

wheezy Rider

Newsletter of the Fremantle group

June 2013
No 142

Newsletter of the Fremantle Branch of the Ulysses Club of Australia Inc

Price
\$1.00

Greetings from tropical Mauritius!!!

By the time you read this we'll be back in Perth 'enjoying' the same weather as you but - for the moment- I'm sitting poolside putting digit to iPad (Gen Y version of 'pen to paper!') and enjoying wonderful balmy days! As you read you might be jealous and I know I'll be longing to return.

This is my last note as President for this term and I'd just like to share that I have thoroughly enjoyed holding this position for what is an awesome Branch of a fantastic Club. I had no reserve in allowing myself to be re-nominated and our Returning Officer tells me there has been no other nominations so I guess I shall continue next year.

I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the members who made up our committee over the last year. Each and every one of you brought to the table all the characteristics that make a Branch such as ours strong. A special thank you to Mike Smith for stepping in when Robin Bosse had to resign mid- year and to Eric Ilett for continuing as Secretary/Treasurer after moving to live 150k away. Also to our ex-officio people who fill essential roles in keeping things moving - especially those leaving their positions; Tony as Ride Co and Eric as QM.

To all of you at Fremantle Branch let me say my Inbox and phone number is always "open" so please share any thoughts or concerns you have so that we can always improve the Branch.

My concern that I'll share with you is the amount of Free Rides on our Calendar. We are a social club for people over 40 who enjoy motorcycling. The social side is important and that seems to progress along nicely but PLEASE let's not forget the other part of the 'charter' - lets not forget the love of motorcycling. For one reason or another the core of our regular ride leaders has moved on but our branch membership still has enough blood - new and old - to take a turn out the front or even in the body!!!

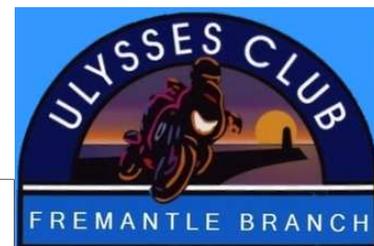
Your committee for this year has come up with an idea to encourage more involvement that I think is both innovative and exciting. I won't say anymore here until we have the bones of it nuted out better - maybe after the AGM - watch this space. But, these kind of ideas aside, please let's make the next year a better one for ride leading and participation.

That's it from me for this edition - no jokes! But I'm sure there'll be some elsewhere or I don't know Mick K! - and I think I'll find some for after the AGM!

Cheers and "Paint UP – Rubber DOWN"
Spence (53780)



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FREMANTLE BRANCH MEETING
2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT SWAN YACHT
CLUB.

The committee is the servant of the Group, not the Master

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WEB ADDRESSES

National Ulysses site: www.ulyssesclub.org

Fremantle Ulysses site: www.ulyssesfremantle.com

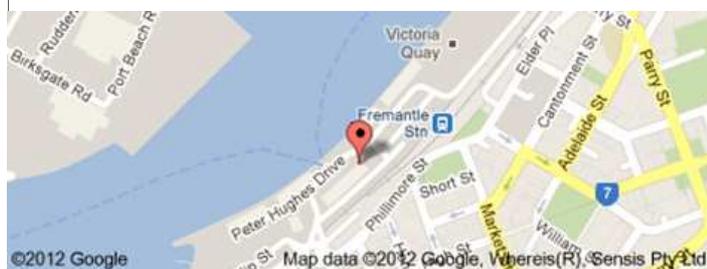
Note: Next meeting, Wed 10th
July 2013

And as always

Wednesday morning Plods from South beach kiosk assemble at 9:00am for a 9:30am start. If you're an early riser, some members meet for breakfast at 8:00am before the Plod.

The group will meet at the Ill Capriccio Café Bar corner of South Terrace and Commercial Street South Fremantle. There is 2 hour parking across the road and also behind the Indian restaurant on the opposite corner of Commercial Street.

The Saturday morning coffee get togethers commence at 10:00am. at the Victoria Café. This café is located at the eastern end of the Fremantle 'E' Shed Markets. Great Coffee, come and give it a try.



