

CLIVE P L YOUNG

550 SCOTS PHRASES

YE JIST CANNA DAE WI'OOT



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This collection of Scots phrases from **scotslanguage.info**, a searchable archive of Scots news and articles from the press and social media, going back to 2012.

I gathered the phrases around 2014 from a variety of sources. An update with 'new' Scots phrases from the internet was long overdue, and this edition was inspired by '**Gies A Scots Phrase Day**' in June 2021.

The booklet accompanies the **Scots Learners' Grammar**, a brief overview of the main features of Scots syntax and **How the Scots Language Works**, an introduction to the modern language.

Whit about the spellin? I try to use the common, mostly non-dialectical Scots spellings and vocabulary that have emerged over the last 20 years. There remains no 'official' standard in Scots, but convergence in the orthography of published prose since the turn of the century has made developing general learning materials like these much easier. On my desk (and desktop) are *The Concise English-Scots Dictionary* (1993), *The Essential Scots Dictionary* (1996 as *The Scots School Dictionary*), the *Luath Scots Language Learner* (2002), the substantial modern Scots writings from the *Scots Language Centre* [<https://www.scotslanguage.com/>] and the ever-reliable *Online Scots Dictionary* [<https://www.scots-online.org/dictionary/>].

The spellins A uised in 2014 are no aye the anes A'd uise the day, but A doot they'll dae fur noo.

Clive P L Young, March 2022



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Ach! That's rale boggin! Ach, we'll hae tae dae it noo Oh, that's really dirty. Oh well, we have to do it now

Dinna act the bairn Don't be childish

Dinna act it wi me Don't push your luck

Whit's adae? What is going in?

A got it aff ma brither I got it from my brother.

Are youse for (the) aff? Are you going?

C'mo(a)n, git aff! Legendary phrase of Glasgow bus conductors ('clippies')

The weather's aff an on the day The weather is changeable today

A wis fair (black) affrontit! I was quite (extremely) embarrassed

A'm ages wi him I'm the same age as him.

His plans went agley frae the ootset His plans went wrong from the beginning

Whit ails ye? What's the matter with you?

Whit ails ye at gaun oot What objection do you have to o going out?

Towerists frae aw the airts Tourists from all over

An him a meenister an aw It is especially disappointing/surprising as he is a churchman

A'm no weel aquent wi him I don't know him well

Tell yer maw a wis askin efter hir Tell your mother I was asking how she was.

She's aye at her bairns She's always scolding her children

Whit are ye (ettlin) at? What do you mean?

A'll hae a cup o tea atweenhauns I'll have a cup of tea in the meantime

Yer at yer auntie's (hoose) Tuck in!

Annie's no here, she's awa Annie has just left

Awa (ye go)! Expression of surprise

Awa an bile yer heid! Clear off!

Come awa in/ben Come in

Come awa, Scotlann! / 'Mon the Scots! Go Scotland!

That ye awa hame? Are you going home?

The tellie's awa (wi't) The TV is done for

Awa oot an get some mulk Go out and get some milk

Awa wi ye! Expression of disbelief

He is the awfie'est cuik He is the worst cook

He's comin the morn, ay? He's coming tomorrow, isn't he?

Ay, ay! Hello!

The ba(w)'s on the slates The sh*t has hit the fan

Thon bus misst me by a ba(w) hair That bus missed me by a hairsbreadth

A'll see ye the back o fower I'll see you shortly after four.

Awthing here is backside foremaist Everything here is back to front

He bairned her He made her pregnant

Ya bandit! Expression of delight

He tint the hail bang-shoot He lost the lot

That's barrie That's fantastic (*Edinburgh*)

That bates / dings / coves aw That beats everything

Nae ba(a)ther! ('borra' in Glasgow) You're welcome! (after being thanked)

Ya beautie! Expression of delight

Wha belongs tae this jaicket? Whose is this jacket?

Whaur dae ye belang tae? Where are you from?

It's ma bell It's my round

Awa ben an get ma Sunday Post Go to the other room to get my Sunday Post

Come ben the hoose Come on in

He wis oot on the bevvie aw nicht He was out drinking all night.

A canna bide that countra music I can't stand country music.

