

# Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community  
June 2023 Volume 16, Issue 7

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## May's meeting

It looked like it might be a sparsely attended meeting in May, so a spur-of-the-moment change lead us to meet at our favorite Crabby Joe's. Of course a few more folks showed up after moving – but they made it and there was room for everyone.

The theme of the night was Rope Magic, and a few folks brought their rope routines into the restaurant! **Andrew Olmstead** showed off his terrific *Cut and Restored Rope* routine (complete with vanishing invisible scissors that had us all laughing!) along with a great *Ring and Rope* routine.

**Mark Hogan** performed **Daryl's Amazing Acrobatic Knot** routine (the **Gregory Wilson** version of a late-night TV commercial). He also showed us his own *Ring and Rope* routine involving a King, three magicians, a wedding ring and the finger of the King's daughter (two of the three magicians saw a nasty demise, but it did have a happy ending!).

**Keith O'Brien** performed **Dan Harlan's Awakening** – and those of us who didn't have it were floored! And **Peter Mennie** taught us a very slick counting procedure for the *Professor's Nightmare* that makes that part of the routine a breeze!

Thanks to everyone for finding us at Crabby Joe's and showing off their rope routines!

Mark Hogan

### Next Meeting:

Date: Wednesday, JUNE 14

Time: 7:30 PM

Topic: IMPROMPTU / EDC MAGIC!

Location: Beal Secondary School  
525 Dundas Street, London  
Room 253

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## June's Meeting

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**DATE: Wednesday, JUNE 14**

**TIME: 7:30 PM**

**PLACE: Beal Secondary School  
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## TOPIC: IMPROMPTU / EDC MAGIC!

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Impromptu magic can be mystifying to people. Something that can be done anytime, anywhere – no big setup – no complex props – often using items that people have available on the spot – are special for magicians and highly sought after.

And what's your *EDC (Every Day Carry)*? What do you carry in your pockets & wallet when you leave the house that lets you do magic whenever the opportunity comes?

Come to the June meeting and show us your favorite items and routines that let you perform magic anywhere/anytime!

**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



## Maximum magic shows performed by a child magician

(India Book of Records 2023)

The record for performing the maximum number of magic shows was set by magician **Master Swarang Pritam Randive** (born on September 11, 2011) of Mumbai, Maharashtra.

He performed *402 magic shows* from January 26, 2015 to March 21, 2023 in different locations including Maharashtra (cities and districts), Agra, Hyderabad, Surat, Delhi, Jaipur, Ujjain and Nepal at the age of 11 years, 7 months and 8 days, as confirmed on April 19, 2023.

## Canada's Got Talent 2024 looking for magicians

(Canada's Got Talent Casting Team)

My name is Jake. I'm a member of the *Canada's Got Talent* casting team. Nice to meet you! I wanted to reach out as I would love some help promoting the new season! We're always looking for new and exciting magic acts! **The winner of CGT 2024 will receive \$1,000,000 ... PLUS! Each Golden Buzzer Act will receive \$25,000!**



Would love a hand spreading the word around! Below are some links for the applications if you want to have a look. Let me know if you have any questions, always happy to chat!

APPLY HERE NOW: <https://www.citytv.com/show/canadas-got-talent/apply/>

If you are under 18 years old, please have a parent or guardian apply for you.

If you know someone who would be PERFECT for the show, NOMINATE THEM INSTEAD: <https://cgt3nomination.castingcrane.com>

Cheers,

Jake Norman

## What do marketing and magic have in common?

(Psychology Today)

When someone makes a comment from one field or discipline that helps enlighten another, that's crossing creativity borders. And sometimes a little magic can help.

A few weeks ago, my family and I went to *The Magic Castle* in Hollywood, California, a 60-year-old performance site for magicians. We saw three magicians the night we visited—from the U.S., from Norway, and from Mauritius/France. This is not what I think of as traditional magic: no women sawn in half, Houdini water dunks, or animals yanked out of hats. These tricks were subtle—a change of clothing in front of our eyes, card tricks, and solving the Rubik's cube without looking.

At the first show, I lucked into a seat next to a magician who would perform later in the night. Of course, I wanted to know all about how he got into the field. **William Watt** (the magician from Paris and Mauritius) explained that his parents wanted him to go into business, so he studied marketing, but just couldn't stick with it, so he went into magic.

