



The Sorcerer

Magazine of the Derby Magic Circle

Issue 38

May 2019

Editorial

Quite a few bits and bobs this month. Enjoy!

Letters

A message from Doug Gregg -

Good Morning Mike,

Can you include the following in your next Sorcerer?

A polite reminder to all members, annual subscriptions were due on or after the AGM and the Rules state membership ceases if not paid by the end of May

Many thanks,

Doug Gregg Treasurer.

Also, just a quick note to tell you "The Spot" has closed so, unfortunately, we will no longer be able to use this venue for our magic evenings.

However, we have managed to obtain a very nice venue, where we hold our Executive meetings, this being

"The Victory Club", 85 Chellaston Road, Allenton, Derby DE24 9AF.

Doug.

Welcome to new members:-

Stephen Brown,

David Pykett,

David Charles,

Jo Dimagico,

Michael Richardson,

Stephen Rumley,

Matthew Atkins,

Past President Simon Goodfellow sent me a text recently, which he wishes to share with all the members. He writes:-

Good afternoon Guys. (I think he includes the ladies as well. Ed.). The 'Battle of the B*st*rds', or as I prefer it to be called 'The War of the Wands' will be over at Stoke...Mercian Lyrics... (I think he means Mystics. Ed.) in July. This is a fun comedy magical (not) night! It's a comp between both societies with who can do the most tricks in 5 mins...no patter...run on, do your trick, run off, next magician on. A relay of magic! It's just a good goggle (giggle. Ed) like we used to do at Notts Guild. I have the original wand that is the prize...well worth winning lol.

The date is 2nd July.

Names to Simon please, and could you also indicate whether you can assist with lifts.

Don't you just love predictive text? Incidentally lol means 'laugh out loud' (unless it's 'lots of love'). Possibly. (Ed.)

What's On:

- Wednesday 8th May – Bernard Rasmussen memorial lecture at the Victory Club, Allenton. Steve Short gives 'the Jonny Hart lecture'.
- Wednesday 22nd May – Looch
- Tuesday 2nd July – War of the Wands (see above).

Professor Mysto writes: -

Hello everyone. Mysto here. It's been a while, so I thought I'd treat you to another 'Top Tip'.

Now it may appear that a magician dressing like a tramp impresses the 'young dudes', but I'm telling you that walking out to perform with a crumpled T-shirt, holes in the knees of your jeans (jeans! for God's sake!), and six inches of underpant hanging out of the back, is not trendy, funny, big or clever. So stop it.

Incidentally, whilst I know all about 'Cardini', 'card sharps', 'card mechanics' and 'cardistry', what the hell is a Cardashian?

If you would like any questions answered then drop me a line and I'll do my best to sort you out.

Notes from president 43

It was with great pleasure and pride in being a member of Derby Magic Circle that I accepted the 43rd presidency of Derby Magic Circle (of reformed society) on 27th March 2019. This is my second stint as president and I shall try to use my previous experience to help me this year.

My brother (less good looking than me) Ebenezer Grundy put a bit of a damper on proceedings by raising the subscription rates but he always was more interested in fiscal prudence (tight) than anything else. His idea of a perfect trick would be a bank note production.

I was also pleased to see 11 new members sworn in with a lady to ease the burden Jean has had all these years of being the sole representative of her gender at the circle meetings.

I was also pleased to see the junior section from Burton officially affiliated to the circle. I was having a bit of a discussion with some of our members with regards to the propensity of younger members (younger than who?) to gravitate towards card tricks. Now before I go down this road and end up to Derby Magic Circle presidency what Donald trump is to the American one may I make some provisos.

I wish I was better at card tricks, there is a great deal of skill involved, cards pack into a small space and can be taken anywhere, DMC has some of the best card magicians in the business and whatever argument I put up and however skilfully, some members will hate me but let's explore what else junior members could be taught to do.

I am told that ropes and coins do not generally appeal to this age group but nobody knows why.

Mentalism is considered reasonably trendy because street magicians that can be seen on TV and U-Tube practice it in different forms but it is quite difficult for a beginner.

Now I also know it will not be me that has the good ideas that solves this issue but I would like to put it out there for suggestions for what type of magic that does not involve wild animals and a budget the size of David Copperfield's show that could be taught to beginners (and me) in addition to card magic to give some variety.

