

SOUTHEND UNITED EXAPLAMERS ASSOCIATION

Supported by Southend United F.C. and The Shrimpers Trust

NEWSLETTER – Issue 18 – March 2023

WELCOME

Welcome to our 18th Newsletter, issued a little ahead of our planned Easter deadline as, quite simply, there is so much to report on!

We write in the wake of another club close shave v HMRC and continued uncertain times regarding the way ahead for our beloved SUFC. As ever, such goings on are left to other news outlets, but to move SUEPA along against such a background is somewhat strange. However, move forward we do, and the work undertaken since our last Newsletter just before Christmas has never been more hectic.

Two key events have dominated what we have been doing – the Dave Smith Tribute Event and launching an appeal to help our very own SUEPA member James Walker. Both receive full coverage here, and if you only manage to read one part of this newsletter, please read our item on James and click on the link provided – OUR FORMER STRIKER REALLY DOES NEED OUR HELP.

Our Newsletters are issued to all Shrimpers Trust members as well as the 447 former player/coaching staff members who are currently part of SUEPA.

In this Newsletter we cover:

- 'A Match for James', our campaign to help SUEPA member James Walker;
- Oh what a night (as Frankie Valli once said) a report on our Dave Smith Tribute event;
- Membership update, focusing on who has joined us since Christmas;
- Down on the south coast with Eddie Cayton;
- In the pub with Foggy;
- Back to their Roots with Chris Barnard and Graham Bressington;
- A double ex-Shrimper away day at The Racecourse;
- RIP Alex Duchart;
- How to keep up to date with SUEPA news, contacting your old team-mates and SUEPA;
- The full current SUEPA membership list.

So, give yourself a few minutes respite from important tasks like putting your programme collection in chronological order, relegate your daily Wordle to later in the day, put the remaining log from your winter supply on the fire, rest your beer on your favourite Southend United drink coaster, move the moggy off the seat, plump up the cushion, sit back, and read on

Andy Leeder SUEPA Organiser

A MATCH FOR JAMES



For those of you that are unaware, James Walker, who played for us 2008-10, suffered a cardiac arrest in 2019. Some 15 days later he emerged from a coma with severe mental and physical limitations. He is now in a 24-hour care home in Southend and receives all food and drink through a stent in his stomach.

It took us some time to learn of what had happened to him, but back in January we met with his mum Dawn and visited him in his care home. The care James receives is fantastic, but what he badly needs are many more therapy sessions which it is hoped will help significantly to re-wire his brain. So, SUEPA is looking to help.

We have arranged a benefit match on Sunday 28 May 2023 between a Southend United Legends team and a wonderful dedicated charity team known as 'Farke Knights'. The match kicks-off at 3.00 pm at Bowers & Pitsea's Len Salmon Stadium.

Steve Tilson is re-uniting with Paul Brush for the day and, ably assisted too by Frankie Banks, is currently putting a team together.

We have already received some amazing sponsorship help from a number of companies to cover costs, so 100% of the proceeds raised via online donations and match ticket sales will directly go to help James. Now, when you set a target there is always a risk you won't meet it, but our aim is to raise at least £10,000 in donations, with match ticket sales being in addition. We understand from Bowers that it is a long time since their great facility has seen a four-figure attendance, so a crowd of at least 1,000 is now our aim!

We've never arranged a match before – the 'to do' list is a long one. Our small team is currently working its way through a list which includes (in no particular order) public liability insurance, match programme, working with Tilly on player recruitment, seeing if we can get a guest manager for Farke, sponsor arrangements, match officials, programme sellers, stewards, turnstile operators, half-time competition details, raffle prizes and selling, music entertainment, PA announcer, liaising with Bowers on details for the game, liaising with James's former workplace and his care providers, networking with James's old schoolmates, initiating a 'We're With You James ' campaign, contacting all of James's 18 former clubs/their fan groups, first aid, physio, player catering, mascot, publicity and most importantly, working alongside James's family on it all.

Full details of James's story, how to donate, and how to buy match tickets, can be found at:

https://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/home.asp?page_id=836

We aim to make this not only an important fundraiser but also a special day for everyone who is there. The plan is to have James walk out with his mum at the start to kick-off the match, it is sure to be emotional.

If you are able to be there we would love to see you, and if you feel you can help in any way and would like to get in touch please do so – our email address of <u>suepassoc@gmail.com</u> can be the best way of making contact.

Recent SUEPA new joiner Glen Johnson we think summed things up quite nicely – it was seeing our initial publicity for the campaign that led to Glen getting in touch with us and offering his help and tell us:

"What you are doing is wonderful, I do not know James, but we are all part of the football community. I'd like to think that if anything ever happened to me like this then someone would step up to show they cared and do something about it."

