



Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community
February 2018

Volume 13, Issue 6

January's meeting

The cold winter seems to settling in "for a long winter's nap" but that's didn't stop some hardy souls from coming out to the January meeting – including two guests – welcome **Sergio Pereira** and **Heather Meadows!**

This month's theme was "*Christmas Treasures*", and **Mark Hogan** started by giving out some Christmas candies – not to eat – but for a trick – **Patrick Redford's** "Sunrise". The spectators switched candies and Mark was able to determine which spectator had a selected candy, but also what hand it was being held in. He also did another **Patrick Redford** effect "*Anagnorisis*" – where a spectator lost his strength and could not pull cards out of a card box.

Kyle Robinson was in fine form when he gave two cards to two different spectators and they both turned blank! Kyle also showed us one of his own creations – a selected card lost in the deck then placed in the card box turned into being the only card in the box!

Mike Fisher told us a new gig he landed later this year – giving a lecture at *Eldon House* on 19th century magicians & spiritualism! Not to be deterred, Mike did some research and presented some info on his first magician – **John Henry Anderson**, who **Houdini** called "*the greatest advertiser in the history of magic*" and was the first to pull a rabbit out a hat on stage! (This will not be the last 19th century magician we'll hear about!) Mike also showed off his new spirit bell – which seemed to ring by spirits – and made **Mark Hogan** look like an idiot!

Next Meeting:

Date: Wednesday, February 14

Time: 7:30 PM

Topic: COIN MAGIC!

**Beal Secondary School
525 Dundas Street, London
T-253**

Just because it was his first meeting didn't slow down **Sergio Pereira**, who showed us his version of "**Chicago Opener**", plus his own creation – a wallet made out solely of playing cards! And our other guest Heather Meadows did her best silk vanish effect!

Keith O'Brien showed us "*Acme Hole*" where he put his thumb through a hole in a playing card, then peeled off the hole showing the card restored! He also demonstrated his disappearing & appearing salt routine, and "CryptText", where random numbers entered into a calculator not only equalled his prediction, but when his prediction was turned upside down, it spelled the spectator's name! A highlight was his "*card thru bill*" effect which looked as real as could be imagined!

Mike Fisher was back with his awesome 3 shell game, ending with the pea under a shell covered by a glass! And he ended by having a spectator choose a movie from a deck of movie posters and then saying a number of movie titles, and he could determine the selected movie just by using the spectator's voice!

Many thanks for everyone who came out!

Mark Hogan

February's Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, February 14
TIME: 7:30 PM
PLACE: Beal Secondary School
525 Dundas Street, London
T-253

TOPIC: COIN MAGIC!

Yes, it's Valentine's Day! But what's more important – spending time with your sweetie, or seeing some awesome coin magic??

Ok – don't answer that. But we could all learn some more coin magic, so come out in February and bring whatever coin magic you know and we'll all share!

We Want Your Reviews and Tricks!

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

magic_london@yahoo.ca

News Of Interest



Garrett Brown announced for Browser's Bash

(BrowsersDen.com)

You read that right! Magician **Garrett Thomas** will be joining us at the '*Browser's Magic Bash*' (Saturday, April 21 in Toronto).

Mr. Thomas is known for being an innovator as well as one of the top card, coin, and ring sleight of hand men in the world. His numerous releases include *Imagination Coins*, *Banded*, *Stand-Up Monte*, *Speedreader Deck* and *Ring Thing*.

His original effects, extreme technical skills and keen understanding of human psychology culminate in highly visual, entertaining and enlightening routines. Garrett was a stand-out artist in the close-up show at the last Magic Live!

Garrett's dedication to the art of magic manifests not only in his performances but also in his strong commitment to teaching the science and psychology of magic to other magicians.

Garrett Thomas is joining **Jay Sankey, Dick Joiner, Pop Haydn, Michael Close, Chris Pilsworth, James Alan, Nicholas Wallace** and many others to help make *Browser's Magic Bash 4* the best Bash yet!

Hard to believe, but *The 'Browser's 2018 Magic Bash'* is now only two months away.

