

## The Seven Seas Tattler Issue 1.3 - August 2017



Welcome to our third edition. Please feel free to provide critique and ideas to improve the publication ([jonathanagolding@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanagolding@gmail.com)). I hope that you find the contents interesting.

### From The chairman

In the last Tattler we asked for feedback on permitting Club Members to insert small adverts. Whilst the response was a little underwhelming there has been no negative feedback. So the committee has decided that we will pilot the idea for a period to test the waters. At this stage there will be no costs involved as we believe it can be seen as a service to club members. Therefore, feel free to submit short adverts which we will endeavour to include in future editions.



**Happy Hour.**



The established practice of having the monthly "happy hour" on a Thursday is being discussed. There is a concern that attendance on a Friday evening dips sharply the night after the happy hour Thursday. Please let us know your thoughts on whether we should continue on a Thursday or whether we should make it on another day of the week (e.g. a Tuesday).

Currently only one submarine and a frigate are undergoing workup training. The rest of the Fleet is alongside. There is the AFRIKANER (belongs to DAFF) in dry-dock for maintenance and fishing trawler making use of the synchrolift for repairs.

I would like to emphasize to members to have themselves registered, via the Manager, into the Clubs access data base. The reason is that we had a security scare (Ed - see elsewhere in this bulletin) where an individual was allowed access by a new member of staff not knowing that he was not a member. The bar staff will be instructed to verify membership by either showing membership card or giving membership number. This verification process could take longer than normal to open the gate as the bar staff's priority is to serve members and only thereafter attend to access control. I strongly encourage members to register either by finger or pass number to avoid any unpleasanties occurring trying to enter the club.

### From the Treasurer:-

Club support in June, particularly on the five Friday evenings in the month, when the “lucky draw” attendance prize rose to dizzying heights and also on two Saturdays, when test rugby was screened on our new “big screen”, pushed bar turnover way beyond budget. A very pleasing result!! Unfortunately, unexpected costs nailed the surplus from the great sales, resulting in the month ending, ultimately, with a small net deficit.

Our printer packed up, our vacuum cleaner gave its last gasp, Glen’s computer keyboard seized (obviously overworked) and a bar fridge couldn’t keep up with the sudden influx of customers. All of these had to be replaced / repaired at great expense. Over and above this, we chose to carry the maintenance costs of the lower deck, for our departed tenants, Cybicom. These tenants were such a loyal bunch and super supporters of the Club that we felt it was the least we could do.

We expect July to not quite match our sales budget, but costs should be way down and we should end up in the black (Here’s hoping!!!).

As far as the membership database is concerned, we had to write off a few delinquent members who, after numerous reminders, failed to pay their membership dues. These ex-members will, unfortunately, be barred from the Seven Seas Club and all reciprocal clubs going forward.

I would just like to reiterate that, should members find their subs too onerous to pay once off, we do offer payment terms....just have a chat with the Treasurer.

‘till next month.....

### Club Birthdays

We wish the following members the happiest of birthdays. If you are celebrating a birthday in August but are not on this list we apologise and ask that you please help us update our database.

2 August	<b>Lt Cdr AJ Richardson</b>	13 August	<b>Capt KE Packer</b>
3 August	<b>Capt PR Le Roux</b>	26 August	<b>Lt Cdr HA Farrow</b>
8 August	<b>Mr SF Haselum</b>	26 August	<b>Mr EW Sedgwick</b>
10 August	<b>Mrs P Luyt</b>	27 August	<b>Lt Cdr G Mountifield</b>
10 August	<b>Ms R Tate</b>	27 August	<b>S Lt AW Truter</b>
10 August	<b>Mr PJ Watermeyer</b>	28 August	<b>Mr ME Bagley</b>
12 August	<b>Capt. BL Morris</b>		

### From our Club Manager

Recently the Club experienced a security breach. The standby bar person, who was on duty, inadvertently allowed an individual entrance to the Club after he rang the security button at the entrance, claiming that he had been to the Club on numerous occasions previously. This individual of dubious character turned out to be quite belligerent when questioned by the Club Manager. Thankfully there were a few burly Members present and the individual was persuaded to leave the Club premises without too much fuss.

To this end, the bar staff have been briefed once again to make sure that persons wishing to gain entrance to the Club are positively identified as Members, either by personal recognition or by verbally obtaining the persons Club details and cross referring with an up to date Membership list available at the bar.

