

**Title:**

Peterhead, Aberdeenshire

**Shelfmark:**

C1190/43/28

**Recording date:**

28.02.2005

**Speakers:**

Craighead, Margaret, b. 1916 Peterhead; female (father b. Peterhead, coach painter; mother b. Peterhead, domestic service)

Daniel, Robert (Bob), b. 1931 Turiff, Aberdeenshire; male (father b. Peterhead, farmer; mother b. Cruden Bay, Aberdeenshire)

Davidson, Sheila, b. 1946 Peterhead; female (father b. Peterhead, fisherman/seaman; mother b. Glasgow, bookkeeper)

Lawrie, Margaret (Peggy), b. 1923 Pittenweem, Fife; female (father b. Peterhead, fisherman; mother b. Pittenweem, gutter)

Rafferty, Wilma, b. 1940 Peterhead; female (father b. Peterhead, carter/lorry driver & clerk; mother b. Peterhead)

The interviewees are all either residents or staff of a sheltered housing development in Peterhead.

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)
- △ no previous source (with this sense) identified

**pleased**      *chuffed; made-up; pleased; gled<sup>†</sup>*

<b>tired</b>	<i>fair deen</i> <sup>1</sup> ; <i>fair forfochen</i> <sup>2</sup> (old, used by previous generation); <i>foonert</i> <sup>†</sup> (of being “fair worn-out”, also used for “full up”); <i>worn-out</i>
<b>unwell</b>	<i>nae weel</i> <sup>†</sup> (“I’m nae feeling weel the day” <sup>3</sup> of long/short-term illness); <i>poorly</i> ; <i>hinging-luggit</i> <sup>4</sup> (of e.g. “dog with its ears doon” <sup>5</sup> ); <i>puir way</i> <sup>6</sup> (“awfu’ puir way” <sup>7</sup> ); <i>peely-wally</i> ; “she was like a spewed quhiting” <sup>8</sup> (“oh, me, she’d an awfu’ colour she was like a spewed quhiting” <sup>7</sup> )
<b>hot</b>	<i>het</i> (“the sun’s ower het” <sup>9</sup> , “it’s awfu’ het here I’ll hae tae lowse my claes” <sup>10</sup> ); <i>roasting</i> ; <i>cooking</i> <sup>†</sup> (“I’m just about cooking”); <i>melting</i> ; <i>biling</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>sweating</i>
<b>cold</b>	<i>perishing</i> ; <i>shargared</i> <sup>11</sup> (“oh, I’m shargared wi caul” <sup>12</sup> used for “frozen”, old); <i>caul</i> <sup>†</sup> (pronounced “caal” locally, used by own children); <i>sterving</i> <sup>†</sup> (“I’m sterving o caul” <sup>13</sup> used by mother, not used by own children); <i>freezing</i> ; <i>cold</i> (used by own grandchildren in preference to “caul”); <i>smoring</i> <sup>14</sup> (“smoring wi the caul” <sup>15</sup> used in Peterhead of “stuffed/stuffed with the cold”)
<b>annoyed</b>	<i>angered</i> , <i>fizzing</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>biling</i> <sup>†</sup> <i>mad</i> ; <i>took a fit</i> <sup>16</sup> ; <i>threw a collywobble</i> <sup>17</sup> ; <i>really angry</i> ; <i>needled</i> , <i>nettled</i> ; <i>fizzing mad</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>awfu’ mad</i> <sup>7</sup>
<b>throw</b>	<i>chuck</i> (“chuck a stane intae watter” <sup>18</sup> ); <i>fling</i> ; <i>chucking</i> (of e.g. line when fishing); <i>wap</i> , <i>bajl</i> <sup>†</sup> (suggested by interviewer, not used)
<b>play truant</b>	<i>skive</i> (“skive the school”); <i>skiving</i> ; <i>scoffed the school</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>skip the school</i> ; <i>didna turn up</i> <sup>19</sup> ; <i>scoff</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>skive</i> ; <i>jink</i> <sup>†</sup> , <i>jink school</i> , <i>jinking</i> <sup>†</sup> (used by own children, modern)
<b>sleep</b>	<i>sleep</i> (“when I ging tae my bed I just doon my heidie and sleep” <sup>20</sup> ); <i>kip</i> ; <i>forty winks</i> (used to own children in past, “English nae a Doric ane” <sup>21</sup> ); <i>cat-napping</i> ; <i>slept</i>
<b>play a game</b>	<i>play</i> ; <i>play a game</i> (“we was playing catching/skipping/hide-and-see”)
<b>hit hard</b>	<i>a richt dunt</i> <sup>22</sup> ; <i>dunt</i> (“gie them a good dunt” <sup>23</sup> ); <i>cloot</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>wallop</i> ; <i>thump</i> ; <i>strik</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>clap</i> ; <i>clout</i>

