



Southend Sorcerers Society

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SOUTHEND SORCERERS SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

2021 MEETINGS

- 3rd Oct Annual Props Auction
17th Oct Additional ZOOM Lecture – Vinny Sagoo
7th Nov Club Night
5th Dec Xmas Fun Night

2022 MEETINGS

- | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------|
| 2 nd Jan | Lecture - Paul Gordon | 3 rd Jul | TBC |
| 6 th Feb | Lecture – Mark Traversoni and Mark Infiniti | 2 nd Aug | Club Night |
| 6 th Mar | Club Night | 4 th Sep | Close Up Competition |
| 3 rd Apr | Annual General Meeting | 2 nd Oct | Lecture - TBC |
| 1 st May | Annual stage competition | 6 th Nov | Props Auction |
| 5 th Jun | Lecture - TBC | 4 th Dec | Xmas Fun Night |

CLUB SHOWS

- 11th Nov 21 WI, Smallgains Hall, Canvey Island
26th Feb 22 Wentworth School, Maldon
19th Mar 22 Stambridge Primary School
Aug 22 As If By Magic – Dixon Studio (TBC)

CLUB WEBSITE

www.southendsorcerers.com
Members' area password - jimmy

ONLINE NOW.....

All our lockdown lecture series is now available in the members' section of the website, including the latest events from Alakazam/Leo Smetsers and Nikolas Mavresis!

<https://www.southendsorcerers.com/zoom-recordings>

CONTACTS

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LAST MEETING – 5th SEPTEMBER – 2021 CLOSE UP COMPETITION



Our last meeting was the 2021 close up competition which saw a total of 5 members (3 seniors and 2 juniors) competing for the Wilf Dent memorial cup for the juniors; and the Robert Ferro trophy for the senior competition, along with the honour of becoming junior and senior close up champions for 2021/22.

As usual, each contestant performed their routines at three tables, each with a judge in the audience to score their work. With a total of 100 possible marks and scoring based on entertainment value, magical content and presentation, the aim was to award the trophies to the highest scorers at the end of the contest.

A huge well done goes to everyone that took part – it's never easy performing magic for other magicians and all our contestants approached their performances with enthusiasm and confidence. In the senior contest, Chris Campos, Thomas Edwin and Dave Taylor fought it out; and for the juniors Finlay Southgate and Nathan Fitzpatrick stepped up to take part.

Included in performances we saw everything from sponge balls to dice stacking; card effects, mentalism and chop cup were all on show too. After a year away from the competitions it was a little worrying to think about how many people would actually enter this year, but I'd like to thank all our contestants (and all those members who came along to watch and support) for making it a super evening and a well fought competition.

At the end of the contest all the scores were added and validated, and the winners were announced as Dave Taylor for the seniors; and Nathan Fitzpatrick for the juniors in a closely fought two man race. Huge congratulations go to our winners of course, but well done and thanks to everyone that took part for a really enjoyable evening. If you didn't win this year, please don't be too downhearted - take it as encouragement to work on your act and come up with some new amazing miracles for next year's competition.

Of course we must also say many thanks to our three judges who undoubtedly found it tricky to separate the various performers, and to our audiences who hopefully had a super evening. Thanks also to Gill and Audrey for acting as timekeepers.

Chris Campos also filmed the whole thing so that those who entered can now look back on their performances! Thanks Chris – that's brilliant!

If you'd like to have a look at the competition again, it's online now - this is the link you'll need: <https://youtu.be/zAqpVF0dKI8>



Also at the meeting, Charlie Navarro, who passed his audition the month before, was formally welcomed to the club and presented with his membership items.

It's great to have you with us Charlie and we hope you find your membership rewarding and worthwhile.



NEXT MEETING – 3rd OCTOBER – ANNUAL PROPS & BOOKS AUCTION



Our October meeting is the club's annual auction of props and books etc. If you have any magical apparatus or DVDs etc that you no longer need or that just don't fit your performing style, this is your opportunity to pass them on to someone else that might be able to make better use of them. At the same time, for people looking for a bargain, this is the night when you might just find one. So do come along with plenty of pocket money – you never know what's going to crop up in the auction and sometimes rare or expensive props go for silly money!

