



Southend Sorcerers Society

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SOUTHEND SORCERERS MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

2020 MEETINGS AND EVENTS

7th Jun	Lecture – Paul Gordon - POSTPONED	4th Oct	Lecture – Tom Elderfield
5th Jul	TBC	1st Nov	Props Auction
2nd Aug	Club Night	6th Dec	Xmas Fun Night
6th Sep	Close Up Competition		

VIRTUAL MEETINGS (ZOOM)

7th Jun 7.30pm – Meeting ID = 833 4552 0935 Password = 073062

2020 CLUB SHOWS

20th Jun Essex County Bowls Club, Southend - POSTPONED
w/c **10th Aug** Dixon Studio Shows ‘As if By Magic!’ – POSTPONED UNTIL 2021

2021 CLUB SHOWS

27th Feb Wentworth School, Maldon

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LAST MEETING – 3rd MAY – ANNUAL STAGE COMPETITION - POSTPONED



Our May meeting was due to be the annual stage magic competition, but as you might expect, given the current situation, we have no alternative but to postpone the competition until further notice.

We hope that we'll be able to stage it later in the year though, as we think it's important to try and encourage all our members to work on new ideas and routines. If nothing else, with all the practice time we're getting, the competition should be brilliant when we finally get to stage it!

VIRTUAL MEETING – 17th MAY – OLIVER WARD TEACH IN

We held an online virtual meeting using the Zoom platform on Sunday 17th May. Although we planned to let it run for a short 40 minutes as a test run, the session actually lasted much longer with 23 people Zooming in to take part. Thanks for getting involved – it's very encouraging to see so many of you even if it is online.



Ollie Ward kindly agreed to show us some material that we can practice. He demonstrated and explained a range of card effects and sleights along with a rubber band routine that seemed easy to follow along with and learn. Ollie promised to send out a video of the moves for that effect in due course. Others like Finlay Southgate and Nathan Fitzpatrick also contributed to the event with their own ideas and suggestions.

NEXT MEETING – 7th JUNE – PAUL GORDON LECTURE - POSTPONED



Our June meeting was due to be the highly anticipated lecture from established author and card worker Paul Gordon. Those who are familiar with Paul's work will know that he specialises in card effects and it's probably fair to say that most magicians will have at least one of Paul's creations in their repertoire.

As you might expect, given the current situation, we have no alternative but to postpone the lecture until we (and Paul!) feel that it would be safe to reschedule it. We do hope that we'll be able to stage it later in the year, but rest assured that we'll get Paul booked in again at the earliest possible opportunity.

In the meantime you can always visit his YouTube channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIrf93eWVrQtZUNVRUPclxg>

NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING – 7th JUNE AT 7.30PM



Our next virtual meeting is taking place at 7.30 on Sunday 7th June, in place of our planned Paul Gordon lecture. As before, the meeting will use the Zoom platform and we'll send out log in details a little nearer to the day so that it stays fresh in everyone's mind.

If anyone uses any of Paul Gordon's routines, perhaps a nice touch would be to share them with the rest of the membership so that we can get a flavour of what Paul's lecture would have been like. I know that some of us do use Paul's material, so please dial in ready to show us what you include in your performances. We can also open the session up to anyone who would like help or guidance on any aspect of magic; or to those who'd like to show us what they've been working on during lockdown. The meeting will kick off at 7.30 so please do dial in if you're free – if nothing else it's a great way for us all to keep in touch.

The dial in details are: meeting ID = 833 4552 0935 Password = 073062 Hope to see you there!

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.

NEXT SHOW – 20th JUNE, ESSEX BOWLS CLUB

Our next scheduled show was due to be held on 20th June at the Essex County Bowls Club. As you might expect however, the show has now been **postponed** due to ongoing lockdown situation. The customer plans to re-book for another date at some point in the future, but at present we have no idea of when that might be. Watch this space for further updates.



We also have a show booked for **27th February 2021 at the Wentworth School** in Maldon. This is a repeat booking and is currently still scheduled to go ahead as far as we know so please book the date in your diary if you'd be keen to help out.