OH WHAT A NIGHT!



.....mid-February twenty twenty three, what a very special time for hmmm, better stop, not everyone these days can remember Frankie Valli, though at aged 88 he's still going strong and still touring.

Anyway, back to all things SUEPA, and our last newsletter you might recall reported on the build-up to our Dave Smith evening. We are delighted to report that it truly exceeded expectations.

Tickets had sold out early on, so we were at capacity on Saturday 18 February as 150 packed into the Essex Bowls Club in Westcliff to pay full tribute to our former manager who was at the Roots Hall helm for seven seasons from those 'red blue and white days' of 1976/77 to the 'Access top' times of 1982/83. The audience included 12 members of Dave's family and 25 former players from his Shrimper managerial days.

After a brief opening from Kevin Maher, Glenn Pennyfather and Derek Spence steered us through two hours of stories and memories. Ronnie Pountney and Tony Hadley certainly came in for a bit of good-natured stick given their very different experiences of Dave's tenure! There were also telling and often moving tributes from the likes of Frankie Banks, Garry Nelson and Micky Stead, and Stevie Phillips rounded off proceedings with some good-natured banter.

If there is one story that sticks in the mind it has to be one told by Glenn about a trip to the Old Den. "We'd just beaten Millwall in their own backyard and the locals weren't too happy at the sight of Smithy celebrating. Anyway, safely (or so they thought) back in the changing room, all of a sudden two irate Millwall fans burst in shouting "ok, where's that bald bas£\$%d?!" Smithy, by this time sporting a natty bobble hat, promptly pointed back down the tunnel and said, "He went that way" and so off the two eloquent individuals went to try and make their acquaintance - he got away with it that day!" Like many other stories told, the tale had us all collapsing with laughter!

Over £3,000 net was raised from the evening with £500 being paid to the Childrens Burns Club (a charity Dave himself supported a forerunner of back in 1980) and £500 was donated to the James Walker campaign. The remainder of the monies will be put to good use in helping to support the many good things that the Shrimpers Trust does.

If you have not yet seen it, a highlights video by Shrimper fan Pip is well worth a look, and can be found on YouTube at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51LhiqvaA7k&t=104s</u>

MEMBERSHIP

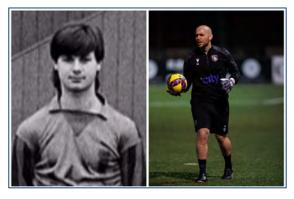
Since our last Newsletter we've added 14 new members to the SUEPA family.

As ever all our new joiners get a hearty welcome and a mention in this section, so here goes

Between the sticks

Our first signing of the New Year was our former keeper, Paul Newell. Paul joined Southend United in the youth ranks and made his first team debut aged 18 up at the delightful Springfield Park, home of Wigan Athletic, on 7 November 1987. It was a 1-0 defeat, but in view of what had gone on before that season (the somewhat unsuccessful Dick Bate era and then a 7-0 defeat at Roker Park) it might well be considered to have been a decent result.

Paul certainly impressed as he kept his place (ahead of Eric Steele) for the next ten games, a run which saw us under Paul Clark's stewardship start to turn things around, whilst at the other end new signing David Crown started to form a fruitful partnership with Big Roy. Eventually Eric regained his place and



then in came Sammy who then suffered an injury three games out so in came Paul again for a critical 'must-win' game at Doncaster. A clean sheet was kept as Shane Westley bagged us the winner at Belle Vue, and in his final game programme notes v Blackpool, Clarkie acknowledged the heroics between the sticks from Paul.

Next season it was virtually Sammy all the way, so Paul ultimately moved to Orient where he spent four years often as the first-choice keeper (and also playing on loan in 1992 for Big Roy up at Col Ewe) before moving on to Barnet and then in the mid 1990's he had a season at Darlington for whom he ended up making a play-off appearance for at Wembley. He then played for a series of non-league clubs, but at the turn of the millennium "I thought I'd better get a job" Paul told us and he ended up becoming an estate agent, a career he has enjoyed ever-since, and he now works in South Woodham Ferrers.

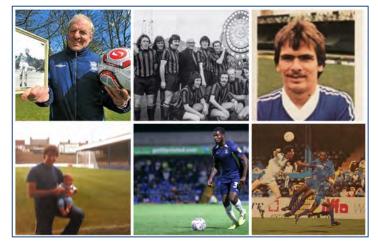
"I don't watch much football these days, not least because I often work on Saturday's, but I still see a few of the lads from time to time and my sons have been Roots Hall season ticket holders" Paul told us.

