Outwith

Earlier this week Phil Barker and I received peer review comments on a co-authored paper which queried our use of the word "outwith", so, like all disgruntled academics I took to twitter to vent my frustrations.

This is not the first time this has happened, in fact I think Phil and I have made a point of using this splendid word in almost every paper, book chapter, briefing paper and spec doc we've written for the last fifteen or so years.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with it, outwith is a predominantly, though not exclusively, Scottish word which captures the essence of both outside and beyond. Many online dictionaries describe the word as archaic, however I can confirm it is very much alive and kicking. Typical usage of the word include:

* It is debatable how extensively this word is used outwith Scotland.

* This topic is outwith the scope of this paper.

* Please call this number outwith office hours.

* Circumstances are outwith our control.

Clearly my struggle to have "outwith" accepted as an appropriate word for use in academic writing is far from over... *sigh*

@kiritekatawa · 2 YEARS AGO

@LornaMCampbell keep fighting the good fight

@LornaMCampbell @hlblanchett @drdjwalker @AnneHole there are soo many things outwith my control just now

@LornaMCampbell · 2 YEARS AGO
David Walker
@drdjwtalker
@hblanchett @sheilmcn @LornaMCampbell @AnneHole We are an inclusive people. Consider yourself adopted* *must always use outwith herewith

2 YEARS AGO

Allison Littlejohn
@allisonl
@LornaMCampbell For years I have thought of you every time I've used 'outwith'. Keep going. We're with you :)

2 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
@LornaMCampbell
@allisonl Ah bless. I appreciate your support :)

2 YEARS AGO

Helen Beetham
@helenbeetham
@allisonl @LornaMCampbell I use 'outwith', and not just in solidarity :-) Quick search reveals s'one I interviewed 2015 used it in speaking.

2 YEARS AGO

Helen Beetham
@helenbeetham
@allisonl @LornaMCampbell just doubled checked - it wasn't either of you! #outwith lives.

2 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
@LornaMCampbell
@helenbeetham @allisonl Makes me so happy to know there are more of us out there :)

2 YEARS AGO

Catherine Cronin
@catherinecronin
@LornaMCampbell @helenbeetham @allisonl ha! include me as a proud #outwith user. 4 of us in 3 countries? surely a movement :)

2 YEARS AGO
Catherine Cronin
@catherinecronin
@helenbeetham @r_ajjawi @LornaMCampbell @allisonl I live outwith Scotland now but... 6 yrs in Dunblane & Scots-born partner & children :)
2 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
@LornaMCampbell
Further proof that #outwith is truly international! twitter.com/catherinecroni...
2 YEARS AGO

Helen Beetham
@helenbeetham
@catherinecronin @LornaMCampbell @allisonl poss we hv more than #outwith in common? Cd be a diagnostic rather than a movement? Just saying.
2 YEARS AGO

Helen Beetham
@helenbeetham
@LornaMCampbell @catherinecronin @allisonl just #outwith the norm ;-) 2 YEARS AGO

Phil Barker
@philbarker
@LornaMCampbell @catherinecronin @aoutwithllisonl I've never met person I didn't like who was in favour of promoting #outwith
2 YEARS AGO

Rola Ajjawi
@r_ajjawi
@LornaMCampbell @catherinecronin @helenbeetham @allisonl I use #outwith but spent 4.5 years in Scotland. Have been told it's a Scottish thing
2 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
@LornaMCampbell
It is a Scottish thing to some extent, but it's such a useful word it should be used everywhere! #outwith twitter.com/r_ajjawi/statu...
2 YEARS AGO
i was her witness
@morageyrie

me n all. and to embed acceptance of outwith as a legit word. twitter.com/LornaMCampbell...

2 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
@LornaMCampbell

@morageyrie Solidarity sister.

2 YEARS AGO

Jim Livesey
@JimLivesey1

Many of us from outwith Scotland, especially Ireland, use the word. twitter.com/LornaMCampbell...

@LornaMCampbell · 2 YEARS AGO

Andrew W M Smith
@smidbob

@LornaMCampbell @ProfDaveAndress I had a big argument with my PhD supervisor about #outwith! I find it an absolutely essential word!

