i>ma</i> , <i>mother</i> (used as older child); <i>maw</i>
gmother	<i>grandma</i> ; <i>gran</i> ; <i>granny</i> (“ <i>blue granny brown granny</i> ” used by friend’s daughter to distinguish between maternal/paternal grandmother); <i>nan</i> (suggested by interviewer, disliked); <i>nana</i> (“ <i>nana Bough nana Queenie</i> ” used to distinguish between maternal/paternal grandmother, considered “ <i>soppy</i> ”, also used for ‘banana’); <i>grandmother</i> (used of grandmother now in preference to “ <i>nana</i> ” when younger)
m partner	<i>bloke</i> (of unmarried partner); <i>his nibs</i> ²¹ (“ <i>his nibs is in the hoose</i> ” ²² used by females); <i>her man</i> ; <i>husband</i> ; <i>hubby</i> ; <i>partner</i> (of unmarried partner/gay partner, increasingly common)
friend	<i>pal</i> (“ <i>my pal</i> ”); <i>mate</i> ; <i>chum</i> ; <i>friend</i> (of female friend in contrast to male “ <i>mate</i> ”); <i>man</i> (of male friend); <i>my mate</i> ; <i>my bud</i> (“ <i>Paisley term</i> ”); <i>my buddy</i> ; <i>knabrie</i> ²³ (suggested by interviewer as supplied in Peterhead)
gfather	<i>grand-da</i> [†] (thought to be abbreviation for “ <i>grandad</i> ”); <i>grandpa</i> ; <i>grandad</i> ; <i>pop</i> [♦] (suggested by interviewer, used for old Ford car ²⁴ /soft drink); <i>papa</i> [♦] (“ <i>papa Bough papa McQueenie</i> ” used to distinguish between maternal/paternal grandfather); <i>grandfather</i> (used of grandfather now in contrast to “ <i>papa</i> ” when younger)
forgot name	<i>what’s-its-name</i> ; <i>thingamajig</i> ; <i>thingmebob</i> [◊] ; <i>hingwy</i> ²⁵ (“ <i>ken whae I mean, hingwy</i> ” ²⁶); <i>Jimmy</i> , <i>Jim</i> (associated with Billy Connolly ²⁷ , “ <i>hey Jim</i> ” used of male/female in Glasgow and locally, “ <i>see you, Jimmy</i> ” ²⁸)
kit of tools	<i>tool-box</i> ; <i>graith</i> (“ <i>mind your graiths, pal, afore ye gan out the hoose, ken</i> ” ²⁹ used of tools by e.g. joiner/plumber/bricklayer, used by father in past of tools/materials to be gathered up after finishing day’s work); <i>tool bag</i> ; <i>gibbles</i> [†] , <i>bass</i> [†] (suggested by interviewer); <i>tools</i> ; <i>tool-kit</i>
trendy	<i>trashy</i> (“ <i>she’s awfy trashy</i> ” ⁹); <i>medallion man</i> ; <i>an ers</i> ³⁰ (pronounced “ <i>a ners</i> ”); <i>floozy</i> ; <i>hippy</i> ; <i>scrubber</i> (of female, “ <i>look at the state o her, God almighty, like a hure or something</i> ” ³¹); “ <i>she’s all done up like a fish supper</i> ” ³²

¹⁹ *A Dictionary of Scottish Phrase & Fable* (2012) records ‘Donald, where’s your troosers?’ as comic song written and performed by Scottish singer Andy Stewart MBE (1933-1993), first released in UK 1960.

²⁰ *Wikipedia* (online) confederation of independent charitable organizations focusing on alleviation of global poverty, founded 1942 in Oxford.

²¹ *OED* (online edition) records ‘his nibs’ in sense of ‘person in authority esp. with implication [of] excessive sense of own importance’.

²² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘hoose’ in sense of ‘house’.

²³ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘knabrie’ in sense of ‘gentry/people of quality’.

²⁴ *Wikipedia* (online) nickname for Ford Popular, manufactured by Ford UK from 1953-1962.

²⁵ Wendy Anderson’s *Language in Scotland: Corpus-based Studies* (2013, p.207) includes ‘hingwy’ in this sense.

²⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ken’ in sense of ‘to know’ and ‘whae’ in sense of ‘who’.

²⁷ Sir William Connolly (b.1924), Scottish comedian, musician, presenter and actor.

²⁸ *Wikipedia* (online) reference, presumably, to fictional character, C.U. Jimmy, created and played by English comedian Russ Abbot (b.1947).

²⁹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘mind’ in sense of ‘to remember’, ‘afore’ in sense of ‘before’, ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’, ‘gan’ in sense of ‘to go’ and ‘hoose’ in sense of ‘house’.

³⁰ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ers’ in sense of ‘arse’; *OED* (online edition) records ‘arse’ in sense of ‘stupid/contemptible person/fool’.

