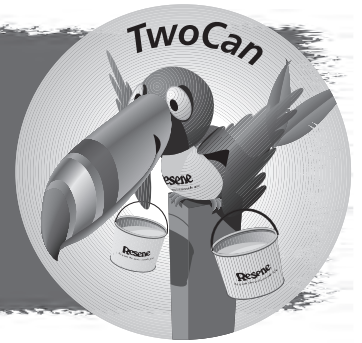


“ Need a laugh? Then best you read the best decorating story that is in this issue, as well as one of our other favourites. There were plenty of funny stories that arrived, so we look forward to sharing them with you in future TradeLines. Most of the stories have one common thread – it pays to keep your wits and your sense of humour on the ready at all times – as you never quite know when you may need them...”



## Best of the best

We had a whale of a time trying to decide on the funniest story as there were many hilarious tales that came in.

Here's our favourite story and the winner of the Best decorating story prize from Ben Prattley of New Plymouth...

"He was a nice young fellow, decent, trusting a little naïve. We were working in a prominent North Island hospital many moons ago.

I've always enjoyed working for hospitals. You don't take your health for granted in that environment.

This time we were painting the maternity ward. The colour scheme was a screamingly original blue and



pink. Smoke time and our young decent man is tasked with making us morning tea.

Presently whilst enjoying the break the sound of raised voices is heard. The altercation continues. It seems someone is accusing someone else of theft.

The charge nurse bursts into the room and demands to know if one of us has been in the kitchen fridge. All eyes turn to the decent naïve young man. I shall never forget the words she spoke next. "Do you realise the milk you took wasn't Anchor milk, it wasn't Meadowlea milk, it wasn't Pam's milk, it was Belinda's breast milk." Silence.

Cheeks blushed in unison and sincere apologies all around uttered forth. She smiled and suggested the young fellow might like to wear a dummy for the rest of the day.

No one finished their tea that morning. (Belinda's name changed to protect her!)"

### Hayden Cronick wins best tip with this handy time saver...

"When painting window sashes, rather than taping around the timber frame try this instead..."

With a low tack tape, mask up the top and one side edge of a metal plastering trowel (or wide knife). Using the handle of the trowel, hold the taped edges tight against the timber sash and paint away, moving it along the frame as you go. Occasionally wipe any excess off the tape

on the trowel and once you've finished, remove the tape completely and your trowel is as good as new!

This tip was passed onto me by a painter from Europe and is a real time saver, plus you no longer have to worry about any peeling when you remove masking tape from glass as the paint isn't drying against the tape.

A perfect, straight line every time."

### Here's another of our favourite stories, the writer of which shall rename nameless. We'll have more of the funny stories and handy tips in Tradelines next year.

"I had decided that I was over Auckland traffic and preferred to work locally so I canvassed the area and scored some work next door to my home, literally over the fence for a seemingly prim and proper middle aged lady. A few days into my job my wife was at home as it was her day off and I found myself in a difficult predicament.

I didn't know what to do so I needed some unusual advice. I knocked at my front door. My wife opened it to find me standing there looking very nervous and holding what appeared to be a vibrator. Her immediate reaction was to tell me indignantly "I don't think so" but intrigued she asked me what had happened.

I explained: Spike, my fox terrier who goes to work with me often spends time fossicking around various jobs hunting for rats, sticks, balls and what not. This particular day he had returned to me wanting to show his latest find and engage me in a game of fetch.

Of course I went to oblige but was mortified to find the item was actually not a toy or a stick. Having no idea where it came from and not wanting to be faced with asking the customer if it was hers, I, naturally returned home to ask my wife's advice.

After some discussion it became apparent that Spike the dog had been inside the lady's home, found a 'stick' taken it outside and began playing in the back garden with it.

