



*Southend Sorcerers Society*  
Tel: 01702 297983

## SOUTHEND SORCERERS JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

### 2020 MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**2<sup>nd</sup> Feb** Lecture – Morgan and West  
**1<sup>st</sup> Mar** Club Night  
**12<sup>th</sup> Apr** Annual General Meeting  
**3<sup>rd</sup> May** Stage Competition  
**7<sup>th</sup> Jun** Lecture – Paul Gordon  
**5<sup>th</sup> Jul** TBC

**2<sup>nd</sup> Aug** Club Night  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sep** Close Up Competition  
**4<sup>th</sup> Oct** Lecture - TBC  
**1<sup>st</sup> Nov** Props Auction  
**6<sup>th</sup> Dec** Xmas Fun Night

### 2020 CLUB SHOWS

**8<sup>th</sup> Feb** Wentworth Primary School, Maldon  
**Mar** All Saints School, Maldon – Date TBC  
**w/c 10<sup>th</sup> Aug** Dixon Studio Shows

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## LAST MEETING – 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY – JOHN CAREY LECTURE



The brilliant John Carey provided the lecture for our first meeting of 2020, and what a fabulous night it was. We've never planned a lecture for the January meeting before, but it was so well attended that we may seriously have to think about doing it again!

John is a down to earth, commercial magician with material to share that is both full of impact but at the same time easy to perform – and an all round really nice guy too. Interestingly, he has stepped back from performing for the public now and he devotes all his energy into creating new effects for other magicians.

John has recently published a new book called 'Reflections' and he dipped into it for some of the material covered in the lecture, but all of the effects are contained in his various books and recorded lectures of course, and he had some packet tricks and other items for sale too.

Among the effects that John shared with us was 'Triple Impersonation' a coin routine involving coins changing from silver to copper to brass and back again. Then he showed us a lovely card routine where the selected card is found sandwiched between two jokers; then written on the card box; then it becomes the only blue card in a red deck; and finally the rest of the deck turns into jokers too. Part of the explanation for this included a look at the Hindu Force and John's take on how to make it more deceptive.

Next we were treated to a four ace assembly of John's, called 'Stealth Aces'. 'When Fate Met Destiny' is a packet trick involving 5 specially printed cards which makes use of the magician's force (or equivoque as it is also known). John took the opportunity to use the effect to lead a discussion about the technique and how to make it far more convincing. He went on to use the technique to force a card from a deck of 52 and explained that the specific words used to control the spectator's choice are the key to making it seem totally fair. Another example was a dice routine where John controlled the choice of a coloured die. In fact he has a whole set of dice routines which are available as a package called 'Dice Dice Baby' and we'll include that in our 'magic trick' section of this newsletter.

As a finale, John demonstrated a brand new effect which is not officially released until the Blackpool convention – we were the first people to see it performed and explained in a lecture. I won't include any more details here as John is keen to keep it secret until its official release, but at least one of our members bought it and has been using it in anger with great reactions.

For more information about John and his work, check out his website at [www.johncareymagic.co.uk](http://www.johncareymagic.co.uk)

## NEXT MEETING – 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY – MORGAN & WEST LECTURE

We're thrilled to be able to bring you one of the best lectures you're likely to see this side of the M25! Our star lecture for 2020 will be from the internationally-acclaimed double act Morgan & West.

Billed as 'magicians, time travellers and all round spiffing chaps', this hugely-talented duo will be presenting their lecture 'Morgan & West: Parlour Tricks (and how to do them)' at Southend for our February meeting.



If you were at Blackpool last year, you'll know how good they are and what to expect – they were one of the highlights at the convention for me and their material will get you thinking and plotting all kinds of devious ideas.

The first half of the lecture is set to feature tricks for the solo performer and will include an in depth discussion about how to ‘pull a routine apart and rebuild it’ in order to suit an individual’s performance style.

The second half will concentrate on ‘coding in the pub’, where the duo will teach a series of simple coding tricks which you can learn with a person sat next to you. They promise that by the end of the evening everyone will be able to do some basic coding with a partner or friend. They will also speak in detail about their own coding methods and TV routines, including the one which famously fooled Penn & Teller.

Morgan & West have been a double act for as long as they have performed magic and regularly tour the UK and abroad with their adults, kids and family shows. In fact, when they visit us, they’ll have just started a six month tour of the UK with their ‘Unbelievable Science’ show (they’re actually performing in Finchley on Sunday afternoon before they come on to us!)

This eagerly-awaited lecture promises to be the most entertaining, thought-provoking and well-attended for some time. Don't miss it! It’s an 8pm start and tickets for non members are £10. Get there early if you want the best seats as we expect a lot of guests to turn up for this one!