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Quartermasters Ramblings

Dec 2012



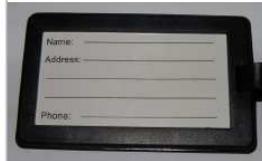
Looks like a plain Pink or Black mug.... until you add hot water!!!



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\$7.50 Has a detachable neck strap. Fits Ulysses water bottle and most bottles up to 600ml.



Some exciting news this month is that Ulysses Club has had the opportunity to purchase some leather vests and leather jackets that will be available for sale at the Fraser Coast 2013 AGM Event. These have the Old Man Logo embroidered on the back and are stock from XDC who had a licence agreement with us but is now closing his business.



The Office Staff have asked me to remind you about your Christmas orders. The office will be open up to & including 21st December 2012, but to guarantee delivery before Christmas, the cut off date will be 30th November 2012. Orders will still be processed after this date but may not be delivered in time.



Have very Merry Christmas!

*Chris Glover
National Purchasing Officer*



Annual Border Run

Come to the WA /SA border to see the "Pud"

When??..... 2nd to 4th August 2012.

**Registration to "WOCK" aka Dale Watkinson 0417 951 660
closing Wed 17th July**

The Journey??....

Day1... (2nd August 2013).. Leaving from Maccas Armadale at 0800, then travel on Brookton Highway through Beverly and Quairading (fuel stop) to the Great Eastern Highway (GEH) at Merredin (fuel). Continue on GEH to Coolgardie (fuel) and then a blast through to Norseman for fuel and stay overnight at Norseman Hotel (undercover parking)

Day 2... Depart Norseman at a time to be determined on the amount consumed the night before. Continue to Balladonia for fuel and then on to Caiguna for fuel and lunch. After lunch continue to Madura Pass for more of what makes the bike noisy and then a blast through to the Border where things are just beginning to hot up. Enjoy the fellowship of like-minded bikers and maybe catch up with some that you haven't seen since last year.

Day 3 &4.... Reverse of days 1&2 before departing on day 3 some may like to pay respect to the small cairn that has been erected in memory of one of our members (John Nisbet) who has sadly ridden on.

Usually back in the Perth area around mid-afternoon on day 4.

Pub Gals

**I was in a pub on Saturday night and had a few Beers...I noticed two large women by the bar. They both had strong accents so I asked,
"Hey, are you two ladies from Ireland?"**

One of them chirped: "It's WALES, you idiot!"

So, I immediately apologized and said, "Sorry, are you two whales from Ireland ?"

That's the last thing I remember.....!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Most riders at fault in bike crash deaths

PHIL HICKEY

[PERTHNOW](#)

MAY 18, 2013 8:09PM



MOTORCYCLISTS are almost always at fault in fatal bike accidents.

In a startling new analysis that has prompted police to launch a crackdown on bikers, research into fatal motorcycle crashes over the past 12 months found four out of five riders were to blame.

And more than half the riders had alcohol or drugs in their system either above the legal limit or high enough to impair their judgment.

The research also discovered that nine out of 10 killed riders had traffic records. Some had been charged multiple times for reckless driving, drink-driving and speeding.

In addition, half the 30 bike fatalities in WA between January 2012 and April this year involved riders on an unlicensed bike, or a bike that had been in their possession less than three months. Riders aged 25 to 40 were identified as being most at risk.

WA Police Assistant Commissioner Nick Anticich said the study proved bike riders were major risk-takers. He said it completely tore apart "the belief held by most motorcyclists that other road users cause most crashes involving motorcycles".

"The stats also tell a grim story about risk-taking," he said. "Most had drugs or alcohol in their system and most had a history of traffic offences. Put those two things together with the extremely high risk that comes with being a new or returned motorcycle rider and we are talking about a very, very high risk of being involved in a serious or fatal traffic accident.

"Police need to do more to target motorcyclists for this reason and we will be doing that, but motorcyclists need to urgently take stock, too.