<sup>1</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘deen’ in sense of ‘done’; *OED* (online edition) includes ‘done’ in this sense.

<sup>2</sup> *A Dictionary of Scottish Phrase & Fable* (2012) records ‘fair forfochen’ in this sense.

<sup>3</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘the day’ in sense of ‘today’.

<sup>4</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘hingin-luggit’ in sense of ‘dejected/crestfallen’.

<sup>5</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘doon’ in sense of ‘down’.

<sup>6</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘puir’ in sense of ‘poor’.

<sup>7</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘awfu’ in sense of ‘awful(ly)’.

<sup>8</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘quhiting’ in sense of ‘whiting’.

<sup>9</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ower’ in sense of ‘over/too’.

<sup>10</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘awfu’ in sense of ‘awful(ly)’, ‘hae’ in sense of ‘to have’, ‘tae’ in sense of ‘to’, ‘lowse’ in sense of ‘to lose’ and ‘claes’ in sense of ‘clothes’.

<sup>11</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘shargar’ in sense of ‘weak/stunted’.

<sup>12</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘wi’ in sense of ‘with’ and ‘caul’ in sense of ‘cold’. in sense of ‘weak/stunted’.

<sup>13</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘o’ in sense of ‘of’.

<sup>14</sup> *OED* (online edition) records ‘smore’ in sense of ‘to suffocate’.

<sup>15</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘wi’ in sense of ‘with’.

<sup>16</sup> *OED* (online edition) records ‘throw a fit’ in this sense.

<sup>17</sup> *OED* (online edition) records ‘collywobbles’ and ‘throw a wobbler’ in this sense.

<sup>18</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ging’ in sense of ‘to go’, ‘intae’ in sense of ‘into’ and ‘watter’ in sense of ‘water’.

<sup>19</sup> *OED* (online edition) records ‘didna’ in sense of ‘didn’t’.

<sup>20</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘stane’ in sense of ‘stone’, ‘tae’ in sense of ‘to’, ‘doon’ in sense of ‘down’, ‘heid’ in sense of ‘heid’ and ‘-ie’ in sense of ‘diminutive suffix’.

<sup>21</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘nae’ in sense of ‘not’ and ‘ane’ in sense of ‘one’.

<sup>22</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘richt’ in sense of ‘right’; *OED* (online edition) records ‘right’ in sense of ‘(of punch/blow) straight/true/well-aimed’.

<sup>23</sup> *English Dialect Dictionary* (1898-1905) records ‘gie’ in sense of ‘to give’.

