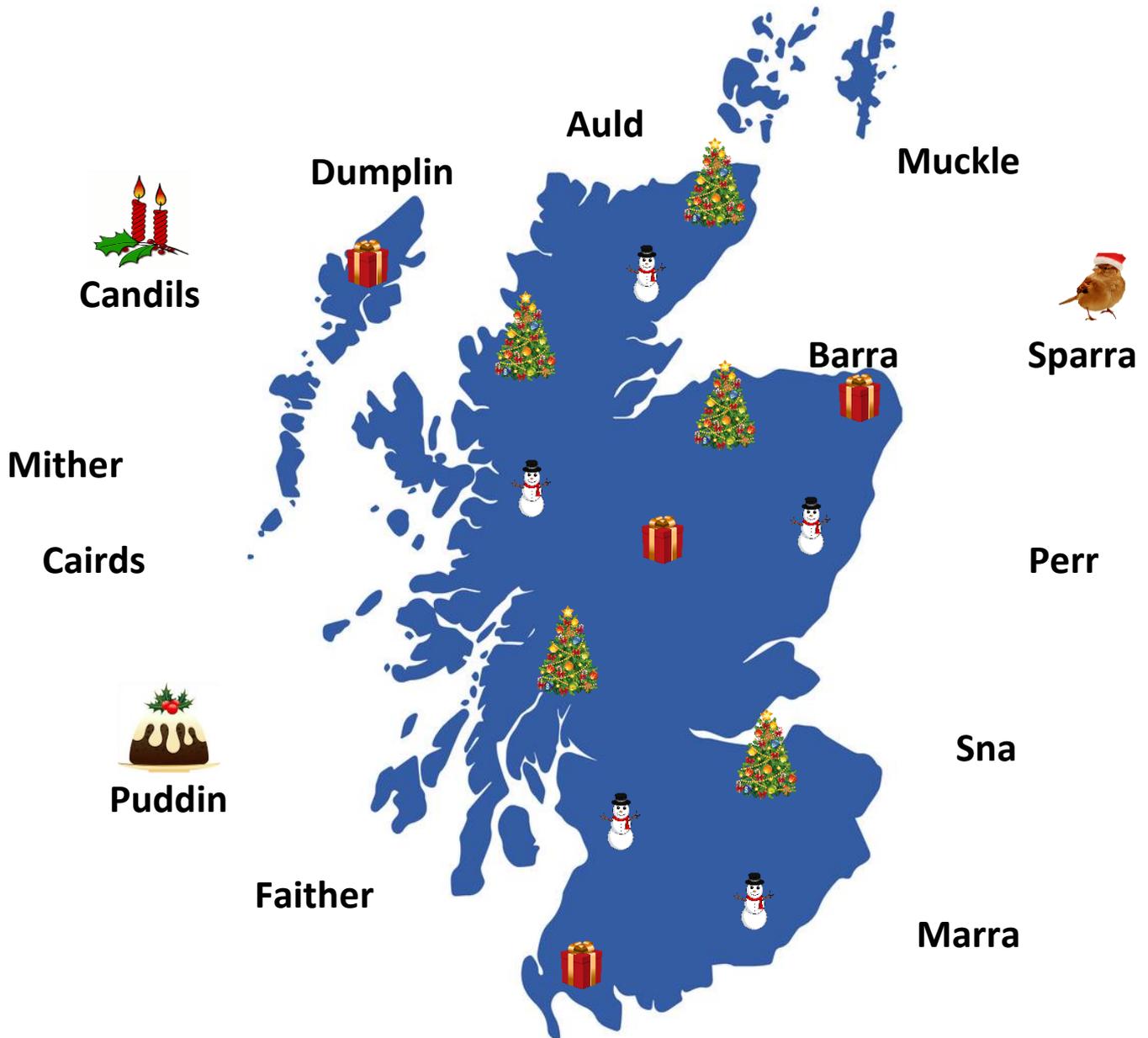




Introduction to Scots Literacy *Guid Fer a Laugh* Level 1- Pack 4

Speakin'
Scots





Introduction to Guid Fer A Laugh

We are part of the City of Edinburgh Council, South West Adult Learning team and usually deliver 'Guid Fer a Laugh' sessions for community groups in South West Edinburgh. Unfortunately, we are unable to meet groups due to Covid-19. Good news though, we have adapted some of the material and we hope you will join in at home.

Development of Packs

Following feedback from participants we plan to develop packs from beginner level 1 to 5 with 4 packs at each level. This will allow participants to gradually increase in confidence, recognising and understanding Scots. By level 5, participants should be able to: read, recognise, understand and write in Scots.

