



Southend Sorcerers Society
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SOUTHEND SORCERERS OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

2021 MEETINGS

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 & 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
w/c 15th Aug 22 As If By Magic – Dixon Studio

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 Nikolas Mavresis and Vinny Sagoo!

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

CONTACTS

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LAST MEETING – 3rd OCTOBER – 2021 ANNUAL PROPS AUCTION



Our last meeting saw the annual auction take place and what a great evening it was. All sorts of amazing items were available to bid for and Chris Campos also set up his own dealer stand for people to browse too.

With a large number of lots to get through, we had everything from packet tricks to a slimline saw through illusion up for sale, and a lot of bargains were snapped up from a variety of purchasers.

We'd received a super magic collection as a donation to the club which included a lot of Davenports' effects and props. A number of fabulous and now unavailable brass props were included in the collection which saw some brisk bidding and raised £170 for club funds. Simon Richardson also donated a number of items to the club for sale, some of which we passed directly to our Dream Team for sale at our upcoming club shows.

In the end, it was a super evening which saw sales of over £600 in total, all passed without commission straight back to the sellers. Thanks to everyone who took part, either as a buyer or as a seller.

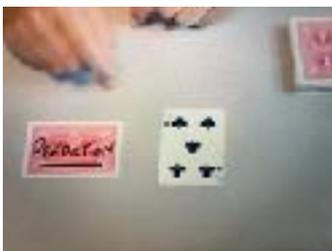
Also at the meeting, three prospective new members took their auditions: Matthew Pax, Alan Taylor (who was a junior member many years ago and is probably better known these days as Al Prendo), and Anthony Glen. Although they all passed with flying colours, sadly Anthony has decided not to pursue membership at this time. But the others will be presented with their membership items at the November meeting. Welcome to club Matt and Al – we hope you get a lot of fun from being a member and I know that all our existing members will do everything they can to make you feel at home.

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 new lecture titled 'New Horizons'. So Vinny joined us on 17th and we dialled in on Zoom to see what he had to show us.



In the end his planned lecture wasn't ready to go so instead we had a much more informal evening with Vinny where he showed us some of his favourite routines and effects. Some of these are available to purchase from his website but a lot of them were things we could make up ourselves easily enough.



First up he showed us his take on the 'any card at any number plot', titled 'Devious'. The spectator chooses any number between 1 and 52 then counts down to that number in the deck. The card at that position matches a prediction which has been on display throughout. The deck is simply made up with 13 random cards, followed by a bank of 26 identical cards, and another 13 random cards on the bottom. This allows you to do some simple false shuffling and display some random cards face up as a convincer. If the spectator chooses any number between 14 and 39 then the whole thing is self working. But if they choose a lower or higher number, all you need to do is cut the deck in the middle and complete the cut – this now places the identical cards on the top and bottom of the deck of course. This is an easy routine to perform and one that gets strong reactions.

Next Vinny went through 'Slick' his take on a multi phase Oil and Water routine.

‘Gamble’ was a routine where the cards in a packet seem to change from double backers to aces and then change again to end up as a perfect poker hand.

Vinny’s ESP test, called ‘Intuition’, came next – it’s an effect that uses ESP cards and equivoque to force a certain card. This was followed by a lively discussion about equivoque and how scripting is so important in order for the tactic to seem genuinely fair.



A lovely routine called the ‘Imagination Deck’ was next on Vinny’s list. This involves the use of a deck of apparently double blank cards (faces and backs shown to be blank). Yet when the spectator merely thinks of a card and spells it with the cards (even though the magician doesn’t watch what they do and the cards are blank), it’s possible to go through and select three cards, one of which becomes printed and is the one which was merely thought of! This routine uses a deck of normal cards with blank backs, plus two double blank cards. The Flusstration count is used to display the deck as all blank on both sides and some clever thinking from Vinny turns this routine into a real miracle.



‘Tipple’ is a nicely themed routine involving 7 cards printed with various drinks such as gin, vodka etc. The cards are mixed and the spectator chooses one. They’re then shuffled again and laid out face down. Using a bottle cap as a marker, the magician moves around the cards one at a time while the spectator silently spells their selected drink. When the spectator finishes spelling, the card randomly arrived at with the bottle cap matches their drink. This is very easy to do, but very deceptive too.

Finally, Vinny showed us ‘Will Our Minds Merge’. This is a variation on the old Bob King ‘Rematch’ routine and involves the spectator making a number of completely free choices – yet at the end, the card backs of a set of pairs all match and their faces add up to a set of numbers which all have significance too. A super new version of an old idea!

