



bitz arre TV

DAN WOOTTEN'S *Richard Jones*

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RIP OFF? IT'S JUST ILLUSION

THE Magic Circle last night honoured Richard with a celebration dinner at their London headquarters. The elite club, whose members include fellow magicians DYMAIO and DAVID COPPERFIELD, turned out in force to give him a pat on the back.

Richard explained: "I had a message from the president of the Magic Circle and he thanked me for highlighting magic on BGT."

I auditioned there three years ago and regularly turn up for their catch-ups. Richard also confronted his critics' 'rip-off' claims for the first time after 'The Sun' revealed, below, he had been accused of copying his audition act from PAUL DANIELS and his semi-final and final performances from



America's Got Talent. He said: "It's been great to see so many magicians support me. When you get famous, there's always going to be someone who gets upset. Every trick that someone performs is a version of something else."

"People have been making doves disappear for hundreds of years. It doesn't mean it's a copy. It's about the story you tell with the trick."

He's got a lot of pressure to prove his critics wrong at the Royal Variety Performance.

RICHARD revealed that appearing on ITV's quiz show *The Chase*, alongside BRADLEY WALSH, was more stressful than performing on BGT.

The magician even showed off his skills on the show - which aired in March - before losing his £4,000 pot to the head questioner showdown.

He said: "Being up against the *Chaser* was absolutely more pressure. You don't know what you're going to be asked. At least on BGT I knew what I was doing when I came out for my magic tricks."



See his amazing card skills at thesun.co.uk/magic

We won't trick down the aisle

RICHARD 'TOO YOUNG' TO WED

BRITAIN'S Got Talent winner RICHARD JONES has revealed he will resist pressure to go down on one knee - claiming he is too young to marry.

The Army magician has been dating his girlfriend, pictured with him, for two-and-a-half years and has been asked several times by family if he will pop the question after scooping the £250,000 prize.

I let Richard, 25, take over the reins of my *Bizarre* TV column - making it his third job alongside his magic and military



I'm back to abracadabra barracks

preparations for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations. He said: "Personally, I think I'm too young to get married. Following Saturday, she is really beside herself, but is also so supportive. She is loving the fact that I have been on so many 'shows'."

Richard has decided not to name his girlfriend, who is not in the military, over security fears.

He returns to his barracks in Knightsbridge, West London, this morning before embarking on a solid stint of performances until July.

He explained: "The next two weeks are going to be the busiest you get in the Army. 'Trooping the Colour' for the Queen's 90th is just days away and there are a lot of rehearsals on horseback and events before that.

"I've got to be back in and have loads to do because I have about three hours' worth of polishing of my uniform and boots to sort out."

I don't know what I'm going to do for the Royal Variety show but hopefully if the princess are there I would love to get them involved."

Prince Harry is sure to muck in with a fellow serviceman.

Looking magical

AMANDA HOLDEN and ALESHA DIXON's dresses got the military seal of approval. Richard said: "They both looked amazing. They were both very glamorous assistants and great when I was performing my act with them."



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 24 hours in telly

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