Distribution During Covid-19

During Covid-19 restrictions we are emailing packs to community forums, organisations, groups and individuals.

Using the packs

The packs can be done in pairs, small groups or individually. They are being used by: families, carers, support workers and individuals. The activities are suitable for all adults but particularly those who do not have access to computer and internet.

Adapting Packs

The packs can be adapted to suit participants needs. For example, we had feedback from a volunteer who used some of the activities when phoning isolated adults. Another worker photocopied the pack to put into their goodie bags. Tell us how you are using the packs.



The Aims of the Session – **Whit's it a'about?**



- it's about learning Scots language and auld words
- takes a look at Scots comedy, songs, poetry and writing
- hae a guid laugh at ourselves and others

Scots Language

Scotland is a nation of over 5 million people has a range of regional accents and dialects, each with their own sayings and jargon, ranging from Doric to Lallans and Urban Scots. We want you to share your Scots words, it makes the packs more interesting and gives examples of the wide range of words used in different areas of Scotland.

We are now on pack four of Guid Fer a Laugh. The feedback continues to be good and our data base continues to get bigger and bigger. We welcome your comments, it's really good when we get your suggestions and even better when you send us your own stuff.

Some Feedback fae Pack 3

"I just thought you'd like to know that we included the third *Guid Fer a Laugh* pack in our weekly activity packs for our service users this week and they have really enjoyed it! I've just come off the phone with one lovely lady who said it was full of words she'd forgotten about and that it really brightened her day". **Jenny Miller, Dove Centre, Edinburgh**

"These packs get better and better. I like Baffies Day. My auntie had her baffies and her bauchles. The bauchles were shoes she kept for working in. She was on her knees a lot repairing carpets and it went for the toes. She also had her peerie heels for going out dressed to the nines. Just seeing the word baffies made me smile". **Margaret Clarke, Edinburgh**





*And so to this our festive pack
that's fu o Christmas cheer'
An a' the fond memories
As we celebrate New Year*

Think about some of the words that you liked to use when you were a wee lass or loon. Some of ours are:

Sangs

Bairns

Lichts

Cauld

Cairds

Whit ones do you like? How would you use them in sentences? Try making up some sentences with the words above or use your ane words. Use the box below to write your sentence.

Here's one to get you started. "The Christmas lights looked braw."



Whit iz the Wurd?

Listed below on the left are some words in English, but do you know what the words are in Scots. Here's an example to get you started 'Drop' is 'Drap' in Scots. We've put some letters in the answers to help 😊

English

Scots

Sparrow

_ p _ _ r _

Big

M _ _ k _ _

Marrow

_ a _ _ a

Snow

_ n _

Pear

P _ _ r

Pudding

_ u _ _ i _

Father

_ _ i _ h _ _

Mother

_ i _ _ e _

Barrow

B _ r _ _

Long

_ a _ _



How did you get on? Answers on the next page.



Answers

English

Sparrow
Big
Marrow
Snow
Pear
Pudding
Father
Mother
Barrow
Long

Scots

Sparra
Muckle
Marra
Sna
Perr
Puddin
Faither
Mither
Barra
Lang



Now have some fun using these Scots wurds in sentences or phrases for example: lang, could be **'Auld lang syne, my dear'**.



Put the Wurd In



Put the richt Scots wurd into the sentences below,
again select from the wurd below.

Auld Dumplin Stoakin Fu Cairds

Bubbly Jock Roasties Candils Guid Tatties

1. He was an _____ man.
2. We always had a _____ for Christmas dinner.
3. We always hung up our _____ on the mantlepiece.
4. My brother really liked clooty _____.
5. After the Meal was over he was _____.
6. The walls were covered with Christmas _____.
7. He raised his glass and wished a'body a _____ new year.
8. We always had steak pie and _____.
9. I liked _____ wi ma turkey
10. There were always _____ lit on dark nichts.



Answers



1. He was an **auld** man.
2. We always had a **bubbly Jock** for Christmas dinner.
3. We always hung up our **stoakin** on the mantelpiece.
4. My brother really liked clooty **dumplin**.
5. After the Meal was over he was **fu**.
6. The walls were covered with Christmas **cairds**.
7. He raised his glass and wished a'body a **guid** new year.
8. We always had steak pie and **tatties**.
9. I liked **roasties** wi ma turkey.
10. There were always **candils** lit on dark nichts.

Do you have a favourite wurd?



I like **stoakin** as it brings back happy memories of Christmas eve. My brothers, sisters and I would hunt around the house for the longest sock we could find. The long sock was our Christmas stocking and it was hung at end of the bed. We woke up on Christmas morning to a stoakin fu of goodies. An orange, apple, nuts, sweets and a novelty toy.

