

The current plight of the Costa Concordia reminds me of a comment made by Churchill.

After his retirement he was cruising the Mediterranean on an Italian cruise liner and some Italian journalists asked why an ex British Prime Minister should chose an Italian ship.

There are three things I like about being on an Italian cruise ship said Churchill.

First their cuisine is unsurpassed.

Second their service is superb.

And then, in time of emergency, there is none of this nonsense about women and children first.



Trivial Pursuit

*Can you guess which of the following are true and which are false?
(Answers are below..)*

- 1. Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.*
- 2. Alfred Hitchcock didn't have a belly button..*
- 3. A pack-a-day smoker will lose approximately 2 teeth every 10 years.*
- 4. People do not get sick from cold weather; it's from being indoors a lot more.*
- 5. When you sneeze, all bodily functions stop, even your heart!*
- 6. Only 7 per cent of the population are lefties.*
- 7. Forty people are sent to the hospital for dog bites every minute.*
- 8. Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until they are 2-6 years old.*
- 9. The average person over 50 will have spent 5 years waiting in lines.*
- 10. The toothbrush was invented in 1498.*
- 11. The average housefly lives for one month.*
- 12. 40,000 Americans are injured by toilets each year.*
- 13. A coat hanger is 44 inches long when straightened.*
- 14. The average computer user blinks 7 times a minute.*

15. Your feet are bigger in the afternoon than any other time of day.

16. Most of us have eaten a spider in our sleep.

17. The REAL reason ostriches stick their head in the sand is to search for water.

18. The only two animals that can see behind themselves without turning their heads are the rabbit and the parrot.

19. John Travolta turned down the starring roles in 'An Officer and a Gentleman' and 'Tootsie.'

20. Michael Jackson('s estate) owns the rights to the South Carolina State Anthem.

21. In most television commercials advertising milk, a mixture of white paint and a little thinner is used in place of the milk.

22. Prince Charles and Prince William NEVER travel on the same airplane, just in case there is a crash.

23. The first Harley Davidson motorcycle built in 1903 used a tomato can for a carburetor.

24. Most hospitals make money by selling the umbilical cords cut from women who give birth. They are used in vein transplant surgery.

25. Humphrey Bogart was related to Princess Diana. They were 7th cousins.

26. If coloring weren't added to Coca-Cola, it would be green.

They are ALL true Now go back and think about #16!!

A very loud, greasy, unattractive, tattooed, welfare dependent, chav, minger, woman wearing a Celtic top walked into TESCO in Castlemilk (a sprawling council estate on Glasgow 's south side) with her two kids, yelling obscenities at them all the way through the entrance.

TESCO greeter said pleasantly, 'Good morning madam, and welcome to TESCO. Nice children you have there. Are they twins by any chance?'

The ugly woman stopped yelling long enough to say, 'F**k naw, they're no twins. The oldest one's nine, and the other one's six. Why the f**k would you think they're twins? Are you blind, thick or just stupid ?'

'I'm neither blind nor stupid, Madam,'replied the greeter.

'I just couldn't believe you've been s*****d twice.

Have a good day, and thank you for shopping at TESCO'.

I think I am beginning to lose my nerve here.

As is my custom I searched online for a suitable illustration for the above contribution and having found one I began to have a little worry.

Notwithstanding my warning about the risk of offence to those who enter these pages, this story would seem to have a tremendous scope to surpass all of the previous 35 pages.

Those who could be offended include:

Those of a loud demeanour

Those of a greasy countenance

Those lacking in attractiveness

Those sporting tattoos

Those unfortunate enough to be dependant upon the welfare state

Celtic supporters

Tescos Superstores

Those that shop there

The inhabitants of Castlemilk

Those who might be considered as chavs, which term in itself is considered by some to be a demonisation of the working classes, or in this case, the non-working classes.

On top of all that I risk being sued for breach of copyright by the illustrator.

So I chickened out.

But you can (legally) see the illustration that I selected by clicking

<http://www.hireanillustrator.com/i/portfolio/peter-bowen/#chavs-personal-project>

Oldie but Goody

A young Portsmouth woman was so depressed that she decided to end her life by throwing herself into the sea, but just before she could throw herself from the wharf, a handsome young man stopped her.

"You have so much to live for," said the man. "I'm a sailor, and we are off to Australia tomorrow. I can stow you away on my ship. I'll take care of you, bring you food every day, and keep you happy."

With nothing to lose, combined with the fact that she had always wanted to go to Australia, the woman accepted.

That night the sailor brought her aboard and hid her in a small but comfortable compartment in the hold. From then on, every night he would bring her three sandwiches, a bottle of red wine, and make love to her until dawn. Two weeks later she was discovered by the captain during a routine inspection.

"What are you doing here?" asked the captain.

"I have an arrangement with one of the sailors," she replied. "He brings me food and I get a free trip to Australia."

"I see," the captain says.

Her conscience got the best of her and she added, "Plus, he's screwing me."

