



SORCERER



The Magazine of the Derby Magic Circle
Established by Mike Habbershaw

A Warm welcome to you all,

Thanks for the feedback and advice I received from some members about getting regular income from Magic. My column will start next month. My first subject is 'ME', what do I want to achieve, how can I achieve, and who is my market audience. The article after this will be 'How to advertise freely', if you know of any places that allow/encourage free advertising, please share the info with me. These could be web pages or village magazines., I'm sure we will all benefit from the information. This new column is intended for us all to share and guide each other. I hope it gets a good response.

The AGM will soon be here, another year has gone by. This is an ideal time to ask yourself if you can give more commitment and get involved more in the Circle this year ? Please consider this. I realise that every member has different commitment levels and I fully understand this. If anyone feels that they have a special skill/talent that is not being utilised by the Circle and would like to offer their assistance, please contact Tony, Allan, myself or any other committee member so we can discuss this further.

BVM this month is great Mentalism for under a fiver !!

Many thanks to Jack for his monthly column 'Card Corner' and Dominic Reyes (from MagicShop.co.uk) for his 'How to accelerate skill development' article.

Evening of Magic at Hilton House Hotel is on 16th May. This is the first one this year, please support this to generate more funds for the Circle, thank you !

'Until next time**Enjoy !!**

Paul Shaw

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A Message from our President

Welcome to all members.

Well here we are, March already. This is my last President's report before the A.G.M. If any member has anything to bring up at the A.G.M. can you please let Allan know as soon as possible.

Also on this evening we are holding a Magic Auction. Members are invited to bring along three (3) large items, (not close-up magic) they wish to sell, and if these items do not reach their reserve price, then members can discuss and/or agree a price privately.

I would like to congratulate Jack Skertchly for his card move published in the British Ring Edition of the Linking Ring.

At our last meeting we were happy to welcome Ian Keable who took us through part of his act, explaining the moves and some patter. It was a most entertaining night and well received by the few members present.

Well that's all for this month, and looking forward to a good turn out for the AGM in March.

Tony

A.W. Woollett (President.)

Nearly forgot, the disclaimer bit !!

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DMC Bulletin Board

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE SORCERER. PLEASE FOREWORD YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO ME AT: Paulsharp@talktalk.net

Any member who wishes to perform for DMC, please contact Allan Humphries with their details



This was the only photo that was sent in from Blackpool, I guess it was taken at night !!

Hilton House 'Evening of Magic'
Thursday, 16th May 2013

This will be the first 'Evening of Magic' we have put on this year. All of the proceeds of the evening go to Circle funds as all of the performers and helpers give up their time freely (a BIG Thank for your support).

As this is the first of the year, I'd like us to raise as much funds as possible, that means getting bums on seats !! Is there anyone who's a member of another past-time club (like a fishing club, golf club, rotary club), who you could invite and sell them tickets.

It's not all about raising Circle funds !! You get a real sense of achievement working together as a team promoting and raising the profile of Derby Magic Circle.

Tickets will be available at the AGM.
Many thanks, Paul

Our next meeting night is on Wednesday, 27th March,
OUR AGM

Bringing **MAGIC** Back to School

Valentine day became a very special day for over 200 children and adults of the Mickleover Primary School. The 14th February '13 was the day that the Derby Magic Circle came to do a Magic Show under their 50-50 school fund scheme. To say all had a good time would be a gross understatement, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and by the end of the show there was a room full of happy excited children ready to go home after a wonderful afternoon.



The show was programmed to start at 3-30 in the afternoon and the hall had to be cleared by 5 o`clock and with a quarter of an hour refreshment break, it only left an hour for the show. Furthermore, as the children did not finish school until 3-20 we did not get started until 3-40. This meant that all the performers had to keep a very strict time limit on their performances.

