

Junior Blues

NEWSLETTER – Issue 37 – May 2021

INTRODUCTION

Hi everyone,



Welcome to the latest **Junior Blues** newsletter. Unfortunately, Blues finished the season by being relegated out of the football league for the first time in 101 years, and it looks as if we will be starting next season in the National League.

We are delighted to see our old friend, Phil Brown, back at the Club as Manager. He has signed a two year deal to stay with us, whether we are in the National League or League 2.

Some of you might also have seen some excitement surrounding former player Stan Collymore, who has been having lots of discussions with the Chairman, the Shrimpers Trust and other supporter groups. Stan was an exceptional player who was with us for just 7 months in 1992/93, before securing big money moves to Nottingham Forest, and then Liverpool, winning three England caps in the process. Stan's transfer fee was spent building the Frank Walton stand we have now at the South end of the ground.



As always at this time of year, we have to say “goodbye” to some players, so we are particularly sad to see **Harry Kyprianou** and **Alan McCormack** released, both of whom have had long careers with Southend United. We wish them and the other players released so far, **Nile Ranger**, **Brandon Goodship**, **Emilie Acquah**, **Jacob Mellis**, **Richard Taylor**, **Michael Klass** and **Ide Osimeh** the very best of luck in their future careers. We are though, absolutely delighted to hear that **Junior Blues** favourite, **John White** has accepted a new one year deal.

Fingers crossed, with things opening up more after the various lockdowns, we are hopeful that we might be able to have some form of “Meet the Blues Day” this year so we will get that information out to you as soon as we can.

HOPEFULLY SEE YOU ALL SOON, TAKE CARE
Samm



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PHIL BROWN RETURNS

Phil Brown joined us as manager in March 2013, replacing Paul Sturrock, and leading Southend United out at Wembley for the first time, as we reached the final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy Final, which we lost 2-0 to Crewe.

Phil had a successful first full season, with the **Blues** reaching the L2 Play Off semi finals, losing to Burton Albion in May 2014. Of course, the following season was truly memorable, with **Blues** going all the way to the Play Off final against Wycombe Wanderers at Wembley, and a fantastic 122nd minute equalising goal from Joe Piggott to take us to a nail biting penalty shoot out.

Dan Bentley, in goal was the penalty hero, saving the penalty which gave us a 7-6 win and unbelievable scenes both on the pitch and in the stand.

Two seasons later was another good one with **Blues** looking as if they were going to reach the Play Offs again, but we missed out on the final day by one point to Millwall.

In January 2018, Phil was relieved of his duties with **Blues** in trouble at the wrong end of the L1 table and succeeded by **Blues** legend, Chris Powell.

Phil was re-appointed by Chairman Ron Martin with six games remaining in L2, and despite 9 points from those six games, it wasn't enough to save us.

Phil's seen 100 wins as Southend manager and we all hope he's going to see many, many more! We know Phil has always been a big supporter of **Junior Blues** events so we look forward to seeing him soon.



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ZOOM CALL WITH JOHN WHITE & SIMEON AKINOLA!

During February half-term we invited **Junior Blues** members to a private Q&A session on Zoom.

The **Junior Blues** members were able to put as many questions as they wanted to **John White** and **Simeon Akinola** and find out as much as they could, with topics ranging from how they got into football, what the changing room is like after a game, the best and worst manager they've played for, the joker in the team and much more.

Thank you to John and Sim for their time, and to Matt Mundy at the Club for organising.

The link to this is still available on iplayer on the SUFC website for anyone who hasn't seen it already.

<https://www.southendunited.co.uk/news/2021/february/junior-blues-player-qa/>



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO....

Happy Birthday to the following Junior Blues who have had their birthdays in March, April and May

16 – Ashlin Brown; Millie Day; Charlie MacKenzie; Callum Marimo; Taylor Westley & Joshua Wilson

15 – Evie Fairley; Josh Hodder; Mia Moss-Bowler; Kaitlin Mullis; Harley Stokes; Niamh White & Harvey Wilson

14 – Ben Carter; Ash Collins; Jack Connor; Evan Freeman; Callum Turp & Jack Walmsley;

13 – Archie Adlington; Oliver Bowhay; Zack Brown; Ethan Clarke; Lewis Fay; James Hruska; Ethan Lawson; Henry Murrell; Daniel Poynter; Joseph Rozee; Oliver Stanley & Callum Turner-Case

12 – Millie Assiter; Stanley Clay; Eli Collyer; Declan Dear; Thomas Duffy; Aaron Dunlop; Freddie Fenn; Thomas Folwell; Harry Groom; Megan Holman; Oliver Milchard; Sam Nubbert; Emily Porter & Ibraheem Saleemi

11 – Dylan Baptist; Charlie Cowley; Sam Cummings; Jacob Gurel; Thomas Hamilton; Oliver Hawley; Harry Hruska; Harvey Moss-Bowler; James Petchey & Stanley Stubbs

10 – Jacob Bullard; Theo Chaiyasit; William Clarke; Tabitha Collyer; Rjo Connelly; Katie Frood; Connor Harringley; Tyler Mendonca & Charlie Railton

9 – Jack Corkett-Hurley; Archie Dolby; Sophia England; Max Flynn; Thomas Gibbard; Jessica Harris; Tommy Pearce; Callum Poplar; Freddie Reilly; Sonny Walker & Harry Wing

8 – Georgia Drakes; Louie Fox & Edward Hague

7 – Milly Harrington & Maxwell Royal

6 – Jack Gibbard & Sapphire Peters

5 – Mya-Lily Gunn; Scarlett Hicklin & Louie Nice;

4 – Dylan Spencer; Toby Spencer & Rohan West

2 – Caleb Keane

Happy Birthday to all of you!