<b>clothes</b>	<i>claes</i> (pronounced “ <i>claze/clize</i> ” locally); <i>gear</i> (“ <i>fisherman’s gear</i> ” of clothes worn by fishermen)
<b>trousers</b>	<i>breeks</i> (of men’s trousers); <i>pants</i> (used in America)
<b>child’s shoe</b>	<i>jimmies</i> <sup>Δ</sup> (most common in Peterhead); <i>plimsolls</i> , <i>gym shoes</i> (“ <i>get your gym shoes out</i> ” used by teachers); <i>tennis sheen</i> <sup>24</sup> ; <i>P.T. shoes</i> (used in army of “ <i>trainers</i> ”); <i>trainers</i> (modern)
<b>mother</b>	<i>midder</i> <sup>†</sup> , <i>mither</i> <sup>†</sup> (thought to come from German)
<b>gmother</b>	<i>middie</i> <sup>25</sup> (used by oldest grandchild who could not pronounce “ <i>midder</i> ” and subsequently adopted within family, liked); <i>grandma</i> ; <i>midder</i> <sup>26</sup> (thought to derive from German); <i>grunnie</i> <sup>†</sup> (disliked by own grandmother of self)
<b>m partner</b>	<i>loun</i> <sup>27</sup> (“ <i>my loun</i> ” of own partner); <i>boyfriend</i> ; <i>lad</i> (“ <i>your lad</i> ” used in contrast to “ <i>loun</i> ” when courting); <i>my man</i> (“ <i>my man’s standing ower there</i> ” <sup>28</sup> of own husband/boyfriend, most common locally); <i>husbands</i> , <i>partners</i> (not used)
<b>friend</b>	<i>pal</i> (“ <i>I ging tae see my best pal</i> ” <sup>29</sup> ); <i>freind</i> <sup>†</sup> (pronounced “ <i>freen</i> ” locally, also used of relative); <i>pals</i> ; <i>chum</i> ; <i>knabrie</i> <sup>30</sup> (“ <i>that’s your knabrie at the door for ye</i> ” <sup>31</sup> used by grandmother of group of friends, liked); <i>neibours</i> <sup>†</sup> (used locally of friends)
<b>gfather</b>	<i>deydie</i> <sup>†</sup> (“ <i>a fisher ane</i> ” <sup>32</sup> ); <i>grand-da</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>faddie</i> <sup>25</sup> (used by oldest grandchild who could not pronounce “ <i>fader</i> ” and subsequently adopted within family, liked); <i>father</i> <sup>33</sup> ; <i>fader</i> <sup>34</sup> (thought to derive from German)
<b>forgot name</b>	<i>thingummy</i> (“ <i>thon thingummy</i> ” <sup>35</sup> , “ <i>thingummy this and thingummy yon</i> ” <sup>36</sup> ); <i>thingummyjig</i> <sup>Δ</sup> (“ <i>thingummyjig at I canna mind on</i> ” <sup>37</sup> ); <i>him</i> , <i>her</i> (“ <i>I canna mind their/his/her name</i> ” <sup>37</sup> ); <i>fitever-ye-ca’-it</i> <sup>38</sup> (“ <i>ye ken whae I mean she brought in a fitever-ye-ca’-it</i> ” <sup>39</sup> ); <i>ye ken fit I mean</i> <sup>40</sup> ; <i>yon</i>
<b>kit of tools</b>	<i>kist of tools</i> ; <i>tool-kist</i> <sup>Δ</sup> ; <i>tool-box</i> ; <i>tool-kit</i>
<b>trendy</b>	<i>tarty</i> , <i>hussy</i> , <i>Jezebel</i> , <i>floozy</i> (not exclusive to Peterhead); <i>tart</i> , <i>tail</i> <sup>†</sup> , <i>tink</i> <sup>○</sup> (used in past of women who “ <i>gae aboot aa like a prostitute</i> ” <sup>41</sup> ); <i>tramp</i> ; <i>tarted up</i>
<b>f partner</b>	<i>lass</i> (“ <i>sic-and-sic’s my lass</i> ” <sup>42</sup> used of own partner, used in contrast to “ <i>quine</i> ” when courting); <i>wife</i> ; <i>bidie in</i> <sup>†</sup> (suggested by interviewer, used locally of unmarried woman living with male partner, used recently by male English colleague of self)

<sup>24</sup> *English Dialect Dictionary* (1898-1905) records ‘sheen’ as dialectal plural of ‘shoe’.

<sup>25</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘-ie’ in sense of ‘diminutive suffix’.

<sup>26</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘midder’ in sense of ‘mother’.

<sup>27</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘loun’ in sense of ‘boy/lad/young man’.

<sup>28</sup> *English Dialect Dictionary* (1898-1905) records ‘ower’ in sense of ‘over’.

