



SHRIMPERS TRUST

NEWSLETTER – Volume 3 Issue 3



THE INTRODUCTION – Paul FitzGerald

So here we are again ready for another lap – it only seems like yesterday that we were cheering the team off the pitch after another great season and now it's pre-season friendly time. Let's hope for another good season with perhaps just a few more points this year

As the season approaches we will as usual be well represented at Meet the Blues day on the 27th July with the players signing autographs at our pavilion. Please drop by and say hello and sign up for one of our numerous functions planned for the forthcoming season, and don't forget you can place your bid in our reverse auction for the unique signed, framed 2007/08 Season Away Shirt (*further details can be found on page 6 of this Newsletter*).

Very positive news has been received through my letterbox since the last newsletter – that very nice person the Secretary of State has now approved Ron's ambitious plans to build a new stadium with "enabling" development. There are still 100 hurdles to jump over and still an issue with a narrow strip of land but the fundamental proposal is at least agreed and I therefore have no need to publish the names of those causing the previous problem.

So looking forward - the Trust's involvement in the new stadium is high on our agenda as we want paying customers wishes to be included in the club's thinking as early as possible in the design and

planning stages and I have no reason to believe that this will not be the case. I can scarcely believe it, after all this time with the various problems along the way – but hopefully over the next few years we will see our club move from further strength to strength and in the not too distant future see our team play in a modern facility that all supporters can be proud of.

It will be very interesting to see the shape and quality of the team when we play our first fixture – with the various Transfer List shenanigans and several players leaving/joining. Maybe this is a case when the youngsters really could "step up to the plate" a prospect many of us have longed to see. No pressure Franck/Johnny etc

I see the club is trying a new innovative pricing policy for the Fulham game – I can only imagine the intention is to ensure as few people turn up as possible so that they don't have to open any stands – if that is their intention I think they have it spot on.

And finally.....personally I am sorry to see Darryl Flahavan and Mark Gower leave the hall, although in Darryl's case I think he had no choice. I wish them both well at their new clubs and hope that they both get the same welcome Roycey got each time he returned (and play equally as badly!!) I have never subscribed to the view that all ex-players should be booed and hope that fans will remember how much the club achieved with these two on board.

AWAY TRAVEL – 2008/09 SEASON

As we head into the second season with me in charge of away travel the first thing I must do is to thank all of you who travelled with us last season. It was a pleasure to be able to take so many true blues, nice people both young and old, male and female to watch Southend United all over the country. A very big thank you from me also must go to my fellow committee members, who ran coaches for me throughout the season.



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It was a great season, especially in comparison to the previous one, and great to get that feeling back of coming home from away games with 3 points. We didn't quite get the fairytale ending we hoped for despite all those people who travelled to Doncaster and created such a fantastic atmosphere.

Coach travel may prove to be a better option for people who haven't tried it before, especially with petrol prices going the way they are. Prices in general will stay the same as last season, although there will be some variations both up and down. Apart from travelling with fellow fans, there are no worries about how to get there or where to park. You also get the opportunity for a few drinks before the game upon arrival at the stadiums (**there is a strict alcohol ban on the coaches themselves**), and can sleep all the way home! On longer journeys we serve tea, coffee and hot chocolate as well as an assortment of cold drinks.

New for the coming season are our student prices, who if they are members of the Trust, can travel at concession prices on production of a valid student card. We have also now added an additional stop with coaches now picking up from the Rayleigh Weir.

We will be back to some of our old stomping grounds this coming season (am I the only person who wonders why we always play Hartlepool in the middle of winter on a weekday?) with some new ones to visit as well. I hope to see all the old faces at as many games as possible and hope to welcome many new travellers as well.

Clare

SHRIMPERS TRUST 2007/08 SEASON TOP TRAVELLERS AWARDS

On Monday 14th July last Season's Top Travellers were presented with their awards by SUFC Captain Adam Barrett



The awards for the Top Travellers on Shrimpers Trust coaches were held over from the Trust Player of the Year Awards Evening as Southend United still had at least one further away match to play at Doncaster Rovers.

The Trust would like to congratulate Terry Boulter, Adam Halvey, Gay Overall, Keith Overall and Warren Sadler who travelled to all Away Games notching up **9,124** miles in the process and who were presented on the evening with either signed, framed SUFC Shirts or specially Engraved Glassware. Congratulations also to Lesley Hicks and Dean Overall who unfortunately could not be with us on the evening to receive their awards.

The top Junior Traveller was Liam Fitch who travelled to 16 away matches covering **5,082** miles on Trust Coaches. Liam was unable to make the evening, but will also be presented with a signed & framed SUFC Shirt.