"People won't like this, but I'll say it: If you want to avoid being killed or suffer a serious injury, from a pure statistical perspective you should not be getting a motorcycle."

Mr Anticich said police would crack down on reckless riders. "It's not about being vindictive towards motorcyclists as a road-user group, it's because we see that they need protection from their own behaviour," he said.

Department of Transport figures show there are 96,882 registered motorcycles in WA, but there are more than 302,000 motorcycle licence holders.

Motorcycle Riders Association of WA vice-president Dave Wright said: "We certainly encourage more motorcyclists to take extra care.

"Motorcyclists need to watch out for cars, cars need to watch out for motorcyclists and there has got to be that personal responsibility there."

In the past fortnight, four motorcyclists have been killed, including three in three days this week.

Two responses have been provided by Dave Wright, President of the Motorcycle Riders Association as follows:

Assistant Police Commissioner Nick Anticich

I have just read the article in the Sunday Times 19-5-2013 (Most riders at fault in bike-crash deaths) which quoted a new study that I believe is a Police Department document that was sent to the Phil Hickey from the Sunday Times.

A few of the comments and statistics have given me some concern. The statement that - Four out of five riders were to blame in motorcycle fatalities. Is this after the major crash investigation or from the preliminary report and was the rider fully at fault or a contributing factor.

The article also stated more than half the riders had alcohol or drugs in their system either above the legal system or high enough to impair their judgement. This flies against all previous data that has shown that the percentage of rides involved in fatal crashes was less than car drivers. What number had a reading above the legal limit .05 The statement that nine out of ten killed riders had traffic records. I believe that this is about the same for all fatalities but in this instance only riders have been singled out.

The statement that half the 30 bike fatalities in WA between January 2012 and April this year involved riders on an unlicensed bike or a bike that had been in their possession less than three months. Does this include off road bikes and the people who had only had the motorcycle for less than three months – where they new riders, returning riders or people merely just buying a new bike?

The comment from Assistant Police Commissioner Nick Anticich that if you want to avoid being killed or suffer from a serious injury from a statistical perspective, you should not be getting a motorcycle shows his one biased approach to all motorcyclist in putting all riders in the same basket. I agree there is a section of motorcycle riders that can be classed as risk takers (the same as in car drivers) but this is not a basis to target all riders as I believe the comments have done.

Could send me the full study that this article refers to so that we can verify its findings?

Regards

Dave Wright

Motorcycle Riders Association of W.A. inc.

RESPONSE TO NEWS ARTICLE IN SUNDAY TIMES ON 19th MAY 2013

Headline read - Most riders at fault in bike-crash deaths

Firstly let me state that in my opinion the sensational way the article was written would lead the general (non-riding) public to assume that all riders are reckless irresponsible idiots, who don't care about their own or anyone else's safety on the road, and as I stated in my original email to the Police Department there is a section of the motorcycling community that you can class as risk takers but that is the same as all road users. I think it is unreasonable to put the entire riding community in this category as the newspaper article did. The Assistant Police Commissioner Nick Anticich quoted in the article is himself a keen motorcycle rider and has been riding for 30 years, and I am very disappointed by many of his reported comments and don't think they are productive towards road safety or show compassion to the families and friends of those that are involved in motorcycle fatalities. The motorcycle community I believe is quite rightly outraged by these quoted comments.

Since the article in last week's Sunday Times newspaper by Phil Hickey and the story going viral on Facebook, I have contacted the Executive Manager of the Traffic Policy Unit of the W.A. Police Department, and have had a meeting with their research Policy Office (a motorcycle rider of over 30 years) who prepared the quoted stats from a Police study. I was not able to get a copy of the report because as stated by the Police Dept. the report is based on confidential documents and therefore cannot be released to the general public. This is pending the coronial inquest into the fatalities. This study came about because of a request from the W.A. Motorcycle and Scooter Safety Advisory Group (I am the motorcycle representative on this group) that we look deeper into the causes of motorcycle and scooter fatalities through WA Police Major Crash Investigation Branch and WA Main Roads Major Crash Investigation Branch.