Vinny then showed us his latest project – a book which contains all sorts of great basic mathematical magic tricks. It’s the first time all these things have been brought together in a single book. Titled ‘Mind the Maths Magic’, the book will be available soon.



Vinny went on to mention that there’s a free PDF you can download from his website – it teaches a card force called ‘Lucky 7’. When you find it on the site, simply add it to the cart and use the code EPIC at the checkout to obtain it free of charge.

A great night had by all then – Vinny is a really nice guy and comes up with some very clever ideas and routines, so it’s definitely worth checking out his website – you’ll find him at www.neomagic.co.uk

The lecture was recorded and will be available for you to view in the members’ section of the website soon – login details can be found on the front page of this newsletter.

NEXT MEETING – 7th NOVEMBER – CLUB NIGHT



Our November meeting is one of our ever popular open club nights, where there'll be an opportunity to simply mix and mingle with other members and share your favourite routines and effects. If anyone has anything they need help with, this is the perfect chance for you to have a chat with people who may be able to point you in the right direction.

It's also an opportunity to discuss the Dixon shows which are now booked in for w/c 15th August next year. If anyone would like to rehearse an act with a sympathetic audience, this meeting is the perfect time to do that and we'll make sure that there's time available for you if you'd like to take advantage of the offer. It's a great opportunity to smooth out any problems as we all get back to performing again.

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

We're finally starting to get some show requests at last! Here are the details so far:

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

This is our first show for some time but it should be a super evening. We've performed for this group before and they're very appreciative so we should get a lovely warm welcome. We now have a full roster for this show – thanks to everyone who offered to help with this one; it's brilliant to see everyone so keen about getting back to performing. If you're involved, please arrive no later than 7.00pm on the day as curtain up us at 7.30.

Thanks again – should be a brilliant night!

26th February 2022, Wentworth School in Maldon

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

19th March 2022, Stambridge Primary School

Another show booking has also come in recently – this one is for Stambridge Primary School on 19th March next year. We've performed here before too 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



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 and we have two lectures booked for January and February!

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.

2022 DIXON STUDIO SHOWS – AS IF BY MAGIC

We finally have some confirmed dates for our Dixon Studio shows in 2022! As you know the show has been held over from 2020 so it's really exciting to be able to say that **we now have the week of 15th August next year booked in with the theatre.**

This means that our shows will run from Wednesday 17th to Saturday 20th August, so now we need to start planning for them and making some decisions about what acts will be featured.

If you would like to take part in the shows please let me know now so that I can begin putting things together. I realise that lockdown has had an impact on people and their magic, but with 10 months to prepare I'm hoping that those of you that were involved last time will be keen to put an act together for the new show.



For stage, you ideally need two 10 minute acts – the content is entirely up to you so be as creative as you can. And of course our close uppers will get an opportunity as well – we run close up magic in the theatre foyer for an hour each night before the main show starts.

At this stage, I just need to try and get an idea of numbers, especially for the stage shows. So if you'd like to take part in the show please just drop me a line to let me know – content can be confirmed later.

We try to stage a different show every night and in the past a lot of our members have performed so I'm hoping that we can repeat the successes of the past. This will be our tenth anniversary of running the show, so let's try and make it the best yet!

Thanks for your help with this project – it's the biggest event in the club calendar so please do get involved if you can.

FINALLY, AS USUAL, SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

Parlour Magic

BREAKFAST by Gustavo Raley



Breakfast is a great new take on an old idea. Two different individual boxes of breakfast cereal are opened and emptied into two glasses. The glasses are placed mouth to mouth and the contents are given a good shake, completely mixing the two cereals together. Yet with a little bit of magic, the cereals can be separated again back into the two glasses.

Based on the old 'sands of time' routine this is a brand new topical take on the effect.

This set includes a special gimmick and two cereal boxes, along with the tutorial to learn step-by-step how to perform and present the effect. You can use any glasses you like.

Breakfast is available at your favourite dealer – Saturn Magic appears to be the cheapest where it costs £30.

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/breakfast--gimmicks-and-online-instructions--by-gustavo-raley--trick.html>

Magic Apps

COGNITO by Lloyd Barnes & Owen Garfield

Magicians and mentalists have strived for centuries to crack the code of real mind reading. Cognito is the closest you will ever come to experiencing the incredible power of telepathy.