³¹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘o’ in sense of ‘of’ and ‘hure’ in sense of ‘whore’.

f partner	<i>hersel</i> ³³ (“ <i>hersel’s ben the hoose</i> ” ³⁴); <i>the vacuum cleaner</i> [△] , <i>the washing machine</i> [♦] (suggested jokingly); <i>the wife</i> ; <i>wifie</i> (liked); <i>wife</i> (“ <i>my wife</i> ” used of self by husband); <i>her indoors</i> ; <i>sir</i> [△] (suggested jokingly); <i>the bidie in</i> [†] (of unmarried partner); <i>the missus</i> (“ <i>this is the missus</i> ” not used of self by husband)
baby	<i>wee one</i> [†] (“ <i>the wee one</i> ”, esp. of youngest child); <i>baby</i> (of “ <i>infant</i> ”); <i>bairn</i> (of older child, used by family of self as youngest child); <i>the wee yin</i> [†] ; <i>sprog</i>
rain heavily	<i>absolutely chucking it</i> [△] ; <i>a stotter</i> ³⁵ (used when “ <i>the rain bounces off the pavement</i> ”, also used of “ <i>attractive lassie</i> ” [△]); <i>pouring o rain</i> ³⁶ ; <i>chucking it doon</i> ³⁷ ; <i>heaving it doon</i> ³⁸ ; <i>pouring down</i> ; <i>lashing o rain</i> ³⁹ ; <i>pouring</i> ; <i>lashing</i> ⁴⁰ ; <i>bucketing</i> ⁴¹ ; <i>plootering</i> [†] (“ <i>it’s ploutering down</i> ” used frequently); <i>raining cats and dugs</i> ⁴² ; <i>pissing down</i> (“ <i>God, it’s pissing down outside I’m no going out</i> ” ⁶)
toilet	<i>shunkie</i> [†] (old); <i>bog</i> ; <i>the john</i> ; <i>the lavvy</i> ; <i>bathroom</i> ; <i>loo</i> (disliked, “ <i>horrible word</i> ”); <i>cludgie</i> [△] (used when in Aberdeen, liked, not known locally); <i>lavatory</i> (suggested jokingly as used in Cramond); <i>lean-to</i> ⁴³ (used in past of outside toilet); <i>dunny</i> (“ <i>Australian</i> ”)
walkway	<i>vennel</i> (“ <i>go along the vennel</i> ”); <i>pend</i> (of “ <i>passage between two buildings</i> ”); <i>close</i> ; <i>lanie</i> [‡] (suggested by interviewer as used in Shetland)
long seat	<i>sofa</i> (used now in preference to “ <i>settee</i> ”, associated with advertisements/furniture shops); <i>sofy</i> ⁴⁴ ; <i>couch</i> (“ <i>Scottish</i> ”); <i>settee</i> (used when younger); <i>settle</i> , <i>bench</i> (suggested by interviewer, not used); <i>chaise-longue</i> (suggested by interviewer, “ <i>terribly posh</i> ”)
run water main room	<i>burn</i> (“ <i>the Burn</i> ” used of Loan Burn in Penicuik); <i>stream</i>
rain lightly	<i>living-room</i> (most common); <i>lounge</i> ; <i>sitting-room</i> (“ <i>upmarket</i> ”); <i>ben the hoose</i> [†] (associated with Robert Burns, also used at work in Oxfam shop ²⁰)
	<i>drizzling</i> ; <i>spitting</i> ; <i>smurring</i> ; <i>miserable</i> ; “ <i>it’s only light rain it’s just soft rain</i> ” [†] (heard used in Donegal, liked)
rich	<i>well off</i> ; <i>stashed</i> ⁴⁵ (of “ <i>comfortable</i> ” person who has accumulated material possessions); <i>got a few bob</i> ⁴⁶ ; <i>loaded</i> ; <i>wealthy</i> ; <i>plenty</i> (“ <i>you’ve got plenty</i> ”)
left-handed	<i>corrie jukit</i> [‡] ; <i>corrie pawed</i> [‡] (most common locally); <i>corrie fisted</i> [‡] ; <i>left-handers</i>

³² Noonie’s blog post ‘Done Up Like a Fish Supper’ (Noonie 22 September 2005) includes ‘done up like a fish supper’ in the sense of ‘over-dressed’ (see <http://salnoonie.blogspot.com/2005/09/done-up-like-fish-supper.html>).

³³ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘hersel’ in sense of ‘mistress of the house’.

³⁴ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ben the hoose’ in sense of ‘at home’.

³⁵ *Dictionary of North East Dialect* (2011) records ‘stot’ in sense of ‘to bounce, move quickly’ and includes citation in sense of ‘stotting down with rain’.

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

³⁷ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘doon’ in sense of ‘down’; *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) includes ‘chuck it down’ in this sense.

³⁸ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘doon’ in sense of ‘down’; Felix Andrew’s tweet *For Christ’s sake! It’s heaving it down outside - thunder, lightning, the works. Not really equipped for these conditions...* (15.04.09 – see <https://twitter.com/FelixAndrews/status/1524058781>) includes ‘heaving it down’ in this sense.

³⁹ *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) includes ‘lash down’ in this sense; *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘o’ in sense of ‘of’.

⁴⁰ *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) includes ‘lash down’ in this sense.

⁴¹ *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) includes ‘bucket down’ in this sense.

