

Introduction

[1] **David:** Welcome to the 10/2018 edition of Spotlight Audio. I'm David Creedon from Britain. Join me now for a 60-minute expedition around the English-speaking world — with stories, language tips and exercises.

Do you love a good crime story? Spotlight certainly does! In this edition of Spotlight Audio, we'll be looking at all things thrilling, suspenseful and mysterious!

Are you in search of the good life? Look no further than Dublin, the capital city of Ireland, where you can enjoy the best of culture, entertainment and food and drink.

Keeping with our special theme, we have a three-part crime story to excite and surprise you. Will you solve the mystery of "The black dog"?

A Day in My Life

[2] Podcasting the paranormal

David: In A Day in My Life, we meet Ross Blocher from Los Angeles. The 36-year-old is the co-host of the podcast Oh No, Ross and

Carrie! at ohnopodcast.com Together with his co-host, Carrie Poppy, he investigates claims of the paranormal from a scientific standpoint. Poppy and Blocher do this by joining religious groups, going to spiritual events and undergoing alternative treatments. Their claim is, "We show up, so you don't have to." Spotlight asked Blocher why, in his opinion, people believe in the paranormal.

Wow. That's a big one. I think people believe in the paranormal for a number of reasons. I think a lot of it is social bonding, it's maintaining traditions and honoring their parents and those who came before them by holding on to these specific ideas, certainly for mainline religion. But I think the sense of the spiritual, the numinous, also can fill people with awe and wonder and a connection to something greater than themselves. And that's the part of spirituality that I still hold on to. I like that connection to things that are greater than myself, and so that's where I think science gives

awe

► Ehrfurcht

claim

► Behauptung

co-host

► Ko-Moderator(in)

mainline

► etabliert

social bonding

► soziale Bindung

suspenseful

► spannungsgeladen

us a lot of that, through astronomy and just being aware of the vast scale of the universe and the tiny scale of the quantum world and microbiology and that kind of stuff. So, all of that either makes me feel very large or very small, depending on what scale I'm looking at.

David: On their show, Blocher and Poppy have investigated many different religions, fringe groups or fringe science practices. So which one was the most interesting?

The easy answer is Scientology, because people are endlessly fascinated with Scientology. They can't hear enough about Scientology. When we started the show, we would constantly get letters and notes from people asking, have you thought about doing Scientology? Of course we have! We're a little worried though. But they really do live up to their reputation. They are every bit of insidious as people think and fear they are. And it was fascinating just to get as far as we did, and it's had so much afterlife too. The fun thing about our investigations is then we can compare and contrast them with all of the other things that we've done, so I feel it's more fun, the more we do, because we can call back to things we've done previously.

See Spotlight 10/2018, pages 22–23

Britain Today

[3] Going swimmingly

David: There's a major problem with obesity among British children. According to a new report from Public Health England, one in 25 of 10- to 11-year-olds in the UK are now severely obese. The government has begun a programme to stop children eating so much junk food and to encourage them to exercise more. According to our columnist Colin

commiserate

► mitfühlen

exercise

► hier: sich bewegen, Sport treiben

fringe

► Rand-

fringe science

► Grenzwissenschaft

insidious

► heimtückisch, bedrohlich

live up to sth.

► einer Sache gerecht werden

obese

► fettleibig, adipös

obesity

► Fettleibigkeit, Adipositas

previously

► vorher, früher

quantum world

► Quantenwelt

reputation

► Ruf

scale

► Ausmaß

vast

► enorm, riesig

Beaven, however, the best thing may be to get kids into the swimming pool.

Britain's population is getting bigger — and not just because there are more of us. We're also getting fatter. This is a trend that's expected to continue as well. There are two sorts of Britons: those who are obese, and those who soon will be. There are even reports that we've overtaken the US, if you compare the proportion of 11-year-olds classed as overweight. Our children need to be more active.

This seemed hard to believe when I recently went to a swimming gala. One of my grandsons was among the dozens of young people taking part. They all swam like fish. I was impressed, because I don't.

When, many years ago, I told German friends I couldn't really swim, they were horrified. They looked as if I should be given different parents and taken into care.

School did its best to teach me. We had to practise until we could pass three basic tests: swimming a width of the pool, diving in and treading water for a minute. It was like *The Magic Flute*, where Tamino and Papageno face three tests before they can call themselves men and marry the girls of their dreams.

They go through fire and water. They also have to stay silent. That's the test my grandsons and their friends would find hardest. They're more

like Papageno than Tamino and enjoy a chat, especially in the changing rooms, which are such a good place to compare teachers, cars and broadband speeds.

They'd all find the water test easy, though, even the little girl who needed help to finish the six-year-olds' butterfly at the gala. Butterfly is difficult for youngsters; at one point, she was actually swimming backwards. The spectators cheered her all the more.

Learning to swim is so very important. But for Colin Beaven, whether he's aged six or 66 (and that's well on its way), if there's a choice between the pool and the opera house, the opera house wins.

A couple recently told me they'd taken their daughter to her first opera when she was six. As it happens, it was *The Magic Flute*, with Sir Bryn Terfel, the great Welsh bass-baritone, as Papageno. At the point when he's about to

cheer sb.

► jmdn. anfeuern, jmdm. zujubeln

classed

► eingestuft, klassifiziert

horrified

► entsetzt

tread water

► Wasser treten

Welsh

► walisisch

width

► Breite

youngster

► Jugendliche(r)

hang himself in despair because he's still single, Papageno asks if one of the ladies in the audience would have him.

"I'll marry you," called a kind-hearted six-year-old watching her first opera. "But you're too young!" said Sir Bryn, who ended up with Papagena as scheduled.

As it happens, the first opera I ever saw must have been... *Madam Butterfly*. It was a film shown at the cinema and made in the days when opera singers were not as slim as they are now. Somehow they seem to have broken the link between Valkyries and calories.

Maybe they all go swimming. Not only does it help control weight. It saves lives. Imagine taking the little girl who struggled at the gala to see *The Flying Dutchman*. She'd perhaps call out advice to Senta as she goes down in the waves: "Try doing backstroke! It's a lot easier than butterfly."

