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**THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS
AT BOURNEMOUTH**



CHARLES WICKS from Australia says hello at the official opening on Thursday.



Mlle. HUGUETTE DELYSOLLE manipulates her puppets at the International Cabaret held at the Burlington on Thursday.



JOHN RAMSAY in a new role. He helps **STAN HALL** to effect a little music from the violin. The magic was getting John to stand still when the catchy melody was being played.

Background to Bournemouth

By **ALAN KENNAUGH**

Make no mistake about it—the British Ring certainly give full value for registration at conventions. Never are four days more tightly packed. There are lectures; shows; close-up sessions; cabarets; dealers' exhibitions; parties; and competitions which bring out the best in magic.

The recipe's the thing: each item a judicious balancing of varied ingredients contributing a most enjoyable flavour to an event which is the highlight of the magic year.

The most immediate great occasion, of course, has been the British Ring Festival Convention at Bournemouth. The headlining of the principal events—the Gala Show; the Children's Matinee and the Round the World Tour of Magic in particular has shown the specialist organisation better than ever before. The lights of the Festival Convention have now dimmed, but it is certain that somewhere in the magical organisations which circle the world, memories are being revived. Elsewhere, my report covers the scene, but here is a final blending of some of the items and incidentals which went to make this convention a very happy affair.

The programme was full of good things, but off duty the magicians proved very lively with the "Have you seen this one?" experts in great form. Ken Brooks, who is irresistible on these occasions was showing almost every morning—round about 2 a.m. being the most popular time to catch him in the act.

Ken's efforts with the "Safety rip" was a big laugh at every showing. By the way this is not likely to be imitated

by many. The more ambitious would use a repeater card—if Ken had a couple of times in spare he may have seen the whole of this effect.

Jean Potson was another one busy behind the scenes with his pocket tricks. His magic kettle should be snapped up by the New Era Company.

FASHION NOTE

Mystic Craig was quite the most colourful magician at the convention. Having changed frequently into his selection of luminous shirts, he chose to complete the picture by wearing a choice cap of many colours. It was a joke when someone asked me quite seriously—"Have you seen Mystic Craig?" "Who could miss him even with the lights off?"

Visitors from overseas included Ralph Bead, and Elmer Eckam with a crooked walking stick. They were all a grand bunch of fellows, nobody could be friendlier.

I am going to talk to my psychiatrist about some of the things I thought I saw and heard at a late hour. At a 4 a.m. party at which Edwin the magician was the host, Stanley Simpson showed some new routines. Down in the Burlington bar Jon Gresham had trouble in attempting to ignite a cigarette lighter. To my knowledge he did not succeed. How far can this magical business go. Apparently to no limit. Tommy Rowe for instance brought the household dustbin all the way from Swindon for one performance in the

magician. I do understand magic, as seemed to say. Edwin and Redvers Deater have had nothing to do with this in the background? Maybe there's all an apparition.

A constellation of experts arranged a wonderful Hall and Cabaret. Hardly anyone took up residence in the bars. This was not surprising since everything was so expertly arranged—down to a first rate entertainment by Stan Hall, Tomado, and the Voltaires. It is no exaggeration to say that the Voltaires provided one of the most impressive moments with their electrical wonders.

The incredible work of Jack and Frances Salvia captured columns in the local Press. Everyone was amazed at their demonstration of Extra Sensory Perception at a private Press showing.

So I could go on recalling items from my notebook. Items which concern the compliments paid to Paul Graham for the encouragement he gave in articles bank stage. A piece about Frank Bennett whose magic is distinguished by a most polished presentation. But now, all eyes are on Hastings, which reminds me—I bundled myself into a railway carriage at Bournemouth Central Station, picked up a copy of the "News of the World" dated Sunday, October 7th, and on the front page was the headline—"A Terror in Walsley—Dangerous Lunatics at Large." The news item went on to talk about—wait for it—Hastings. It was actually referring to a criminal case. It could have been an apparition.



At the school opening **DEWE YRMEYDEN** hands a message of greeting to **PRESIDENT BILL STICKLAND**



JOHN GAMBLING with the 63 years old production from the **Lamboree Rings**



MISS ALICE MCKAY (Also an Exonian) Wins of the "Wishes" Trophy for her best given by a lady welcome



WILLIAM G. STICKLAND, PRESIDENT.



SOME EXONIAN MEMBERS AND GUESTS

GROUP PHOTOGRAPH



JACK SALVIN entertains at a close-up magic session.



PERCY BEE opens the Registration desk at the Burlington.