Those Members who have not registered themselves with either a fingerprint or a 4 digit code (or both) are strongly urged to do so. Please liaise with the Club Manager to register. This would obviously negate having to wait at the entrance (which would be inconvenient and embarrassing to Member’s guests) whilst the duty staff member confirms their membership.

## **New Member.**

Tattler welcomes Mr Dennis Oettle. Dennis served in the SA Navy for many years where he amongst other sea appointments was a Boat's Captain of one of the SA Navy's IPV's (inshore patrol vessel) as well as a Tug Master whilst serving at Naval Base Simon's Town. Dennis resigned from the Navy to obtain his Merchant Masters qualification and is currently the Master of one of the DAFF ships. (The red and white ships frequently seen in False Bay).

100 Club Winners drawn at the 13<sup>th</sup> of July 100 Club Draw.

<b>July 2017</b>	<b>MR. N.R. Neate</b>	<b>R300</b>
	<b>MR. M.S. Upson</b>	<b>R300</b>
	<b>MRS. M. Barnard</b>	<b>R300</b>
	<b>CAPT. C.J. Moon (ret)</b>	<b>R1000</b>

## **UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT: CDR PEGGY PYSDEN SA NAVY (Rtd)**

This month Tattler talks to (ret) CDR Peggy Pysden. Peggy's initial reaction to Tattler was - "Why me?" Nevertheless she was persuaded! An ebullient club member of almost 40 years, a true character of the Club.

### **Personal details.**

Peggy Raubenheimer made her appearance on 21 January 1940 in Ficksburg OFS. At the age of four, her father was posted to Warden as a Bank Manager. There were only three English speaking families (them and two Doctors) in this very Afrikaans community, and this is where she commenced schooling at the Dirkie Uys Laer Skool! In Std 5, her parents decided, that as her English was suffering, to send her all the way to Cradock to stay with family and commence English medium education at Rocklands School for girls. After a year, her parents transferred to Harrismith, so back home she went for two years and was again shipped off to boarding school this time to Eunice High School for girls. The most wonderful and fulfilling years of her schooling.

**Activities/achievements.** Excelled at athletics (sprinting) during primary school years. At Eunice her music (piano) career expanded to achieve her Grade Eight. Also played 1<sup>st</sup> team hockey.

After Matriculating in 1957, she commenced a nursing career at the Johannesburg General Hospital. After completing the general nursing course she did the Maternity course at the Queen Victoria Maternity Hospital. After that, she went on to specialise in Open Heart/Thoracic surgery at the Florence Nightingale Private Nursing Home. During her nursing career her piano playing unfortunately fell by the wayside. She married Edward Pysden during 1965 and, when expecting her first child during 1967 gave up nursing for good as it turned out. Beverly was born in December 1967, then Christopher in June 1969 and finally Catherine in March 1974. (Tragically, Beverly passed away on Xmas day 1997 after a long illness - the saddest time in Peggy's life). During 1978 she and Edward divorced. Then a complete somersault occurred in the lives of her and her children and a new career in the Navy was launched.

### **Naval Career**

In her words: " you must realise that, I never had any intention of joining the Navy – dear God, I had no idea what it was about. Only knew there was a Navy from seeing a few ships on TV. To cut a long story short, imagine my horror when this job, OIC Homestead, was mooted. I literally freaked out! Anyway, some weeks later the idea started growing on me and thus I found myself in the SA Navy as of 2 January 1979 at the grand old age of 39! A Lt, OIC Homestead (SWANS Mess), often referred to her as Mother Goose". (Ed - could this nick-name catch on at seven Seas?)

Her Officer Training at Gordon's Bay commenced in June 1979. Those intervening months were hard, the SANS were old hands and she was supposed to guide them. She remember WOO1 Luke Grove – "my true life saver in those days. "When she started training at the Naval College, she had never seen a ship up close. Come the final exams, one question was 'Describe the weapon Systems on a Strike Craft'. Yes, they studied ship recognition

diagrams! She nevertheless added a Wasp Helicopter for good measure. She can still hear the roars of laughter from her instructors. Nevertheless, her certificate indicates that she managed to come first in class. - Tattler expects nothing less!

Significant events during her period at the Homestead include participating in the Republic Festival Parade in Durban in 1982 and organising the SWANS 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1983. She needs to commend the then Cdre Trevor Beddy for his patience and wonderful support, without which she would have floundered.