DIXON STUDIO SHOWS – AS IF BY MAGIC 2020 - POSTPONED



This year's Dixon Shows were due to be held during week commencing 10th August and would have marked our 10th anniversary at the Dixon Studio. We were planning to make this year's shows even more spectacular than in the past as a special marker for the milestone we've achieved.

So you can imagine how disappointed we all were to have to make the sad decision to postpone the 2020 shows until next year when hopefully things might have settled down a little. As it turns out, the theatres are planning to stay closed until at least September anyway, so it does seem as though we'd have had little choice. But when you consider how difficult it would have been to sell tickets, or even to get people together to rehearse, there really is no other option but to postpone things.

We're really disappointed to have to make this decision, but we'll be back in force next year I'm sure, so let's plan to make our comeback shows in 2021 the best ever!

PAYING SUBSCRIPTIONS - BACS

Just a reminder that if you haven't done so already, it's time to renew your annual subscription. We'd be grateful if you could pay your subs as soon as possible please.

You can pay by BACS – via an electronic online money transfer - directly into the club's bank account from your own. If you want to pay via this method, the club's bank details are as follows:

Sort Code: 30-65-22

Account no: 79204460

Please make sure that you include a reference consisting of your name and 'Subs20' when you make the payment. That way we'll know that you've paid.

For those not able to pay in this way, please feel free to send a cheque to Tracy or Adrian – get in touch for address details please. Subscriptions for 2020/21 are £20 for individual membership and £25 for junior (ie family) membership.



Ways to pay

If you prefer to pay in cash, you may have to wait until we can get back together properly, so if you can arrange payment by BACS or cheque ahead of then it would be very much appreciated.

We do encourage you to please keep your subscription up to date so that once the lockdown is over we can come back stronger than ever. Thanks for your support in these difficult times.

ANNUAL DINNER 2020 – SATURDAY OCTOBER 17th

Here's just another reminder about our 2020 annual dinner and awards evening. We've now confirmed the date and venue, so please do note the date in your diary and try to join us on the night if you can.



Last year's event was really superb and well supported, so if you enjoyed it, do come and spend an evening with friends and family at this special evening. It's on Saturday October 17th and we've decided to head back to the Thorpe Hall Golf Club as it was such a superb meal last year. Menu details for this year follow below.



The ticket price has been kept to £30 per head as per last year and with such a fabulous meal, a cabaret and raffle etc, we hope you'll agree that it represents amazing value for money. Our cabaret this year is being provided by BGT finalist Christian Lee and with Christian you can always expect the unexpected! He's a very experienced entertainer and will I'm sure give us a great show.

Do join us if you can. Let Tracy know how many seats you'd like and let her have a £10 per head deposit as soon as you can please.

Of course, all this assumes that things are back to normal by October!

Roasted red pepper & tomato soup with garlic croutons

Crispy breaded tiger prawns with sweet chilli & coriander sauce

Duck & orange liqueur pate with homemade chutney & toasted ciabatta

Marinated rump of lamb with a redcurrant & red wine jus, roast potatoes

Sage & onion stuffed chicken breast, wrapped in bacon on a port & mushroom sauce, roast potatoes

Baked lemon & horseradish crumbed salmon with a white wine butter cream sauce, new potatoes

Roasted Mediterranean vegetable cassoulet topped with cheddar & herb crumble, new potatoes

Main courses accompanied by seasonal vegetable selection

Fresh raspberry crème brulee

Warm spotted 'Richard' with custard

Selection of continental cheese & biscuits with grapes & celery

Filter coffee & mint chocolates

MEMBERS' NEWS

Oliver Tabor Wins IBM 'Nonvention' Competition



The first virtual magic convention presented by British Ring No 25 of The International Brotherhood of Magicians was held recently. Taking place over 3 days, members were given the opportunity to enjoy an IBM magic convention from the comfort of their own homes, choosing from allocated timed videos that were either made especially for the event or taken from past convention footage. These included lectures, talks and performances from Paul Nardini, Ali Bongo, Andi Gladwin, Rafael, Norm Nielson, and Ali Cardabra amongst others.

