

Do You Have a Green Thumb?

Michael: Hi Sarah! How was the plant sale?

Sarah: Hi Michael! Thanks for asking. It went really well. We raised over \$1000 for the new library project we're helping to sponsor for the inner city school.

Michael: Excellent! Guess what I was busy doing this weekend?

Sarah: I saw your wife the other day and she told me that you now have a green thumb.

Michael: I wouldn't go that far to call myself a green thumb. I was planting a Harry Lauder's Walking Stick. Its botanical name is a Filbert tree.

Sarah: Are you serious? If you have this curious-looking whimsical shrub growing in your yard, you know how unique this landscape feature is! Wow Michael, I'm very impressed!

Michael: The common name of this plant is an interesting story, since almost no one seems to recall the person for whose walking stick this plant is named. OK let me tell you a short story about this Sir Harry Lauder:

"Sir Harry Lauder was an internationally famous entertainer during the early part of the 20th Century. You could call him a "song and dance man", but that wouldn't come close to describing what this man accomplished in this life. His fame came from singing Scottish ballads on stages throughout Great Britain, which endeared him to his public here and abroad. Sir Winston Churchill referred to him as "Scotland's greatest ever ambassador."

Sarah: This is incredible and memorable, Michael! Thank you! Perhaps I'll stop by one of these days to look at this new landscape you just created.

Michael: Sure Sarah, I do find it fun whether my landscape is impressive or not.