The Shrimpers Trust would like to thank Adam Barrett for giving up his time to present the awards and Southend United for donating the 3 Away Shirts.



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THE SHRIMPERS TRUST KIDS

Shrimpers Trust Youth Team Round Up

Southend United's Under-18 team will be looking to continue their excellent run from the end of last season when they get their Football League Youth Alliance campaign underway in August.

The Shrimpers youth team, who will again appear with 'Shrimpers Trust' emblazoned on their shirts for the 2008/9 season, ended last year on a seven-match unbeaten run to conclude their campaign in eighth place amongst the 13 teams.

The spell began with a 3-2 home win over eventual runners-up Gillingham, with trialist Harry Crawford adding to first-half efforts from Jack Morris and Stuart O'Keefe. Michael Moon, another player brought in to trial with the club, scored the Blues' goal in a 1-1 draw at Rushden & Diamonds, and he was on target again when Barnet were dismissed 3-0 at Boots & Laces. This time he tapped in the final goal in an accomplished display, his effort following strikes from Jamie Forshaw and O'Keefe.

Peterborough United had proved to be difficult opponents throughout the season, and only a clinical James Lindie strike eleven minutes before half-time earned a 1-1 draw against the Posh. United then delayed Queens Park Rangers' title-winning party as second-half goals from David Obaze and Lindie – in the first minute of stoppage time – earned a 2-1 victory.

An incredible 5-1 victory over Colchester United was a magnificent way in which to sign off at Boots & Laces. Forshaw opened the scoring just three minutes in before Lindie soon added a second. Rhys Henry was brought down in the penalty area, and after his initial effort was saved from the spot, the then second-year swept home the rebound. O'Keefe set up Lindie and Tashan Adeyinka either side of a consolation strike for the U's.

Another fine display saw Brentford defeated 2-1 in the last match of the term with O'Keefe on target again and Ronnie Jones adding a late winner inside the final ten minutes. Blues Youths showed a lot of determination to prove any doubters wrong and improve their League standing, and with a new intake of first-year scholars entering the fray for 2008/9, the new season promises to be an exciting time for Ricky Duncan's Centre of Excellence.

As they seek to prepare themselves for the new term, Southend United's youngsters are currently undertaking a tour of Denmark, where they will face Aalborg and Randers. When they return, you can watch them as they tackle:

Sat 19 July: Harlow Town (a) (Under-20s) 3pm
Thurs 24 July: Bishops Stortford (a) (Under-20s) 7:45pm
Sat 26 July: Reading (h) 11am
Fri 01 Aug: Norwich City (a) 2pm
Mon 04 Aug: Farnborough (a) (Under-20s) 7:45pm
Sat 09 Aug: Millwall (a) 11am

WHO'S WHO ? – DARREN POSNACK, THAT'S WHO !!!

As anyone who attends our AGMs would know, the Trust, as a business, has been doing rather well in recent years. Of course this is largely due to the on-field success of the team during this time, although prior to this recent success we were still one of the top Trusts in the country, based on the percentage of our average gate that were members.

The main reason for the success of the Trust though has to be the time, effort and dedication of the Committee, all of whom have full-time jobs and yet still find the time to run coaches, update the



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website, produce newsletters, deal with suppliers of merchandise, have meetings with the club, as well as all the things that any company has to do on a day-to-day basis such as maintain accounts and meet statutory government requirements.



Therefore I was delighted to see that the Trust has now been recognised by Who's Who of Britain's Business Elite. The latest version of the Young Business Leaders edition, published in February of this year, aims to recognise members of the business community who have achieved notable success. Criteria, includes a year-on-year increase in net worth, credit rating, adhering to Companies House obligations, etc. This is an official publication, inclusion in which is subject only to this. It is not possible to buy an entry into this, you simply get informed that you are in it and that's that.

Being the Young Business Leaders edition, only entrants under the age of 35 can be included. The only other qualification is that you need to be one of the top 3% UK born Company Directors. Luckily for the Trust our wonderful sex-god of a Treasurer, Darren Posnack, is able to satisfy all of this. Whilst it's Darren's name in the book, he would be the first to admit that this entry is for the Trust as a whole, and further demonstrates the dedication and commitment of everyone associated with us. That's despite the fact that he obviously works way harder than everyone else which no members will ever recognise as Accounts is always considered to be a thankless task, and if there's any justice then the entire membership will take him out for a drink once the season has ended!

THE TRUST – What We've Done

Committee Meetings

We have now settled in very well at our new 'home' the Harry Public House, Leigh-on-Sea. Thanks to the management and staff for making us welcome.