The convention set out to create the atmosphere of an IBM convention, with a welcome video message from president Alan Maskel to start. The event had dedicated pages on the British Ring website for videos from dealers, a theatre page for the various shows screening lectures, talks and gala shows throughout the convention, plus a pre-convention Zoom party hosted by James Hobart.

There was also the inaugural Ali Bongo Virtual Nonvention competition, featuring videos made by members during the lockdown that were judged and voted for by members over the weekend. The winning performance was from our own Oliver Tabor with a unique new act. IBM British Ring members have the chance to view the entire convention throughout July. For more information and how to join The British Ring, visit www.britishring.org.uk.

If you'd like to see Oliver's brilliant performance, you'll find it on YouTube here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2k1Er_lfbE

Well done from all of us Oliver – it's a superb act!

COVID19 – MAGICAL ACTIVITIES

As a lot of us are stuck at home for long periods of time, it gives us a great opportunity to practice and try new stuff. At the same time a lot of magicians are now making things available online for the public and other magicians, often free of charge. Here are a couple of things I've found that you might be interested in having a look at...

Jamie Allan's iMagician Live - online



Every Friday at 7pm

Jamie and his team broadcast a live show on Facebook every Friday at 7pm. The show has received rave reviews for its content and production. The show is a mixture of fun, star interviews and magic. Visit Jamie's public Facebook page to find out more, watch the next show on Friday, or catch up with previous episodes. [facebook.com/JamieAllaniMagician](https://www.facebook.com/JamieAllaniMagician)

Magic Week Video Archive

The MagicWeek Video Archive - The Secret Cabaret, series 1, shows 5 & 6. The final two shows from the first series of 'The Secret Cabaret with Simon Drake' are available on the Magic Week video archive and well worth a watch. Show 5 stars Simon Drake, Alan Alan, James Randi, Jay Marshall, Ricky Jay and others. Show 6 stars: Simon Drake, James Randi, Tony Andruzzi, Watt the Man, Anthony Georgiou, Ann Pownall (Fluke) Desmond Williams and Ricky Jay. You can see the show and the rest of the archive here:

https://www.magicweek.co.uk/thisweek_magic_week_video_archive.htm



Zoom magicians, check this out!



With the current working situation, magicians are looking for new audiences and ways to perform - and many are turning to Zoom and other video platforms to offer 'virtual' shows. Lee Hathaway has created a brilliant new routine specifically for this purpose – based on the classic 'Confabulation' routine but with a lockdown theme and a fantastic kicker ending where the magic actually happens in their hands, on screen! Combining a web based application specifically written for the effect, and re-routining the classic plot, this stunning routine is an absolute must for anyone serious about enhancing their Zoom performances... Watch a video and find out more, visit www.zoomfab.info.

FINALLY, AS USUAL, SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

Mentalism with Cards

Pinnacle is the latest word on card and number effects. Brian Caswell started the buzz with card and number effects many years ago with Trilogy, a ground-breaking and best-selling effect.

Pinnacle is a mixture of Trilogy and Brian's other best seller, Cataclysm. Imagine showing a deck of cards. Each card has a number from 1-52 on the back. Your spectator names any 3 cards (there are no high-low or odd-even restrictions). You remove the named cards from the deck and place them face up on the table.

You now direct your spectator to a prediction you have made -- the numbers on your prediction match the numbers on the back of the cards!

But the difference is, your prediction is in full view before you even start the effect. You can text it to your spectator, have it written on a business card, on a photo or even on your social media page. Yes, there is only ONE prediction! Pinnacle really is the ultimate in this type of effect!

Pinnacle does not use R & S or sticky cards. You are not secretly writing anything and there is absolutely no memory work or sleights required. The one thing it does use is some ingenious thinking from Brian.

Pinnacle by Brian Caswell is far more than just one trick. It is a very clever system which will allow you to predict the outcome of three choices with 100% accuracy, 100% of the time.

