



## The April update

Better backups, lazier logs and Butler bonanza!

2022 April 8

### The disk that crashed

Most of us have been there.

Suddenly realising that a computer won't boot, a server file share doesn't respond.

Disks are amazingly cost effective and reliant these days (remember what things were like 20 years ago...?) but occasionally still fail.



This happened to my Sense lab cluster the other week and this got me thinking.

Over the years I've been involved in setting up disaster recovery solutions for various Qlik Sense environments.

Leaning on those experiences I've put together a fairly comprehensive PowerShell script that will back up all (?) important Sense files as well as do various housekeeping tasks in a single go.

Run it manually when needed or schedule it for that weekly maintenance window.

More info in this [blog post](#) over at [ptarmiganlabs.com](https://ptarmiganlabs.com).

### New release: Butler v7.2

Butler 1.0 was released just before Qconnections 2016.

6 years and 42 releases later we're

now at version 7.2.

Going from 7.1 to 7.2 is a small step for Butler but a giant leap for Sense admins.

Ok, ok – comparing this little open source project with the Apollo program might be just a bit presumptuous...



Still, 7.2 does add a few quite useful features:

- **Standalone, pre-compiled binaries for Windows, macOS, Linux and Docker.** No need any more to first install Node.js, figure out how to start Butler using Node etc.  
Just download, configure, run.
- **Store a copy of script reload logs for all failed reloads.**  
This can be a real time saver.  
No matter if the reload failed 5 minutes or 2 weeks ago you have the script logs in an easy to access location that *you* decide.

Butler has its own site at [butler.ptarmiganlabs.com](https://butler.ptarmiganlabs.com), with [downloads](#) and [discussions](#) at GitHub.

## **New GitHub repository for Sense code snippets and scripts**

Time to get a bit more structured.

Over the years I've had various, often overlapping approaches to storing useful, reusable Qlik Sense scripts, code snippets and assets in general. Hard to maintain and difficult to search.

So I created a public GitHub repository for this, with the general idea to have a single place to store these things.

QS Cloud or on-premise, 5 lines of code or a 100 – doesn't matter. If something is reusable and not proprietary it can go into this repo.

Right now there's only the backup script there but more material is ready to be uploaded within a week or two.

Feel free to star that repo in to get notified when new content is added, or send a pull request with your own scripts/tools/resources.

[Link](#)

# GitHub

 **On the reading list**

Given the state of things in Europe these days it was strange timing that I started reading Mikhail Bulgakov's [The Master and Margarita](#) just a week before the invasion of Ukraine.

That book is a strange, surreal satire of the limited freedom in the 1930's Soviet Union. Satan arrives in Moscow and nothing is the same any more.. History tends to repeat itself, it seems.

On the technical side of of things I learnt a few things from reading Google's [Anatomy of an Incident](#) and even more from their [SRE site](#) in general. Good stuff!

"[Inspired - How to create tech products customers love](#)" by Marty Cagan is a long time favourite. I've re-read parts of it recently - excellent thinking there for anyone involved in building software or hardware products.

## **Need help with your Qlik Sense projects?**

Don't hesitate to reach out if you need help with your Qlik Sense projects or environment.

There's lot to be gained - both in time and quality - by automating repetitive processes or properly monitor what's going on in your system. This is true in general and of course also for Qlik Sense projects and systems.

Ptarmigan Labs has very extensive experience in this field - this is after all what the [Butler tools](#) are all about....

Do you have thoughts around these topics? Let's talk!

## **Snow is gone**

Right when we thought spring had arrived in Stockholm there was a bit of an April setback... Last few days have been a mix of blue skies and heavy snowfall. Nothing that remains on ground for long - spring really **is** around the corner. I think.

Picture to the right is from a hot all-afternoon trail run last summer. Soon..

Recommended song of the day: <https://open.spotify.com/track...>



Stay safe,

Göran

Hard drive photo by [benjamin lehman](#) on [Unsplash](#)

---

## Ptarmigan Labs

Open source development and consulting services around Qlik products in most shapes and forms.

You received this email because you signed up on our website or made a purchase from us.

[Unsubscribe](#)