Source: *Spotlight* 10/2018, page 13

Crime time

[4] Roundtable

David: It seems almost everyone enjoys a good crime story — whether it's in a TV series, a movie or a book, we just can't get enough of robberies, kidnappings and murder. In real life,

of course, it's a different story. Rather than entertaining us, real-life crime is something we certainly don't want to experience. To discuss this edition's special theme, members of the *Spotlight* team and guests join us in the studio.

Inez: Welcome to Roundtable. I'm Inez Sharp, editor-in-chief of *Spotlight* magazine, and with me today in the studio are Jenny Evans, our esteemed speaker, the voice of Peggy in *Peggy's Place* among other things, and our delightful audio editor, Owen Connors. The perhaps not-so-delightful topic today is crime. Two aspects of crime that we're going to chat about: the first one is real-life crime, our experiences. Jenny, do you have any experiences of real-life crime? Anybody burgled you?

as scheduled

• wie geplant

backstroke

• Rückenschwimmen

burgle sb.

• bei jmdm. einbrechen

despair

• Verzweiflung

editor-in-chief

• Chefredakteur(in)

esteemed

• hochgeschätzt

link: break the ~

• den Zusammenhang aufheben

Valkyries

• Walküren

Jenny: No, no, no, nothing like that's ever happened to me, thank God. And you, Owen, anything like that ever happen you?

Owen: Yeah, plenty, actually.

Jenny: Really? Good Lord!

Owen: Yeah, you know, our family house was broken into a lot of times. Once we had a beautiful antique gold watch stolen. That was the most annoying. But actually, in the last break-in, they used a garden tool, a rake, to break in the window and maybe hit us with. And then finding nothing, they left the rake behind. So we actually gained from that robbery.

Inez: Oh, they brought the rake with them?

Owen: Yeah, we gained a rake.

Jenny: Well, you've got fingerprints on that. What about you, Inez? Did anything ever happen you?

Inez: Yeah, two burglaries actually.

Jenny: Here in Munich?

Inez: No. The first one was when I was living in Frankfurt. And it was very strange because my then husband and I were going to go out to the cinema together, and it was dark. It was a November evening, and I felt that somebody — we lived on the ground floor — I felt that somebody was watching me from outside. And I should have just listened to that voice saying there's somebody out there. And I had the window on tip so it wasn't closed properly. And when we got back, Stephan said, "Did you leave the bathroom

light on?" And I said no. And then we opened the door to the hall and Stephan said, "Where are my boots?" And the guy had broken in, as I'd suspected, via my workroom — the place was sort of an office. And he'd put on Stephan's boots, and they were muddy, and you could see all the footprints on the floor.

Jenny: Why did he put Stephan's boots on?

Inez: We called the police, and first of all, the police said it's your own fault for living on the ground floor, which was not a very calming reaction. And then what they summed up was that it was probably a drug-related break-in and that they were just looking. They think it was probably a group, and they had gone to all the other flats in the house as well. And they were just looking for stuff they could sell on to buy drugs. So there were clothes missing

annoying

► ärgerlich

drug-related

► im Zusammenhang mit Drogen

ground floor

► Erdgeschoss

hall

► Flur, Diele

on tip

► (Fenster) gekippt

rake

► Harke, Rechen

sum up

► zusammenfassen

suspect

► befürchten

via

► über

that were good quality and shoes and so on and so forth. And the other time I was living in Tokyo and that was scary, that was really scary, because the burglar was outside my bedroom door when I noticed that there was somebody there. My husband had been out, and I heard him come in. And I thought he was just reading the newspaper somewhere before he came to bed. Then I heard somebody moving around and I looked under the door. In Tokyo, because of the risk of earthquakes, there's a big gap between the door and the floor so that the smoke can escape if there's a fire. And somebody was looking along the bottom of the door with a torch, and I sort of thought, well, why is my husband...? And I sort of said quietly, "Stephan?" And then there was kind of a silence, and I could hear somebody moving, and then I really screamed, "Stephan!" because I also had my little baby with me, and I was a little bit afraid at that point. And Stephan, who was in the living room, jumped up, and we both ran to different windows, and saw the burglar running down the stairs and out onto the street, and off he went. And the hilarious thing was that we got the police in, and they said, "Yeah, it has to be a foreigner." And we said, "How do you know?" And they said, "Well, he didn't take his shoes off when he came into the apartment. Every Japanese burglar would take their shoes off." Anyway,

so those are my burglary experiences. But let's focus on the other aspect of crime that is actually part of our daily lives and that's fiction and TV. Let's start off with you, Jenny.

Jenny: Yes, I love reading detective novels, the whodunnits. I mean that's what they're called, the whodunnits, because it's like a game the authors play with the reader, isn't it? They give you these little hints, they're usually what they call red herrings, and you go off on all these different types of things. I love them. And I also love watching the English, I must admit, I don't watch...

Inez: ...American crime!

Jenny: No, I don't, in fact. And I don't watch German. I do sometimes watch the Austrian detective stuff on television. But there's lots and lots of crime shows, like *Midsomer Murders*, that go on and on. But I watch that basically for the interior decoration.

Inez: Owen, what about you?

earthquake

► Erdbeben

gap

► Lücke, Spalt

hilarious

► aberwitzig

interior decoration

► Inneneinrichtung

red herring

► Ablenkungsmanöver

torch

► Taschenlampe

whodunnit

► Krimi

Owen: Yeah, of course, I like my bit of crime, as well, you know.

Jenny: Really? What's your favourite then?

Owen: I like the kind of darker stuff. I suppose, for me, crime, horror, these areas, they let me... I'm a really nervous type of guy, so these types of things allow me to explore this fear but in a safe environment.

Inez: So, it's sort of cathartic for you?

Owen: In a way, yes. And also I can find out... it's like an act of survival, that you learn, OK, this is what happens when you do this, so don't do it!

Jenny: I never looked on it like that.

Owen: Don't put yourself in this situation, because this could happen.

Inez: What about you, Jenny? Are you reading anything at the moment?