### **NEXT MENTORING SESSION – FEBRUARY – PACKET TRICKS**



Our next mentoring session at the February meeting is not so much a mentoring event but more of a sharing session involving packet tricks. Richard Graham will be bringing a number of packet tricks to show you as a starter, but we really want *you* to bring *your* favourites too so that you can show us what you like performing.

We may not have time for all of them, but do bring along any packet tricks you have to show – or if you have problems with any of them, we can also try and help you to get them working properly. Tricks involving small packets of cards rather than a full deck are many and varied – they often use specially printed cards and false counts and other sleights so are well worth a closer look. It should be an interesting session hopefully so do come along prepared to get involved.

As always, the session will start at 7.00 sharp before the main meeting, so don’t be late and we 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**

Our next club is on **8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020**.

**Venue:** Wentworth primary school, Viking Road, Maldon CM9 6JN

**Times:** 7pm show start so if you’re performing, please be there by 6.30pm. Curtain down at 9.30pm

**Audience:** We are expecting around 80 people, with about half being children.

Thanks to all our members who have agreed to help out at this show.

### **Current performers:**

**Close up:** Nathan Fitzpatrick, Alan Chapman, Finlay Southgate, Mick Geraghty, Del Martin, Lance Harrison, Don Simpson, Doug Roden, Tracy Wise, Oliver Tabor.

**Stage:** Finlay Southgate, Richard Graham, Oliver Tabor

**Compere:** Richard Graham

**Stage Manager:** Andy Smith

**Dream Team:** Audrey Heddon, Carol Simpson, Angela McMillan

For those of you performing at our shows for the first time, and for those who might welcome a refresher, our Performers' Charter describes details for etiquette and performing in our club shows. You can find it on the club website here: <https://www.southendsorcerers.com/members-only>  
The password for the members' area is jimmy.

### **OTHER SHOWS**

We also have a show in March for another Maldon school and we'll be sending out details for this new booking shortly.

### **MAGIC SHOWS**

#### **Magic Goes Wrong - Vaudeville Theatre, London**



**MAGIC  
GOES WRONG**  
by Mischief Theatre and Penn & Teller

Created with magicians Penn & Teller, Mischief Theatre conjure up an evening of grand illusion. In the next 'Goes Wrong' comedy to hit the West End, the original Mischief company play a hapless gang of magicians presenting a charity event. As the accidents spiral out of control, so does their fundraising target...

The show is at the Vaudeville Theatre, 404 Strand, London WC2 until 30th August 2020. For more information and to book visit [www.mischieftheatre.co.uk](http://www.mischieftheatre.co.uk).

It's a hilarious show that actually contains some real magic and it comes highly recommended!

#### **John Archer Against The Odds – Palace Theatre, Southend**

Semi-finalist on Britain's Got Talent and support act for Tim Vine on seven UK tours, John Archer finally takes to the stage on his own one man show, Against The Odds.

This is a rare chance to see some baffling magic with a dash of comedy thrown in by the man who many consider to be the best comedy magician in the UK today.

The first man to fool Penn and Teller on 'Penn and Teller: Fool Us' and a former winner of the prestigious Magic Circle Stage Magician of the Year, John Archer has also appeared on BBC1's *Tim Vine Travels in Time*, Sky 1's *Undercover Magic* and CBBC's *Help, My School Teacher Is Magic* and *Help My School Trip Is Magic*.



John is appearing at the Palace Theatre Southend on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February and tickets are available now priced at £18..

See [www.john-archer.com](http://www.john-archer.com) for more info and to book.

## MEMBERS' NEWS

### Richard Graham – My Top Ten Card Effects



This month, thanks go to Richard who takes a look at some of his favourite card routines and explains what makes them so effective – some of these might give *you* some ideas!

‘When I started this, I was going to compile my top 10 ten tricks, but as I started noting them down, the list grew to about 40! And these are all tricks I perform regularly. So finally, here are my top 10 card tricks that use either a full straight deck or gaffed deck in some way. These are in no particular order and if anyone wants to see any of them performed, just ask me.

### Wayne Dobson’s invisible card

This is my favourite opening trick in my cabaret but also makes a great close up effect as it can involve so many people. Wayne Dobson originated the idea and the first few times I performed it I did it the way he does, which uses just one spectator on stage. The problem I had was it was such a perfect effect that audiences trying to work it out simply couldn’t and I had a number of comments that the audience member had to be a stooge as there was no other way it could be done! Thus started my evolution of the trick which in its basic form now uses 3 people to select a ‘random’ invisible card, 2 people to choose a suit and one to choose the value. In a close up situation, I will use all 8 to 10 people that may be sat around a table. This ticks all the boxes for me as it engages and involves everyone. The methodology is straightforward too so all the effort can go into presentation. Doing it this way means that people still can’t work it out but it cancels out the ‘must be a stooge’ element.

