



*Southend Sorcerers Society*  
Tel: 01702 297983

## SOUTHEND SORCERERS JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

### 2018 MEETINGS AND EVENTS

5 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Magic with Everyday Objects	27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Annual Presentation Dinner
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sep	Close Up Competition	4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Props Auction
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Lecture – Steve Dela	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Xmas Fun Night

### 2018 CLUB SHOWS

19 <sup>th</sup> August	Dixon Promotion Day, Royals Shopping Centre
w/c 11 <sup>th</sup> September	‘As If By Magic’, Dixon Studio
13 <sup>th</sup> October	Chancellor Park, Chelmsford (Provisional)
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Canvey Island Show

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## LAST MEETING – 1<sup>st</sup> JULY – DIXON PREP NIGHT



Our July meeting was due to be an evening where we could discuss the arrangements for the Dixon shows, and although some one-to-one discussions took place, the meeting wasn't very well attended so it wasn't possible to advance things as much as I'd hoped. Some members took the opportunity to rehearse different aspects of their acts though and it was great to see the space being used in all sorts of ways in various corners!

However, those members present were able to have a look through the large magic collection of Terry Evans, one of our ex members who has now sadly been admitted into a home. His family had donated his considerable number of props etc to the club and it was decided to let members make small donations to the club in exchange for items from the collection. As a result, a lot of interesting and now unavailable items were passed on to club members in line with Terry's wishes and we were able to raise £ towards the club running costs too. Huge thanks go to Terry's family for thinking of the club, and I hope those that were able to obtain some of his props will think of him when they use them.



## NEXT MEETING – 5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST – MAGIC WITH EVERYDAY OBJECTS



For our August meeting on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> we're holding a session where Ollie Ward has volunteered to host a 'magic with everyday objects' evening. We sent out a Facebook survey to ask members what they'd prefer to see from a list of options, and this was what most people voted for.

So come along to hopefully learn some new effects using whatever is to hand. How many times have you told someone that you're a magician only to get the 'show us a trick then' reply? It really shouldn't matter if you don't have any props on you – as a magician you should be able to conjure something up! So Ollie will show you how to cope with these moments by using all sorts of simple and easily available items to present magic when you're least expecting it, that will still leave your spectators speechless!

We'll also be starting our new mentoring initiative (See article below for more details) so the evening starts at 7.30 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.**

Our shows are not just one of the ways in which we keep the club running successfully from a financial perspective; they also offer our members a unique opportunity to perform for non-magical audiences, and to practice their routines while improving their skills. If you've never been involved in one of our shows before, please think about offering some help – there's nothing to lose and everything to gain from practicing with 'real' people.



## FUTURE 2018 SHOWS

19 <sup>th</sup> August	As if By Magic promotion day, Royals Shopping Centre
13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> September	As If By Magic, Dixon Studio
13 <sup>th</sup> October	Chancellor Park School, Chelmsford – Provisional
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Canvey Island WI show

As you'll see we could do with a few more bookings, so if anyone has any ideas for people or charities we could approach, please let Rick know and we'll drop them a line.

## **FUTURE MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES**



As a committee, we're always discussing how the club might be able to help people improve their magic and learn new skills and effects. We're very conscious that for some members, especially for some of our newer junior members, we could be doing more to help them learn things like presentation skills and new or different routines.

So in order to offer this type of opportunity to any of our members who would like help, we've decided to hold a regular 30 minute tutoring session at the beginning of most meetings from now on, between 7.30 and 8.00. This will be available for anyone who would like to learn more or improve their skills, and over the months we will cover a range of things from card and coin sleights, through to presentation skills and audience management.

We are of course very open to suggestions or requests from our members about what they'd like to learn in these informal sessions, so please do let Adrian or any committee member have your thoughts and we'll make sure to include them in our planning. It could be anything, from help with a specific sleight; through to how to approach tables; or pocket management ideas; or even an introduction to character or script development and stagecraft.

We're really keen to help our members be the best they can be (or want to be), so please do take this new opportunity to make the most of your membership.

At the August meeting Adrian will kick things off with an introduction to the scheme and a request for topics to cover, so have a think before the meeting and come along ready to put your ideas forward. Hope to see you at 7.30 on the 5<sup>th</sup>!