In 1984 she was promoted to Lt Cdr. By this time she was itching for a change of career but had no training in any specific mustering. In 1987 an opportunity arose and she got a detached transfer to WP Army Command (the Castle) and joined the COMOPS department. Talk about a cultural shock! "I must admit that this created a great learning curve in my career development."

On 1 January 1989 she was awarded her brass cap (Cdr) and found herself installed at Navy Headquarters in Pretoria still involved in COMOPS. This is where she believes her true vocation in Public Relations (PR) started, although the PR Branch was only established in 1997. Many catch-up courses had to be completed. While at Navy HQ, her love for the magnificent Navy Band was born. After a (much opposed by senior officers but with full support from Adm Woodburn) first roaring successful Gala Event in the State Opera House in 1990, she used the Band as a PR "Tool" and travelled the length and breadth of South Africa – even the then SWA. The Grahamstown Festival saw them for several years. During the Navy 70 celebrations the famous Dry Dock concerts were launched and Garden Parties at Admiralty House.

Peggy's greatest privilege was the opportunity to sail on the SAS DRAKENSBERG, under command of Capt Preston Barnard, to Europe on a friendship cruise to show the Flag, departing on 18 May 1994 & returning on 18 August 1994. Her job, Media Liaison. One of her greatest pleasures, while the ship was engaged in maritime exercises in the North Atlantic, was being airlifted to foreign ships involved to do interviews with the CTG and other personalities. She recounts that Capt Barnard told her that what happened in Copenhagen, stays there. "You however, let the cat out of the bag, he, he, he" (see last Tattler)

In July 1997, she transferred to Naval Base Simon's Town as Base PRO. The Navy was in the process of restructuring and she found herself heading up quite an extensive department under R Adm (JG) Peter Keene – "a wonderful boss". She had a wonderful team of people working with her and "if I may say so myself, we ran a fast moving and dynamic organisation". Media Liaison probably presented the most challenging times – She recalls the Navy testing 700 rounds of ammunition from Tango jetty and the whales were in the bay. For weeks her phone rang until 11pm and started again at 5am. Baboons in Da Gama Park was another challenge between the Navy and the City Council.

A most outstanding event was most assuredly her involvement as liaison officer between the Navy and BMW's launch of the right hand drive for export of the 317 and 318 series in the Dry Dock. WO Hennie Olivier, providing the technical assistance and she spent the best part of a month at/in the Dry Dock.

**Who were the "important people"?** : There were many. V Adm Woodburn, V Adm Simpson-Anderson in particular, V Adm Trainor, including all those senior officers who rotated & supported every Navy Band concert no matter how remote the venue. She cannot leave out the LOGO's and FINO's – She regularly jumped through hoops getting her Log and Fin problems sorted out! - *Tattler - certainly a varied and interesting career in the navy Peggy*

**What makes her happy?** She "laughs a lot." Her real happiness is when she is with her family in the USA.

**On activities outside of the navy** On retirement she became a committed lawn bowler (does not play anymore) entering many competitions. My most embarrassing moment occurred when still bowling at Clovelly Country Club. They had a Sunday competition starting at 9am. She overslept, got a call at 08:50. Dressed frantically, grabbed her cool bag (Tattler - of course you did Peggy!) and off she went. When in Fish Hoek, she realised that she had forgotten to put on her bra! Too late to go back home – She leaves the rest to your imagination. (Ed - and there we will close this subject!)

She joined the Seven Seas Club in April 1979, and has been an Ancient Mariner since 2010. (Noteworthy!) Served on the Committee from 1982 to 1988 and again from 1998 to 2013. Many events organised such as Jazz Concerts, New Year's dances and so forth, the most memorable being the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, at the Seven Seas Club, in July 2007. All national reciprocity clubs were invited, pleasingly, several of the more localised clubs were represented.

**What makes her tick?** A good glass of red wine or a double whisky. (or two?)

**Who am I the most proud of:** My son Christopher, who works for the Oregon Health and Sciences University in Portland and Catherine who is a Computer Scientist working for the UN in Manhattan. Two great achievers!

**What annoys her?** When she hears civvies comment "whales are in the bay and that STUPID Navy is firing guns".

Tattler would like to thank Peggy for sharing this information. A long-standing and loyal club member indeed.

### **The Month of August in military history**

**1 Aug 1779:** Francis Scott Key is born in Maryland. After witnessing the British bombardment of Fort McHenry on the night of September 13-14, 1814, he was inspired to write what was then called "Defense of Fort McHenry." In 1931 the tune became America's National Anthem.

