



# Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community  
December 2008

Volume 4, Issue 4

## November's meeting

It's was a road show down the 401 this month, as we accepted the offer of the Hamilton magic club (IBM Ring 49 – The Doug Henning Magic Wand Club) for a Ring Exchange – where our club members would perform for them, and in turn they would perform for us at a later date.

Little did we know we'd have competition – as Hamilton also invited members of the Hamilton/Burlington club, who performed admirably before us. But with the pressure on, we delivered the goods!

First was Ron Keller, who lead things off with a Three Cup Monte routine using a coin and three cups – and vanishing a cup full of water! Mark Hogan was next with a spectator finding their own card using a die, and telling the story of the Wizard's Competition using a ring and rope. Andy Parr followed with Healed & Sealed, his comedy torn & restored effect using a card frame and the Jumping Knot from Pakistan.

Mike Fisher took over with his fabulous ring and string close-up routine, followed by an effect using a box of coloured strings, and ending with his ring-on-sword effect. Peter Mennie closed the evening with his wonderful "nuts & bolts" close-up routine and a killer Back in Time card effect.

Next Meeting(s):

Wednesday, December 10 7:00 PM

Topic: IMPROMPTU MAGIC!!

Beal Secondary School  
255 Dundas Street, London  
T-253

The crowd was very enthusiastic and both clubs shone brightly with some great entertainment. Hamilton is planning to present for us in early 2009 – we can't wait!

Mark Hogan

---

## December's Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, December 10  
TIME: 7:00 PM  
PLACE: Beal Secondary School  
T-253

Topic: IMPROMPTU MAGIC!

---

Bring along any tricks you have that are impromptu (ie. No gaffs! no gimmicks!). When people ask you "So ... you're a magician – do something!!" and you left your Zig Zag Lady at home – what do you do?? That's what we want to see at this month's meeting!

## News Of Interest



### Hugh Jackman to play Houdini on Broadway

(from AdelaideNow.com.au)

HE'S the world's sexiest man and his next role will be as the world's greatest escape artist.

Hugh Jackman is set to make his return to Broadway playing Harry Houdini in a musical about the escapologist's life.

Jackman has already begun work on the show's magic routines, reports Fox News.

He is seeking advice from sleight-of-hand expert Ricky Jay, who appeared in Jackman's movie, *The Prestige*, about two feuding magicians, in 2006. The producers may also consult David Blaine and Cirque du Soleil.

Danny Elfman, once the leader of pop group Oingo Boingo and now often a composer of movie scores, is writing the music, while Kurt Andersen, a former magazine editor and radio host in New York, is said to be working on the script.

The show, set to hit the stage in 2010, would include Jackman replicating big Houdini tricks on stage.

Jackman is riding high at the moment after being named People magazine's sexiest man alive. He is currently on the publicity trail for the Baz Luhrmann epic Australia and will next be seen in X-Men Origins: Wolverine.

The movie is due next year and also stars Liev Schreiber, Ryan Reynolds and Dominic Monaghan.

## Magic mourns the passing of Christian Fechner

On November 26, 2008, it was reported that magic great **Christian Fechner** has passed away at the age of 64. Christian Fechner's career started as a magician, musician, and record producer before he embarked on creating successful films, including classic titles like *Camille Claudel*.

As a performer, Fechner won the invention prize at the 1979 FISM and has devised magic effects for **David Copperfield** and **Siegfried and Roy**, and many others. Fechner's past literary projects are among the most lavish magic books ever published.

His bibliography of French conjuring books is the most complete to date, and his two-volume *Soirees Fantastiques*. He also annotated an excellent edition of **Robert-Houdin's** Memoirs published in France with numerous beautiful color illustrations of many of the treasures in his collection.

For decades, Fechner had researched the world of Robert-Houdin, through the holdings of his own extensive collection and those of French historians; public and private archives, libraries, and museums throughout Europe; and the descendants of the magician, who for the first time in a century allowed a researcher access to precious documents including the original manuscripts for the Memoirs of Robert-Houdin and other works.

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)



cam2009.org  
cammontreal.org

## CAMaraderie 2009 starting to take shape

It's not too early to start talking about the Canadian magic event of this coming summer: CAMaraderie 2009 – this year for the first time in Montreal!

- The event will be held at the beautiful and eco-friendly ALT hotel
- The stage competition & gala show will be at the beautiful Etoile Theatre
- The program is coming together, with some incredible talent already booked, such as:
  - Eric DeCamps
  - David Acer
  - Nathan Kranzo
  - George Saterial
  - and many more ...

There will be much more information about CAMaraderie 2009 in the next few months. Stay tuned! For more information, visit the CAMaraderie 2009 web site:

<http://www.cam2009.org>

Shell Game  
Vol. 4, Issue 4  
December 2008

Concept by : Steve Seguin

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.

London Magicians Guild web site:  
[www.geocities.com/magic\\_london](http://www.geocities.com/magic_london)

London Magicians Guild e-mail:  
[magic\\_london@yahoo.ca](mailto:magic_london@yahoo.ca)