forsooth

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Word of the Day - for Toastmasters everywhere

Friday 20th May 2022

forsooth

(adverb) for-SOOTH

In truth, certainly.

The word is now used only ironically.

> **Forsooth**, it is the Chosen One, Saint Wayne of Rooney, sent to us wretched England fans to rescue us from our slough of despond.
>
> Carrie Dunn, *The Guardian*, 11 June 2006. Guardian

> Like too many desperate thinktanks these days (hairdressers, **forsooth**?), it searches for something new to say for the sake of it: why bother to propose creating a host of health-insurance providers competing for the custom of NHS patients?
>
> Polly Toynbee, *The Guardian*, 20 January 2006. Guardian

> In an informal e-mail tooth survey of 27 colleagues and friends, I asked, among other things, whether they noticed other people's teeth, and two-thirds said **forsooth**.
>
> Natalie Angier, *The New York Times*, 5 August 2003. New York Times

> She spoke: "By my troth, good husband, say quickly if they promise to end their telephonic importunings, thus granting us surcease of salesmen offering suspiciously low rates on long-distance calls to places we never call **forsooth**."
>
> Russell Baker, *The New York Times*, 15 January 1994. New York Times

> Would it not be simple idiotic to keep absolutely quiet because, **forsooth**, it is supposed that our rulers are indifferent to what we natives may think or say regarding measures affecting us?
>
> Unattributed, *The Tribune* (India), 25 January 1900. The Tribune (India)

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