## **2018 ANNUAL PRESENTATION DINNER, 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

*Here's a note from Tracy.....*

Just a gentle reminder that we are now taking table bookings for our annual dinner which will be held on Saturday 27th October at Thorpe Hall Golf Club, Thorpe Bay.



Included is a copy of the menu. Places are £30 per person which includes 3 courses and coffee and mints and entertainment from Alexander Wells, a first class professional magician. Drinks are not included this year but can be purchased from the bar.



The annual dinner is a great night out and not to be missed. You can pay a deposit of £10 per person now and the balance by the end of September. Nearer the time I will confirm your food order with you. Dress code is smart casual and there is plenty of parking at the Golf Club.

Payment can be made in cash, cheque, via BACS or even PayPal. Just drop me a line and let me know how many places you would like. Each table seats 10 guests so bring the family and friends and join us in celebrating all that makes our club so great.

### Starters

Potato & thyme soup, pork scratchings, baby spinach leaves, chorizo oil  
Homemade fishcakes with sweet chilli & coriander dip  
Fanned sweet melon with fruit coulis & sorbet

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### Mains

Honey glazed Aylesbury duck breast, caramelised pear,  
cracked pepper jus & roast potatoes

Chicken breast topped with basil pesto & mozzarella, tomato & olive  
sauce, with roast potatoes

Baked herb crusted salmon fillet, champagne & mussel veloute,  
Buttered potatoes

Stilton, walnut & asparagus wellington

Main courses accompanied by seasonal vegetable selection

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### Deserts

Vanilla panna cotta with marinated berries  
Warm sticky toffee pudding with custard  
Selection of continental cheese, biscuits, grapes & celery

Filter coffee & mint chocolates

**£30 per person.**

## **DIXON STUDIO SHOWS – SEPTEMBER 2018**

The Dixon shows are all booked to run during 13<sup>th</sup> – 16th September and we have to start deciding on the content and performers for each show. I haven't heard from too many members about taking part however, so I really need to know if you want a slot in the show at all. Can you please simply drop me a line to let me know ASAP?

Ideally you'll need two acts of around ten minutes, but if you're not sure of what to do or how the shows work, please get in touch with Adrian and he'll give you all the information you need.

We'll need close uppers, stage acts and backstage support, so if you feel you can help in any way, please do let me know ASAP – we only have a few more weeks before curtain up!

### **Stage Acts**

**So far I believe I have requests to take part on stage from Don Simpson, Robbie Wood, Oliver Tabor, Ollie Ward, Tracy Wise, Richard Graham, Adrian Fox, Barry Harvey, Chris Campos, Ryan Young, Matty Turner, Thomas Edwin, Olivia Cross and Jake Dolman.**

If your name is on this list when it shouldn't be; or if it isn't and you want to take part, then **please do let me know immediately** so that I can finalise the rosters for each show. I'll be emailing participants personally shortly to make sure that everyone knows what's expected and when.



## Close Up Acts

I also need to ensure that we have enough close-uppers to cover the hour before each stage show and during the interval. If you want to help with some close up magic at the Dixon, please let me know straight away – a simple ‘yes for close up’ email will do.

## Backstage

Ryan Young will be leading and co-ordinating our backstage crew this year so if you'd like to offer some help in that department, please drop Ryan an email to let him know ASAP.

## ROYALS SHOPPING CENTRE APPEARANCE – 19<sup>th</sup> AUGUST



Every year to help promote the Dixon Shows, the club stages a one day appearance at the Royals Shopping Centre in Southend. Members mix and mingle with the passers-by and we have other members on hand to help with handing out leaflets advertising the shows. It's proved to be a great way of helping with ticket sales so we'll be doing it again this year on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August**.

If you're available to help, even if it's just for an hour, please let Adrian know ASAP so that a timetable can be drawn up.

This is not only a brilliant day out that helps promote the shows; it's also an excellent opportunity to practice your magic with the lay public throughout the day. We'll be hoping to perform from 10.00 through to around 4.00 so we'll need a good attendance to cover the various parts of the day. We'll have a major presence right in the middle of the Royals, so we need to make sure we maximise the opportunity to promote ticket sales – please help out if you can.

