



THE WHISKERED GAZETTE

All The News That Fits



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LEAD STORY

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS AND THE RISE OF THE DASHBOARD



Picture 1: Hector observing Management Accounts with cautious optimism.



Picture 2: The dashboard? The colours?

By The watch, with additional commentary from those who should not be commenting

The Watch can confirm that **Management Accounts has acquired a Dashboard.**

The discovery was made late on Tuesday morning after several members of the department were observed clustering around a glowing screen, pointing at colours, and making noises that could only be described as hopeful. This behaviour was immediately flagged as suspicious.

Witnesses report that the object contained colours - a significant number of them, some green. This attracted immediate attention.

A Challenge to Tradition

For generations, Management Accounts has operated according to a well-established process involving spreadsheets, supplementary spreadsheets, explanatory spreadsheets, and meetings to explain the differences between them. The Dashboard appears to challenge this tradition. It displays information on a single screen - a concept that may require readers a moment to absorb.

Preliminary observations suggest it contains numbers, charts, arrows, percentages, and what experts have cautiously described as *key performance information*. At first, The Watch assumed it was decorative. This theory was abandoned when humans began making decisions based upon it.

A Self-Aware Spreadsheet?

One investigator described the Dashboard as “a spreadsheet that has become self-aware.” Another was more cautious: “It knows things.” Naturally, questions followed - who created it, what it does, and why some boxes are green.

Management Accounts insists it merely displays information already available elsewhere. The Watch has reviewed this claim carefully and notes that if the information was already available, thirty-seven spreadsheets may have been unnecessary.

The Colours Problem

The Dashboard categorises performance using colours: green for success, amber for



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concern, red for meetings. The exact thresholds remain unclear. One observer reported that a figure changed colour mid-discussion, causing immediate debate among several humans and one squirrel. The squirrel has since opened an audit entitled “DASHBOARDS: Opportunities, Risks, and Questions.” The questions section contains only additional questions.

Statements From Those Who Should Not Be Involved

The Reporting Pillar issued a brief statement: “Performance can now be visualised.” The fox, who is not involved and has never been involved, insists he predicted the Dashboard’s arrival months ago.

His evidence; a drawing labelled *Strategic Vision* - remains inconclusive.

Meanwhile, F.L.A.P. (Feathered League for Aerial Progress) demands representation, arguing their contribution to seed distribution metrics has been under-reported. Negotiations continue.

A Significant Development

At the time of publication, Management Accounts appears cautiously optimistic. Several humans have been observed pointing at graphs and nodding. One reportedly said, “It’s all in one place now.” This has been classified as a Significant Development. No spreadsheets have been harmed; many remain active in secure folders, others have entered retirement after years of distinguished service. The Dashboard glows, updates, and displays arrows. Nobody fully understands it. The Watch will continue monitoring the situation closely.

THE MONOCLE REPORT



Picture 3: Mr Whiskers adjusting his monocle to better assess a green box.

On the Nature of Colour-Based Judgement

As the Gazette’s Senior Columnist and foremost authority on standards, decorum, and the correct use of cushions, I feel compelled to address the humans’ latest innovation: the Dashboard. It is colourful. It is confident. It is, I regret to say, opinionated.

Green, I am told, indicates success. This is troubling. Green has historically meant grass, mint patches, envy, and the fox’s suspiciously bright eyes. To assign it to success invites confusion. Several green boxes appear to be celebrating without justification.

One was positively smug.

Amber, according to the humans, indicates “areas requiring attention.” I maintain that amber is the colour of indecision; neither committed nor relaxed, the hue of a cat who cannot decide whether to sit or stand.

The Dashboard’s use of amber therefore seems appropriate, though I question whether humans possess the emotional nuance required to interpret it correctly.

Red, they claim, indicates issues. I disagree. Red indicates meetings. Every red box I observed resulted in frowning, clicking, and the scheduling of at least one meeting, often two.

Red is a summons.



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The humans appear deeply affected by the palette: green causes nodding, amber murmuring, red panic.

One human attempted to soothe a red box by clicking it repeatedly. The box remained red. The Dashboard remembers.