Jenny: No, but I'm a big fan of Val McDermid, the Scottish authoress. There's been a television series done, what's it called, *Wire in the Blood*, about this police psychiatrist. I mean, he has a lot of problems himself. She's a very tough writer. I like her very, very much. I'm not too fond of Elizabeth George because that's a bit tame actually, but Val McDermid is very good.

Inez: I read no crime at all. I watch no crime on television. Well, I'm always the one who's sitting there saying, "So, who died? What happened?" And everyone says, "Oh, shut up, Inez!

Just shut up!" Or I'm hidden behind the sofa, looking over the top of the sofa, saying, "Is it OK to look now?" And you mentioned earlier on the interior design thing, so I've been invited somewhere with friends, and we've been watching some kind of crime series, which is really not my thing, and then what I'll notice are the curtains and the cushions and the clothing. I don't have a brain for crime at all, but clearly I am the exception in this case. Thank you very much indeed everybody.

See Spotlight 10/2018, pages 24–31

Everyday English

[5] Witnessing a crime

David: In Everyday English, we'll look at words and phrases that have to do with witnessing a robbery. When you "witness a crime", you see something happen that's against the law. In the first dialogue, it's Friday

authoress

➤ Autorin

brain: have a ~ for sth.

➤ sich für etw. interessieren

cathartic

➤ befreiend

robbery

➤ Raubüberfall

tame

➤ zahm, brav

evening and flatmates Joseph and Ralph are in the kitchen. Ralph has just come home after having seen a robbery at the corner shop. He describes it as a “hold-up”, in other words, a robbery involving a gun or other weapon. Ralph says that the thieves stole a whole day’s “takings” — that’s the money that a shop receives from customers. As you listen to the first dialogue, try to answer this question. What expression does Joseph use to say that Ralph looks frightened and upset?

Joseph: Hey, Ralph! I’m just making some dinner. Have you eaten yet...? Ralph? What’s the matter? You look as if you’ve seen a ghost. Here, sit down.

Ralph: I’m fine. Well, I will be in a minute. I was just witness to a crime.

Joseph: What? What sort of crime?

Ralph: A hold-up — at the corner shop.

Joseph: Oh, my goodness! What happened?

Ralph: Two young guys came in — one of them had a gun — and demanded that the cashier hand over all the cash in the till. He did so... and then they ran off.

Joseph: Were they caught?

Ralph: No. Not that I know of.

Joseph: How much money was in the till?

Ralph: Around £5,000. A whole day’s takings.

Were you able to answer the question? What

expression does Joseph use to say that Ralph looks frightened and upset? He says he looks as if he’s “seen a ghost.” In the second dialogue, Ralph tells Joseph more about what happened. Here’s some vocabulary you’ll need to know. An “eyewitness” is someone who has seen something happen, especially a crime or an accident. And a “statement” is a written account of events that a witness gives to the police. As you listen to the second dialogue, try to answer this question. What did Ralph do that might help the police to catch the robbers?

Joseph: Where were you while all this was happening?

Ralph: I was in the back of the shop, trying to decide which beer to buy. They have an amazing selection of craft beers in there. But anyway, I managed to get my phone out and film what was going on.

Joseph: You did? That was quick thinking.

Ralph: Yeah, but I don’t think it’s going to help much. They both had their faces covered. And I

cashier

→ Kassierer(in)

demand

→ verlangen

flatmate UK

→ Mitbewohner(in)

till

→ Kasse

upset

→ aufgeregt, aus der Fassung gebracht

think the shop has CCTV anyway.

Joseph: Did someone call the police?

Ralph: I did. And they came right away. It took them only about two minutes. Everyone who was in the shop at the time was an eyewitness. We all had to make a statement.

Joseph: And how was the cashier?

Ralph: Pretty shaken.

David: Were you able to answer the question? What did Ralph do that might help the police to catch the robbers? He filmed the robbery with his phone.

Source: Spotlight 10/2018, pages 54–55

American Life

[6] When is tech too intelligent?

David: Do you use virtual assistants like Apple's Siri or Amazon's Alexa? These are everyday examples of artificial intelligence or AI. And as AI improves, there'll be many benefits for the human race. However, leading thinkers and entrepreneurs like Stephen Hawking, Bill Gates and Elon Musk have expressed concerns about AI. Could AI one day bring about the end of the human race? Although such a scenario would be far in the future, American Life author Ginger Kuenzel is already feeling

threatened by overly intelligent machines.

The term AI — artificial intelligence — has been around for years. I'm not talking about people who tell us how smart they are, but who are actually sadly lacking in the brains department. We seem to have more than our fair share of those folks around these days, at least here in the US.

Back to my main topic, though: AI refers to computers and other machines with human-like intelligence. One interesting aspect of AI is facial recognition. This means, for example, that my computer can recognize my face and allow me to log in without a password — theoretically. About eight times out of ten, however, it says it does not recognize me and asks me for my password. That's not a good track record. Even the woman at the

artificial intelligence

► künstliche Intelligenz

concerns

► Bedenken

entrepreneur

► Unternehmer(in)

facial recognition

► Gesichtserkennung

fair share: more than one's ~

► mehr als genug

lacking: be ~

► Mangel haben, fehlen

pretty

► hier: ziemlich

track record

► (Erfolgs-)Bilanz

supermarket checkout counter remembers me and greets me by name.

Recently I read about some possible future uses of facial-recognition software. It seems that one company has trained its AI systems to recognize whether a person is happy or sad, tired or energetic, angry or relaxed. There might at some point even be a way for machines to discover whether a person tends toward dishonesty. I am trying to imagine the consequences. I can see why businesses would love to scan shoppers' faces (surreptitiously, of course) to find out who might be thinking about shoplifting that day.

Do I really want the supermarket employees to know, however, that I'm angry because I would rather be enjoying my garden than standing in a long checkout line? On the other hand, I guess I wouldn't mind them knowing that I'm angry because the tomatoes in the produce section look old, or because my favorite kind of ice cream is sold out.

Some companies developing AI applications are now beginning to take a moral stand on what business opportunities they will or will not pursue. Probably nobody would have anything against these companies developing an application that sounds an alarm when it recognizes that a car driver is getting sleepy. However, this same facial-recognition technology could, in theory, be used by an authoritarian

regime to scan faces in a crowd and identify people who are angry or sad — and thus potential dissidents. Today, we are battling racial profiling, especially when people are considered to be suspicious simply because of their race. Could we be dealing with emotional profiling in the future?

