



**Dennis Deliberations ... Ring # 170,
Assembly #99**

“The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring”

British magician Wayne Dobson, who was best known for his wit and early success in the 1980's, has sadly died at the age 68 after a long battle with Multiple Sclerosis.



Dobson joined the Leicester Magic Circle at just 16 - the youngest in its history. The early milestone marked the beginning of a lifelong career that would captivate audiences across the UK and beyond. His big break came when he won the close-up competition at the International Brotherhood of Magicians British Ring Convention.

This success opened many doors, including an appearance on the popular children's program Blue Peter, which introduced his talents to a broader audience. From there, Dobson's career blossomed, and he became known not only for his extraordinary tricks but also for his sharp sense of humor. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Dobson's career reached new heights as he toured the United States supporting singer Engelbert Humperdinck, and in 1989, he performed at the prestigious Royal Variety Show.

His act was memorable. He also hosted his own television program, Wayne Dobson, A Kind of Magic, cementing his status as a household name in UK entertainment. In 1988, Dobson was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS), a condition that might have ended many careers, however, he refused to let the illness define him. Instead, Dobson became an ambassador for the Multiple Sclerosis Resource Centre, dedicating himself to raising awareness and support. He continued to create and perform magic, adapting his acts as needed, and even returned to live performances as recently as 2022 with a show at Haslemere Hall in Surrey.

The magic fraternity worldwide mourn the loss of Wayne Dobson, one of the great magicians of the late 20th century.

Here is the Tony Griffith Card effect mentioned in this month's Ring Notes

Object Lesson

Background

This trick has its origins in *Super Subtle Card Miracles* and *Card Magic* by Frank Garcia and in John Mendoza's *Book of John*. Doc Eason has also had an input which was published in a Genii issue. It is based on the well known Princess Card Trick principle.

Preparation

You will need to make a set of sixteen pictures, similar to those accompanying this routine. They will last much longer if laminated. At the commencement of the trick these cards can be in any order.

Routine

Four spectators are asked to assist. Mentally number them 1,2,3 and 4 from left to right.

Hand the 16 card packet to Spectator 1 and ask him to mix them, and say *"Please take any four cards for yourself and then hand them on to the next spectator."*

Have Spectator 2 select any four cards and hand them to Spectator 3 who does the same. The remaining cards are handed to Spectator 4.

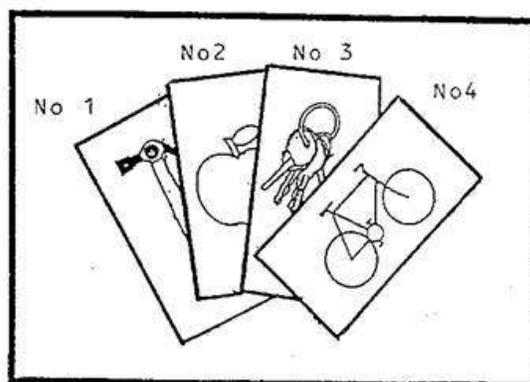
Ask each spectator to think of a picture card in their hand. Say *"Keep the image steadfastly in mind, but don't tell anyone else which image you have in your mind."* Ask each spectator to mix his 4 card packet.

Take back the packets face down from left to right beginning with Spectator 1. Each packet is placed onto the preceding one.

False shuffle/cut the cards so that the order

is not disturbed. Deal out four packets of cards from left to right, so each packet contains four cards. Deal the cards one at a time.

To understand how to divine each selection, pick up any packet and fan it with the faces towards yourself. Each packet contains a card from each spectator. The first card in each packet belongs to Spectator 1, the second to Spectator 2 and so on. The following illustration should make this clear.



To reveal the thought of cards pick up each packet one at a time and show it to the spectators. Say *"If you see your picture please raise your hand"*

Suppose you pick up the first packet, show the cards, and the third spectator raises his hand. You will know that the third card is his. If nobody raises his hand, then go onto the next packet. When two spectators raise their hands, you will still know the positions of their selections. For example, if the second and third spectators raise their hands, the second and third cards are their respective selections. Occasionally, all four selections will be in one packet.

Once you know the name of the selected card remove it and place it face down on the table, in a spot corresponding to its position. Have each spectator name his object and turn over the four cards one at a time to reveal that you are correct.

Added Tip

Sometimes when I pick up the four cards and the spectator indicates that he has seen his card, I note and remember which one is his. Then as I patter I move the cards around a bit to alter the relative positions. This is a small point, but it helps to throw off the observant spectators.

Thoughts on Presentation

Presentation is the all important word in this effect. You can quickly pull out the correct card or you can dress it up. Here are a few ways:-

(1) Holding the four cards with the faces towards you say *"I am going to name each of the four objects. Please remain as expressionless as possible. Don't permit your body language to give you away."*

Proceed to name the four objects as you simultaneously mention any physical action that the spectator makes, e.g. moving a hand, twitching a muscle and so on. Remove the appropriate card and place it face down on the table.

(2) Look at the faces of the four cards and say, *"I'm going to name each of these four objects. As I name each one I want you to repeat it. I'm looking to see if your voice gives you away."* When you have done this remove the correct card and place it face down on the table.

(3) With the four cards in you hand say *"I am going to ask you if each of these four objects is yours. I want you to say 'no' each time. Obviously you will be telling a lie on one of your replies. Try not to give yourself away."*

Again after going through this procedure, remove the correct card and place it face down on the table. This lie detector approach is very effective.

These are just three suggestions that may enhance the presentation and give the effect a sort of psychic approach. I am sure you will think of other presentation angles.

Don't be put off by the simplicity of method. THIS IS A VERY, VERY STRONG ITEM FOR A LAY AUDIENCE.

Here are the 16 cartoon drawings:

