

Title:

Pitlochry, Perth and Kinross

Shelfmark:

C1190/43/29

Recording date:

01.03.2005

**Speakers:**

Bridges, Clive, b. 1947 Doncaster; male (father b. Aberdeen, hotelier; mother b. Doncaster)

MacDonald, Neil, b. 1944 Tummel Bridge, Perthshire; male (father b. Isle of Harris, Outer Hebrides, merchant seaman & caterer; mother b. Isle of Harris, Outer Hebrides, housewife)

Rose, Edward (Eddie), b. 1944 Grantown-on-Spey, Moray; male (father b. Grantown-on-Spey, joiner; mother b. Grantown-on-Spey, housewife)

Walker, Alister, b. 1953 Pitlochry; male (father b. Pitlochry, bus driver; mother b. Kenmore, Perthshire, housewife)

Wilson, Alexander (Sandy), b. 1934 Pitlochry; male (father b. Dufftown, Banffshire; mother b. Pitlochry, cook/domestic service)

The interviewees are all members of Pitlochry Rotary Club.

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

chuffed ("fair chuffed", liked); *delighted*; *pleased*; *happy*; *over the moon*; *fine* ("that's fine with/by me"), *great* ("that's great"), *super* ("that's super"), *braw* ("that's braw" used as term of approval)

tired	<i>knackered</i> (“good one”); <i>fair forfochit</i> ¹ (heard used in past, “ <i>fair forfochen</i> ” [†] used frequently by colleague from Aberdeen); <i>weary</i> ; <i>buggered</i>
unwell	<i>sick</i> ; <i>seik</i> [†] ; <i>under the weather</i> ; <i>fusionless</i> (learnt from friend, liked); <i>nae well</i> [†] ; <i>rough</i> ; <i>unwell</i>
hot	<i>scalding</i> (“ <i>scalding hot</i> ”); <i>sweating</i> (“ <i>by here, it’s sweating in here</i> ”); <i>boiling</i> (“ <i>I’m really boiling</i> ”, “ <i>I am boiling hot</i> ”); <i>hot</i> ; <i>clammy</i> ; <i>roasting</i> (suggested by interviewer, liked); <i>sweltering</i> (suggested by interviewer, used); <i>sweaty</i>
cold	<i>chilly</i> ; <i>Baltic</i> [◊] ; (“ <i>bloody Baltic the day it’s Baltic</i> ” ²); <i>freezing</i> ; <i>parky</i> (of “ <i>bright sunny day and it was frosty sharp</i> ”, liked); <i>snell</i> (“ <i>awful snell the day</i> ” ² heard used elsewhere, used occasionally); <i>frozen</i>
annoyed	<i>fizzing</i> [†] (“ <i>I’m fizzing about this/that</i> ”); <i>the crack’s bad</i> ³ (“ <i>I’m in bad crack wi thee</i> ” ⁴); <i>miffed</i> (“ <i>I was really miffed</i> ” used of being “ <i>really biling</i> ” [†]); <i>dischuffed</i> ; <i>angry</i> ; <i>blazing</i> ¹ (of extreme annoyance)
throw	<i>chuck</i> ; <i>fling</i> (“ <i>fling your clothes in the chair</i> ” used of “ <i>throwing stuff carelessly</i> ”, also used of “ <i>affair</i> ”); <i>höv</i> ⁵ , <i>wap</i> , <i>bajl</i> [†] (suggested by interviewer, not known)
play truant	<i>hookey</i> ; <i>playing hookey</i> (not common locally in past); <i>truant</i> (“ <i>playing truant</i> ” most common locally); <i>skiving</i> ; <i>do a bunk</i> ^Δ ; <i>dodging</i> [‡] (“ <i>I never dodged the school</i> ”)
sleep	<i>kip</i> ; <i>forty winks</i> ; <i>cat-nap</i> (of “ <i>snooze</i> ”); <i>snooze</i> (of brief daytime sleep in armchair); <i>sleep</i> (of sleep in bed at night)
play a game	(not discussed)
hit hard	<i>thump</i> (of object/person); <i>clobber</i> ; <i>belt</i> (“ <i>I’ll belt you one</i> ”); <i>smash</i>
clothes	<i>clothes</i> (modern); <i>claes</i> (“ <i>get my/your claes on</i> ”, older); <i>kit</i> ; <i>togs</i> (“ <i>I’ll go and get my togs on</i> ” used esp. of working clothes)
trousers	<i>troosers</i> [†] (used in preference to “ <i>trousers</i> ”, “ <i>Donald where’s your trousers?</i> ” ⁶); <i>breeks</i> (“ <i>gosh, man, I ripped my breeks crossing that barbed wire fence</i> ”, associated with “ <i>tartan breeks</i> ” in North East); <i>pants</i> (suggested by interviewer, used locally for “ <i>undergarment</i> ”); <i>trousers</i> (used in e.g. shop, “ <i>more universal</i> ”)
child’s shoe	<i>trainers</i> (most common now, used by own children); <i>gym shoes</i> (“ <i>don’t go to school without your gym shoes</i> ”), <i>jimmies</i> ^Δ (used as child at school); <i>plimsolls</i> (heard used, used esp. of tennis shoes in past); <i>sand-shoes</i> (“ <i>have you got your sand-shoes?</i> ”); <i>sannies</i> ^Δ , <i>gutties</i> [†] (suggested by interviewer, not known)
mother	<i>the old lady</i> (of own mother); <i>mum</i> (used to own mother as child); <i>mother</i> (used of/to own mother as adult); <i>Liza</i> (i.e. by name, “ <i>Liza says ...</i> ” used of own mother to e.g. siblings); <i>old Dutch</i> ⁷ , <i>old doll</i> [†] , <i>old dear</i> , <i>old lady</i> (suggested by interviewer as used by males); <i>Aileen</i> (used by grandson in USA)
gmother	<i>nan</i> ; <i>granny</i> ; <i>gran</i> (used by own children)
m partner	<i>my husband</i> (used by own wife of self); “ <i>that pain in the backside</i> ⁸ / <i>silly bugger</i> ⁹ ” (used jokingly by own wife of self); <i>the husband</i> (not heard used by females); <i>Prince Charming</i>