2 YEARS AGO

Jon Mason probably remembers Phil and I trying to smuggle outwith into the IMS Learning Resource Meta-Data Specification Best Practice and Implementation circa 2004. See? Told you we’d been at this for a long time.

@LornaMCampbell #outwith gee Lorna, is this campaign still alive? Resilience ++ but Pink Floyd : haven’t you heard it’s a battle of words?

2 YEARS AGO

Graham Attwell
@GrahamAttwell

Great word. Think we should start a campaign - lets get #outwith trending. And a game to find are fine words. twitter.com/lornamcampbell...

2 YEARS AGO

Graham Arnott even turned up this brilliant article about the word by David Carr.
**David Carr: Ootwith oor ken - the political significance of one everyday Scots word**

Inspired by Common Weal's upcoming Butterfly Rammy event, David Carr offers one Scots word the recognition it rarely receives PREPARE for a surprise. The word 'outwith' is Scots, not English. It is used and understood only within, but not outwith, Scotland. Some may find this outwith their comprehension. But I have checked.

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**Lorna M. Campbell**

This is brilliant! But evidence from twitter suggests #outwith is also used in Ireland :) twitter.com/thegrimmbrother...

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**Grimm Arnott**

You should join the conversation @CarrTarkadhal twitter.com/lornamcampbell...

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**David Carr**

@LornaMCampbell I asked around in the course of writing. Only in the Ulster Scots heartland.

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**Grimm Arnott**

@CarrTarkadhal @LornaMCampbell When I go to Dublin (in the green) I’m going to ask about it

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**Juliet Barker**

@LornaMCampbell @thegrimmbrother @r_ajjawi @catherinecronin @helenbeetham @allisonl I use outwith all the time. Didn't know it was an issue!
@littlewoof mibby because 'outwith' his such an inglish look and sound tae it? This iPhone's predictive text certainly disnae recognise it.

2 YEARS AGO

Join this fight! twitter.com/LornaMCampbell...

2 YEARS AGO

It is perfectly acceptable in Scotland! twitter.com/lornamcampbell...

2 YEARS AGO

This! I feel you, @LornaMCampbell (I blame my Scottish education) twitter.com/lornamcampbell...

2 YEARS AGO

"outwith" definitely IS a word #growingupscottish

2 YEARS AGO

@SpottyCups Use it practically every day at work.

2 YEARS AGO

@tartanhammer good. I consistently rebel against Microsoft's spell check.

2 YEARS AGO
Outwith

/autˈwɪθ/ (pronounced out-with)

Preposition [Scottish]

outside; beyond.
"he has lived outwith Scotland for only five years"

I'm not sure how I lived without this word before living in Scotland. It's become indispensable to my writing. pic.twitter.com/dwITITZFz

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Michael Seery
@seerymk

@louisedrumm @clairemca 'outwith' is my fav word since moving here. And people use it all the time! Some day I will just come out and say it

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Claire McAvinia
@clairemca

@seerymk @louisedrumm back in 2000s my former colleague @DrLisaLucas introduced me to 'outwith', a fine word needing wider adoption here!

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louisedrumm
@louisedrumm

@clairemca @seerymk @DrLisaLucas I believe @catherinecronin @LornaMCampbell @helenbeetham @allisonl are already on the #outwith case!
@louisedrumm you and @LornaMCampbell are my #outwith role models ;)

@seerymk I wonder is there Scottish concern about boundaries, what is or is not 'within', that requires the invention of the word #outwith?

@catherinecronin @LornaMCampbell @allisonl if Nicola can fix for Scotland to stay in EU I'll cite #outwith in support of my passport applinc

@louisedrumm @clairemca @seerymk @DrLisaLucas @catherinecronin @LornaMCampbell @helenbeetham @allisonl ed.ac.uk/information-se...

@LornaMCampbell combines your interest in #data sharing and #outwith

@HoneybHighton I need to make sure there's at least one #outwith in the Scottish Open Education Declaration!

@LornaMCampbell can we reverse engineer one into open.ed? Or we could make an OER explaining appropriate use?