

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)