



Southend Sorcerers Society

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SOUTHEND SORCERERS APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER

2020 MEETINGS AND EVENTS

3rd May	Stage Competition - POSTPONED	6th Sep	Close Up Competition
7th Jun	Lecture – Paul Gordon	4th Oct	Lecture – Tom Elderfield
5th Jul	TBC	1st Nov	Props Auction
2nd Aug	Club Night	6th Dec	Xmas Fun Night

2020 CLUB SHOWS

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

2021 CLUB SHOWS

Feb	Maldon School show – date and venue TBC
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CONTACTS

President - Adrian Fox
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Club Shows Secretary – Richard Graham
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Treasurer – Tracy Wise
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Secretary, Membership & Librarian – Ryan Young
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LAST MEETING – 5th APRIL – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - CANCELLED

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our last meeting on 5th April was due to be the 43rd Annual General Meeting of the club, but because of the ongoing lockdown situation we had to cancel the meeting and try to conduct the usual AGM business electronically via email.

The relevant points to note as a result of this approach are as follows:

1. Annual Reports & Presentation of Accounts

Reports were distributed to all members via email from Adrian Fox, Oliver Ward, Ryan Young, Richard Graham and Tracy Wise as the outgoing committee members. Audited accounts were also sent to the membership and questions invited for any of the committee on any aspects of their reports. No questions or comments have been received subsequently so it is therefore proposed that the reports now be accepted unchallenged.

2. Election of Officers for 2020/2021

Oliver Ward has decided to stand down from the committee this year but all other committee members have agreed to stand for another year in office. All club members were emailed with an invitation for new committee nominations and a proposal to simply re-instate the existing committee of four to ensure continuity of the club's business. There were no new nominations from the membership for any committee posts for the coming year. Replies were received from 37 members, all of whom voted in favour of the proposal, so as a result, the committee for the coming year remains as:

President	Adrian Fox
Treasurer	Tracy Wise
Shows Secretary	Richard Graham
Secretary	Ryan Young

All committee posts, other than that of president, will now additionally act as vice presidents to cover absences by the president when necessary.

3. Membership Fees

There is no proposal to change subscription fees for the coming year which will therefore remain as follows:

Joining Fee	£10
Individual Membership	£20
Family/Junior Membership	£25
Guest Fee at ordinary meetings	£2
Guest fee at lectures	£10

4. Honorary Life Memberships

There were no proposals this year.

5. Amendments to Rules and Constitution

There were no suggested amendments to the constitution this year.

NEXT MEETING – 3rd MAY – 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 MEETINGS



One of the ideas the committee has been discussing is a way for club members to stay in touch and meet up during the lockdown period. As a committee we've held our first meeting using the Zoom app and it did seem to work quite well, so we're now thinking about the possibility of arranging something similar for all club members to take part in. Of course, there's no point in all of us dialling in unless there's something to discuss or to share, so we're now trying to come up with a game plan of some sort which will give us all a chance to meet up with a purpose. All ideas are very welcome and we'll come out to you with more details as soon as possible. Should be interesting!

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 scheduled show now is not until 20th June at the Essex County Bowls Club. Having said that of course, whether or not it will go ahead is dependent on the state of play with the Covid 19 situation and it's very likely that it will be postponed or cancelled. Watch this space and we'll keep you up to date with developments.

You'll notice that we've also had a repeat booking for one of the schools in Maldon for February next year – more details to come in due course.

PAYING SUBSCRIPTIONS - BACS

Just a reminder that as 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.



Ways to pay

This means that you can still make sure that your subscription gets paid on time, even though we can't formally meet at present due to the Covid situation. 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.

Subscriptions for 2020/21 are £20 for individual membership and £25 for junior (ie family) membership. You can also make payments for the annual dinner this way, using a reference made up of your name and 'Dinner20'. Of course, cash and cheques are still very welcome payment methods too.

We realise that with meetings being cancelled, you may be wondering if it's worth paying your subscription right now. But we really think our club is worth supporting, and it isn't all that expensive anyway, so 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!