It's unsettling enough that Facebook recognizes my face when someone posts a photo of me. In the future, an emoticon will possibly appear under my picture that tells everyone my state of mind. If AI can recognize anger, sadness, energy levels, and dishonesty, what further emotions could it identify and share with others? It seems like a slippery slope indeed.

Source: Spotlight 10/2018, page 10

checkout counter

• Kasse (z. B. im Supermarkt)

dissident

• Regimekritiker(in)

produce section

• Obst- und Gemüseabteilung

pursue

• verfolgen

shoplifting

• Ladendiebstahl

slippery slope

• Schlipperpfad; hier: heikle Lage

surreptitiously

• heimlich

suspicious

• verdächtig

unsettling

• beunruhigend

Replay

[7] A look at recent news events

Inez: Welcome to Replay, the listening exercise in which we look at a recent news story, its background and language. In this edition: Donald Trump has been able to win the support of Americans dissatisfied with globalization. Yet these are the very people most hurt by any trade wars the president starts.

[8] Trump's trade wars: making a bad situation worse

Inez: When US President Donald Trump claimed in March of this year that “trade wars are good and easy to win”, economists were quick to point out that the opposite is generally true. However, that didn't stop Trump from putting tariffs on billions of dollars' worth of goods from Canada, Mexico, the EU and China. As expected, there was an immediate reaction, with tariffs being put on thousands of US products. Could Trump be leading the world into an era of trade wars and protectionism?

In an opinion piece from Britain's *Guardian* newspaper, the editorial writers criticize Trump for his strategy of pursuing such aggressive trading tactics. In a moment, you can

listen to three excerpts from the editorial. Before that, let's look at some of the language used in the first excerpt. “To counter” is to react to something with an opposing action. And when you're “vulnerable”, you're in a weak position and easily hurt. Now listen to the first excerpt.

Donald Trump's decision to launch trade wars against ... the United States' closest commercial partners has brought depressingly predictable responses. China, Canada, Mexico and the European Union have all countered with tariffs on US products. The US economy is the biggest in the world and can deal with many of the responses...

However, Mr Trump's political base is vulnerable — and the retaliating quartet have responded with actions designed to hurt communities

billion (bn)

► Milliarde

economist

► Wirtschaftswissenschaftler(in)

editorial writer

► Redakteur(in), Leitartikler(in)

excerpt

► Auszug

pursue

► verfolgen

retaliating

► konternd, sich wehrend

tariffs

► Zölle

that voted for the US president. This ... response confirms that trade is something he cares deeply about but also knows little about.

Inez: In the second excerpt, the writers suggest an alternative way to deal with trade surpluses — one that doesn't involve getting into conflicts with important allies. Before you listen, let's look at some useful vocabulary. A “foe” is another word for an “enemy”. And something that can't be avoided or prevented is called an “inevitability”. Here's the second excerpt.

It does not help that Mr Trump is a narcissist with no time for the subtleties of global diplomacy.... He calls the EU a “foe” because of its \$101bn trade surplus with the US. A sensible solution for Washington is one that it vetoed when John Maynard Keynes proposed it in 1944: countries with surpluses ought to spend their extra money in deficit countries, thus boosting both private spending and export capacity. It is ironic that Mr Trump is attempting something similar by bullying rather than through what might have been achieved by multilateral arrangements....

This trend has been accelerating since the 1990s when both Republicans and Democrats accepted the expansion of wealth through trade, peddled false claims of globalisation's

inevitability and about the benefits of trade liberalisation. It was not accepted until far too late that not everyone gains, and these gains are unfairly concentrated....

Inez: In the final excerpt, the writers examine the extreme economic divide that currently exists in the US. But rather than improving this situation, the writers think that Trump's policies will simply make matters worse. Before you listen, here's some important vocabulary. If something is so shocking or surprising that it's hard to believe, it can be called “staggering”. And “revenue”, in this context, is money that a government receives from taxes. Now listen to the third excerpt.

The resulting polarisation has been staggering: the income of America's top 1% is now 26

ally

• Verbündete(r)

boost

• antreiben, erhöhen

bully

• schikanieren, drangsalieren

divide

• Kluft

peddle sth.

• etw. verbreiten

subtlety

• Feinheit

surplus

• Überschuss

times higher than the average of the bottom 99%...

Mr Trump's tax cuts will cost \$1.9tn in revenue over a decade. Almost all the benefits flow to wealthy individuals and companies. It is trickle-up economics: there is nothing to suggest that there will be more jobs and better pay for ordinary workers.

Source: © Guardian News & Media 2018

[9] Words and phrases

Inez: Let's see if you can remember the meanings of some of the words and phrases from the text. I'm going to give you a definition. Do you know the word or phrase that fits? Ready?

When you're in a weak position and easily hurt, you're... vulnerable.

If something is so shocking or surprising that it's hard to believe, it can be called... staggering. Another word for enemy is... foe.

Money that a government receives from taxes is called... revenue.

To react to something with an opposing action is... to counter.

And something that can't be avoided or prevented is called an... inevitability.

With that, we end Replay for this edition. We

hope you've found our explanations useful. Till next time: goodbye.

See Spotlight 10/2018, page 33

Travel

[10] Your good life guide to Dublin

David: If you're looking for the good life, then look no further than the Irish capital, Dublin. A perfect city for those who love history, culture and delicious food and drink, Dublin is our travel destination in issue 10 of *Spotlight*. You're about to hear an excerpt from the feature.

The population of the Greater Dublin area is almost two million and growing fast, thanks to economic initiatives that have made the city attractive to multinational companies. This is partly due to the fallout from Brexit and to projects like the Digital Hub and Silicon Docks. But it is also because the city — as well as being

fallout

► (negative) Auswirkungen

tax cut

► Steuersenkung

tn (trillion)

► Billion(en)

trickle-up

► nach oben durchsickernd

a magnet for tourists from around the world (Germans rank third among its visitors) — is a busy centre of cultural, intellectual, culinary and even outdoor life. Dublin is a very vibrant city. For those visiting the Irish capital for the first time, I recommend taking a personalized, guided walking tour. The city centre is filled with tourists and offers something for every kind of visitor. There are hop-on/hop-off buses, tour groups — everything you would expect. Walking helps to ensure that the sightseeing does not become overwhelming, as does having a guide to oneself.