The squirrel has begun auditing the colours. His report contains four walnuts, one diagram, and a section titled *Colour-Based Risks*, which consists entirely of additional questions. I recommended he be given a sunbeam to calm down. He declined.

To assist the humans, I propose a Colour Interpretation Manual, a Green Verification Committee, and a Red Response Protocol to reduce meeting proliferation. A monocle-friendly mode would also be appreciated.

The Dashboard has introduced a new form of judgement - swift, colourful, and occasionally rude. The humans are adapting. The squirrel is auditing. The fox is claiming credit. The pigeons want representation. I remain cautiously intrigued.

Mr Whiskers, Senior Columnist

THE WATCH REPORTS

The Dashboard Investigation - Full Findings, Colours, and Escalations



Picture 4: Ophelia Junior reporter.

By Ophelia, Junior Reporter

The Watch has been extremely busy this fortnight due to the sudden appearance of the Dashboard and the humans' dramatic reaction to it. What began as moderately suspicious clicking has evolved into a full-scale investigation involving colours, charts, and one squirrel who has declared the situation "structurally alarming."



Picture 5: Ophelia examining arrows on a diagram while a squirrel watches suspiciously from the fence.

Humans now gather around the glowing screen, pointing at coloured boxes and making noises that suggest both excitement and fear. The Watch has determined they are attempting to interpret the colours without fully understanding them. This is considered brave.

The squirrel has launched a new audit titled

"DASHBOARD: A Colour-Based Risk Assessment."

It contains four walnuts, one acorn, and a diagram labelled *For Scrutiny*. He has also attempted to determine whether the Dashboard can be tunnelled under. The Watch advises against this.

The fox has approached the Dashboard twice - once to wink at a green box, once to announce, "I predicted this." He then produced a drawing labelled *Strategic Vision*.



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The Watch has classified this as Not Evidence.

The Reporting Pillar has begun humming in a tone described as “evaluative.” The pigeons, meanwhile, demand representation and a pigeon-specific colour category. The mint patch declined to comment.

The Dashboard is no longer simply an object. It glows, updates, and changes colour without warning. The humans appear both empowered and destabilised. The squirrel is escalating. The fox is boasting. The pigeons are negotiating. The Pillar is humming.

The Watch recommends continued monitoring unless the Dashboard notices, in which case monitoring will pause.

FROM THE FLOWERBED



Picture 6: Lena observing a green box from a safe, leafy distance.

The garden has been watching the humans very closely this week. They have been gathering around the Dashboard, pointing at colours, and speaking in tones that suggest both hope and mild alarm. The plants are unsure what to make of this.

Recent Developments

The bluebells have formed a new subcommittee titled “*Bluebells for Calm Interpretation.*” Their minutes consist mostly of gentle nodding and one note that reads: “*Green seems nice.*”

The lavender remains neutral. It has declared that colours are “a human matter” and refuses to take questions.

The mint patch has attempted to expand toward the Dashboard. It was redirected. It is considering an appeal.

The fox passed through the flowerbed claiming he “understands colour-based strategy.” He does not.

The squirrel attempted to determine whether the Dashboard’s colours could be audited from the garden. He stared at a leaf for several minutes before declaring it “amber.” The leaf disagreed.

Garden Mood

The garden feels warm, thoughtful, and slightly overwhelmed by the humans’ excitement. Plants prefer slow, steady information.

The plants do not understand these colours, but they appreciate the enthusiasm.

Naps and Conditions

Despite the heat, nap conditions remain favourable: under the hydrangea (cool and contemplative), beside the mint patch (fragrant but ambitious), near the fence (warm, with occasional pigeon commentary).

Summary

The garden is adjusting.

The humans are pointing at colours.

The squirrel is auditing colours.

The fox is claiming credit for colours.

The pigeons want their own colour.

The mint patch wants everything.

Conditions remain fragrant.

Naps remain recommended.



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Signed softly,

Lena

Garden Correspondent

ASK LENA

Garden Problems Solved Gently

“My Dashboard turned red. Should I panic?”

Q: *“My Dashboard turned red. Should I panic?”*

A: No. Panicking will not change the colour.