Our second new shot-stopper is former youth keeper Glen Johnson. Glen saw our posts regarding the James Walker match and offered to help – and during those discussions we discovered that he had been a Shrimper!

Glen also had games with U16 teams at Brentford and Orient, U17 at Col Ewe, U19 at Posh, and played for Canvey as well as turning out for Wingate & Finchley, Aveley and Long Melford. He packed up playing at 22 and started coaching - he's been at Queens Park in Glasgow as Goalkeeping Coach now for nearly two years having previously coached at Gills, Daggers (under Spud), Crystal Place Baltimore in the USL Championship, Chelmsford City (under Glen Pennyfather), Pune FC in India, Braintree and Boreham Wood. Glen recalls once playing for our U14's against West Ham at Chadwell Health with Tilly coming to his house to pick him up.

Glen's help for our James Walker campaign led to the whole Queens Park squad appearing in a video in a "We're With You James!" shout-out led by current Queens Park boss Owen Coyle – it was great to receive such support from north of the border.

At the back



First up to swell our defensive squad is Pat Wright. With us on loan from Derby at the end of the 1969/70 season making 11 appearances (playing in a run which did enough to save us from reelection), the full back told us that he loved his time at Roots Hall. Now aged 82, after stopping playing he coached all over the world and ran for many years his own coaching school. The following is a link to a 2013 article about Pat which is worth a read: https://www.expressandstar.com/.../pat-aged-72-still.../

For some time now one player from the 1971/72 season, Brian Myton, had always eluded our SUEPA Agents, perhaps lying low to evade 'capture'. But yet again our new SUEPA-sleuth Agent WD40 was

the one to come up trumps, finding us a number to call which we duly did at the end of 2022.

Now, it's fair to say that Brian didn't have the lengthiest of Roots Hall careers, his sub appearance (he came on for Bernie Lewis) away at Bury on December 18th 1971 being his only first team Shrimper start, but as we've said before any player by pulling on the Shrimper shirt has done more than any of us fans could dream of. And yes, it did end in defeat at Gigg Lane, but Brian can say, along with 19 others that season, that he took part in Southend United's first ever promotion winning campaign.

Brian told us that he wanted to be a boxer, and quite liked playing rugby league, but it was Middlesbrough, then under the stewardship of one of the game's all-time greats in Raich Carter, who offered young Brian a football apprenticeship in 1966 and he grabbed the opportunity. Back then, Boro were mostly a solid Second Division club, regaining their second-tier status after just one third-level campaign during the 1966/67 season. It was also an exciting time to be at Ayresome Park with the ground hosting several World Cup matches in that oh so brilliant summer of '66.

Another Shrimper-to-be, a certain Mr Alan Moody, was also starting in the game with Middlesbrough at the time, and Brian recalled that him and Alan, together with the likes of Don Masson, Eric McCordie, Alan McNeill, Willie Maddren, David Mills and a number of others, were known as the 'M-Squad' at the time due to the proliferation of players at the club with surnames beginning with 'M'. Left back Brian made his debut in the 1968/69 season and went on to make 12 first team appearances over three seasons but couldn't quite break through which is what led to Arthur Rowley bringing him to Roots Hall for a loan spell in December 1971.

Brian said that he loved his time at Roots Hall and extended his initial one-month loan by a further month, but with the ever-present Alex Smith in the way it proved difficult for Brian to make an impression and so his time with us was mostly restricted to Mid-Week League appearances.

At the end of the 1971/72 season Brian found himself needing to look for a new club and it was Ron Atkinson that tempted him south to Rockingham Road to join Kettering Town who at the time had just won promotion into what was then known as the Southern League Premier (the top non-league tier) and in that first season with The Poppies the team finished as champions. But, as it was to prove for the following few campaigns, including when Derek Dougan took over the managerial reigns, the apparent closed shop of the Football League ensured that Kettering failed in every attempt to gain league status. "There was a bit of money backing the club at the time and I'm sure we could have made a go of it", reflected Brian.

Brian clocked up well over 140 appearances for Kettering before playing for other local teams such as Irthlingborough Diamonds (who merged with Rushden Town in 1992 to form Rushden & Diamonds). By that time Brian had started working in insurance, running a 'book' for the Co-op as a salesman, and he then worked in the motor trade before retiring. Brian remains in the Kettering area enjoying the occasional meet-up with old teammates and seeing the Poppies play from time to time.