The analysis of this report by the WA Police Department covers the past 15 months of fatal motorcycle and scooter crashes by the Major Crash investigation Unit, and was the basis of the newspaper report, there is still some information I would like to get on the report and I will keep asking questions.

I have seen a copy of the analysis but could not get a copy as it has not been approved for release by the WA Police, but I did take notes and have the main points that were in the analysis. The following is in general terms as I don't want anyone to make reference to any specific crashes.

Over the past 15 months there have been 30 motorcycle fatalities in W.A. (we had 3 fatalities in 3 days last week). Major crash has investigated all of these and is awaiting additional information on 4 of the incidents at the time of the report.

Of the 30 fatalities 25 riders had previous traffic offences (not necessarily whilst riding). 12 of that number could be classes as major recidivists with multiple convictions and tickets. I would like to point out that I did not have a time line on the offences, but some had multiple cancellations of their licence and drink driving offences.

At the time of the fatalities 5 out of 26 had blood alcohol content over the legal limit with some over 4 times over. 12 of the 26 had sufficient drugs in their system that in the doctor's opinion it would seriously affect their riding ability. In many of the cases the drugs were methamphetamine or injectable drugs. 4 of the 26 had both drugs and high levels of alcohol in their systems.

Of the 30 fatalities 6 were on unregistered motorcycles. 10 of the 30 were unlicensed. 2 of the 30 were involved in a police pursuit, one on a stolen motorcycle. Speed was a factor in 12 cases. The W.A. Police Major Crash Investigation Branch put motorcyclists at fault in 23 of the 30 crashes. Of the 7 of the 30 that the rider was not at fault, 80% of those riders had no drugs or alcohol in their system.

Some of the data I could not get was the number of crashes that were single vehicle and the number of multi vehicle crashes. What other contributing factors there were at play in the crashes? If the entire fault lay with the rider or if some fault lay elsewhere else? Was the road environment a factor?

Many of the facts from this analysis goes against data I have seen in the past and although this is only a 15 month analysis of motorcycle fatalities, we need to be aware that there seems to be a shift in some of the major causal factors in motorcycle crashes and work to reduce rider fatalities.

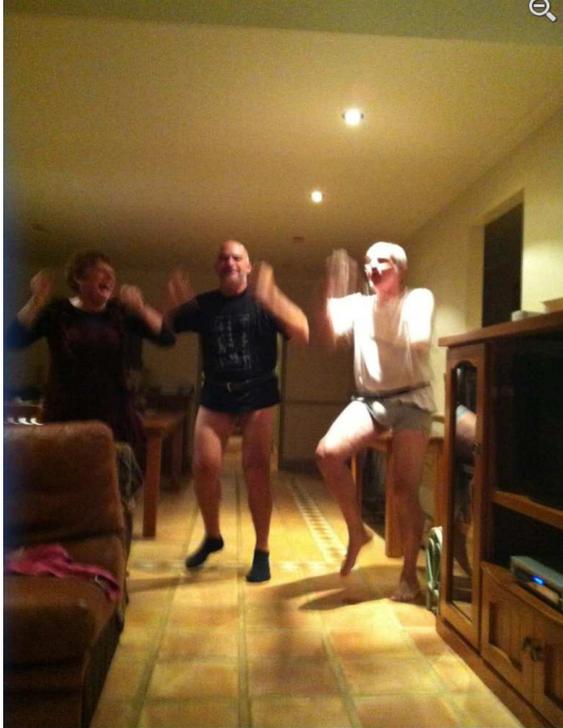
Although we still have many questions that need answering, there is no getting away from the facts from the analysis. That is that a large number of the crashes are by riders with high levels of alcohol and drugs in their system, the combination of that with speed and many of the riders being unlicensed, and therefore untrained all adds to the problem. It is a tragic fact that if this trend continues we will see many more families' lose loved ones.

We have been asking for a long time for a detailed look into the causes of motorcycle crashes, and although there is more work to be done, I think this is a wakeup call to all of us to take extra care of ourselves and our friends, and look for ways to reverse this emerging and tragic trend.