**1 August 1942** the Seaward Defence Force and the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve (South Africa) amalgamated to form the South African Naval Forces (SANF) in which 10 332 officers and ratings served during the Second World War. At the peak period of the Second World War in 1944, the South African fleet consisted of 87 vessels. A total of 329 members of the SANF were killed in action or died in service and 225 awards for gallantry or distinguished service were bestowed on South African sailors. Twenty-six battle honours were confirmed on our ships, three of which served in the Far East.

**1 Aug 1980** The SAS *President Steyn* was decommissioned and systematically stripped for spare parts so that the remaining two frigates could be kept serviceable.

**2 Aug 1939** - Albert Einstein wrote a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning the possibility of atomic weapons. "A single bomb of this type carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory." Six years later, on August 6, 1945, the first Atomic Bomb, developed by the U.S., was dropped on the Japanese port of Hiroshima.

**2 Aug 1990:** The Iraqi army invades Kuwait, eventually leading to Desert Storm.

**5 Aug 1969** SAS *President Kruger* was re-commissioned on completion of a comprehensive modernisation process, which included, building a helicopter deck and hangar, and 3 "Daphne" class submarines were ordered from France.

**6 Aug 1945:** At 8:15 a.m., the Enola Gay drops the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. A second nuclear device will be dropped on Nagasaki 3 days later. Both cities are left in ruins and hundreds of thousands are killed

**8 Aug 1945** - Soviet Russia declared war on Japan and sent troops into Japanese-held Manchuria

**11 August 1993**, SAS *Outeniqua* departed from Simon's Town to load a mobile 126-bed hospital and other emergency supplies for the needy in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as agricultural implements for victims of conflict in the Sudan (who had fled to Kenya). From Durban, the ship sailed to Mombasa (where the implements were off-loaded) and then through the Suez Canal to Trieste in Italy where the mobile hospital was off-loaded. The ship then visited Istanbul, Odessa (Ukraine), Constanta (Rumania), Burgas (Bulgaria), once again Istanbul, and Haifa (Israel). Next, the ship sailed from east to west through the Mediterranean Sea, through the Strait of Gibraltar, and all the way to Walvis Bay and back to Simon's Town

**12 Aug 1944** - LT Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., USNR, the older brother of John F. Kennedy, was killed with his co-pilot in a mid-air explosion after taking off from England in a PB4Y from Special Attack Unit One (SAU-1). Following manual takeoff, they were supposed to parachute out over the English Channel while the radio-controlled explosive filled drone proceeded to attack a German V-2 missile-launching site. Possible causes include faulty wiring or FM signals from a nearby transmitter.

**13 Aug 1961:** Construction of the Berlin Wall begins. It comes to symbolize the divide between the Soviet Union and the democratic west until coming down 28 years later.

**14 Aug 1941** - After three days of secret meetings aboard warships off the coast of Newfoundland, the Atlantic Charter was issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. The Charter, a foundation stone for the later establishment of the United Nations, set forth eight goals for the nations of the world, including; the renunciation of all aggression, right to self-government, access to raw materials, freedom from want and fear, freedom of the seas, and disarmament of aggressor nations. By September, fifteen anti-Axis nations signed the Charter

**17 Aug 1943:** Allies take control of Sicily after just 38 days, thus securing control of the Mediterranean and leading to the downfall of Benito Mussolini.

**23 Aug 1981** Operation Protea was launched across the Angolan border by two brigade size task forces, namely: Task Force Alpha and; Task Force Bravo. D-Day for the surprise offensive was 24 August 1981. It was one of the largest mechanised operations ever undertaken by South Africa since the Second World War. It was even larger in force than Operation Modular, which followed on in August 1987.

**24 Aug 1814** - During the War of 1812, Washington, D.C., was invaded by British forces that burned the Capitol, the White House and most other public buildings along with a number of private homes. The burning was in retaliation for the earlier American burning of York (Toronto).

**24 Aug 1952**, the SAN's first destroyer, *SAS Jan van Riebeeck* (the former British "Wager" Class HMS *Wessex* was transferred to South Africa on 29 March 1950), and *SAS Transvaal* and *Bloemfontein* left Durban for a visit to Diego Suarez (Madagascar - at the time still a French colony), Mombasa (Kenya, at the time still a British colony) and Dar es Salaam (at the time still the British colony Tanganyika, known today as Tanzania). The ships were back in the Durban harbour on 13 September.