¹ *A Dictionary of Scottish Phrase & Fable* (2012) records ‘fair forfochen’ in this sense.

² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘the day’ in sense of ‘today’.

³ *OED* (online edition) records ‘crack’ in sense of ‘fun/amusement/mischief’.

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

⁵ *Shetland Dictionary* (2009 <https://www.shetlanddialect.org.uk/dictionaries>) includes ‘höv’ in this sense.

⁶ *A Dictionary of Scottish Phrase & Fable* (2012) comic song written and performed by Scottish singer Andy Stewart MBE (1933-1993), first released in UK 1960.

⁷ *OED* (online edition) records ‘old Dutch’ in sense of ‘wife’.

⁸ *Cambridge Dictionary* (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/a-pain-in-the-arse-backside>) records ‘pain in the backside’ in sense of ‘someone very annoying’.

⁹ *OED* (online edition) records ‘silly bugger’ in sense of ‘silly/foolish person’.

(suggested jokingly as used by wife of self); *Mr Wisenheimer*¹⁰ (used frequently by own wife of self when “*he’s getting too wise for his boots*”); *by my name* (i.e. by name, used by own wife to self)

friend *pal* (most common locally), *chum* (associated with dog meat¹¹) *buddy*, *buddies* (thought to be American, liked, used in Paisley); *mate* (“*out with their mates*” used esp. of work colleagues); *friends*

gfather *grandpa*; *grandad*

forgot name *thingmebob*^o; *thingummybob*^Δ (“*what’s thingummybob’s name?*”); *what’s-his-name* (“*oh aye, what’s his-name*” used frequently); “*another senior moment*”¹²; *thingummy*; *thingummyjig*^Δ; *thingy* (“*put that thingy over there on top of that thingy*” used frequently by colleague); *thingme*[♦]

