



HSM Newsletter

Founded 1947

Issue May

Welcome

First of all I would like to thank Jim for taking notes of Mike's talk, as there wouldn't be a newsletter otherwise!

Attached are the AGM Minutes and Accounts.

I am also going to change the look of the newsletter from next month.

MONTH meeting – 20 Apr 2009

Mike Coyne "This is my life"

Mike, as he told us, was born in Liverpool and, as a true scouser, left the maternity ward between two policemen (his words, not mine!) in 1939.

Mike, we learned, has enjoyed two rich and varied careers: one as a high-flying civil servant responsible for budgets of billions of pounds; the other as a stage and TV comic, and magician.

Given an Ernest Sewell Box of Magic at the age of 8, he was immediately hooked. The first tricks he learned were Sucker Silk, Steamboat Sam and Cut-and-Restored Rope. Such was his love of magic and Variety, that he even truanted from school to indulge his new passion. When his parents tried to put a stop to this by locking his props in the attic, Mike simply took up lock-picking and promptly liberated them.

As a youngster he won several talent competitions before taking joint first prize in a nationwide Butlins contest, sharing a £1000 win and, as a consequence, being taken on by an agent. Turning down the chance to go to university, over the next few years, Mike appeared alongside a galaxy of stars, among them Ken Dodd, Dusty Springfield, Bill Haley and the Comets, and Danny La Rue. He even once met the Beatles – the twist being that they knew him, but he didn't know them!

Cont./

Even when he joined the civil service, Mike continued to tour, appearing alongside Eartha Kitt and starring on TV's 'The Comedians'.

Apparently, Mike's talk only skimmed the surface. We await Part 2 with bated breath!

Presidential Hand Over

The last meeting saw our current president Bob McBratney step down as President and James Ward take on the duties – good luck Jim.

I'm sure this was said at the meeting but as I was not there I think it is only right to say a big thank you to Bob for all his support and everything he brought to the society as President.

The New Officials 2009

President: Jim Ward
President Elect: Clive Cullum
Secretary: George R. Fowler
Treasurer: David Hird
Committee: Brian Knowles

Where to find magic

Following on from Jim's "Where to find Magic" section on the website.

Event: York Society of Magicians Table Top Sale and Mini Auction.

Venue: The Grasshoppers FC Hall, Mill Lane, Wigginton, York YO32 2PU

Date: Wednesday 13 May 2009

Time: Doors open for setting up from 5.30 pm and the Sale begins at 6.30pm

Price: For browsers and buyers £2.00 (free to juniors) / Tables (including entry) £7.50

To book a table please contact Rex Stott: 01937 589727 or janicestott@btinternet.com

Next Month/ Theme...

David Hird "This is my life" & Magic with Fruit (Strictly **no** Bananas!)

Neil Bradley-Smith
Editor

President James Ward MMC

www.harrogatesocietyofmagicians.com

Minutes of the sixty-first AGM at the Harlow Community Centre, Harrogate

On 20th April 2009 for the year ending 31st March 2009

Present : Steve Bellerby, Mike Coyne, Clive Cullum, Daniel Curston, George Fowler, David Hird, Brian Knowles, Bob McBratney. Adrian Salamon, Rex Stott, Jim Ward.

President : Outgoing President, Bob McBratney, thanked every one for their tremendous support throughout his two years of office, which enabled the Society to enjoy a most interesting programme, including a new show at Knaresborough's Frazer Theatre and a repeat booking at Copgrove, together with one entertainment at the Harlow Community Centre in the last year.

It was unanimously decided that Jim Ward, having recently become a member of the Magic Circle, be elected to the Presidency of the Harrogate Society for 2009-2011 and he took over the chair for the rest of the meeting.

Election of other Officers : President elect: Clive Cullum.

Secretary: George R. Fowler

Treasurer: David Hird

Committee: Brian Knowles

All proposed by Mike L. Coyne, seconded by Steve Bellerby and approved.

The officers were all thanked for their contribution to the Society.

Finances : The wisdom of increasing the subscriptions last year to £20 was vindicated as they covered the rent of the hall for all the meetings. A grant negotiated by Clive Cullum had enabled the purchase of a backdrop screen for outreach entertainments.

It was decided to change the Society's Bankers to National Westminster and, in so doing, simplify the management of one cheque book account and to monitor interest rates.

The Annual Accounts form a part of these minutes showing a credit balance of £1,475.46 with the Lloyds/TSB Bank, which will now be transferred.

61st Birthday : Eighteen attended the Society's Sixty-First Birthday with an Annual Dinner on Wednesday 21st January 2009 at Dr. B's in Harrogate. The food and service were excellent.

President James Ward MMC

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Membership : Eleven members attended the meeting; five were absent, totalling sixteen paid-up members. A further four had not paid their subscriptions, of whom three had indicated that they wished to stay in membership and will have to rejoin. Prospective member Adrian Salamon joined the meeting. Sadly, Geoff Pickard died during the year and we wish his son George the very best of wishes for his first term at University, which his Father would have so much enjoyed and been proud.

Any Other Business : It was agreed that other links be established on the Society's Website.

The meeting closed, to be followed by "This is my life" presented by Mike Coyne.

Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2009

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Cash Lloyds/TSB Business a/c	£846.96	Rent Harlow Community	£203.00
Cash Lloyds TSB Cheque a/c	£85.96	Website	£29.96
Cash in Hand	£3.11	Lecture Bradford Alex Lee	£40.00
Retirement Sale Denys Hollis	£180.17	Retirement Sale Denys Hollis	£239.17
Knaresborough Show	£162.00	Treasurer – Brewster	£152.78
Copgrove Show	£106.63	Secretarial/ Treasurer – Fowler	£30.70
Raffle	£17.00	Cash Lloyds/TSB Business a/c	£1467.56
Sale of Playing cards	£10.50	Cash Lloyds Cheque a/c	£7.90
Grant Stage Screen	£500.00		
Bank Interest	£17.74		
Contribution	£1.00		
Subscriptions (20)	£240.00		
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