Dave Wright
Motorcycle Riders Association of W.A. Inc.

Denmark Escape (Pics)

Pippa great to see you back in action

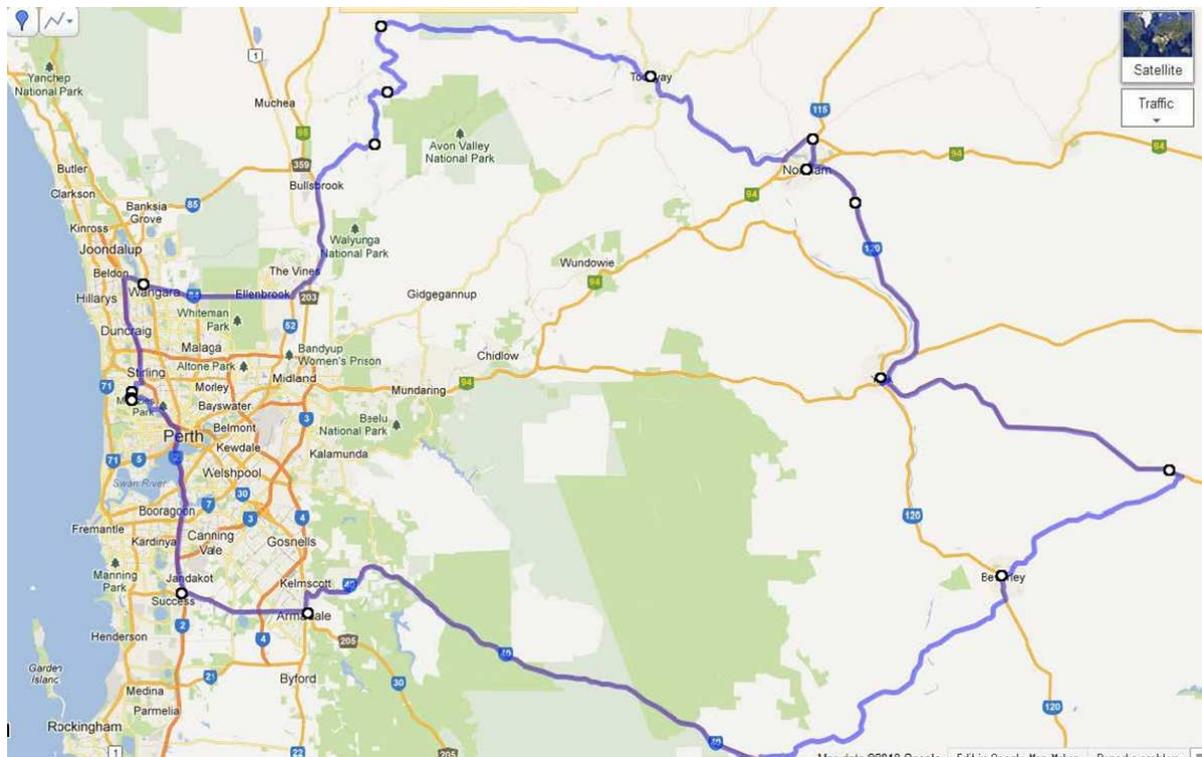


RIDE REPORT - Free Ride 26th May 2013 (Tony Barton)

On a fine and beautiful morning we gathered at the usual spot at Gateways and were joined by several hundred others, TEC was a little concerned that all the noise of the Harleys would disturb the peace at the rear. Fortunately they were on the charity ride heading to Garden Island.

After TEC made a fine suggestion for a ride Bloomers took the lead. Five bikes headed off and we were suddenly six as Graham joined us on Armadale Rd.