kit of tools *tools*; *gibbles*[†] (“*have you got your gibbles together?*”, also used of e.g. “*camera gear*”); *tool-box*; *tool-kit* (“*you got your tool-kit with you?*”); *bass*[†] (suggested by interviewer, used by joiner/plumber)

trendy *tacky* (of “*cheap and horrible*” clothes/person); *raver*¹³ (of person at “*all-night rave-up*”); “*she’s a cheap-looking tart*” (of female, “*derogatory*”); *Cheap John*¹⁴ (of male); *slapper* (suggested by interviewer, heard used on TV)

f partner *my wife* (used consciously of second wife in preference to “*the wife*”); *her indoors* (modern, heard frequently and thought to be popularised by ‘Only Fools and Horses’¹⁵); *The-One-Who-Must-Be-Obeyed*¹⁶; *the wife* (used of first wife in past, now consciously avoided); *by her name* (i.e. by name); *bidie in*[†]; *you-know-who*¹⁷ (used recently of own wife having temporarily forgotten her name); *dear*

baby *baby* (“*it’s a bonny-looking baby*”); *babby*[†]; *babbies*[†] (heard used); *bairn* (common locally, “*that’s a braw bairn you’ve got*”); *lounie*¹⁸, *quinie*¹⁹ (used occasionally, learnt from father from North East); *wain*[†] (suggested by interviewer as used on West Coast, “*wains*”)

rain heavily *teeming doon*²⁰; *pissing doon*¹⁹; *bucketing* (“*bucketing rain*”); *pouring* (“*pouring rain*”); *coming down like stair-rods* (of extremely heavy rain); *raining cats and dogs* (“*the road will be all wee poodles*” suggested jokingly); *raining pieces of string* (thought to be analogous to German idiom²¹)

toilet *cludgie*^Δ (esp. of “*wee room in garden with peephole in door*” i.e. outside toilet); *loo* (of indoor toilet); *bog* (“*slang*” used frequently with friends, used by young speakers, “*gone to the bog*” used in Ireland of cutting peat); *bathroom*, *restroom* (“*American*”)

walkway *lane* (used locally); *vennel* (common in Perth e.g. “*Cutlog Vennel*” but not used locally, liked); *alleyway* (thought to be used within family due to naval influence); *path*; *penn*[†];

¹⁰ Wiktionary (<https://en.wiktionary.org/>) includes ‘wisenheimer’ in sense of ‘know-it-all/smart alec’.

¹¹ *Pal* and *Chum* were UK brands of dog food manufactured by Pedigree Petfoods.

¹² OED (online edition) records ‘senior moment’ in sense of ‘instance/short period of forgetfulness/confusion’.

¹³ OED (online edition) records ‘raver’ in sense of ‘party animal/pleasure seeker’.

¹⁴ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘Cheap John’ in sense of ‘shoddy/inferior’.

¹⁵ Long-running British sit-com first broadcast on BBC in 1981.

¹⁶ OED (online edition) records ‘She-Who-Must-Be-Obeyed’ in this sense.

¹⁷ OED (online edition) records ‘you-know-who’ in sense of ‘deliberately unnamed person whose identity is (assumed to be) understood by the hearer’.

¹⁸ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘loun’ in sense of ‘boy’ and ‘-ie’ in sense of ‘diminutive suffix’ incl. ‘lounie’.

¹⁹ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘quine’ in sense of ‘girl’ and ‘-ie’ in sense of ‘diminutive suffix’.

²⁰ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘doon’ in sense of ‘down’.

²¹ *Collins German-English Dictionary* (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/german-english>) records ‘es regnet Bindfäden’ [= string] in this sense.