Then deciding it was fetch time he wanted it thrown for him. >>



>> She advised me to just take it back and leave it somewhere. But where could I put it? I couldn't leave it anywhere in the house because it would be in a different spot to where she had left it and I'd be suspected of foul play. Quite possibly an embarrassing situation all round. And of course not wanting the dog to find it to play with it again. What a dilemma! Unconvinced and not wanting to be caught in the act of returning it I reluctantly went back to work. My wife never did get out of me what I actually did with it until a number of months later. In a state of near panic I simply buried it in our own backyard. It has since been dug up and thrown in the rubbish!

## Mould mover

With all the rain over winter, moss and mould have inevitably taken hold in damp places. And while it might seem easier to ignore it or paint over it, moss and mould is best dealt with promptly and properly before you end up with a lot more of it to deal with...

Mould is very common in homes and buildings and has tended to get worse rather than better. This is because modern design has buildings and homes so airtight that moisture can't escape. Instead the moisture settles on surfaces and creates a prime breeding ground for mould.

On painted surfaces, mould looks like dirt, so it's often hard to tell by looking at it what is actually mould and what is actually dirt.

The most common type of mould is black, but others can be brown or green. A quick way to tell whether you are dealing with mould or dirt is by wetting the surface and rubbing. Mould will show up as slime.

Mould is a major cause of paint disfigurement. It destroys the paint's fresh clean appearance, and if left unchecked it shortens the life of the paint film. Unless removed within a few months of its appearance, mould penetrates the body of the existing film and once firmly established, will grow through subsequent paint coatings, impairing adhesion and ruining the appearance of the paintwork.

You can't just clean off mould with water and a brush, you need to kill it. To tackle moss and mould thoroughly clean down the surface to remove all loosely adhered material. Treat areas of moss or mould infestation with Resene Moss & Mould Killer, correctly diluted (see pack) with clean water. As soon as the mould has been completely de-colourised (which indicates it has been killed) wash thoroughly with clean water to remove residues and then allow to dry.

Once dry if the surface paintwork is still in good condition you can leave as is, or if new paintwork is needed, you can prepare and paint as per normal. Consider getting Resene MoulDefender added to your paint as this is a mould inhibitor and gives the paint extra protection against mould. The Resene Kitchen & Bathroom range is formulated with MoulDefender and anti-bacterial silver making it a great option for kitchens, bathrooms and laundries where excess moisture is more likely.

It's also a good idea to recommend your clients ventilate their homes and buildings – open windows, doors etc and allow the air to circulate. While they can turn on air conditioners and heaters, many types actually exacerbate the amount of moisture in the air. There's nothing quite like a few windows open in good weather to really refresh the indoor air.

Resene Moss & Mould Killer is one of those products that is handy to keep in your van so you can grab it out and use it as needed.



**Moral of the story:** Don't let your dog run about in someone else's house unattended – there may be strange toys about!"



Prizes have been sent to all those who entered the decorating tips and stories competition. If you entered and haven't seen your prize arrive please email us at [update@resene.co.nz](mailto:update@resene.co.nz).

## Got the app for that

Has your client seen a colour they'd love to use on a project? Maybe it was at the beach, on a fabric or on a building, but they don't know what that colour is or how to describe it? The new upgraded Resene ColourMatch can help. This colour-matching App allows you to simply take a picture from your smartphone and it will instantly match your chosen colour in the image to the nearest Resene paint colour.

The new Resene Colour Palette Generator feature means you can use the app to build a personal colour palette of Resene paint colours from a single image. Perfect for bringing your favourite places or images to life. You can also search directly for colours, and save and email favourites.

Apps now available free for iPhone and Android. See [www.resene.com/colourmatch.htm](http://www.resene.com/colourmatch.htm) for details.



## Hot stuff

Don't forget that when the sun gets hot, cover up exposed skin and slap on some sunscreen. Your local Resene ColorShop has pots of handy suntan lotion to give away – just ask for your pot while stocks last. Resene also has a range of clothing from caps to t-shirts etc to keep you covered this summer. Check out the trade display at selected stores.



And once you've covered yourself, grab some Resene Hot Weather Additive for any waterborne products you are planning to apply. It will slow down the drying of the paint giving you a longer wet edge to get just the right finish.



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That's all for now – catch ya next month!

TwoCan, Editor.