On yer bike! Expression of disbelief

He's git his birse up noo He's annoyed now

A canna get oot o the bit I can't make any progress, I'm stuck

Whan it comes tae the bit, we'll be fine When it comes to the crucial point, we'll be fine

She was aye bitin his lug She was always flattering him

It's as black as the Earl o Hell's weskit doon here It's pitch black down here

It's no ma blame It's not my fault

Ye needna be sae blate Don't be shy

It's aa jist bletheration. It's only foolish talk.

A didna get a blink o sleep I didn't get a wink of sleep

She wis awa in a blink She left in an instant
It'd gie ye the (dry) boak It's (very) disgusting

Thon eedjit gies me the dry boak That idiot makes me really sick

The gemm's a bogie The game/plan has to be abandoned

She haes a bool in her mooth She talks in an affected manner

Gie's a bosie Give me a kiss

His wark's gane doon the brae His work has declined

It's as braid as it's lang It makes no difference either way

It's a braw bricht moonlit nicht the nicht The only Scots phrase many have heard of!

He got the bree o the blame. He got the brunt of the blame.

A'm gonna breenge up the shoaps the morra I'm going for a trip to the town centre tomorrow

Gie's a brek Give me a chance

The jannie is in wi the bricks The janitor has been here for ever

Awa an hae a wee bubble tae yersel Go have have a little cry

Stick bubble! Don't be sulky!

He taks a guid bucket He drinks a lot

We drank a bucket at Hogmanay We drank a large amount on New Year's Eve

Gang / gae tae Buckie / Banff / Freuchie / etc! Go to hell!

The bairn nivver lat bug The child gave no indication

It's aye a hunger or a burst aroond here It's always feast or famine around here

This is awfie fykie, but. This is very tricky, isn't it?

D'ye think ma heid buttons up the back? Do you think I am naive?

A'll pit a bittie by fur ye. I'll put some aside for you.

Och that's the hoaliday by then. Well, that's the holiday finished.

A'll gie it a bye. I'll give it a miss.

A'm no sae green as A'm cabbitch-luikin I'm not so daft as I look

There wis a richt cairrie-on at the cairrie-oot There was trouble at the off-licence/takeaway

She'll hae a canarie when she fins oot. She'll be very angry when she finds out

Is the cat deid? Remark about a person's too-short trousers (i.e. half mast)

Caw awa! Go ahead!

Caw cannie! Take care!

Thon decesion cawed the legs fae unner me. That decision knocked the legs from under me.

Cheek on ye! You cheeky so and so

A dinna want a cheep oot o ye I don't want you to say anything

Gie's a cheeper Give me a kiss

Cheerio/bye the noo Bye!

Whid did ye get fur yer Christmas What did you get as a Chrstmas present

A'll chum ye alang tae the schuil I'll accompany you to the school

Ach weel, back tae auld claes an parritch Oh well, back to routine (e.g. after a holiday)

She got a click at the ceilidh. She found a boyfriend at the ceilidh

Ye're in the wrang close / dreel / sheuch You are mistaken

A've no jist come up the Clyde on a bike/banana boat I'm not stupid

Come awa, lassie! Come on girl!

The boss haes a guid conceit o hissel The boss thinks highly of himself

Dinna ye conter / speak back tae yer faither Don't contradict your father

Come on Morag, ye'r aye at the coo's tail. Come on Morag, you are always last.

Whit's yer crack? / Gie's yer crack What's your news?

He had tae shoot the craw He had to leave in a hurry

Ye hae tae creep afore ye gang You have to walk before you run

Crivvens! Goodness!

Yer cruisin fur a bruisin Go on like that and you are in trouble

Gie's a cry if ye're wantin oniething Give me a shout if you want anthything

Can ye cry in on the wey back? Can you look in on the way back?

Dinna lat dab ye ken Don't let them know you know.

That's the verra dab That's just the thing

The bairn's daft on the fitba The child is crazy about football

Sure as daith he'll be here the morn He'll absolutely certainly be here tomorrow

Nae danger! No way I'm doing that

A'm awa fur a wee daun(d)er I'm going for a short walk

A daurna dae't I daren't do it

A've no jist come doon the Dee on a digestive I'm not stupid

Drap deid! Drop dead!