During my first morning in town, I was fortunate to have a walking tour with Rachael Kummert. She is a founder and director of Walk in Dublin, a company that gives city tours in English and German. We walked to the City Hall, where she introduced me to the history of the great Irish pacifist and liberator, Daniel O’Connell, who was the driving force behind the Catholic Emancipation of 1829.

Important for me was that the tour offered a broad historical perspective of the complex and rich history of Ireland, with great attention paid to architectural and cultural details. It was entirely engrossing. Rachael advised me on what books to read, especially *A History of Ireland in 250 Episodes* by Jonathan Bardon — a great introduction to Irish history. She also recommended theatres, galleries and libraries

to visit, as well as where to go to learn about Irish whiskeys — at the Celtic Whiskey Shop on Dawson Street, and the Irish Whiskey Museum on Grafton Street. Her storytelling and tips gave me a better appreciation of the city and its fascinating social and political history than a large tour group would have done, and it certainly helped to shape the rest of my stay. As part of the tour, we took in Christ Church Cathedral, Trinity College, the Temple Bar area and Dublin Castle — each one on its own worth a trip to the Irish capital.

Source: Spotlight 10/2018, pages 14–21

Peggy’s Place

[11] A body behind the bar!

David: Now it’s time to pay a visit to Spotlight’s very own London pub, Peggy’s Place. In this

appreciation

► Wertschätzung, Verständnis

engrossing

► fesselnd

entirely

► völlig, total

fortunate: be ~

► Glück haben

overwhelming

► überwältigend

vibrant

► pulsierend, lebendig

visit: pay a ~ to sb./sth.

► jmdn./etw. besuchen

episode, things are very definitely going bump in the night. It appears that Peggy and her husband, Phil, are going to be witness to a robbery.

Peggy: What on earth is that huge parcel you've got there?

Sean: It's the floor lamp I bought last week for my flat. I told you about it.

George: Why's it all wrapped up?

Sean: I'm taking it back. It just doesn't look good, and I can't read by it either.

Peggy: Didn't it come in a box?

Sean: Yes, but I was so convinced that it would be perfect standing beside my new sofa that I threw the box away.

George: That's some imaginative packaging for you!

Sean: Well, there are three glass shades, and they're really delicate, so I took a lot of care wrapping it all up.

Peggy: Where did you buy it?

Sean: Oh, in this designer lighting shop in the West End. I've had my eye on it for ages. It cost a fortune.

George: Will they take it back?

Sean: I called them today, and they said they would — as long as it's in perfect nick, of course. I'll go there first thing tomorrow. As we're about to shut up, can I leave it here, just till tomorrow, Peggy?

Peggy: Of course, love! Put it behind the bar,

where it'll be safe.

George: OK, I'm off. See you all soon.

Sean: Can I leave you to lock up, Peggy? Then I can go out with George.

Peggy: That's fine, dear! Good night!

George & Sean: Good night!

Peggy: Right, that's locked. Now, I'll leave the door open here to the stairs. Phil will be home any minute. Hello, Phil!... Yes, I'm on my way upstairs to the flat... In a couple of minutes? OK, fine. See you then. Bye!

Peggy: What was that?

Peggy: It's coming from downstairs. Either from the kitchen or the bar. I'd better call Phil. Phil, it's me. I think there's a burglar in the pub... What should I do? ... Nothing here except that big old umbrella someone left behind... Through the back door? Right, I'll wait for you on the stairs.

bump: things go ~ in the night

► etw. treibt nachts sein Unwesen

burglar

► Einbrecher(in)

either: not ... ~

► auch nicht

fortune

► Vermögen

imaginative

► fantasievoll

nick: be in perfect ~ ifml.

► in perfektem Zustand

off: be ~ ifml.

► abhauen

shade

► Lampenschirm

wrapped up

► eingepackt

Phil: Are you there, Peggy? Why have you switched off the light?

Peggy: I thought it would be harder for the burglar to find his way around, but we know the pub.

Phil: Good point! Have you got that umbrella?

Peggy: Shouldn't we just call the police?

Phil: No, I'm going to deal with this. Just wait till I get my hands on that...

Peggy: Oh, my God! There's a body! Can you see the feet sticking out from behind the bar?

Phil: Yes, stay back. He's probably trying to trick us by lying down. Nothing that a good hard blow to the head won't cure. Here goes!

Peggy: Funny, that sounded like breaking glass. Try prodding him.

Phil: You're right. He's a funny shape, too, and he's not moving. Put the light on.

Peggy: Oh, no! It can't be! Yes, it is! It's Sean's lamp.

Phil: Well, you can understand my mistake. It doesn't look like a lamp, does it? More like a mummy. What the hell is he doing leaving it in the bar, anyway?

Peggy: I'll explain in a moment. Let me take a look... Oh, no! Broken into a thousand pieces. Can you pour me an extra large brandy?

Source: Spotlight 10/2018, page 12

English at Work

[12] Business relationships

David: Each edition, business communication expert Ken Taylor joins us in the studio with tips on using English at work. This time, Ken has tips on building good business relationships.

Ken: Hello. This is Ken Taylor from London. People do business with people. That's why it's important to build good relationships with those you do business with. And good relationships are usually built by finding common interests. You can start that process during small talk over coffee or lunch by offering information about yourself and by asking your business partner unthreatening questions. Let's practise this. I'll ask you to make a statement about yourself and then to follow it up with a question to your business partner like this:

Speaker: I'm off to see a film tonight. Do you like the cinema?

Ken: Now you try. I'll give you the subject. You speak in the pause. Then you'll hear a model

blow

► Schlag

mummy

► Mumie

prod

► anstupsen

unthreatening

► freundlich, harmlos

version. OK? Visited Rome.

Speaker: I was in Rome a couple of months ago. Have you ever been there?

