

LAST MEETING – 7th OCTOBER – STEVE DELA LECTURE



Our October meeting was the keenly anticipated lecture from Steve Dela. Steve is a really nice guy who is always ready to share his help and advice with magic colleagues, and the evening was packed full of great ideas and brilliant performance tips for those that enjoy performing close up magic for an audience.

The evening was split into two halves. The first session included some of Steve's favourite effects from a variety of creators – a set of everyday magic that he performs impromptu when asked in pubs or at social gatherings; and the second half consisted of Steve's main working repertoire. He was keen to point out that he performs the same routines in his professional work wherever he goes. He's been doing the same act for a number of years and it has seen him through college and earned him a living for a long time. Steve also mentioned that he'd be more than happy if anyone simply wanted to copy his routine in its entirety!

So on to the magic and Steve opened by presenting a couple of mentalism effects using the DMC Elite marked deck. One was Dai Vernon's Emotional Reaction which involves the clever use of a key card principle to locate a spectator's card that has been impossibly lost in the deck by the spectator.

Next came Steve's creation 'Will to Read' which is available in both full and light versions. This effect is probably what Steve is best known for at present and is a lovely mentalism routine involving the apparent free choice of several items which are then revealed to be in exactly the places predicted. If anyone would like more details, the 'Will to Read' effect is included as one of the items in our regular look at different magic tricks at the end of this newsletter.

Steve went on to present an 'oil and water' effect (appropriately called 'Oily Water') with cards, but used noughts and crosses drawn on blank card stock to make it less of a card trick – a really nice use of some creative thinking. The first half ended with Steve's centre tear routine 'Central Business'. He'd had some special cards printed for this effect (after all, why would you want to tear up your own business card?!) and mentioned that if anyone would like to obtain some, his good friend Steve Hairsign (who printed them for Steve) would be happy to run some off. You can get hold of Steve H via his website: <http://hairsignpress.com/contact/>

After a break came Steve's full working repertoire that he's used for many years and which is therefore honed to perfection. Lots of tips were included about how to let your audience know that you're a professional making a living from magic so that they don't underestimate you! Effects included Extreme Burn (the magical change of blank paper into banknotes); an Invisible Deck routine; Ambitious Card; Card to Wallet (twice and to different wallets); and Ring Flight.

Steve's was a brilliant lecture and a lot of members commented on how useful they'd found it. He couldn't have been more helpful or keen to share, and he also commented on how much he'd enjoyed being at our club.

If you want to see it all again, Steve's 'At the Table' lecture is available as a download from Alakazam:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/product-at-the-table-live-lecture-steve-dela-october-4th-2017-video-download-dvllstevedela.html>



Also, at the start of the meeting, Adrian led a 30 minute 'basic coin techniques' mentoring session which was attended by a good number of members. It included tips on classic palm, various coin vanishes, lapping techniques, a look at some coin gaffs and gimmicks, and an explanation of David Roth's coins across routine. These new sessions seem to be doing well and we're keen to continue with them, so if you have any thoughts about what you'd like to see covered, just let Adrian or any of the committee know.

NEXT MEETING – 4th NOVEMBER – ANNUAL PROPS AUCTION

Our November meeting is the club's annual auction of props and books etc. If you have any magical apparatus or DVDs etc that you no longer need or that just don't fit your performing style, this is your opportunity to pass them on to someone else that might be able to make better use of them. At the same time, for people looking for a bargain, this is the night when you might just find one. So do come along with plenty of pocket money – you never know what's going to crop up in the auction and sometimes rare or expensive props go for silly money!



If you have items to sell, the rules are simple:

- 1) Please make a list of the (up to 10 – see below) items you have for sale with your name clearly marked at the top of the list. If you'd like to place a lowest reserve price on anything please mark it against the item(s) concerned clearly so that our auctioneers can see it easily.

PLEASE NOTE: in previous years we haven't been able to include all of the items in the sale during the time available, so this year we're trying a 'maximum of ten items per seller' rule, to see if this will be fairer for everyone.

- 2) Please email your list to Adrian and Tracy in advance of the meeting so that we can be prepared for the onslaught! It's always a busy night so anything we can do to get ahead of the game is really appreciated. As mentioned earlier, **there's only so many items we can get through on the night, so if you haven't emailed your list in advance we may not be able to include your items in the sale.**
- 3) When you get to the meeting, please hand your list to Adrian and Tracy who will be coordinating things for us, and place the items on one of the tables set up for the purpose. Adrian will guide you to the correct spot. If you are selling, please try to arrive early so that there's not a mad rush to get everything ready in time for the sale to start at 8.00.
- 4) Our auctioneers will do their best to get a good price for your items, but may ask you to provide a little more information during the sale if necessary.
- 5) At the end of the evening, Tracy will collect all the money from the buyers and distribute it to the sellers. Please remember that on this occasion the club will not be taking any commission for sales.