"He certainly is," replied the captain. "This is the Isle of Wight Ferry."

Thank GOD for Elevators

A fifteen year old Amish boy and his father were in a mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and then slide back together again.



The boy asked, 'What is this Father?'
The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, 'Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life, I don't know what it is.'

While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat old lady in a wheel chair moved up to the moving walls and pressed a button. The walls opened, and the lady rolled between them into a small room. The walls closed and the boy and his father watched the small numbers above the walls light up sequentially.



They continued to watch until it reached the last number... and then the numbers began to light in the reverse order.
Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous 24-year-old blond stepped out.

The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman, said quietly to his son.....

'Go get your Mother'



You may have seen versions of this one elsewhere but it bears repetition here in that it will strike a resonant chord with most of us.

A 98 year old woman in the UK wrote this to her bank.

The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in the Times.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three nanoseconds must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honour it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my Pension, an arrangement, which, I admit, has been in place for only thirty eight years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways. I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, but when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become.

From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person. My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate. Be aware that it is an offence under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope. Please find attached an Application Contact Status which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative.

Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Solicitor, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof. In due course, I will issue your employee with PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

1. To make an appointment to see me.
2. To query a missing payment.
3. To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
4. To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
5. To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.
6. To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
7. To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required).

A password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorized Contact.)

8. To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through to 8.
9. To make a general complaint or inquiry, the contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client

This one first appeared in Cachalot 17 but can bear repetition here I think.

Diary of a six day cruise.

DEAR DIARY ... DAY ONE

I am all packed and ready to get on the cruise ship. I've packed all my pretty dresses and make-up. I'm really excited.

DEAR DIARY .. DAY TWO

We spent the entire day at sea. It was beautiful and we saw some whales and dolphins. What a wonderful vacation this has started to be. I met the Captain today and he seems like a very nice man.

DEAR DIARY ... DAY THREE

I spent some time in the pool today. I also did some shuffle boarding and hit some golf balls off the deck. The Captain invited me to join him at his table for dinner. I felt honoured and we had a wonderful time. He is a very attractive and attentive gentleman.

DEAR DIARY ... DAY FOUR

Went to the ship's casino ... did OK, won about £80. The Captain invited me to have dinner with him in his state room! We had a luxurious meal complete with caviar and champagne. He asked me to stay the night but I declined. I told him there was no way I could be unfaithful to my husband.

DEAR DIARY .. DAY FIVE

Went back to the pool today and got a little sunburned. I decided to go to the piano bar and spend the rest of the day inside. The Captain saw me and bought me a couple of drinks. He really is a charming gentleman. He again asked me to visit him for the night and again I declined. He told me that if I didn't let him have his way with me he would sink the ship. I was appalled.

DEAR DIARY ... DAY SIX

I saved 1600 lives today twice !!!!

HORROR STORY IN IRAN

Aweful !!!

I can honestly say, I never want to see images like these again.

If they don't bring tears to your eyes, you have no soul.

Their cruelty has no limit !!!

Some of them were 12 years old, some 15;

Some not even that...



Photo : Hassan Ghaedi

FARS NEWS AGENCY



Photo : Hassan Ghaedi

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Photo : Hassan Ghaedi



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THE BASTARDS!!!

THE FINAL INSPECTION

**The soldier stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.**

**'Step forward now, you soldier,
How shall I deal with you ?
Have you always turned the other cheek ?
To My Church have you been true?'**

**The soldier squared his shoulders and said,
'No, Lord, I guess I ain't.
Because those of us who carry guns,
Can't always be a saint.**

**I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough.
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.**

**But, I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime,
When the bills got just too steep.**

**And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.
And sometimes, God, forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.**

**I know I don't deserve a place,
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around,
Except to calm their fears.**

**If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand.**

**There was a silence all around the throne,
Where the saints had often trod.
As the soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.**

**'Step forward now, you soldier,
You've borne your burdens well.
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell.'**

Author Unknown~



Thinking of all the

British Soldiers

TWENTY DOLLARS

On their wedding night, the young bride approached her new husband and asked, for \$20.00 for their first lovemaking encounter. In his highly aroused state, her husband readily agreed..

This scenario was repeated each time they made love, for more than 40 years, with him thinking that it was a cute way for her to afford new clothes and other incidentals that she needed.

Arriving home around noon one day, she was surprised to find her husband in a very drunken state.

During the next few minutes, he explained that his employer was going through a process of corporate downsizing, and he had been let go.

It was unlikely that, at the age of 59, he'd be able to find another position that paid anywhere near what he'd been earning, and therefore, they were financially ruined.

Calmly, his wife handed him a bank book which showed more than forty years of steady deposits and interest totaling nearly \$1 million. Then she showed him certificates of deposits issued by the bank which were worth over \$2 million, and informed him that they were one of the largest depositors in the bank..