### Houdini’s escape

People that know my style know that I love card tricks that can have a story weaved around them and a number of the tricks that follow enable that. Whilst the overall theme tends to be ‘pick a card, remember it, put it back and I’ll find it’, creating a story gives interest and also, I find, appeals more to women in the audience when it’s not just ‘another card trick’. This is a commercial effect by Charles Gauchi. It uses a straight deck but with 2 holes drilled through each of the cards. Someone selects a card to be Houdini (free choice) which is initialled by the spectator. This is then placed back in the pack and the pack replaced in the card case. Houdini then has ‘ropes’ placed around the box in the shape of an elastic band, he is ‘chained’ up by the use of a length of ribbon and finally he is ‘handcuffed’ using a bolt right through the deck. And yet when the whole setup is covered with a handkerchief, Houdini instantly makes his escape! This trick continues to fool magicians over and over and apart from being a stunning effect, is one of the few that can be repeated to an audience a number of times without them discovering the method.

### Double revelation

A short yet amazing trick that will often draw gasps from an audience and the look on their faces is a delight. This comes from the close up book, “The table hopper’s source book” by Paul Hallis. 2 cards are freely chosen by 2 people, replaced and shuffled back into the deck.



The magician then finds both cards simultaneously. I promote this as the fastest trick in the world as the 'reveal' literally takes less than a second.



### **Kids cards**

A commercial effect by Richard Pinner. I use this all the time – it has a story, the cards don't resemble an ordinary deck (at least to start with), and the changes that occur are quite remarkable. Even though I know what's going on and have done it hundreds of times, the instant change from 'kids cards' to a regular deck still surprises me!

### **Bang on!**

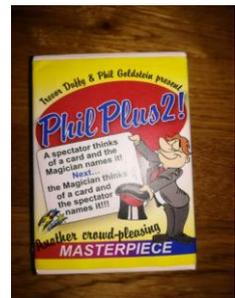
A real reputation maker by Marc Oberon. The premise is basically that of 'any card called for' or 'card from wallet' but presentation is everything and there are a number of ways to do this. I build this up during my close up routine to a table and use it as the finale. Easy to do (although practice needed to do it really smoothly) and you can produce the chosen, mentally thought of card from a wallet in about 5 seconds. I also use it in cabaret and David Penn has just released a version using one wallet so this can be on the table from the outset.

### **Wow**

Another great trick from the stable of Masuda. A freely chosen signed card is lost in the pack. Taking another card which is obviously not the spectators, it is placed into the 'card computer' where it slowly and visibly changes into the spectator's signed card. This can be given to them keep as a souvenir and the card computer can be shown empty. Other variations are possible where the spectator's signature can vanish from the card etc.

### **Phil Plus**

Originally designed by Trevor Duffy and adapted by Brian Caswell, this is the deck where you name a card merely thought of by a spectator, but it takes them a little by surprise! Nonetheless, you do prove to them that you did think of their card and then they can have a go! You now think of a card and the spectator 'names' it. Lo and behold, you show that they are correct and a true magician too!



### **The Omen**

My current favourite card trick and a hard one to follow so it's the closer in my table hopping close up act. Acting as both a magician and a mentalist, you not only show you can manipulate a spectator's actions by predicting a card they have just freely chosen, you then go on to prove you knew another spectator's merely thought of card!

The most jaw dropping reactions I have ever had from close-up audiences.

### **Escape of the 3 musketeers**

Another great favourite of mine but difficult to describe. I got this from an old book by Cy Enfield. Three cards are chosen by three spectators and replaced into the deck. Eventually each spectator thinks they are holding 4 cards in their hand, one of which is theirs. However, when they look, they discover they are only holding three cards and their chosen one has vanished. You then produce each chose card from your back pocket, or inside a wallet or other mystical place of your choosing.

### **3 cards across**

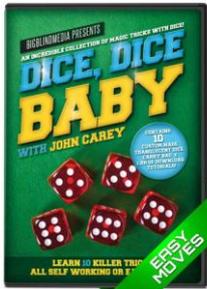
This is the version I have used for years, taken from, I think, Hugard's Royal Road to Card Magic. A fabulous effect where a spectator counts off a number of cards into a pile, holds them tightly, and then you, the great magician, transfer a number of additional cards to them without going anywhere near them! A real baffler and the spectator will tell everyone around them that you didn't touch the cards at any time.

So, there you go – my favourite card tricks, excluding packet card tricks – perhaps that’s for another edition...?’

