



SORCERER

Patron edition



SEPTEMBER 2018 EDITION.

Hello Patron Members,

Looks as though we are all back to normality with autumnal weather upon us after that wonderful period during the summer.

Since our last chat the Circle has had a full programme of events including our Close-Up Competition and attending the International Brotherhood of Magicians annual convention in Southport.

Ray Lewis,

We start with very sad news, I mentioned previously the severe illness of Ray.

Unfortunately, Ray passed away 29th August. Ray had a fall, breaking several ribs and this appears to have been the final straw against his battle against cancer. The funeral was held at Bramcote Crematorium on Friday 21st September supported by many friends and magicians who new Ray. Rest in peace pal.

CLOSE-UP COMPETITION.

The 21st August saw the audience gathered at Breadsall to see the Circles annual Close-Up Competition.

This year seven members entered to match their skills. These being Ben Fowler, Paul Sharp, Eddie Young, David Makin, Paul Brown, Liam Jack Jones, Stephen Marcraw. As could be expected the standard was extremely and the judges had a very difficult job. However, after deliberations the judges awarded Eddie Young as the eventual winner, followed closely by Liam Jack Jones. Our congratulations go out to both of them.

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MEMBERSHIP.

The Circle membership is going from strength to strength with six new members joining our ranks since the beginning of August. This increase appears to still be buoyant as, I am told, **there are at least two or three considering joining. This increase brings the total membership** up to almost forty members.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the Patron Membership. Since my last attempt to highlight our reducing membership, only one new member has joined our ranks, namely Mrs Mogg, the wife of one of our new members Alan Mogg.

I can only reiterate the urgent need to increase our membership. The profile of Magic has never been so high and there must be many people interested in viewing its performance first hand and live and for less than 30p a week, it must be good value for money.

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIAN'S 82ND ANNUAL CONVENTION SOUTHPORT.

On the 6th to 9th September 2018 over 300 magicians attended the above Convention. Amongst its delegates were several members and wives from DMC. These being Clive and Jean, Doug and Yvette and Tony and Anne.

The event was packed full of demonstrations and lectures with a wonderful spread of stage shows with artists from many different countries.

After a miss from several previous years conventions this year heralded a Close-Up Competition. Again, as expected for such a prestigious competition, the standard was extremely high with entrants from all over the UK. A full range of magic was demonstrated highlighting the diversity of this particular brand of magic.

The winner of first prize, Zina Bennett Trophy plus £500 went to Elliot Bibby from Edinburgh, who also won The "Rovi" Trophy for card skill.

Another competition of note was the British Shield Stage Competition with seven wonderful stage shows being entered.

The winner and the British Ring Trophy, was a wonderful show by Megan Knowles Bacon from London who, as a Ballerina danced around the stage performing a range of effects to the background music of Swan Lake, just lovely.

Fraser Stokes from Staiton, Ayrshire, was awarded the second prize of the Theo Speaker Cup Who presented a unique act based upon a sad clown working in a street after a rain storm. A very unusual show.

The third position went to a well known magician who had performed this act many times before. The Alastair Wand was awarded to Neil Roberts whose show was based, again, on a street scene and showing a workman working various magic effects taken from his tool bag.

The whole Convention was well received by all the delegates, acknowledging the high standard and range of magic in all the events and all were looking forward to next years convention in Eastbourne.

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