**28 Aug 1952** - Units on USS *Boxer* (CV-21) launch explosive-filled drone which explodes against Railroad Bridge near Hungnam, Korea. First guided missile launched from ship during Korean Conflict.

**28 Aug 1998** *SAS Outeniqua*, mine hunter *SAS Umzimkulu* and minesweeper *SAS Walvisbaai* left Simon's Town and sailed via Durban to Maputo, Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar (to participate in joint naval exercise "Interop II"),

**29 Aug 1792** - In one of the worst maritime disasters, 900 men drowned on British battleship *Royal George*. As the ship was being repaired, a gust of wind allowed water to flood into open gun ports. The ship sank in minutes.

Here's a small selection of words and phrases originating from nautical terms – for your interest and amusement! Maybe some should be taken with more than a pinch of salt....!

### Turn a Blind Eye

So let's start with one of those well-known phrases, to **turn a blind eye**, meaning to ignore intentionally. In 1801, during the Battle of Copenhagen, [Admiral Nelson](#) deliberately held his telescope to his blind eye, in order not to see the flag signal from the commander to stop the bombardment. And he won!

### Feeling Blue

If you're sad and describe yourself as "**feeling blue**," you're using one of the nautical terms coined from a custom among many old deep water sailing ships. If the ship lost the captain or any of the officers during its voyage, she would fly blue flags and have a blue band painted along her entire hull when returning to home port.

### **Hunky-Dory**

The term **hunky-dory** meaning everything is OK was coined from a street named “Honcho-Dori” in Yokohama, Japan. Since the inhabitants of this street allegedly catered to the pleasures of sailors, it is said the street’s name became synonymous for anything that is enjoyable – or at least satisfactory!

### **Long Shot**

Today it’s a term used for an event that would take an inordinate amount of luck to actually happen, although the origins are deemed to be from nautical terms. In the early days ships guns were inaccurate except at very close quarters. So it was extremely lucky for any shot to find its target from any great distance – hence the term – it’s a **long shot**.

### **I’m Pooped**

To say that you’re **pooped** basically means that you’re completely washed out, and it comes from seafaring origin. While in very rough seas if a sailing ship was drenched by waves that reached the poop deck, the highest deck of the ship, it was said to have been pooped – a term sailors used for the ship being completely washed out.

### **Bite the bullet**

To bravely face up to something unpleasant, and **bite the bullet**, is one of the nautical terms that is associated with soldiers, as well as sailors. This originated from the practice of giving sailors and soldiers a bullet to bite during amputations or other surgery before the use of anaesthetics.

### **Showing your true colours**

This expression, meaning to reveal your real intentions, originates from an old warship custom. The warships would carry an assortment of coloured flags on board from many different countries, and would fly them in various situations to deceive a potential enemy.

In nautical terms to show your **true colours** would be to fly the ship’s correct flag – revealing it’s true identity and colours. A phrase used pretty much universally today.

Some serious warships! For the enthusiasts -

The U.S. Navy battleship USS *Pennsylvania* (BB-38) leading USS *Colorado* (BB-45) and the cruisers USS *Louisville* (CA-28), USS *Portland* (CA-33), and USS *Columbia* (CL-56) into Lingayen Gulf, Philippines, in January 1945.





And a little laugh:

Two little boys are going to the hospital the next day for operations.  
Theirs will be first on the schedule.

The older boy leans over and asks,  
"What are you having done?" ...

The second boy says,  
"I'm getting my tonsils out, and I'm afraid."

The first boy says,  
"You've got nothing to worry about.  
I had that done when I was four.  
They put you to sleep, and when you wake up,  
they give you lots of Jell-O and ice cream.  
It's a breeze."

The second boy then asks,  
"What are you going in for?"

The first boy says, "Circumcision."

"Whoa!" the smaller boy replies.  
"Good luck, buddy. I had that done when I was born.  
Couldn't walk for a year."

Just a boy and his bike(s)

This month Tattler talks to a real Harley-Davidson enthusiast about his motor-cycles.





The amiable Sean Gourley spoke to us

Why do you love Harleys?

When you ride a Harley Davidson (HD), it is not only a great motorcycle to ride, but it is also a lifestyle. Attending rallies with other likeminded bikers is just great fun. Also my first HD helped me through my first midlife crisis.