A'm deid certs I'm absolutely certain

Dinna dae yer dinger Don't get angry.

A wytit an oor, bit she gaed me a dizzie / dingie I waited an hour but she stood me up.

It's no wirth a docken. It's worthless.

He wis up tae high doh the day. He was in a very excited state today.

She wis up tae high doh wi the waddin She was very excited due to the wedding

Ma wee doo term of endearment

A'm awa tae the leesure centre fur a dook I'm going to the leesure centre for a swim

He belongs tae Haaick an has a hoose doon-by an aw He comes from Hawick and has a house there too

Ma ma's no bin ower the door in weeks My mother hasb't been out of the house in weeks

Tak the door wi ye Shut the door as you go

Foos yer doos? Legendary North East greeting; 'Ay peckin' is the answer

A doot it's gaun tae snaw. I think it is going to snow.

A doot ye'll no ken him I expect you don't know him

A doot. I suppose so

A hae ma doots I'm doubtful.

A'm dottin oot fur a whilie I'm going out for a while

A'm jist dottin roon tae ma maw's I'm just nipping round to my mother's.

Thae auld breeks are aw dowp and pooches. Those old trousers have lost their shape.

Ye'll tak a dram Let's have a drink

The nights is fair drawin in The nights are getting shorter

A canna mak up ma mind, A'll jist draw straes I can't make up my mind, I'll just draw lots

Aftimes ye jist hae tae dree yer weird. Sometimes you just have to get on with it.

Ye jist hae to dree yer weird You just have to endure your fate

A doot we're up the wrang dreel here I think we're heading in the wrong direction here

It's a gey sair

nicht the nicht The weather is very unpleasant tonight

A've a drouth on me I'm thirsty

Ilka dug haes thir day Everyone has a chance

A cud eat a scabbie dug / scabbie heidit wean I could eat a horse

A'm duin / throu I'm finished

Thon bairn's aye awa in a dwam That kid is always daydreaming

It went like snaw aff a dyke. It disappeared quickly.

A'm no rinnin eerants, A'm no the message boy I'm not going on errands, I'm not the errand boy

A'll see ye efter. I'll see you later

A cudna be ersed gaun I couldn't be bothered going (*vulgar*)

A wis ettlin tae gang I was intending to go

Fa(w) tae, fowks! Eat up, people!

He naur aet the face aff me He gave me a terrible row

It's a fack It's true

Whaur ye fae? Where are you from?

A cud fair gang anither roon o toast I'd really like another slice of toast

Fairfaw (in a letter) Best wishes

He'll get his fairins in the end. He'll gey his just deserts in the end.

A kent his faither 'I knew his father' said ironically of a presumptuous person

A canna be fasht. I can't be bothered.

Dinna fash me wi thon Don't bother me with that

Dinna fash yersel Don't worry/trouble yourself.

A cud see him faur eneugh I wish he'd just disappear

He'd fecht wi his finger ens / ain taes He's really quarrelsome

It's a sair fecht Such is life.

It's a gey sair fecht fur hauf a loaf It's not worth the effort

He dindna win but is a bonnie fechter onieways He didn't win but is very determined anyway

Nae ferlie! No wonder!

Ye ken fine (weel) You know very well

He'd a face like fizz. He looked angry

Dinna thraw a flakie. Don't have a tantrum

We shud lat that flee stick tae the wa(w) We should drop the subject

Ye gied me a richt fleg You gave me a real fright

She gied him the fling She split up with him

Hoo aboot a fly hauf? Would you like a quick drink?

Is hir man tae the fore? Is her husband alive?

Dinna fret Don't worry

A'm fur gaun tae the picters I fancy going to the cinema

An awfie man fur the drink He likes to drink.

Ar ye fur aninthir hauf? Do you want another half pint?

Whit('r) ye fur? What would you like to drink?

Fur coat an nae knickers just for show, superficial

Whit's fur ye winna gang by ye What's meant to happen will happen

Furryboots (fur aboots) are ye fae? Mock Aberdonian expression

Gads! God!

Ye hae tae gae yer ain gate You have to follow your own opinions

Dinna gae on aboot it Don't make such a fuss

She's gantin fur it. She's eager for it (*vulgar*)

It'd gar ye greet. It would make you cry.

He aye gaes his ain gate He always goes his own way.

Hoo's it gaun? How are you?

A gaun fit's aye gettin The most active do the best.

She canna be gaun wi yon ned. She can't be going out with that job.

Gaun yersel! Go for it! (cry of encouragement)

Gaunie no dae that! Don't do that!

Guanie come the morn Can you come tomorrow

Dinna gee yer ginger! Don't stir yourself / bother about it

Shut yer gergie! Shut your mouth!

That's the gemme! That's how to do it!

A'll get ye alang tae the schuil. I'll accompany you to the school

A didna get (tae gae) aifter aw. I wasn't able to go after all.

Gie's a fish supper Give me/us fish and chips

A'll gae, gin ye like I'll go if you like

The bairn's no awfie gleg on the uptak The child is not very quick at understanding.

Goad kens! Goodness knows!

Gonnae gie's a poond? Can you give me a pound?

Gonnae no say that? Can you not say that?

Oh, ma heid's gowpin. My head's throbbing.

A cannae gree wi ye thare. I can't agree with you there

Ach we'll bear the gree ae year. Oh we'll win one year.

Jist hae a wee greet. Just have a little cry,

A gaed there a gret dale I went there often

It'd gar ye grue. It sends shivers down your spine.

Whit a guff! What a bad smell!

A telt ye he'd gang gyte. I doid you he'd go mad.

The world's gane gyte the day The world's gone crazy today

A dinna hae the Gaelic. I don't speak Gaelic.

It didna mak a haet o difference efter aa. It didn't make a whit of difference after all.

She aye gaes hail-heidit aboot her wark She always goes about her work enthusiastically

Can ye no pit the haims on thae bairns? Can you not control those children?

A nivver haird tell o't I've never heard of it

Dinna gae me onie mair o yer haivers. Don't tell me any more nonsense

Yon's a fine ham-a-haddie That's a tall (shaggy dog) story

Ye'll hae tae hap up wi the cauld. You'll have to wrap up due to the cold

It's cauld oot, mak siccar ye're weel happit
It's cold out, make sure you are well wrapped up

Haste ye back Come again soon

A canna see it haudin up the day I doubt the weather will will keep today

A dinna haud wi aw thon I don't agree with all that

A'd haud wide o thon stushie I'd keep clear of that problem

Haud on, thon's no richt Stop, that's not correct

It's aye guid tae haud in wi the boss It's always good to curry favour with the boss

See's a haud o yer phone Hand over your phone

He'll no dae it if ye dinna haud / deave at him He won't do it if you don't nag him

He's gaun aroon like a hauf shut knife He looks depressed

Are ye wantin tae gae haufers wi the puddin?
Do you want to share the dessert?

A gien haun's aye gettin Giving brings returns

A'll tak ma haun aff yer face if ye dae it agane.
I'll slap you if you do it again.

Gaun(t)ae gie's a haun? Can you lend a hand?

It didna come tae haun It didn't occur to me

Haw,pal! Hey, you there

Thon fish supper wis the haws (vul) That fish and chips was excellent

It'll no set the heather on fire It won't have much impact

Ye'r awfie heather heidit the day You're having a bad hair day

He kens hee-haw about hee-haw The knows nothing about anything

He'll get his heid in his hauns tae play wi.
He'll get into big trouble.

Keep the heid! Relax!

Can a speak tae the heid bummer? Can I speck to the person in charge?

Hell mend ye! To hell with you!

Gettin mairrit fair pit the hems on him
Getting married put a stop to his high jinks

Hullo therr, Hen / Jim(mie) Informal way of addressing women and men respectively

Here's tae ye/yersel! Cheers! (toast)

A'm hert roastit wi youse I'm fed up with you lot

Ye need a stoot hert for a stey brae You need to be stong to meet the challenge

Fowk get ower het up ower the fitba People get too excited about football

Heuch! A spontaneous yell of encouragement e.g. At ceilidhs

The high heid yins here cudna run a menadge
The management here are very disorganised

It's aw on the hing It's all hanging in the balance

A'm feelin a bit hingie the day I'm feeling under the weather today

At the hinner en it's guid fur awbodie In the long run it is good for everyone

The jiner can sort the cludgie as a homer. The joiner can fix the toilet as a job in his own time

Hoo are ye (daein / gettin on), awricht? How are you? OK?

Hoo no? Why not?

A've hid a hoor / bastart o a day I've had a very bad day indeed (*vulgar*)

Hoots, mon! Expression of disbelief

Ach, ye'r no in the huff agane. Oh, you're not in a huff again

Ye cannae say jist whit comes up yer humph.
You can't say things without thinking.

It's aither a hunger or a burst roon here It's either feast of famine here

A'v telt ye a hunner time awreadie I've already told you many times

Cud ye gie's a hurl hame? Can you give me a lift home?

Ye can tak yer hurrie You can take your time

Draw tae/inby Pull you chair in

Come inbye Come in

Jeezo! Crikey!

He tint the hail jing-bang He lost the lot

Jings! Well I never!

Jist that! Quite so!

A'm jist efter gettin here masel I've just got here myself

A cud jist huv gone hame I felt like going home

We're aw Jock Tamson's Bairns We're all the same.

They foond he was at it an he got his jotters.
They found he was up to no good and he was sacked.

Ther some joukerie-pawk(e)rie gaun on

There's some trickery going on

Its jist cauld kail het again. It's just the same old story

Keech! Crap!

Keek! Peekaboo! (said to babies)

A'm keen o readin I'm fond of reading

Hoo's he keepin? How is he?

A'm fair scunnert wi't, ken? I'm fed up with it, you know what I mean?

Fine A ken whit's gaun on I know well what's going on

It's no whit ye ken, it's wha ye ken It's not what you know, it's who you know

She's a guid boss, kinnaweys She's a good boss, in a way

Come an jine the bodie o the kirk Come and join the main group

Mak a kirk or a mill o't The choice is yours

Ye'd think she wis Lady Muck (fae Clabber Castle) She puts on airs and graces

Thon lairnt him a lesson That taught him a lesson

He's gien it laldie He's really going for it

Ye'll get laldie whan ye get hame You'll be in trouble when you get home

A like a lang lie at the weeken I like to sleep late at the weekend

It's nae loss whit a freen gets A popular phrase

A nivver lat on A haird him I never showed I heard him

Tae be leal, A dinna ken. To be honest, I don't know.

A doot he kicks wi his left fit I suspect he is a Catholic.

Dinna lat thaim tak a/the len o ye Don't let them take advantage of you

A'll see ye the lenth o the shoaps. I'll accompany you as far as the shops

A'm that jiggert a cudna walk the lenth o masel I'm so tired I couldn't lift a leg

A dinna like. I'm feeling shy.

He cairriet on decent-like He behaved decently

His nemm wis Davie, o the like o that His name was Davy, or something like that

Whit am A like! Silly me!

Whit like? How are you?

Whit like's his seester? What's his sister like?

Whit's he like, eh? Isn't he a character

Likeasay, she's a bit o a stoater She's very good looking, know what I mean?

She sings like a lintie She sings sweetly.

Dinna lippen thae fowk Don't trust those people

He lowped the dyke and jined the Hibeas. He changed allegiances and joined Hibernian F.C.

Ma feet is lowpin / sair My feet hurt

The shoaps is lowpin the day The shops are crawling with people today

A lowse at the back o five I finish work about quarter past five

The boss gied me a richt lugfu The boss gave me a real telling off

She didna luik the road he was on She ignored him completely

Lang may yer lum reek! Cheers! (*toast*)

Whar there's reek, there's heat No smoke without fire

Did ye no get a lumber at the pairtie? Did you not get a pick-up at the party?

Ma da took a maddie whan he foon oot My father went crazy when he found out

A canna mak a better o't, ye ken I can't improve on it you know

Ye hae tae gie the tea time tae mask Be patient

Thon singin's maukit The singing is very bad

A maunna keep ye I mustn't keep you

Yer maw cares Who cares?

