

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CULINARY BIO-ETHICS

2017: SPECIAL EDITION

*“They also serve who
only gather fluff”*

The Collected Witicisms of
Professor Brian Thrupiece



THE
THREAD
BONE

PRESS

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First published by The RSCBE 2017
1st Impression 2017

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THE COLLECTED WITICISMS OF
PROFESSOR BRIAN THRUPIECE

edited by

Mrs Amanda J Threadbone

with original cartoons by

Max Wood-Plank



2017

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The date appended to a given joke indicates the date of the first reliably reported public utterance and is designated the "Official Joke Date" [OJD] [Full details, including BPCT|AJT BWV CATALOGUE NUMBERS, can be found in the official Jokes, Aphorisms, Apophthegm and Miscellaneous Anecdotes Catalogue [Thrupiece Archives, Great Heaving]. Variants are only included where there is clear evidence from at least two sources that the variant was an original Thrupiece and not the work of any of his many immitators.

AUTHENTICATION & PROVENANCE:

- * reported by Ms Audrey Badminton-Court
- # reported by Mrs Amanda J Threadbone
- ^ reported by Ms Celia Notso-Pointy



*AT HOME: In front of an audience, microphone in
hand: the Professor works his magic.
“A laugh a day keeps ditmeneea* at bay”*

Photo © the late Mr Threadbone

*dementia [Ed]



*Professor Thrupiece could fill even the largest
hall with laughter*

Photo © the thrupieceorganisation

FOREWORD

It gives me enormous pleasure to introduce readers new and old to the witty world of the humourmeister that was Professor Brian Thrupiece.

Renowned throughout his life for his free-flowing wit, Professor Thrupiece has been variously described as “*The Oscar Wilde (Heterosexual) of the Scientific World*” and the “*Les Dawson of the Laboratory*”. Wry, dry, witty, sardonic and acerbic, the Professor’s fertile mind could find humour in almost anything and any situation.

In the modern age - of specialisation and narrow-minded “*expertise*” - it is hard to conceive of an era in which a scientific genius and man of infinite intellectual gifts could also be a master of the popular quip, the quick remark, the aposite aphorism, the aphoristic apophthegm. Yet Professor Thrupiece lived in such a world and was perhaps its finest exemplar.

As Mark Twain put it: “*Cracking jokes is like cracking eggs*”. A distinguished Culinary Bio-ethicist, Professor Thrupiece could do both - and sometimes simultaneously.

Amanda J Threadbone (Mrs)
Great Heaving , *Sexagesima Sunday* 2017

A

“A man in love is like a creature with wings: bird brained”

[RSCBE Convention, Jakarta, June 1968] *

B

“Buy a hat today and you don’t have to buy one tomorrow. Though you can if you want to obviously”

[John Collier Shop Opening, Bare Regis, April 1959] #

C

“Can’t often means won’t, unless you can’t in which case it means more or less what it says”

[Bloxworth Ladies Sewing Circle [Midwifery Division], March 1971] #

D

“Don’t put off until tomorrow what you can put off until the next day and then perhaps you won’t have to do it at all and you may also forget to do it as well”

[RSCBE AGM, East Orchard, September 2001] *

E

“Ee by gum is just Lancastian for ‘It’s your turn to purchase the paper glue’ ”

[Ted’s Autorepair, Dewlish, January 1999] ^



"And therein lies the problem."

WELCOME TO MIT-
IF YOU'D LIKE
ADMINISTRATION, PRESS
$$v_{n+1} = [\cos(k\delta x) - i \frac{c\delta t}{\delta x} \sin(k\delta x)] v_n$$



F

“Fear not said he for mighty Fred had seized their double blinds” [Offair broadcast recording exact words indistinct]

[Radio Edna, August 1964] ^

G

“Gary inquired of Barry: is that Harry? No, said Barry that’s Harriet - he’s been experimenting on himself again”

[NASA Headquarters, Houston, July 1965] #

H

“Hold on to your halfpenny and the half pounds will look after themselves and you might not get pregnant which is a bonus in itself”

[Stringbonefellows, Chetnole, December 2004] *

I

“Implants are like impalas except without the n and the t and with an extra a instead”

[The Mansion House Hotel, Cape Town, October 1960] *

VARIANT: Sometimes rendered *“Implants are great they enhance a woman’s bossoms very nicely indeed. Ooo squashy, squashy.”*

[Sermon at St Mary the Lesser, Farnham, November 2005] ^



"You must learn to be in touch with
your inner tadpole."

