

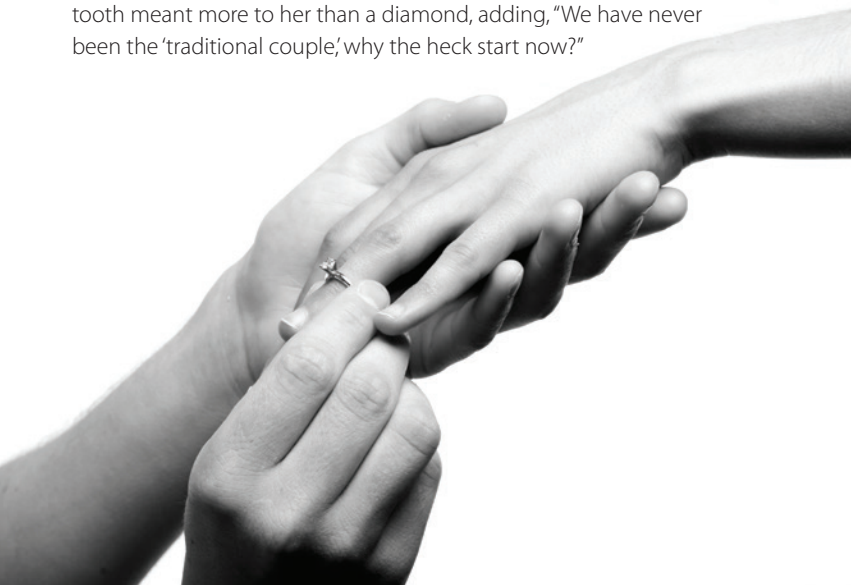
tongueincheek

[A COLLECTION OF TOOTHY TIDBITS]



THINKING OUTSIDE THE (JEWELRY) BOX

A Canadian man proposed with a one-of-a-kind engagement ring: a custom setting of his own wisdom tooth. Fortunately, he knew ahead of time that the answer would be “yes,” since his fiancée had helped him come up with the idea. “The tooth symbolizes the weird, quirky, odd couple we are,” she told ABC News. Posting a photo of the ring on Facebook, she commented that the tooth meant more to her than a diamond, adding, “We have never been the ‘traditional couple,’ why the heck start now?”



NINE POINTS, SEVEN REBOUNDS AND ONE SORE TOOTH

A recent ESPN SportsCenter video showed the cringe-inducing moment when University of Kentucky basketball player Alex Poythress nearly lost a tooth during a game with Duke. Poythress had finished a massive slam off an alley-oop pass when his front tooth caught the net on his way down. It quickly worked itself free and Poythress landed with all of his teeth intact, but he walked away holding his jaw after making the hard-earned basket.

A CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT

A new entry in the 2016 Guinness World Records names the owner of the world's largest dental caps: Spike, an Asian elephant at the Calgary Zoo in Alberta, Canada. Spike, who had cracked a tusk chewing on a tire, underwent surgery in 2002 to prevent further injury; the other tusk was also capped to keep the elephant balanced. The steel caps are 19 inches long and weigh 28 pounds each, and the procedure required more adhesive than all of Canada's dentists together had used during the previous year. Since the operation, Spike's tusks have remained healthy, have continued to grow and now measure nearly 37 inches.



FOUND: A “PARTIAL” MATCH

After an overnight break-in at their facility, staff at a dental practice in Moray, Scotland, discovered a false tooth amid the smashed window glass and other debris. A check of their records suggested the denture might belong to one of their own patients, and DNA testing by police confirmed the match. As if leaving his tooth at his dentist's office wasn't telltale enough, the accused burglar managed to leave his cell phone behind as well.