And if you're buying, just come along to spot the bargains. Items will be handed to you as soon as you've won them, but please remember that your name will be noted and you must pay for anything you've bought at the end of the evening **before you leave. Please note that only members of the club will be allowed to bid for items this year.**

And that's about it! The auction is always great fun and there are always bargains to be had, so come along ready to sell or bid!

NEXT MENTORING SESSION – SPONGE BALL BASICS



Following the success of the coin basics mentoring session at our last meeting, another request we received was to take a look at sponge ball magic. So I'm pleased to say that Don Simpson has agreed to present a 30 minute session on basic moves and routines with sponge balls at our next meeting. If, like me, you've never tried magic with sponge balls, this will

be a very welcome introduction to the subject and I'm sure that Don will have us all at it during the session! Please bring some sponge balls with you if you have any.

Please note that as we have the auction running as well, the mentoring session will need to start at 7.00 sharp, so please be there on time if you'd like to take part.

CLUB SHOWS

If you'd like to perform at any of our future shows, either with close-up magic or as a stage act, then please contact Richard Graham on 01268 783202. Rick will also provide details of venue addresses, times and directions as required.

Our shows are not just one of the ways in which we keep the club running successfully from a financial perspective; they also offer our members a unique opportunity to perform for non-magical audiences, and to practice their routines while improving their skills.



If you've never been involved in one of our shows before, please think about offering some help – there's nothing to lose and everything to gain from practicing with 'real' people.

FUTURE 2018 SHOWS

23 rd November	Ekco Club – now confirmed – full show required
15 th December	Canvey Island WI show
2019	All Saints School, Maldon – date TBC

As you'll see we could do with a few more bookings, so if anyone has any ideas for people or charities we could approach, please let Rick know and we'll drop them a line.

2018 ANNUAL PRESENTATION DINNER, 27th OCTOBER



Our 2018 annual awards dinner was held on Saturday 27th October at Thorpe Hall Golf Club, Thorpe Bay.

With a superb menu served up by the venue and some great company, it was a fabulous evening and I hope that everyone who attended really enjoyed the occasion. It was lovely to see some of our members and their guests at the dinner, especially Lance, who chose to celebrate his birthday by bringing his family along; and Rick who was also celebrating a notable birthday!

The cabaret this year was provided by Alexander Wells, a talented and entertaining performer who kept us enthralled with a number of classic magic routines including, amongst other things, multiplying bottles, linking rings, and a street version of the cups and balls.



We also formally presented the trophies to our competition winners at the dinner, and congratulations go to all our successful members this year:

Senior Stage Competition: Richard Graham **Junior Stage Competition: No Contest**
Senior Close-Up Competition: Oliver Ward **Junior Close-Up Competition: Alfie Hawes**
Clubman of the Year: Don Simpson **Best Non-Magical Supporter: Carol Simpson**
Most Promising Newcomer: Finlay Southgate

Some of these were actually announced on the evening so it was a nice surprise for some people! For those trophy winners not able to be at the dinner, the cups will be presented to you at the next and earliest opportunity.

We also had a raffle with loads of great prizes, and thanks go to all who bought tickets on the night, and to Gill and Angela who took on the task of selling them.

Of course, the dinner can't happen without a lot of behind the scenes work, and **huge** thanks go to Tracy Wise for arranging everything again this year – liaising with the venue, collecting menu choices and money, buying raffle prizes and so on; it's a big task. Thanks also go to Richard Graham for providing the PA system and stage backdrop; and also to Audrey Heddon for the lovely table decorations.

The annual dinner was a great night out and if you couldn't make it this year, we hope to see you at next year's occasion. At £30, it's really great value for money!

MEMBERS' NEWS

Andy Smith

Andy has recently undergone surgery for a heart condition and is thankfully recovering well. Andy looks after all our stage equipment and supports the club by acting as stage manager at most of our club shows. All the very best from everyone at the club Andy and we hope to see you up and about at full strength again soon.

NEXT YEAR'S PROGRAMME



You'll hopefully have noticed that we're officially announcing our 2019 programme with this newsletter, and you'll see that we have some brilliant lectures lined up for you again next year. Check the front page for all the details - but highlights include lectures from Dave Loosley, Jamie Daws, our own Oliver Tabor, and as an extra special treat, an additional meeting in August featuring the amazing Joshua Jay all the way from the

USA. These will be nights not to be missed! Hope to see you at all of them!

MAGIC SHOWS & LECTURES ETC

At Home with The Magic Circle

An evening of mystery and wonder featuring some of the club's top magicians. You'll learn about the history of magic and The Magic Circle itself and get to witness amazing close-up conjuring during the Parlour Magic Shows, and a magical stage show as part of this highly entertaining evening. Doors open at 7pm and the event finishes at around 10pm. You'll be able to enjoy a drink in the Club Room bar and browse the treasures of The Magic Circle Museum before the magic begins at 7.30pm.



