

PHDABUZZ

Where something is always abuzz.

One Day without Shoes: A Global Movement

On Tuesday, April 16, 2013 a group of people walked around Toronto in their bare feet! This group began their walk at the corner of Victoria & Gould Street. They walked west to Yonge Street, south to Queen Street West, east to Bay Street, and north to Dundas Street to end their walk at the starting point. The distance is a fair sized city block, which would take approximately 20-30 minutes to walk. On most days the act of just walking the city block would not be remarkable in any way. However, on April 16, the group did the walk in their bare feet! The day was overcast and gray and the streets were wet from the rain showers earlier in the week. However, this did not dampen the participant's spirits. As they walked they received many looks of curious wonder from people they passed. However, the participants knew that the weather and the looks they got from others were all part of the walk they had signed up for, with Toronto playing a small role, in the global movement called "One Day Without Shoes."

One Day Without Shoes is an awareness walk that was created by TOMS, a successful shoe company that was determined to ease the suffering of children living in poverty The purpose of, what is now an annual movement, was to raise awareness of children's health and education in developing areas where children live lives that are so impoverished that they cannot afford shoes. The lack of shoes in some areas lead to many health related concerns such as cuts and bruises which can lead to infections which can negatively impact a child's overall health. In some areas a lack of shoes can prevent a child from attending school, as shoes are seen as part of the necessary school uniform. TOMS hopes that by experiencing the bare foot walk, people will be able to relate to children without shoes and this will inspire people to make a change in their lives.

These walks invite participants to live outside their comfort zones and consider the challenges faced by other people in the world. In participating in events such as this one, participants are given an opportunity to experience the importance of shoes from a different point of view. Something as simple as shoes is taken for granted in a society like ours. So by experiencing the walk, this increased awareness helps participants feel grateful for all

Upcoming Events:

May 5: PHD ABIS Night Out @ East Side Mario's

May 10: Windrush Stables Tour and Picnic

May 25: Spring Fling Dance

Café Menu:

May 6: Hamburgers with Salad May 13: Chicken Salad Panini with Fruit Slices

May 20: California Grilled Veggie Sandwich with Chips

May 27: Penne Pasta, Spinach and Bacon with Fruit

the benefits that they have. It also makes them realize that since they are so fortunate to have all their basic needs taken care of and to be living comfortable lives, they have a social responsibility to ensure that they try to help those less fortunate than themselves.

On a global level this event has also had many participants. Last year

about 250,000 people worldwide took up the challenge to go barefoot for a day. Some of the participants who took the challenge to spend the entire day or part of the day barefoot included recognizable names such as Olivia Wilde, Kristen Bell, Brittany Snow, Demi Moore, the Jonas Brothers and Heather Graham.

---Georgina Pimenta







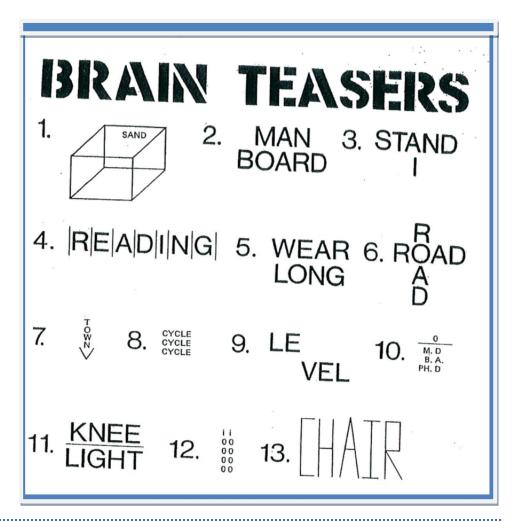
The End of an Era



Prime Minister of the UK: 1979-1990

The "iron lady" has passed. Her age having now caught up to her at 87, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher succumbed to a stroke, on April 8, 2013. The Conservative Party politician held stature in Britain from 1979 to 1990; she was known as the only woman in power to lead the country and the only Prime Minister at the helm for 11 years. She entered office the same year Pierre Trudeau left as Prime Minister of Canada in 1979. Pierre Trudeau is father of recently elected Liberal Party Leader, Justin Trudeau; Pierre was the 3rd longest PM to be in office in Canada. As part of the Commonwealth, like Britain, Canada has a parliamentary system of government with a leader who is elected by the people: there are no fixed electoral dates. However, our election is expected to take place October of 2015.

---Shannon Schilling





"60 years ago Earth was attacked. We won the war but they destroyed half the planet. Everyone's been evacuated. Nothing human remains. Our job is security and drone maintenance."

Movie of the Month: Oblivion

Jack Harper (Tom Cruise) is one of the last few drone repairmen stationed on earth. He is part of a massive operation to extract vital resources after decades of war with a terrifying threat known as the Scaves! Jack, as he nears the end of his mission, witnesses a spacecraft fall from the sky!! Upon investigation he discovers the capsule contains a mysterious female.

With Mission control observing every move high above the clouds, Jack embarks on a spectacular adventure that will not only challenge everything he's ever been taught about mankind's most defining battle, but perhaps after the entire course of human history.

My rating: 8 out of 10 butterballs.

---John Brereton

Joke of the Month: "What am I supposed to do with this?" grumbled a motorist as the policeman handed him a speeding ticket. "Keep it," the cop said, "when you collect four of them you get a bicycle."