She explained that for more than three decades she had 'charged' him for sex, these holdings had multiplied and these were the results of her savings and investments.

Faced with evidence of cash and investments worth over \$3 million, her husband was so astounded he could barely speak, but finally he found his voice and blurted out, 'If I'd had any idea what you were doing, I would have given you all my business!'

That's when she shot him.

You know, sometimes, men just don't know when to keep their mouths shut

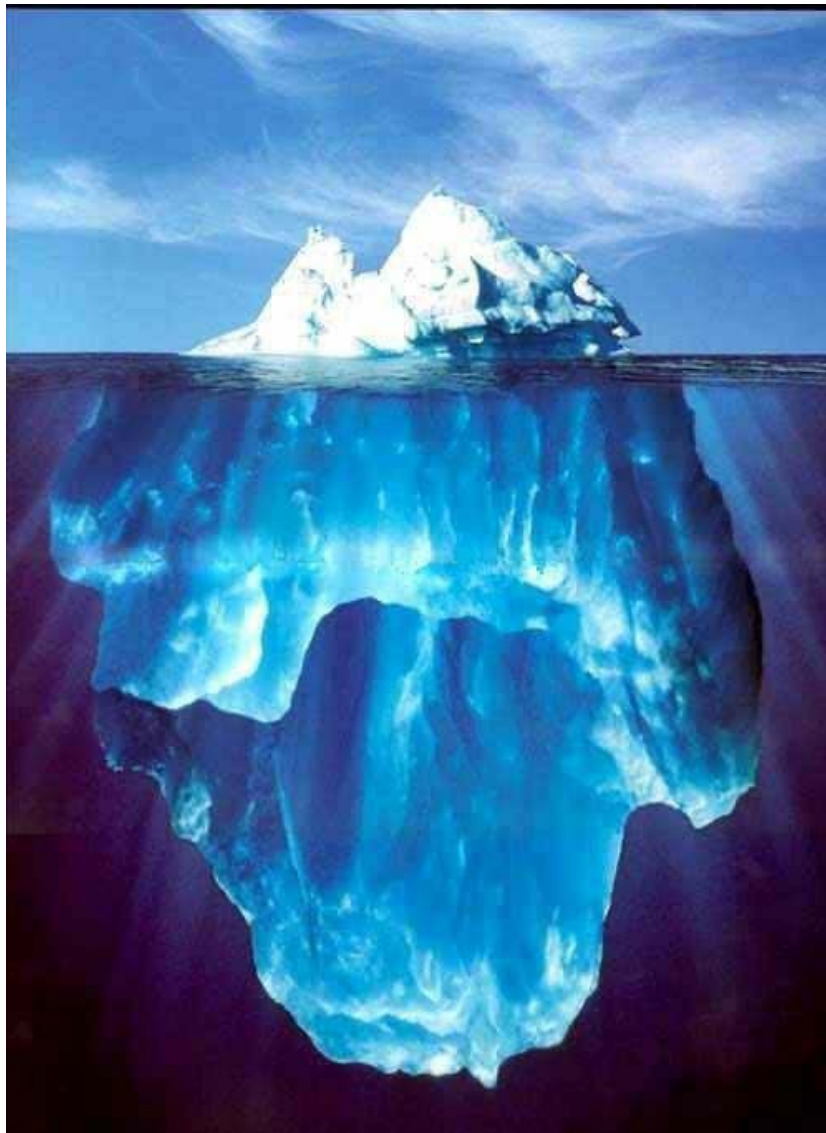
This came from a Rig Manager

for Global Marine Drilling in St. Johns , Newfoundland ...

**They actually have to divert the path
of these things away from the rig
by towing them with ships!**

**Anyway, in this particular case
the water was calm and
the sun was almost directly overhead
so that the diver was able to get into the water
and take this picture.**

They estimated the weight at 300,000,000 tons.



THE TITANIC DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE!!!!



These were posted on an Australian Tourism Website and the answers are the actual responses by the website officials, who obviously have a great sense of humour (not to mention a low tolerance threshold for cretins!)

Q: *Does it ever get windy in Australia ? I have never seen it rain on TV, how do the plants grow? (UK).*

A: We import all plants fully grown and then just sit around watching them die.

Q: *Will I be able to see kangaroos in the street? (USA)*

A: Depends how much you've been drinking.

Q: *I want to walk from Perth to Sydney - can I follow the railroad tracks? (Sweden)*

A: Sure, it's only three thousand miles, take lots of water.

Q: *Are there any ATMs (cash machines) in Australia ? Can you send me a list of them in Brisbane , Cairns , Townsville and Hervey Bay ? (UK)*

A: What did your last slave die of?

Q: *Can you give me some information about hippo racing in Australia ? (USA)*

A: A-Fri-ca is the big triangle shaped continent south of Europe .
Aus-tra-lia is that big island in the middle of the Pacific which does not
... Oh forget it. Sure, the hippo racing is every Tuesday night in Kings Cross. Come naked.