Imagine having someone think of anything (a playing card, star sign, word, movie, or a celebrity - whatever they want). They never write it down, type it, point at it, click it, blink or even whisper...the thought only exists inside their mind.



Yet with Cognito you know exactly what they are thinking. There is even a way to do it with no peek at all. Cognito is a revolutionary Magic App that combines a classic principle with genius new methods to *know* what spectators are thinking without seemingly doing anything. Incredibly easy to perform, no memory work or mental calculations, no internet needed, multiple effects built in – or you can create your own effects with ease.

PLUS: there's a huge and active Facebook community (Facebook name: cognitoapp) packed with ideas and new improbable routines.

Cognito is available everywhere – Alakazam have it for £28

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/cognito-physical-copy-app-online-instructions-by-lloyd-barnes-owen-garfield-physical-copy-trick-cognito.html>

Levitations

NEW HORIZONS by Matthew Wright



Matthew Wright has been creating incredible close-up levitation systems for over 15 years and now he has returned to where it all began.

A completely new hook-up system has taken this incredible card floating effect into the stratosphere. It is designed from the ground up to make sure it is totally practical and usable in the real world.

With no external hook-ups this completely self contained unit means you can carry this effect with you in your pocket and be ready to go into it within a second of taking out your cards.

This effect is great for all performing environments, close-up, parlour and even stage. A spectator can reach in, select a card and sign it...or they can simply look at a card...or even just name a card...perfect for socially distancing or virtual shows. Whatever way the card is chosen, one card slowly starts to creep out from the centre of the deck. As it reaches the edge of the deck it now starts to levitate its way out of the pack and then floats across into your waiting hand. The card is shown to be the selected card and can now immediately be handed out for examination and can be given as a souvenir if desired.

Reset takes just a few seconds and you are ready to go again. It's a truly stunning and visual piece of magic.

Saturn Magic has New Horizons where it costs £43.

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/new-horizon--gimmicks-and-online-instructions--by-matthew-wright--trick.html>

Mentalism

MAKE YOUR CHOICE by Julio Montoro

Have you ever thought of performing the classic right from your pocket? Now, with Make Your Choice you can!

With this revolutionary new method you will be able to show the cards as close as possible, as there is anything strange involved. The selection is 100% freely chosen!



Julio Montoro and Juan Capilla have been working on this classic for a very long time.

Their main objective was creating a whole new method that could allow you to put this "big illusion" in your pocket to perform it anytime you want. Now, after all the hard work of production Make Your Choice can be released.

All the gimmicks are handmade in Spain by a master magician, so the quality of the product is guaranteed. The gimmick does all the work for you, there is no chance you could fail during the performance. The cards have been constructed with whiteboard foil, so you can customise the cards as many times as you want!

"Make Your Choice" by Julio Montoro and Juan Capilla does not use any of the old methods used for this effect, as there are no forces or flaps involved! This is a new revolutionary system for this kind of effect!

Included are:

Special gimmicked cards (constructed with whiteboard foil)

Plastic holder (+stickers)

Tutorial video by Julio Montoro

Make Your Choice is available at Vanishing Inc and costs around £56

<https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/card-magic/make-your-choice/>

Coins

KLIPTO by Liam Montier



Three borrowed coins are locked in transparent plastic holders, dropped into three un gimmicked envelopes and mixed by the spectator. You can't see the coins. You can't feel the coins. But you instantly know what they are!

"Klipto" is an amazing 3 coin divination that can be performed blindfolded. You can use any currency. As it also resets instantly, it is perfect for walkaround close-up magic.

No forces, no peeks, no markings, no magnets, no tech.

This effect is based Larry Becker's 'Kliptomantic'—a mentalism classic. Larry's method could only use certain coins and they all had to be the same. The only difference was the dates, something that's difficult for a spectator to see and remember. Liam Montier's "Klipto" uses an entirely new method.

Now, three different (and totally regular) coins are sealed into three transparent coin cases, (so that the magician can't feel the size or shape of the coins) and then dropped into three genuine (and unmarked) envelopes, which are sealed and mixed entirely by the spectator, and left face down in a pile.

Immediately, the magician picks up each envelope and instantly scribbles a number on it - the value of the coin he believes to be inside the envelope.

Note that there is NO hesitation. Each envelope is picked and INSTANTLY written on. Then, with clean and bare hands, each envelope is ripped open to reveal that the magician knew exactly where each coin ended up!

Klipto is available from your favourite dealer. Vanishing Inc have to for £22

<https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/close-up-magic/klipto-a-3-coin-divination/>

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