	<i>pend; close</i> (used in Fife, “ <i>he’s rubbish he cudna keep hens out o a close</i> ” ²² heard recently directed at St Johnstone ²³ goalkeeper having poor game, “ <i>draughty close</i> ” used jokingly in past as euphemism for contraception)
long seat	<i>couch</i> (“ <i>couch potato</i> ”); <i>sofa</i> (“ <i>go and sit on the sofa</i> ”); <i>settee</i>
run water	(not discussed)
main room	<i>living-room</i> (“ <i>bread and butter</i> ” term); <i>lounge</i> (“ <i>posh</i> ”, used by own children, of room reserved for “ <i>afternoon tea/drinks</i> ” with visitors); <i>sitting-room</i> (of room reserved for visitors jokingly called “ <i>the west wing</i> ” due to layout of house); <i>kitchen</i> (used in Ireland in contrast to “ <i>sitting-room</i> ” of main ‘living-room’, also used in Scotland in past); <i>sitootery</i> ²⁴ , <i>consutory</i> ^Δ (suggested jokingly as used of “ <i>conservatory</i> ”)
rain lightly	<i>Scotch mist</i> (“ <i>it’s a touch of that Scotch mist</i> ”); <i>spitting rain</i> ; <i>drizzle</i> (“ <i>slight drizzle</i> ”); <i>small rain</i> ²⁵ (used by local captain in ship’s log in past); <i>smur</i> (suggested by interviewer, not known)
rich	<i>loaded</i> (“ <i>he really is loaded</i> ”); <i>well off</i> ; <i>well-heeled</i> (“ <i>that guy’s got dosh</i> ”); <i>minted</i> (suggested by interviewer, heard used elsewhere/by younger speakers)
left-handed	<i>kippie handed</i> [‡] (learnt from father, most common locally); <i>corrie handed</i> [‡] (used of self as left-handed golfer/batsman in cricket); <i>cack-handed</i> (heard used of left-handed golfer); <i>left-handed</i> ; <i>corrie fist</i> [‡] , <i>pallie jookit</i> [‡] (suggested by interviewer, not known); <i>sinister</i> (suggested by interviewer, thought to be Italian)
unattractive	<i>grotty</i> (of extreme ugliness, used with university friends in past of e.g. “ <i>grotty bird competition</i> ”, not considered “ <i>demeaning</i> ” when used of “ <i>not bonny-looking</i> ” person); “ <i>they hang upside down to sleep</i> ” ^Δ (i.e. euphemism for “ <i>a bat</i> ” ^Δ); <i>badger</i> ^Δ (“ <i>she looks like a badger</i> ”, “ <i>boy, she looks as rough as a badger</i> ” heard used); “ <i>she’s nae bonny but she’s got a braw figure</i> ” ²⁶ (of female); <i>rough as a badger’s arse</i> ²⁷ (suggested by interviewer, “ <i>gorilla’s armpit</i> ” ²⁸ / <i>Turkish wrestler’s jockstrap</i> ” ²⁹)
lack money	<i>broke</i> ; <i>hard up</i> (common locally); <i>skint</i> (of being “ <i>really hard up/having nothing at all</i> ”, used by young speakers since monthly salary replaced weekly wage); <i>stony broke</i>
drunk	<i>pissed</i> (“ <i>see him, that Sandy Wilson, he’s half-pissed again</i> ” used with friends); <i>fou</i> (used by older speakers locally, “ <i>he’s walking along the road and he’s fou</i> ” used by own parents of being “ <i>well-oiled</i> ”); <i>three sheets to the wind</i> (used by own sailor family for “ <i>inebriated</i> ”); <i>tipsy</i> (suggested by interviewer, used of mild drunkenness); <i>paralytic</i> (of extreme drunkenness); <i>blazing</i> ^Δ (“ <i>I’m away to get blazing</i> ” used recently by man from Black Isle for “ <i>blazing drunk</i> ”)
pregnant	<i>family way</i> ; <i>knocked the budgie off its perch</i> ³⁰ (used euphemistically by friend in pipe band, liked); <i>with child</i> (“ <i>polite</i> ”); <i>impregnated</i> ; <i>trom</i> ³¹ (Gaelic for “ <i>heavy</i> ”); <i>heavy</i> (“ <i>family slang</i> ” used as direct translation of “ <i>trom</i> ”); <i>pregnant</i> ; <i>up the chute</i> ^Δ (to friend); <i>up the duff</i>

²² *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘cudna’ in sense of ‘couldn’t’ and ‘o’ in sense of ‘of’.