The ride to Beverley was pleasant with the sun out but it was a bit crisp in places. Simon marked most of the corners as Paul & Anita sailed past each corner. "There's only six of us" he quipped when stirred at Beverley, at least he wasn't rushing to the loo this time. A pleasant coffee and cake in the morning sun inspired us to continue to York, via Mawson, for fuel and after convincing Bloomers to join us for lunch we head off with five as Graham headed home



Tony & Colleen waited for Geoff and Sue and headed off down Spencers Brook Rd in pursuit but by Northam had not caught up despite a valiant effort. We later learned the rest had gone down York Rd. We met again in Toodyay for a relaxed lunch. There would be photos but as Colleen realised flat batteries do not take photos. We walked down to the Avon River for Paul & Simon to discuss the technical implications of repair works on the bridge.

Heading off again Tony & Colleen led the group, less Geoff & Sue, down Chittering Rd and Chittering Valley Rd when the sky opened and it poured down. At a brief stop in Bullsbrook, before heading our own ways home, it was noted that it had rained for long enough for TEC to get "somewhat wet in the nether regions". There were several offers to help dry him which were thankfully declined.

For most it was a 430 km trip and a most enjoyable days ride with great company including Jeff & Jill, Tony & Colleen, Geoff & Sue, Graham, Paul & Anita, Simon.

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Here are some good Motorcycle web sites. Just move your mouse pointer over the item and it will show web address, then CTL Click to go to the site. (For some reason this doesn't work on the printed version.)

[Asian M/C Tours](#)

[Aussie Bike Tours QLD](#)

[Bad Boy Biker Jewellery](#)

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[TAC Motorcycle News \(Spokes.com.au\)](#)

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Some Light Humour

First Time Sex (It is clean and funny)

A girl asks her boyfriend to come over Friday night to meet, and have a dinner with her parents.

Since this is such a big event, the girl announces to her boyfriend that after dinner, she would like to go out and make love for the first time.

The boy is ecstatic, but he has never had sex before, so he takes a trip to the pharmacist to get some condoms. He tells the pharmacist it's his first time and the pharmacist helps the boy for about an hour. He tells the boy everything there is to know about condoms and sex.

At the register, the pharmacist asks the boy how many condoms he'd like to buy, a 3-pack, 10-pack, or family pack.

The boy insists on the family pack because he thinks he will be rather busy, it being his first time and all.

That night, the boy shows up at the girl's parents house and meets his girlfriend at the door.

"Oh, I'm so excited for you to meet my parents, come on in!"

The boy goes inside and is taken to the dinner table where the girl's parents are seated.

The boy quickly offers to say grace and bows his head. A minute passes, and the boy is still deep in prayer, with his head down.

10 minutes pass, and still no movement from the boy.

Finally, after 20 minutes with his head down, the girlfriend leans over and whispers to the boyfriend, 'I had no idea you were this religious..'

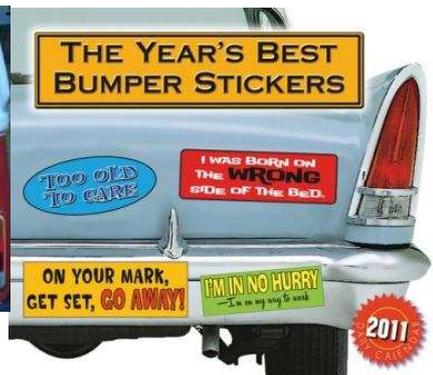
The boy turns, and whispers back,

'I had no idea your father was a pharmacist.'

I saw a van with a bumper sticker saying: "I am a vet, therefore I drive like an animal."

Suddenly I realised how many gynaecologists there are on the roads.

COUNTERTHINK



From The London Times: A Well-Planned Retirement

A perfect example of government mismanagement.



Outside England 's Bristol Zoo there is a parking lot for 150 cars and 8 buses. For 25 years, it's parking fees were managed by a very pleasant attendant. The fees were for cars (£1.40), for buses (about £7).

Then, one day, after 25 solid years of never missing a day off work, he just didn't show up; so the Zoo Management called the City Council and asked it to send them another parking agent.

The Council did some research and replied that the parking lot was the Zoo's own responsibility.