Q: *Which direction is North in Australia ? (USA)*

A: Face south and then turn 180 degrees. Contact us when you get here and we'll send the rest of the directions.

Q: *Can I bring cutlery into Australia ? (UK)*

A: Why? Just use your fingers like we do....

Q: *Can you send me the Vienna Boys' Choir schedule? (USA)*

A: Aus-tri-a is that quaint little country bordering Ger-man-y, which is
Oh forget it. Sure, the Vienna Boys Choir plays every Tuesday night in Kings Cross, straight after the hippo races. Come naked.

Q: *Can I wear high heels in Australia ? (UK)*

A: You are a British politician, right?

Q: *Are there supermarkets in Sydney and is milk available all year round? (Germany)*

A: No, we are a peaceful civilization of vegan hunter/gatherers.
Milk is illegal.

Q: *Please send a list of all doctors in Australia who can dispense rattlesnake serum. (USA)*

A: Rattlesnakes live in A-meri-ca which is where YOU come from.
All Australian snakes are perfectly harmless, can be safely handled and make good pets.

Q: *I have a question about a famous animal in Australia , but I forget its name. It's a kind of bear and lives in trees. (USA)*

A: It's called a Drop Bear. They are so called because they drop out of Gum trees and eat the brains of anyone walking underneath them.
You can scare them off by spraying yourself with human urine before you go out walking.

Q: *I have developed a new product that is the fountain of youth. Can you tell me where I can sell it in Australia ? (USA)*

A: Anywhere significant numbers of Americans gather.

Q: *Do you celebrate Christmas in Australia ? (France)*

A: Only at Christmas.

Q: *Will I be able to speak English most places I go? (USA)*

A: Yes, but you'll have to learn it first.

These glorious insults are from an era before the English language got boiled down to 4-letter words.

"He had delusions of adequacy."

- Walter Kerr

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."

- Winston Churchill

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure."

- Clarence Darrow

"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary."

- William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway)

'Poor Faulkner. Does he really think big emotions come from big words?'

- Ernest Hemingway (about William Faulkner)

"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it."

- Moses Hadas

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."

- Mark Twain

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends."

- Oscar Wilde

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend.... if you have one."

- George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one." - -
Winston Churchill, in response.

"I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here."

- Stephen Bishop

"He is a self-made man and worships his creator."

- John Bright

"I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial."

- Irvin S. Cobb

"He is not only dull himself; he is the cause of dullness in others."

- Samuel Johnson

"He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up."

- Paul Keating

"In order to avoid being called a flirt, she always yielded easily."

- Charles, Count Talleyrand

"He loves nature in spite of what it did to him.."

- Forrest Tucker

"Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it?"

- Mark Twain

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork."

- Mae West

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go."

- Oscar Wilde

"He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts... for support rather than illumination."

- Andrew Lang (1844-1912)

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it."

- Groucho Marx

'There's nothing wrong with you that reincarnation won't cure.'

- Jack E. Leonard

'He has the attention span of a lightning bolt.'

- Robert Redford

'They never open their mouths without subtracting from the sum of human knowledge..'

- Thomas Brackett Reed

'He has Van Gogh's ear for music.'

- Billy Wilder

'He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I know.'

- Abraham Lincoln

'A modest little person, with much to be modest about. '

- Winston Churchill

An exchange between Churchill & Lady Astor:

She said, "If you were my husband I'd give you poison."

He said, "If you were my wife, I'd drink it."

The Earl of Sandwich to John Wilkes: "You Sir, you will either die of the pox or on the gallows."

"That, Sir," said Wilkes, "depends on whether I embrace your mistress or your principles."

I would like to share an experience with you about drinking and driving.

As you well know, some of us have been known to have had brushes with the authorities on our way home from the odd social session over the years. Well, I have done something about it: a couple of nights ago I was out for a few drinks with some pals and had a few too many whiskeys as well as beers and some rather nice claret.

But knowing full well I may have been slightly over the limit, I did something I've never done before - I took a bus home!

I arrived back safely and without incident which was a real surprise, as I had never driven a bus before !!

Good old Bruce was driving home from one of his business trips in Northern Australia when he saw an elderly Aboriginal man walking on the side of the road.

As the trip was a long and quiet one, he stopped the car and asked the guy if he would like a ride. With a silent nod of thanks, the chap got into the car. Resuming the journey, Bruce tried in vain to make a bit of small talk with the Aborigine. The old man just sat silently, looking intently at everything he saw, studying every little detail, until he noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Bruce.

"What in bag?" asked the old man.

Bruce looked down at the brown bag and said, "It's a bottle of wine.

I got it for my wife."

The Aborigine was silent for another moment or two.

Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, he said, "Good trade !"



Reg Kelso says this is genuine ..not sure how they told the cow what would happen if she did not produce more milk.

From the spelling of "Capetown" it was probably from the Marine Superintendent!!

Reg should know.