Three stalwart performers stepped up to do the job. Namely our president Tony Wollett, Des Coloner and Doug Gregg. These were ably assisted by our wonderful, reliable roadie, Brian Ordish without whose help it would be difficult to set, run and dismantle the show. Doug started off the proceeding with a short introduction and introduced the first performer, our President Tony Wollett who skilfully worked through six card repeat, colour changing silks and finished off with his fluffy puppet dog routine.

Des was our second magi, showing all his years of skill and experience in handling a large group of children. He ran through finishing with his orange juice over an assistants head routine. A routine that always gets the kids shouting with excitement.

After a short interval to fill the faces of the children and a welcome drink for the Mums, Doug finished off the show. He worked through Luna (sliding die with a Moon) Circus Clowns and finish off with making a balloon reindeer for his little assistant from the audience.

Brian packed the show away and we were on our way home with the smiling and grateful thanks from the organisers, who, as indeed we were pleased with a good increase to both our funds.

Doug Gregg

Question:

Why are there so many professional Magicians in the Derby area that are not members of the Derby Magic Circle ?

Answer:

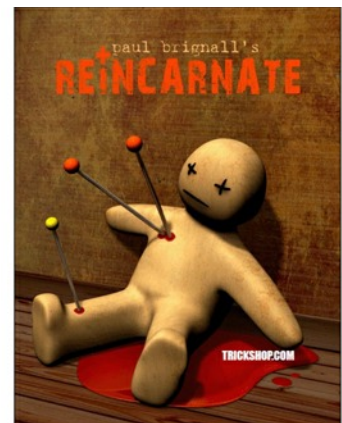
I don't know !! Please send in your answers.

BEST VALUE FOR MONEY

Forward Planning: When October comes round, I'm always frantically searching the net to find a spooky effect for that Halloween party. This year I've found one early !! The item I've found is an 'absolutely brilliant' book-test with a twist. It's the 'REINCARNATE' book-test and has just been released from <http://trickshop.com/shop/reincarnate-book-test> . This is a pdf download and costs \$6.95 (approx £4.65).

That's Great Mentalism for under a fiver !!

Without doubt one of the most startling and visual book tests ever conceived. And one that will leave your audience speechless. A spectator chooses a page in a book. That page is TORN from the book, and the performer draws a mystical figure on it and hands the book to the spectator for safekeeping. That done, the chosen page is now pierced by a pin to randomly choose a word. The spectator names the pierced word aloud and tears the page into eight pieces; which are placed into a bowl or ashtray and BURNED. Even though the book is in the spectator's possession and even though the page has been burned, when the spectator removes the book from his pocket and opens it to the space from where the page was chosen and torn...THE MISSING PAGE HAS RETURNED - complete with mystical drawing and pierced word! For the audience, it's an unfathomable outcome and one that will leave them in stunned silence.



REINCARNATE is more than just a brilliant magic or mentalism effect, it's great theatre as well. Of how many other book tests can the same be said? It's also an effect that can be adapted to almost any style of presentation - from comedy to dramatic or Bizarre Magick. If you're looking for a book test that will truly set you apart...this is it.

Consider these key points...

- Can be used under any conditions/venue - private party, cabaret, stage.
- Only one book is used throughout. There is no switch.
- Book is in the hands of the spectator for most of the effect.
- Spectator holds page while random word is chosen.
- It's fast and easy to prepare.
- Foolproof method and ingenious routine make this a simple trick to perform, leaving much scope for actual presentation.

Don't worry if you don't want to present this as a spooky effect as the handling lends itself to other presentations. I'm also looking at presenting this as a 'time travel' theme with that great classical book THE TIME MACHINE (an obvious time travel book!!) by H.G. Wells

Magic Mike: The Kids Magician



Magic Mike has released his Wizard School holiday club training DVDs. For Sorcerer readers he will sell these at the pre-release price. Before ordering please email Mike at mike@thekidsmagician.com to let him know you'd like to take advantage of the special price. Further information on each programme can be found here: <http://thekidsmagician.com/resources-for-entertainers/>

If you're interested in providing something unique for children in school holidays, you may be interested in running your own Wizard School.