<sup>29</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ging’ in sense of ‘to go’, and ‘tae’ in sense of ‘to’.

<sup>30</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘knabrie’ in sense of ‘gentry/people of quality’.

<sup>31</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’.

<sup>32</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ane’ in sense of ‘one’.

<sup>33</sup> *OED* (online edition) records ‘father’ in sense of ‘father’.

<sup>34</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘fader’ in sense of ‘father’.

<sup>35</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘thon’ in sense of ‘that/yon’.

<sup>36</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘yon’ in sense of ‘over there’.

<sup>37</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘canna’ in sense of ‘can’t’; *OED* (online edition) records ‘mind’ in sense of ‘to remember’.

<sup>38</sup> *The Concise Scots Dictionary* (1996) records ‘fit’ in sense of ‘what’; *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’ and ‘ca’ in sense of ‘call’; *OED* (online edition) includes ‘what-ye-call-it’ in this sense.

<sup>39</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’, ‘ken’ in sense of ‘to know’ and ‘whae’ in sense of ‘who’; *The Concise Scots Dictionary* (1996) ‘fit’ in sense of ‘what’; *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’ and ‘ca’ in sense of ‘call’; *OED* (online edition) includes ‘what-ye-call-it’ in this sense.

<sup>40</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘ye’ in sense of ‘you’ and ‘ken’ in sense of ‘to know’; *The Concise Scots Dictionary* (1996) ‘fit’ in sense of ‘what’; *OED* (online edition) includes ‘you know what I mean’ in this sense.

<sup>41</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘gae’ in sense of ‘to go’, ‘aboot’ in sense of ‘about’ and ‘aa’ in sense of ‘all’.

<b>baby</b>	<i>bairnie</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>babies</i> ; <i>she's beiring</i> <sup>43</sup>
<b>rain heavily</b>	<i>pouring</i> (“ <i>pouring rain</i> ”); <i>slooshing</i> <sup>44</sup> ; <i>lashing</i> <sup>45</sup> ; <i>pouring doon</i> <sup>5</sup> ;
<b>toilet</b>	<i>watterie</i> <sup>†</sup> (used in past of outside toilet at bottom of garden, “ <i>the watteries</i> ” used by grandfather); <i>lavvy</i> (used of outside toilet in past); <i>watterie closet</i> <sup>46</sup> (used as child in past); <i>toilet</i> (used now); <i>W.C.</i> (abbreviation of “ <i>water closet</i> ”)
<b>walkway</b>	<i>closie</i> <sup>†</sup> , <i>close</i> (most common locally); <i>lanie</i> <sup>‡</sup>
<b>long seat</b>	(not discussed)
<b>run water</b>	<i>burnie</i> <sup>47</sup> ; <i>burn</i>
<b>main room</b>	<i>living-room</i> (most common now); <i>sitting-room</i> , <i>lounge</i> (not used); <i>kitchen</i> (used in past); <i>parlour</i> (suggested by interviewer); <i>front room</i> (“ <i>the room</i> ” used in past of room only used for funerals)
<b>rain lightly</b>	<i>mizzle</i> (“ <i>it's awfu' mizzly</i> ” <sup>7</sup> ); <i>spark</i> <sup>†</sup> (“ <i>oh, it's sparking o rain</i> ” <sup>13</sup> used by mother in past); <i>a smur o rain</i> <sup>†13</sup> ; <i>smirring</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>spitting</i> (“ <i>oh, it's just spitting rain</i> ”); <i>drizzling</i> ; <i>drizzling rain</i>
<b>rich</b>	<i>weel-aff</i> <sup>†</sup> (most common); <i>weel set-up</i> <sup>48</sup> ; <i>well-heeled</i> ; <i>minted</i> , <i>loaded</i> (suggested by interviewer, not used, “ <i>modern</i> ”)
<b>left-handed</b>	<i>left-cleekit</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>south-poler</i> <sup>‡</sup> ; <i>corrie fisted</i> <sup>‡</sup> (thought to be more modern); <i>southpaw</i> (“ <i>awfu' handy in a boxing ring</i> ” <sup>7</sup> )
<b>unattractive</b>	<i>strushle</i> <sup>†</sup> (“ <i>strushle brute</i> ” used of “ <i>young teenage laddie at was awfu' fitless</i> ” <sup>49</sup> ); <i>orra</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>nae bonny</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>plain</i> (“ <i>plain Jane</i> ”); <i>ugly</i>
<b>lack money</b>	<i>skint</i> ; <i>hard up</i> ; <i>stony-broke</i> ; <i>puir</i> <sup>†</sup> (pronounced “ <i>peer</i> ” locally, “ <i>gey puir</i> ” <sup>50</sup> ); <i>nae money</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>penniless</i>
<b>drunk</b>	<i>bleezing</i> <sup>†</sup> (used by son); <i>fou</i> (“ <i>fair fou</i> ”); <i>half-cut</i> ; <i>doitered</i> <sup>51</sup> (“ <i>oh man, he was doitered</i> ”, used in Peterhead); <i>paralytic</i> ; <i>spiflicated</i> <sup>‡</sup> (of being “ <i>useless/helpless</i> ”, liked); <i>awa o drink</i> <sup>52</sup> ; <i>awfu' fou</i> <sup>7</sup>
<b>pregnant</b>	<i>expecting</i> ; <i>wee beirn</i> <sup>†</sup> (“ <i>oh, she's wi her beirn</i> ” <sup>53</sup> / <i>haeing her beirn</i> ” <sup>54</sup> )
<b>attractive</b>	<i>bonny</i>
<b>insane</b>	<i>nae wise</i> <sup>†</sup> ; <i>feel</i> <sup>†</sup> (“ <i>Feel Sandy/Willie/Robert</i> ” nicknames of Buchanhaven characters in past); <i>doolally</i> ; <i>glaikit</i> <sup>†</sup> (used for “ <i>to act the goat/caper</i> ”)
<b>moody</b>	<i>richt dour</i> <sup>55</sup> (“ <i>a dour so-and-so</i> ”); <i>queer-humoured</i> <sup>56</sup> ; <i>glum</i> ; <i>dour</i> ; <i>sulky</i>