If you are of the opinion that I should stick to polishing the president's chain of office and stop stirring up hornet's nests, please do not hesitate but to keep it to yourself because my brother Ebenezer having strong family ties may take the view that you should be made to pay for upsetting his brother Steve at the AGM next year!

Seriously though have a think about some routines for less experienced members that would give their magic some breadth as well as depth.

Steve Grundy

The Ben Williams lecture

After the usual parish notices and prize-giving ceremony, new president Steve Grundy introduced magician Ben Williams. Now, if you were expecting a 'magic show' you would have been disappointed, because, by half-time, Ben had done a total of two tricks. However, what Ben did give us was an insight into some of his thoughts and rationales regarding the presentation and delivery of his act.

O.K. so there was nothing 'earth shattering' about his magic – all pretty straightforward stuff, but his ideas on, for example, loading cards, pool balls, bananas etc into a shoe was worth re-visiting. As was the Mercury fold, which I'd completely forgotten about. There was a routine with packets of sugar which was discussed in detail, and at length, and Ben has promised to send me some further instructions and notes for circulation to you all in a later edition of the Sorcerer. I bet you can't wait.

The second half opened with 'Linko', a trick with polo mint packets and followed with a stretching credit card routine. After a mentalist routine (which my notes state 'presentation lacked impact') he discussed the cross-cut force and demonstrated a gimmicked envelope routine. By this time, it was 10.15 and he asked the immortal words 'shall I go on?'. Undaunted, he finished the evening with a gimmicked cola bottle trick and a linking card trick, which involved switching a pre-gaffed card.

Ben was asked about his attire when performing and stressed the need to be neatly turned out and have good personal hygiene. He said that when he put his suit on, he felt he was 'putting his armour on' and getting 'in the zone' to perform. Professor Mysto would approve (see above). It is perhaps a shame that he failed to put his armour on for us. (Why was he wearing his mum's long cardie?).

Competition Time

I sent last month's Sorcerer out at 09.55 on the 28th March.

Twelve minutes later I received this from Tim...

Trying for 2/2

Card 1 is red

Card 2 is black

Card 3 is the Joker

Fingers crossed!!

Tim

Yup! Smashed it again! Well done Tim! Another huge prize getting lost in the post.

Here's the question again, this time with the explanation.

Find the Joker- another "logical" three card monte: Three cards are face down on the table; one is red, one is black, and one is the joker. Again, a sentence is written on the back of each card. The red card has a true sentence, the black card has a false sentence, and the sentence on the joker could be either true or false. Here are the cards:

Card 1 'Card 3 is the joker'

Card 2 'Card 1 is black'

Card 3 'This card is the joker'

Which card is the Joker? Also, which card is red and which is black?

Answer

Card 3 is obviously not the red one, since the sentence on the red card is true. If Card 2 is the red one, then Card 1 will be black (as Card 2 says), hence Card 3 would be the joker, hence Card 1 would have a true sentence, which a black card cannot have. Therefore, Card 2 cannot be red. This leaves Card 1 as the red one, and hence Card 3 is the joker. And so Card 1 is red, Card 2 is black and Card 3 is the joker.

At 11.20 Alan Mogg sent in another correct answer-

Dear Mike,

I believe card 3 to be the joker and card 1 is RED whilst card 2 is BLACK.

Safe motorbiking, Kind regards,
Alan.

A few days later Melvyn joined in -

Hi Mike the answer for this month's quiz, albeit a little late is :-

Card 1 is red

Card 2 is Black

Card 3 is the joker

ALSO, I would like to say that I was correct in the last quiz by stating that all the cards were black.

Let me explain:-

Card 1 and Card 3 are both black i.e. False statements as stated in the answer.

That leaves card 2 which states that This card is the ace. This statement is also false which must mean that it is black.

Therefore, all the cards are black.

Unless I am missing something!

Regards

Melvyn

Ooh! I have to agree with you there Melvyn. Humble apologies, and a fortune telling fish as a consolation prize. (Ed.)

Now try this one-

The name of the game is Petals Around the Rose. Every answer is zero or an even number.