Ken: Love sushi.

Speaker: I love sushi. Do you like Japanese food?

Ken: Like jazz.

Speaker: I really like listening to jazz. How about you?

Ken: Worked in Dallas.

Speaker: I worked in Dallas some years ago. Have you been there?

Ken: Dislike broccoli.

Speaker: I'm afraid I dislike the taste of broccoli. Do you like it?

Ken: Born in Hanover.

Speaker: I was born in Hanover. Do you know the city?

Ken: Reading latest J. K. Rowling book.

Speaker: I'm just reading the latest J. K. Rowling book. Have you read it?

Ken: Majorca in the summer.

Speaker: I'm going to Majorca for a couple of weeks in the summer. Do you know the island?

Ken: Meeting Bob Jones tomorrow.

Speaker: I'm meeting Bob Jones tomorrow. Do you know him?

Ken: Learning Spanish.

Speaker: I'm trying to learn Spanish at the moment. Can you speak it?

Ken: Good. How did you get on? Don't worry if

your responses were not the same as the model. The important thing is to offer some information and then follow it up with a question. Offering information about yourself usually makes your business partner prepared to offer some information back, and you can begin that gradual process of finding common interests.

David: If you have a question for Ken, send it by e-mail to language@spotlight-verlag.de If Ken chooses your question to print in *Spotlight* magazine, you'll receive a free copy of his book, *Dear Ken... 101 answers to your questions about business English*.

See *Spotlight* 10/2018, page 57

Short Story

[13] “The black dog — dognapping, Chapter 1”

David: If you enjoy listening to crime stories, *Spotlight* has the perfect audio book for you. Ms Winslow investigates stars *Spotlight's* very own

gradual

- schrittweise

star

- als Hauptrolle spielen lassen

amateur sleuth, Dorothy Winslow, in three tales of mystery and suspense that'll help improve your listening skills with their entertaining and exciting plots. Ms Winslow investigates is available as either a CD or download at shop.spotlight-verlag.de

And now there's more mystery with a new three-part crime story. When a retired policeman decides to make a new start as a private detective, he finds his first case to be a lot more challenging than he expected. Listen now to "The black dog — dognaping".

Keeping her body as flat as possible, Commodore the cat moved carefully along the top of the wall. Her target was hanging out his washing in the yard below her, whistling. She tensed her muscles, ready to jump as soon as...

"Bill, have you seen Commodore?" called a woman's voice from the kitchen. "She hasn't drunk the cream you put out."

"She's crawling along the top of the wall behind me," said the man, without turning round. "Not sure why."

Commodore sat up and washed her face with a paw before jumping off the wall and trotting into the kitchen for her cream. One day, she'd surprise him.

Bill followed the cat into the kitchen, ate some breakfast, washed up the dishes and left them to dry. He put on his raincoat and picked up a

briefcase.

"Bye, love!" he called out. "I'll be back about six." He shut the door to the empty house behind him.

Bill parked his Ford Escort, straightened his tie in the car mirror, then walked past a small Asian supermarket, before stopping at 117 Chamberlayne Road, a busy street in north-west London. There was a sign on the door: "Winchester Detectives. Discretion guaranteed."

"But not the spelling," thought Bill. He pressed the bell. There was no answer. He pressed again, longer.

"Hello?" said someone from a window above him. Bill stepped back and looked up. A young, fair-haired man was looking down.

briefcase

► Aktenkoffer

crawl

► kriechen

fair-haired

► blond

paw

► Pfote

plot

► Handlung

sleuth

► Detektiv(in)

suspense

► Spannung

tense

► anspannen

trot

► trotten

whistle

► pfeifen

“Mr Winchester? Bill Hale. I’m here for the interview.”

“Interview? Interview. Right, of course! Come up. Second floor.”

A buzzer rang, and Bill went up a narrow staircase. He found Mr Winchester waiting at the top with a cup of tea in his hand.

“Come in! Come in! I’m Nigel Winchester. Tea? I’ve just made some. My office is through that door.”

The tiny room had three chairs, two desks, two telephones, two dusty filing cabinets and a calendar, which showed the correct year, 1980, but February instead of June.

“Well, Mr Hale... Oh, can I call you Bill? That’s your desk. The office opens every day at nine, but you know how it is with detective work. We often have to work pretty late. Pay? Yes, well that...”

“Excuse me,” interrupted Bill, “but aren’t you going to interview me?”

Nigel looked surprised. “Oh, but I read the application you sent me. You’re perfect! Five years in the army, ten years in the police, detective inspector when you left... What more could I want?”

“No, no, no, Mr Winchester. How do you know I’m not lying?”

“Are you?”

“Of course not. But... but... maybe I got kicked out of the police.”

“Oh, dear. I’m not very good at this, am I? All right: why did you leave the police 18 months ago?”

Bill hadn’t meant the conversation to go in this direction. “Personal reasons,” he said finally.

Nigel looked excited. “Aha! You want me to be tough, do you? Fine, I can do that. I’ve seen it on television,” he leaned across and put his face up close to Bill’s. “That’s not good enough, Hale,” he shouted. “What personal reasons?” Bill was silent. Nigel banged the desk with his fist.

“We’re supposed to be partners. Spit it out!”

“My wife, Sheila, was ill,” Bill said quickly. “I looked after her until she died last month.” It was the first time he’d told a stranger.

For the next hour, Nigel apologized close to a hundred times as Bill explained about Sheila’s long illness. He didn’t tell him about the conversations he still had with her when he was at home, though. That would seem a little strange to most people.

bang

► schlagen

buzzer

► Summer

filing cabinet

► Aktenschrank

fist

► Faust

pretty

► hier: ziemlich

spit: ~ sth. out ifml.

► etw. ausspucken

staircase

► Treppenhaus

supposed: be ~ to

► sollen

“Anyway,” he said finally, “when I saw your advertisement in the newspaper for a partner, it seemed just right for me.”

“Well, if you’re sure,” said Nigel. “And let me just say again, I’m so sorry about...”

“That’s enough! So, what cases are you working on at the moment?”