On of the many things we like to do is to network with other former player associations, and a chat with our friends at the Ipswich Town Former Players Group back in January led to us signing up two former Tractor Boys. The first was defender Kevin Steggles who was brought in on Ioan from Ipswich by Peter Morris - who was then sacked after Kevin's Shrimper debut in a 4-0 drubbing at Fellows Park! "In then came Bobby Moore" Kevin recalled in our chat with him "and all of a sudden champagne was on offer with our pre-match meal for the next match up at Griffin Park, it didn't seem quite right!" A 0-0 draw was scrapped though, and in the Associate Members Cup first round Reading were dispatched 5-0, but Kevin's fourth and last game for us at Orient ended in defeat and he then went back to Portman Road.

After a loan spell at Fulham Kevin eventually left Ipswich for West Brom in the 1986/87 season when his time with the Baggies saw another managerial change from Big Ron Saunders to Even Bigger Ron Atkinson. Still only 27, Kevin found himself at Port Vale for the 1987/88 season but after that moved back to Suffolk and, needing a job, took some work at Felixstowe Docks. He then signed up semi-pro for Bury Town and there was talk about him going back to the Tractor Boys, but he got a bad Achilles injury and was in plaster for three months. A few months after that he had an accident at work with a broken ankle (same leg and more time in plaster) and so after that with an 'un-insurable leg' only played for a few times for one or two local non-league clubs before packing the game in.

"So I then ended up having a non-intended career at Felixstowe Docks" Kevin told us, and now at 61 has retired from that but still watches a lot of local football and helps out at Felixstowe & Walton United on match days which he enjoys. Kevin recently attended a celebration event run by the Portman Road outfit and was full of praise for the work done by former player groups.

Our next addition to the back is former Blade Mick Harmston. Mick was given his league debut for the Brammall Lane outfit by Arthur Rowley at the end of the 1960's, and it was Arthur who brought Mick to Roots Hall on Ioan from his former club at the start of 1971.

Full back Mick had been meant to make his debut away at Peterborough on Boxing Day, a 4-0 defeat, but the signing-up papers never arrived in time, so he had to wait and Arthur told him to stay up north for a few more days. Mick recalled "When I did come down the weather was freezing, and I stayed overnight with Lawrie Leslie and he seemingly had no heating in his house! I moved out the next day to a room above a cafe with a couple

of other players including Kevin Fallon, and eventually was put up in digs with a Mrs Hunter for the remainder of my stay and I really enjoyed my time at Roots Hall."

Mick made his Shrimper debut at home to Grimsby on 8 January, helping to tighten up the defence significantly in a 1-1 draw. Mick then played a couple of reserve games but never quite made it back to first team contention before his loan spell ended. "Towards the end of my time at Southend I picked up a bad knee injury, Sheffield United weren't too pleased and at the end of the season my contract was terminated. Eventually things got better, and I had a season down at Hastings United before returning back to Sheffield, played for a number of northern non-league clubs, and after hanging up my boots I had some managerial roles in the area. I then did some scouting work for Burnley and had a long time as a scout for Southampton."

It was SUEPA Agent WD40 that put us on to Mick's trail, some detective work leading us to ascertain that he had a son Paul who is currently a conditioning coach at Sheffield Wednesday. We found Paul on LinkedIn, and he helped us get in touch with his dad.

Mick's keen interest in the game is now mostly restricted to watching, but he told us he was about to attend a former player event at Sheffield United with fellow SUEPA member Tony Currie (who he was delighted to hear had an even shorter time on the Roots Hall pitch than himself!).

It was SUEPA follower Steve Connelly who helped us catch up with Andre Blackman, who at the time became our 444th member. With us at the start of the 2019/20 season making seven appearances, Andre is now playing for Dulwich Hamlet who are currently in National League South.

And finally at the back it is great to now have on board David Howell. With us in those 'oh so happy' early days of the 1993/94 season when he made six appearances in a Shrimpers shirt towards the end of his playing career, David worked with Barry Fry and Ed Stein at Barnet before us and Birmingham City afterwards. He has since also managed Harrow and St Albans.

Middle of the park

It is back to the 1960's for our first SUEPA midfielder signing since the last newsletter, with Barry Ashworth joining our ranks. Yet again SUEPA Agent WD40 came up trumps with his pain-staking research paying dividends, and an address for Barry (well, we were 95% certain it was him) was found in his North Wales homeland. We also had a number which we'd tried a few times without response, but eventually Barry answered, and we had a lovely long chat about his time at Roots Hall, his times as a player and his life in general.

Barry, now aged 80, was signed from his home club Bangor City in July 1963, taking up digs with teammates Bobby King (who he was delighted to learn that we'd been in touch with) and Benny Friel.



The wing-half loved his time at Southend, remembering that he scored a 30 yarder in a cup tie at Stoke ("I've talked about that goal a few times!") and also that he was part of the team the season before that lost in the sloping mud at Yeovil.