PRESIDENT BILL STICKLAND from **MYSTIC**



At the official opening DENK VERMEYDEN hands a message of greeting to PRESIDENT BILL STICKLAND



JOHN GAMBLING with the 60 years old production from the Jacobson Rings



MISS ALICE MacLAY (Alice in Conjureland) Winner of the "Willam" Trophy for the best act given by a lady performer.



TOINEDO, brilliant Swedish



WILLIAM S. STICKLAND, PRESIDENT.



SOME EXONIAN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



MARIAN'S escape from a risk of water

GROUP PHOTOGRAPH



HARRY KAYE, PRESIDENT-ELECT.



PERCY BEE entertains at a close-up magic session.



PERCY BEE opens the Registration desk at the Burlington.



PRESIDENT BILL STICKLAND receives the "Conventions" Trophy from MYSTIC CRAIG at the official opening on Thursday.



THE LADIES enjoy a luncheon at the Burlington lounge

October, 1951

October, 1951



...production from the Lawrence Kings



MISS ALICE MacLAY (Alice in Conjurland).
Winner of the "Willow" Trophy for the best act
given by a lady performer.



TORNEDO, brilliant Swedish...
...based at the official
...opening



BERT DEXTER (Hull), Runner-up British Bug
Shield Competition and winner of the
Theo Speaker Cup.

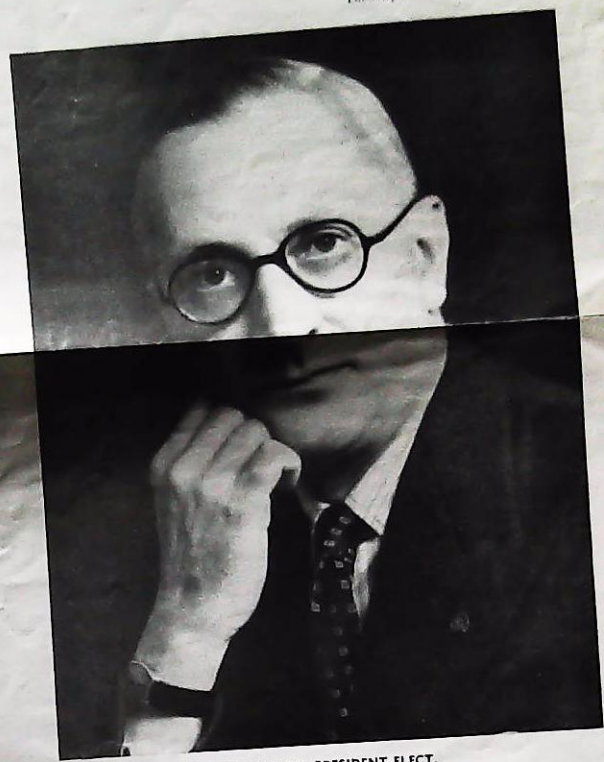


...MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



MARIAN'S escape from a rock of water

GROUP PHOTOGRAPH



HARRY KAYE, PRESIDENT-ELECT.



...BILL opens the Registration desk at the Burlington.



PRESIDENT BILL STICKLAND receives the "Conventioneers" Trophy
from MYSTIC CRAIG at the official opening on Thursday.



THE LADIES enjoy a discussion in the Burlington lounge.



"THE MAGICAL McFOWNS," Slough's well-known family of illusionists, left for Bournemouth on Wednesday to attend the annual convention of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Our picture shows Mr. Alex McKeown carefully stowing away the magical round table which is his particular invention for this year's convention. Next to him is the ventriloquist member of the family, 11 year old Michel, and on the right, magicienne Maxine, aged 14, assists mind-reader Mrs. Gwen McKeown to stow the two doves who form the "props" of another trick. The convention, which opened yesterday, will continue non-stop until Sunday. Magicians from all over the world will be there, competing for the shield and title of champion magician of the year.
—Photo: "Windsor, Slough and Eton Express."



FRANK RICHMOND winner of the Conventioneers Trophy for the most original Act.—By permission of "Newcastle Chronicle and Journal" Limited.



GEORGE BLAKE, JOHN RAMSAY, JOHN GAMBLING, CLAUDE CHANDLER



WINNER OF THE SHIELD, FRANK ROYNETT, PRESENTING THE ILLUSION "WHERE THE RAINBOW ENDS" WHICH WAS THE GRAND CLIMAX OF HIS ACT.



A Group, including Claude Chandler, watching Stanley Thomas in the Close-up Show.



A nice line in hats was shown by the Ladies entering for the magical hat competition. A group posed for the cameraman. Winners were:—MRS. J. BARNES, MRS. A. THOMAS and MISS STAITE

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