



Southend Sorcerers Society
Tel: 01702 297983

SOUTHEND SORCERERS SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

2018 MEETINGS AND EVENTS

7 th Oct	Lecture – Steve Dela
27 th Oct	Annual Presentation Dinner
4 th Nov	Props Auction
2 nd Dec	Xmas Fun Night

2018 CLUB SHOWS

13 th October	Chancellor Park, Chelmsford – NOW CANCELLED
23 rd November	Ekco Club – Provisional booking
15 th December	Canvey Island Show

2019 CLUB SHOWS

Date TBC	All Saints School, Maldon
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IMPORTANT NOTE – CLUB TROPHIES

It's come to that time of year when all the club trophies have to be engraved, so if you currently hold one can you please make sure you bring it back to the meeting on Sunday 7th and hand it to Adrian for engraving. The current holders are as follows:

Alfie Hawes - Junior close up
Ollie Ward – Senior close up
Richard Graham – Senior stage

Andy Smith – Non magical supporter
Alfie Hawes – Most promising newcomer
Don Simpson – Clubman (already received)

LAST MEETING – 2nd SEPTEMBER – CLOSE UP COMPETITION



Our September meeting was the annual close up magic competition where members competed for the Wilf Dent memorial cup for the juniors and the Robert Ferro trophy for the senior competition.

With two juniors and five seniors entering the contest it was a great evening of magic and entertainment. Thanks and well done to all who took part including Ollie Ward, Lance Harrison, Tracy Wise, Margaret Wilson and Chris Campos for the seniors; and Alfie Hawes and Matty Turner for the juniors.

Our three independent judges had a hard time separating out the winners but they finally managed to come up with some scores to give us our results. So in the end, and taking deductions into account for a couple competitors who over or under ran with their timings, huge congratulations go to our two winners, Alfie Hawes for the juniors and Ollie Ward for the seniors. They retain both the titles and trophies for the coming year. If you didn't win this year, please don't be too downhearted - take it as encouragement to work on your act and come up with some new amazing miracles for next year's competition.

Thanks go to everyone that took part, to our three judges (never an easy job!) and to our audiences who helped to make it an enjoyable and entertaining evening.



Also at the meeting, Adrian led the first of our new 30 minute mentoring sessions where he talked about the different types and uses of thumb tips and dye tubes. With some pointers about how to use these devices correctly and in new or different ways, the session had a good and enthusiastic audience who seemed to find the time spent really helpful. This bodes well for the future of these bite-sized learning opportunities and more subjects will be presented at the start of all future meetings.

NEXT MEETING – 7th OCTOBER – STEVE DELA LECTURE

Steve is one of the most decorated magic performers in the world. Since the age of 16, Steve has been performing magic internationally and has made countless TV appearances, including Blue Peter, BBC Breakfast News, ITV Daybreak, and Paris's own Le Plus Grand Cabaret du Monde. He is one of the only magicians to have his photo on permanent display at The Magic Circle, the magic equivalent to a star on Hollywood Walk of Fame!



Now he's coming to Southend to teach us some of the strongest material from his world-renowned repertoire. So make sure you don't miss this one! Recent lectures from Steve have included a variety of effects such as: Oily Water, an easy-to-do Oil & Water routine that can be adapted for several scenarios; Real World Emotional Reaction, a new version of the classic Dai Vernon card trick; and Central Business, a centre tear with a business card, done in real time.

Steve also has some other really useful advice covering different aspects of performing magic: 'Breaking the Ice' looks at how to introduce and interact with your audience to make the most of your performance reactions; and in 'Magic Case', Steve shows you how to choose, organize, and manage your own magic case to take to gigs, while also suggesting ways to secure it during performances.

Steve will also undoubtedly have some of his magic for sale, and he's well known for coming up with great new and innovative ideas. 'Will to Read' in particular has become a very well known piece of mentalism performed by many magicians around the world. In this effect, three objects (pen, card and coin) are placed on a table. Your spectator places one in their pocket, keeps hold of another and passes one to you. Even though every decision is super fair, you proceed to reveal that the exact location of each object was predicted ahead of time within the "torn out page" of a book.