The first thing the dog did when he woke up was sick up the meat that the man in the white van had thrown over the fence into his garden. His head hurt, and the sleeping tablet that had been hidden in the meat left him dizzy. He drank from a bowl of water in the corner of the cage, which made him feel slightly better. He could hear the sounds of other animals, and as his nose started to work again, he could smell their fear. What was this place? Why wasn’t he at home with master? Had master sent him here? Had he done something wrong?

A door opened somewhere, and two men came in carrying strange sticks. One was the man who’d given him the meat. A small dog nearby started barking, and he joined in.

“Take the new black one,” said the older man.

They dragged him out with a catch pole, while he barked wildly.

“Give it to him, Dad!” said the younger one. “He’s strong.”

The older one touched him lightly on his side with the stick, and the dog felt a terrible pain.

He howled and collapsed, his legs twitching. They pushed him back into the cage, still whimpering.

“That’ll teach him!” said the older man. They threw some dry food into each of the cages, then turned out the lights and left. The last thing the dog heard that night was a padlock being shut.

Source: Spotlight 10/2018, pages 64–69

[14] “The black dog — dognapping, Chapter 2”

The day — which had started sunny and warm — was now rainy. Some distance away, thunder rumbled. That, and the water that had found a way inside Bill’s jacket and run down his neck,

bark

- bellen

catch pole

- Fangstange

dizzy

- schwindelig

drag

- ziehen, zerren

howl

- jaulen, aufheulen

padlock

- Vorhängeschloss

rumble

- grollen

sick sth. up UK ifml.

- etw. erbrechen

twitch

- zucken

whimper

- winseln

did not improve his temper. Why was he sitting in a tree looking for a dog? He didn't even like dogs.

After his interview with Nigel, Bill's first case for Winchester Detectives was to find Trixie, a chihuahua. What was unusual was that Trixie had not been lost; she'd been kidnapped.

"I know this case probably doesn't seem too exciting for an ex-police officer," explained Nigel. "But it's all we've got at the moment, and I haven't had any success with it so far. The client, Mrs Daley, thought she'd lost Trixie on Hampstead Heath a couple of weeks ago. She put up posters in the area where she lives in Hampstead, offering a reward of £50 if anybody returned the chihuahua.

"Then, last week, she got a phone call from somebody claiming they had Trixie and saying they wanted £500 to return her. They said they'd seen her house, and she could easily afford that. When Mrs Daley said she wanted proof, they sent her the dog's collar, a Polaroid photo and a message saying she now had to pay £800."

"Why doesn't she go to the police?" asked Bill. "She tried, but she said they're not really interested."

"What about just paying the thieves?"

"They know where she lives, so she's worried they might come again. She wants them locked up. Do you think you can do anything?"

The next morning, Bill visited one of his old police contacts to ask about dog thieves. The man ran a market stall in the East End of London, selling dogs and cats as pets, so he knew a thing or two about the business. After £10 had changed hands, Bill was given a couple of addresses to try.

The first address had turned up nothing suspicious, but Bill was optimistic about the second. "Peters Farm belongs to Sean Rourke," his contact had told him. "He and his son have nothing to do with farming. Officially, they run a scrap metal business, but I think they're into all sorts of bad stuff as well. A couple of times, he's offered me and some of the other traders in the market here dogs. He says they're strays that nobody's claimed, but they didn't look like that to me. Pedigree dogs — you know, expensive. I never touched them, but he gave me his

claim

► behaupten

collar

► Halsband

market stall

► Marktstand, Markt-
bude

pedigree dog

► Rassehund

scrap metal

► Schrott

stray

► Streuner(in)

suspicious

► verdächtig

temper

► Laune

address and said I should contact him if I ever needed something to sell. But you want to be careful with how you approach those two. Start being nosy, and they'll just kill and bury any animals they've stolen, and your client won't get nothing."

That was why, instead of going up to the front door of Peters Farm and asking if he could look around, Bill had spent the past two hours with a pair of binoculars in a tree on top of a wooded hill above the farm, spying.

In front of the farmhouse, old cars, radiators, refrigerators and other bits of junk were piled up high. Behind the farm was an overgrown garden, at the end of which stood a large wooden building that had once been a barn.

The thunder was closer now, and Bill was about to give up, when something happened. A large man came out of the back of the house and walked down the path towards the barn. Through his binoculars, Bill could see that the man had an electric cattle prod in one hand and a bag of dog biscuits in the other. He unlocked the door and went inside. Bill could hear a faint sound of dogs barking, but then suddenly came a much louder howl of pain, followed by silence.

A little later, the man came out again, locked the door and went quickly back to the house to get out of the rain. Interesting, thought Bill. As soon as it was too dark to be seen from the

house, he'd go inside the barn and have a look. He got into his car and waited.

The storm was right overhead, and the rain was drumming hard on the roof of the car by the time Bill decided it was safe. He climbed over the fence and managed to slip over in the mud on the other side. Swearing and wet through, he got up and ran to the barn. Inside, he could hear the dogs whining in fear. The occasional flashes of lightning helped him find

approach sb.

- an jmdn. herantreten

barn

- Scheune, Stall

binoculars

- Fernglas

cattle prod

- Viehstock

faint

- schwach, leise

howl

- Geheul, Heulen

junk ifml.

- Schrott, Gerümpel

nosy ifml.

- neugierig

piled up

- aufgehäuft, aufgeschichtet

radiator

- Heizkörper

slip over

- ausrutschen

swear

- fluchen

whine

- winseln

wooded

- bewaldet

the padlock and, using tools that he had been given by a retired burglar, he got inside.

He pulled a torch from his jacket and shone it around. The room was dirty and smelt bad. Down one wall, he counted 20 cages, each with a pair of frightened eyes shining back at him. The whining and whimpering increased, and Bill was grateful that the storm covered the noise the dogs were making. He walked along the row, looking for Trixie. He'd get her out of there, then go and fetch the police. This couldn't be legal, something was...

Bang!

There was an enormous crash overhead, and Bill was knocked to the floor as a lightning bolt hit the barn, and the roof exploded into flames.