A red box simply indicates that humans are about to have a meeting. Possibly two. It does not mean disaster — merely discussion, concern, and the movement of chairs.

If the red box appeared suddenly, breathe. Sudden colour changes can be startling. Step briefly into the garden and look at something calm, such as lavender.

If the squirrel notices, he will begin an audit. Allow him to proceed. He believes the colours are speaking to him.

If the fox comments, you may ignore him. He will say it proves he was right about something. It does not.

If the pigeons demand representation in the red box, do not engage. They are still negotiating their colour category.

In summary:

- Do not panic.
- Do not click the box repeatedly.
- Do not apologise to the Dashboard.
- Do not attempt to hide the red box under another window. It will still be red when you return.

Instead, offer yourself a moment of quiet, a biscuit if available, and the knowledge that

colours are temporary and meetings eventually end.

Signed with soft paws,

Lena

Garden Correspondent

BARNEY'S BIT

On Heatwaves, Dashboards, and a Very Interesting Cone



By Barney, Morale Correspondent and Puddle Analyst

Hello again, readers.

It's me - Barney.

I've been walking, thinking, and occasionally lying down because it is very, very warm. There is much to report.

The sun has been extremely enthusiastic. Pavements are hot, shade is limited, and hydration is important. I have adapted by walking slower, sitting in puddles longer, and occasionally flopping dramatically under a bench.



Would flop again.

I have seen the glowing screen. It has colours. Green feels like a walk, amber feels like waiting for a walk, and red feels like “no



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walk yet.” One red box changed colour while I was watching it. I barked. It did not bark back.



Would observe again.

Puddles remain excellent. Warm puddles are different from cool puddles; they feel thoughtful. Depth reduced, splash potential moderate, joy potential unchanged.



Would splash again.

I found a cone. It was orange, important, and guarding something; possibly a hole or possibly nothing. I sniffed it, circled it, and attempted to carry it.

Management Accounts said no.

I disagreed.



Would absolutely carry again.

Sometimes the screen turns red.

Sometimes the sun turns everything warm.

Sometimes colours change without warning.

But walks remain walks, puddles remain puddles, cones remain cones, and biscuits remain excellent.

Barney 🐾

Morale Correspondent and Puddle Analyst

WEATHER

SEVERE WEATHER WARNING: EXTREME HEAT



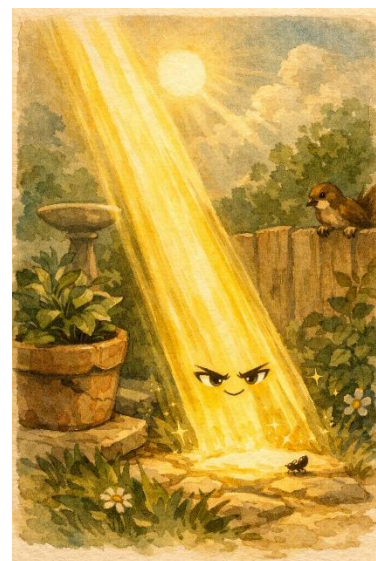
Picture 7: A sunbeam behaving suspiciously like it has ambitions.

WINDOWSILL WEATHER

General Outlook

A period of unreasonable, overly assertive heat is expected to affect the entire district. The sun has announced it will be “turning things up a bit.” The Gazette considers this a threat.

Temperatures will rise to levels described as *Too Warm for Sense* and *Absolutely Not*. Tail-fluffing will be involuntary. Paw-pads may become dramatic.



Picture 8: Feline interpretation of the suspicious sunbeam



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Sunbeams will be abundant, competitive, and refusing to share. One has declared itself *Head of Warmth*. This is not an official position.

Impact on Contributors:

Hector: at risk of melting into the windowsill.

Mr Whiskers: monocle fogging expected.

Lena: serene.

Ophelia: likely to report “the air feels loud.”

Barney: enjoying it far too much.

The Fox: claims he controls the sun. He does not.

The Squirrel: has opened a heat-related audit.

F.L.A.P.: demanding shaded landing zones.

Mint Patch: thriving, expanding, plotting.