If that wasn't enough, you can then ask your spectator to simply think of ANY word from either side of the page. Then, with NO questions asked, you can start to reveal it letter by letter. Once they confirm the 4th letter in a row, you proceed to tell them the entire word!

Should be a great night so get there early to grab the best seats! The lecture will start at 8.00 and as always, visiting magicians are welcome to attend – the ticket price for guests is £10.

NEXT MENTORING SESSION – COIN BASICS



Following the success of the thumb tip mentoring session at our last meeting, requests were received to take a look at coin magic and sponge balls. As these are very different topics we'll split them across two sessions, so our next mentoring spot will be dedicated to the basics of coin magic.

We'll hopefully cover some basic handlings such as classic palm techniques and thumb clip palm; we'll go over a number of coin vanishes and a couple of effects using these techniques. We'll also look at some of the countless gaffed coins that are available these days to see how they can be integrated into your magic performances. Please come along and bring a selection of coins with you (!) as this will be a 'follow along' type session with opportunities to practice the different moves. If you're new to coin magic this will be perfect to get you started so we look forward to seeing you there.

Please note that as we have a lecture running as well, the mentoring session will need to start at 7.00 sharp, so please be there on time if you'd like to take part.

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

13 th October	Chancellor Park School, Chelmsford – now cancelled
23 rd November	Ekco Club – provisional booking at present
15 th December	Canvey Island WI show
2019	All Saints School, Maldon – date TBC

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.

2018 ANNUAL PRESENTATION DINNER, 27th OCTOBER

It's not too late - we're still taking table bookings for our annual dinner which will be held on Saturday 27th October at Thorpe Hall Golf Club, Thorpe Bay.



The menu is fantastic and we have some superb cabaret for you in the shape of Alexander Wells, a first class professional magician who is appearing at the IBM convention this year and is in great demand.



The annual dinner is a great night out and not to be missed.

Please note that payment in full is now required at the October meeting. Tracy will confirm your food order with you. Dress code is smart casual and there is plenty of parking at the Golf Club.

Tickets are £30 and payment can be made in cash, cheque, via BACS or even using PayPal. Just drop Tracy a line and let her know how many places you would like. She'll then send you the full menu so that you and your guests can make selections ahead of the evening. Each table seats 10 guests so why not bring your family and friends to join us in celebrating all that makes our club so great.

Some of our award winners aren't actually announced until the evening itself – so you never know, you could be this year's winner of the 'most promising newcomer' award, or 'clubman of the year', or even 'best non-magical supporter'. There's only one way to find out if it's you!

Bookings are coming in quite slowly at present and we do need to try and get around 60 people there to make it fully viable, so please do come along if you can – it's truly a brilliant night out!

DIXON STUDIO SHOWS – ALL OVER FOR ANOTHER YEAR!



So our run at the Dixon Studios with 'As If By Magic' comes to a close for another year. It's hard to believe that we've been doing this for 8 years now and that way back in 2011, when it all started, we'd still be putting the show on nearly ten years later!

But what a fabulous week it was as always. There's something about us all working together in this way that brings a really special feeling to the club. When you're part of such a great and dedicated team, it really feels as though you've accomplished something special – and we have!

I can't thank everyone enough for giving up their time, enthusiasm and talent to make the show work as well as it does. With sold out shows pretty much every night, we had people who were trying to get tickets unable to get into the theatre. The staff at the theatre tell

me repeatedly that ours is the only show that ever sells out in the Dixon Studio on such a regular basis – so we must be doing something right!

Thanks go to so many people: the Dream Team who package up and sell our merchandise and programmes and generally look after front of house; Stewart Cope for providing camera and projection skills and equipment at every show; Ryan Young and his team who looked after all the backstage side of things for the week; all our close uppers who performed so brilliantly in the foyer before the shows and during the intervals; my sons James and Antony who as usual were brilliant with their live music to kick things off in style at every show; and of course to all our performers on stage without whom there simply wouldn't be a show.