⁴² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘dug’ in sense of ‘dog’; *OED* (online edition) includes ‘rain cats and dogs’ in this sense.

⁴³ *OED* (online edition) includes ‘lean-to’ in sense of ‘building whose rafters pitch against/lean on to another building/wall’.

⁴⁴ *The Facts on File Dictionary of American Regionalisms* (2000) records ‘sofy’ in this sense.

⁴⁵ *Cambridge Dictionary* (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org>) records ‘stash’ in sense of ‘to store something esp. large amount of money in safe place’.

⁴⁶ *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) includes ‘have a few bob’ in this sense.

unattractive	<i>glaikit</i> ⁴⁷ ; <i>scabbit</i> [†] ; <i>hackit</i> [♦] (“ <i>she is hackit/absolutely hackit</i> ”); <i>minging</i> ; <i>horror</i> (frequently pronounced “ <i>horroar</i> ”); <i>rough</i> ; <i>plug</i> ⁴⁸ ; “ <i>ye cudna mark her wi an aix</i> ” ⁴⁹ ; <i>no very attractive</i> ⁶ ; <i>boggin</i> [†] (thought to be reference to “ <i>lavatory</i> ”); <i>ugly</i> ; “ <i>she’s nae oil painting</i> ” ⁵⁰ ; “ <i>she’s a hefty piece</i> ” [♦] (suggested by interviewer, liked); “ <i>she’s got an ers on her like a brewery horse</i> ” ⁵¹ (used frequently)
lack money	<i>skint</i> (“ <i>I’m a bit skint</i> ”); <i>doon to your last brass halfpenny</i> ⁵² ; <i>broke</i> (of self); <i>a bit hard up</i> (of others)
drunk	<i>drunk</i> ; <i>fou</i> ; <i>blootered</i> ; <i>pie-eyed</i> ; <i>sozzled</i> ; <i>pissed</i> ; <i>legless</i> ; <i>wrecked</i> ; <i>reeking with drink</i> [♦] ; <i>warm</i> (pronounced “ <i>warrm</i> ”); <i>reeking</i> [♦]
pregnant	<i>pregnant</i> ; <i>up the duff</i> (“ <i>coarse</i> ”, heard used at school in past, “ <i>she’s up the duff</i> ” used with male friends); <i>expecting</i> ; <i>up the stick</i> (heard used); <i>in the club</i> ; “ <i>pregnant no again</i> ” ⁵³ ; <i>up the kite</i> [◇]
attractive	<i>stoater</i> [△] (“ <i>look at that stoater</i> ”); <i>a stunner</i> ; <i>braw</i> (liked, “ <i>says it all</i> ”); <i>stunning</i> ; <i>gorgeous</i> ; <i>bonny</i> ; <i>nice</i> ; <i>good-looking</i>
insane	<i>mental</i> (“ <i>God, that guy’s mental</i> ” used when younger); <i>off his heid</i> ⁵⁴ (“ <i>see him, he’s absolutely off his heid</i> ”, censured by mother as child as a result of living near psychiatric hospital); <i>mad</i> ; <i>daft</i> ; <i>off his trolley</i> ; <i>glaikit</i> [†] (used occasionally)
moody	<i>in the huff</i> ; “ <i>she’s a glowering old bugger</i> ” (used frequently of customer complaining in shop); <i>torn-faced</i> [†] ; <i>grumpy</i> (used of customers when working at supermarket); “ <i>what’s wrong wi your face?</i> ” ⁵⁵ , “ <i>whae stole your scone?</i> ” ⁵⁶ (directed at moody person)

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⁴⁷ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘glaikit’ in sense of ‘stupid’.

⁴⁸ *OED* (online edition) records ‘plug-ugly’ in this sense.

⁴⁹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’, ‘cudna’ in sense of ‘couldn’t’, ‘wi’ in sense of ‘with’ and ‘aix’ in sense of ‘axe’; ljmaccallan’s tweet *no way!!! Couldn't mark her with an axe!!* (22.04.12 – see <https://twitter.com/ljmaccallan/status/194154204351311872>) includes ‘couldn't mark her with an axe’ in this sense.

⁵⁰ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘nae’ in sense of ‘not’; *OED* (online edition) records ‘no oil painting’ in this sense.

⁵¹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ers’ in sense of ‘arse’; Craig Burley’s tweet *Chiles has a face for worrying sheep and an arse like a brewery horse*. (11.06.10 – see <https://twitter.com/TheCraigBurley/status/15946045020>) includes ‘arse like a brewery horse’ in this sense.

⁵² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘doon’ in sense of ‘down’; Thesaurus.com (<https://www.thesaurus.com>) records ‘down to last penny’ in this sense.

⁵³ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘no’ in sense of ‘not’; *American Idioms Dictionary* (2007) records ‘not again’ in sense of ‘I cannot believe that it happened again’.

⁵⁴ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘heid’ in sense of ‘head’; *OED* (online edition) includes ‘off one’s head’ in this sense.

⁵⁵ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘wi’ in sense of ‘with’.

⁵⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘whae’ in sense of ‘who’ and ‘who stole your scone?’ in sense of ‘of someone who looks glum’