



*Southend Sorcerers Society*

Tel: 01702 297983

## SOUTHEND SORCERERS JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER

### 2020 MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**5<sup>th</sup> Jul** Speed Dating Night

**2<sup>nd</sup> Aug** Club Night

**6<sup>th</sup> Sep** Close Up Competition

**4<sup>th</sup> Oct**

Lecture – Tom Elderfield

**1<sup>st</sup> Nov**

Props Auction

**6<sup>th</sup> Dec**

Xmas Fun Night

### VIRTUAL MEETINGS (ZOOM)

**5<sup>th</sup> Jul** 7.30pm – Meeting ID = 879 6815 4546 Password = 3WNaAB

**7<sup>th</sup> Jul** 8.00 – Etienne Pradier lecture. Meeting ID=829 209 8384 Password=mems2020

### 2020 CLUB SHOWS

**w/c 10<sup>th</sup> Aug** Dixon Studio Shows ‘As if By Magic!’ – POSTPONED UNTIL 2021

### 2021 CLUB SHOWS

**27<sup>th</sup> Feb** Wentworth School, Maldon

### CONTACTS

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## LAST MEETING – 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE – VIRTUAL MEETING



Our June meeting was due to be the lecture from established author and card worker Paul Gordon. As you might expect, given the current situation, we had no alternative but to postpone the lecture until we (and Paul!) feel that it would be safe to reschedule it. So, in place of the lecture we decided to hold an online virtual club meeting so that members could at least spend some time together and share latest effects and routines.

Although it was a fairly short session, there was a useful discussion about magic in the lockdown situation and how it might have to change to avoid spectator contact with any props etc. Some felt that re-assessing material (or bringing in new non-contact material) would be a good idea in the short term. Others pointed out that the public has a short memory, and felt that once the restrictions are lifted, things may well simply go back to how they were before. For now, although restaurants are to be open again in early July, it appears that live entertainment of any description is still forbidden in places like this. As a result, public magic performances of all descriptions will continue to be on hold for the time being.

The session ended with Nathan showing us all some the new card material he's been working on, along with contributions from Finlay too. Thanks both – good to see how you're keeping your hand in!

## ADDITIONAL MEETING – 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE – WEB OF SECRETS SHOW AND LECTURE

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June, the club got together with Mid Essex Magical Society to put on a joint online session featuring Matthew Wright in his 'Web of Secrets' show and lecture.



The Web of Secrets is a completely new and unique online interactive show designed to bring amazement, wonder, comedy and all round entertainment directly into the spectator's own home. Matthew has made his name running his own magic theatre in the Costa del Sol in Spain, where his show "The Chamber of Secrets" has been the Trip Advisor number one attraction for the past 5 consecutive years. During lockdown, Matthew has decided to offer magic clubs a combined show and lecture package which we were keen to take advantage of.

The first part of the evening, which was attended by around 30 members, consisted of the show. Clever use of technology allowed Matthew to run the whole event himself, using a mix of live interaction, video clips and overlays, and 3 cameras to keep things moving and engaging. It was a brilliant use of the platform, and the show, which took Matthew 4 days to write, contained plenty of varied material. During the hour we were treated to:

- a freely selected card to mouth routine (although the name of the card was actually written on a dollar bill!);
- a lovely three-fly coins across routine where the final coin visibly floats from one hand to the other;
- a drawing duplication using a spectator's phone, along with a thought of card prediction;
- a blindfolded Rubik's cube solve;
- a beautiful torn and restored card effect (called D4M) with the card being restored in a mixed up fashion;
- a take on the three shell game with the use of Matthew's own design of Lippincott box;
- a signed 'bill to walnut in orange' routine;
- an online colour match effect where the spectator's drawing perfectly matches a prediction made ahead of time;
- and finally a brilliantly thought out mentalism routine involving photos of rescue dogs. The outcomes had all been shown ahead of the routine itself in a special film.

The whole thing was superbly put together and contained some really strong material which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone on the call.

Next came the lecture part of the evening where Matthew generously explained most of the effects he had performed in the show.

A lot of the routines and props are available on his website, and if you visit [www.marvelous-fx.com/lecture](http://www.marvelous-fx.com/lecture) you can take advantage of some great lecture bundles at hugely reduced prices. Or, if you prefer buying single items, you can make use of a 20% discount by simply entering 'lecture20' in the voucher code box when checking out.

It was a superb evening and thanks go to Matthew for staging it – I hope those members that joined in enjoyed it as much as I did!

