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Sneaky Secrets

(Crunching the Credit Crunch)

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And all together good guy
even though he was
raised by hamsters

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The series of Sneaky
Secrets is designed to be
read in a minute and a
laugh.

Dear John

Wouldn't you agree that in these challenging times it's even more important to appreciate the amusing and funny moments in our lives that help us to relieve a little stress?

Considering the current economic climate I received some surprising news. Last week a friend of mine borrowed £20 from me and I now find I am Britain's 3rd largest lender.

As an [after dinner speaker](#) and [keynote speaker at conferences](#), I do a lot of travelling and recently I spotted a sign on the London Underground that read...

'Gents and lift out of order. Please use stairs.'

I don't think they meant that... or did they? Anyway, for the next minute and few seconds let's relax and I'd like to suggest John that having a smile on your face is more important than money... unless you don't have a credit card then money would certainly come in handy.

Recently I was in a meeting receiving a brief from a client for a speech I'm going to give at their conference. Once we'd finished we enjoyed our coffees and conversation. Unfortunately it wasn't long before our light hearted chat turned to the dreaded 'CC' topic. I suggested that when it came to the Credit Crunch, even though the Bank of England may find sustaining the economy challenging, sterling was still strong. Strong enough, in fact, to support a drinking glass. How?

The Sneaky Stunt - Just how strong is sterling?

You're going to need three drinking glasses, medium to small are best and a bank note an 'Adam

Smith' will do. You'll find Smithy on the back of a new £20 note.

Who's Adam Smith? Oh, he was big in pin manufacturing in the mid 1700s... evidently. If you ever need some light bed time reading next time take your bank notes with you it's amazing what you'll learn. I have to admit I don't normally read bank notes I just spend them like everyone else.

The idea is to place two of the glasses mouth up, on the table, no further apart than the length of the bank note but far enough apart that the third glass can be placed between them.

The bank note is rested on the mouths of the two glasses forming a 'bridge' and somehow you have to balance the third glass on it between the other two glasses.

You'll find the solution further down the page.

The Challenge - For a bit of fun, I challenge you to drop this useless fact in to your next conversation

It is illegal to 'annoy a bird' in any city park of Honolulu, Hawaii.

So if your hobbies include annoying birds keep away from Honolulu. Actually... I've never knowingly annoyed a bird in my life. So as long as the bird doesn't get hurt and it's legal I wouldn't mind seeing it done... just the once mind.

I Can't Believe They Said That, or Dooh!!!

I love to take care of people, so I think I would be a good vet'.

Jennifer Love Hewitt

The Sneaky Solution to 'Just how strong is sterling'



All you do is fold the bank note as many times as you can so that it is corrugated. Then you can balance the glass on the bank note as illustrated in the photo.

This can be used to

illustrate a point you might make in your speeches, negotiations and meetings etc.

Let's say your client has a skills gap and you provide training, then your knowledge (what you did with the bank note) can fill your client's skills gap. Or if you provide marketing, then your knowledge can address your client's marketing gap. You can see the theme here and I'm sure you'll work out your own presentational angle.

... and finally

Has it ever occurred to you that when it comes to communicating your corporate message at an event an entertaining speaker can do it more effectively?

So if you're looking for a hilarious after dinner speaker with a difference who also happens to have a strong magical slant I can help. You can find more information when you [click here](#).

If you have a corporate message to communicate at your next conference or product launch and you're looking for a unique speaker to help you make your message stick then please [click here](#).

To get a flavour of the Hotowka boy in action a short video is available at the bottom of the home page of my web site www.hotowk.co.uk.

Better still, John, pick up the phone now and call me on 01274685152 to discuss how I can help you make your next event not just a success but an investment in which you'll receive a return.

Have a great week.

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