He did not want to leave Roots Hall but Alvin Williams, then the manager at Hartlepool, offered him a signing on fee (hmmm, Alvin seemed to have a habit of luring our players away!), and in need of wanting to provide a house for his wife, after 36 appearances (six goals) off Barry went up north. "Alvin left shortly after I signed, then Geoff Twentyman took over, and before I left to join Tranmere I experienced the managerial skills of Brian Clough. He was a very fair man, and years later I bumped into him walking on a deserted North Wales beach which was lovely."

"After Tranmere I had three good seasons at Chester where I converted to centre-half, and then dropped into non-league football ending my playing time back at Bangor" (who Barry also managed briefly).

Life after football has been good for Barry, he dealt in properties and owned a series of newsagents. Sadly, of late he has had a difficult time with his wife passing away and then Barry breaking his hip, but he was in good spirits throughout our chat which we only broke off as the Brazil World Cup quarter final was about to kick-off!

The other half of our double Tractor Boys swoop is our 1991/93 winger Kevin O'Callaghan. Making 24 appearances (one goal), Kevin played in our 1991/92 promotion team and also in our historic first ever second tier game versus Bristol City. Now working in a family engineering company, Kevin joins the ranks of SUEPA members who once played as an international (now, that's a rainy-day list to compile sometime!).

We caught our next midfield signing just at the time that he was announcing that he was finally hanging up his boots. After 20 years with 14 different clubs including QPR, Wycombe, Aldershot and Hayes, Scott Donnelly

made two appearances for us on loan in the 2012/13 season under Luggy, and we wish him all the best in now moving forward to the next stage of his life.

Completing our latest additions to the middle of the park is Roger 'Harry' Willis this eve. With us 1994/96 in those 'we never had it so good' tier-two days, Harry scored seven in 31 league appearances for us. Now working in property renovation and constructing high-spec garden rooms, he still sees many old teammates and we hope to get him back to Roots Hall soon as he has not been back since he left us.

Up front



Only one striker signing this past quarter though it was someone we'd been after for quite a while. Paul Moran was with us on loan from Spurs in our fabulous 1990/91 promotion season, and we finally caught up with him after contacting his old Spurs teammate Paul Miller who we'd been in touch with via LinkedIn. Paul made just one appearance as a Shrimper, his best footballing times being with Spurs with whom he was with for nine years from 1985.

Backing us up

With a squad now near 450 our one kit man (Parms) was feeling the strain, so Agent Fogg swooped on his last day with the club on 7 January to sign up Luke Purcell to SUEPA. We all miss Luke's infectious enthusiasm and his frequent social media posts on life behind the scenes as a Shrimper, and we expect fans of The Potters are now enjoying regular updates as he now keeps everyone in order up at Stoke City. He hasn't forgotten his time with us though, and having said he could source us some memorabilia for our James Walker campaign we are currently taking him up on that offer.

And all that means

With the signing of Paul Moran that just leaves us the elusive John Cornwell to compete the full squad in SUEPA for the 1990/91 season. John is someone we have been seeking to contact now for a long time, we understand he is living in Durham and if anyone is in touch with our former midfield man so please let us know.

But we do now have one more season complete in the SUEPA line-up with, as noted above, Brian Myton being the 'final piece in the jigsaw' for our first ever promotion winning campaign back in 1971/72. That now makes ten seasons where we have every Shrimper still alive as part of SUEPA.

DOWN ON THE SOUTH COAST WITH EDDIE CLAYTON



In the presence of Agent Nobbler who saw every one of his Shrimper appearances, it was lovely to meet up with Eddie Clayton at the Torquay United match at Plainmoor on 25 February. We all shared some great memories, and though Eddie felt he was treated poorly by the Southend management at the end of his time at Roots Hall, we recalled his great contribution as a classy midfielder during those 1968/70 days.

There was some good stories too, including how he scored a penalty against Gordon Banks in an army match during his national service, of following V1 flying bombs as a youngster as they flew overhead during WWII, his time with Spurs and scoring in a

5-1 win v Best, Law and Charlton, those big Southend United FA Cup wins v Brentwood and Kings Lynn, his friendship with his old Shrimper teammate John Kurila, and many more.

After finishing playing Eddie became a PE and special needs teacher, retiring at age 59 to enjoy life on the golf course. Eddie and his wife have recently moved down to Paignton to be near family and to enjoy a bit of bowling, hence we were easily able to pick him up from his daughter-in-law's house and take him to the match.

