

When John M. Sweeney heard about an Italian activity called *caffé sospeso*, it gave him an idea that soon travelled the world. *Caffé sospeso* was once **popular** in Naples. Working class people who had good luck bought two coffees instead of one. They gave the second coffee to someone who didn't have enough money to buy their own coffee that day. This was most popular in the late 1800s and mid-1900s, but a few businesses in Naples started doing it again in 2010. A year later, the local government decided to call 10 December 'Caffé Sospeso Day'.

Sweeney **found out** about *caffé sospeso* two years later and believed that more people should know about it. So, in 2013, he started a Facebook page called *Suspended Coffees* from his home in Ireland. He **suggested** that people pay for two coffees when they next go into a café and give one coffee to someone in need. Within just a few hours, 20,000 people liked his page. At the end of the first year, over a quarter of a million people were **following** the page, and 1,400 cafés around the world joined in.

The idea has now become popular all over the world. You can find cafés which let people buy coffees for other people in Europe, America, Africa, Asia and Australia. The world's biggest café company is doing it, too. So, who exactly can ask for a free coffee? Well, the idea is anyone can. It can be a person who is living on

the streets, a businessperson who has just lost their job and is worried about paying their bills, a parent who spends everything they have on their children, or someone who is just having a **horrible** day and wants to feel better. The idea behind *Suspended Coffees* is that people are usually **honest**, so when someone asks for a coffee, they get one. They don't have to explain why, so no one should feel nervous about asking.

So, *caffé sospeso* isn't just something that was popular in Italy in the past. It's something that is popular around the world, and helps to make people's lives a little better.