You can find more information about Wizard School (prices I charge, hours I run it, video clips etc.) on the \"sales page\" of my website by [clicking here](#). I strongly recommend you visit that page before continuing to read below.

As this is something I run only in my area (Bristol, UK) I am very pleased to offer my Wizard School training package to entertainers in other geographic areas.

The package consists of 5 DVD's and 1 CD-ROM:

- DVD 1 - The Tricks (1)
- DVD 2 - The Tricks (2)
- DVD 3 - Marketing and Running Wizard School (pt.1)
- DVD 4 - Marketing and Running Wizard School (pt.2)
- DVD 5 - Sample of the personalised DVD I create after every Wizard School and send to every attendee the following week
- CD-ROM - Resource CD

Derby Magic Circle

has been asked to perform at the
Down Town Acoustic Music Festival
On Saturday, 29th June, 2013

Any suggestions or volunteers
Please speak to Allan

This is an ideal platform to raise our profile in Derby City



www.magicshop.co.uk are producing a range of articles and free ebooks giving advice and guidance for magicians. Dominic Reyes has kindly given his permission for me to share this article with the readers of the Sorcerer. There is also a link (at the end of the article) where you can read the full article: A better way to practice.

How to Accelerate Skill Development [By Mark Hanson](#)

Here are the five principles I would want to share with a younger version of myself. I hope you find something of value on this list as well.

1. **Focus is everything:** Keep practice sessions limited to a duration that allows you to stay focused. This may be as short as 10-20 minutes, and as long as 45-60+ minutes.
2. **Timing is everything, too:** Keep track of times during the day when you tend to have the most energy. This may be first thing in the morning, or right before lunch. Try to do your practicing during these naturally productive periods, when you are able to focus and think most clearly. What to do in your naturally unproductive times? I say take a guilt-free nap.
3. **Don't trust your memory:** Use a practice notebook. Plan out your practice, and keep track of your practice goals and what you discover during your practice sessions. The Key to getting into 'the flow' when practicing is to constantly strive for clarity of intention. Have a crystal clear idea of what you want (e.g. the movement you want to perfect, or specific articulation, intonation, etc. that you'd like to be able to execute consistently in the tricks 'patter'), and be relentless in your search for ever better solutions.

When you stumble onto a new insight or discover a solution to a problem, write it down! As you practice more mindfully, you'll begin making so many micro-discoveries that you will need written reminders to remember them all.

4. **Smarter, not harder:** When things aren't working, sometimes we simply have to practice more. And then there are times when it means we have to go in a different direction.

Dominic Reyes told me about the time he started learning the 'bottle through table trick'. For some reason, he just wasn't getting the right misdirection at the critical moment of the trick and couldn't find a way to build it in to the style of the trick that preceded it. He kept getting busted. It would have been very easy for him to simply abandon the trick and add something else to his act at that point. He kept at it, but didn't seem to be making progress and started to dread performing it.

Instead of stubbornly persisting with a strategy that clearly wasn't working, he forced myself to stop. He brainstormed solutions to the problem for a day or two, and wrote down ideas as they occurred to him. When he had a list of some promising solutions, he started experimenting.

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He eventually came up with a solution that worked, and it's now one of the tricks he enjoys performing the most.

5. **Stay on target with a problem-solving model:** It's extraordinarily easy to drift into mindless practice mode. Keep yourself on task using the 6-step problem solving model below.

