

NESPS transcript: Hawick older speakers 1

<http://www.lel.ed.ac.uk/dialects/nesps.html>

Speaker 1 (M) and, eh, this actual holi-. Annual holiday now. At yin time

Speaker 1 (M) all the mills used to close at the same time

Speaker 2 (F) yes

Speaker 1 (M) but now, they're all staggered a bit now

Speaker 1 (M) They dinnae, they dinnae all close their -

Speaker 2 (F) yeah

Speaker 2 (F) They dinnae close their doors then?

Speaker 1 (M) No some of them are, carry on, like, which is a good idea

Speaker 2 (F) yes I suppose it is! that some folk could fit in their holidays with the members of the family, really, aye

Speaker 1 (M) oh it's a good idea that's right, u-huh

Speaker 2 (F) yeah, yes, cause they didn't always get the holidays at the same time

Speaker 1 (M) no, no, no, no no, no

Speaker 2 (F) aye

Speaker 2 (F) well, I don't ken. Is there a lot of folk away on holiday then?

Speaker 1 (M) well, I coundn't, I couldn't say like, it's a-

Speaker 2 (F) with the credit crunch

Speaker 2 (F) Aye, it's difficult to tell in the street, you ken, isn't it. That eh, The street seems busy

Speaker 1 (M) (mumbles) I know u-huh

Speaker 2 (F) aye

Speaker 2 (F) you see the street , we're taliking about the High Street

Speaker 1 (M) no, no The worst street is the Grand Street
 Speaker 2 (F) oh aye

Speaker 1 (M) If you go along Hawick High Street? and nobody speaks to you

Speaker 1 (M) you're a real stranger
 Speaker 2 (F) oh aye

Speaker 1 (M) because I say "hello, hello, hello , hello, hello, hello".
 Another lady that comes from South Africa

Speaker 2 (F) hello, aye

Speaker 1 (M) and she was sitting in the gardens, you ken, opposite the house
 yonder

Speaker 1 (M) and she's just eh
 Speaker 2 (F) oh aye, Trinity

Speaker 1 (M) "what are there folk every now and again stopping speaking to
 yin other", Cause that's Hawick

Speaker 2 (F) oh aye, yes

Speaker 1 (M) I mean, of course, it 'd be the same in other towns like, but

Speaker 1 (M) everybody "what are they, what's all that stopping and-?"
 Speaker 2 (F) aye

Speaker 2 (F) outside yes, oh aye

Speaker 1 (M) ken, in the cities of course everybody walks past and nobody
 speaks to anybody. In Hawick it's not like that

Speaker 2 (F) that's right, aye aye, yeah

Speaker 2 (F) Well, we did ken, more or less, if you didn't ken the person,
 you kenned the face

Speaker 1 (M) and you ken about them, you know?
 Speaker 2 (F) or you kenned their name

Speaker 2 (F) and you ken about them Yeah, that's righ Bert

Speaker 1 (M) oh you ken about them, but there's nothing with being kened about

Speaker 1 (M) no, no

Speaker 2 (F) Well, it's not a bad thing, you know

Speaker 2 (F) cause I mind when my dad was getting on in years, he died when he was 92, and there was yin morning I got a phone call from a neighbour accross the way and she says "Marge, I thought I'd let you ken-", this was after 11 o'clock

Speaker 1 (M) aye

Speaker 2 (F) "I thought I'd let you ken that your dad's curtains had not been pulled this morning"

Speaker 1 (M) hmhm

Speaker 2 (F) So I popped away down to see if he was alright and he was just getting up at that time

Speaker 2 (F) but that was a neighbour being neighbourly

Speaker 1 (M) that's right, yeah, oh aye

Speaker 2 (F) and watching

Speaker 1 (M) nah

Speaker 2 (F) it was no nosiness, it's being neighbourly and that's nice

Speaker 1 (M) oh aye

Speaker 2 (F) mind, that's kind of dying out

Speaker 2 (F) because there's such a lot of movement in houses

Speaker 2 (F) Folk moving around houses now

Speaker 1 (M) but then again, but then again, Marge

Speaker 1 (M) when we was young everybody lived up closes mean

Speaker 2 (F) oh aye, aye

Speaker 1 (M) and with closes all lived there, there was 10 families in it ,
ken, and you had cellars and all like, and there were three
toilets for the whole, for about-