"But isn't marketing just another form of magic?" I thought. Marketers try to get us to see things we cannot (an experience, how a piece of software might work, a future state of a better us). And don't good books or films or music do the same? They help us "see" something that may not really exist? If so, then how do they do it? That's where the magicians excel. I took away a few lessons.

First, these folks know how to grab an audience by the lapels and hang on. Each of them, within ten seconds, captured our attention and never let go. Sometimes, it was with self-deprecating humor. In William's case, he drew us in by asking for a sparkly diamond ring from an audience member. Then he snapped it into a padlock and handed it back to a now-nervous audience member. We were captivated.

Next, these magicians not only captured but held attention. There's a famous (to nerdy professors like me) article from the 1880s about "the measure of fidget." If you can keep a room of people from fidgeting, you know you have their attention. Great marketers, filmmakers, and authors grab attention and never let it go during the course of an ad, sales pitch, or film. With each trick, audiences sat statue still, watching and, of course, trying to figure out "how he did that."

Third, the magicians used different approaches in their acts. Some offered a collection of very cool tricks. But William seemed to be a storyteller throughout the whole act. After taking the diamond ring, he continued with

various tricks that seemed to flow from one to the next, including solving a Rubik's cube inside of a paper sack. The act's climax involved asking audience members to call out numbers that he entered into his phone calculator, which eventually added up to a four-digit number, which, you guessed it, was the code to the padlock holding the ring.

He closed with a moving talk about the need to take care of and love each other. (That, too, fed into the act but I'll not reveal how). The show started and ended with a love story, and felt like a journey in the process, just like a good film or book.

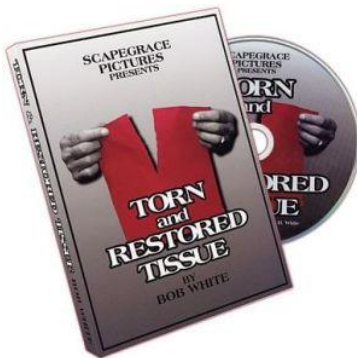
After the show, he kindly took a few more minutes to chat (with my future daughter-in-law, the owner of the ring). At one point he said, "I'll be right back," and left to get his phone. As we chatted, he tapped it and, *abracadabra*, out slid a business card from inside the phone. Now, how did he do that?

## Watch Bill Abbott perform and announce his new show

(River City Live)

Watch our friend (and former *Canadian Magician of the Year*) **Bill Abbott** perform some routines on the TV show *River City Live* as he announced his brand-new show:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVWiNTMYgbg>



## Inside Magic review: Bob White's Torn and Restored Tissue

(InsideMagic.com)

Bob White's Torn and Restored Tissue DVD deserves a place in your magic collection.

Chances are every magician reading this esteemed news source is familiar with the Torn and Restored Tissue and has undoubtedly performed it often. It may have even been the first trick you learned. So why would you want to purchase a DVD from 2015 that features just one effect and that effect being one you already know and have performed?

Because it is a fantastic DVD and will stir joy in your 2020 scarred heart.

Mr. White provides a fantastically detailed preparation portion of the DVD. He is detailed and shares his decades of experience with the effect. He

gets all the way down to the ply of napkins to use, the color of those napkins (it depends on whether you are performing close-up or parlor), and the grain patterns to detect.

His performance evidences years of perfecting the routine. We are not ashamed to admit that he fooled us at one point. We love being fooled so there is no shame but we get ashamed easily so we thought we would clarify that point.

He takes time to talk and show viewers the incredibly well thought out movements and patter that works so well and seems so fresh. He admits that he has been performing the effect since he was 19 and at the time of the filming, he was 65.

The last portion of the DVD is Mr. White performing the effect live before a real audience. The reaction is great and the performance is as smooth as butter (warm).

If you do the effect, get this DVD. If you have never done the effect because you think it is too simple or too well-known, get this DVD. If you want to see how a professional treats a classic of our art to make a wonderful closing piece, get this DVD. Basically, get this DVD and enjoy the wonderful feeling of your heart filling with peace and joy.

**Inside Magic Rating: Five out of Five! Our Highest.**

**Shell Game  
Vol. 16, Issue 7  
June 2023**

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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