



Year 2000 & the Young Lawyer

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It is 3 January 2000 and you are sitting at your desk still getting over the party of the millenium, wondering how you were convinced to come to work today – you are the only one on your floor, how could you have been so gullible? The internal mail has been dropped off for the morning and your payslip seems a little larger than usual ... hoping for a New Year bonus, you tear it open and find a letter inside:

Dear Valued Employee,

HOLIDAY PAY

Our records indicate that you have not used any vacation time over the past 100 year(s). As I'm sure you are aware, employees are granted 4 weeks of paid leave per year.

Please either take 400 weeks off work or notify our office that you would like a payment in lieu and we will credit your account with a payment of \$8,277,432.22, which will include all pay and interest for the past 1,200 months.

Sincerely, Automated Payroll Processing

It is now 4 January 2000 and your Partner is fuming that at 10:00am, your desk is still empty and you have not called in sick

But for those of you who are at work in the New Year, here is a survival checklist to make sure that you survive the Year 2000 bug.

1. Don't fill your fuel tank – if public transport is out, do you want to be able to be caught in the traffic jam to beat all traffic jams?

2. Wear your gym shoes to work – 20 floors up means a lot of stairs to climb!
3. Bring your water bottle – fizzy vitamin B tablets are a little hard to swallow whole.
4. Bring your aromatherapy kit to work – you can at least have a lukewarm cup of instant coffee using the tea candle to warm it up.
5. Have a supply of individual UHT milk serves – you don't want to open the fridge, let alone use the milk after a weekend of warm weather.
6. Bring an esky of ice (stocked up the day before of course) – in mid summer heat, with no air-conditioning you could make a fortune, not to mention sitting with your feet in iced water.
7. Make sure the sundial is in position – you don't want to miss the first lunch break of the millennium.
8. Arrange your lunchtime meeting by e-mail before the New Year.
9. Practice your morse code over the Christmas break – if you want to issue the first class action, you need to be able to seek instructions.
10. Stock up on liquid paper – those manual typewriters don't come with a delete key.
11. Don't forget the carbon paper either – re-typing 10 copies of that statement of claim could take some time.
12. Have quality bird seed on hand – those homing pigeons might need something to entice them back.
13. BUT – Don't remember the candles – if it gets too dark at night, you'll just have to leave early.