June

Meeting on 2nd June 2008 with the following subjects covered:

- Travel report including reviewing the inclusion on one or two additional stops for season 2008 / 2009 and attempts to obtain sponsorship in an attempt to keep costs down at a time of rising fuel prices. Presentation evening for the top travellers, where the prizes of shirts for juniors, decanter sets for the adult males and champagne flutes for adult females date to be confirmed. Doncaster Rovers away trip had run smoothly, apart from a few who dispute warnings allegedly claimed to unaware of the law of the land and a complete ban on alcohol on all football trips. All to be banned from any future SUSCT trips.
- New Youth Team Kit to be available end June – photo shoot to be arranged
- Meet the Blues Day on Sunday 27th July 2008
- SUSCT participation in the Southend Carnival Torchlight Parade on Saturday 23rd August 2008 (i.e. after the Brighton fixture)
- Regular updates on liaison meeting with Southend United; membership (1276 Full Members; 98 SJS and 146 Life Members); fundraising (28 pledges already received for season 2008 / 2009 "Quid a goal") and detailed monthly interrogation of our Finances.

July

Meeting on 7th July 2008 with the following subjects covered:

- Presentation evening for the top travellers arranged for Monday 14th July 2008 with Adam Barrett presenting the awards
- Possibilities of producing a SUSCT calendar under investigation
- The planning for away travel for season 2008 / 2009 now in full swing – if only the dates of certain games (e.g. Hartlepool away) would stop moving!!!!
- "Pitch" for the Meet the Blues Day on Sunday 27th July 2008 confirmed
- Place in the Southend Carnival Torchlight Parade on Saturday 23rd August 2008 has been booked, along with the 'blue' coach from SBC
- Nearly all pledges for 2007 / 2008 Quid a Goal received. Final chasers being sent out. Another fantastic Alan Perry fund raising event.



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- Calendar of season 2008 / 2009 events to be available shortly.
- Membership (1268 Full Members; 68 SJS and 149 Life Members)
- Agreed to have a Shrimpers Trust stall at the switching on of the Rayleigh lights on 27th November.

FUNDRAISING

EURO 2008 Prediction Competition



The Shrimpers Trust would like to thank all those who took part in our EURO 2008 Prediction Competition raising over £100 for the [Shrimpers-Online](#) Josh Tippett Appeal

The Final Table can be seen below and Congratulations go to **Andrew Thompson** who walked away with the 1st Prize of **£45.00**, **Brian Chester** for sneaking into 2nd Place to receive **£22.50** and to **Tony Smith** who seemed to pop in and out of the top 10 as if in a revolving door who eventually came in 3rd to receive a cheque for **£7.50**.

| Position | Name | Points | Up/Down |
|----------|-----------------|--------|---------|
| 1 | A. Thompson | 84 | → |
| 2 | B. Chester | 74 | ↑ |
| 3 | T. Smith | 70 | ↑ |
| 4 | F. Mephram | 68 | ↓ |
| 5 | A. Matthewman | 65 | ↓ |
| 5 | J. Rutter | 65 | ↑ |
| 7 | P. Smith | 64 | ↓ |
| 8 | G. Roberts | 61 | ↑ |
| 9 | M. Rutter | 60 | ↓ |
| 9 | C. Baynes | 60 | ↓ |
| 9 | J-P. FitzGerald | 60 | ↓ |

Special thanks must go to the Runner Up, Brian Chester who has donated his prize of £22.50 to the Josh Tippett appeal, which is a fantastic gesture. Thanks also to Trust Member and [Shrimpers-Online](#) stalwart **Brian Collins** for setting up the competition and doing all the scoring.

100 Club

The latest winners in the scheme, pulled out of the hat during weekly draws since the last newsletter were: **Neil Whitehead, Paul Claydon, John Walton, Graham Truman, John Smith, Andrew Perry, Paul Strutt and Simon Rayner**, each collecting **£33**.

The nature of the 100 Club means the more people that sign up, then the bigger the weekly prize. To register your interest, you can still contact Alan Perry at alanperry4@hotmail.com or by calling 01702 476 458 and put yourself in with a chance of winning the weekly prize. Remember, the more people that sign up to the scheme, then the higher that prize will be. By setting up a standing order for just £5 a month (or just £60 a year), you put yourself in with a chance of winning over £30 per week at the present time.



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Quid-a-Goal

The final total raised for the 2007/08 season was £4225.15, and we would like to thank all those that took part in raising this amount.

We have so far collected just over £3600 including additional donations, however despite several reminders there is still over £950 owed to the Trust and it would be appreciated if anybody reading this does owe us money that they send it to us as soon as possible.

