

Title:

Scone, Perth and Kinross

Shelfmark:

C1190/43/27

Recording date:

01.03.2005

**Speakers:**

Chalmers, Olive, b. 1941 Perth; female (father b. Grampound, Cornwall, sales rep; mother b. Errol, Perthshire, staff trainer)

Fair, Marjorie McPherson (Madge), b. 1941 Perth; female (father b. Kinross, Cornwall, plumber & heating engineer; mother b. Scone, tailor)

Forsyth, Pamela, b. 1955 Edinburgh; female; police officer (father b. Oakley, Fife, civil servant; mother b. Edinburgh, secretary)

Nicolson, Yvonne, b. 1953 Perth; female (father b. Perth, letterpress printer; mother b. Perthshire, shop assistant)

Ross, Pamela, b. 1950; female

The interviewees are all close friends from Scone.

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
tired

chuffed (most common, “*fair chuffed*”); *fair pleased*; *happy*
knackered; *bugged*; *shattered*; *wabbit* (“*fair wabbit*”)

unwell	<i>sick; nae weel[†]; no feeling well[†]; rotten; seik[†]; pants¹ (“I feel pants this morning” used by own children); hellish² (also used by children, impolite); pör aamos³ (suggested by interviewer as used in Shetland); peely-wally (suggested by interviewer, used by grandmother esp. of person looking ‘sick/pale’)</i>
hot	<i>biling[†]; roasting; sweating; plotting[†] (used of feeling “sweaty hot”)</i>
cold	<i>frozen; freezing; bitter (“it’s bitter cold outside”); Baltic[◊] (“God, it’s Baltic out there”, modern)</i>
annoyed	<i>angry; biling[†]; raging; rattled; pissed off; hacked off</i>
throw	<i>chuck (of e.g. ball); heave; fling; bung (“bung that newspaper over here”); launch (of throwing e.g. stone at something); wap, bajl[†], höv⁴ (suggested by interviewer as used in Shetland)</i>
play truant	<i>bunking[△]; skipping school; bunk off[△]; skive (“skive school”); skiving; plunking school; bunking off[△]</i>
sleep	<i>kip (“going for a kip”); going for forty winks (of “going for a wee snooze”); taking a nap; go for a lie-down; crash out (used by young speakers); going to sleep (of “going to bed”); kipping; sleep</i>
play a game	<i>muck around; play</i>
hit hard	<i>batter; belted; belt; welly; thump; clout; skelp (“you’ve given it a fair skelp”)</i>
clothes	<i>clothes; gear, kit (used by own children of “sports kit” for e.g. hockey); claes</i>
trousers	<i>breeks (also used for “underpants/knickers”); trousers (“go and put your trousers on/change your trousers” used to own children); troosers[†]; slacks (used in past of trousers worn by women); jeans (only worn by tradesmen in past, used now for ‘trousers’)</i>
child’s shoe	<i>gym shoes (used as child in past); plimsolls (used by husband, considered “English”); gutties[†] (also used of shoes worn on boat, used by husband from Errol); trainers (used by own children); jimmies[△]; sannies[△] (thought to be abbreviation for “sand-shoes”); sand-shoes (used as child in past)</i>
mother	<i>mum</i>
gmother	<i>granny (of paternal grandmother); nana (used to distinguish maternal grandmother from paternal “granny”, “nana Barlow” used of grandmother from Northumberland)</i>
m partner	<i>husband (of married male partner); partner; your man; your bloke[△]; your boyfriend</i>
friend	<i>pal, mate (most common locally); buddy; mucker</i>
gfather	<i>grandad; papa[♦] (used across successive generations in family); gramp (“gramp McPherson”)</i>
forgot name	<i>thingymejig⁵; thingymybob[◊]; whatchamacallit; thingmejig[◊]; whatchamacallit; “I canna mind”⁶; who-d’ye-cum-puffle[◊] (used by parents from Edinburgh of object e.g. screwdriver/pan); oojarkapiv[◊] (used by sister)</i>
kit of tools	<i>tool-kit; tools (“go and get the tools” used by father); tool-box (used now by plumber son); bag o tools⁷; tool bag (used by joiners in past of canvas bag)</i>

¹ OED (online edition) records ‘pants’ in sense of ‘rubbish’.