The Union-Castle Mail Steamship Company, Limited.

DONALD CURRIE & CO, Managers.

Telegraphic Address.
DONCURCO, LONDON.

Telephone
No 2415, AVENUE.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO
DONALD CURRIE & CO, Managers.

In reply please quote	V
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3 and 4, Fenchurch Street,

London.
E.C.

Dec. 6th. 1902

Messrs. The Union-Castle Mail S. S. Co. Ltd.

Capetwon Agency.

Dear Sirs,

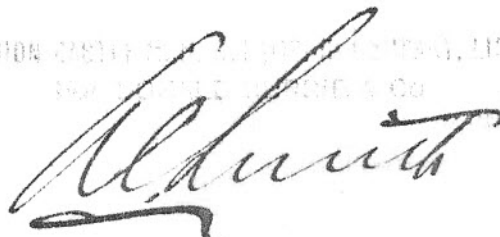
Cows on R.M.S. "BRITON".

The Cow which was put on board the "BRITON" at your port on her last homeward voyage for the use of Dr. Jameson, is being returned in the ship with instructions that if she continues to give sufficient milk, she will be made use of on the homeward passage, and the English Cow will be landed in the ordinary course at East London, but if the Cape Cow is not giving sufficient milk (she is at present giving very little) she can be landed at your port and sold on our account, in which case the English Cow will not be landed at East London, but brought back for the use of the passengers.

2 Cows are being put on board by Lady Farrar for use of herself and family during the voyage,

Yours truly,

THE UNION-CASTLE MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
DONALD CURRIE & CO



Subject: What have we learned in the last 2,066 years?

“The budget should be balanced,

the Treasury should be refilled,

public debt should be reduced,

**the arrogance of officialdom should be
tempered and controlled,**

**and the assistance to foreign lands should
be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt.**

People must again learn to work,

instead of living on public assistance .”

Cicero - 55 BC.

EVIDENTLY - NOT A LOT !!

ALL THE UK BANKS, THAT WERE HELPED OUT BY THE BRITISH TAXPAYER,
HAVE BANDED TOGETHER, AND WOULD NOW LIKE TO SHOW THEIR UNITED
GRATITUDE TO THEIR CUSTOMERS, BY OFFERING EACH OF THEM,
A COMMEMORATIVE PENCIL SHARPENER.



The Lords prayer - revised.

Our father, who art in prison,
my mum knows not his name, thy Riots come,
read it in The Sun, in Birmingham, as it is in London,
give us this day our Welfare bread and forgive us our looting,
as we're happy to loot those who defend stuff against us,
lead us not into employment but deliver us free housing,
for thine is the telly's, the Burberry and the Bacardi,
forever and ever.....
Innit ?

AN ACTUAL CRAIG'S LIST PERSONALS AD

To the Guy Who Tried to Mug Me in Downtown• Savannah• night before last.

Date: 2010-09-27, 1:43 a.m.• E.S.T.

I was the guy wearing the black Burberry jacket that you demanded that I hand over, shortly after you pulled the knife on me and my girlfriend, threatening our lives. You also asked for my girlfriend's purse and earrings. I can only hope that you somehow come across this rather important message.

First, I'd like to apologize for your embarrassment; I didn't expect you to actually crap in your pants when I drew my pistol after you took my jacket.. The evening was not that cold, and I was wearing the jacket for a reason.. my girlfriend was happy that I just returned safely from my 2nd tour as a Combat Marine in• Afghanistan .. She had just bought me that Kimber Custom Model 1911 .45 ACP pistol for my birthday, and we had picked up a shoulder holster for it that very evening.

Obviously you agree that it is a very intimidating weapon when pointed at your head ... isn't it?!

I know it probably wasn't fun walking back to wherever you'd come from with that brown sludge in your pants. I'm sure it was even worse walking bare-footed since I made you leave your shoes, cell phone, and wallet with me. [That prevented you from calling or running to your buddies to come help mug us again].

After I called your mother or "Momma" as you had her listed in your cell, I explained the entire episode of what you'd done. Then I went and filled up my gas tank as well as those of four other people in the gas station, -- on your credit card. The guy with the big motor home took 153 gallons and was extremely grateful!

I gave your shoes to a homeless guy outside Vinnie Van Go Go's, along with all the cash in your wallet. [That made his day!]

I then threw your wallet into the big pink "pimp mobile" that was parked at the curb after I broke the windshield and side window and keyed the entire driver's side of the car.

Later, I called a bunch of phone sex numbers from your cell phone. Ma Bell just now shut down the line, although I only used the phone for a little over a day now, so what 's going on with that?

Earlier, I managed to get in two threatening phone calls to the DA's office and one to the FBI, while mentioning President Obama as my possible target.

The FBI guy seemed really intense and we had a nice long chat (I guess while he traced your number etc.).

