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## Sneaky Secrets

(How To Become The Life & Soul Of Your Next Event)

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[www.hotowka.co.uk](http://www.hotowka.co.uk)

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The series of Sneaky  
Secrets is designed to  
be read in a minute and  
a laugh.

Dear John

Would you believe it!?!? Just read this, it was in the Surrey Advertiser:

'Act now to beat funeral price rises!'

What a lovely start to get us all in the festive spirit, I must say. Do you think they might be panicking a tad or what? I also saw a very creative slogan for a travel agent's; it was, 'Go away... please!'

Then I thought of one for Gamblers Anonymous... 'Bet you can't guess what our slogan is?'

Being an after dinner speaker with a strong magical slant I was recently asked what I thought the right length of time an after dinner speech should be. My advice is to make it like a woman's dress, long enough to cover the subject, short enough to make it interesting.

While I'm at it... I'm often asked to do a motivational after dinner speech, as opposed to just entertaining, as I did a few days ago for a group of senior managers for Job Centre Plus. Usually motivational speakers refuse to do this kind of work as it's the wrong time of day for a motivational speech. If you're thinking of having a go the secret here is to make it entertaining, in fact, not only relevant but also the funnier the better.

Well, Santa is warming up his reindeer, giving Rudolf's nose a final polish and getting ready for the big day. No not the VAT change I'm talking about Chrimbo and I do hope this year you've been nice and not naughty.

Just in case we have been naughty and won't be getting anything from the man in red (ie Gordon Brown, oh sorry I forgot, he's in THE red) here are

some bits and pieces to bring a smile to your face as well as the faces of your family, friends and colleagues.

You might consider doing this on Christmas day while you're waiting to have your meal served.

### **The Sneaky Stunt - The Floating Chipolata (or sausage)**

Close both hands into fists and extend only the forefingers, as if pointing at each other, parallel to the floor and in a straight line, with their tips touching. Keeping the fingertips in contact, hold them in front of your eyes, about eight to twelve inches (20 to 30 cms) away. You should not be able to see the fingernails. The inner sides of the fingers are towards you.

Now separate those fingers a little, about half an inch (1.5 cms) or less. There is an empty space between the fingers. Look through that space and focus on a distant object. You'll see a floating sausage.

If we bring our finger tips closer together the sausage grows longer and if we separate the fingertips it becomes smaller.

If you're feeling hungry you can do it with all four fingers of each hand and four sausages will appear.

On second thoughts, may I suggest, no matter how hungry you may be not to eat these sausages. That... would be a bad thing.

### **The Challenge - For a bit of fun, I challenge you to drop this useless fact in to your next conversation**

Mohammed Nanb from Pakistan tells the fortunes of customers who pass by in the street, using his talking fortune-telling parrots.

Yeah, right. I bet they say... 'Sqaaawk... you're going to meet a tall, dark, handsome, *feathered* stranger'.

### **I Can't Believe They Said That, or ..... Dooh!!!**

'Born in Italy, most of his fights have been in his native New York'.

Des Lynam

and...

'That programme was so interesting; I learned things I never even knew'.

Adrian Love

Yup, that would be.... about right Adrian.

### Last Minute Christmas Presents

[Click here](#) for some ideas for my list of recommended reading. They can even act as Christmas presents. There's a whole mish mash of *magic books for beginners and self development books*.

### ... and finally

This may not be relevant to you, but I specialise in helping organisations unleash the best from their people. How? Through hilarious [after dinner](#) performances or entertaining and very funny [keynote presentations](#).

If you do have an event coming up sometime in the future then why not, **John, pick up the phone now and call me on 01274 685152** and you're going to be delighted when you find out how I can help you increase the productivity of your people leading to an improved bottom line.

To get a flavour of the Hotowka boy in action a short video is available at the bottom of the home page of my web site [www.hotowka.co.uk](http://www.hotowka.co.uk).

Wishing you and yours a very merry Christmas and a phenomenal 2009.

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