Shut it or A'll melt ye Be quiet or I'll hit you.

She cudna run a menadge She has poor organisational skills.

Och, hell mend ye then Oh, you'll end up getting what you deserve.

Michtie me! Heavens above!

Mony a mickle maks a muckle Every little helps

It's like Annicker's midden It's a shambles/mess.

Dinna droon the miller Don't put too much water in the whisky

His' heid's fou o mince He is full of nonsense

Ma heid's mince the day I'm just not with it today

Thon fair sickened his mince / pit his gas on a peep That knocked the wind out of his sails

Thon mince is mince That mince is not very good

A canna mind (o't) I don't remember

A canna mind o(n) his nemm I don't remember his name

A mind o him fine I remember him well

Mind an gie's a caa. Remember to call me.

Mind yersel! Watch out!

Thon minds me o the hoalidays That reminds me of my holiday

Ye aye hae tae keep mind o't. You always have to bear it in mind.

Och ye misst yersel at the pairtie. You should have been at the party

A did it in a mistak I did it by mistake

Hullo, mon! Hello mate!

Are ye gaun the morn's morn or the morn's nicht? Are you going tomorrow morning or tomorrow night?

Stop yer mumpin, it's no sae ba(u)d. Stop complaining, it's not so bad

The ludger's gane, done a munelicht flit(tin)/munelichtie The loger has left in secret without paying

The haggis is nae bad The haggis is quite good

Girnin disna get ye naegait Complaining doesn't get you anywhere

Jist hae a wee neb at this. Just have a little look at this

A wis needin ma wark I wanted to get to work

The wa needs pentit The wall needs painting

Ye widna need tae be gaun by tren Just as well you're not going by train

Ye cudna hit a byre door wi a neep You are a bad shot (lit 'hit a barn door with a turnip')

The boss is aye nippin ma heid The boss is always nagging me.

Thon nip/nips ma heid That does my head in

Are ye nivver oot o yer bed yet? Are you not out of bed yet?

Have ye no? Haven't you?

He's affie no weel He's not very well.

She's wee-er nor me She's smaller than me

He tuik a notion tae the chippie lassie He took a fancy to the girl in the chip shop.

Gaun dae's a wee obleegement Can you do me a small favour?

Och! general purpose expression

Och aye the noo! English phrase mocking Scots speech

Ochone! expression of sorrow

A dinna see onie / muckle odds I don't see any difference

A'm (fur the) offski I'm going away

That's the heidie shoutin on ye The headmaster is calling you

Wyte on me! Wait for me!

Aw ae oo Often-quoted near nonsense phrase 'all one wool'

Ooya(bas)! Ouch!

It's like Paddy's Mairket here It's very untidy.

A'v bin knockin ma pan in aw day I've been working hard all day

The jannie is on the panel the day The janitor is off work today

A'm no parteeclar I have no preference

Dinna gie me aw that patter Don't try to sweet-talk me

The accoontant wis pauchlin the buiks The accountant was cooking the books

Can ye no bide at peace a meenit? Can't you be quiet a moment?

Just gie me peace the noo Just leave me alone just now

A wis fair pechin efter gaun up the stair I was really puffing after going up the stairs

He's a guid lad, but he canna pee faur He's a good chap within his limits

Thin baloon's needin his gas pit at a peep. That bighead needs putting down a peg

A'm perished wi' the cauld I'm freezing

Dinna hing the pettit lip (wi me) Don't be sulky!

Thon pit oot his pipe That put im in his place

Whit a pisher! What a disaster!

That pit him fae daein it That stopped him doing it

Ye'll nivver dae it, ye'r jist playin yersel. You'll never do it, you're just wasting your time

He's jist bin plowterin/scutterin about aw day He's just been pottering around all day

A got it in a praisent I got it as a present

That'll be the price o ye. You'll get what you deserve.

A'v nivver seed him in ma puff I've never seen him in my life

Come ower, A'm on ma puff here Come over, I'm on my own here

Dinna tak a puggie / loss yer puggie. Don't lose your temper.

He's as fu as a puggie He's as drunk as a skunk

Pey puggie-nuts an ye get puggies Pay peanuts and you get monkeys

A cudna get quat o thaim I couldn't get rid of them

She aets like Rab Ha. She has a big appetite.

