

ORGAN OF THE SRI LANKA MAGIC CIRCLE

www.srilankamagic.org

The Official Guardian of Magic

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Edited by Devsiri Fernando 7 Francisco Place, Moratuwa Tel: 2645927

Religious ceremony heralds the dawn of the SLMC's 90th year

The Sri Lanka Magic Circle completed ninety years on the 18th of February 2012. There are many activities planned to celebrate this momentous achievement. The first activity was the chanting of pirith and the blessing of the SLMC premises. This took place on Sunday the 19th of Feb. at '156'.



Members participating



Pirith Chanting

Present on this occasion were Board Members Ronald de Alwis, Shelton Jayasekera, Rohan Jayasekera,,H.D.N..Gunasekera, Nihal Weerasinghe, Devsiri Fernando, Terry Amarasekera, R.Salpitikorale, Kamalshantha Silva, Chandrasena Gamage, & members Vishara Jayasekera, Joy De Silva, Mrs Rohan Jayaekera, Priyantha Gamage and Mrs.Thusitha Jayasekera who turned up voluntarily.



Members participating



The pot of milk boiling



Tying of the pirith thread



Donations and donations



HDN presented a much needed Toilet Mirror set



Capt. Salpitikorala presented a cheque for Rs. 10,000/- towards the 90th anniversary celebrations

MEMBERS NEWS

Mr.Chrishanta Silva will take his Oath at the next meeting as a Ordinary Member with effect 1st March 2012

MEMBERS DAY
FEBRUARY 26TH SUNDAY

9.00 to 9.30 am - Members Arrival
(Library will be open at this time)

Welcome Address & Announcements
Members Performances
Training Session
Fellowship

90th Anniversary Celebrations

Following is the proposed programme for the 90th Anniversary celebrations to be held on Sunday 08th April from 8.30 AM. All Members should be present on this occasion without any excuses

06.15 AM Sinhala & 6.45 AM English Channels - News Bulletin re 90 years Celebrations
08.15 AM Members Arrive & Register

09.00 AM General Group Photograph & the Outgoing & Incoming Board & Committee Members 2011/12 & 2012/13
Dress : Gentlemen: Lounge (Full Suit) Or National or Magic Costume Ladies : Smartly Attired or Magic Costume

9.45 AM Stand By to welcome Patron & Chief Guest Hon Minister of Cultural Affairs . Vice Patrons Mr.Douglas Siriwardane, Director General Tower Hall Theatre Foundation & Hon. Mohan Lal Grero. MP, Mayors of Dehiwela/Galkissa & Colombo Municipality, Mrs.R.Bodinagoda & other VIPs. Spouses of Past Members now dead.

10.00 AM Welcome & Unveil the National & SLMC Flags
10.10 AM Lighting the Oil Lamp
10.15 AM Unveiling of Past Presidents Photographs
10.25 AM Welcome Address
10.30 AM Address by Lt.Col Ronald D Alwis
10.45 AM Address by Hon Minister of Cultural Affairs
10.55 AM Address by Director General Tower Hall Theatre Foundation
11.00 AM Vote of Thanks / Refreshments & Recess

12.30 PM Indian Dealer Display & Sale
~ Mr.A.K.Dutt of Bangalore, India

This month Magic with common items

VP Training Sanjeewa will be demonstrating some magic tricks using some day to day items. Members who perform the tricks taught last month best will be given gifts by him. So practice and come for next Sunday.

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Members Day 29 th January

by Clarence Heendeniya

The following 19 members were present.

Lt. Col. Ronald de Alwis, Capt. Salpitikorale, Messers Dhammika Weerakkody, Devsiri fernando, M. K. Wimalasena, S.K.Dharmapala, Nihal Weerasinghe, Terry Amarasekera, Amarasiri Wijesinghe, . Avishka Perera, Priyantha Gamage, C. Gamage, Michael Fernando, Sanjeewa Hewapathirana, Noel Wickremasinghe, Franklyn Hewacvitharane, Kamalshantha Silva, Ajith Fernando & Shelton Jayasekera Guestst Chrisantha Silva & Mrs. K.T.Fernando.

Mr. Devsiri Fernando welcomed the members for the new year and wished everyone peace and prosperity. Talking of the past he spoke of a school boy performing on stage in 1947, many years ago and he blossomed to become one of the best magicians and he is till alive and active. This person is none other than the President Lt. Col Ronald de Alwis ! He requested members to give him a standing ovation.