The whole idea of running these shows is to try and inspire our members to work on their magic and improve their skills to the point where they can perform in a professional setting like this. The reaction of two of our newer juniors summed it all up for me. Finlay and Brentley have never worked in this type of setting before and, understandably, at the start of the week they were a little apprehensive. But by the end of the week they were both so enthusiastic and fired up with their magic - it was truly a wonderful thing to see how much they grew during the week. That alone would have genuinely made all the effort so worthwhile!



I video recorded every show so I now have loads of footage to work through, but if anyone would like a video copy of their performance, just let me know and I'll do my best to get it to you as soon as possible.

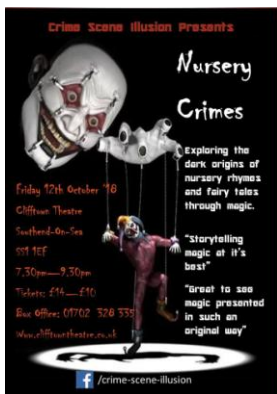
I truly hope that everyone who was involved enjoyed the experience as much as I did – it makes me feel really proud that Southend Sorcerers can do this year after year. Well done and thanks again.

On the next page are a few more little memories of our amazing week.....



MEMBERS' NEWS

Tracy Wise – Nursery Crimes



On Friday 12th October at 7.30, Tracy presents her one woman show 'Nursery Crimes' at the Clifftown Theatre in Southend.

Nursery Crimes is an exploration into the dark origins of nursery rhymes and fairy stories that will change your perceptions of childhood innocence forever! Carefully researched and innovatively presented this is a unique show blending performance magic and storytelling to weave a tale of murder, torture, cannibalism and most definitely not happy ever after.

“Storytelling magic at its best!” “Great to see magic presented in such an original way.”

Tickets are £14 with concessions priced at £10, and you can buy them here:

<https://clifftowntheatre.co.uk/whats-on/>

Oliver Tabor – West End Magic

Oliver presents his latest West End Magic show at the Leicester Square Theatre on Saturday 13th October at 3.30. Featuring some of Oliver's best illusions and a host of other brilliant performers, this show has now become established as London's premier magic show and is not to be missed!

Now celebrating its 5th year this is a packed show of top UK magic & variety acts including BGT's Matt Edwards!



The exciting family friendly show features phenomenal magic, extraordinary juggling, impossible mind reading, comedy and a bloke with a big balloon on his head!

Featuring top TV magician Matt Edwards from Britain's Got Talent, the visual award-winning magic of Oliver Tabor, the comedy magic of Fritz Alkemade and gentleman juggler Ian Marchant the show is compered by Christian Lee, another BGT TV star.

Tickets are £15 with a concessions price of £10 and you can get them here:

<https://leicestersquaretheatre.ticketsolve.com/shows/873494667>

MAGIC SHOWS & LECTURES ETC

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 6th 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>

FINALLY SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

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

Utility Devices

GECKO PRO SYSTEM by Jim Rosenbaum



Take your Vanishes to the next level!

The **Gecko Pro System** (GPS) combines the original Gecko system with the Gecko extreme system!

GPS allows you to safely vanish, switch or transform almost any borrowed item visually and silently!! It is an easy-to-use, light-weight and unobtrusive magic device that you will carry with you at all times.

A quick and easy hook up and, once customized (which only takes moments), you can comfortably carry it with you and use it wherever and whenever you desire. You can even perform amazing vanishes in short sleeves!

With an almost instant reset, GPS is perfect for walk around, close-up, parlour, and street magic. It is so easy to use that it is appropriate for all skill levels from beginner to expert, and is a must-have item for every performer.

Countless hours of research and development have gone into the GPS to ensure you receive a high-quality, professional apparatus.

GPS provides you with thousands of possibilities, such as:

Vanishes, bending, T&R (Torn and Restored), transformations, switching.

Use as a hold-out device too. Instant reset. Perform within minutes of opening.

You can watch the impressive trailer here at Alakazam, where the Gecko will set you back £62.

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/product-gecko-pro-system-gimmicks-and-online-instructions-by-jim-rosenbaum--trick-geckopro.html>

Mentalism

SVEN PAD ULTIMATE EDITION by Brett Barry

This is no ordinary Svengali style pad. Imagine a book test (without the book), using over 60 unique doodle drawings in an infinite variety of combinations.

