



Southend Sorcerers Society
Tel: 01702 297983

SOUTHEND SORCERERS MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

2022 MEETINGS

3rd Apr	Annual General Meeting	4th Sep	Close Up Competition
1st May	Annual stage competition	2nd Oct	Props Auction
5th Jun	Lecture - Martin Cox	6th Nov	Lecture - Ferran Rizo
3rd Jul	Lecture - Jon Allen	4th Dec	Xmas Fun Night
2nd Aug	Club Night		

CLUB SHOWS

w/c 22nd 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.
<https://www.southendsorcerers.com/zoom-recordings>

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 – 6th MARCH – CLUB NIGHT

The March meeting was one of our ever popular club nights. With several members attending it was a lively and enjoyable evening with everyone able to simply socialise and share their magic in a comfortable setting.



Mick Geraghty had also brought with him a large collection of magic which was up for sale and it was great to see everyone having a browse and making the odd purchase. A lot of Mick's items were things you can no longer find in dealers' catalogues, so there were a few rare items to be snapped up.

In the end it was a well attended and enjoyable time - not much more to say really! Thanks to everyone who came along.

NEXT MEETING – 3rd APRIL - 45th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The April meeting sees the club's 45th Annual General Meeting take place which all members are invited to attend. The meeting is an opportunity to hear from the outgoing committee about club achievements since our last formal AGM in 2020, and there's also a chance to discuss any issues which you may have identified or which you feel need looking at further.

The committee will formally stand down at the meeting and a new committee will be voted in. Apart from Tracy Wise, who has sadly decided to stand down as Treasurer this year, all the existing committee members are prepared to stand for re-election. However this should not discourage you from thinking about offering your services to the club if you're keen to get involved in running the society.

As mentioned last month, here are the brief details of what each post presently involves:

President: Prepares newsletter each month; produces and manages Dixon Shows; prepares agenda for and chairs monthly committee meetings; administers club competitions; acts as host at monthly club meetings.

Secretary & Membership: Organises lectures and dealers; administers club website; arranges meeting schedule; prepares committee meeting minutes; administers and processes new membership applications and maintains membership lists; maintains the club library.

Treasurer: Manages club finances; produces monthly electronic accounts statements; deals with membership subscriptions and other payments and receipts; liaises with the bank; liaises with the Dream Team over merchandise arrangements; arranges social events such as the annual dinner.

Shows Secretary: Acts as the club's shows promoter and manager; liaises with clients and members to organise and staff club shows.

Plus all committee members attend the monthly committee meetings, are involved in vetting prospective new members before they can apply for membership, and contribute generally to club events such as the annual Christmas fun night.

All committee posts are available and members can nominate either themselves or someone else for service during the coming year. However please ensure that anyone you nominate is a) seconded by another member and b) is prepared to serve for the next year.

All nominations should be forwarded to Adrian in advance of the meeting.

Please be aware that this meeting is open to members only; and that any additional items you may want to discuss at the meeting should be notified to Adrian in advance of the evening please. This is to keep things manageable and to ensure that the meeting doesn't overrun. There's an agenda for the meeting included at the end of this newsletter.

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.



LAST SHOW

19th March 2022, Stambridge Primary School

Our last show was held on on 19th March at Stambridge Primary School. We've performed for the school before so we knew it was going to be a pretty good night and that's exactly how it turned out! Although we were a few close uppers short due to Covid we still managed to stage a great show and as always huge thanks go to all our members who took part.

On close up duties this time we had Alan Chapman, Alan Taylor, Dave Taylor, Chris Campos, Doug Roden, Thomas Edwin and Richard Graham. And the stage show part of the evening, compered by Richard Graham, was performed by Alan Taylor, Dave Taylor and Thomas Edwin.

Thanks also go to Andy Smith and his daughter Rebecca for brilliantly looking after the stage and sound management side of things; and as usual to our Dream Team, Audrey, Barbara and Angela who looked after our merchandise sales.

It's always great to get out and put on a show, and this was a super evening clearly enjoyed by all in the audience. Let's hope we receive another invitation to return at some point in the future.

2022 DIXON STUDIO SHOWS – AS IF BY MAGIC



As you know, we've confirmed our August run at the Dixon Studio for 2022. It'll be our tenth anniversary of staging As If By Magic and we're hoping to make the show bigger and better than ever before.

Just to remind you that the new dates for the shows are now during week commencing 22nd August.

So if you would like to take part in the shows please let me know so that I can at least begin planning things. We now have only 5 months to prepare and although that sounds like we have plenty of time, the weeks will fly by and I have loads of work to do to make it happen. But without you, we obviously won't have a show - we can only continue with your support so please do get in touch if you would like to be involved. So far very few people have indicated their willingness to take part and it's somewhat worrying that more members haven't been in touch to discuss it or offer their help.