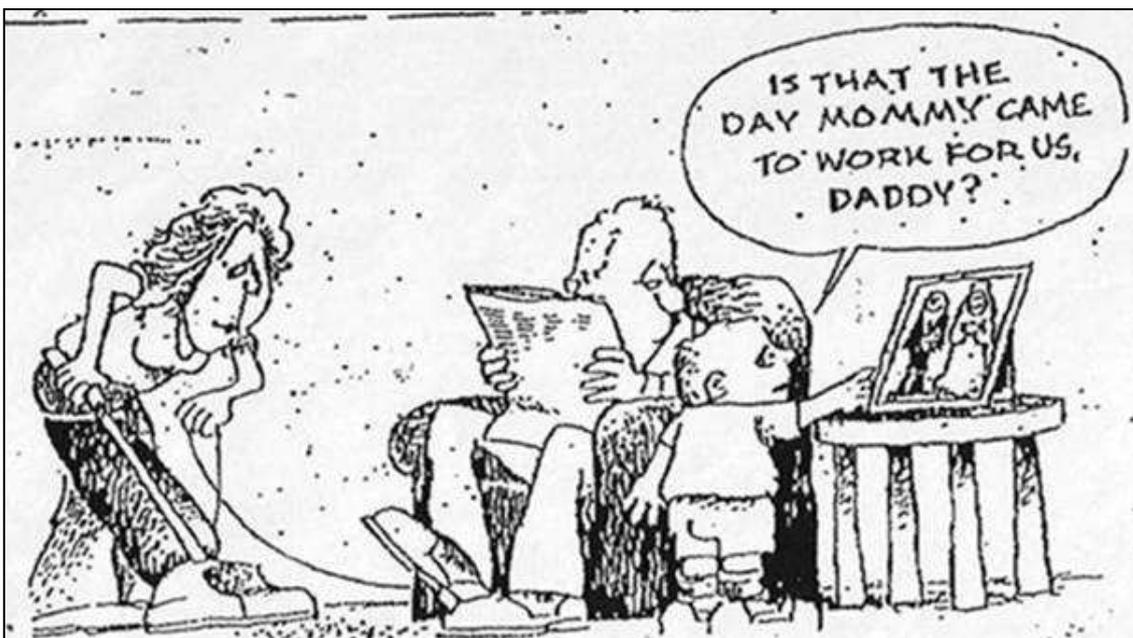
The Zoo advised the Council that the attendant was a City employee.

The City Council responded that the lot attendant had never been on the City payroll.

Meanwhile, sitting in his villa somewhere on the coast of Spain or France or Italy ... is a man who'd apparently had a ticket machine installed completely on his own, and then, had simply begun to show up every day, to collect and keep the parking fees, estimated at about £560 per day -- for 25 years.

Assuming 7 days a week, this amounts to just over 7 million pounds ... and no one even knows his name.

I think this is my favorite E-Mail ever!!



Two old guys, one 80 and one 87, were sitting on a park bench one morning.



The 87-year-old had just finished his morning jog and wasn't even short of breath.

The 80-year-old was amazed at the guy's stamina and asked him what he did to have so much energy.

The 87-year-old said, "Well, I eat rye bread every day. It keeps your energy level high and you'll have great stamina with the ladies."

So, on the way home the 80-year-old stopped at the bakery.

As he was looking around, the saleslady asked if he needed any help.

He said, "Do you have any rye bread?"

She said, "Yes, there's a whole shelf of it. Would you like some?"

He said, "I want five loaves."

She said, "My goodness, five loaves! By the time you get to the 3rd loaf, it'll be hard."

He replied, "I can't believe everybody knows about this shit but me."



One day a teacher was talking about marriage in class

Teacher : What kind of wife would you like Johnny?

Johnny : I would want a wife like the moon...

Teacher : Wow !! What a choice...do you want her to be beautiful and calm like the moon?

Johnny : No, I want her to arrive at night and disappear in the morning...

**You can almost hear him say these words:
"You want me to do what?"
The look on this dog's face is priceless....**



You Can kiss my @ss, "I ain't smellin' those!"