Awa an raffle yersel / yer grannie! Clear off!

A'm jist in here oot the ren Ironic phrase when caught doin something illicit

It's rainin auld wives and pike staves Its raining cats and dogs

We'r aw oot on the ran-dan We're all out on a pub crawl/having a good time

Rare day the day Lovely day today

A'm scunnert reddin up efter youse I'm fed up tidying up after you lot

Will ye no huv a wee refreshment? Would you like a small alcoholic drink?

Am A richt, or am A wrang? I'm right, aren't I?

Ay, right Expression of disbelief (actually a negative)

It's aa richt It's OK

A got a richt riddie/beamer whan I wis fun oot I was really embarrassed when I was found out

A've bin aw roon the hooses luikin fur ye I've been looking for you everywhere

Get it roond ye! Take that!

We've bin rummled We've been found out

Thon lad's saft in the heid. That bloke is stupid.

A'm richt sair aff the noo I'm very hard up at the moment

Dinna be sae sair on the wee laddie Don't be so harsh with the boy

Fur onie sake! For goodness sake!

It's like Sauchiehall Street in here It's very busy here

It's sixes an saxes tae me Its six or half-a-dozen to me

Wha stole yer scone? Why are you looking so downcast?

She disna hae a scoobie She hasn't a clue

A doot A'll scoosh thae exams I think I'll pass those exams easily

A took a scunner tae whuskie aifter Hogmanay. I had an aversion to whisky after New Year.

Wid that no scunner ye! That's the limit!

See ma mither? See blether? My mother talks a lot

See me thon spuin. Give me that spoon.

See if we canna mak it, wid she girn? Supposing we can't make it, would she complain?

She canna see past the new laddie She's a bit obsessed with the new boy

A'll no seek I won't try

A'm no seekin tae gang I don't want to go

A'v seen masel waitin a oor for that man I've had to wait sometimes an hour for that man

Ye want tae seen it You should have seen it

Are ye fur a sesh efter wark? Do you want to go drinking after work?

A shair's ocht / daith As sure as anything

He kens the richt side o a shillin He knows about money

His jaiket is on a shooglie peg His position (usually at work) is precarious

Mak siccar he kens Make sure he knows

Thon report fair sickened his mince. The report spoilt it for him.

A like a pokey hat on a simmer's day I like an ice cream on a summer day

Thon exam wis a skoosh That exam was very easy.

A'v tae be up at the skreech o day the morn's morn I've to be up at the crack of dawn tomorrow

A'v git the smit/cauld I have an infection / cold

They've git the smit They are in love

Eneuch o yer snash, you! Enough of your cheek, you

Can ye lave the door on the snib whan ye gang oot Can you leave the door unlatched when you go out

He's a ee(d)jit, so he is (tag used here for emphasis)

The wean's a sodjer, skint his knee an didna greet The child is tough, grazed his knee and didn't cry

There's aye a somethin There are always problems

It's aye guid tae sook in wi the boss It's always good to curry favour with the boss

A'm no feart! Ye are sot! I'm not frightened! You are so! (children's talk)

Jist keep a calm souch Just keep calm

Tell yer maw a wis speirin fur hir Tell your mother I was asking how she was.

There an awfie rammie doon the stair There's a terrible commotion downstairs

Yer bangin yer heid agin a stane dyke wi him Your banging your head off a brick wall with him

It's jist siller doon the stank It's just money down the drain

The projeck went doon the stank. The project was a disaster

A'm stappit/fu (as a wulk) I'm full up

Will he staun guid for ye? Will he guarantee you / back you up?

Her new man wis the talk o the steamie. People were gossiping about her new man

A feel like a richt stookie here. I feel out of place here.

Whit are ye staunin like a stookie fur? Why are you not doing anything?

He's lyin aroond the hoose like a store dug He's very lazy

A seen him stottin about the toon I saw him wandering about the town

Ye suit the kilt The kilt suits you

Gaunie gie's a swatch at yer i-Phone Can you let me have a quick look at your i-Phone

Ye shud tak a swatch fae yer freend You should follow the example of your friend

They mak ye wark fur sweeties here They make you work for little money here

He wis sweirt tae pairt w'it He was reluctant to part with it

A'll gie it a (boady-)swerve I'll give it a miss.

