

# \*Ye Olde Plum News\*

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## ORLOS AND ROLLOS

### SYSTEMATIC SUITOR

Rollo Finch – in the present unsatisfactory state of the law parents may still christen a child Rollo – was a youth to whom nature had given a cheerful disposition not marred by any superfluity of brain. ... 'Here's the thing in a nutshell. You find a girl. Right. Of course, you've got to meet her once, just to establish the connection. Then you get busy. First week. Looks. Just look at her. Second week, letters. Write to her every day. Third week, flowers. Send her some every afternoon. Fourth week, presents with a bit more class about them. Bit of jewellery now and then. See what I mean? Fifth week, lunches and sup-pers and things. Sixth week, propose, though you can do it in the fifth week if you see a chance.' (Ahead of Schedule, 1915)

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### CROONING TENOR

Engaged to the Rev. Rupert Bingham, Gertrude seemed to her of late to have become infatuated with Orlo Watkins, the Crooning Tenor, one of those gifted young men whom Lady Constance Keeble, the chatelaine of Blandings, was so fond of inviting down for lengthy visits in the summertime. ... Now, everybody knows what Crooning Tenors are. Dangerous Devils. They sit at the piano and gaze into a girl's eyes and sing in a voice that sounds like gas escaping from a pipe about Love and the Moonlight and You. (The Go-Getter, 1931)

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### INTERIOR DECORATOR

Orlo Tarvin and Lionel Green were interior decorators and business partners. Lionel was engaged to Jane Martyn and introduced Orlo to her. 'Ah there he is,' said Lionel, and Jane observed a weird little weedy object approaching. It was wearing harlequin glasses, an Ascot tie, the customary side-whiskers and a beard. The beard was not a large one – Walt Whitman could not have hidden inside it – but it was large enough to send a quick shudder running through her. ... She came out of a momentary coma to find that Orlo Tarvin had possessed himself of both her hands and was gazing meltingly at her. (Company for Henry, 1967)

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### BULLTERRIER

'Jeeves! There's something in there that grabs you by the leg!' 'That would be Rollo, sir.' 'Eh?'

'I would have warned you of his presence, but I did not hear you come in. His temper is a little uncertain at present, as he has not settled down.' 'Who the deuce is Rollo?' 'His lordship's bullterrier, sir.' (Jeeves and the Unbidden Guest, 1929)

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### TENNIS AND PIANO PLAYER

Gloria Salt, about her ex-fiancé: If Orlo Vosper in his formative years had been thoroughly kicked twice a day, Sundays included, he might not have grown up to the overbearing louse he has become. ... We were playing in the mixed doubles, and I admit that I may have been slightly off my game, but that was no reason why, after we had dropped the first set, he should have started barging into my half of the court, taking my shots for me as if I were some elderly aunt with arthritis in both legs who had learned tennis in the previous week at a correspondence school.

Lord Vosper, who in addition to playing a red-hot game of tennis had also a nice tenor voice, was at the piano singing a song with lots of sentimental stomp in it. ... 'The sun is dark (tiddle-om) ... The skies are grey (tiddle-om) ... since my sweetie (pom) ... went away,' sang Orlo Vosper, and Gloria Salt, in her bedroom above, clenched her hands as the words came floating in though the open window. (Pigs Have Wings, 1952)

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### CHOSEN BY LADY CONSTANCE

Lady Constance's husband, Mr Keeble was stepfather to Phyllis. Lady Constance wished Phyllis to marry Rollo Mountford but Phyllis defied her and married Mike Jackson. 'Well, what has become of Rollo? You seem to have mislaid him. Did you break off the engagement?' 'Well, it - sort of broke itself off. I mean, you see, I went and married Mike.' ... 'It was Aunt Constance who was so furious when I married Mike. She wanted me to marry Rollo. She has never forgiven me, and she won't let my stepfather do anything to help us.' (Leave it to Psmith, 1925)

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### SOCIALIST

Orlo Porter was a socialist and engaged to Vanessa Cook to her father's disgust. Bertie Wooster knew him since Oxford. He spoke irritably, and I remembered that he had always been an irritable chap, as who would not have

been, having to go through life with a name like Orlo. (Aunts aren't Gentlemen, 1974)

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### HERO IN NOVEL BY FLORENCE

Florence Craye was doing research for her next novel after Spindrift. She asked Bertie to take her to a nightclub, and he took her to The Mottled Oyster. 'I would call this one about average. Garish, of course, but then you said you wanted something garish,' 'Oh, I'm not complaining. I shall make some useful notes. It is just the sort of place to which I pictured Rollo going that night.' 'Rollo?' 'The hero of my new novel. Rollo Beauminster.' (Jeeves and the Feudal Spirit, 1954)

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### IN THE BEST FAMILIES

Mr. Bickersteth is the son of His Grace's late sister, sir, who married Captain Rollo Bickersteth of the Coldstream Guards. (Jeeves and the Hardboiled Egg, 1922)

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### GOLFER

Rollo Podmarsh was a golfer, and consequently pure gold at heart. ... Outwardly placid, Rollo was consumed inwardly by an ever-burning fever of ambition. His aims were not extravagant. He did not want to become amateur champion, nor even win a monthly medal; but he did, with his whole soul, desire one of these days to go round the course in under a hundred. (The Awakening of Rollo Podmarsh, 1923)

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### REVEREND

Some young men were gathered at Twing Hall, among them Bertie's cousins Claude and Eustace. Eustace told Bertie: 'And then Steggles got this idea. ... There are about a dozen hamlets within the radius of six miles, and each hamlet has a church. ... Sunday the twenty-third – we're off the great Sermon Handicap. Steggles is making the books. Each parson is to be clocked by a reliable steward of the course, and the one that preaches the longest sermon wins. Among the starters were: Rev. Orlo Hough (Boustead Magna), with a handicap of nine minutes and the odds 5-1. (The Great Sermon Handicap, 1922)

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