• ;In a way, perhaps I should apologize for not killing you ... but I feel this type of retribution is a far more appropriate punishment for your threatened crime. I wish you well as you try to sort through some of these rather immediate pressing issues, and can only hope that you have the opportunity to reflect upon, and perhaps reconsider, the career path you've chosen to pursue in life.. Remember, next time you might not be so lucky. Have a good day!

Thoughtfully yours, Semper Fi, Alex

Classic Cleese at his very best.

The•English•are feeling the pinch in relation to recent terrorist threats and have therefore raised their security level from "Miffed" to "Peeved." Soon, though, security levels may be raised yet again to "Irritated" or even "A Bit Cross." The English have not been "A Bit Cross" since the blitz in 1940 when tea supplies nearly ran out. •Terrorists have been re-categorized from "Tiresome" to "A Bloody Nuisance."

The last time the•British•issued a "Bloody Nuisance" warning level was in 1588, when threatened by the Spanish Armada.

The•Scots•have raised their threat level from "Pissed Off" to "Let's get the Bastards." They don't have any other levels. This is the reason they have been used on the front line of the British army for the last 300 years.

The•French•government announced yesterday that it has raised its terror alert level from "Run" to "Hide." The only two higher levels in France are "Collaborate" and "Surrender." The rise was precipitated by a recent fire that destroyed France 's white flag factory, effectively paralyzing the country's military capability.

Italy•has increased the alert level from "Shout Loudly and Excitedly" to "Elaborate Military Posturing." Two more levels remain: "Ineffective Combat Operations" and "Change Sides."

The•Germans•have increased their alert state from "Disdainful Arrogance" to "Dress in Uniform and Sing Marching Songs." They also have two higher levels: "Invade a Neighbor" and "Lose."

Belgians, on the other hand, are all on holiday as usual; the only threat they are worried about is NATO pulling out of Brussels .

The•Spanish•are all excited to see their new submarines ready to deploy. These beautifully designed subs have glass bottoms so the new Spanish navy can get a really good look at the old Spanish navy.

Australia•, meanwhile, has raised its security level from "No worries" to "She'll be alright, Mate." Two more escalation levels remain:

"Crikey! I think we'll need to cancel the barbie this weekend!" and "The barbie is canceled." So far no situation has ever warranted use of the final escalation level.

-- John Cleese - British writer, actor and tall person



My Dog

Went down this morning to sign on my Dog.

The woman said, "Dogs are not eligible to draw benefit".

I explained to her that my Dog is black, unemployed, idle, can't speak English and has no clue who his dad is.

She looked in her policy book to see what it takes to qualify.

He gets his first cheque on Friday.

Damn this is a great country.

LITTLE KNOWN TIDBIT OF NAVAL HISTORY



The U. S. S... Constitution (Old Ironsides), as a combat vessel, carried 48,600 gallons of fresh water for her crew of 475 officers and men. This was sufficient to last six months of sustained operations at sea. She carried no evaporators (i.e. fresh water distillers).

However, let it be noted that according to her ship's log, "On July 27, 1798, the U.S.S. Constitution sailed from Boston with a full complement of 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of fresh water, 7,400 cannon shot, 11,600 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of rum•."

Her mission: "To destroy and harass English shipping."

Making Jamaica on 6 October, she took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum.

Then she headed for the Azores , arriving there 12 November.. She provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine•.

On 18 November, she set sail for England . In the ensuing days she defeated five British men-of-war and captured and scuttled 12 English merchant ships, salvaging only the rum aboard each.

By 26 January, her powder and shot were exhausted. Nevertheless, although unarmed she made a night raid up the Firth of Clyde in Scotland . Her landing party captured a whisky distillery and transferred 40,000 gallons of single malt Scotch aboard by dawn. Then she headed home.

The U. S. S. Constitution arrived in Boston on 20 February 1799, with no cannon shot, no food, no powder, no rum•, no wine•, no whisky•, and 38,600 gallons of water!

GO NAVY!

At the end of the tax year, the Inland Revenue office sent an inspector to audit the books of a local hospital.

While the agent was checking the books he turned to the Accountant of the Hospital and said, "I notice you buy a lot of bandages. What do you do with the end of the roll when there's too little left to be of any use?"

"Good question," noted the Accountant. "We save them up and send them back to the bandage company and every now and then they send us a free box of bandages."

"Oh," replied the auditor, somewhat disappointed that his unusual question had a practical answer.

But on he went, in his obnoxious way. "What about all these plaster purchases? What do you do with what's left over after setting a cast on a patient?"

"Ah, yes," replied the Hospital Accountant, realizing that the inspector was trying to trap him with an unanswerable question. "We save it and send it back to the manufacturer, and every now and then they send us a free package of plaster."

"I see," replied the auditor, thinking hard about how he could fluster the know-it-all Accountant.

"Well," he went on, "What do you do with all the leftover foreskins from the circumcisions you perform?"

"Here, too, we do not waste," answered the Accountant. "What we do is save all the little foreskins and send them to the Inland Revenue Office, and about once a year they send us a complete dick."