How many do you own and have you owned?

I currently own three HD's. Two are on the road and the third, an old 1942 Pan Head is my restoration project. PS The second one I bought helped me through my second midlife crisis.

Which are your favourite models and why?

My favourite model is definitely the Softail Heritage Classic. The Heritage as we call them is the typical icon of HD with lines that date back to the much earlier models and is definitely a classic. Besides nothing beats a "soft tail", especially on my pillion. Tattler agrees 100%!

Which model would you like to have in your garage?

The two HD Softail Heritage Classics already parked in my garage. I am thinking of possibly obtaining a 1200 HD Sportster which I would like to customise in the line of a Café Racer.

Give us some examples of great times you have had with your HD.

Every time I ride my bikes I have a great time, but if I were to mention some highlights, it would definitely be attending the annual local rallies ie. The Route 62 rally held in Montague, the West Coast rally held in Lambert's Bay and the Eight Passes rally held in the Garden Route area. The Africa Bike week held in Margate in KZN is also a very special rally. The last one I attended I met Bill Davidson the grandson of one of the founders of HD, Arthur Davidson, which was very special.



Harley's were originally built for racing – then became better known as touring bikes. Comments?

Yes, definitely right. HD's were very competitive in the 40's, 50's and early 60's and were built in those days to race, but then came Japanese bikes which were clearly far superior to the HD in terms of performance. From then on HD concentrated all their effort in perfecting the cruiser (not tourer, that's a BMW) which I believe they did.

Comments on Evil Knievel and his HD exploits?

I remember as a youngster seeing Evil Knievel performing his totally outrageous stunts with various motorcycles at the local movies (before TV in this country) and can only say he was one very brave (or stupid) biker.

Other brands of motor cycle and why you prefer Harleys?

In my younger days I was a bit of the local Evil Knievel with my Japanese (Suzuki) off road bikes and in fact owned and rode a few superbikes (Yamaha amongst others) as well. But as one gets older one cruises the highways on a HD at 140kph and no longer at 260+ kph on an uncomfortable super bike!

Funniest, happiest, angriest times with your bikes?

Funniest/Scariest. One of my Staff members has a young son named Welcome. Welcome went on a long outride on the back of my HD, but kept falling asleep. My fellow bikers had to secure him to me with their long sleeve T shirts to prevent him from falling off.

Happiest. As previously mentioned, every ride is a happy occasion so I can't single out any particular event.

Angriest. Some years ago, I did a five day tour around parts of the country with a few HD mates. It was so damn hot that week that on the return leg of the trip I cooked my tyres, unfortunately as far from home as Matjiesfontein!! I had to contact my HD biker buddy Glen Marlow in Fish Hoek to hook my bike trailer to his SUV and fetch me.....yes in Matjiesfontain.

When will you be too old to ride?

I hope I will be able to ride for many years to come, and if I have my way, the first day I will not be able to ride my HD will be the day after I pass away.

Tattler thanks Sean and hopes that he has many decades of riding Harleys in his future

And, to close. We live in a technological era. It solves many problems but can certainly cause others:

#### **THE TEXT MESSAGE .**

Hi Bob, This is Alan next door.

I'm sorry buddy, but I have a confession to make to you. ...

I've been riddled with guilt these past few months and have been trying to pluck up the courage to tell you to your face, but I am at least now telling in text as I can't live with myself a moment longer without you knowing.

The truth is, I have been sharing your wife, day and night when you're not around. In fact, probably more than you, particularly in the mornings after you've left for work. I haven't been getting it at home recently, but that's

no excuse I know. The temptation was just too much....

I can no longer live with the guilt and I hope you will accept my sincere apologies and forgive me.

I promise that it won't happen again.

Regards, Alan.

### **THE REACTION.**

Bob, anguished and betrayed, immediately went into his bedroom, took out his gun, and without a word, shot his wife twice, killing her instantly.  
He then returned to the lounge, poured himself a stiff drink and sat down on the sofa.  
He took out his phone to reply to his neighbour's text and saw he had another message.

### **THE SECOND TEXT MESSAGE .**

Hi Bob,  
This is Alan next door again.  
Sorry about the slight typo on my last text, I expect you worked it out anyway, but as I'm sure you noticed, my predictive text changed 'WiFi' To 'Wife'.  
Technology hey?!? Hope you saw the funny side of that.  
Regards, Alan.

That's all folks - stay warm!