² OED (online edition) records ‘hellish’ in sense of ‘unpleasant’.

³ Shetland Dictionary (2009 <https://www.shetlanddialect.org.uk/dictionaries>) includes ‘pör aamos’ in sense of ‘frail’.

⁴ Shetland Dictionary (2009 <https://www.shetlanddialect.org.uk/dictionaries>) includes ‘höv’ in this sense.

⁵ Scaramouche73’s tweet #IFeelOldWhen I have to pass a gadget or a thingymejig to one of my kids to get it working (18.04.16 – see <https://twitter.com/Scaramouche73/status/722131370244485121>) includes ‘thingymejig’ in this sense.

⁶ Dictionary of the Scots Language (online) records ‘canna’ in sense of ‘can’t’; OED (online edition) records ‘mind’ in sense of ‘to remember’.

⁷ Dictionary of the Scots Language (online) records ‘o’ in sense of ‘of’.

trendy	<i>common as muck; tart; minger</i> ⁸ ; <i>gadgie</i> ⁹ ; <i>mink</i> ¹⁰ (esp. of “ <i>tink</i> ” [†] i.e. “ <i>those of the travelling fraternity</i> ”); <i>slapper</i> (suggested by interviewer, used); <i>tramp</i> ; “ <i>she’s a right ane</i> ” ¹⁰ ; <i>tarty</i> (“ <i>real tarty</i> ”); <i>mutton dressed as lamb</i> (used by grandmother of older person “ <i>trying to make themselves look trendy and young</i> ”)
f partner	<i>bidie in</i> [†] (used locally of unmarried female partner); <i>wife</i> (of married female partner); <i>pal</i> (of best friend); <i>girlfriend</i> (also used of best female friend); <i>birds</i> (“ <i>are the birds getting to come?</i> ” used by male colleagues of e.g. invitation to event including “ <i>wives/girlfriends</i> ”)
baby	<i>baby; bairn; sprog</i> (heard used by males/on TV, disliked, “ <i>wee sprog</i> ” heard used of “ <i>skinny wee kid</i> ”); <i>kid</i> (used of older child/“ <i>toddler/kiddy</i> ”); <i>ankle-biter</i> (suggested by interviewer, not known: presumed to be used for “ <i>dogs</i> ”); <i>nipper</i> (suggested by interviewer, heard but not common locally)
rain heavily	<i>pour</i> (“ <i>pouring o rain</i> ” ⁷); <i>pelting</i> (“ <i>pelting o rain</i> ” ⁷); <i>lashing</i> ¹¹ (“ <i>it’s lashing rain outside</i> ”); <i>tipping it down</i> [†] ; <i>bucketing rain</i> ¹² ; <i>teeming rain</i> (learnt from Cornish side of family); <i>bucketing</i> ¹² ; <i>tuning</i> [†] (suggested by interviewer as used in Shetland);
toilet	<i>lavvy; cludgie</i> ^Δ , <i>the bog</i> (of outside toilet); <i>lavatory; bathroom; toilet; loo; chanty</i> (of chamber pot under bed [†]); <i>the bogs</i> (of school toilets); <i>restroom</i> (suggested by interviewer as used by younger speakers, considered American/“ <i>posh</i> ”); <i>powder room</i>
walkway	<i>close</i> (used in Dundee, “ <i>I’ll meet you at the close</i> ” associated with tenement buildings in Glasgow); <i>alleyways; vennel</i> (most common locally e.g. “ <i>Cutlog/Baxter’s/Flesher’s Vennel</i> ” in Perth); <i>lane</i> (suggested by interviewer as used in Shetland, “ <i>posh</i> ”)
long seat	<i>settee</i> (used now in preference to “ <i>couch</i> ”); <i>couch</i> (used in past); <i>sofa</i> (associated with TV adverts, “ <i>posh</i> ”); <i>bed-settee</i>
run water	<i>burn; stream; ditch</i>
main room	<i>living-room; sitting-room; lounge; front room</i> (used of “ <i>the good room</i> ” reserved for “ <i>Christmas New Years and visitors</i> ”)
rain lightly	<i>drizzle; spitting; drizzling; spitting rain; a dreich day</i> [†] (“ <i>Scottish</i> ”)
rich	<i>well off; loaded; minted</i> (“ <i>they’re minted</i> ”); <i>Furcoat Avenue</i> ^Δ (used in past of Heughfield area of Bridge of Earn by analogy with expression “ <i>fur coat and nae drawers</i> ” ¹³)
left-handed	<i>kippie handed</i> [‡] (common locally in past); <i>cack-handed</i> (also used for “ <i>clumsy</i> ”/uncoordinated [?]); <i>left-handed; kippie</i> [‡]
unattractive	<i>minging; minger; no very bonny; boufing</i> [†] ; <i>ugly; pot ugly</i> ¹⁴ ; <i>dog</i> (“ <i>she’s a dog</i> ” used by males of females)
lack money	<i>skint</i> (“ <i>typical Perth expression</i> ”); <i>hard up; poor; down to your last halfpenny</i> ¹⁵
drunk	<i>blootered; guttered</i> ^Δ ; <i>steaming</i> ^Δ (most common, “ <i>they’re absolutely steaming</i> ”); <i>pissed; legless; sloshed; comatose</i> ^Δ , <i>paraletic</i> ^Δ , <i>rubberlegged</i> ^Δ (suggested by interviewer as used in Glasgow of different degrees of drunkenness); <i>out the game</i> ^Δ (of extreme drunkenness); <i>fa’en by</i> ¹⁶ (suggested by interviewer)