### **NEXT MEETING – 5<sup>th</sup> JULY – VIRTUAL 'SPEED DATING' SESSION**



Our next meeting is due on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July and as it's another online get together, there's no reason why our speed dating session can't go ahead as planned. For those who aren't familiar with the whole speed dating concept in magic, basically, a number of our members will have 20 minutes each to share their ideas and/or routines with the rest of the group. In this way, we get to see a number of people give a variety of mini-lectures in one session and it usually makes for an entertaining evening.

So on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>, we'll run the session using the Zoom platform instead of face to face. Amongst other things, Ryan will give us an introduction to the Inject App and some of the amazing things you can do with it. For those that haven't seen it before, it's a phone based utility that allows you to have the spectator look something up on their own mobile phone yet still be able to know exactly what they're looking at. The possibilities are endless and Ryan will give us a basic overview at the session. Oliver Tabor has also promised to run a session, and Adrian will take a spot too. For the card workers, Nathan Fitzpatrick has offered a session as well. If anyone else would like to step up and present something to the group, please let Adrian know ahead of the meeting and we'll do our best to fit everyone in!

It should be an interesting night hopefully so we look forward to seeing you there. The meeting starts at 7.30 and the dial in details are as follows:

Meeting ID: 879 6815 4546

Password: 3WNaAB

Or, if you don't have the Zoom app, you can join by using this link in your web browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8254968023?pwd=eVNEbGFYTIZ4cytkZ1BSS2Z1Y1FKZz09>

### **ADDITIONAL ONLINE MEETING – 7<sup>th</sup> JULY – ETIENNE PRADIER LECTURE**

For those that aren't familiar with Etienne's work, you're in for a real treat!

Born in France, Etienne became fascinated by magic at an early age and rapidly made a name for himself as a truly gifted close-up magician that was assured to be "going somewhere." And he did ... twice!

He moved to England and achieved international recognition as one of the world's finest close-up table magicians. After only 3 years as a member of the elite 'Magic Circle', he was invited to take membership of the 'Inner Magic Circle, with Gold Star' in recognition of his excellence as a professional magician



Etienne has worked all around the world and has won many awards during his 25 years of performing magic at the highest level. He is one of only 200 people to be presented a gold star membership of the Inner Magic Circle. He has won Magic Circle Magician of the Year, Colombe d'Or in France, came 3rd in the world Championships in Holland, and won the All Winner Championship Cup in England.

So when he announced that he was offering live online lectures, it was one of those things that we needed to get booked early, because we knew how popular the offer would be. Mid Essex Magical Society (MEMS) had the same idea, so we're now pleased to be able to offer you the chance to see the lecture first hand with a joint event for us and MEMS.

The lecture is on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 8.00** and the sign in details are below. Expect to be wowed by one of the best entertainers in his field! See you there.

Sign in for Zoom: Meeting ID=829 209 8384 Password=mems2020

Or you can join the Zoom meeting using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8292098384?pwd=QVBkbzArTENady9TYjRZNVVodlh5QT09>

## 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

As you might expect, all our planned shows for 2020 have been postponed due to ongoing lockdown situation. Some customers have indicated that they'd like to book for next year plans instead, but at present we have no idea of when that might be. Watch this space for further updates.

We do however have a show booked for **27<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at the Wentworth School** in Maldon. This is a repeat booking and is currently still scheduled to go ahead as far as we know so please book the date in your diary if you'd be keen to help out.



## DIXON STUDIO SHOWS – AS IF BY MAGIC 2020 - POSTPONED



This year's Dixon Shows were due to be held during week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> August and would have marked our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Dixon Studio. We were planning to make this year's shows even more spectacular than in the past as a special marker for the milestone we've achieved.

So you can imagine how disappointed we all were to have to make the sad decision to postpone the 2020 shows until next year when hopefully things might have settled down a little. As it turns out, the theatres are planning to stay closed until at least September anyway, so it does seem as though we'd have had little choice. But when you consider how difficult it would have been to sell tickets, or even to get people together to rehearse, there really is no other option but to postpone things.

We're really disappointed to have to make this decision, but we'll be back in force next year I'm sure, so let's plan to make our comeback shows in 2021 the best ever!

## 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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!

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

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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

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Fresh raspberry crème brulee

Warm spotted 'Richard' with custard

Selection of continental cheese & biscuits with grapes & celery

\*\*\*

Filter coffee & mint chocolates



## MEMBERS' NEWS

### Dream Team Garden Get Together

With no Dixon shows this year, the Dream Team decided that they should have a few get togethers in a socially distanced garden setting. So, on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June some of the team met up for a drink and a chat in Audrey's back garden and had a super time.