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<sup>42</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘sic-an-sic’ in sense of ‘such-and-such’.

<sup>43</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘beir’ in sense of ‘to bear/give birth’.

<sup>44</sup> *OED* (online edition) records ‘sloosh’ in sense of ‘to flow/pour with a rush’.

<sup>45</sup> *Macmillan Dictionary* (<https://www.macmillandictionary.com/>) includes ‘lash down’ in this sense.

<sup>46</sup> *Linguistic Atlas of Scotland* (1975-1986) records ‘watterie’ and ‘watter-closet’ in this sense.

<sup>47</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘-ie’ in sense of ‘diminutive suffix’ incl. ‘burnie’.

<sup>48</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘weel’ in sense of ‘well’; *Green's Dictionary of Slang* (2010) includes ‘well set-up’ in this sense.

<sup>49</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘awfu’ in sense of ‘awful(ly)’ and ‘fitless’ in sense of ‘unsteady/tottery’.

<sup>50</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘gey’ in sense of ‘very/really’.

<sup>51</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘doiter’ in sense of ‘to walk unsteadily/totter’ and ‘doitered’ in sense of ‘confused/witless’.

<sup>52</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘awa’ in sense of ‘away’ and ‘o’ in sense of ‘of’.

<sup>53</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘wi’ in sense of ‘with’ and ‘beirn’ in sense of ‘child’.

<sup>54</sup> *English Dialect Dictionary* (1898-1905) records ‘hae’ in sense of ‘to have’ and ‘beirn’ in sense of ‘child’.

<sup>55</sup> *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘richt’ in sense of ‘right’; *OED* (online edition) records ‘right’ in sense of ‘very/really’.

<sup>56</sup> *OED* (online edition) records ‘queer-tempered’ in this sense.

A British Library project funded by The Leverhulme Trust