⁸ *OED* (online edition) records ‘*minger*’ in sense of ‘ugly/unattractive person’.

⁹ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘*gadgie*’ in sense of ‘man’.

¹⁰ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘*ane*’ in sense of ‘one’.

¹¹ *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) includes ‘*lash*’ in this sense.

¹² *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) records ‘*bucket down*’ in this sense.

¹³ *Brewer’s Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* (Dent, 2012) records ‘*fur coat and no knickers*’ in sense of ‘pretentious/showy exterior belies lack of substance’; *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘*nae*’ in sense of ‘no/not’

¹⁴ Brian Conaghan’s *The Boy Who Made It Rain* (2011, p.40) includes ‘*pot ugly*’ in this sense.

¹⁵ *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (<https://www.ldoceonline.com/>) records ‘*be down to your last pound/dollar etc.*’ in this sense.

¹⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘*fa by*’ in sense of ‘to collapse/faint’.

pregnant	<i>up the spout; up the duff, bun in the oven</i> (heard used); <i>expecting</i> (“older”); <i>pregnant</i> (modern, used of/by own daughter); <i>up the kyte</i> ¹⁷
attractive	<i>bonny</i> (most common, “ <i>she’s a bonny lass</i> ”); <i>pretty</i> ; <i>fit</i> (modern), <i>bit of all right, sexy, gorgeous</i> (used by younger speakers); <i>fell bonny</i> ¹⁸ (of female); <i>a bit of all right, hunk</i> (“ <i>a handsome hunk</i> ”), <i>gorgeous</i> (used of males); <i>buff</i> ^Δ (suggested by interviewer, “ <i>in the buff</i> ” used for ‘naked’)
insane	<i>mad</i> ; <i>nuts</i> (“ <i>she’s nuts</i> ” used affectionately) <i>daft</i> ; <i>bonkers</i> ; <i>nutter</i> (“ <i>nutter nurse</i> ” used jokingly of psychiatric nurse friend); <i>a sandwich short of a picnic</i> ^Δ ; <i>not the sharpest knife in the drawer</i> ¹⁹ ; <i>flaky</i> (heard used, disputed: used fir “ <i>iffy</i> ”)
moody	<i>huffy</i> ; <i>sulky</i> ; <i>stroppy</i> (“ <i>in a strop</i> ” used of person “ <i>in a mood</i> ”, also used for “ <i>arrogant/bit o an attitude</i> ” ⁷); <i>in a huff</i> ; <i>got the hump</i> ^Δ , <i>taken the hump</i> (of being “ <i>in a mood/sulk</i> ”); <i>taken the pet</i> (“ <i>she’s away in the huff cause she’s taken the pet</i> ”)

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¹⁷ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘up in the kyte’ in this sense.

¹⁸ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘fell’ in sense of ‘very/pretty’.

¹⁹ Diane McInnes’s *Aussie Phrases Down Under* (2014) records ‘not the sharpest knife in the cutlery drawer’ in this sense.