This has to be one of the best singles ads ever printed. It is reported to have been listed in the Cornish Guardian.

SINGLE BLACK FEMALE seeks male companionship, ethnicity unimportant. I'm a very good girl who LOVES to play. I love long walks in the woods, riding in your pickup truck, hunting, camping and fishing trips, cozy winter nights lying by the fire. Candlelight dinners will have me eating out of your hand. I'll be at the front door when you get home from work, wearing only what nature gave me.. Call 01272-6420 and ask for Annie, I'll be waiting.....



Over 150 men found themselves talking to the Truro RSPCA

Charlie, a recently hired retiree, working as a greeter at Wal-Mart, came in 5 to 15 minutes late every morning, but he was among the best of Wal-Mart older persons.

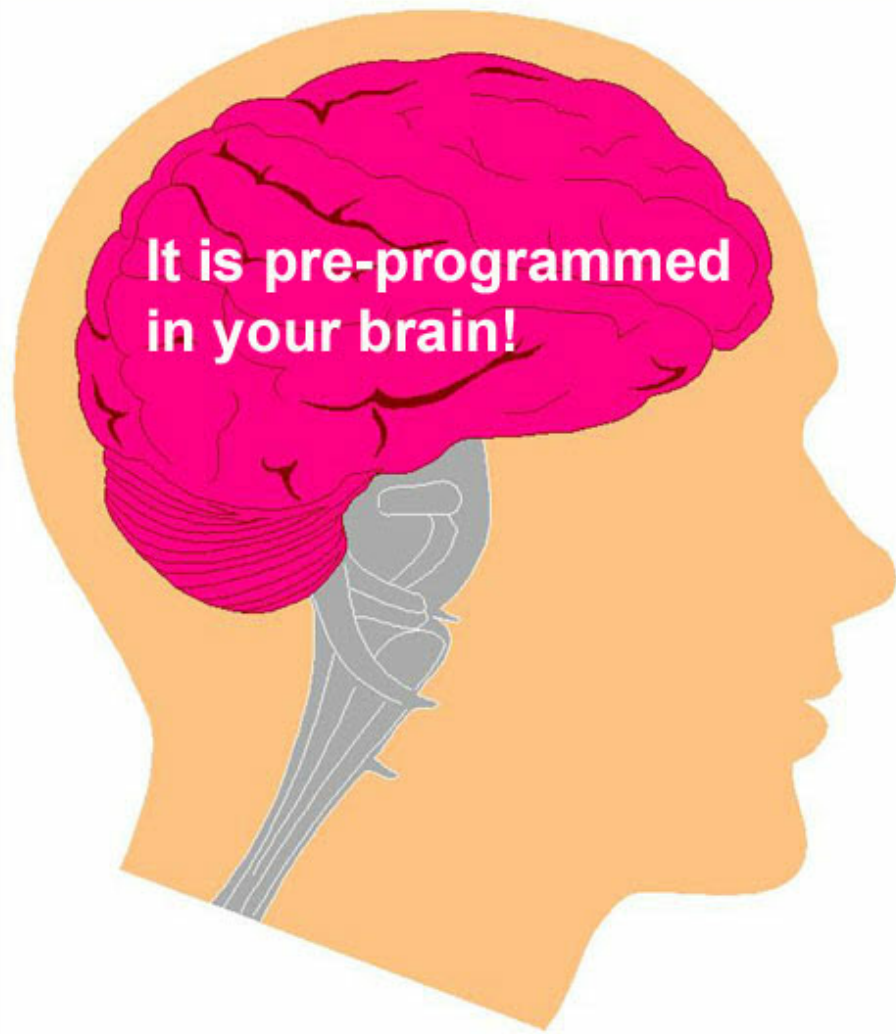
His boss called him into his office and said: Charlie, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, but you are late all the time.

Yes, I know boss, and I am working on it. Charlie replied.

Well good, you are a team player. I know you're retired from the Navy. What did they say when you came in late there?

They said Good morning, Admiral, can I get you a cup of Coffee, sir?

HOW SMART IS YOUR RIGHT FOOT?



Try out this.....

This is hysterical. You have to try this. It is absolutely true. I guess there are some things that the brain cannot handle.

You have to try this please, it takes two seconds.

I could not believe this!

It is from an orthopedic surgeon.

This will confuse your mind and you will keep trying over and over again to see if you can outsmart your foot, but, you can't. It is pre-programmed in your brain!