*I like to collect fluff
I do it in the buff
I cannot get enough
Of that fluffy stuffy stuff*

November

J

“Joke and the world jokes with you. Sing and you’re probably in the bath alone” [Dedicated to A B-C [ed]]

[Taps ‘R Us Opening Ceremony, Bothenhampton, October 1981] ^

K

“Kitchens are great places to play with food”

[Pre-Banquet Tour of The Dorchester Kitchens, London, May 1988] #

VARIANT: Sometimes rendered *“Kitchens are great places to play with women”*

[DHRA AGM Alderholt, July 1989] *

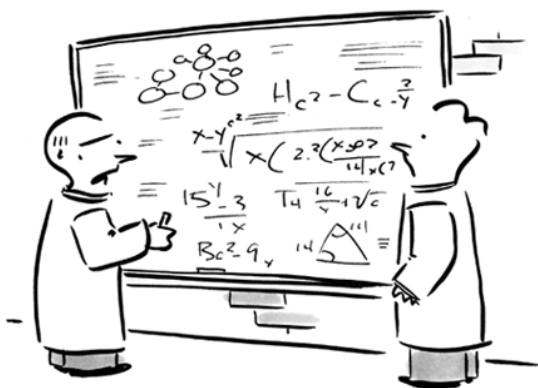
VARIANT II: Sometimes rendered *“Kitchens are great places to play with yourself”*

[14th Dorset Scout Troup Jamboree, East Lulworth, November 1994] ^

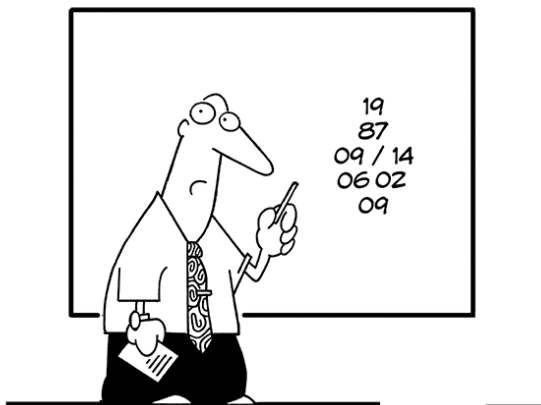
L

“Laugh and the world laughs with you. Whistle and you’re probably whistling in the wind or possibly a corridor”

[Opening of the new Thrupiece Corridor, B Wing, RSCBE Building, Durweston, June 2000] ^



"Screw Occam!"



"If a bus built in 1987 leaves Pittsburgh at 9:14 and Robert sets his crockpot to start cooking a 6 pound roast at 2:09, how long will it take your parents to stop helping with your homework?"

M

*“My dog’s got no nose. How does he smell? I don’t know
I’ve never asked him”*

[Guide Dogs Training Centre, Canford Magna August 1958] *

N

“No man is an island. Except the Isle of Man” [Dedicated
to C N-P [ed]]

[SCBE Convention, Aeolian Islands, October 1953] *

VARIANT: Sometimes rendered *“No man is a dog. Except
the Isle of Dogs”*

[Wharf Opening, Isle of Dogs, December 1971]

O

*“Orgasms are like organisms only without the n and the
i”*

[Marie Stopes Clinic, Godmanstone, January 1967] #

VARIANT: Sometimes rendered *“Orgasms are like organisms
but with less clean-up”*

[Ideal Homes Exhibition, Fifehead Magdalen, December 1971]

P

$P = AV^2 + VAT$ [Dedicated to A Einstein [ed]]

[The White House, Washington, July 2002] ^



"And therein lies the problem."



"Foolproof my ass!"

Q

“Quickest laid soonest finished”

[Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony, Kings Stag Public House, April
1985] #

VARIANT: Sometimes rendered *“Quickest laid soonest
apologised”*

[RELATE Conference, Hamworthy Recreation Centre, May 1986] ^

VARIANT II: Sometimes rendered *“Quickest laid soonest back
in the car and home”*

[Moor Crichel Working Men's Club Annual Gala, June 1986] *

R

*“Talking to a scientist is like reasoning with a condom:
there's always a barrier that kills the excitement”*

[London Rubber Company Guest Lecture, Rubber House, Frenchie
Lane, London, February 1960] ^

S

*“So I said to the pharmacist: Do you fit Dutch Caps? He
said Yes! I said: Well go and wash your dirty hands and
get me a quarter of cough drops”*

[Royal Pharmaceutical Society Guest Lecture, Littlebreedy, March
1986] #

T

They also serve who only gather fluff

[Threadbone Vacuum Technology Advanced Engineering Workshop,
Lillington, June 1975] #