²³ *Wikipedia* (online) Scottish professional football team founded in 1884 based in Perth.

²⁴ *Cambridge Dictionary* (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/>) records ‘sitootery’ in this sense.

²⁵ Robert Motherby’s *Pocket Dictionary of the Scottish Idiom* (1826) records ‘small rain’ in entries for ‘dag’ and ‘smur’.

²⁶ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘nae’ in sense of ‘no/not’; *OED* (online edition) records ‘braw’ in sense of ‘great/fine/excellent’.

²⁷ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘rough as a badger’s arse’ in sense of ‘unsophisticated’.

²⁸ A. Foley’s blog post ‘Irish expressions you’ll need for web summit 2015’ (aislingfoley.com 29 October 2015) includes ‘tastes like a gorilla’s armpit’ in sense of ‘doesn’t taste nice’ (see <https://aislingfoley.com/irish-expressions-web-summit-2015/>).

²⁹ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘mouth like the insides of a Turkish wrestler’s jockstrap’ in sense of ‘dry/furry mouth caused by too much drinking’.

³⁰ *OED* (online edition) records ‘to knock a person off his or her perch’ in sense of ‘to disconcert/humiliate (a person)’.

³¹ *Am Faclair Beag* (<http://www.faclair.com/>) includes ‘trom’ in this sense.

- (heard used by young speakers, disliked); *expecting* (polite); *up the Swanee*³² (suggested by interviewer, not known); *up the spout* (heard used)
- attractive** *cracker* (“*she’s a real cracker*” used of female); *gorgeous*; *bonny* (“*bonny lass*”, liked); *a bit of OK/all right* (used to “*pals*” of female); *smart* (“*she’s a smart-looking lady*” of female regardless of age); *stoater*^Δ (suggested by interviewer as used in West Coast)
- insane** *nuts*; *the lift disna go to the top*³³; *not the full shilling*[◊]; *a sandwich short of a picnic*^Δ; *doolally* (army expression, thought to be name of military asylum near Bombay); *doowally*^Δ; *a bit loopy, he’s no wired up right*³⁴ (used affectionately)
- moody** *crabbit*[†] (used by/of own mother, liked); *prickly* (“*he’s prickly this morning*” used of “*moody basket*”³⁵ colleague); *temperamental*; “*the crack’s bad there the day*”³⁶; *in bad crack*³; *strange*³⁷ (“*he’s a pretty strange person, that*”); *unpredictable*[♦] (suggested by interviewer); *a bit touchy*; *short fuse*³⁸ (“*he’s got a very short fuse*”)

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³² Fictional character Arthur Shelby Jr. uses ‘up the Swanee’ in this sense in British TV crime drama *Peaky Blinders* Series 3 Episode 3, first broadcast 19 May 2016.

³³ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘disna’ in sense of ‘doesn’t’; *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘the lift does not go to the top floor’ in this sense.

³⁴ *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘no’ in sense of ‘not’; Norman Harper’s *Spikkin Doric* (2009) records ‘wired up wrang’ in this sense.

³⁵ *OED* (online edition) records ‘basket’ in sense of ‘euphem. alteration of bastard’.

³⁶ *OED* (online edition) records ‘crack’ in sense of ‘fun/amusement/mischief’; *Dictionary of the Scots Language* (online) records ‘the day’ in sense of ‘today’.

³⁷ *OED* (online edition) records ‘strange’ in sense of ‘distant/cold in demeanour’.

³⁸ *OED* (online edition) records ‘short fuse’ in sense of ‘quick temper’.