So far I have offers to help from:

**Oliver Ward, Richard Graham, Derek Martin, Tracy Wise, Don & Carol Simpson, Audrey Heddon, Adrian & Gill Fox, and Barry & Pam Harvey.**

There's plenty of room for more however, so if you can help (or if you've told me that you can and I've forgotten to include your name here!) then please let me know ASAP so that I can include you on the list. I need to let the Royals know the names of those attending so it's important that you get in touch please. Many thanks.

## MEMBERS' NEWS

### Alfie Hawes – Derren Brown Experience

*This is a brilliant story from Alfie about what happened to him when he went to see Derren's show at the cliffs Pavilion recently.....*

‘As most of you now know, I do have a broken arm from falling UP stairs in the interval of Derren Brown's show at the Cliffs. For anyone who understands, both my ulna and radius bones are broken. For anyone who doesn't, all of the bones in my forearm that I could break, I did. Yeah, not great.

I'm absolutely fine, and may I just say thank you to everyone who was concerned. Special thanks to Trevor Cline for offering all the help he could. Also, massive shout out to everyone in the Southend A&E department, as well as the x-ray and trauma clinics for doing what they do best, as best they could.

So, let's review, so far in the story I have seen half of Derren Brown's show and broken my arm. What a weird Tuesday night.



At home the next day, I get a call from my dad explaining that we had been given complimentary tickets to see Derren Brown's show again. So off to Southend we go, we see the show (which was absolutely amazing), then we went to meet him in person. When we got there, there was a sign on the door saying that Derren wouldn't be coming out to sign things. After a few minutes of determined waiting, we walked to the car. However, we were stopped by Callum, who I assume works for Derren. He said, "Are you the boy with the cast? Derren wants to meet you."

So there we were, standing with Derren Brown, smiling until my cheeks hurt (even when they did I didn't stop smiling), having my cast signed by the biggest legend I have met in my life.

Every cloud...'

## **MAGIC SHOWS & LECTURES**

### **Thunder**

Our own Jake Dolman is staging a one man show at the Railway Hotel in Clifftown Road Southend, on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August. Featuring a guest comedian along with Jake's mental magic it should be a night to remember. Tickets are just £5 and you can get them here:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/comedyjake>

### **Pete Firman – Marvels**



Pete Firman is on a new UK tour soon with his 'Marvels' show.

Pete is one of the UK's most popular magicians and he's back on the road with his astonishing new show. You've seen him on television, now experience his trademark blend of laugh-out-loud comedy and jaw-dropping magic live on stage! You'll have seen him on ITV1's 'Tonight at the London Palladium' and 'The Next Great Magician', BBC One's 'The Magicians', 'The John Bishop Show' and 'The Sarah Millican Television Programme'.

He has a string of dates, but the nearest show for us is at the Colchester Arts Centre on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Tickets are £16 (£14 concessions) and you can find them and more details with a full tour schedule here:

<http://www.petefirman.co.uk/#live>

### **Troy – The Magic Masterclass London – August 2018**

For the first time ever, Troy will be holding an exclusive intimate one day workshop in London, for people who are seriously interested in learning the art of magic. From having a successful TV series and specials shown all over the world, he now pulls the curtain back on some of his closely guarded secrets. In this workshop you will learn a repertoire of material, performance technique, psychology, and more. The dates of the workshops are August 18th, 19th, 25th & 26th. Please note only 30 applicants will be selected. To find out more visit:

[www.troyvonscheibner.com/masterclass](http://www.troyvonscheibner.com/masterclass).



## Russ Stevens Seminar, Elstree, London – 19<sup>th</sup> August



For the last five years, Russ Stevens has been the man behind some of the finest magic on Britain's Got Talent. He's helped create hugely successful careers for James More, Jamie Raven and Issy Simpson, and in the process made Simon Cowell a huge magic fan! Now, for the first time, Russ is holding an intensive one-day seminar revealing in-depth the hidden secrets behind his successes and how *you can apply them to your magic too!*

This seminar covers techniques for all kinds of magic: Close-Up, Stage, Cabaret, Illusion, Comedy Magic, Kids Shows and Mind-Reading.

Numbers will be strictly limited, on a first-come first-served basis. This really will be a unique and immersive experience for all registrants.

