



## The Covid diaries: Day 40 - 40 Days and 40 Nights

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A daily fly-on-the-wall blog about running a legal business during the Covid-19 crisis.

**By Dónall Breen** - 13 May

We have survived in the desert (our kitchen tables, spare rooms and beds) living off honey (no commutes, no suits) and locusts (no printing and limited office supplies).

Please excuse the biblical references, but 40 working days on from where we started is quite the milestone. We were basically thrust into a proof of concept experiment that working from home is a viable alternative to being in the office, whilst at the same time dealing with one of the biggest surges of client work in our firm's history.

Some things have gone well (Teams has been a life saver in keeping the gang together), some things are harder (I would give my left leg for a laser printer that isn't the size of a car) and some things are just different (I now see more of my colleagues' faces than I ever

did in the office).

Hand on heart, I know I've had it easier than most. I don't have children and we have space in the house so that my wife and I can work in separate rooms. I am under no illusions that things could be much more challenging. Most importantly, I know I have a job.

However, I'm now at the point where commuting into the office seems like a distant memory. I just can't see us going back to that again in the way we used to. 40 days on and the change feels permanent. Only time will tell what will change forever and what won't, but working from home will no longer be the exception. Twitter recently announced that all employees could work from home - forever.

I can't remember the movie, but I can vividly recall the scene. There is a guy who tries to survive in the wilderness. At the start he meets a local who sees him struggle, cold and hungry as the night approaches. Over time he masters the elements and kills a bear or something silly like that. Anyway, **SPOILER ALERT** at the end of the movie he sees the same local guy again, but this time our survivor has shelter, a fire and food. The local guy says "you've come a long way", to which the protagonist replies, "it feels long".

We have achieved a lot in the last 40 days, but it does feel like it...

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If you would like to read our **Covid diaries starting from day 1** please click [here](#).