

## TRANSCRIPTION

### Participants in the 1986 Auchtermuchty Pageant sing “Kelty Clippie”

ScottishVoicesProj.0484

What follows are the words of “Kelty Clippie,” a song composed by Jim Watt of Fife, as sung by participants in the 1986 Auchtermuchty Festival Pageant as part of a skit. Since the video skips and starts, the words are supplied here partly from the performance and partly from an online source. “Kelty clippie” is a nickname for someone whose job it is to clip tickets on a city bus.]

*Chorus:* Oh she's just a Kelty clippie, she'll no tak nae advice;  
It's “Ach drap deid or I'll bile yer heid, or I'll punch yer ticket twice!”  
Her faither's just a waster, her mother's on the game;  
She's just a Kelty clippie but I love her just the same.

1 Noo I remember on the 8:15, that night o romantic bliss,  
I says, “Hey Mag, nip aff yer fag, an gie's a wee bit kiss!”  
No she didnae tak that kindly, no she didnae like ma chaff;  
And bein a contrary kind of lass, she said, “Come oan, git aff!”

Oh she's just a Kelty clippie, she'll no tak nae advice;  
It's “Ach drap deid or I'll bile yer heid, or I'll punch yer ticket twice!”  
Her faither's just a waster, her mither's on the game;  
She's just a Kelty clippie but I love her just the same.

2 Noo she hisnae got nae culture, she drives me roon the bend,  
She sits through the night in an old armchair reading *The People's Friend*;  
Her lapels is fu o badges frae Butlins doon at Ayr,  
And she gangs tae the bingo ev'ry night wi her curlers in her hair.

Oh she's just a Kelty clippie, she'll no tak nae advice;  
It's “Ach drap deid or I'll bile yer heid, or I'll punch yer ticket twice!”  
Her faither's just a waster, her mither's on the game;  
She's just a Kelty clippie but I love her just the same.

3 But things is a wee bit better noo, I've goan an got the ring;  
Ah wan it frae John at the pitch an toss, last nicht on the Lindsay Bing;  
Wi her wee black hat an her ticket-machine, she did ma hairt ensnare;  
She's the Lily of Lumphinnans, she's ma bonnie Maggie Blair.

Oh she's just a Kelty clippie, she'll no tak nae advice;  
It's “Ach drap deid or I'll bile yer heid, or I'll punch yer ticket twice!”  
Her faither's just a waster, her mither's on the game;

She's just a Kelty clippie but I love her just the same.

**Notes on Scots words and idioms:**

“On the game”: involved in prostitution or other low-level criminal activity.

“Nip aff yer fag”: take your cigarette out of your mouth.

*The People's Friend*: a popular women's weekly magazine published in Dundee.

Butlins doon at Ayr: a former large camp and shopping mall on the Ayrshire coast.

Pitch an toss: a game where coins are tossed so as to land as close to a mark as possible.

Lumphinnans: a small former mining village in central Fife, Scotland.