If you have items to sell, the rules are simple:

- 1) Please make a list of the (up to 10 – see below) items you have for sale with your name clearly marked at the top of the list. If you'd like to place a lowest reserve price on anything please mark it against the item(s) concerned clearly so that our auctioneers can see it easily.

In previous years we haven't been able to include all of the items in the sale during the time available, so last time we tried a 'maximum of ten items per seller' rule, to see if this was fairer for everyone. This seemed to work well, so we'll carry on with that approach this year.

- 2) Please email your list to Adrian and Tracy in advance of the meeting so that we can be prepared for the onslaught! It's always a busy night so anything we can do to get ahead of the game is really appreciated. As mentioned earlier, there are only so many items we can get through on the night, so **if you haven't emailed your list in advance we may not be able to include your items in the sale.**
- 3) When you get to the meeting, please hand your list to Adrian and Tracy who will be co-ordinating things for us, and place the items on one of the tables set up for the purpose. Adrian will guide you to the correct spot. If you are selling, please arrive early so that there's not a mad rush to get everything ready in time for the sale to start promptly at 8.00.
- 4) Our auctioneers will do their best to get a good price for your items, but may ask you to provide a little more information during the sale if necessary.
- 5) At the end of the evening, Tracy will collect all the money from the buyers and distribute it to the sellers. The club will not be taking any commission for sales.

And if you're buying, just come along to spot the bargains. Items will be handed to you as soon as you've won them, but please remember that your name will be noted and you must pay for anything you've bought at the end of the evening **before you leave. Make sure you only bid for items that you have enough cash to pay for!**

Please note that only members of the club and committee approved guests will be allowed to bid for items this year.

Chris Campos will also be setting up a separate table of his own and you are free to browse his stall and make him a direct offer for anything he has for sale.

And that's about it! The auction is always great fun and there are always bargains to be had, so come along ready to sell or bid!

Look forward to seeing you there!

EXTRA MEETING – 17th OCTOBER – ZOOM LECTURE BY VINNY SAGOO



Earlier in the year we were treated to a brilliant dealer dem from Vinny Sagoo, the founder of Neo Magic. It was also arranged that in October we would host his brand new lecture too, and the plan was that Vinny would visit us in Southend if the situation allowed it.

Unfortunately, this hasn't proved possible – so instead we're holding his lecture as an additional meeting on the Zoom platform on Sunday 17th October at 7.30pm.

Vinny formed his company in 2018 and since then is always at the Blackpool conventions. He creates some really nice magical effects which are on sale at very reasonable prices - he has some brilliant ideas and both Rick and I have bought and used his routines before now.

They're all real world materials that play extremely well with audiences and I know that Vinny will be hugely entertaining and great fun to watch in his brand new lecture with all new material. It should be a really super evening and we look forward to seeing you there on screen on 17th October at 7.30pm.

Here are the Zoom dial in details as usual:

Topic: Sorcerers Neo Magic
Time: Oct 17, 2021 07:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8254968023?pwd=MFRZVVZZcloyNVBnUFNlNmmtaHphdz09>

Meeting ID: 825 496 8023

Passcode: sorcerers

CLUB SHOWS

If you'd like to perform at any of our future shows, either with close-up magic or as a stage act, then please contact Richard Graham on 01268 783202. Rick will also provide details of venue addresses, times and directions as required.



CURRENT SHOW BOOKINGS

Here's a note from Richard Graham – looks like we may be starting to get some show requests at last!

11th November 2021, WI, Smallgains Hall, Canvey Island

'We have our first club show request for several months. It is one we have done before, on Canvey Island at the Smallgains Hall for the local Women's Institute. This was a great show last time and they would like us back on Thursday 11th November (7pm start) if possible.