He said that there was a good response to the SOS message of the **VP Assets, Mr.Rohan Jayasekera** re items required to improve "156". **Mr.HDN.Gunasekera** had gifted a Mirror to the Toilet & so had **Mr.Ranjith Silva** (He has responded on the phone that he would be donating his Rs.5000/= Interest Free Loan to purchase effects for the WC & Toilet. This gesture is highly appreciative. **Mr.Ajith Fernando** had during the morning session purchased a Tap for the Rear Garden Water Pipe. It is heartening to realize that members feel that "156" is our Second Home !! Others are welcome to support SLMC & should contact Mr.Rohan Jayasekera (011~2728858)

He invited the members to present Magic, voluntarily. Many responded includes Messers **Nihal Weerasinghe, Terry Amarasekera, Aviska Perera and Veteran Noel Wickremasinghe. Master Avishka Perera** performed a well presented series of Rope Tricks in continuous routine much to the delight of the seasoned magicians & showed his keen & deep interest to blossom out as a future seasoned magician & it should be inspiring to the rest since he had capitalized the use of a

teaching Series & read books of Magic & had practised it many times!! Technical advice was given by Messers **Noel Wickremasinghe & Rohan Jayasekera**. In the background the mother of young **Avishka** too was visibly moved by the youngster's performance & it was apparent the much needed family support was extended to him by the mother.

President Ron introduced three young girls in the ten year category from Ladies College headed by **Ms.Wijetilleke** & her Dad (Attorney at the \Attorney Generals's Office) and said these 03 youngsters would be joining as Junior Members from 1st of March **Mr. Sanjeewa Hewapathirane** explained in slow motion how to pierce a Rs. 100 note without damaging and to produce a similar note from the air ! An effective Close Up. He also gifted young **Avishka** a TEACHING SERIES CD & also said that similarly he would gift a CD for a member who would perform a Trick explained by him in the future. This was very encouraging indeed. He requested members to present the tricks at future meetings and win a valuable gift. The following members agreed ~ Messers **Franklyn, Dhammika, Avishka & Wimalasena**. Hope many more would get rid of stage fright & come prepared to perform. Mr.Devsiri Fernando had been able to rope in **Mr.Chrishantha Silva** a one time Member who joined in 1994 & terminated for non participation for over 10 years. He rejoined the Circle as a New Ordinary Member effective from 1st March & will take his Oath @ the February Members Day.

It was a well spent day of entertainment & fellowship! The President also addressed the gathering. He paid a tribute to **Mr.Rohith Silva & Mr.A.Wijesinghe** for boosting SLMC Funds by organizing 02 Shows @ wadduwa during 2011/12. He reminded the membership about the next AGM in March & requested members to take up positions on the next Board. **Mr.Noel Wickremasinghe** had a few Magic items for sale.



Haggar's Ramblings!

I read somewhere that scientists have found a way of packing five vegetable and five fruit portions into one easy to swallow pill. This will undoubtedly save everyone spending hours trying to find that perfect balanced diet, trying to cram five, life extending portions of fruit and vegetables into our daily meals.

It then occurred to me that this was something of a double edged sword. For the lazy type of person, taking one simple pill would provide salvation without any effort. It's probably only a short step to astronaut type food delivered in a tube giving the right balances of calories, vitamins and protein without the daily drudge of shopping, preparing meals and washing up. One step further and we wouldn't need vast food halls offering every variety of fruit such as papaya, pineapple, banana and apples.

Would it be the start of a new carefree lifestyle, void of the need for moderation, who knows? On the other hand, variety being the spice of life as they say here in the UK, the joy of the simple pleasures of eating a wide range of foods from around the globe is everything. The textures and smells of home cooked meals would still appeal to the vast majority I suspect.

For those of you who are wondering why I am writing half a page of non-magical drivel, let me explain my train of thought. We as magicians sometimes hear the term "self-working tricks. Is it the spawn of the devil or the saviour of the entertainment world?"

I personally, am a fan of the self-working trick. I enjoy the story telling and comedy that I can put along side these types of tricks without the worry of trying to remember some of the complicated moves that can be associated with some magical effects. You do hear from some magicians that you can't be a real magician if you use self-working tricks. Yet if you ask them to recommend a good card book to study they will nearly all advocate 'The Royal Road to Card Tricks' which is littered with them.

Are you any less a magician if you use self-working card tricks rather than skill and dexterity? I think not. I have seen many 'great' magicians who can delight audiences everywhere with their abilities. I even aspire to be like some of them. Michael Vincent, Juan Tamariz, Guy Hollingworth, John Bannon and many others are startlingly great at what they do. I admire their dedication to the art and their creativity on using skills and astounding an audience.

But consider this, those masters of illusion, David Copperfield, Seigfried and Roy etc. All these guys use self-working props. Once you know which buttons to press or which panels to slide, the rest is showmanship.

So there you have it!

Congratulations on reaching 90 years old have fun until the next time.