IN THE PUB WITH FOGGY

Last month we had the great pleasure of having a drink in a Dorset pub with former 1977/78 Shrimper Alan Foggon who was staying down south from his Geordie homeland to see Newcastle United play at Bournemouth with friends and family. Lots of great memories shared of those Dave Smith days, and of his time playing with Newcastle in which Alan played a key role to help The Toon win the Fairs Cup. Cheers Alan!



BACK TO THEIR ROOTS WITH CHRIS BARNARD & GRAHAM BRESSINGTON



Our first match day guest of the New Year was Chris Barnard for the 3-0 win versus Solihull Moors. Precious shared old memories relived - and new ones created - as for Chris Barnard it was his first return to Roots Hall since he played for us back in 1966. Accompanied by the lovely folk of Down Hall Residential Care Home, it was just such a fabulous day, and is what SUEPA is all about.

Then we had Graham Bressington back at Roots Hall with his son Mike for the 2-0 win versus York City. Some fantastic memories shared at our Far Post Q&A after the match of those Division Two days when under Barry it was 'attack attack attack' often leaving Bressy facing three forwards alone when we got caught on the break!

A DOUBLE EX-SHRIMPER AWAY DAY AT THE RACECOURSE

Our most recent SUEPA away day was at Wrexham's Racecourse Ground on 11 March, catching up with Brian Lloyd (a Shrimper 1969/71 and a Dragon 1971/77) and Gary Bennett (a Shrimper 1988/90 and a Dragon 1992/95).

Both were in good form and looking well. Brian still does a bit of work re house design and building, indeed that weekend he was moving his daughter in to a new house he has built which has been an ongoing project for two years. Until this season Brian has had a season ticket at the Racecourse but was too late in renewing this term and got caught out in the Hollywood rush, but he has still managed to get to a few games.

Benno since hanging up his boots has tried his hand at a few things including running a pub and working for a firm underpinning houses, but now likes to spend a bit more time on the golf course.

Both remembered their time at Roots Hall with fondness, Benno coming up with a few funny stories. He remembered one trip up to Chester in 1988 where the team travelled up on the Friday after training but found their way blocked by motorway accidents every turn they took. After about 10 hours and only getting as far as Birmingham, Clarkie ordered the coach driver to pull into a Chinese restaurant for a brief respite several hours later at around midnight the squad fell out of the place completely plastered and eventually got taken to their hotel in Chester in the early hours of Saturday morning. "We won the match the following day 4-2, it was clearly good prematch preparation" Benno claimed!



He also recalled a few tales from his times at Chester, noting after one game where the team had gone into injury time 4-2 up and then conceded two late goals that manager Harry McNally ripped in to everyone big-time for only getting a draw and then promptly left the team sitting there whilst he stripped off and jumped in to the communal bath with a big leap. Now, the apprentice who had filled it up had forgotten to put any cold water in and the bath was scalding hot, so Harry instantly cried out in severe pain, scrambled out, and then ran like a demented lobster out of the dressing room to try and cool down outside whilst his sympathetic team were left cracking up laughing!

RIP ALEX DUCHART



It is with great sadness that we learned that our oldest member Alex Duchart (aged 89) passed away on 14 December 2022 after a short illness.

We only caught up with Alex last summer to welcome him to SUEPA and had a lovely long chat with him then about his times in the game and at Roots Hall in the 1956/57 season. He was also thrilled when we sent him the match programme from his Roots Hall debut a couple of months ago which we reported on in our last newsletter.

Our sincere condolences to Alex's family and friends. RIP Alex, forever a Shrimper.

FOLLOWING AND CONTACTING SUEPA

We will continue to issue regular Newsletters - our usual aim is to issue them quarterly so expect another SUEPA Newsletter during the close season.

We do have a SUEPA Twitter page (currently 2,384 followers) and a SUEPA Facebook page (currently 1,504 followers) on which we post up details of new joiners and any other news, so if you wish to see what is happening on a more frequent basis then please do 'follow' us:

On Twitter: @SUEPAssoc

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/SUEPAssoc

You can then use either of these social media outlets to send us a private message, or you can contact us via email as follows:

Email address: suepassoc@gmail.com

We are also on LinkedIn, which is great for getting in touch with people, just type our name in to the search box to find us. We now have 464 connections via this network.

And we are still trying to suss out Instagram, just 174 followers here at the moment.

Tik Tok? What's that all about? It's a bridge too far at the moment!

Alternatively, we can be reached by post at SUEPA c/o The Shrimpers Trust, PO Box 5830, Southendon-Sea, Essex SS1 9FD

And, as a reminder, any SUEPA ex-player/coaching staff member can ask to get in touch with any of their former team-mates in SUEPA by just asking us to pass on a message. We cannot disclose contact details without permission but, are always happy to pass on a message to ask them to contact you, something we have done to help re-unite a number of former Shrimpers already.