With this revolutionary new concept, the Svengali long/short pages work in unexpectedly amazing ways. SvenPad Ultimate Edition is destined to become one of your favourite mind-reading utility devices, and will open new mind reading jazz possibilities, without the limitations of only a single force and printed words of a book. This unique tool blends the use of images and words, hiding the clever workings brilliantly.



Svenpad ultimate edition offers 3 powerful phases, each building to a crescendo. The first phase starts as a game. Then the game becomes a mind reading mystery. Using this pad will make it seem like you are literally inside each spectator's head – you're always one or two steps ahead. Performers can choose to reveal the spectator's thoughts in a variety of fun ways: verbally, in writing, as a drawing duplication or as a revelation/prediction. You get a 33 page instructional pdf, with a 20 minute handling video.

You can see Sven Pad Ultimate at Saturn Magic – the price is £65.99

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/svenpad-ultimate-by-brett-barry.html>

Physical Effects

STATIC MARKER by Wonder Makers



Every magician dreams about owning a magic device that will be always in their pocket, ready to amaze people without any preparation. Do you really want to shock people? - This is Static Marker. You will use this marker every day. We will teach you 7 incredible magic effects!

1. Shock: With this marker, your spectator will feel an electric shock, even though there are no electronics in the marker.
2. Balance: You can balance your marker in impossible way, defying gravity!
3. Card Ninja: With static electricity and your marker, you will find spectator's card. The card itself flies out from the pack directly into your hand.
4. Freezing Time: You can stop time at any moment, and a ring will not fall from the marker.
5. Telekinesis: Using telekinesis, you can knock off different small objects from your marker at any time.
6. Mental Prediction: You will learn how to read your spectator's mind. You will know, for certain, which city they will choose.
7. Magnetic: You can magnetize different small objects, enabling them to stick to your marker.

Instant reload. Your marker is always ready for your show. Even if you are a beginner, you will be able to shock your audience immediately after our tutorial and you'll receive a 30-minute video tutorial with many ideas.

Spooky Mentalism

FREAK by Dave Forrest

Here's one for Halloween as it's just around the corner.....

When a torn photograph of a murder victim restores in the hands of your participant...when that victim was correctly intuited, merely thought of, from three potential victims...when that photo then changes in a truly disturbing way... They can only do one thing...FREAK!

Genuinely solid methodology makes this bizarre, story-based, torn and restored nightmare happen pretty much all by itself in a way that is genuinely inexplicable and genuinely unsettling.



First, your participant is given a completely free choice out of three potential victims. They don't write anything down or say anything out loud.

Then they are given three torn photographs - portraits of three pretty girls from a bygone era - each one a potential victim. All three photos are clearly torn in half. It's very clear that they are holding nothing more or less than six pieces of torn photographs - there are no false counts, nothing is stolen away and no sleight of hand is used.

They are thinking of one of the girls in one of those torn photos and when the actual murder victim is revealed it is precisely the one victim they have in mind, every time.

Now, the two photos of the non-victims are removed from their hand - very cleanly. You neither steal nor add anything as you very openly table the four pieces of the other two photographs, leaving them with just the two pieces of the genuine murder victim's photo.

Now, without any moves, in their hands, the pieces restore! The correctly identified victim's image has restored in their own hands! But it's not just restored...it has also changed...the pretty girl is now a horrifying ghoul and she has a message for you from beyond the grave!

The routine is wound around the tale of the 'Portrait Ripper' - a serial killer from yesteryear who would taunt the law by sending them ripped photos of his next victims. The story has an intriguing twist in the tale as it is finally revealed, through the eerily restored and frighteningly altered photograph, who the 'Portrait Ripper' really is! Keeping in mind this all happens in their hands, I'm sure you can see why we call it Freak!

Freak will be supplied as an online streaming video and all the necessary props will be shipped out to you.

You can obtain Freak from your favourite magic dealer and it'll cost you about £15 – but you can have a look at more details and a trailer video here:

<https://www.magicshop.co.uk/freak-by-david-forrest>

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