For stage, you ideally need two 10 minute acts – and of course our close uppers will get an opportunity too as we run close up magic in the theatre foyer for an hour each night before the main show starts. If you'd like help devising an act please ask - we can help you put something together that will work for you.

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

SUBSCRIPTION TIME



Just a reminder that it's annual subscription time again!

As always, it's really easy for you to pay your subs. You can pay by BACS – via an electronic online money transfer - directly into the club's bank account from your own. This means that if you have to miss a meeting or two, you can still make sure that your subscription gets paid on time, so that you don't have to worry about it too much.

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 'Subs22' when you make the payment. That way we'll know that you've paid. Subscriptions for 2022/23 are £20 for individual membership and £25 for junior (and family) membership.

Of course, cash and cheques are still very welcome payment methods too.

We'd encourage you to pay your subscription as soon as possible please. The ticket price for attending just one lecture as a non-member is £10, so your continued membership is an obvious way to save yourself money.

Also, after lockdown a number of members have decided not to renew their membership. This is a very sad and worrying situation obviously but we now have to try and work out exactly how many paid up members we still have in the club. Your early payment will help that work tremendously and we really do appreciate your continued support as we move forward.

CLUB CLOTHING

The committee has a stock of some smart clothing products bearing the club logo which are available to you in a variety of sizes. The items are available from Ryan and you can choose from the usual black polo shirts, as well as printed T-shirts and embroidered sweatshirts. We also have a small number of close-up prop bags as pictured below.

Prices for all these great products are as follows:

T-Shirts £6; Close up bags £10; Polo Shirts £12; and the Sweatshirts are £15.



FINALLY, SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

A quick look at some of the latest releases.....

Chop Cup

CHOP by Craig Petty



Most people have performed or still work with a chop cup - it's a classic of magic and rightly so. With Craig's latest release you can make a signed bill vanish from underneath any cup, and then reappear at your command. Just when your audience thinks you're out of tricks, a lemon appears inside the cup, and inside the lemon is the signed bill. This is a real worker that gets huge reactions. This is Chop by Craig Petty.

A bill is borrowed, signed, and scrunched into a small ball. An ordinary coffee cup is examined by your spectators. The bill vanishes from the cup, only to reappear with a snap of your fingers. The bill is put back in the cup, and it vanishes again. The cup is placed on the spectator's hands and impossibly reappears at your command, or the command of your spectator. The bill vanishes again, and when the cup is lifted, a lemon is found underneath the cup. The lemon can be examined and shown to be ordinary. You then cut open the lemon, and inside is the signed bill.

Chop comes with a very special gimmick that allows you to turn any cup and any bill into an instant Chop Cup routine. The Chop routine can be done with any cup, even a paper coffee cup. This has been a worker for Craig Petty for years and is his go-to closer when he really wants to impress an audience. The gimmick has been updated to hide in plain sight and work better than ever. In addition to the killer bill in lemon ending, Craig has also updated the instructions with incredible new moves that make it incredibly deceptive. Plus, you'll learn additional routine ideas with cards, coins, sponge balls, and other ways to use the Chop gimmick that will truly fry your audience. Craig even teaches some amazing material using the Chop gimmick with a clear glass. Workers will love how practical this gimmick is, and beginners will love how easy this trick is to perform. Once this is in your hands, you'll never want to leave the house without Chop by Craig Petty.

Chop is available from your favourite dealer and will cost you around £36. You can watch the trailer here:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/chop-by-craig-petty.html>

Cards

BIG REACTION by Andy Nyman

Big Reaction is Andy Nyman's take on a Roy Johnson effect. Andy has performed his killer version of this trick literally thousands of times and the reaction is always the same - huge.



Big Reaction could well be one of the most commercial tricks ever created and it will get cheers and applause from your audience. Big Reaction is not only the perfect opener but also a great closer to your set. You can use it anytime anywhere. Works one on one, mix and mingle, close up, tables or even cabaret.

The basic effect is that a spectator is asked to name any card. The deck is removed from the box and the chosen card is found and removed face up, then placed on the spectator's hand. You explain that if you've got the trick wrong the spectator should feel free to 'boo' you loudly - but if you've got it right they should go crazy!

You then turn the deck over and every card has 'boo' written on the back. When the spectator's free selection is turned over, it has 'go crazy' written on the back.

The trick was released before, but with this new version the cards have been printed for you so there's no preparation to do.

Big Reaction is available from Alakazam where the price is £35

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/big-reaction-by-andy-nyman-printed-version.html>

Penetrations

SHRAPNEL by Kim Andersen



An ordinary safety pin is **fully** examined by the audience. A finger ring is *borrowed*.