Talking over some of the Dixon shows of past years, they remembered the early days when they were often mistaken for Palace Theatre staff during their foyer duties. It brought back the following collection of things that members of the public had asked them about, or had said to them!

\*Why don't you know how the lift works – you work here don't you?!

\*Have you got any booster seats?!

\*Please will you wash my donkey – it's dirty?! (a matinee show 3 year old!)

\*The gents' toilets are blocked and the urinals aren't working?!

\*£1.50 for a programme? You must be joking!

\*A programme? No thanks, they cost money!

\*Angela asked a lady to write her three favourite things down on a piece of paper but, on being told that a close-up magician would perform at her table shortly, she said 'no thank you!' and immediately took back the slip of paper, tore it up and put the bits in her handbag!

Happy days!

### Oliver Tabor Magic at the Barn - online, 18th & 19th July.



With the lockdown restrictions on theatre events of all kinds, Oliver Tabor has put together a special show to be shown online for two dates during July.

Live award-winning magic, illusion, interactive impossibilities, comedy and entertainment broadcast direct from the stage of a 17th century barn theatre. Suitable for the whole family, the show features the conjuring feats of

Oliver Tabor, magic and comedy from Wayne Trice with variety acts from across the UK, plus interactive magic through your screen at home! A wonder-filled way of witnessing wizardry over the web!

Tickets are £10 per household or £15 for a virtual front row.

The shows are on Saturday 18th July at 7pm, and Sunday 19th July 3pm.

You can get your tickets here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/magic-at-the-barn-tickets-110803349802>

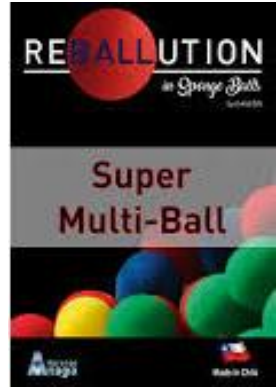
## FINALLY, AS USUAL, SOME NEW MAGIC TO CHECK OUT

### Sponge Balls

### SUPER MULTI BALL by Aprendemagia

It's not just a new magic trick; it is a new super multi functional tool to create magic with sponge balls. It's about a triple colour change; red, green and blue - with the same sponge ball! But at the same time it allows you to grab extra balls to perform multiplying balls; or to split colours, or change from secondary colours to primary colours. Or you can add multiple objects such as silks and dice. This new gimmicked ball opens a world of visual possibilities, such as empty hands colour changes with no extra loads.

It comes with an explanation video that's goes deep into all the possibilities that this ball gives you. Also covered are how to use it, how to care for it, the ways to display it and spectator considerations.



This is a super multi ball that opens a new way of performing magic with sponge balls, far more visual and combinable with all the classic sponge ball tricks to enhance them and generate a stronger climax.

Super Multi Ball is available at Saturn Magic, costs £35, and can be seen here:

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/super-multi-ball--gimmicks-and-online-instructions--by-aprendemagia--trick.html>

### Appearances

### ULTRA COKE by Syouma

**ULTRA COKE**  
BY.SYUMA



A crushed cola can returns to its new unopened state in an instant!

This is a practical and perfect restoration or appearance of a Coke can. It's made of special material and the effect can be repeated. You can either open it and pour liquid from it (in which case a simple reset is required) or just leave it unopened.

The can is highly durable and is very practical and easy to operate. Unless it's side by side with the real thing, you would never know that the can is not genuine.

The gimmick of course comes with full online video explanations.

You can see the video (looks pretty good!) at Saturn Magic where the price is £39

<https://www.saturnmagic.co.uk/saturn-magic-shop/ultra-coke-by-syouma--trick.html>

### Utility Items

### WRITE, NOT RIGHT by Wayne Dobson

Wayne has turned his attention to mentalism, developing a brilliant yet simple utility device for the working mentalist. It's a Sharpie that writes. Then when the mentalist/magician decides, doesn't write.



Or it's a Sharpie that doesn't write. Then when the mentalist/magician decides, it does write.

Unlike any other gimmicked Sharpie pen on the market, you can show and use the pen as normal from the outset. Then when you want to, hand it to the spectator -- it doesn't write. If it suits your working practice, you can do it the other way around. You can even end up with the pen writing again!

Experienced mentalists will immediately recognize the value of such a tool, and will also welcome the simplicity of its manufacture.

