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## \$50 Lesson

Recently, while I was working in the flower beds in the front yard, my neighbours stopped to chat as they returned home from walking their dog.

During our friendly conversation, I asked their 12 year old daughter what she wanted to be when she grows up. She said she wanted to be Prime Minister some day. Both of her parents – Socialist Labor – were standing there, so I asked her, “If you were Prime Minister what would be the first thing you would do?” She replied, “I’d give food and houses to all the homeless people.”

Her parents beamed with pride! “Wow! What a worthy goal!” I said. “But you don’t have to wait until you’re Prime Minister to do that!” I told her.

“What do you mean?” she replied. So I told her, “You can come over to my house and mow the lawn, pull weeds, and trim my hedge, and I’ll pay you \$50. Then you can go over to the grocery store where the homeless guy hangs out, and you can give him the \$50 to use toward food and a new house.” She thought that over for a few seconds, then she looked me straight in the eye and asked, “Why doesn’t the homeless guy come over and do the work, and you can just pay him the \$50?” I said, “Welcome to the Liberal Party.”

Her parents aren’t speaking to me.

**An Irish priest is driving down to New York and gets stopped for speeding in Connecticut.**

**The state trooper smells alcohol on the priest’s breath and then sees an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car. He says, ‘Sir, have you been drinking?’**

**‘Just water,’ says the priest. The trooper says, ‘Then why do I smell wine?’**

**The priest looks at the bottle and says, ‘Good lord! He’s done it again!’**

## ~ LIFE MESSAGES ~

1. Life is too short for negative drama and petty things so laugh insanely, love truly and forgive quickly!
2. I hope everyone in your head is happy .... we’re all doing pretty well in mine!
3. Aspire to be Barbie – the bitch has everything!
4. If the shoe fits – buy them in every colour!
5. In need of a support group?? Cocktail hour with the girls!
6. I know I’m in my own little world, but it’s ok. They know me here.
7. Lead me not into temptation, I can find it myself.
8. Keep your chin up, only the first 40 years of parenthood are the hardest.
9. By the time a woman realizes her mother was right, she has a daughter who thinks she’s wrong.

Patton staggered home very late after another evening with his drinking buddy, Paddy. He took off his shoes to avoid waking his wife, Kathleen.

He tiptoed as quietly as he could toward the stairs leading to their upstairs bedroom, but misjudged the bottom step. As he caught himself by grabbing the banister, his body swung around and he landed heavily on his rump. A whiskey bottle in each back pocket broke and made the landing especially painful.

Managing not to yell, Patton sprung up, pulled down his pants, and looked in the hall mirror to see that his butt cheeks were cut and bleeding. He managed to quietly find a full box of Band-Aids and began putting a Band-Aid as best he could on each place he saw blood. He then hid the now almost empty Band-Aid box and shuffled and stumbled his way to bed.

In the morning, Patton woke up with searing pain in both his head and butt and Kathleen staring at him from across the room.

She said, ‘You were drunk again last night weren’t you?’

Patton said, ‘Why do you say such a mean thing?’

‘Well,’ Kathleen said, ‘it could be the open front door, it could be the broken glass at the bottom of the stairs, it could be the drops of blood trailing through the house, it could be your bloodshot eyes, but mostly ..... it’s all those Band-Aids stuck on the hall mirror’.

## Why I fired my Secretary

Last week was my birthday and I didn’t feel very well waking up on that morning. I went downstairs for breakfast hoping my wife would be pleasant and say, ‘Happy Birthday!’ and possibly have a small present for me. As it turned out, she barely said good morning, let alone ‘Happy Birthday.’ I thought ... well that’s marriage for you, but the kids ... they will remember.

My kids came bounding down the stairs to breakfast and didn’t say a word. So when I left for the office, I felt pretty low and somewhat despondent. As I walked into my office, my secretary Jane said, ‘Good morning Boss, and by the way Happy Birthday’.

It felt a little better that at least someone had remembered. I worked until one o’clock, when Jane knocked on my door and said, ‘You know, it’s such a beautiful day outside and it’s your Birthday, what do you say we go out to lunch, just you and me.’ I said, ‘Thanks Jane, that’s the greatest thing I’ve heard all day. Let’s go’.