DINNER MENU

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

Nathan Fitzpatrick – Fitzy Magic



It's always great to see our members stepping up to the challenge of taking their magic to the next level, and this month we should congratulate **Nathan Fitzpatrick** for a new YouTube channel he's set up, featuring daily lockdown videos of magic effects with cards. If you haven't seen Nathan's work yet, do give it a watch! You can search YouTube for Fitzy Magic to find the videos, or simply click here:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9euKjTcD_LA2CPBUf20ocg

If you prefer Instagram, check out @Fitzymagic.06

CORONAVIRUS – 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)



Potters Magic Auction - May 2, 2020 • 10:00 AM



Potters is a US auction house and they have a new magic auction taking place on 2nd May. The auction features a strong selection of Houdiniana - including rare postcards, signed photographs, early letters, programs, and memorabilia. Other highlights include ephemera from the careers of Chung Ling Soo, Jose Frakson, and Harry Kellar. Memorabilia and magic tricks from the career of Johnny Thompson, a/k/a The Great Tomsoni, will round out the sale. Among these items will be his awards, props, hairpieces (!), and show-used costumes.

For anyone interested in the history of our art, you can bid for some amazing items – or simply download the free catalogue which is fascinating in itself. Details can be found here: <https://potterauctions.com/>

Magic Week Video Archive

If you find yourself with some time on your hands, it's well worth popping along to the Magic Week video archive on YouTube to take a look at some of the classic performances that are held there. Duncan Trillo has done an amazing job of curating some brilliant magic videos and you can easily lose yourself for an hour just flicking through some of the collection – you'll find it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0VQINjg1RbLrUgeg3rQZIw/videos>

An Evening with Promystic

On Thursday 30th April, Alakazam are holding a special evening with Craig Filicetti, the owner of Promystic. For those that aren't aware, Promystic have for a long time been at the forefront of creating mentalism based electronic products. Their Multidimensional colour cube and their Real Die products were ground breaking when they first appeared. They have a range of products for the professional mentalist, and although there are competitors these days, many say that Promystic are still one of the best with amazing customer service from Craig.



The evening Alakazam have arranged with Craig is available to view for free and you can get tickets on their website, so if you have any Promystic products or are interested in their work, it should be a great watch. You can access it here:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/an-evening-with-promystic-free-event.html>

FINALLY, AS USUAL, SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

Mentalism

TIMELESS by Liam Montier and Vanishing Inc



The performer speaks about implanting memories, or causing someone to see something that isn't actually there. To demonstrate, the performer removes their watch and asks a participant to twist the knob to move the hands around randomly. The performer's head is turned away the entire time. When the participant is happy, she looks at the watch and remembers the random time she stopped at.

Then she holds the performer's watch between her palms. Even from a great distance across the stage, the performer divines the **exact** time the participant chose. But here's where it gets next-level impossible. To emphasize the idea that the participant didn't actually see anything, the performer asks her to look again at the watch she holds. **The hands on the watch are gone.**

Here's why "Timeless Deluxe" is fooling everyone. Immediately afterward the watch is **completely examinable**. In fact, a watch with no hands is such an odd, striking prop that we encourage you to pass it around when you're done. The effect resets quickly, and requires no palming or practice. You'll be able to do "Timeless Deluxe" **instantly** after learning the method.

"Timeless Deluxe" builds on one of the great mind reading effects ever: divining a chosen time. But to make the watch hands vanish? Now we're in miracle territory. This effect is great not only live onstage, but also in impromptu situations or for television or social media magic: it's quick, impossible, and most importantly, it's a rare visual for mentalism.

You can see Timeless at most magic dealers – Alakazam have it here for £38.33

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/timeless-deluxe-midnight-black-gimmicks-and-online-instructions-by-liam-montier-and-vanishing-inc.html>

Transpositions

TRULY TIED by Jota

The most clean, fast and ultra visual effect with shoelaces!

From the mind of Jota, a new idea where the illusionist clearly takes the corner of a card, ring or key, and in less than a blink of an eye makes it travel from his hands ... to his shoelaces! And truly tied!



3 different versions are included! Regular, fire and social media (gimmick included).

Available in black or white shoelaces. There's absolutely nothing to cover with no strange moves or any misdirection required! The spectators are looking all the time, and the effect is so quick and clean that they will believe they saw real magic!