Then...right in front of their eyes, up close and personal, the two objects impossibly melt through each other. On and off. Over and over. Like a glaring red hot knife through warm butter.

At your command, inches from their face, you visually melt fibres through fibres in increasingly unexplainable ways. Then as quick as the wind changes, they no longer penetrate. They are instantly handed to the audience to be examined. Left speechless.

"*This is not CGI*" you have to tell them. This is magic. This...is **Shrapnel**.

From the creative mastermind and consummate professional working magician, Kim Andersen comes **Shrapnel**. Taking the time-tested classic linking pins routine; he's dusted off the cobwebs and totally reimaged it into a masterpiece. Perfect for walkaround close-up situation.

Shrapnel comes with everything you need to start performing right out of the box. Including a custom carry tin, finger ring, extra accessories and not one but TWO precision made gimmicks.

Including intricately detailed instruction video, plus uncut live performances from Kim Andersen on the streets of Dublin, Ireland.

It looks fabulous - you can watch the trailer at Saturn Magic where the price is around £30

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/shrapnel--gimmicks-and-online-instructions--by-kim-andersen--trick.html>

Mentalism

HEADS & TAILS by Mickael Chatelain

Statistics say no, but magic disagrees.

If you flip a coin, it always has a 50% chance to land heads or tails. But, what if it didn't? What if you could guess how it would land every single time?

With "Heads & Tails Prediction", Mickael Chatelain introduces you to a diabolical method that allows you to do just that. Laypeople and magicians alike will be completely amazed by this.



Here's how it works:

You introduce three coins or borrow them from a spectator. They can be matching coins or even three different coins. They are then placed on the table alongside three pieces of paper numbered "1", "2" and "3" that you remove from your wallet or pocket.

Your spectator is invited to take part in an experiment. They flip a coin and it lands in the middle of the table. For this example, it lands tails side up. With no forcing, they are then asked to move the coin toward one of the papers. It's totally their choice. This process is repeated with the next two coins.

Everything was extremely fair. There is no way for you to not only know how the coins would land, but also the choices the spectator would make. Yet, somehow you do....

In big bold letters, all of the papers perfectly match.

It's a true mystery and an amazing miracle.

"Heads & Tails Prediction" is always ready to go. Prepare it once, keep it in your wallet and you can perform miracles anywhere.

It is reliable and easy to do. No forcing or complex sleight of hand needed. It really is this squeaky clean. Everything resets instantly.

IMPORTANT NOTE BEFORE BUYING

"Heads & Tails" prediction come with all the supplies needed to perform the effect. However, the gimmicks are not pre-constructed. You will need to create them yourself. It will take approximately 15 to 30 minutes. But, only needs to be done one time. Once you've created them, they're good to go for repeated performances.

You can take a look at this on the Vanishing Inc website where the price is around £30

<https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/close-up-magic/heads-tails-prediction/>

Packet Tricks

STARTLING TWIST by Paul Gordon



As Paul came and lectured for us recently I thought it would be nice to include one of his latest releases this month.

Startling Twist is Paul's take on an old plot where four cards in a packet turn face up one at a time, then turn face down again. After that they all turn face up in one go. The spectator will swear that the backs of the cards are blue - yet they're then shown to be all red backed. And if that wasn't enough, as a finale, the colour of the backs changes yet again to green.

Startling Twist is a true fooler especially to fellow magicians who think you're going to do BackFlip. So much magic and so many surprises with such a thin packet. Supplied in Bicycle stock with an online video tutorial.

You'll find Startling Twist at Merchant of Magic where the price is £17.50

<https://magicshop.co.uk/collections/whats-new/products/startling-twist-by-paul-gordon-trick>

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

SOUTHEND SORCERERS SOCIETY
45th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
DUE TO BE HELD AT 7.30PM ON SUNDAY 3rd APRIL 2022
AT THE EKCO SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB
THORNFORD GARDENS,
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the 43rd Annual General Meeting (the 44th AGM did not take place)
3. Annual Committee Reports and Presentation of Audited Accounts
4. Election of Officers for 2022/2023
Tracy Wise is standing down as Treasurer.
Adrian Fox, Richard Graham and Ryan Young are happy to continue in post.
Nominations for Treasurer and other posts
Voting in of new committee
5. Membership Fees – the proposal is to leave membership fees unaltered this year
Joining fee - £10
Annual senior membership - £20
Annual family (junior) membership - £25
Guest fee – normal meetings - £5
Guest fee – lectures - £10
Please note that Membership subscriptions are due in April each year
6. Honorary Life Memberships – there are no proposals for honorary life memberships.
7. Amendments to Rules and Constitution – none proposed.
8. Any Other Business
Any unresolved matters will be taken forward by the committee for consideration at their next meeting.