



# Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community  
April 2014 Volume 9, Issue 8

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## April's meeting

We didn't have to get extra chairs this month (like we did last month with *Friends & Family Night*). The date change due to March break kept the masses away. Only 3 people showed for Dollar Store Night – but that's didn't prevent a lot of "cheap magic" from being shown.

**Mark Hogan** started with an old dice routine shown to him years ago by our old friend **Al Munro**. He then performed **Docc Hilford's** "*The Devil's Dice*" – where Mark had to predict the total rolled or the devil gets his soul! He also did **Mark Strivings's** "*Confabulation Vacation*" using a couple of passport covers from the dollar store converted to a Himber wallet. Finally, there was **Kenton Knepper's** "*Sock it Away*" where a prediction on a shoe size was found inside a rolled-up sock!

**Jon Akrey** killed us with his "pencil thru tongue" using a dollar store gimmick. He also had some other effects to show us – a nice orange slice production, a Photography Deck routines using his own printed business cards, an effect using a Ninja fan where butterflies magically appeared and flew, and finished with his "*From the Ashes*" effect where a prediction of a selected card was burned, rose into the air, floated down to his hands and was rubbed on his arm – where the prediction was revealed!

### **Next Meeting:**

**Wednesday, April 30 (NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATE!)**

**Time: 7:00 PM in Kitchener**

**Topic: LECTURE by MICKEAL CHATELAIN!**  
**(Joint lecture with Kitchener & Hamilton)**

**Meet in the parking lot at Beal Secondary School**  
**(525 Dundas Street, London) at 5:30 PM.**

**SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS!**

**Mike Fisher** brought a number of dollar store items (still in the dollar store bag!). He did a nice BankNite routine using dollar store envelopes where the spectator won (not lost!). He then brought out some coloured boxes and the spectator's choice of box contained a number of pieces of gum. A final selection of gum matched Mike's prediction of the gum flavour! He ended with the Treasure Chest of Doom using some neat small treasure chests and a lunch bag from which the spectator selected the only chest with a candy prize!

All really good magic – all done with nothing but items from the dollar store! It's good to know that a lot of entertainment can be done without a lot of dough being spent!

Mark Hogan

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## April's Meeting

**DATE: Wednesday, April 30 (NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATE!)**  
**TIME: Lecture at 7:00 PM in Kitchener – we will leave at 5:30 PM**  
**PLACE: Beal Secondary School parking lot**

**TOPIC: LECTURE by MICKAEL CHATELAIN!**  
**(Joint lecture with Kitchener and Hamilton clubs)**  
**FREE for club members - \$10 for guests!**

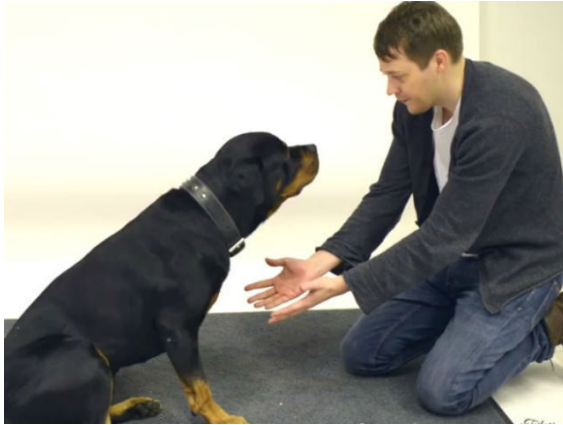
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This month we are trying our *first ever joint lecture* with our friends in the Kitchener and Hamilton magic clubs – we'd love to have as many people from the London club to come out! We have been able to get **Mickeal Chatelain** from France to lecture for us.

Fresh from his appearance at the prestigious **FFFF convention**, Mickeal is known for a large number of original effects: *Métamorphose, In Air, Bill Flash Card, Matrix, Numberground, Window, Rewind, Speed, Painting Card, ....* 23 originals magic tricks in just 10 years ! His latest creation is *INK* – a collaboration with **Paul Harris**. He has also collaborated with **David Stone** and also with **Bernard Bills** on the TV show "*Le Plus Grand Cabaret Du Monde*" watched by 150 million people. He has lectured in Turkey, Denmark, Switzerland and Sweden.

We will meet in the Beal parking lot and car pool to Kitchener at 5:30 PM. (Anyone carpooling will receive gas money from the club.) For anyone driving themselves, the lecture is in *St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 54 Queens St. North (on the corner of Queen and Weber) in downtown Kitchener*. The lecture starts at **7:00 PM**.

## News Of Interest



### Do dogs react to magic? Magician puts canines to the test

(ABC15.com)

Do dogs react to magic? One magician from Finland decided to find out.

**Jose Ahonen** took it upon himself to perform some magic tricks for dogs in a video he posted to YouTube. Since it was

posted a few days ago, the video has already been viewed more than 7 million times.

Ahonen made dog treats seemingly vanish from right under the dogs' snouts. The dogs' reactions were priceless.

Don't worry, all of the dogs got treats before and after the trick!

Check out the video below:

<http://bit.ly/1f111wA>

#### **We Want Your Reviews and Tricks!**

Please send any original reviews, magic tricks or routines to:

[magic\\_london@yahoo.ca](mailto:magic_london@yahoo.ca)



Photo: Lifetime Channel

### Interview with Andrew Mayne

(news.asiaone.com)

American magician **Andrew Mayne's** interest in magic was ignited as a little boy when his grandfather showed him a trick that involved making a coin disappear.

"He was able to spin it on a table, snap his fingers and make the coin vanish. It would then re-appear, sometimes in my shoes, or I would look up my shirt and it would fall out of my belly button," the 41-year-old bachelor says. "I was just amazed by that and I wanted to know how to do that."

As a teenager, he worked behind the scenes for a **David Copperfield** TV special. After high school, the Alabama-born magician started working on a cruise-ship, performing an illusion show. He later headlined shows in resorts and casinos around the world.

Some other big-name magicians he has worked with behind the scenes are **David Blaine** and **Penn & Teller**. He has also written mystery and thriller books. One of his books, *Angel Killer*, which involves a female FBI agent with a background in magic, was the sixth best-selling Kindle Direct Publishing book in the United Kingdom in 2012.

Writing books and performing magic may seem unrelated, but Mayne says that they are both about storytelling.

"As a magician, I want to tell you a story. I want to create some sort of conflict and resolve it. If I borrow a bill from you and tear it up, I create a problem and then solve it," he says. "In a story, I have a character whom you relate to, who goes through certain conflicts and then has to resolve them."

Creating conflict is also something he does on his show, *Don't Trust Andrew Mayne*, premiering April 1 on *Lifetime Channel* (StarHub TV Channel 514). He pulls pranks on unsuspecting people on the streets, such as putting their identity cards into a fire extinguisher box through the glass. The people then have to smash through the glass to retrieve their cards.

He also doles out revenge for people, for example, a woman whose husband bought a motorcycle even after he promised never to ride bikes again after they got married. She seeks Mayne's help to teach her husband a lesson for not keeping his promise.

The magician proceeds to put the bike in a helium- inflated ball, levitate the ball in front of her husband's eyes, before shooting an arrow at it. When the ball pops, the bike disappears.

**1 Are the people on the show clued in on the trick or are they strangers you approach?**

They don't know that I'm a magician. We go out on the streets to find people. Sometimes, we take out advertisements online, asking people to participate in surveys.

I try any way I can to get somebody to participate and not have him know what I am up to and what we would do.

The important thing is that they do not know what is going to happen because then, it's not fun for me.

### **2 Does anyone get offended or mad at your tricks on the show?**

I like to tease people a bit but I don't want to be mean to anybody. I never want anybody to meet me and have a bad experience. So I watch for that and am very careful that I can tease them a little bit, but they are going to have fun.

The rule is, I want somebody to walk away and tell his friends about the awesome thing that happened and how fun it was. Like in any good prank, you go "They really had me" but you are glad you participated.

### **3 If you could make any of your tricks or illusions real, which one would it be?**

Being able to teleport would be great. You can then travel anywhere you want instantly and not have jetlag.

### **4 Were there any situations in your life where you wished you could disappear?**

Yes (laughs). I think usually at the end of any relationship. When the conversation gets awkward, I would like to vanish in the car or at the dinner table. That would be very helpful.

### **5 Some people do not like the smell of durians. Is there a magic trick that can make this fruit smell good?**

There's really fun stuff in magic in trying to play with other senses. There are magic tricks designed to work for blind people.

I used to do a trick related to smell, where I would pour shots of what you thought was vodka.

You smell them, they seem like vodka, and I would drink them and I would be fine. So I'd love to try to make durian smell good. It would be a good challenge.

**6 Do you think stage magic is passe and that people prefer street magic to stage magic?**

No, I think there's a place for magic on stage. It just has to evolve. I see new stuff all the time.

I think when people remember it's theatre, they can make it really good. Theatre can feel dated or it can feel very contemporary.

**7 Magicians are always pushing boundaries. Do you think these boundaries ever get pushed too far?**

It depends. Magic has a lot of different directions that you can take. Blaine has done a great job in pushing boundaries and he has gone into a place that I could never go.

I think it all depends on whether there's an audience who wants to see it and if the person wants to do it, then that's fine.

**8 How would you like to be remembered?**

I would like to be remembered as still being alive. I would like to live forever. I would like to be remembered as making somebody smile or happy, that would be great, making somebody's life just a measurable amount better because he had a good experience instead of a bad one when he met me.

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The Shell Game is a free newsletter sent to members of the London Magicians Guild and other people in the community interested in magic.

Opinions expressed do not reflect the views of the London Magicians Guild.

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