WORLD'S SILLIEST PERSON

Biscuit

HARRY HILL

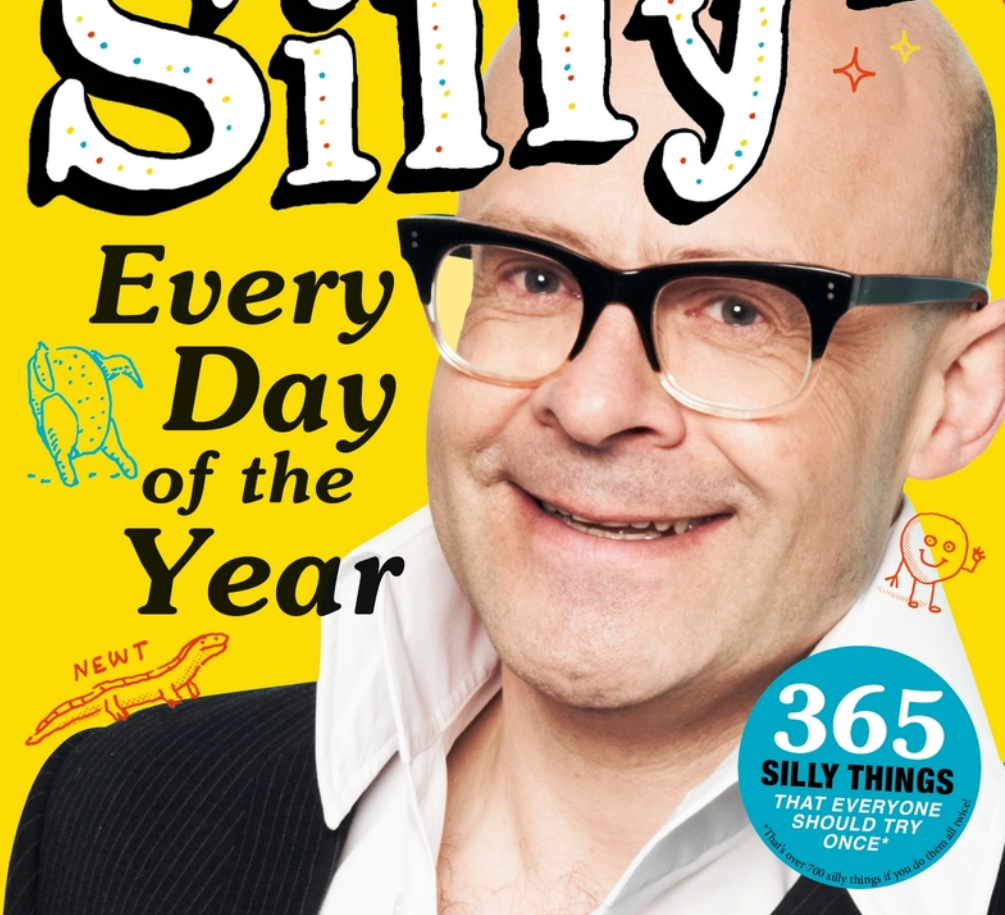
Here comes trouble!

call me Cyril

FLYING SAUSAGE

How to be Silly Every Day of the Year

NEWT



365 SILLY THINGS THAT EVERYONE SHOULD TRY ONCE*

*That's over 700 silly things if you do them all twice!

THIS BOOK IS TO BE TAKEN *VERY SERIOUSLY* INDEED…

Do you …

Worry that you're not silly enough?

*

Feel like you're missing out on the wave of silliness that's sweeping the country?

*

Feel under pressure to be "NORMAL"?

*

Enjoy fun more than work?

Then this is the book for you!

NOTE TO PARENTS:

THIS BOOK WILL KEEP THEM BUSY FOR HOURS!



"The amount of eccentricity in a society has generally been proportional to the amount of genius, mental vigour and moral courage it contained. That so few people now dare to be eccentric marks the chief danger of the time."

—John Stuart Mill, 1859



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All activities are for information and/or entertainment purposes only. Adult supervision is required for all activities.

How to be Silly Every Day of the Year

Or

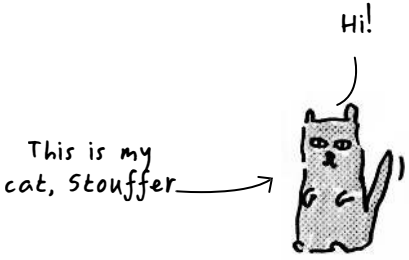
365 SILLY THINGS EVERYONE SHOULD TRY ONCE



BY THE WORLD'S SILLIEST PERSON,

Harry Hill

WALKER BOOKS



A message from your Leader

8,344562 Short Street
Swaffham-Under-Arms
Kent

Dear Prospective Silly Person,

First of all, welcome to the world of silly! Thirdly, congratulations on purchasing this book – it may well be the silliest thing you do today! Ha ha! Gotcha! Your hard-earned money is now mine! But if I may be serious for a moment, I'd just like to say "Accountancy!"