Safety Advice:

Seek shade. Hydrate. Avoid dramatic sunbeam pile-ups. Do not ask the glowing screen to explain the weather... it cannot.

Extreme heat will last until the sun becomes bored.

The Gazette will continue monitoring conditions with dignity, composure, and minimal panting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A selection of correspondence received, shredded, or intercepted by The Watch

Dashboard Confusion Edition

From Human #12 (Confused):

“Why did the screen turn red while I was looking at it?”

Editor: No. It reacts to the universe, not to you.

From Bluebell (Chair, Bluebells for Calm Interpretation):

“We have attempted to interpret the colours. We have reached no conclusions.”

Editor: This is the correct approach.

From Anonymous (but definitely the Fox):

“I predicted the colours. I would like recognition.”

Editor: No.

Additional Note: We know it’s you.

From Pigeon #3 (F.L.A.P. Delegate):

“We request a pigeon-specific colour category.”

Editor: Your request has been forwarded. Outcome: It turned amber.

From The Squirrel (Head of Audit):

“I have opened a colour-based audit. The screen must explain itself.”

Editor: It will not.

From Barney (Morale Correspondent):

“I saw the screen turn green. I wagged.”

Editor: Thank you for your service.

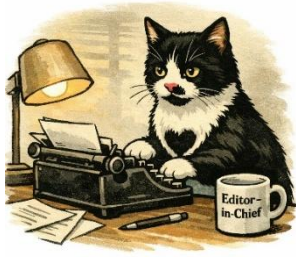
From A Human (Name Withheld):

“Why is there a newspaper in my inbox written by cats and colours?”

Editor: Because you work here now.



FROM THE EDITOR



Picture 9: *Hector preparing Issue Five while the Dashboard glows unhelpfully nearby.*

Editorial Note

The Gazette has endured another fortnight of confusion, colour-based judgement, and unsolicited commentary.

The humans have acquired a glowing screen, the Reporting Pillar hums knowingly, and Management Accounts has survived more colour changes than any department should reasonably encounter.

The squirrel has escalated his audit to include “chromatic risk factors.”

The fox has submitted another rebuttal no one asked for.

F.L.A.P. demands representation.

The mint patch continues its advance.

Barney remains enthusiastic.

I remind all contributors that:

- The screen is not a toy.
- The fox is not in charge.
- The squirrel’s audit is not legally binding.
- The pigeons cannot have their own colour.
- The mint patch must not attempt integration.
- And Barney must not carry cones into the office.

Issue Five reflects the world as it is: colourful, overheated, audited, negotiated, and now, apparently, visualised. We will continue to report with clarity, composure, and minimal blinking, even when the screen turns red.

Respectfully submitted,

Hector

Editor-in-Chief, *The Whiskered Gazette*



CONTRIBUTORS

Editor-in-Chief — Hector Responsible for investigative journalism, editorial tone, and all windowsill-based decision-making. Known for dignified blinking and structured despair.

Senior Columnist — Mr Whiskers Author of *The Monocle Report*. Brings monocled authority and strong opinions on colour-based judgement.

Garden Correspondent — Lena Provides gentle, observational reporting from the flowerbed. Offers calm guidance on colour-related panic and remains neutral on all glowing-screen drama.

Junior Reporter — Ophelia Eager investigator with a talent for noticing clouds, silence, and suspicious human behaviour. Frequently startled by colour changes and squirrels.

Morale Correspondent — Barney Provides uplifting field reports from walks, puddles, and stick-related discoveries. Specialises in enthusiasm, leaf appreciation, and cone analysis.

Guest Contributor — The Fox Self-appointed strategist and unsolicited commentator. Known for submitting rebuttals no one asked for and claiming he predicted everything.

Head of Audit (Self-Declared) — The Squirrel Conducts ongoing walnut-based audits of everything, including items that do not require auditing. Organised, determined, unstoppable.

Aerial Stakeholders — F.L.A.P. Unionised pigeon collective demanding representation and improved seed metrics. Frequently ignored, occasionally dramatic.

The Mint Patch Not officially a contributor, but behaves as one. Expanding confidently. Cannot be stopped.