Do you remember hanging up a sock/stoakin on Christmas Eve? Where did you hang it, on the fireplace, bedstead



Sum Scots Sayings

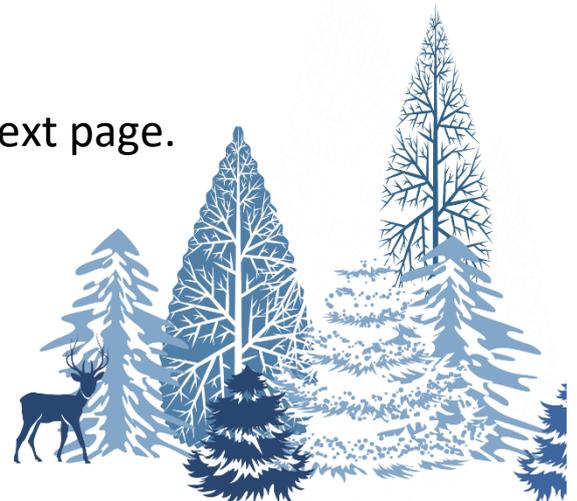


The Scots have a lot of sayings and wee phrases. Complete the Scots sayings below, select from the list here

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| “In yer lugs | “A rerr terr” |
| “Fu as a puggie” | “Dinnae be a stranger” |
| “Tae ane an a” | “Lang may yer lum reek” |
| “A ra best tae ye” | “Geese a wee swallie” |
| “Yer a richt wee stotter” | “Hae a wee coorie in” |

1. Christmas and New Year are _____
2. She looked at th wine bottle and said “ _____ ”
3. Every New Year he got _____
4. Her Grannie said to her “ _____ ”
5. Grandpa said to her “ _____ ”
6. His Mither said tae him “Ye could grow tatties _____ ”
7. She said to her neighbour “ _____ ”
8. Grandpa raised his glass and said “A guid New Year _____ ”
9. The toast wiz “ _____ ”
10. The first footer said tae her “ _____ ”

How did you get on? Answers on the next page.



Answers



1. Christmas and New Year are a **“Rerr terr”**
2. She looked at th wine bottle and said **“Geese a wee swallie.”**
3. Every New Year he got **fu as a puggie.**
4. Her Grannie said to her **“Hae a wee coorie in.”**
5. Grandpa said to her **“yer a richt wee stoater.”**
6. His Mither said tae him **“Ye could grow tatties in yer lugs.”**
7. She said to her neighbour **“Dinnae be a stranger.”**
8. Grandpa raised his glass and said **“A guid New Year ta ane an a.”**
9. The toast wiz **“A ra best tae ye.”**
10. The first footer said tae her **“lang may yer lum reek.”**

Talk about what these sayings and phrases mean and have fun using them. What are sum of your own?

I used to like having a ‘wee coorie in’ with my granny.



Christmas Panto

This nostalgic panto poster with Stanley Baxter and Angus Lennie is part of the Museums & Galleries Edinburgh collection. Russell Clegg tells us a wee bit about the collection and Auld Reekie Retold on the next page.



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**AULD REEKIE
RETOLD**
NEW STORIES
OF AN OLD CITY

At the end of October 2020, Museums & Galleries Edinburgh officially launched Auld Reekie Retold, the largest collections inventory project – over 200,000 objects - ever undertaken in the organisation’s history.

The project will harness both public and professional knowledge about objects in the collection to share it with visitors, both in person at the museums and digitally throughout the project. That gathered knowledge and data will also be used to develop exhibitions and displays in the future.

Museums & Galleries Edinburgh’s collections belong to the City, and Auld Reekie Retold aims to give every citizen of Edinburgh a sense of ownership of and connection to its objects and their stories.

You can find out more about this project by visiting:

<http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/auld-reekie-retold>

For more information please contact Project Collections Engagement Officer,

Russell Clegg: Russell.Clegg@edinburgh.gov.uk

Russell has agreed to send us more information and images of interesting objects for future packs. We look forward to seeing them.

Wha's the Dames?