I know what you're thinking: "Get on with it!" and "I want my money back!" and "I wonder if I can regift this book to my brother..."

Ahem... (that's me clearing my throat).



And that's me clearing my pen!

The importance of being silly in life cannot be underestimated – just look at the government! Sorry! I promised myself I'd resist the urge to make cheap political jokes!

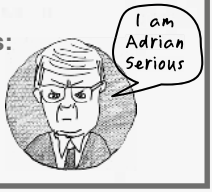
It's important to remember that life is short, so let's try and have as much fun between the serious bits – like homework and exams and visits to see your auntie in North Wales – oh, and the new drama your parents insist on watching every Sunday night after Antiques Roadshow.

PUBLIC HEALTH WARNING

SOME PEOPLE DO NOT LIKE SILLY PEOPLE!

Hard to believe, I know, but my advice is:

STEER CLEAR OF THESE PEOPLE!



I'm here to encourage you to become sillier because including a bit more silly in your life often involves thinking in a more creative way, not always taking the obvious route and thinking outside of the box. Although really your parents shouldn't be keeping you inside a box. I suggest if that is the case, you should call Childline – the number for them is 07989891426538 76.

Actually, that's the number of a fish and chip shop near me. I was just being … er … well … silly … but they do really good chips and lots of them, so do give them a call.

If you can think slightly differently to other people and see opportunities where others might not, you could very well be one of life's winners! I mean, look at me! I've got a pet hamster and a bike and a phone that you can also use as a camera.

Life isn't just about material goods, of course – although I've seen a really nice pair of shoes I like; the only problem is someone else's feet are in them. Anyway, enjoy the book, and do let me know how you get on via the address at the top of this letter.

Yours since-silly,

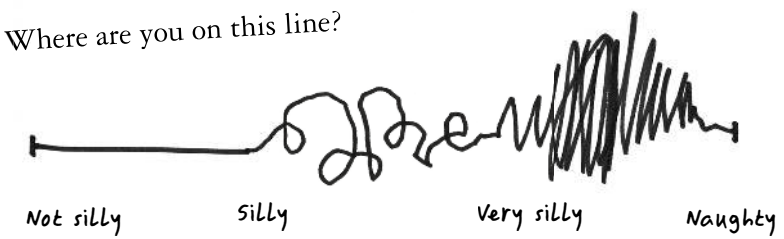
Harry Hill



President – The Royal Order of Upside-Down Snow Ferrets

It gets busy around 7.00 p.m., so get in before that or there's a bit of a wait…

Serious bit



In some cases, it can be a fine line between being silly and being naughty. Most people will enjoy a bit of silliness, but everyone hates naughtiness, so if your idea of being silly involves permanent damage to property, injury, danger or unhappiness, STOP IMMEDIATELY! You have strayed into the bad world of naughtiness, and you're gonna be in BIG trouble. Even worse than that, you might get me into trouble, and we don't want that, do we? If I'm in prison, how am I going to come up with funny jokes and stuff for my shows? There are no TV cameras or theatres in jail (not sure why – after all, there's a captive audience)!

Knowing when to stop being silly

Tell-tale signs that you're being just TOO silly are:

1. Headache
2. Nose goes red and makes a squeaky sound when you touch it
3. Trousers fall down

Sometimes you've just got to take time out to be serious. I know, boring, right?

Times to be serious

1. Funerals **2.** Passport photos

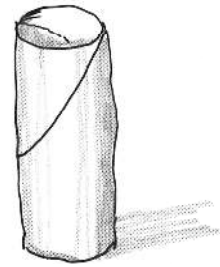
(Those are the main two.)



Before you start!

1. You're going to need a lot of cardboard! So watch out for any cardboard boxes – particularly very big ones – and store them away for later.

2. Start collecting the cardboard tubes that magically appear at the end of a toilet roll. Believe me, you're going to need a lot of them this year. Collect them from all the toilets you go to, ask your relatives to save them, or maybe find out if there's someone in your street with a "dicky tummy" and go through their recycling? Kitchen roll works even better, because the cardboard tubes inside are even longer.



3. It's OK to skip the occasional day and come back to it. Actually, it's OK to just imagine yourself doing some of the silly stuff – after all, this has got to be fun, or what's the point? Oh, and make sure you have your pet adult on hand for any of the trickier activities.

