



*Southend Sorcerers Society*

Tel: 01702 297983

## SOUTHEND SORCERERS AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

### 2021 MEETINGS

- 5<sup>th</sup> Sep Close Up Competition  
3<sup>rd</sup> Oct Annual Props Auction  
17<sup>th</sup> Oct Additional ZOOM Lecture – Vinny Sagoo  
7<sup>th</sup> Nov Club Night  
5<sup>th</sup> Dec Xmas Fun Night

### 2022 MEETINGS

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

### 2022 CLUB SHOWS

- 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 22 Wentworth School, Maldon  
Aug 22 As If By Magic – Dixon Studio (TBC)

### CLUB WEBSITE

[www.southendsorcerers.com](http://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 – 1<sup>st</sup> AUGUST – WELCOME BACK TO THE EKCO SOCIAL



Our August meeting was the first time we've been back at our usual venue for well over a year - and it was brilliant to see so many members turn out for our first get together back at the Ekco Club! Thanks so much to everyone who came along to take part.

Adrian started the evening with a welcome and announced that, now we can meet properly, the close up competition would be going ahead at next month's meeting as planned! The rules are attached to this newsletter for information and you can read more about it below.

Also at the meeting we were joined by some potential new members for their first time (Matt Pax and Philip Pentecost), which is always nice to see; and Charlie Navarro took and passed his audition to become a member of the club formally. Well done Charlie, and thanks for a very entertaining performance. Welcome to the club – we'll present you with your certificate, badge and membership card at the September meeting.

The rest of the evening was handed over to those attending for mix and mingle as usual on our club nights and it was great to hear the buzz back in the club room again after all this time.

Thanks again to those who attended – here's to bringing back the magic even stronger going forward!

## NEXT MEETING – 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER – 2021 CLOSE UP COMPETITION GOING AHEAD

Our September meeting will be the long overdue annual close-up magic contest where we hope to be able to hold a junior and senior competition for the Wilf Dent and Robert Ferro trophies respectively.

As always, we do need advance warning if you intend to enter the competition, so **please let Adrian know if you're planning to take part** – full contact details are on the front page of this newsletter. I'm hoping that the close-up contest will be keenly fought out, but we still need to know how many people intend to enter, so please don't just turn up on the night expecting to take part as this may not be possible if we have a lot of entries. As always, it's a case of first come, first served. Competitors need to present their close-up act at three tables, and the time restriction is set at no more than ten minutes, otherwise points will be deducted for over-running.



I'm looking forward to giving people an opportunity to perform after such a long time so it should hopefully be a great night with a lot of guests coming along to watch the magic. Don't forget that even if you're not taking part, your family and friends are very welcome to attend and help to create an audience. Admission is free. Look forward to seeing you there!

Many of us won't have performed all that much during lockdown, and I'm sure that the temptation will be not to take part in the competition, but that's exactly why we're running it! Here's a great opportunity to polish up your props and get back to performing in a safe and encouraging environment, so please do have a go – there's absolutely nothing to lose or fear! We'll all be a bit rusty!

For the sake of completeness the full rules for the competition are attached for information.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Could the last winners from 2019 (Alfie Hawes and Chris Campos) please remember to bring the (cleaned!) trophies with them so that we can present them to this year's winners.**

## CHANGES TO OCTOBER MEETINGS

If you take a look at the front page, you'll spot that we've made some changes to the meetings over the next couple of months – this is to fit in with various issues.

First, the October meeting will now be the annual props and books auction – we're bringing this forward from November. This means that the planned Vinny Sagoo lecture will now be held over Zoom on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October. Vinny couldn't visit us in person, so the Zoom lecture will be an additional get together.

So start digging our any items you'd like to sell in the auction – as usual, the club charges no commission and it's a great opportunity to clear out your unused or 'bought on a whim' items! Plenty of chances to grab a bargain too as you never know what might be up for sale at far less than retail prices.

## 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

Still nothing new to report this month unfortunately, but let's hope we can get back to booking some shows soon!

At present our only provisional next show is as follows:

### 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022, Wentworth School in Maldon

Final date still to be confirmed! Please keep this one in mind and let's all hope that we can get our performing shoes on and get out to show them some of our best magic!

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### Membership Subs 2021/22

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.



Ways to pay

Now that we're back at the Ekco Club and therefore having to pay for the room, we will be asking for a 6 month subscription for the second half of the year from October as planned, but you can pay now if you prefer to get it done and dusted.

The amount 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. 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 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

### Paul Gordon – New TV Studio

Paul is visiting us in January, so we thought it would good to share his latest adventure with you. He writes:



‘I’ve had a bespoke studio built in the grounds of my home. It’s for filming new projects, Zoom shows and lectures, tuition and in-person interviews. The filming is top quality what with three cameras and excellent lighting and sound.