Did you go to the theatre to see the Christmas Panto? Below are photos of some Scottish comedian panto dames, do you know who they are? **Thanks to Patricia Wright for sending this suggestion.**

A



B



C



D



Answers on the next page



- A – Allan Stewart
- B – Ronnie Corbett
- C – Stanley Baxter
- D – Johnny Beattie



Christmas Pairs

Did you go to your parent's work Christmas Party? Ours was the British Rubber Company at Fountainbridge, Edinburgh. People of a certain age might have also gone to the Sunday School Christmas Party. **Thanks to Margaret, George and Rita who sent in this suggestion.**



Corona Virus

It is the festive season and we've lots to cheer with the new vaccine for Covid-19 starting in the UK. But until we're told otherwise, let's make sure that we do our very best to continue to follow the:

F. A. C. T. S

You might have seen the Scottish Government F.A.C.T.S health Advice on the telly but do you remember what F.A.C.T.S means? Here it is in English and similar in Scots.

F = Face Covering – “Cover up yer mug.”

A = Avoid busy places – “Dinnae gae ower far.”

C = Clean your hands often – “Wash yer mitts aften.”

T = Two metres apart – “Stay twa metres awa.”

S = Self Isolate if you have symptoms = “Bide oan yer ane if yir no weel.”

**Santa says
“Dinnae be daft,
mind an wear yir mask.”**



Joke fae the Scots Cracker

We usually meet in community groups and at this time of year we'd all pulling a Christmas cracker and read out the jokes. So.....imagine we've all pulled a cracker..... what joke has fallen out o yours?

What wid ye ca an auld snaman? **Water**

Whit's a dug's favourite carol? **Bark, the herald angels sing.**

Whit dae yi git if yi cross Santa wi a duck? **A Christmas Quacker!**

Whit dae yi call a penguin in the Sahara desert? **Lost**

Why wiz the turkey in the pop group? **Because he was the only one with drumsticks!**

Whit dae yi git if yi pit a bell on a skunk? **Jingle smells**

Whit is white an minty? **A polo bear!**

Whit athlete is warmest in winter? **A long jumper!!**

Whit happens to elves when they are naughty? **Santa gives them the sack!**

How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas? **One that's deep pan, crisp and even.**



Wurd O' the Week



Hogmanay

The word comes from a shout given out at New Year to get a gift. The gift was food and usually given to children. It dates back to at least 1692 or before. Now, the gift is usually a drink and black bun cake. Nowadays, Hogmanay means New Years Eve. It is a way of celebrating the passing of the auld year and welcoming in the New Year. The first day is called Ne'ers Day.

Grandie Chay

For us it always brings tae mind Grandie Chay. He always used to say that it wis fu of guid cheer and his favourite time o year. Grandie Chay said, he wasnie born but that he sprang fae a tattie drill wi a graip in his hand. Grannie Clerra had met Grandie Chay on Hogmanay when he wiz the first footer at her hame. He had a braw heid o curly hair as black as the lump o coal that he brought wi him. Mair like a heid o sna nooadays, Grandie Chay always replied.

Every Hogmanay Grandie Chay would put on is auld army kilt he hud fae the Gordon Highlanders. Welcoming abody in, he would start singing, "A Gordon's for Me." Just before the bells he would lead the company in "Auld Lang Sang."





Auld Lang Syne

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne*

Chorus

*Or Auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll tak a cup o'kindness yet
For auld lang syne*

Grannie Clerra would demand a dram for abody and shout oot “An mak mine a guid yin.” Grandie Chay with a swish o his kilt would raise his gless and shout oot his toast, “A Guid New Year tae ane and a.”



Scots New Year Traditions and Superstitions



What's your New Year traditions and superstitions? Did the first footer need to be tall dark and handsome? Did he bring:

Coal – may your house be warm

Black Bun/Bread/Shortbread – may your stomach be full

Whisky – to toast good health, wealth and happiness

Salt - Was salt thrown over the left shoulder? Why?

Song/Poem o the Pack

The wee cock sparra is a song/poem often recited by Duncan Macrae about a wee boy with a bow and arrow and a wee cock sparrow. The poem was suggested by **Margaret Spence, Edinburgh**. If you have access to YouTube, here is the link <https://youtu.be/HivJ4EosWS8> Dinnae miss it, it's braw.

The Wee Cock Sparra

Duncan Macrae

A wee cock sparra sat on a tree,

A wee cock sparra sat on a tree,
A wee cock sparra sat on a tree
Chirpin awa as blithe as could be.

Alang came a boy wi'a bow and an arra,

Alang came a boy wi'a bow and an arra,
Alang came a boy wi'a bow and an arra
And he said: 'I'll get ye, ye wee cock sparra.'

The boy wi' the arra let fly at the sparra,

The boy wi' the arra let fly at the sparra,
The boy wi' the arra let fly at the sparra,
And he hit a man that was hurlin' a barra.

The man wi' the barra cam owre wi' the arra,



The man wi' the barra cam owre wi' the arra,
The man wi' the barra cam owre wi' the arra,
And said: 'Ye take me for a wee cock sparra?'