It's easy to do, reset in seconds and you can use it on any shoes. You can do it with cards, rings, keys or any small object. The spectators can check it very close and untie the knot themselves confirming that the object it's truly tied! The spectator takes his ring himself at the end and the effect can be done surrounded.

Alakazam stock the item for £31 – you can see it here:

https://www.alakazam.co.uk/truly-tied-white-gimmick-and-online-instructions-by-jota-trick-trulytied_white.html

For a demo video of the effect in action, take a look at the Hey Presto website here:

<https://heyprestomagic.com/collections/new-magic/products/truly-tied-gimmick-and-online-instructions-by-jota>

Mentalism

4 SWITCH by Pierre Acourt



What is 4 Switch?

It's a method. Pierre Acourt has "revisited" a little-known and yet ingenious method that uses the permutation of 3 objects (or 3 people). The advantage of 4 Switch is that the magician does not need to know the order of the objects before turning around.

Of course there are hidden constraints, but they are so subtle that your spectator will be able to swear that he has shuffled things around as much as he wanted and as many times as he wanted. There is a whole chapter in this book entitled "verbal subtleties" that will allow you to achieve this result.

You will receive a book with many mentalism effects such as a chair test, a which hand routine, a free will effect, divination, coincidences, impromptu effects with everyday objects such as coins, business cards etc, a magic square, a stage trick, etc...

You also get a very original deck of 51 cards that will allow you to perform the tricks described in the book, but which can be used on other occasions. The deck includes a complete set of ESP cards (25 cards), 2 sets of numbers from 0 to 9, and 6 rock, paper, scissors cards. All cards have a secret marking on their backs.

Here's an example of a very direct effect:

A spectator chooses 3 small objects and puts them on a table. The magician's back is turned, the objects are shuffled, and then the spectator takes the objects: one in his pocket, one in his left hand and one in his right hand. The magician faces again (or not) and announces which object the spectator has in his pocket, then in his left hand and in his right hand. If you do the trick again, the objects may end up in other positions. The magician does not peek before, after or during.

4 Switch is available at Alakazam for £48 and you can see it here:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/4-switch-with-gimmicks-and-online-instructions-by-pierre-acourt-and-magic-dream.html>

Cards

CHACE by Vinny Sagoo

Chace is an incredible upgraded version of the classic "Chase the Ace" gambling routine filled with a variety of twists and surprises that will delight all audiences.

This incredibly easy to do, multi-phase routine resets almost immediately, making it the perfect packet trick for any walk around or strolling close-up magician.

Chace begins with the magician showing their spectator four blue-backed cards. Three of them have blank faces and the other is the Ace of Spades—the card they'll need to follow to play Chace. This Ace of Spades is buried within the packet of cards. With a snap of your fingers, it magically disappears, only for it to then reappear with another magical snap or wave. You then show the three blank-faced cards to have a blue back and ask the spectator to name the colour on the back of the Ace of Spades. They'll be shocked to see that it is now RED instead of BLUE.

You then turn all the cards face down for the finale. The spectator can touch any card that is not an Ace. So, they of course touch one of the blue-backed cards. However, when you turn it over, they have still lost because this card is now an Ace. In fact, all the cards are now Aces.

Chace comes with high-quality USPCC cards and written instructions featuring 30 colour photos. You'll also receive access to an online tutorial.

Chace costs around £20 and you can see it at Vanishing Inc
<https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/card-magic/chace/>



Fire Magic

FLAME by Murphy's Magic Supplies



All Magicians know, if you want to get the attention of your audience... use fire!

Flame is by far one of the most amazing visual effects in close-up fire magic.

Imagine taking out an ordinary lighter and, at your command, making the flame levitate slowly above the lighter then back down again! Flame is 100% self-contained. It uses no wires or external gimmicks. You are in 100% control of the levitation!

Carry it with you everywhere you go to increase the magical moments in your act.

Whether using Flame for your favourite Blister effect, for lighting flash paper or to simply use it as a show of your magical powers, Flame is a must have for all walk-around, close-up and street performers.

100% self –contained, 100% under your control. No wires, no external gimmicks! You can also use Flame as a normal lighter.

Flame is available from a variety of dealers and costs around £20. The trailer is online at Penguin Magic: <https://www.penguinmagic.com/p/S28804>

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