To be the first to find out what’s happening, please join the newsletter at [www.paulgordon.net/newsletter](http://www.paulgordon.net/newsletter). The very first interview to be held live (in the flesh) was with the wonderful

Graham P Jolley. It’s not just an interview, it’s a chat. It’s great fun and very informative. It’s the first of many.’

You can see the video with Paul and Graham here:

<https://youtu.be/9HsZevjd8iE>

### Magic Week Video Archive

If you find yourself at a loose end one day and need something to do, here’s a great idea! Magic Week hosts an online video archive of a huge variety of performers and shows – there’s something for everyone here and access is completely free of charge. Incidentally, you’ll find all the latest news about what’s going on in the world of magic too.



To access the enormous free Video Archive, simply follow this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0VQINjg1RbLrUgeg3rQZiw/videos>

## FINALLY, AS USUAL, SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

### Cards

### BEYOND BRAINWAVE by Martin Macmillan



This is a new twist on the Brainwave/Invisible deck and has caused great reactions on its showing in International Magic’s London shop. Here’s a typical presentation...

A blue backed pack is placed on display while a spectator is asked to name a card (no force, no elimination). The pack is removed and the cards spread, the named card is the only face up card in the face down deck. The card is removed, turned over and shown to have a red back.

Until now, everything seems normal for those familiar with the Brainwave deck. But here’s where things change, the deck is turned over and freely shown to be entirely blank, the only printed card is the spectator’s named one!

The pack is freely shown both sides. The named card is entirely and individually shown back and front. There’s no force, no thin cards, only one pack is used. (The deck is printed on Bicycle stock with the Rider back).

The routine is supplied with the special pack, printed instruction & video tuition.

This is an International Magic exclusive and it costs £17 – you can see it here:

<https://internationalmagic.com/p/own-range/beyond-brainwave-by-martin-macmillan>

## Gimmicks

## SWITCH ONE by Christian Grace

When I saw this the first time I was totally blown away by it – it looks like real magic! Just watch the trailer and you'll see what I mean!

A folded card that has been in view from the start, trapped under an inverted clear wine glass, is shown to be a card freely named by a spectator.

For many, this is the holy grail of card magic. To achieve it in a manner as fair as this, where the spectator names the colour, suit and value of a card, has been extremely difficult, if not borderline impossible... until now.



Christian Grace (the innovative mind behind "Level One") and Vanishing Inc. have partnered to present "Switch One", an ingenious new system that allows you to perform a variety of magic and mentalism miracles. The word "system" is a key part of that last sentence. To simply call this a "card trick" would be a huge disservice to the variety of principles that come together to create this powerful offering.

At the core of "Switch One", there is a special gimmick that truly allows you to retrieve any card. However, if you want to opt for the easier handling (as shown in the trailer), you'll find that a singular (yes, just *one*) moment of equivoque in the beginning helps create the best results. As you'll learn both though, you can decide for yourself!

You'll also learn Christian's truly amazing switch where objects invisibly melt into one another. This imperceptible switch allows you to switch a card right under the noses of your spectators. They can be burning your hands and won't suspect a thing.

Despite how impossible it might look, Switch One is actually super easy to use. With a little practice, anyone can master it and will then truly have a miracle-maker on their hands.

This special "Switch One" system works with any deck of cards but also isn't limited to just playing cards. You can also use it to switch bills or billets to predict star signs, drinks names or whatever you'd like.

Switch One is available from a lot of dealers – Propdog have it for £66 which seems to be the best price so far. <https://www.propdog.co.uk/recent-additions/switch-one-christain-grace>

## Cards

## STOP by Chris Congreave



This is a nice new take on 'any card at any number' and as it's a download the price is very reasonable too.

The spectator cuts off a random number of cards and replaces them on the deck face up. They then count how many cards they cut and look at and remember the card they cut to. This card is mixed in with the portion they cut off which is thoroughly shuffled and replaced on the rest of the deck.

They count down to the number of the cards originally cut, and at that point find a card that says 'stop' at that number – and the next card is the selection.

This is a nice direct take on the principle and, like most of Chris's material, is easy to perform and very commercial. All in the spectator's hands too which is always a bonus.

You can see the uncut performance at Alakazam where the download price is just £7.99  
<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/stop-by-chris-congreave-instant-download.html>

## Wallets

## THE JAMESON WALLET by Ian Bailey

For decades magicians have been frying audiences with the Card to Wallet effect but in all that time the style of wallet used has pretty much stayed the same. In most cases they are big, bulky and just plain outdated. In fact the only people to still use this style of wallet are usually magicians!