Source: Spotlight 10/2018, pages 64–69

[15] “The black dog — dognapping, Chapter 3”

For a moment, Bill was blinded by the lightning, but he managed to pull himself up by holding on to one of the cages. The roof was burning fiercely now, and already pieces were falling to the ground, causing the straw on the floor to catch fire. Get out! He had to get out. But the dogs... He couldn't just leave them. They were whining and yelping, terrified by the flames. Bill pulled desperately at the cage

doors, trying to open them, but they were locked.

He looked around. There had to be a way... there! An axe was standing in the corner, the handle already being licked by fire. Bill took off his jacket and beat the flames back, burning his hands as he picked up the axe.

Never mind... first cage: swing the axe, smash the door, pull out a terrified Jack Russell. It shoots across the floor and out into the rain. Next cage... this time a spaniel. The heat is unbearable. On to the next... a chihuahua: that must be Trixie. She's paralyzed with fear. Pull her out, and throw her out of the door. Now a black Labrador — strong dog: pushes aside the pieces from the broken door and jumps out... On and on down the row. The last cage... Can't see anything — too much smoke... swing the

axe

► Axt

burglar

► Einbrecher(in)

fiercely

► heftig

lick

► züngeln

lightning bolt

► Blitz

paralyzed

► gelähmt

torch UK

► Taschenlampe

unbearable

► unerträglich

whimper

► winseln

yelp

► jaulen, kläffen

axe, smash the door: pull something out. Don't know what: can't see, can't breathe, fall to the floor...going to die...

Bill woke up with a **gasp**. He was lying on the ground with an **oxygen mask** being held over his mouth by a fireman, blue lights flashing in the dark. Other firemen were spraying the ruins of the barn, and sitting next to him was the black Labrador. It leaned over and licked his ear.

“You all right, **mate**?” asked the fireman. “Bloody amazing dog you’ve got there. Never seen anything like it...” The world started spinning again, and Bill didn’t hear the rest.

When he woke up again the next morning in hospital, Nigel was there to tell him the story. The police and firemen, who had arrived just after the dogs had started racing out of the building, didn’t realize that anybody was still inside. But the Labrador had kept running up and down outside the door, barking at the men. Finally, he jumped back inside, found Bill and started dragging him towards the door by the arm. A couple of firemen saw this and got Bill outside just before the roof fell in.

“Another minute, and I’d have had to look for another partner,” said Nigel. “So, we were both very lucky — thanks to that dog.”

“Did you get Trixie?”

“Yes, the police managed to catch them all, and Rourke father and son are now having to

explain exactly what they were doing with 20 stolen pedigree dogs. I shall be taking Trixie round to a very happy Mrs Daley in a minute. Excellent! So, when can I expect to see you back in the office? Tomorrow? Something new has come in...”

One evening two months later, Bill was sitting at home reading the newspaper when the phone rang.

“Can you get that?” he heard Sheila say. Funny how he could still hear exactly the way his late wife would say things — especially those ordinary things. He picked up the **receiver**.

“Who was that?” she said when he’d finished. “The dogs’ home. All the stolen dogs were taken there until their owners could be **traced**. But the owner of the Labrador is dead. He died shortly after his dog had been stolen.”

“So there’s nobody to take the Labrador? What’ll happen to him now?”

gasp

→ Keuchen, schwerer Atemzug

mate UK *ifml*.

→ Kumpel

oxygen mask

→ Sauerstoffmaske

receiver

→ Telefonhörer

trace

→ ausfindig machen

Bill looked at Commodore, who was watching him suspiciously from the top of the sofa. “They said that if nobody came forward to take him within a week, they’d have to put him to sleep.”

“Oh!”

“He’s very expensive to feed, apparently.” Bill picked up his newspaper again and pretended to read it. “That Mrs Thatcher,” he said after a moment. “Two million unemployed by August they reckon. Unbelievable!”

“Bill!”

He looked up.

“You can’t let that happen!”

“But Commodore...and work. It’s just not practical.”

“Find a way, Bill. You’d be dead if it wasn’t for him.”

Nigel didn’t mind at all when they had to get rid of one of the filing cabinets to squeeze a dog basket into the office.

“We haven’t got that many clients anyway,” he said. “I got two cabinets simply to look professional. Much better to have a dog in the corner. What’s his name, by the way?”

Bill looked at the Labrador, who had already settled himself into his basket and was chewing on a bone that Bill had bought that morning from the butcher downstairs. On his side, there was still a mark where the older Rourke

had used the cattle prod on him.

“Spot,” said Bill. “I call him Spot.”

Source: Spotlight 10/2018, pages 64–69

Conclusion

[16] David: Thanks for joining us for Spotlight Audio. You’ll find more information about becoming a regular subscriber to either our CD or download at www.spotlight-online.de/hoeren Join us again next time, won’t you? Until then: goodbye.

apparently

► allem Anschein nach

butcher

► Metzger

chew

► kauen

put: ~ to sleep

► einschläfern

reckon *ifml.*

► schätzen

squeeze

► quetschen, zwängen

subscriber

► Abonnent(in)

suspiciously

► misstrauisch

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Chefredakteurin: Inez Sharp
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Sprachredaktion: Elisabeth Erpf
Produktion und Ton: Charly Braun
Gestaltung: Georg Lechner
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Rodríguez-Mancheño
Produktion: Dorle Matussek
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Contents

E 1. Introduction	1:19	M 10. Travel	
A 2. A Day in My Life		Your good life guide to Dublin	3:16
	2:42		
E 3. Britain Today		M 11. Peggy's Place	
Going swimmingly	5:07	A body behind the bar!	4:31
A 4. Crime time		M 12. English at Work	
Roundtable	7:36	Business relationships	4:58
M 5. Everyday English		M 13. Short Story	
Witnessing a crime	3:09	"The black dog — dognapping, Chapter 1"	6:44
M 6. American Life		M 14. "The black dog — dognapping, Chapter 2"	5:06
When is tech too intelligent?	3:56	M 15. "The black dog — dognapping, Chapter 3"	5:06
A 7. Replay: Recent news events		E 16. Conclusion	0:31
Introduction	0:36		
A 8. Trump's trade wars: making a bad situation worse	4:45		
A 9. Words and phrases	1:31	Total playing time	60:59