



Email: marketing@tbyd.ca
Phone: 204-800-3165

February 2013 Edition

TECH TIPS

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St. Patrick's Day Irish Quotes

A weary soldier: "When I could take some nourishment, I felt the most extraordinary desire for a glass of Guinness."

Doctors wrote in to say that they found Guinness good for everything from "insomnia, neurasthenia, debility and constipation" to an "effective aid for nursing mothers."

Guinness tried to get stout admitted into the U.S. during Prohibition as a medicine, but the Treasury department coldly said no.

Sean O'Casey: "No man is so old as to believe he cannot live one more year."

Seamus Heaney: "I can't think of a case where poems changed the world, but what they do is they change people's understanding of what's going on in the world".

Sean O'Casey: "Laughter is wine for the soul—laughter soft, or loud and deep, tinged through with seriousness—the hilarious declaration made by man that life is worth living".

Alex Levine: "Only Irish coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups: alcohol, caffeine, sugar, and fat".

Roddy Doyle: "The problem with being Irish...is having 'Riverdance' on your back. It's a burden at times".

Irish Blessing:

May you have warm words

On a cold evening,

A full moon on a dark night,

And the road downhill

All the way to your door.

February 2013 Trivia Winner: Nell at Pro-Can Painting



Pro-Can Painting is a fully licensed and insured Manitoba Painting Contractor Company founded in 1983, serving Manitoba, Winnipeg and surrounding communities. Their commitment to their client's satisfaction is at the forefront of all their projects, and does not stop with the job being awarded. Pro-Can Painting prides themselves in respecting your time and business needs.

Pro-Can Painting sees all Projects, no matter how small, as an opportunity for them to provide the best service and services as possible. Projects allow them the opportunity to maximize their creative energies while being cognizant of the Environmental Impact of the resulting Project.

Pro-Can Painting expects a high standard from themselves, and their employees. They see every client relationship and project as an opportunity to obtain a "glowing" reference, and believe that this "attitude" should carry throughout their firm in every task they perform, no matter how trivial.

To see more about Pro-Can Painting, or to read their Philosophy or Testimonials, check out their website at: <http://www.procanpainting.com>. For more information, please call Nell at 204-757-7710, or email: info@procanpainting.com.

Don't forget your entry for this month's trivia for a chance to win coffee & donuts...delivered to your workplace! PLUS, Your company will be featured In next month's issue of TechTips, on our blog, and our Facebook page!

Your feature will reach over 2000 potential customers!!

Fairly Useless Knowledge Warning!

Ever wondered what something was called, but had no clue? Your days of being clueless are over (well, about the names of things anyways).

1. Zarf: Coffee cup sleeve
2. Glabella: The space between your eyebrows
3. Morton's Toe: When your 2nd toe is longer than your big toe
4. Feat: A lone, dangling lock of hair.
5. The Baader-Meinhof Phenomenon: When you see something for the 1st time and you start to see it everywhere.
6. Punt: The bottom of a wine bottle.
7. Wamble: When your stomach rumbles.
8. Ferrule: The metal part of a pencil.
9. Grawlix: Typographic symbols used to represent a profane word. Eg. S#!*%&#!!!
10. Misophania: Annoyance with someone eating or breathing too loudly.
11. Phosphenes: The lights you see when you shut your eyes tightly.

And the piece de resistance...

13. Rectal Tenesmus: The feeling of incomplete defecation.

There you have it! Now you can amaze your friends at parties with your plethora of knowledge of completely useless things to know!

Hugh Spreading Out!

Hugh Hefner is spreading his 'wings'. Playboy Israel, the first Hebrew version of the men's magazine, hits newsstands Wednesday.

Hugh's take on the expansion of the magazine..."I am equally pleased that so many of the core values of the magazine are also the core values of the country, and the society that has so graciously invited us to be a part of its cultural landscape".

The first Hebrew version features an in-depth interview with Home Front Defense Minister Avi Dichter. Sounds racy!

Batman Returns...!

And is apparently residing in Britain! A man dressed as the caped crusader, handed over a bad guy to police at Trafalger House Police Station in the early hours of February 27th.

Police at the station indicate that a man dressed as Batman brought a 27 year-old man into the police station. The bad guy was later charged with handling stolen goods and fraud offences.

Police state that the masked man's identity remains unknown. Just a guess...look for a rich guy, with a butler named Alfred.

The police Facebook page (no, not a typo) states "Batman came into the helpdesk, stated to the staff "I've caught this one for you' and then promptly vanished into the night to fight crime and the fear of crime in Bradford".

As many do, someone was quick to claim their 5 minutes in the spotlight. Kathryn Sutcliffe, of Kirkgate Market's "The Joke Shop" reports she thinks she sold the costume to this particular superhero. She states she sold a Batman outfit to a man in his 20s a couple of days prior to the incident.

Though the masked man paid with a credit card, Sutcliffe states she will keep his identity a secret.