I have provisionally agreed to this show but I need to make sure we can fulfil it. It would be our full show so 2-3 stage acts and 10 close uppers. I need to know as soon as possible if members are ready and willing to get back into performing now so I can agree to this and future shows. Can you please respond to me (richard@richardgraham-magic.co.uk) and let me know urgently:

Are you willing to perform again at our club shows as and when?
Can you perform at this show on 11th November with either stage or close up?

26th February 2022, Wentworth School in Maldon

We have one other show in the diary at present, a carry over from pre-Covid, which will be on 26th Feb 2022, at Wentworth school in Maldon which we have also done before.

19th March 2022, Stambridge Primary School

Another show booking has come in this month – this one is for Stambridge Primary School on 19th March next year. We've performed here before and they'd like us back in the New Year so please note this one in your diary too.'

Please do let Rick know about your availability ASAP – it's great that we're starting to get show requests but we need to know urgently if you're ready and willing to be involved!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Membership Subs 2021/22



Ways to pay

As you know, we decided not to charge membership subs for this year until we were certain about the future of our meetings going forward. At the time we announced that we would look at collecting subs in October for half a year to take us all through to April 2022.

Now that we're back at the Ekco Club and therefore having to pay for the room, we're asking for a 6 month subscription for the second half of the year from October as planned.

Could you therefore please pay your subs now so that we can continue to enjoy our meetings and lectures going forward?

The amount due is just £10 for individuals and £12.50 for juniors and family membership which, given the amount of work we've put in to keep the club running during lockdown, we hope you'll agree is more than fair. After all, our guest ticket price for a single lecture is £10 on its own!

As usual you can pay via BACS if you prefer – here are the bank details:

Sort Code: 30-65-22

Account no: 79204460

Please make sure that you include a reference consisting of your name and 'Subs21' when you make the payment. That way we'll know that you've paid. And of course, cash and cheques are still very welcome payment methods at our next meeting too.

For new members who have never paid a subscription before, please remember that there is an additional one-off £10 joining fee as well.

MAGIC NEWS

Merlin Magic Society Auction

We received an email from the Merlin Magic Society this month about the passing of one of their members, Michael Chandler. He was a prolific magician and his entire collection of props etc is now being auctioned – this is the email we received from John Clayton:

Hi magic friends.

I hope you have all been keeping well through these testing times.

I am writing to inform you all that the Merlin Magical Society is holding an auction on the 23rd September, to sell some of the magical effects of the late Michael Chandler, who was a club member for many years.

Michael was quite a collector of magic items, some of which are rather rare. As you will from the link below that gives all the information, there are over 300 items for sale, so we are holding a second auction in November, and even maybe a third one next year, as there is far too much for one evening. In fact I still have a few more items to sort through.

Entry to the auction is totally free. All we ask is that people bring lots of £1 coins, as well as notes, as it is on a pay as you buy basis, so no having to queue at the end to pay.

Here is the link to our web page advertising the auction, which gives full details and address etc...

<https://merlinmagicalsociety.com/auction/>

Please could you forward this information to your club members, and anyone who you think would like to attend this auction.

Any questions, please give me a call on 07931 525399.

Kindest Regards
John Clayton
Secretary of the Merlin Magical Society.

Although we may be a little late for the September date, it may be worth having a look at their website to see what the plans are going forward. Feel free to contact John directly if you'd like to find out more.

FINALLY, AS USUAL, SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

Accessories

SUEDE CLOSE UP PAD (BLUE) by TCC



A decent close up mat can really make a difference and if you haven't got one yet, maybe this would be a great item for your Christmas list! The perfect pad for your performances!

Select special flannelette material.

The fabric is perfectly fitted with high-density sponge, with excellent resilience. A black litchi grain leather sole has been selected for anti-slip and wear resistance.

The fabric and base material are supported by hard wood boards with moderate hardness and higher integrity.

