

The crazy thing is; it worked

In a neat little house in the middle of Weymouth lived Mr & Mrs Gender-Unsure. Harriet and Lawrence; Harry and Larry as they were known by one and all.

Harry worked as a motor mechanic in a reasonably respectable motor garage. Larry was a cook in the local old folks' home, 'Senior Moments'.

They shared the work at home. Larry did most of the housework, while Harry looked after the health of their cars, put the bins out and so-on.

The washing machine was another matter. That was a grey area and they were both very benighted about such things. When anything went wrong with it, Harry would open that little door at the bottom where the fairies lived. She would shake her head and look at Larry. Larry would look inside the drawer at the top and sigh deeply. One of them would open the porthole window at the front and put their head inside.

They would then 'phone Andy, the washing machine man and he would come out, say, "Umm, I've not seen a model like this before." Then he would fix it... for now! Then leave with most of their spare cash.

It was after the Saturday morning football match that the latest episode of the washing machine saga happened. The male team from the old folk home, 'The Old Wanderers'; were playing 'The Saggy Girls'.

Larry was getting very excited watching.

Eveready Ron and Naughty Nora were both chosen to be the goalkeepers. The lads won the toss and Slow Stan kicked the ball to Ebay 'enery who passed it to Blind Larry. He was tackled by Kneehigh Nelly. He booted the ball to Omnipod Olly. The ball landed perfect for Olly. He couldn't believe it; he saw Naughty Nora disappearing off to the clubhouse with Eveready Ron. So Olly took advantage of the open goal, lined up his leg and took the shot. The ball landed squarely into the goal-mouth just as Olly realized he didn't have a leg to stand on.

Larry raced onto the pitch to help him up. The trouble was it had been raining the night before and he had no grip on his shoes. He landed two foot short of Olly, and face down.

Wateraid Wendy came running onto the pitch with her sponge, but she didn't know whether to use it on Olly or Larry.

Retrospective Rita the Referee came puffing up the field after using her inhaler. She said, "Uh-uh-uh, I'll take that as a uh-uh foul."

“I thought refs were supposed to be impartial.” shouted Cynical Sid, sitting on the sidelines.

They decided as it was 11o'clock it would be a good time to return home.

The teams exchanged shirts. As they were all wearing their thermal underneath, they kept their modesty intact.

When Larry got home he showered and changed and then went to put his muddy washing into the washing machine.

It was then that the washing machine decided to disappoint him.

Larry called Harry. They did their routine of looking into the door, drawer and porthole and gave up.

This time Harry 'phoned Andy's number and Andy's mum answered. She said that Andy and his girlfriend of thirty-seven years had got married the previous Saturday and were now on a World cruise for their honeymoon. They would be away for 6 weeks.

When Harry told Larry their eyes met and they both had a sparkle to them. Larry's as he thought about the brand new washing machine that he saw in a shop window last

week. Harry's because she was going down to Halfords to buy a copy of the Haynes washing machine manual.

When Harry came back an hour later, she had no manual. She didn't look happy. They were out of stock and a new delivery was not expected for at least a month. "I can wait," she said. "It really doesn't matter."

Larry was not a man that usually made a fuss, but this did annoy him. He was now thinking of the washing machine in the window and saw it slowly slipping away from him. He got angry, angrier than he thought he had ever been.

He looked at the failing machine with hate in his eyes, and then he gave it one *almighty* kick.

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