- Define the problem. (What result did I just get? What do I want this move to look like instead?)
- Analyze the problem. (What is causing it to sound like this?)
- Identify potential solutions. (What can I tweak to make it look more like I want?)
- Test the potential solutions and select the most effective one. (What tweaks seem to work best?)
- Implement the best solution. (Reinforce these tweaks to make the changes permanent.)
- Monitor implementation. (Do these changes continue to produce the results I'm looking for?)
- Make Your Time Count

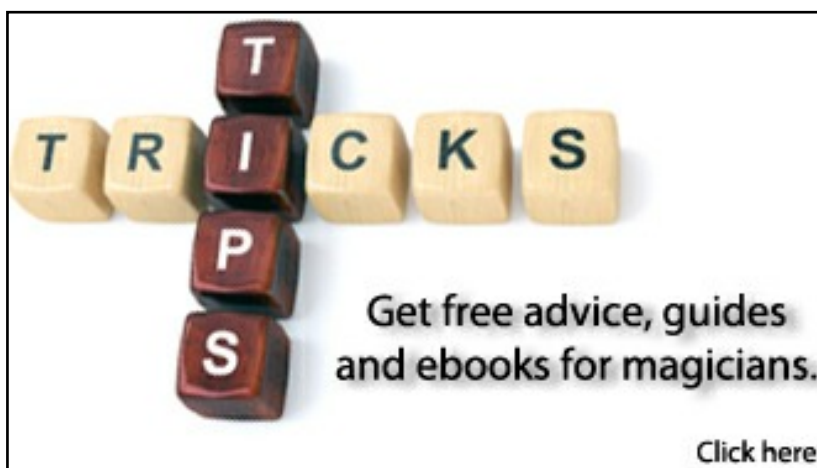
It doesn't matter if we are talking about perfecting card technique, improving your coin work, becoming a better mentalist, improving your marketing skills, or becoming a more effective pick-pocket.

Life is short. Time is our most valuable commodity. If you're going to practice, you might as well do it right.

This part-article is an edited version of an original article by Noa Kageyama, Ph.D. It has been reproduced and edited in parts to relate to the subject of magic practice, with the permission of the author.

To read the full article 'A Better Way to Practice' [CLICK HERE](#).

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I wonder if you, like me, have found one solution to the cold and bitter weather. Although there may be jobs to be done around the house, there is probably not much to do in the garden - and who would want to!

I have found myself putting in a lot of extra time with my magic - planning, looking at presentation details and changing patter. Of course, that elusive sleight can also be worked on by those of you who are single-minded enough to finally get down to it! There is not a better time than now!

Senior magician Roy Walker of the original Derby Society of Magicians and long time friend has recently demonstrated a superb and intriguing double lift sequence which starts at the bottom of the pack! During our regular meetings we had bemoaned the tendency of some magicians to still use the double lift as a means to directly change a playing card. Times have changed and lay audiences are no longer deceived by this strategem. Don't do it! As previously mentioned in earlier "Sorcerers" there are modern and better methods available.

If you use the faro shuffle and in particular, the "in-the-hands" faro shuffle, it is probable that any difficulty you may experience will be with the weaving of the first few or last few cards. Most faro shufflers use a variation of the shuffle as explained in Ed. Marlo's publication "The Faro Shuffle". Marlo's partial solution to the problem was to use what he called "the fourth finger table". This means bending the little finger of the left hand to form a kind of platform for the cards held in the left hand which is palm up. This is a good solution but not always totally effective. Another solution I have come up with is to apply pressure with the left forefinger and bevel the left hand packet very slightly to the right - starting with the top of that packet.

This method is only suitable for those who "faro" from the bottom up. My own preference for the table faro, where both hands arch over the pack as in a riffle shuffle, is because it eliminates this problem. In this case both packets to be "faroed" are under a controlling tension.

I would be pleased to demonstrate any of the techniques discussed above for anyone interested. I am also happy to put into print any solutions which I may have regarding any sleight of hand with cards. I am sure Paul would be more than pleased to have you write - in to the Sorcerer, and indeed, Paul is looking and hoping you may contribute a comment or a query regarding anything that appears in the Sorcerer. Personally, I would be interested to know if you like or dislike this column!!! Let me know what you would like!

Opti-mystically.....Jack
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