Comet Ahoy!

Sky-watchers, get your cameras ready and focused on the night sky! Comet PANSTARRS, which is visible to the naked eye in the early evening, will be seen in the Northern Hemisphere.

March 5, the comet will be slightly farther than 1 astronomical unit (the distance between our planet and the sun). Starting March 7, comet enthusiasts should find a unobstructed, cloudless spot away from city lights and look just above the horizon in the west, shortly after sunset in the direction of the disappearing sun.

The comet will disappear for a couple of days, but will reappear March 12 or 13th near the crescent moon. It will remain visible until sometime in April.

The Out-of-Office Reply

Hi, *I hope the fact you got this response immediately after sending your e-mail didn't TOTALLY FREAK YOU OUT or get your hopes up.* (Not that physically being IN my office would guarantee that I respond to you any sooner)

I will be out of the office and "unable" to answer your emails from _____ to _____. *Mysterious dates* *I'll still see your e-mail on my phone but I'll just ignore it.*

~~For urgent matters~~ please contact _____ *My poor assistant.*

Only in case of the Apocalypse For all other inquiries, I will reply to you "as soon as I return." *Several days after I get back.*

Best Wishes, *Good luck!*

Smith *Whee! I'm going on vacation!!*

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Ink Trivia

Why is printer ink so expensive? Hewlett-Packard spent roughly \$1 Billion in 2010 on ink research and development. Why?

1. Ink must be able to withstand intense heating.
2. Ink must be able to withstand very fast 'squirting'. Up to 30 miles per hour through a nozzle that is 1/3 the size of a human hair.
3. Ink must be able to dry instantly on paper.

Ink dating back to Egypt and China included ingredients such as soot and lamp oil mixed with the gelatin of donkey skin. Nowadays, ingredients include Reactive Red 23 dye, Direct Blue 199 dye, and Acid Yellow 23 dye. The last one reportedly can trigger asthma attacks and hives.

MARCH TRIVIA QUESTION:

The very first St. Patrick's Day parade was in 1737, but it was not in Ireland.
Where was it?

Email your answer to: answer@tbyd.ca
for your chance to win coffee & donuts delivered to your workplace!

PLUS, Your company will be featured in next month's issue of TechTips, on our blog, and our Facebook page!

Your feature will reach over 2000 other people!

DO YOU HAVE A BURNING COMPUTER QUESTION ??

Email the Technology By Design Resident Geek!
We'll even translate it from Geek-lish to English,
so the answer actually helps!

Email your question to: geek@tbyd.ca

Check our blog for the answer:
tbyd.ca/blog

TechTip Postcard

Insider Tips and Secrets to Get The MOST Out of Your Computer

If your server suddenly crashed and ALL your data was erased, how long would it take before your business was back up and running as usual?

If you aren't sure, or if you think it would only be a short period of time, read on. Below are 3 common, costly misunderstandings most business owners have about their data backup that give them a false sense of security:

Misunderstanding #1: Believing That Tape Backups Are A Reliable Way To Secure Your Data...Wrong! Tape backups have an average failure rate of 100% (no, that's not a typo). What makes this even worse is that tape backups will APPEAR to be working, giving you a false sense of security.

Misunderstanding #2: Relying On An Inexpensive, Automated Online Backup Provider To Backup Your Company Data. Tread carefully here and make sure that you've really done your homework on your chosen solution. Here are a few questions to ask of any offsite backup provider before you trust your company data with them:

1. **Ask if you have the option to have your *initial* backup performed through a hard copy.** With the amount of data on most company's servers, an initial backup performed over the web can take months to complete.
2. **Make sure that database files can be stored and recovered easily.** Many cheap online backup services only hold simple office or media files, while ignoring your most important database files or making those incredibly difficult to recover.
3. **Demand status reports.** Any reputable backup service will send you an e-mail to inform you if a backup has failed. The more professional solutions will allow you to notify more than 1 person (like your IT guy) in addition to yourself.

Misunderstanding #3: Trusting Their Backup Is Automatically Working Without Doing Periodic Test Restores. I see this happening a LOT – a business owner thinks their backups are working because they don't see any error messages or apparent problems. Then, when they need to restore a file (or their entire server), they discover the backups stopped working **MONTHS** ago and all that data is gone.

**Luck Is For Leprechauns!
Want To Know For Sure If Your Data Is
Safe? Our FREE Disaster Recovery
Analysis Reveals the Truth...**

During the month of March we are giving away a **FREE Data Backup Analysis** – a \$100 value. At no cost or obligation, we'll come to your office and review your current backup to verify that your data is being backed up properly and could be restored in the event of a disaster.

We can also show you the fastest, most reliable way to make sure you NEVER have to worry about losing all your data or being "out of business" because of a natural disaster, virus, hacker attack, hardware failure or other data-erasing disaster.



Email us at: helpdesk@tbyd.ca or call us at 204-800-3167.