Speaker 1 (M) ken, 30 or 40 folk
Speaker 2 (F) aye aye, yes that's right aye for- folk

Speaker 1 (M) aye, that's true
Speaker 2 (F) that's true, you ken, really

Speaker 1 (M) up Dixon Street oh aye
Speaker 2 (F) Was that up Dixon Street? aye, yes

Speaker 2 (F) I've heard they've shut about now, you ken

Speaker 1 (M) oh aye, well, you just lived a door up from where I lived

Speaker 1 (M) aye, just lived a door up from where I lived
Speaker 2 (F) yes, yes

Speaker 2 (F) aye, aye, yes

Speaker 2 (F) yes, aye, there weren't many houses with bathrooms and (?),
weren't there no?

Speaker 1 (M) oh, oh no bathrooms you ken, the bath in the fire?

Speaker 1 (M) We've (?), we're first!
Speaker 2 (F) Well, that's right, Friday night

Speaker 2 (F) Friday night bath night (laughter) two kettles on the hob

Speaker 1 (M) that's right, that's right

Speaker 2 (F) and I got put on the gas ring, just a very (?), that's a p-

Speaker 1 (M) That's right, oh aye
Speaker 2 (F) local poem though aye

Speaker 2 (F) yes, aye, you had a tin bath that was kept under the bed,
wasn't it?

Speaker 1 (M) oh aye everything in our house goes underneath the bed

Speaker 1 (M) bed brushes and clothes
 Speaker 2 (F) aye, that's right

Speaker 1 (M) cothes, old clothes for the washing
 Speaker 2 (F) (?) the kitchen bed

Speaker 1 (M) that's right

Speaker 2 (F) works in the kitchen, you were thinking or what, kitchen you know, but a kitchen in Hawick was the living room, come bedroom, come everything else, wasn't it?

Speaker 1 (M) that's oh that's right
 Speaker 2 (F) yes, aye

Speaker 2 (F) Aye, I mean housing, housing in Hawick was terrible at yin time you can only think about it there

Speaker 1 (M) well there's no k-

Speaker 1 (M) oh aye, aye . We've improved a lot with regard to that

Speaker 2 (F) Oh aye, oh yes when they started building council houses a lot, didn't they?

Speaker 1 (M) oh aye
 Speaker 2 (F) I mean, when Bob and I got married, that's

Speaker 2 (F) 57 years come next week, actually

Speaker 2 (F) Yes, that staying power for remind us (laughter)

Speaker 2 (F) but, eh, we couldn't get a house we had to go into the family rooms

Speaker 1 (M) I never had a bathroom until I went to (?)
 Speaker 2 (F) eh

Speaker 1 (M) I was never in a bathroom until I went to (Place)

Speaker 2 (F) No that 's right, well, I mean, I was 17 year old when we moved to (?) Crescent. I lived in Drumlanrig Place in an old property that doesn't stand

Speaker 2 (F) It was a damp house, a really damp house

Speaker 1 (M) That's right Oh aye
 Speaker 2 (F) It's now a plumbers yard (Hume and Tay?)

Speaker 2 (F) They've got the place now. That's quite appropriate that there should be plumbers moving there.

Speaker 1 (M) us all shared toilets

Speaker 2 (F) That's right, the whole building, we used to go out into the street, along the street and the cobbles

Speaker 2 (F) cobbled pavement and up the close and round the back door

Speaker 1 (M) daily news-, daily newspapers were toilet paper

Speaker 2 (F) and (fop-), cut into-, cut into squares

Speaker 1 (M) That's right, aye
 Speaker 2 (F) Hung up on a piece of string

Speaker 2 (F) Oh, I liked our toilet round the back door, "lavatories" we called it then

Speaker 2 (F) and eh, in the wintertime the snow used to blow under the door

Speaker 2 (F) and my dad used to put a candle under the pipe, you ken, to k-, just

Speaker 1 (M) that's right
 Speaker 2 (F) for frost, you ken, to save it a bit

Speaker 1 (M) for the frost, aye

Speaker 2 (F) and I mind when I opened the door and the candle was there, I used to think, oh isn't it cosy