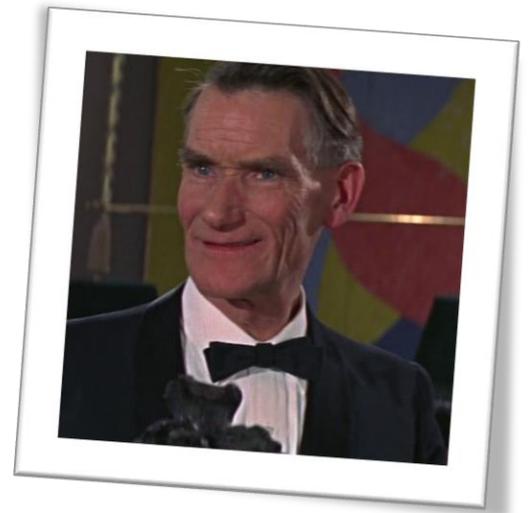
The man hit the boy, tho he wasne his farra,
The man hit the boy, tho he wasne his farra,
The man hit the boy, tho he wasne his farra
And the boy stood and glowered; he was hurt tae the marra.

And a' this time the wee cock sparra,

And a' this time the wee cock sparra,
And a' this time the wee cock sparra
Was chirpin awa on the shank o' the barra.

Meaning of unusual words:

- arra=arrow
- sparra=sparrow
- barra=barrow
- farra=father
- marra=marrow
- shank=leg



Dae ye ken**Duncan Macrae 1905 – 1967** was one of the leading Scottish Actors of his generation. He was born in Glasgow. He made his name with ‘The Curtain Theatre’. He appeared in the film Whisky Galore and starred in the original Para Handy. At Hogmanay he was famous for his recitation of the poem above the Wee Cock Sparra. Mind and listen to him on YouTube if you can.



Find the Scots Wurd

S R L F S J D M X A P T
 G D Q A A E I L N R U I
 O S R C N T I I U R D B
 A L K I H G K T D A D R
 H I W E A A L I T M I T
 A D R R O C R X K A N R
 N N M T S P A R R A T A
 S A S U Y L B B U B R Y
 Q C Y Y C P E R R R B V
 D I U G G K Q R A M I U
 M V Y Z S Y L B J P D H
 R E H T I A F E E D E F

AULD
 BUBBLY
 FAITHER
 LANG
 MUCKLE
 SNA
 TATTIES

BARRA
 CAIRDS
 GUID
 MARRA
 PERR
 SPARRA

BIDE
 CANDILS
 JACK
 MITHER
 PUDDIN
 STOAKIN



We want to leave you with a smile so here's a Christmas poem. Thanks to Rita, Roy and John who suggested this poem to cheer us all up over Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FAIRY

Frances Dunlop 1993



I am a little fairy
On tap o' the Christmas Tree
It's no' a job I fancy
Well how would you like tae be me?

Aw tarted up wi' tinsel
It's enough to mak ye boak
An a couple o' jaggy branches
Rammed up the back o' yer frock.

An' these wee lights a'roon me
I canna get ma sleep
An' there's the yearly visit
Fae SantaBig fat creep!

On Christmas Day A'm stuck up here
While you're a' wirin' in
An' naebody says, "Hey you up there
Could ye go a slug o' gin?"

It's nae joke bein' a fairy
The job's beyond belief
You've got to go roon' the wean's beds
And lift their rotten teeth

But o' a' the joabs a fairy gets
An' I've mentioned only some
The very worst is sitting up a tree
Wi' pine needles up yer bum



When a' the fairies meet again
By the light of' the silvery moon
Ye can tell the Christmas fairies
They're the wans that canna sit doon
The Christmas tree's a bonny sight
As the firelight softly flickers
But think o' me A'm stuck up here
Wi' needles in ma knickers
So soon as Christmas time's right by
An' A stop bein' sae full o' cheer
A'll get awa back tae Fairyland
An' A'll see yous a' next year.





Hae Yer Say



We are planning on developing more Scots Literacy packs and to help us do that we would like you to phone or email your favourite jokes, Scots words, sayings and anything else you'd like to see include in future packs. My email and phone are below.

1. Did you enjoy it? If yes, what did you like?
2. If not, why not?
3. Anything else you would like to see in the pack?



Course material developed by Derek Suttie, Scots Literacy Tutor

Send your Scots words, jokes, poems, sayings, suggestions to:

Lydia.markham@ea.edin.sch.uk **Mobile: 07719 420 424**

Lydia Markham, Lifelong Learning Worker (Adult Learning),
SW Locality, City of Edinburgh Council