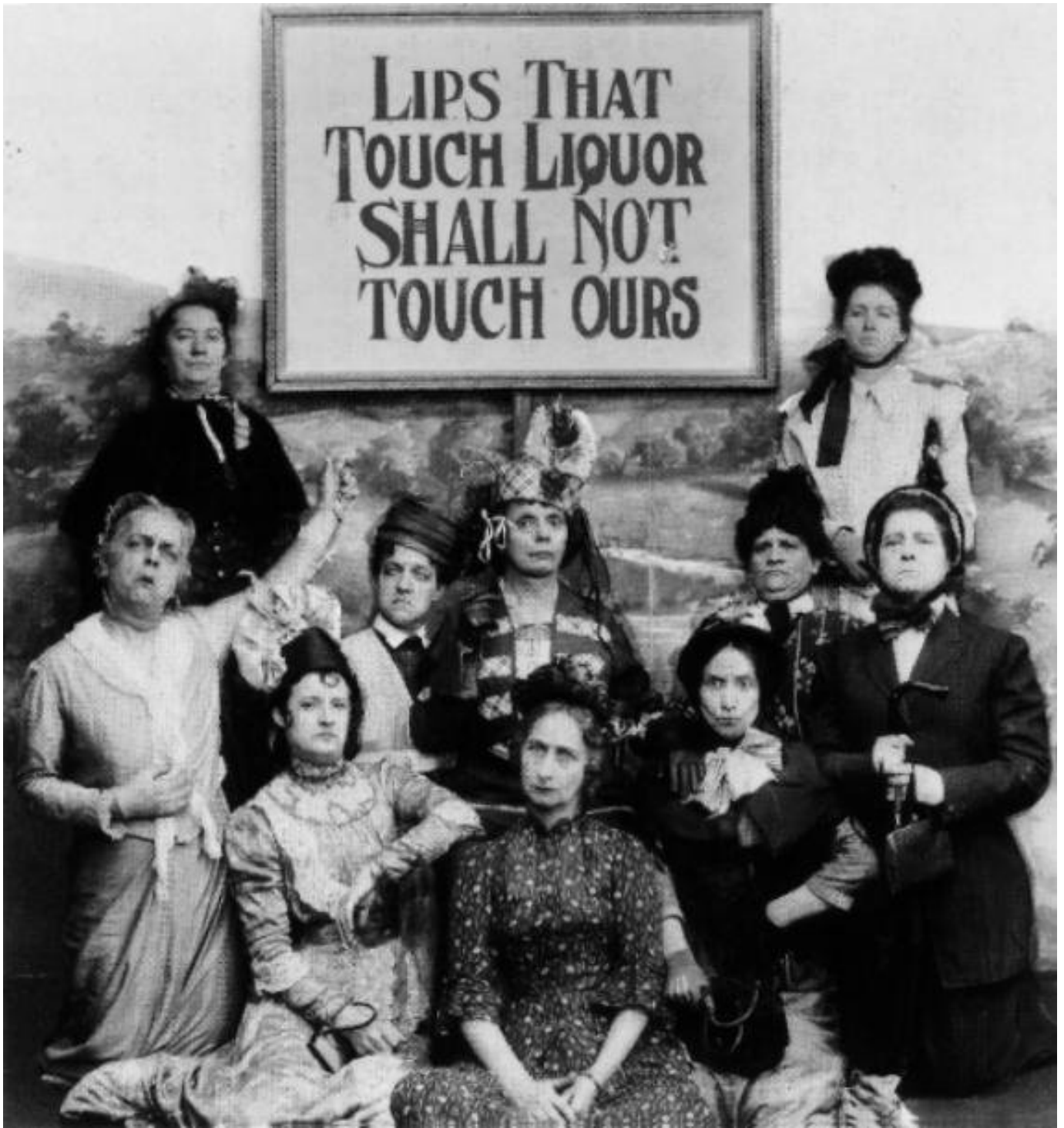
1. While sitting at your desk in front of your computer, lift your right foot off the floor and make clockwise circles.
2. Now, while doing this, draw the number '6' in the air with your right hand. Your foot will change direction.

I told you so! And there's nothing you can do about it! You and I both know how funny it is, but before the day is done you are going to try it again, if you've not already done so.

England, my England

Goodbye to my England, so long my old friend
Your days are numbered, being brought to an end
To be Scottish, Irish or Welsh that's fine
But don't say you're English, that's way out of line.
The French and the Germans may call themselves such
So may Norwegians, the Swedes and the Dutch
You can say you are Russian or maybe a Dane
But don't say you're English ever again.
At Broadcasting House the word is taboo
In Brussels it's scrapped, in Parliament too
Even schools are affected, staff do as they're told
They must not teach children about England of old.
Writers like Shakespeare, Milton and Shaw
The pupils don't learn about them anymore
How about Agincourt, Hastings, Arnhem or Mons?
When England lost hosts of her very brave sons.
We are not Europeans, how can we be?
Europe is miles away, over the sea
We're the English from England, let's all be proud
Stand up and be counted.....shout it out loud!
Let's tell our Government and Brussels too
We're proud of our heritage and the Red, White and Blue
Fly the flag of Saint George or the Union Jack
Let the world know....

WE WANT OUR ENGLAND BACK !!!



I think most men would need an 'overdose' of alcohol, before kissing any of that lot !!!