We went to lunch but we didn’t go where we normally would go. She chose instead a quiet bistro with a private table. We had two martinis each and I enjoyed the meal tremendously.

On the way back to the office, Jane said, ‘You know it’s such a beautiful day, we don’t need to go straight back to the office, do we?’ I responded, ‘I guess not, what do you have in mind?’ ‘Let’s drop by my apartment, it’s just around the corner.’ After arriving at her apartment, Jane turned to me and said, ‘Boss, if you don’t mind, I’m going to step into the bedroom for just a moment, I’ll be right back.’ ‘Ok’ I nervously replied.

She went into the bedroom and after a couple of minutes she came out carrying a huge birthday cake ... followed by my wife, my kids and dozens of my friends and co-workers, all singing ‘Happy Birthday’.

And I just sat there .....

On the couch .....

Naked

## **Another client sent ‘Travelling Places’**

I have been in many places, but I’ve never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can’t go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I’ve also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don’t have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work. I live close so it’s a short drive.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I’m not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I’ve been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I’m in Capable, and I go there more often as I’m getting older.

One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenaline flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

And, sometimes I think I am in Vincible but life shows me I am not.

People keep telling me I’m in Denial but I’m positive I’ve never been there before!

I have been in Deepshit many times; the older I get, the easier it is to get there. I actually kind of enjoy it there.

So far, I haven’t been in Continent; but my travel agent says I’ll be going soon.

Wishing you all safe travels!

**One of Watts favourite clients (Paul Hillier) sent over an Irish blessing which we would like to share with you all**

May you be blessed with the  
strength of heaven  
The light of the sun and the  
radiance of the moon  
The splendor of the fire  
The speed of lightning  
The swiftness of wind  
The depth of the sea  
The stability of earth  
And the firmness of rock.

Client emailed the Prime Minister:

**Your administration is a disgrace.  
Call an election now, you’re  
incompetent!**

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## **Mylo Browncoat – The Good, The Bad and the Unbelievably Ugly**

### **The Good**

1. Ben Gregory – Tru Energy – ongoing battle with Tru Energy since August last year and finally Ben Gregory on 21/3/12 achieved 'Mission Impossible'. Credit of \$25,753.57 from overall adjustment of incorrect Network Charges applied to Tru Energy accounts for October 2010 to June 2011. Fantastic work Ben, March account had credit of \$21,415.18 – so it seems a shortfall still – email sent to you 11/5/12.
2. Tru Energy will only provide for the one Parent NMI and will not provide any support to any subsequent 'Child Meters' – Good on you Tru!
3. Energex Networks – Lyn McBride and Stuart Hoffman for their valuable expertise and assistance with the \$1 million dollar baby billing issue with Origin – as at 11/5/12, still no resolution.
4. ERM Power for their efficient and professional work for a new electricity sale agreement and being able to have the new Comms Meter installed so quickly. Mylo Browncoat thinks ERM rocks!!
5. Yvonne McLean – Tru Energy – Mylo Browncoat likes your style – smart and fast (just like Mylo).
6. To all the new clients who have jumped the fence over to 'The Watts Chicks and Guy' starting July/August/September 2012. Welcome aboard the Watts Train.

### **The Bad**

1. Tru Energy – Client wrote to Tru on 26/3/12:  
  
*We still do not have invoices for this site. It is now almost 6 months since this contract commenced. This is no longer ridiculous, it's incompetent.*

# WATTS NEWS

*The prolonged delay in invoicing for this site is not only affecting the future cash flow of the property, it is affecting the owner's ability to calculate the actual operating costs for recovery from the tenants and it is now also going to affect our ability to budget for the next financial year and the recovery of those forecast costs from the tenants. Rest assured, recovery of any financial loss suffered as a result of this issue will be pursued.*

*If a satisfactory response is not received by close of business tomorrow, we will escalate this matter to the Ombudsman.*

