



# Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community  
June 2012 Volume 7, Issue 10

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## May's meeting

This month's meeting wasn't on our regular day, or our regular time, or even in our regular place. This month was special – a magic auction involving three area magic clubs!

Kitchener was the host for this major event at the church where they usually meet. Peter Mennie, Paul French, Mark Hogan and Brandon Kidd all made the trek to Kitchener. The volume of items on display and up for bid was nothing short of massive – magic items lined all four walls of the church hall.

The auction was led by the ever-entertaining Darryl Hutton. And was a amazing job he did! In two and a half hours, he was able to get through every lot that was available for sale in the time we had– something no one thought was possible. He knew most of the items, and kept going strong for two and a half hours straight! And he still could talk afterwards! What an unbelievable job Darryl did!

London didn't have a large contingent at this auction, but two of its members stood out - Peter Mennie was one of the main sellers with many exceptional items, and Brandon Kidd took home enough magic to start his own tour!

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 13 7:30PM

Topic: YEAR-END DESSERT/SHOW!

Beal Secondary School  
525 Dundas Street, London  
T-253

Over \$1700 exchanged hands in two and a half hours! It was an exciting afternoon, and hopefully it will be the start of many shared events with our brother clubs!

Mark Hogan

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## June's Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, June 13  
TIME: 7:30 PM dinner – 8:00 showtime  
PLACE: Beal Secondary School  
T-253

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## **TOPIC: YEAR-END DESSERT/SHOW!**

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We're turning back the clock – a little – and starting the summer with something familiar to many of us – the year-end show!

But this year, we're trying something different. It's DESSERT at our regular meeting place! The club will provide some desserts, but you're encouraged to bring a dessert to share if you like. Afterward dessert, we'll have a show put on by some of our members.

Bring your spouse and/or a friend – we'd love to have a good crowd.

Let's end the year with a bang and make this a great social event to kick off the summer!

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)

# News Of Interest

## Magician pours beer from iPad

(from [huffingtonpost.com](http://huffingtonpost.com))

Do our eyes deceive us? Is this man actually pouring beer from an iPad? That's what it looks like in this video by German magician and performance artist Simon Pierro, who manages to pull off some impressive technological theatrics. Watch closely as the beer level on screen lowers the more Pierro pours.

According to Pierro's website, he has a degree in economic engineering (a useful skill set for making beer-dispensing iPads?) and has appeared on numerous German television programs. He's won several awards, too, including the 2004 Siegfried & Roy Award in Las Vegas.

Pierro has plenty other examples of what he calls "digital magic" on the site, like pouring milk on a television and getting the onscreen person wet.

To see the video, visit:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/05/22/magician-beer-ipad\\_n\\_1535682.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/05/22/magician-beer-ipad_n_1535682.html)

## Book review: The Secret to Becoming a Magician (1882)

(Michael Ann Dobbs, [io9.com](http://io9.com))

What's amazing about the complete scan of 1882's brilliant, batty, bizarre *How to Become a Magician* over at the Public Domain Review isn't just the fact that it tells you how to make ice in a "red-hot vessel" (you'll need a platinum cup and "sulphuric" acid). Rather, it's that this book has that weird Victorian moralism that doesn't quite fit into the world of illusions.

Here's a sample: "The following pages are not intended to make the young reader either a cheat or a trickster; there is nothing perhaps so utterly contemptible in every-day life as trickery and deceit, and we would caution our young friends not to cultivate a love of deception, which is only allowable in such feats of amusement, because it is in fact not deception at all, when everybody

expects to be puzzled, and is only left to find out the mystery the best way he can."

It does manage to include such actual good advice for magicians such as "No one is nearly so well pleased by a trick whose essence evidently lies in the machinery, while every one feels pleasure at seeing a sleight of hand trick neatly executed." And: "You must remember to keep talking the whole time, and always try to make a joke, or otherwise to distract the attention of the audience, while you are executing the necessary changes."

As well as bizarre instructions like: "Procure a little figure of cork, which you may dress as your fancy dictates."

As a plus, this book features great description of classic illusions like "The Fish and Ink Trick," in which a vase apparently full of ink is transformed into clear water with goldfish swimming in it.

It's also a nice overview of the technology available at the time. Apparently coins were thin enough to be bendable, steel spring watches exist, but carbon paper had to be made from lamp black and oil. And should you need a fortune telling spell to figure out who your future husband will be, the book has nearly a dozen of them. But watch out, "she who draws the ace of spades will never bear the name of wife; and she who has the nine of hearts in this trial will have one lover too many to her sorrow."

All in all, How to Become a Magician is totally insane (and casually sexist and racist in the Victorian way) — but also a fascinating lens on the state of both technology and magic 130 years ago.

To read How To Become a Magician you can head over to the [Public Domain Review](#).

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Here's David Stone receiving his Guest of Honor plaque from Obie O'Brien at the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual 4F Convention in April

## Magic on television - Your TV Magic Guide

There's lots of magic on television in June – set your PVR and enjoy!

ALL MONTH	<b>NEW!</b> America's Got Talent episodes regularly feature magicians.
★June 2:	<b>NEW!</b> The Finder: The Great Escape on FOX.
★June 2:	Quantum Leap: The Great Spontini on G4.
★June 3:	Criss Angel in Cribs on CMT.
★June 3:	The Illusionist on STARZ CINEMA.
★June 3:	George Schindler in New York Stories on FLIX.
★June 6:	David Blaine: Magic Man Time on DESTINATION AMERICA.
★June 6:	David Blaine: Frozen In Time on DESTINATION AMERICA.
★June 6:	David Blaine's Vertigo on DESTINATION AMERICA.
★June 6:	David Blaine: What Is Magic? on DESTINATION AMERICA.
★June 7:	Lance Burton in Dirty Jobs: Casino Food Recycler on DESTINATION USA.
★June 8:	House M.D. - You Don't Want to Know on USA.
★June 11:	Amen: The Magician on TVONE.
★June 11:	Supernatural: Criss Angel Is A... on TNT.

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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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