Each Sharpie is carefully hand-made.

The device comes with handling notes from Marc Spelmann.

One pen

Always in sight of the spectator

Never switched for another pen

A myriad of uses

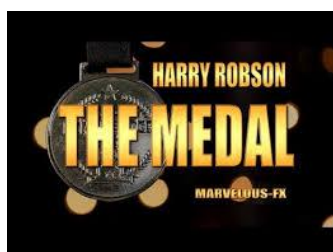
Always ready to use

Write, Not Right costs around £26 and you can see it at Alakazam here:

<https://www.alakazam.co.uk/write-not-right-sharpie-gimmicks-and-online-instructions-by-wayne-dobson-trick-writenot.html>

## Mentalism

### THE MEDAL by Harry Robson & Matthew Wright



Following our evening with Matthew Wright the other day I thought I'd include some of his effects in the newsletter.....

It only takes a second to create a moment of magic...but that moment can last forever. Harry Robson has spent a lifetime in magic creating this moment and for the first time has decided to share it with the magic community.

The Medal is a high quality, built-to-last prop that is perfect for all performing environments.

A medal is displayed in full view throughout the performance. It can be worn around your neck, the spectator's neck, laid on the table or even kept inside a box. A card is freely selected from the deck. It can be chosen by taking a card, looking at a card from a face-up spread, cutting the deck, counting down to a card... whatever way you prefer. The reverse side of **The Medal** is now shown to be engraved with the selected card. It is really engraved (no semantics).

Everything for the effect can be carried in a single pocket and can be reset in seconds.

Comes with everything you need to start performing straight away. Very easy to do and comes with bonus routines from FISM award winner Matthew Wright.

The Medal costs around £50, but if you visit Matthew's lecture page you can get it along with two other effects for the same price!

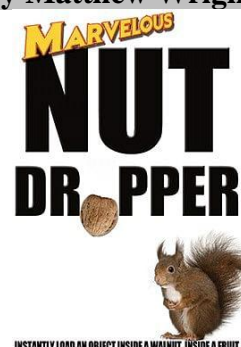
<https://marvelous-fx.com/collections/web-of-secrets-lecture-shop/products/lectuen>

## Impossible Location Magic

### NUT DROPPER by Matthew Wright

*Instantly load any small object inside a walnut, inside a fruit.....one handed!*

The "borrowed item to impossible location" is a classic of magic and for good reason. It always generates great reactions and interest because the props are personal to the spectator. It leaves itself open to great comedy, interaction, tension and suspense. It is an essential part of any good magic act.





The Marvellous Nut Dropper is by far one of the best in terms of routine, presentation, method and simplicity.

Included on a 2 DVD set are three different routines taken directly from Matthew's repertoire..... although they are in fact complete acts on their own.

The first, "The Wizard's Apprentice" is a full twenty minute opener to a cabaret show. It has been tried and tested hundreds of times in front of live audiences and never fails to get reactions. Included in the routine is a full explanation of a finger ring on string routine and also a cups & balls routine.

The second routine is Matthew's "Double or Nothing" Bar Set. This is a full twenty minute gambling act including a "which hand" prediction routine where not only do you correctly guess three times which hand the object is in, but also show that you had predicted the outcome from the very start.

The final routine on the DVD is a fun, powerful, simple and very commercial walk-around table trick. "The Orange Nutwork" is an original plot where a borrowed SIM card is lost and found inside a walnut inside an orange. It has many gags built into it and is a great closer for any close-up performance.

The DVD also has many bonus features including extra routines that utilize the gimmicks on the DVD.

You will of course also receive the "Marvellous Nut Dropper" gimmick which allows you with one hand to instantly load a small object inside a walnut, inside a fruit.

This product is suitable for every type of performer at any level of experience. The routines can be used close-up, parlour or stage and range from completely self working to some very technical knuckle busting sleight of hand.

The Nut Dropper is available from various dealers – Vanishing Inc have it for £45  
[https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/amazing-magic/nut-dropper/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw6PD3BRDPARIsAN8pHuFmQamHuX8n-G6eHRaBr-Aqv9aTDF19Lg1DLiR903Xm0reDgCgHhfUaAt-MEALw\\_wcB](https://www.vanishingincmagic.com/amazing-magic/nut-dropper/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw6PD3BRDPARIsAN8pHuFmQamHuX8n-G6eHRaBr-Aqv9aTDF19Lg1DLiR903Xm0reDgCgHhfUaAt-MEALw_wcB)

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