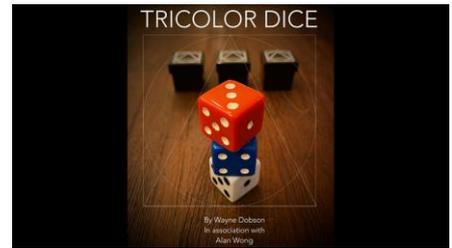
Size: 50cm x 34cm x 1.2cm

The TCC mat can be seen and purchased from Alakazam at a price of £28.
<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/suede-leather-large-pad-blue-by-tcc.html>

Mentalism

TRICOLOUR DICE by Wayne Dobson and Alan Wong

Tricolour Dice is a fine five minute close up routine by Wayne Dobson featuring three small dice boxes and three coloured dice. It gives you a three-phase mindreading act under increasingly impossible conditions with a strong finish.



Despite the spectator making all the choices of boxes and dice, and all the mixing around, you are able to reveal which box the spectator has put the die in, and again with the boxes switched around, all with your back turned.

In the last phase, the spectator becomes the mind reader and as a kicker finish, they apparently divine not only the colour they have randomly chosen, also the number on top of the die they have randomly placed behind their back, and all the coloured dice have matched the colours inside the three boxes too.

Combining different clever principles in true Wayne Dobson style, and professional presentation with detailed PDF instructions included.

Tricolour Dice can be seen at Alakazam – the price is around £28

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/tricolor-dice-by-wayne-dobson-and-alan-wong-trick-tricdice.html>

Metal Bending

QUANTUM SPOON BEND by Peter Eggink



Spoon bending has been mesmerizing audiences all over the world for decades. Quantum Spoon Bend allows you to use a borrowed, regular un-gimmicked coffee or tea spoon (which may be signed) and visually cause the metal of that very spoon to become liquid right in-between your fingertips as it slowly bends out of shape only to restore itself back to its original condition!

Without any switches or whatsoever, the very same spoon is handed back to the spectator for them to keep as an astonishing souvenir! Spoon bending with a borrowed spoon was never this visual or as easy to perform!

Key points:

Very easy to do!

Use a borrowed coffee/tea spoon!

Super visual!

Instant reset!

Perform virtually surrounded!

It comes complete with a ready to go Quantum Spoon Bend gimmick, practise spoon and online instructional video.

Quantum Spoon Bend is priced at around £39 and is available from most dealers – you can see the trailer for it here:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/quantum-spoon-bend-with-gimmicks-and-online-instructions-by-peter-eggink.html>

Stage Routines

PRESTIGE by Hide

Prestige is a super stage routine which can be fully customised to suit your performance style.

It's a 'Blank Night' type of effect where the performer holds a set of 5 numbered cards clearly displayed in a transparent presentation case. The spectator has a free choice of any number and this card is openly removed. The rest of the cards are then turned round to show that they are labelled with large amounts of money. But the reverse of the selected card is now also shown and it has instead an insignificant item (like a pair of socks) drawn on it.



But there's more! When the other cards, still in their presentation case, are turned round again, the numbers on them have vanished altogether, proving that the spectator could only have chosen the number they did!

This amazing effect is the perfect opener - in fact it's perfect to perform at any point during your act. There is absolutely no force required to perform this effect!

Prestige is totally customisable and even though it comes with some nice routine ideas you can write whatever you like on the cards.

Check out the trailer and you'll see the possibilities are endless. This is not a cheap item, but for any of us performing on stage it has real potential.

See it at Alakazam – the price is £145

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/prestige-by-hide-magic.html>

Cards

TORCHED AND RESTORED by Brent Braun



Put simply, a spectator freely selects and signs a card, and the card is then cleanly torn into four pieces. The magician then removes a torch style lighter and "welds" the four pieces back together. The card is seen on fire and then instantly, visually and completely restores. Yes the card is examinable with no sign of any tears or burns. This is highly visual magic and one of the easiest methods on the market.

Torched & Restored is one of the most practical, easy, and angle proof versions of the Torn and Restored card ever released.

You can see a full performance at Alakazam where the price is £12.95.

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/torched-and-restored-by-brent-braun.html>

That's about it for this month everyone – stay safe and send any articles for next month's newsletter to Adrian for publishing.