Tickets are still available. And we would love to have you join us for the day.

For more information and to purchase your tickets, visit:

<http://www.browsersden.com/bash/>



John Henry Anderson - The Great Wizard of the North

(Mike Fisher)

John Henry Anderson (1814 - 1874) was a Scottish born professional magician. Anderson is credited with helping bring the art of magic from street performances into theatres and presenting magic performances to entertain and delight the audience.

Part of Anderson's success was due to his incredibly inventive, and innovative use of advertising. For example, John would have special butter molds made and the morning before his show the dairy would imprint all the butter pats with his image before they were delivered. Families would wake up to breakfast the day of his show to find his image in their butter. He would also have his advertisements stenciled on the sidewalks in chalk to greet

morning commuters on their walk to work. He publicized his performances with such skill that **Houdini** called him "*The greatest advertiser in the history of magic*"

The Scottish novelist gave **John Anderson** the title "*The Great Wizard of the North*" referring to Anderson's homeland of northern Scotland. This stage name worked very well for Anderson especially when he toured Canada in 1849, (and again in 1862) as Canadians believed (falsely) that he was referring to Canada's north. Unfortunately "*The Great Wizard of the North*" failed miserably when attempting to tour the southern states of America a few years later. His posters were torn down and burned and he was met with negative press, and empty theaters. The Civil war was about to begin and the southern people thought "The North" referred to him being from the northern states. It almost bankrupted him as none of his planned shows could be performed and all of his promotional material was destroyed.

Mr. Anderson was a talented and very entertaining magician. In his book "*The fashionable Science of Parlour Magic*" (1855) He wrote the five rules of performing magic that many magician's know to this day;

- 1- Never tell your audience what you are going to perform before you present it.
- 2- Acquire various methods of performing the same feat.
- 3- Never repeat an effect.
- 4- Never perform a feat requiring skill until you have practiced it well
- 5- Talk to your audience, speaking clearly so all can understand. Do not

speaking unintelligible jargon. Do not claim supernatural powers, but state everything can be accounted for rationally (abridged)

John Henry Anderson's stage shows were varied and full of standard effects of the day, performed incredibly well. Always improving his shows, if an effect was not getting a good response from the audience he would stop performing it and replace it quickly.

His most popular effect was the *Bullet catch* and he can be credited with popularizing the effect due to his skillful presentation. In fact many other performers of the era imitated his routine. John Henry Anderson is also credited with being the first magician to pull a rabbit out of a top hat on stage. The effect had been performed many times before by street performers and using birds, bricks and other production items, however *The Great Wizard of the North* turned the street trick into an incredible and memorable magic effect on stage.

resources;

John Henry Anderson by **Edwin** and **Michael Dawes**

History of Conjuring by **Milbourne Christopher**

The Fashionable Science of Parlour Magic by **John Henry Anderson** 1855

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Henry_Anderson



Steve Valentine coming to IBM convention

(Magician.org)

With an amazing line-up already announced for the 2018 *I.B.M. Convention*, **Michael Finney**, Talent Booker for the Grand Rapids convention, has knocked it out of the ballpark again with this latest announcement of this highly

desirable mega-star who will be lecturing and performing July 4-7: **Steve Valentine**.

Born in Scotland, raised near London, Steve's been performing since the age of five. He has appeared in in 250 hours of television, a dozen movies, countless commercials, two multi-award winning video games, and four television series.

In the world of variety and magic Steve is highly sought after and highly respected for his work.

A multi-award winner at the world famous *Magic Castle* in Hollywood, Steve has literally toured the world performing and has created original, mind blowing magic for himself and other professional magicians, including a mind bending 22 hour course on his favorite trick, called **C2P**.

Steve has recently been performing his one man show, "*Live & Other Deceptions*" in theaters in the Los Angeles area.

Need to create Loops? Keith O'Brien shows us how!

(Keith O'Brien)

Need to create some loops? Fear not – our own Keith O'Brien has created an online video to show you how. It's easy – and creating your own Loops will save you money!

Visit: <https://vimeo.com/236631934>

(Password: LMGLOOPS)

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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.

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