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

### Mentalism

### DICE DICE BABY by John Carey



Following John Carey’s visit to Southend last month, here’s a look at his ‘Dice Dice Baby’ Project. Ten super clean mysteries with dice are performed and taught in exacting detail. There’s so much variety in this collection, comprising mental and magical mysteries. Super simple handlings that you will love learning and using!  
Six mentalism routines - all of which require no sleight of hand at all!  
Plus four super visual Close-Up tricks - some real eye-popping magic!

Comes with everything you need - ten translucent dice, a carry bag and over an hour of in depth teaching on a video download!

Here are the effects included:

1. Dice Wave- A beautiful mental mystery involving a game of imagination.
2. Hummeresqe- Put simply, they just think of one of six dice and you nail it!
3. Hot Roddy! A very clean prediction effect.
4. Evoque Dice- Another simple, but super strong prediction.
5. Gadabout Dice- A coin classic but now with different coloured dice! Quick, powerful and visual.
6. Homing Dice- A fun and strong ‘magician in trouble’ sequence.
7. Clearly Wild! Wild Card but with dice! Quick and visual.
8. A perfect 6! A perfect six way prediction where they make all the choices. You will love this!
9. Translocation Dice- A lovely Dice across across effect with an unexpected finale!
10. Covert Prediction- One deck of cards and a few dice and you will have a beautiful card at any number prediction. Super sneaky!

If dice is your thing then you could do far worse than take a look at this brilliant package. Dice Dice Baby is available from your favourite dealer and costs around £22. Take a look at it here:

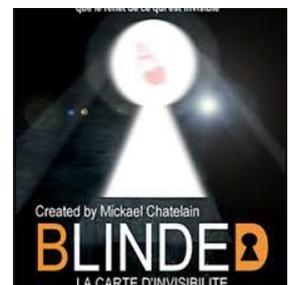
<https://bigblindmedia.com/products/dice-dice-baby-by-john-carey?variant=15457947942961>

### Cards

### BLINDED by Mickael Chatelain

Conceived in 2016 by Mickael, Blinded will seem like trick photography!

Take a blank card, the card of invisibility, out of your pocket. This card has an enormous keyhole cut in its centre allowing everyone to see through it. Underneath this keyhole, the word "VISIBLE" is written. Aside from this card, you don't need anything else...



Invite your spectator to freely choose a card from your deck. In one hand you hold the invisibility card and in the other hand you hold the spectator's card. Slowly place the spectator's card behind the invisibility card. Thanks to the keyhole, the spectator's card is "VISIBLE." Nothing could be more normal! Explain that this is normal because the word VISIBLE is written under the keyhole.

Your spectators don't understand where you are going with this, because everything is reasonable, there is nothing magical at this point. Now take the card from your spectator and show the other side of the invisibility card! This time, your spectator can read under the keyhole the word "INVISIBLE".

Place your spectator's card again behind the invisibility card and there, in front of his eyes, his card is now INVISIBLE! Your spectator sees perfectly through the card thanks to the huge keyhole! No optical illusion or the like! The spectator's card is truly INVISIBLE!

Then slowly remove the invisibility card to make the chosen card appear again!

You've got to see it to believe it! Repeat this incredible experiment again and again! Each time the spectator's card will become INVISIBLE.

At the end of this experiment, give the card back to your spectator so that he can examine it at his leisure! It is an ORDINARY card!

Remember this: no forcing, no manipulation, no black art. The keyhole is huge and your spectators will easily see that nothing can hide behind it. Resets immediately. A new mechanism for this kind of effect is at the root of this diabolical secret, you'll love it! Nothing to hide in your hands or anywhere else. You hold the invisibility card between thumb and index finger, and that's it!

Available in red or blue, Blinded is available from your favourite dealer and costs around £30. See it here: [https://www.alakazam.co.uk/blinded-red-gimmick-and-online-instructions-by-mickael-chatelain-trick-blinded\\_red.html](https://www.alakazam.co.uk/blinded-red-gimmick-and-online-instructions-by-mickael-chatelain-trick-blinded_red.html)

## Comedy

## RUBREAK by JL Magic



Rubreak is a perfect comedy piece for anyone using a Rubik's Cube in their act. Rubreak can be used before, during, or after a Rubik's routine to create a very funny and awkward moment.

Imagine, you have just completed your favourite Rubik's effect and you ask an audience member to help you out by holding the cube for a moment while you grab a deck of cards (or any other item). Just as you turn your back, the cube falls in a million (well, not actually a million but it will seem that way) pieces. Imagine your audience's reaction as you slowly turn around to find out what all the commotion is about! Rubreak is comedy gold!

The cube equivalent of a breakaway wand! You can find this with many dealers and the price is around £60. The trailer is available here:

<https://www.vanishinginmagic.com/magic/close-up-magic/rubreak/>

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