A'm swithein about gaun oot I can't decide to go out or not

Dinna swither (about it), jist dae it Don't hesitate (about it), just do it

Auld lang syne Days of long ago (from the Burns song)

A've no seen her syne Hogmanay I've not seen her since New Year's eve

She's a gleg lassie, an bonnie tae She's a clever girl, and also good-looking

A'm richt taen up wi this job I'm very absorbed in this job

The bairn's fair taen on wi the new teacher The child is very taken with the new teacher.

A wee tait/bittie A little bit

Tak tent! Watch out!

Ye maun tak tent o whit ye wish fur Be careful of what you wish for

Come in, ye'll have had yer tea Ironic (Edinburgh?) expression to an unwanted visitor

A'll no tell ye agane For the final time

She wudna tak a tellin She wouldn't be warned

Telt ye! I told you so!

It wis a rerr terr It was really entertaining

Is that you? Have you finished?

That's me aa set I'm ready

That's you then There you are (handing over something)

It's aye a thocht, gaun tae Aiberdeen Its always a daunting prospect, going to Aberdeen

Keep yer threap Keep your opinions to yourself

Haud up yer heid like a thrissel Stand proudly

A wis up thou the nicht I was up during the night

A'm gaun throu tae Embro/Glesca the morn I'm going to Edinburgh/Glasgow tomorrow

Yer faither's throu-by Your father is in the next room

It's aicht oor frae yokin time tae lows in time It's eight hours from the time to start work and the time to finish

Whit time's it? What is the time?

Me an ma brither gae tae the but an ben time about My brother and I take turns going to the cottage

She's a tongue that wud clip cloots She has a sharp tongue

Ye've git a (guid Scots) tongue in yer hied You can ask about/for it yourself

Get tore in! Get stuck in!

She's a richt torn / soor / greetin face the day
She's bad tempered today

Ye hae tae lat the towe gae wi the bucket You
have to accept your losses

**It wis an awfie trauchle gaun intae the toon
wi the bairns** It was exhausting going into the
town with the kids

He disna hae his tribbles tae fin He isn't short
of troubles

Her face wis trippin her She looked very sad

A'll hae nae mair troke wi him I'll have no
more to do with him

A hae a sair tuith I have toothache

She wis aye gleg in the uptak She was always
quick to understand

We'll ken verra like the morn We'll probably
know tomorrow

A'm richt vext tae hear that I'm very sorry to
hear that

A'v had a wamefu o thae folk I've had enough
of those people

A doot the dug's wantin oot I think the dog
needs to go out

A'm no wantin oniethin I don't want anything

Ye'r wastin the bairn wa aa thae sweeties
You're spoiling the child with all those sweets

Yer heid's wastit You are being stupid.

That gars yer teeth watter That makes your
mouth water

Can we no haud a wee? Can't we wait a
minute?

In the nemm o the wee man! What the Devil!

A'll be wi ye in a wee meenit I'll be with you
shortly

Hullo, wee yin! Said to a child

A'm no weel the day I'm feeling unwell today

It's weel seen ye've done this afore Its obvious
you've done this before

That's no ma wey o daein That's not how I do
things

By ma wey o't In my opinion

That's no the richt wey o't That's not the true
version

That's no the wey o't noo That's not what
happens now

There's no ither wey o't There's no alternative

Ye canna whack it You can't beat it

He's bin here fur a wheen o years He's been
here for a long time

Haud yer wheesht / mooth! Be quiet!

Wheesht! Shhh!

That's no wice. That's crazy.

A cudna win / git awa I couldn't get away

Is the twa o thaim winchin / gaun oot? Are
they courting?

D'ye wish anither? Would you like another
one?

Hae a word wi yersel You can't be serious

Naither wunner! No wonder!

Och, it's yersel I wasn't expecting you

See yon yin, he's a numptie That person over
there is an idiot

We didna get back tae yon time We didn't get
back till late

Yours aye (*on a letter*) Yours sincerely