“There once was a young man from Stroud

Whose voice was incredibly loud

When shouting “what’s this”

He went for a piss

But his member still stood up quite proud”

[Post Prostate Operation Get Well Soon Card to Mr Threadbone,
Nether Compton Cottage Hospital, November 1966] *

U

*“Underneath the Archers: listening to Radio 4 from
below”*

[Guest Appearance in *The Archers*, Ambridge, April 2003] # \$

V

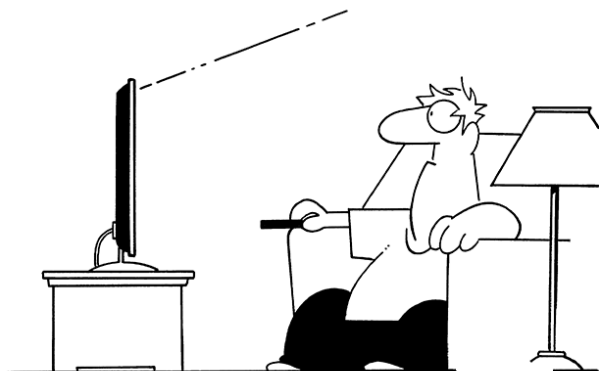
“Victory is like defeat only you win” [Posthumously dedicated
by A J T to Mr Jermyn Street [ed]]

[RSCBE Committee Elections, Goathill, August 2000] ^

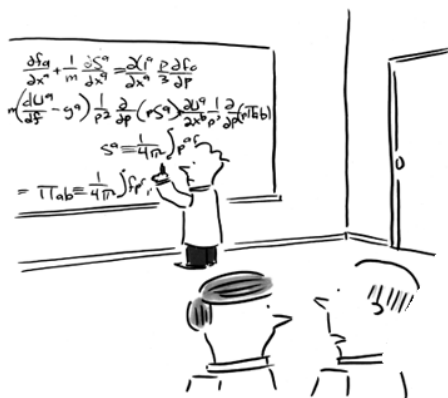
VARIANT: Sometimes rendered *“Defeat is like victory if you
are daft enough not to know the difference”*

[RSCBE Presidential Elections, Mappowder, December 2000] ^

\$ First appeared in *The RSCBE Big Book of Jokes 2007* mis-attributed to Stephen Hawking -
later reassigned to Professor Thrupiece.



"The world's greatest hoax was exposed today when it was revealed that algebra will *never* be useful to you later in life."



"He's only a tween genius, but I guess he'll have to do."

W

“Will you marry me Audrey?” [Private joke reported by A B-C. Exact meaning unclear - “*I think he was trying to be funny*” A B-C [ed]]

[The Swan Public House, Hazelbury Bryan, November 2001] *

X

“X marks the spot, though I later had it removed by laser surgery and it was fine”

[RSCBE Medical Bio-ethics Working Group Meeting, Iwerne Minster, May 1957] *

Y

“You never walk alone, unless you are a sad person who nobody wants to know or talk to or walk with”

[Small Electrical Appliance Convention, Anfield, Liverpool, May 2002]^

Z

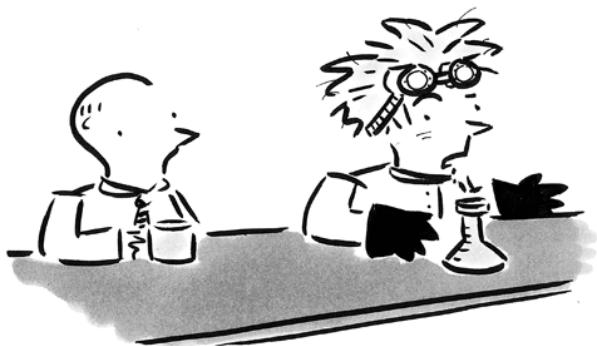
“Zippy said to Bungle one day “Where’s Geoffrey?” Bungle replied he’s gone to see what Rod, Jane and Freddie are up to in Jimmy Saville’s Dressing Room” [Dedicated to Junior

Laboratory Assistants Everywhere [ed]]

[BBC Dorset Studios, August 2001] ^



"Quiet! He's right! I do have another think coming!"



"You know, not all of my purposes are nefarious."



*Professor Thrupiece Cartoon by Enrique
c 1996*

Also published by the RCBE in association with
The Threadbone Press:

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Quips of Shelley Lulette-Sizemore*

A Hardy Laurel: The Aphoristic Amanda J Threadbone

*Why Don't You Just Fxxk Off: The Incisive Humour of Ziggy
Osmington*



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