Imagine for a moment you decide not to make your deck up with numbers but with names, locations, companies, movie stars, movies, food, cars, cocktails, gifts, memories - the list goes on and on. Imagine the power of this prediction.

Take a look at Pinnacle at Alakazam, where the price is £35
<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/pinnacle-by-brian-caswell-.html>

PINNACLE by Brian Caswell



Spooky Magic

HAUNTED KEY DELUXE by Murphy's Magic



The Haunted Key is a classic of magic. There are many versions on the market but this is the best one available.

Here is the effect: You introduce a gothic-looking key and place it on the palm of your hand. Slowly... eerily... the key begins to move, under your control at all times. It's as if the key is possessed. The key can be examined at any time. There are no

strings, threads, wires, magnets, electronics, or anything for that matter. It is impossible for the spectator to find a gimmick.

Here are some of the advantages to this version of the Haunted Key:

Comprehensive video instruction included (featuring some really cool bonus routines)

A beautifully made gimmick, that looks the part thanks to the aged patina.

Can be carried in your pocket and performed at a moment's notice.

The gimmick will last forever.

Can be performed in any environment.

The bonus routines taught require an extra gimmick (not included—but you will almost certainly have it in your magic drawer). These routines include how to use the key to locate a freely selected playing card.

The Haunted Key is reasonable priced at under £15 and you can see it at Vanishing Inc:

<https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/close-up-magic/haunted-key-deluxe>

Mentalism

COLOUR MATCH CHIPS by Merlin's of Wakefield

Two sets of 4 poker chips are shown. Each set contains a red, blue, green and white chip. The spectator selects either set (no force) and you take the other. You both hide the chips behind your back and mix them thoroughly. You then swap them without looking and mix them again to be sure both sets are fairly mixed.



You then ask the spectator to bring forward any one of their chips. You do the same and it matches. You repeat this with a second chip, which also matches.

You both are left with two chips behind your back, which are mixed again. You then instruct your spectator to hide one chip in each hand and you bring both your hands forward. Those chips then match for an UNBELIEVABLE finale.

Easy to Do

NO Markings

NO Extra Chips

NO Magnets

Nothing added or taken away

Everything can be examined before AND after the effect is done

Colour Match Chips are priced at £24 and available from Vanishing Inc

<https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/close-up-magic/colour-match-chips/>

Biscuits (!)

MOREO by Danny Weiser



The best selling cookie in the world is probably Oreo. This explains why tricks with Oreo are so popular, especially "Bite and Restored Oreo". Now you have a new choice - MOREO.

"MOREO" can be performed with real Oreos. Take out an Oreo from a brand new package, and you slowly stretch it into a strange looking shape, then break it into half as well as share

them to your spectators.

Besides, MOREO can not only allow you to stretch the cookie, but can break it into two whole ones during the process of stretching. Present the comical and visual effect of multiplying cookies.

MOREO is a visual, fun, and sweet effect for everyone!

What's included in the box:

- A stretched cookie
- A simulated cookie
- Online instructions

Manufactured with the highest quality materials and built to last.

A lot of dealers are stocking this – it's priced at around £35. You can see it at Saturn Magic:
<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/55634.html>

Cards & Technolgy

SELFIE KING by Julio Montoro

From the minds of Julio Montoro and Victor Sanz, comes a new generation of packet card trick -Selfie King.

Imagine two playing cards take a selfie with each other!

You show the king of diamonds and queen of clubs. Suddenly the king holds a phone up, and takes a selfie with the queen. Next the king shows his selfie to everyone and sends it to the magician.



Surprisingly, the screen of the king's phone now shows "Sending..." and the magician really receives a message on his phone from the king, and it is his selfie!

This is a creative and funny pocket trick. It fits in your wallet and is always ready to go.

You receive gaffed cards and online instructions.

Selfie King costs around £25 from Saturn Magic:

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/hanson-chien-presents-selfie-king-by-julio-montoro-and-victor-sanz.html>

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