

Tom Leonard's poem 'The Liaison Coordinator', characteristically written in Glaswegian demotic, is an (always timely) warning that managing the poor should not be confused with eradicating poverty. On the other hand, Christine Hoy, a retired nurse, suggests that there is an alternative argument for the defence.

The Liaison Coordinator Tom Leonard

Efturryd geenuz iz speel iboot whut wuz right nwhut wuz rang boot this nthat nthi next thing a sayzty thi bloke nwhut izzit yi caw yir joab jimmy am a liaison co-ordinator hi sayz oh good ah sayz a liaison co-ordinator jist whut this erria needs whut wi aw thi unimploymint inaw thi bevvyin nthi boayz runnin amock nthi hoossyz fawnty bits nthi wummin n tranquilisers it last thiv sent uz a liaison co-ordinator. Sumdy wia digree in f*ck knows whut getn pyd fur no known whut thi f*ck ti day way it

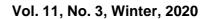
In Defence of Lazzin Coordinataurs Christine Hoy

this wumin chapped the door sayz ahm a lazzin coordinataur ah kennedhoo she'd cum roon, seeingashoo the dooktir hud been up the dayafore

ahcud see er lookin aw roon the hoose, awrawil she was speekin ahcud see er lookin atmamaw wunnerin whut thi fuck she wiz dain

ahm weel yaised to seein mamaw foldin up paipers and lyin them unner the carpit, ye

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see, mamaws no right, ither fowk want her tain awa but ah iwiz sayz naw, mamawsmamaw, kenwhawamean?

so lazzin coordinataur sayz, yer mither cin stay at hame, bit dae yeez wan a haun? i sayz ay, cuz i wiz nackered next thing thirs annuvur wummin it the door, sayz ah kin gae awa oot, shes goan tae stay wi mamaw an thats hoo ahm sittin here wi yaize noo, injoyin ma bevvy ana few smokes, ahv no bin oot fir aboot a year that lazzin coordinators barry.