THE FULL SUEPA SQUAD TO-DATE

GOALKEEPERS

Terry Alderton, Cameron Belford, Daniel Bentley, Derek Bellotti, John Burridge, Mel Capleton, Mervyn Cawston, Steve Collis, Barrie Delf, Rhys Evans, Darryl Flahavan, Neil Freeman, Danny Gay, Bart Griemink, Tony Hafford, Tony Henriksen, Kelvin Jack, Glen Johnson, Ian Joyce, John Keeley, Brian Lloyd, Don McKay, Alan Meyer, Steve Mildenhall, James Montgomerry, Glenn Morris, Paul Newell, Jon O'Brien, Andy Petterson, Gerry Peyton, Sean Rafter, John Roberts, Ryan Robinson, Simon Royce, Paul Sansome, Harry Seadon. Paul Smith, Neville Southall, Jim Stannard, David Stockdale, Callum Taylor, Martin Thomas, Malcolm Webster, Ray White and Andy Woodman.

DEFENDERS

Ryan Auger, Dean Austin, Gavin Axcell, Pat Baldwin, Frankie Banks, Dave Barnett, Adam Barrett, Mark Beard, Tony Bentley, Graham Birks, Andre Blackman, Darren Blewitt, Mick Bodley, Martyn Booty, Kenny Brown, Paul Brush, Adrian Burrows, Guy Butters, Peter Cawley, Peter Clarke, Ben Coker, Steve Collins, Simon Coleman, Mark Cooper, Leon Cort, Graham Coughlan, Ryan Creswell, Garry Cross, Dave Cusack, Timothee Dieng, Andy Dixon, Dorian Dervite, Phil Dudley, Bob Duncan, Steve Dyer, Andy Edwards, Derek Ewing, Kevin Fallon, Anton Ferdinand, Ricky Footman, Andy Ford, Peter Gilbert, Jamie Gray, Tony Hadley, Greg Halford, Steven Hammell, Mick Harmston, Andy Harris, Mike Harrison, Sam Hart, Steve Hatter, Frank Haydock, Johnny Herd, Mark Hone, David Howell, Lewis Hunt, Barry Hunter, Chris Hutchings, Christian Hyslop, Mads Ibenfeldt, Richard Jobson, Duncan Jupp, Jean-Paul Kalala, Bobby King, Harry Kyprianou, Kacper Lapota, Mike Lapper, Harry Lennon, Norman Liggitt, Danny Lunan, Scott Malone, Daniel Matsuzaka, Warren May, John McMahon, David McSweeney, Robert Milsom, Tamika Mkandawire, Alan Moody, Taylor Moore, Luke Morrish, David Morley, Bilel Moshni, Brian Myton, Teddy Nesbitt, Rob Newman, Terry O'Donnell, Danny O'Shea, Gary Parkinson, George Parris, Chris Perkins, Mark Phillips, Chris Powell, Spencer Prior, Luke Prosser, Chris Ramsey, Gary Richards, Ian Riley, Paul Roberts, Leo Roget, Osei Sankofa, Pat Scully, Damon Searle, Owen Simpson, Alex Smith, Efe Sodje, Michael Spillane, Micky Stead, Kevin Steggles, Mark Stimson, Ray Ternent, Derek Tharme, Adam Thompson, Neil Townsend, Michael Turner, John Walker, Shane Wardley, Mark Warren, Martin Warwick, Shane Westley, John White, Charlie Williamson, Che Wilson, Bob Worthington, Dave Worthington, Mark Wright, Pat Wright, Steve Yates and Dave Young.

