

The Boy's Club Skit #16

No more Happy Birthdays

Kevin Lee

Performers x4

Harriet

Joe

Filthy

Barnsey

Props

Couch or chairs

Beer cans

Pad and pen

(Harriet enters, as Filthy and Barnsey are talking excitedly).

Fil. "This is really exciting!"

Bar. "Yeah, it is all right...people will realise we aren't just the village idiots after all!"

Har. "*What* is really exciting?"

Fil. "Our new idea!"

Har. "So, where is Joe?"

Bar. "He's gone down to the Patent Office...to patent it."

Har. "What new idea?"

Fil. "We've discovered the Fountain of Youth!"

Har. "Is that what it is?...and I thought I'd stepped in something?...So, I suppose beer flows out of this Fountain?"

Bar. "No...this is serious."

Har. "So, what is the Fountain of Youth?...Beer with every meal?"

Fil. "No...Um...we haven't thought of that...but..." (Looking at Barnsey) "Hmm, we should to try it?"

Bar. "Certainly can't do any harm."

Har. "So?...."

Fil. "No...we've thought of something really smart...it's going to change the whole world...And we're going to patent the idea...and make a fortune!"

Har. "Okay...I'm sure I've heard that one before...But what is it?...the 'really smart' part?"

Fil. "It's so simple...an idiot could have thought of it!"

Har. "I'm sure an idiot did."

Fil. "No, it was Joe's idea!"

Har. "That's what I said...So, what is it?"

Fil. "Can't tell you... we're writing a book about it...You'll have to buy the book...but it's to do with the Fountain of Youth."

Har. (Gruffly). "Filthy!"

Fil. "Umm...Joe discovered...the reason why people get older...is because they have Birthdays...So, if you don't have any more Birthdays...You won't get any older!"

Har. "Could you say that a bit slower please...I think I missed the point?"

Fil. "It's Birthdays...You see, the reason people get..."

Har. "I heard you the first time..."

Fil. "It's going to be really big!"

Har. "I'm sure it is...."

Bar. "People will be able to stay young for as long as they want to....and they'll have us to thank for it!"

Har. "So how do you make money out of this again?"

Bar. "We're going to sell 'Certificates to go without a Birthday for year X'....and then you buy another Certificate for next year...and so on!"

Har. "Gosh....why didn't I think of this?"

Fil. "Joe said a lot of people will be saying that....and kicking themselves."

Bar. "Here's Joe....he's back."

(Joe enters looking downcast).

Bar. (Excitedly). "So....did you do it?"

Joe. "No...I think they're going to steal our idea...The..."

Fil. "What?...they can't do that?....That's um....you know, perjury or something?.....We can Sue them!"

Bar. "But what happened there?"

Joe. "I went in and talked to a Patent Adviser about it, then he went out to an office, and I heard them laughing...Then he went to another office, and I heard *them* laughing too. Then they all came out and looked at me...and started laughing again"

Bar. "What?"

Joe. "Then he came back, and told me to come back tomorrow...and you know what that means...?"

Fil. "What?....Will they Patent our idea today, before you get back?"

Joe. "Yep...I bet they do it all the time!"

Bar. "We should pay them a visit...they think they're going to play us for fools...but we should let them know these Boys don't roll over so easy!"

Fil. "Yeah...ruffle their feathers a bit...they'll beg for mercy."

Har. "You guys are the stupidest...I can't believe I'm even hearing this!"

Joe. "Laugh all you want...But you'll have to pay me if you want to go without your Birthday."

Har. "So, that bottle I was going to buy for you....? I won't have to buy it after all?...If you're not having a Birthday this year?"

Joe. "No, you can still buy it...Just don't say Happy Birthday...or give me a card or anything?"

Har. "So, you want to eat your cake and have it too?"

Joe. "You're still not getting it...no Birthday cake either!"

Har. "No, it's over the head of a lowly woman...I'll go back inside and do woman things." (She leaves).

Joe. (Loud). "And don't tell any of your friends...or the whole country will know about it in half an hour!"

Bar. "So, what do we do now?"

Joe. "When the going gets tough!...We keep going as though nothing's changed...we'll let them know who they're dealing with."

Fil. "That's what I say too...Shall we celebrate"

Joe. "Yep...break them out...can't go to war on an empty stomach...And lock the door Filthy, in case Harriet comes back."

Fil. "Okay...They think it's the end...but it's only the beginning!"

Bar. "You got that right!"

Joe. "Cheers guys!"

Bar. "Cheers!"

Fil. "Cheers."

(They sit together, as Joe begins writing on the pad).

End.