OK, that's enough announcements – off we go!

DAY 1

Assess yourself

It's important to know just how silly you are at the start of this training programme so we can re-test you at the end and work out how well it has worked. If you're not very silly by the end of the book, then you may have to read the book again – and we don't want that. After all, there are literally more than twenty-five books in the world and if you read them all twice that will take you over a hundred years!

Answer these simple multiple-choice questions as best you can, then check your score at the back of the book to find out just how silly you are.

1. Where do you live?

- ☐ In a house with carpets
- ☐ In a house with no carpets or curtains
- ☐ Up a lamppost

2. What colour is your hair?

- ☐ Brown ☐ Bald
- ☐ Green with purple spots

3. Where would you look to find the silliest person you know?

- ☐ Swaffham town centre
- ☐ 10 Downing Street
- ☐ A mirror





4. What do you call someone who is hopping down the street on one leg, playing the trombone and kissing every dog they come across?

- ☐ Trouble
- ☐ An interesting person
- ☐ Mum

5. What position do you sleep in at night?

- ☐ On your side
- ☐ On your back with your thumb in your mouth
- ☐ Upside down

6. Who's your favourite celebrity?

- ☐ Fiona Bruce
- ☐ Michael McIntyre
- ☐ Harry Hill



7. How often do you shout the word "knickers" in the supermarket?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Only if I'm looking for underwear
- ☐ Every time you go into the supermarket, especially if it's really busy

8. How silly do your friends think you are?

- ☐ What friends?
- ☐ Quite silly
- ☐ Knickers!

9. When you walk down the street, do people

- ☐ Ignore you
- ☐ Point at you and laugh
- ☐ Call the police

10. What goes up a chimney closed but not down a chimney open?

- ☐ Can you repeat the question, please?
- ☐ That's easy, an umbrella
- ☐ Me on my day off

DAY 2

Give yourself a silly name

Before you start on the challenges contained in this book, you will need a new silly name. There are various ways to select a silly name, but I use the standard "make of family car, favourite animal, item of clothing" method. So, my silly name is Ford Parrot-Sock, and I'll thank you to refer to me as such from now on.

If you don't have a car, you can use the word "PISTACHIO". If your name is already Pistachio, then I'm sorry, I can't help you. This book is not for you.

You might like to come up with a different way to come up with a silly name, such as choosing random words from a book, or the first thing you see when you open your eyes. (I tried this, but didn't like the name "Mum Sitting-On-The-Toilet"!)

DAY 3

Make a silly scrapbook

It's really important that you document your year of silliness – it's also quite a silly thing to do (although it doesn't count as one of the 365 silly things – it's an extra).

So, when you're 105 years old like my mum (Hi, Mum! If you're reading this. Sorry I haven't been to visit for … er … five years … but I've been writing a book about being

silly – oh, you know that of course cos you're reading it. Also, Mum, I didn't get the cheque this month… Could you send another one please? Usual amount. Thanks, Your Favourite Son, Harry xxx), you can look back at your scrapbook of madness and nod your head wisely and say things like: "Hmmmm, I've no memory of that whatsoever" and "I wonder if I could get something for this old scrapbook on eBay…"

Once you've got your hands on a scrapbook, personalize the front however you like.



You will be pasting in drawings, photos and some of the things that you will be making as part of your silly year. You might want to add doodles, drawings, cartoons and any silly ideas of your own. You can also use it to record the fun you had doing the various silly tasks and people's reactions to them. Keep an eye out for silly stories in newspapers and magazines and paste those in too. Find 'em, cut 'em out and paste 'em in your scrapbook!



DAY 4

Make my Silly-O-Meter

A good way to gauge how silly your achievements are is to make the Harry Hill patented Silly-O-Meter.

Take an A4 piece of card (or smaller, depending on what size your finger is) – the front of a cereal box works pretty well, especially if you then cover it in white paper. Draw two black lines at right angles to each other – like you get on a graph – and make a hole in the bottom* left-hand corner.

So far, so good…

Now we need to calibrate your Silly-O-Meter by telling a very silly joke to a friend.

Stick your finger through the hole and bend it so it's flush with the piece of card (see Fig. 1).