Andrew

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the **90th Annual General Meeting** will be held on **26th March 2012 @ "156" @ 9.30 AM.**

1. Resolutions to be submitted on or before 12th March to the Hony Secretary
 2. Nominations are called for from members in Good Standing on or before 12th March for the following positions on or before 12th March by Letter or Email addressed to the Hony Secretary Mr.D.D.C. Heendeniya.
- Executive Board: President & 7 Vice Presidents (All should possess access to Email facilities)
Office Bearers :Hony Secretary (English Medium Should have email facilities) Hony Asst. Secretary (Sinhala Medium) Hony Treasurer, Hony Asst Treasurer & Hony Editor
Committee Members:1] Welfare 2] Contests & Conventions 3] Assets 4] 156 Maintenance 5] Library 6] Training 7] General

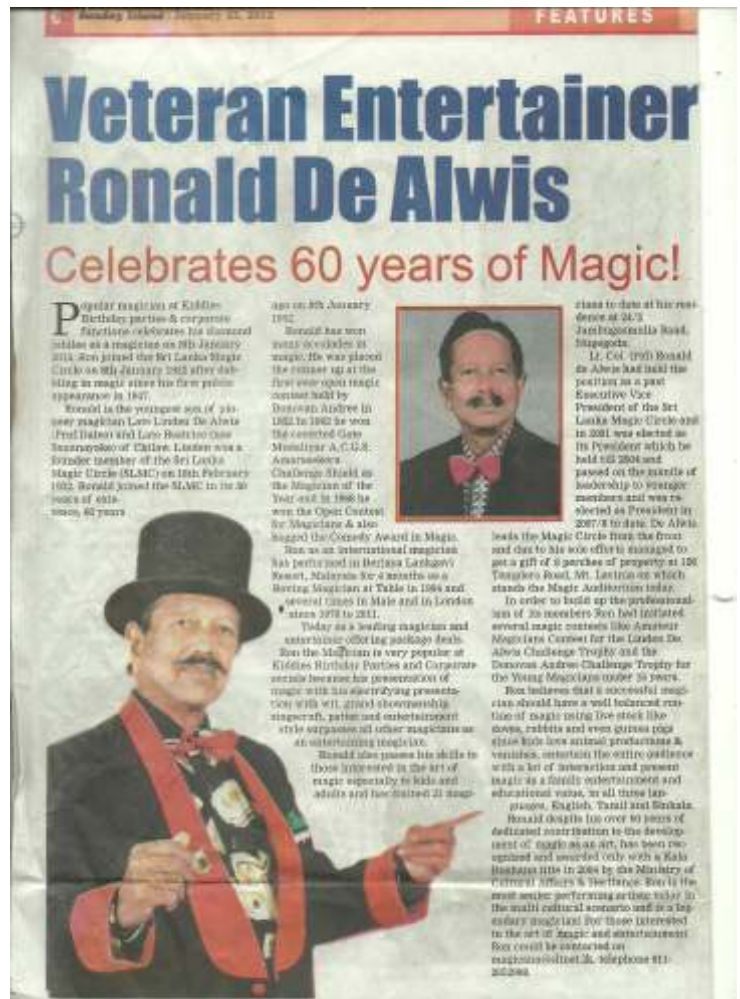
The Secretary

"Vishmitha Magic Rathriya Thuna"

April 7th ~ 6.00 PM Fund Raiser @ Buddhist Hall, Moratuwa - **Keep this date free**

60 not out

Several news items appeared in the local media regarding the completion of 60 years as a magician by Prez. Ronald de Alwis. We reproduce below one such article.



Popular magician of Kibbles Birthdays parties & corporate functions celebrates his diamond jubilee as a magician on 26th January 2012. Ron joined the Sri Lanka Magic Circle on 26th January 1952 after dabbling in magic since his first public appearance in 1947.

Ronald is the youngest son of pioneer magician Leo Ronald De Alwis (Fred Dalton) and Lavinia Rosalie Rose. His father was a founder member of the Sri Lanka Magic Circle (SLMC) on 18th February 1952. Ronald joined the SLMC in his 20s of age.

50 years

on 26th January 1952 Ronald has won many accolades in magic. He was placed the crown as at the first ever open magic contest held by Dennis Andrew in 1952. He won the coveted Gold Medalist A.C.C.R. Award for Challenge Shield as the Magician of the Year on 1st March 1968. He won the Open Contest for Magicians & also

stands to date at his residence at 34/3 Jambagalam Road, Maggona.

It was 1970 Ronald de Alwis had held the position as a past Executive Vice President of the Sri Lanka Magic Circle and in 2001 was elected as its President which he held till 2004 and passed on the mantle of leadership to younger members and was re-elected as President in 2007. Ronald de Alwis leads the Magic Circle from the front and due to his wide efforts managed to get a gift of 8 parcels of property on 104 Tangalle Road, Mt. Lavinia on which stands the Magic Auditorium today.

Today as a leading magician and entertainer of the Sri Lanka Magic Circle and the Denonon Andrew Challenge Trophy for the Young Magicians under 30 years.

Ron believes that a successful magician should have a well balanced repertoire of magic using the stock like doves, rabbits and even guinea pigs (in prison, England, Thailand and Bahrain).

Ronald delights his over 80 years of dedicated contribution to the development of magic as an art, has been recognized and awarded only with a Kala Bandhana title in 2008 by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs & the Arts. Ron is the most active performing active actor in the multi cultural arena and is a top story magician for those interested in the art of magic and entertainment. Ron could be contacted at magron@vsnl.net.lk, telephone 811-25222.

in order to build up the professionalism of its members Ron had initiated several magic contests like Amateur Magicians Contest for the London De Alwis Challenge Trophy and the Denonon Andrew Challenge Trophy for the Young Magicians under 30 years.

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