That's about to change! Around 3 years ago Iain Bailey sent Alakazam a prototype of a new style card to wallet. A wallet he had created by adapting his own Mont Blanc® wallet. The design was modern and the workings were simple and Alakazam loved it!

They sent the new design to their manufacturer but it ended up getting misplaced for 2 years!! It finally resurfaced and after a few prototype tweaks it's now ready. The Jameson wallet is not only the most innocent and modern looking Card to Wallet on the market but it also holds a couple of other awesome secrets.

The Jameson Wallet comes with a beautiful high quality leather wallet and a full instructional video and a host of bonus routines! Alakazam think that the Jameson wallet will soon become your CTW of choice - and for maybe the first time here is a CTW that will become your everyday wallet!

They have the Jameson Wallet available in Black Leather or in gorgeous Brown Leather.

You can see the trailer and the information at Alakazam – the price is £40  
<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/the-jameson-wallet-limited-edition-brown-by-iain-bailey-.html>

## Books

## WEDDINGS I DO by Wayne Goodman

**Weddings ... I Do**  
A guide to being a professional  
wedding magician



By Wayne Goodman

Following the success of the Expert at the Restaurant Table, Wayne Goodman now shares with you the inner secrets of working as a full time wedding magician.

The wedding market is a fairly lucrative area for magicians, but how do you get started? How do you advertise? How do you get booked?

Wayne dives into each subject, revealing not only the ideas, concepts and strategies that worked for him, but also showing you the things that did not work, therefore enabling you to avoid making the same mistakes he did.

Chapters include: Wedding Fairs, The Bride and Groom, Websites, Getting Booked, Wedding Suppliers, and Types of magic.

Wayne has even included a chapter on working in untapped markets which is mainly all about the untapped US market where magic at weddings is not currently usual entertainment. Following the information in this book will enable you to hit the ground running and set yourself up as a fully bookable wedding magician.

Wayne has also included a section on routines and effects that he uses exclusively for weddings. These have never been shared or revealed before.

This book is an opportunity to make an investment that will be beneficial to your career for many years to come.

‘Weddings I Do’ is available as a hardback book (priced at £50); or as a soft back (£30).

You can find out more at Alakazam:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/weddings-i-do-softback-by-wayne-goodman.html>

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

## **SOUTHEND SORCERERS - CLOSE UP COMPETITION RULES**

Entry into the Competition is open to fully paid-up members of the society, but there can be no more than 10 competitors in total, in order to fit in to the evening's time schedule. Competitors must register with the competition secretary **in advance** and entrants will be received on a first come, first served basis. Late entries may be accepted at the Committee's discretion.

Both Junior and Senior competitions will run on the same evening. Entrants for the junior competition must be aged under 16 at the time of the competition. Seniors must be aged 16 or over at the time of the competition. Junior members will compete for the Wilf Dent Cup. Senior members will compete for the Robert Ferro cup. The winners will receive and retain the cup for one year and will also receive commemorative plaques to keep, usually presented at the club's annual dinner in October.

Under normal circumstances, there should be a minimum of 2 entrants for each section of the competition in order for it to run. However in the event of only one junior or senior wishing to participate, they may do so but must attain a minimum score (determined by the committee) to be awarded the trophy.

The order of performances will be decided by the drawing of cards before the competition begins. Each competitor will then perform their act at 3 separate tables. Each competitor will present a close-up routine, of more than two effects, in no more than ten minutes. The timekeeper will monitor the period allowed for each presentation precisely, and will signal an audible '2 minutes to go' warning after eight minutes have elapsed. Another signal will be sounded at ten minutes. After that signal the timekeeper will deduct points for competitors running over the allotted time. For each minute (or part thereof) over time, 5 points will be deducted from the competitor's total score.

The effects used by each competitor must be such that they can be carried on the person of the competitor. The same routine will be performed three times, once at each table. Competitors may not alter or vary their routines in any way once the competition has begun.

There will be a short "change over" period between sessions, to allow marks to be registered and for competitors to reset as necessary.

There will be three judges in total – 2 lay people and one magician. Judges will be identified to participants and should not be selected as volunteers by any of the performers. There will be one judge sitting at each of the three performance tables.

Score sheets will be made up with the competitor's name and copies given to the judges, compere and timekeeper.

The magical judge will score on magical content, presentation and entertainment. The lay judges will score on entertainment value only. The magical judge's score sheet will include an optional box to record any feedback for the competitors.

Each judge can award a maximum of twenty points in each category for each competitor. Thus, a maximum of 100 points may be awarded for each competitor.

Deductions for time penalties will be made and then each competitor's score will be independently verified; and the Committee's decision as to the winner is final. In the event of a tie, joint winners will be announced and each winner will retain the trophy for a six month period.