MIDFIELDERS

Marlon Agyakwa, Andy Ansah, Scott Ashenden, Barry Ashworth, Will Atkinson, John Baber, Nicky Bailey, Chris Barnard, Tony Beanland, Mark Bentley, Dennis Booth, Gary Borthwick, Terry Bradbury, Graham Bressington, Zak Brunt, Peter Butler, Paul Byrne, Jamal Campbell-Ryce, David Chambers, Jean Francois Christophe, Paul Clark, Steve Clark, Adrian Clarke, Eddie Clayton, Conor Clifford, Jason Cook, Jimmy Corbett, Regis Coulbault, Willie Coulson, Dave Cunningham, Tony Currie, Peter Daley, Gary Deegan, Lyle Della Verde, Miguel DeSouza, Alan Dicks, Scott Donnelly, Mark Dziadulewicz, Craig Easton, Terrell Egbri, Dave Elliott, Gerry Fell, Kane Ferdinand, Brian Ferguson, Ken Foggo, Scott Forbes, Lil Fuccillo, Lewis Gard, Antonio German, Anthony Grant, Phil Gridelet, Mick Gooding, Steve Goodwin, Mark Gower, Luke Guttridge, John Gymer, Julian Hails, Derek Hall, Mark Hall, Ryan Hall, Lee Hodges, Ricky Holmes, Dean Holness, Tommy Horsfall, Scott Houghton, Jeff Hull, Peter Hunt, Kevan Hurst, Michael Husbands, Carl Hutchings, Isaac Hutchinson, Neil Jenkins, Kevin Johnson, Leon Johnson, Terry Johnson, Matt Jones, David Keefe, Danny Kerrigan, Steve Lamb, Micky Laverick, David Lee, Ryan Leonard, Bernie Lewis, Alan Little, Martin Ling, Adam Locke, Alistair Love, Kevin Maher, Mike Marsh, Dave Martin, Jae Martin, Danny Maye, Stephen McLaughlin, Alan McCormack, Jermaine McGlashan, Colin Morris, Franck Moussa, Harrison Neal, Garry Nelson, Terry Nicholl, John Nielsen, Kevin O'Callaghan, Iain O'Connell, Ricky Otto, Anton Outulakowski, Adrian Owers, Jack Paxman, Derek Payne, Carl Pettefer, Glenn Pennyfather, Declan Perkins, Adem Poric, Ron Pountney, Bill Punton, Ken Reynolds, Gareth Risbridger, Martin Robinson, Alan Rogers, Andy Rogers, Lee Sawyer, Damien Scannell, Tony Scully, Barry Silkman, Josh Simpson, Nicky Smith, Paul Smith, Jamie Southon, Gavin Strachan, Anthony Straker, Andy Sussex, Peter Taylor, Stuart Thurgood, Steve Tilson, Michael Timlin, Mark Tinkler, Andy Turner, Lars Unger, Paul Vickery, Sanchez Watt, Myles Weston, Harry Willis, Alex Woodyard, Anthony Wordsworth, David Worrall and Josh Wright.

STRIKERS

Ben Abbey, Peter Abbott, Charles Ademeno, Simeon Akinola, Brett Angell, David Allaway, Lee Barnard, Peter Beadle, Mike Beesley, Ian Benjamin, Bobby Bennett, Gary Bennett, Billy Best, Norman Bleanch, Stuart Brace, Lee Bradbury, Tes Bramble, Drewe Broughton, Steve Brown, Richard Cadette, Ken Charlery, Kenny Cocker, Stan Collymore, Leon Constantine, Jim Conway, Barry Corr, Simon Cox, Harry Crawford, David Crown, Martin Curruthers, Marcus Dackers, Liam Dickinson, George Duck, Lawrie Dudfield, Freddie Eastwood, Mickey Engwell, Jackie Ferguson, Eddie Firmani, Anthony Flood, Alan Foggon, Jamie Forrester, Marc-Antoine Fortune, Graham Franklin, Paul Furlong, Bill Garner, Shaun Goater, Brandon Goodship, Roy Goulden, Terry Gray, Wayne Gray, Danny Greaves, Chris Guthrie, Neil Harris, Matt Harrold, David Heaver, Tom Hopper, Noel Hunt, Nathaniel Jarvis, Graeme Jones, Gary Jones, Ken Jones, Steve Jones, Charlie Kelman, Francis Laurent, James Lawson, Jason Lee, Stuart Leslie, John Linford, Matt Lund, Charlie MacDonald, Roy McDonough, Sammy McMillan, Keith Mercer, Jack Midson, David Mooney, Tommy Mooney, Paul Moran, Dean Morgan, Shamir Mullins, Lee Nogan, Derrick Parker, Stuart Parker, Matt Paterson, Jack Payne, Billy Paynter, Steve Phillips, Joe Piggot, Andy Polycarpou, Ken Price, Andy Rammell, Mark Rawle, Dave Regis, Alex Revell, Neville Roach, Theo Robinson, Matt Rush, John Russell, Jack Sampson, Morrys Scott, Ian Selley, Peter Silvester, Derek Spence, Scott Spencer, Blair Sturrock, Andy Thomson, Neil Tolson, Micky Tuohy, James Walker, Mario Walsh, Roy Walsh, Danny Webb, Jason Williams and Micky Wright.

COACHING / BACKROOM

Phil Brown, Micky Buxton, Ben Clarkson, Barry Fry, John Gowens, Ron Hanley, Lee Harrison, Steve Parmenter, Luke Purcell, Amy Rogers, Doc Sinha, Paul Sturrock, Steve Thompson, John Threadgold, Gary Waddock and David Webb.



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