*Needless to say, TRU Energy will not be a recommended supplier for our commercial portfolio going forward. I will also be writing to TRU Energy's Executive Management to ensure they are aware of the mismanagement of these affairs.*

2. Origin – Client wrote to Origin on 28/3/12:

*As explained to you we manage 11 properties for this one landlord in Brisbane and this is our only Origin held account. With the purchase of all other properties we have never had to deal with this amount of delay and angst and red tape.*

*The settlement for this multi-million dollar property took place on 15/12/2011 – that is over 3 months ago. Before settlement we believed that all documentation had been completed and lodged.*

*We were eventually notified after several false starts that this was not the case.*

*My biggest issue is that the previous owner is still receiving accounts which means they have not been able to satisfy part of the contract of sale which was they were to hand to us an audited statement of outgoings for the period of their ownership to 15/12/2011.*

*This then means we have not been able to audit their finals which means that we cannot correctly set up our own internal outgoings procedures.*

*Also our budgets for the property are in a shamble because we have not received any electricity accounts.*

*I know you have made all the correct sounds of empathy but I am afraid that after 4 months this does not help the situation.*

*I hope you are able to pass this email on to your hierarchy and hope that some positive action will result.*

### **The Unbelievably Ugly**

1. Increases to LRET – 9.15% and SRES – 23.95% (Legally stealing by the Federal Govt).
2. Tru Energy on 1/5/12 sent a letter to client – below is extract from letter re carbon charges:

*All States – New Charge – 'Carbon Charges'*

*In our January 2012 letter, we advised that the Clean Energy Act 2011, which was recently passed by the Federal Government, provided for a carbon pricing mechanism which will result in a new charge under your electricity supply agreement from 1 July 2012. Our costs, arising as a result of this new legislation, will be recovered from you from 1 July 2012 through addition of a new line on your invoices called 'Carbon Charge'. This charge will:*

- Be calculated and charged in accordance with your electricity supply agreement
- Not include a margin
- Be charged based upon your electricity consumption for the invoice (monthly) period
- Vary each month. *The rate will vary (in accordance with your retail electricity contract) and the total charges (based upon your electricity consumption for the month) will vary*
- As with energy charges, have line losses applied (distribution loss factors and marginal loss factors) and
- Have GST applied.

*Invoices will, in the 'Energy Consumption' section, separately provide the Carbon Charge. GST will be applied to the Carbon Charge, included as part of the calculated Goods and Services Tax line item.*

*Where you are on default, or pool pass-through, energy rates after 1 July 2012, the energy rates on your monthly invoices will include a carbon component, and those invoices will not include the separate Carbon Charge.*

*We are not able to advise you of the rate for the Carbon Charge as it will vary each month.*

### **Carbon Tax will vary each month????**

3. QCA Draft Determination Regulated Electricity Prices for 2012 – 2013. For most bulk supply embedded networks – sites in Qld – expenses. Cost for each owner to purchase power will increase from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 together with decrease in Income & Profit – 'Can' 'Can Do' (new Premier Campbell Newman) and Minister for Energy and Water Supply Mark McArdle save the day here! Decrease in Income together with Profit has a Ripple Effect and will probably decrease the value of every bulk supply embedded network site in Queensland.
4. Toolheads, Blockheads, Jugheads – Qld owners face AER new guidelines, registration etc network and retail exemption, other AER changes, carbon tax (margin, change) some suppliers carbon inclusive, others going to show as a separate line. On-selling tariff – waiting on response from DEEDI.

**Federal Budget –** The managed investment trust withholding tax will double from 7.5% to 15% as at 1/7/12.

**Promised Company Tax Rate Cut – GONE!**

**Flood Levy –** isn't that for this financial year for Qld tax payers??

**What the??** AER, QCA, ATO – maybe I have over dosed on the new medication and this is all a bad dream. If not, then going to find a little patch on an island somewhere, maybe the 'Irish Blond' and her 'old' toyboy might join me – find our own Gilligans Island, Green Acres or Lost and leave all this madness behind.

### **The Legend Honour Roll**

Name	Knighted	Company
Paul Enright	8/9/11	Origin