The person rolls five dice and remarks almost instantly on the answer. For example: in Roll #1 the answer is two.



"The answer is eight."



The answer is fourteen.



The answer is zero.

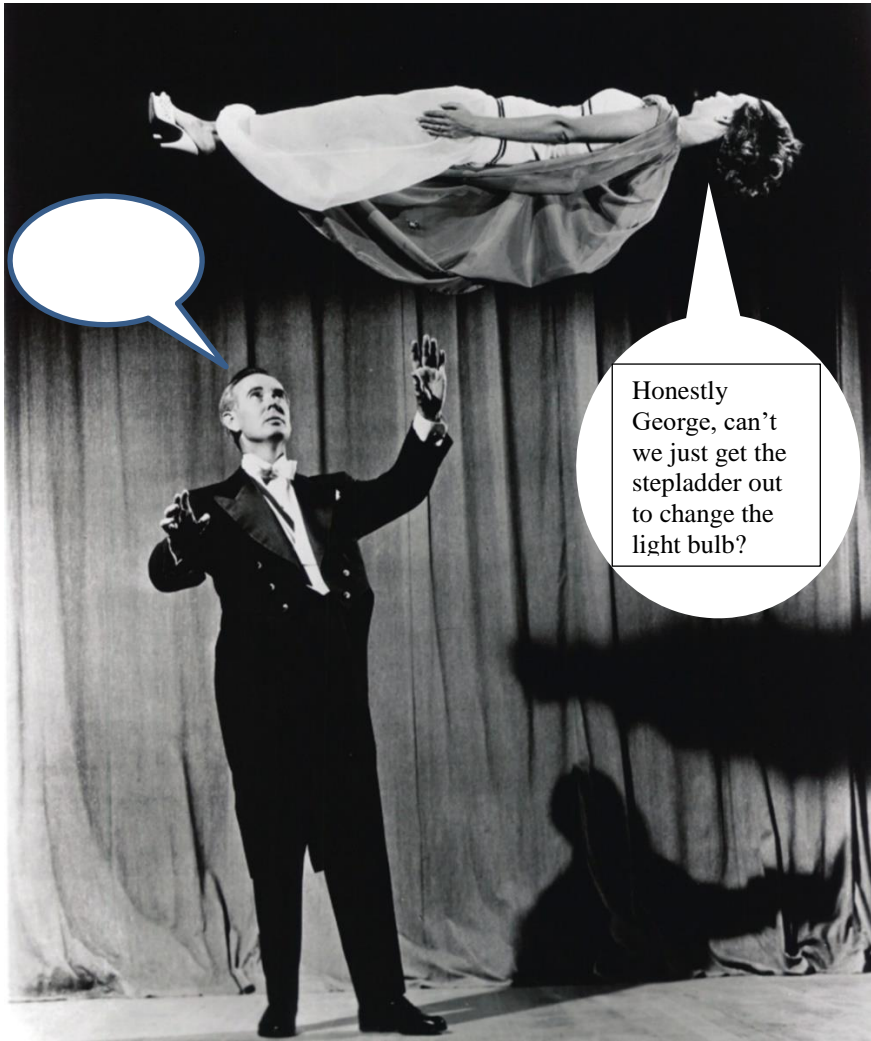


What is the answer?

I do not require an explanation, just the number. This means that those of you who do not have a clue can still have a guess.

A fortune telling fish for the first correct answer.

Caption Competition



Honestly
George, can't
we just get the
stepladder out
to change the
light bulb?

What do you think they are saying?

A huge prize (possibly) for the funniest/wittiest answer.

(terms and conditions apply)

Disclaimer: The Editor refutes any liability for the content of this magazine, as I was made to do it by the committee. If anyone would like to submit an article then I wouldn't have to make up this rubbish to justify circulating this esteemed organ every month, (although by all accounts it seems to be quite popular). Prizes won in official Sorcerer competitions will probably be (a) lost in the post, and (b) not worth winning anyway. No cash alternatives are available. In the event of a tie Terry will be deemed the winner. Vulgar and/or smutty comments will not be published but are welcome, especially in Caption competitions.

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(Attach letters, articles etc. to the above e-mail address in Word format if possible.)