Tuesdays 6th, 13th and 20th November.

Note: suitable for ages 14 and above. Under-14s will not be admitted.

Tickets are £50 for premium seats, £36.00 for individuals or £30 for groups of 20 or more.

Tickets are available from www.themagiccircle.co.uk/public-events.

The Magic Circle telephone: 0207 837 2222.

FINALLY, AS USUAL, SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

Mentalism

WILL TO READ by Steve Dela



Following our great lecture from Steve Dela, here as promised is a powerful piece of mentalism that fits neatly into your wallet.

Will To Read contains two powerful ‘mind reading’ effects. Combine them together and you can produce a full ‘hard hitting’ routine.

Three objects (Pen, Card & Coin) are placed on a table. Your spectator places one in their pocket, keeps hold of another and passes one to you. Even though every decision is super fair, you proceed to reveal, that, the exact location of each object has been previously predicted ahead of time within the ‘torn out page’ of a book.

If that wasn’t enough, you can then ask your spectator to simply think of ‘any’ word from either side of the page. Then, with NO questions asked, you can start to reveal it letter by letter. Once they confirm the 4th letter in a row, you proceed to tell them the entire word!

- The torn out page can be in full view the entire time.
- No switches necessary.
- Spectator can hold the prediction.
- Every choice is super fair.
- Always 100% correct.
- Fits neatly into your everyday wallet.
- BONUS... Includes ‘All About Eve’ (1 page book test)
- BONUS... BIP Book reveals also built in!

Will to Read comes complete with custom designed and printed gimmicks, and a full ‘in depth’ training DVD, complete with routines, handlings and variations by Steve Dela and Peter Nardi.

Will to Read is available at Alakazam priced at £24.99:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/product-Will-To-Read-By-Steve-Dela.html>

Gimmicks/Vanishes

SNAPPED by The Other Brothers

From the minds of Justin Flom and The Other Brothers, **SNAPPED** is a brand new utility device that allows for spectacular visual vanishes. With no sleights necessary, you will be able to vanish objects within seconds of learning this insanely original and new secret! Justin Flom performed **SNAPPED** on a commercial for Airheads Gum and everyone thought it was a camera trick.



Multiple vanishes with various everyday objects, the most visual trick you will do. Two handmade gimmicks are included and the effect is painfully easy to do, ready to perform out of the box. There are no flaps, no pulls, no magnets, no strings, and no clothing restrictions.

You can see Snapped at Alakazam where pre-orders are being taken for £22.85. The trailer looks amazing!

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/product-SNAPPED-Gimmicks-and-Online-Instructions-by-The-Other-Brothers-.html>

Mentalism

THE GALLERY by Marc Spelman



Marc Spelman is one of the most sought after Mentalists in the UK. A full time working professional that has read minds for a living for more years than he would care to mention. In 2018 Marc's Britain's Got Talent performance went viral with over 200 million views across all social media platforms!

The Gallery is a utility deck Marc created over 9 years ago and he has used it to slay audiences worldwide. The

Gallery is the perfect tool for any magician or mind reader, allowing you to create interesting presentations and plots. The Gallery comes with a streaming video which includes Marc's prized routines and also cherished ideas by some of Marc's peers who have been lucky enough to work with the Gallery deck the past few years. Instead of traditional playing cards, the Gallery deck consists of photographs – all different- so that you can do traditional card tricks without them looking like card tricks! Photographs allow the spectator to form a more emotional connection with their selection so it makes mentalism effects really strong.

Each Gallery comes complete with a complete custom designed Gallery deck with multiple hidden features; a custom designed Tuck Case; and full instructional streaming videos.

With two Gallery decks you can open up even more routine possibilities!

Each deck costs £29.99, but you can buy a second deck with your original purchase for £20. See it here: <https://www.alakazam.co.uk/product-The-Gallery-By-Marc-Spelmann.html>

Rope Magic

LINKING ROPES by Marko

This is the same magic as the Chinese linking rings, just as fascinating, but much lighter! **Linking Ropes** includes the ropes and the online instructions to perform an incredible rope routine.

Just imagine the classic Chinese linking rings, but with ropes!!! Tie three pieces of rope at their ends, and each one of them magically turns into a ring. Now they magically interlock with each other, again and again. Looks amazing!



Very easy to perform. It includes the routine in a video that you can see directly from the Internet.

Everything is explained by Marko, with his advice and ideas. It's great to see a classic of magic back in the shops. You can take a look at this one at Saturn Magic where it will cost you £22.73. <https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/linking-ropes--ropes-and-online-instructions--by-marko--trick.html>

That's about it for this month everyone – send any articles for next month's newsletter to Adrian for publishing.