The seminar will run from 10am to 6pm on Sunday 19th August 2018.

For full details and to register visit: [www.russstevens.co.uk](http://www.russstevens.co.uk).

## FINALLY SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

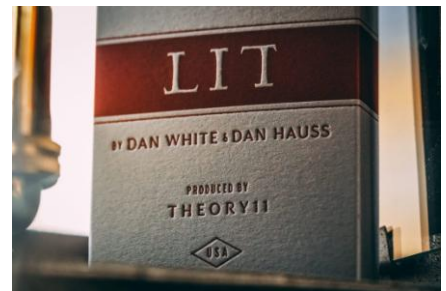
Here as usual are some of the new items that have come to my attention recently.....

### Cards

### LIT by Dan Hauss and Dan White

A full pack of matches is shown to the spectator. The performer ignites one of the matches, then mysteriously makes the match disappear - only to instantly reappear in the pack of matches the spectator has been holding onto the entire time!

Next, a playing card is freely selected and - under impossible conditions - it vanishes. The spectator slowly opens the matchbook to find the matchbook itself has transformed into their selected card.



Nice effect - and you can see the trailer and purchase Lit at Alakazam. Their price is £31.00  
<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/product-LIT-by-Dan-Hauss-and-Dan-White.html>

### Cards/Coins

### RB COIN DECK ULTRA by Rob Bromley



The R B Coin Deck Ultra is one of the most ingenious gimmicks ever created for this plot and with the addition that Alakazam added we believe this is now the ultimate coin to deck gimmick ever created!

A coin is borrowed, signed and vanished. You now remove a boxed deck of cards. The cards are removed from the box with empty hands and you proceed to have one selected and signed. The signed card is cut in to the deck and the deck is tabled (there are no breaks in the deck) you instantly cut the deck and right there at the exact position of your cut is their signed coin sitting on the top of the remaining cards. Your spectator removes the coin and turns over their signed card.

The R B Coin Deck Ultra is super easy to do, beautifully constructed by Rob Bromley and comes with special gimmick and easy to follow in-depth video instructions. The price is £29.99 and you can see the trailer here:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/product-RB-Coin-Deck-Ultra-By-Rob-Bromley-And-Alakazam-.html>

## Books

## BOOKS OF WONDER by Tommy Wonder

Never has there been a more articulate manifesto declaring magic a true art. And never has one man offered a more detailed and coherent plan for achieving art by the practice of magic.

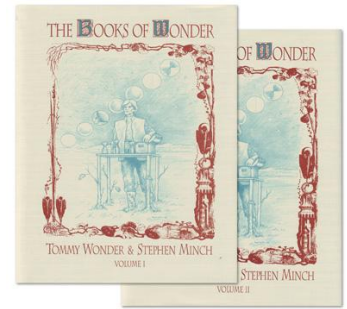
Through a series of tricks, routines and essays, Tommy Wonder provides a clear blueprint for an uncompromising brand of magical theatre. Along the way he explains his professional routines for close-up, stand-up, walk-around and stage.

Among them are...*The Updated Two Cup Routine; Watch in Nest of Boxes, 3 methods; Wild Card Tamed; The Watch, the Ring & the Wallet; The Well-tempered Birdcage; and 50 other card tricks, routines and sleights.*

The Books of Wonder is a set of two luxuriously produced, matched volumes, each containing approximately 340 pages of extraordinary material with 630 professional illustrations by Kelly Lyles.

At just £67.99 from Saturn Magic, this is a classic set that should grace the collection of any serious magic performer. The content is pure gold:

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/books-of-wonder-2-vol-combo-set-by-tommy-wonder--book.html>



## Stage Magic

## BUBBLY by Sonny Fontana & Vernet



The bare hands soap bubble production!

The magician shows his hands clearly empty. He blows and immediately produces a shower of soap bubbles from his hands. You can repeat it again several times, always showing your hands empty.

You receive a specially made gimmick  
No sleeves required

Do it anywhere, anytime

Includes a video download with full performance and step-by-step explanation

Soap bubble solution not provided

You'll find Bubbly at your favourite magic dealer but you can see it at Saturn Magic where the price is £22.39:

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/bubbly--gimmicks-and-online-instructions--by-sonny-fontana--trick.html>

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