

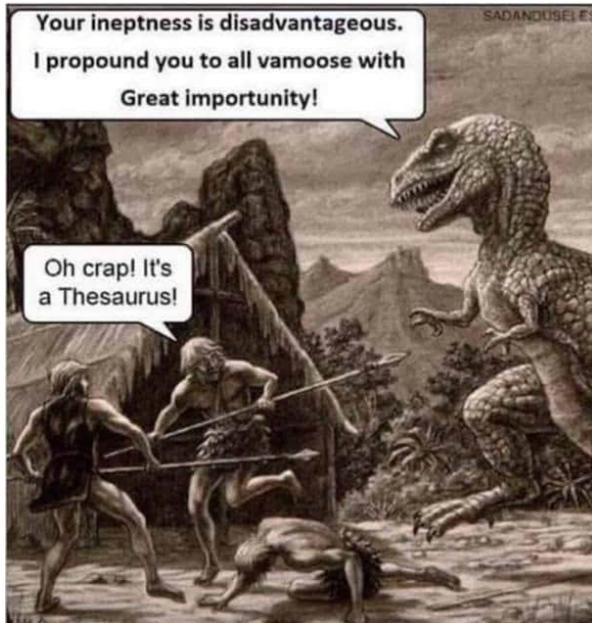
Memory Café Amusement Arcade 42.

It's Summer Holiday Time.

THESE ARE ACTUAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY "THOMAS COOK VACATIONS" FROM DISSATISFIED CUSTOMERS:

1. "They should not allow topless sunbathing on the beach. It was very distracting for my husband who just wanted to relax."
2. "On my holiday to Goa in India, I was disgusted to find that almost every restaurant served curry. I don't like spicy food."
3. "We went on holiday to Spain and had a problem with the taxi drivers as they were all Spanish."
4. "We booked an excursion to a water park but no-one told us we had to bring our own swimsuits and towels. We assumed it would be included in the price."
5. "The beach was too sandy. We had to clean everything when we returned to our room."
6. "We found the sand was not like the sand in the brochure. Your brochure shows the sand as white but it was more yellow."
7. "It's lazy of the local shopkeepers in Puerto Vallartato to close in the afternoons. I often needed to buy things during 'siesta' time -- this should be banned."
8. "No-one told us there would be fish in the water. The children were scared."
9. "Although the brochure said that there was a fully equipped kitchen, there was no egg-slicer in the drawers."
10. "I think it should be explained in the brochure that the local convenience store does not sell proper biscuits like custard creams or ginger nuts."
11. "The roads were uneven and bumpy, so we could not read the local guide book during the bus ride to the resort. Because of this, we were unaware of many things that would have made our holiday more fun."
12. "It took us nine hours to fly home from Jamaica to England. It took the Americans only three hours to get home. This seems unfair."
13. "I compared the size of our one-bedroom suite to our friends' three-bedroom and ours was significantly smaller."
14. "The brochure stated: 'No hairdressers at the resort.' We're trainee hairdressers and we think they knew and made us wait longer for service."
15. "When we were in Spain, there were too many Spanish people there. The receptionist spoke Spanish, the food was Spanish. No one told us that there would be so many foreigners."
16. "We had to line up outside to catch the boat and there was no air-conditioning."
17. "It is your duty as a tour operator to advise us of noisy or unruly guests before we travel."
18. "I was bitten by a mosquito. The brochure did not mention mosquitoes."
19. "My fiancée and I requested twin-beds when we booked, but instead we were placed in a room with a king bed. We now hold you responsible and want to be re-reimbursed for the fact that I became pregnant. This would not have happened if you had put us in the room that we booked."

Having read these, I suppose that it is small wonder that Thomas Cook went bust!



Oh, no it's not! It's an anachronism.

We think that mankind did not come about until about 68 million years after the dinosaurs, give or take 100,000 years.

It is thought the dinosaurs were wiped out by climate change caused by a collision between the Earth and an asteroid which hit us in the Gulf of Mexico. Ouch!

Let's not mess with our atmosphere!

You may remember that I included three Californian mysteries in the last Amusement Arcade 41.

It is a small world. One of our helpers at the Memory Café has visited the Winchester House in San Jose and has been to Bodega Bay. She said it was a surprisingly interesting house with a wonderful experience emerging from the dark interior up the stairs and into the light. Mrs Winchester was kind to her staff and paid them well. She also recalls having a delightful shell-fish meal in the Tides Restaurant at a window overlooking Bodega Bay as the sun went down.



Another small world. In AA39 I showed photos of Lake Louise in summer and winter taken from in front of the hotel. This picture was taken by another Rotarian in June 2011 from the other end of the Lake. The ice is melting. You can just see the Fairmont Hotel in the distance which was built

by the Canadian Pacific Railway around the turn of the 1900's. Lake Louise was named after Queen Victoria's 4th daughter whose husband was Governor General of Canada. It pays to have connections.

If you have any favourite memorable places to share with us all, let me know, especially with photos.