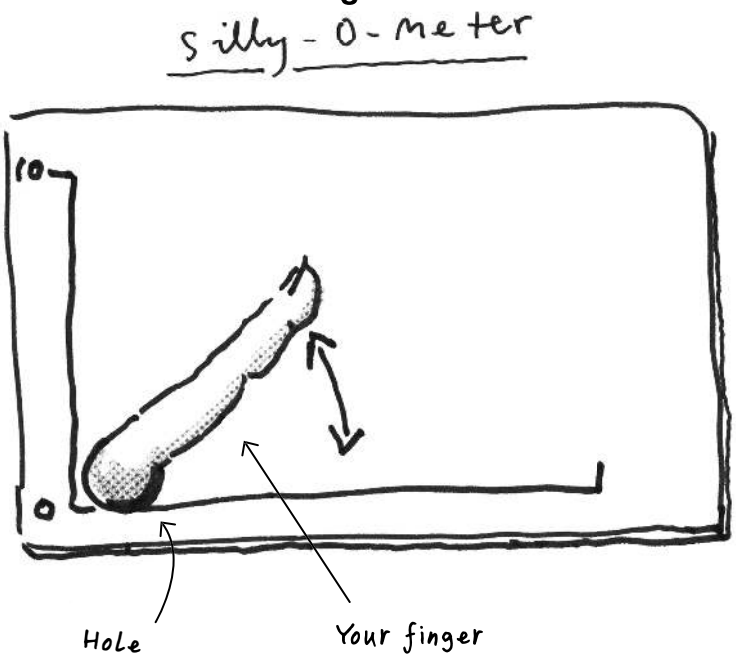
Then say something like: "What goes ninety-nine thump? An ice-cream man being mugged!" or "I went to the doctor and he said, 'Stand by the window and stick your tongue out.' I said, 'Why's that?' He said, 'I don't like the people next door!'"

As your friend laughs (and if they don't laugh at THOSE JOKES, then there's something wrong with their chuckle muscles and THEY need to see a doctor!), let your finger rotate up to the maximum level on the graph.

* Sorry for using the word "bottom". (Oops! Used it again!)

Right, you're ready to go! From now on, be sure to measure how silly each of the following activities are and make a note in your notebook.

Fig. 1



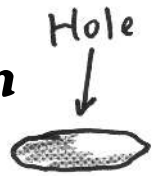
SILLY FACT NUMBER 1

Worms have no eyes, and yet this didn't stop a worm winning the Embassy World Darts Championship in 1997. (Note to self: need to check this.)



DAY 5

Hold a hole digging competition



Stick up posters saying "HOLE DIGGING COMPETITION". Invite your friends and family to take part. Make it clear that points will be awarded for the depth and width of the hole and for a hole dug in a difficult-to-get-to place like under a deck chair.

If you have limited space – for instance, if you live in a flat with only a window box or pot plant – then you can stipulate that the hole be dug with a teaspoon or lolly stick.

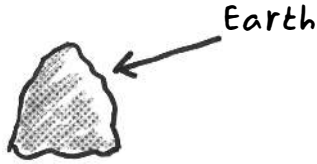
Judging

If possible, get an elderly person to judge the holes as it seems that the older you are, the more interested you are in holes in the ground.

Prize

The digger of the winning hole gets to keep all the earth from all the other holes.







DAY 6

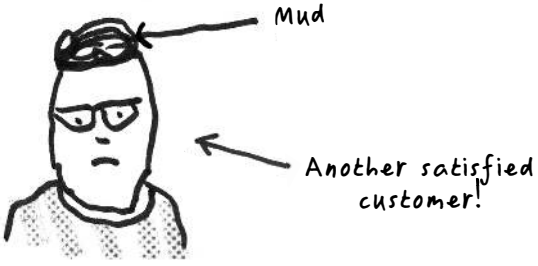
Create some Magic Mud

Take the earth you get out of the holes and put it in jam jars, then make labels claiming all kinds of special properties for your mud … and try to sell it to a passer-by.

For instance…



* ***Hair-Restoring Mud!*** Rub it on your head to cure baldness.
* ***Anti-Stink Mud*** Put liberal amounts of it under your arms in the morning to fix bad body odours.
* ***Homework Protection Mud*** Spread some on your homework and tell your teacher that you "dropped it in some mud". (Good luck with this one – see you in detention!)





Make an advert

Make an advert for the soil products you made on **Day 6**. Think about some of your favourite adverts and why you like them or why they're effective. Write a short script – think about the message you're trying to get across. Write a list of all the props, wigs and costumes you need and where you're going to film it.



Draw a series of pictures, or storyboards, of what the film will look like, so that when you come to film it, you'll know exactly what you're doing.

If you can get your friend to help you with this, you could give them the credit of producer (you're the director).

Think about the music you're going to use on the advert.

If you don't have a camera, shoot it on a smartphone or tablet – there are plenty of simple apps to help you edit it and add music or a soundtrack. Keep it short! Most adverts are only about 30 seconds long – but a lot can happen in half a minute!