For this season part of the funds raised from the QAG scheme will be given to the Southend United Community & Educational Trust (SUCET) to help fund their Bodycare Programme. This programme is delivered young children of both Infant and Junior school age to help them get a healthy start in life with the benefits of physical activity and healthy eating being covered as well as mental and social health.

If you would like to help raise funds for this worthy cause you can do so by either completing and returning the QAG Form that came with this newsletter or alternatively speak to one of the Trust Committee at this year's MTBD on 27th July or visit the Trust Info Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any Home Game.

Application forms are also available for download from the Trust Website www.shrimperstrust.co.uk

Reverse Auction

The Shrimpers Trust have commissioned a unique piece of SUFC Memorabilia which one lucky supporter can win by predicting the Lowest Unique Bid in our reverse auction, and it can be yours for just £1.00 per bid.

The signed 2007/08 Season Away Shirt has been framed along with a head & shoulders picture of every player who made the 1st Team Squad last season, along with pictures of the Management Team, and the original pre season Team Photo. It has also been signed and dated on the reverse by Club Captain Adam Barrett.

A Bid Form has been enclosed with this Newsletter which has further details on how you can win this one off piece of SUFC Memorabilia.

So don't miss out on this chance to own a never to be repeated item and send your bids in now, alternatively you can place your bid(s) at the Trust Pavilion at this Year's Meet the Blues Day on Sunday 27th July with the Lowest Unique Winning Bid being revealed at 3.30pm.



2008/09 SEASON TRUST EVENTS

The Trust have planned several Events for the forthcoming season including Quiz Nights, Race Nights, Curry Nights, Bowling Nights and new for this Season the Shrimpers Trust Poker Championship.



The Poker Championship will be held at the Rendezvous Casino on Saturday 13th September 2008 at 7.00pm. Initial Buy In will be £20 which will include a meal during the evening and there will be limited re buys at £10. We have arranged for a 30 minute training period prior to the start of the event for those who need it, and casino staff will be on hand all evening to help.



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Further details when confirmed will be posted on the Trust Website, www.shrimperstrust.co.uk and in the next Newsletter.

The following are a list of confirmed events for 2008. Full details will be published in future Newsletters and on the Trust Website.

Meet the Blues Day
Southend Carnival Torchlight Procession
Curry Night
Poker Championship
Trust AGM
Race Night
Rayleigh Lights

Sunday 27th July 2008
Saturday 23rd August 2008
Tuesday 2nd September 2008
Saturday 13th September 2008
Tuesday 14th October 2008
Saturday 22nd November 2008
Thursday 27th November 2008

Meet the Blues Day – Sunday 27th July 2008

The Shrimpers Trust will once again be in attendance at this year's MTBD and will be selling it's full range of Merchandise from it's Pavilion which be located adjacent to the Shrimpers Trust liveried Coach.



Amongst the Merchandise being sold will be Trust Shirts of various designs with prices starting from just £5.00, Trust Ties, Drawstring Rucksacks, Coffee Mugs, Pens and Notepads, along with our full range of Hard Enamel Pin Badges including the New '**Blue Voice Pin Badge**', with prices starting from just 50p a Badge. **We will also be selling copies of the 'Team We Call United' DVD at a knockdown price of just £5.00 and the Centenary First Day Cover at just £1.00.**

Also on sale will be several books including **The Centenary History of Southend United** and **50 Classic Matches** by Peter Miles & Dave Goody, along with **You Can't Always Get What You Want** by Bob Sills.

And if you are looking for old programmes this will be the place to stop as there will be a selection on sale.

You will also be able to meet several of the Committee Members, renew your Membership, book up for Away Travel and place your Bid for the Signed, Framed Shirt in our **Reverse Auction (see further details on page 6 of this newsletter)**, and as in previous years the SUFC Players and Management will be visiting the Trust Pavilion to meet the fans and sign autographs.

Southend Carnival Torchlight Procession – Saturday 23rd August 2008

After missing the last Southend Carnival Torchlight Procession the Trust have entered this year's one which takes place on Saturday 23rd August 2008 along Southend Seafrost.



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The aim of the procession as always is to raise money for local charities nominated by the Carnival Organisers, and once again we are looking for volunteers to help the Trust on that evening.

As in previous years we will be joined by Sammy the Shrimp and Elvis the Eel along with the BlueBelles, and we will be giving away sticks of Trust Rock, Trust information leaflets and other goodies donated by SUFC.

We will be meeting at Roots Hall at 5pm where we will take the Trust Liveried Coach to the Marshalling Area ready to start the Procession at around 7pm. We should return to Roots Hall at around 11pm latest.

If you would like to take part in this year's procession please contact Paul Yeomanson either by email at info@shrimperstrust.co.uk or by phone on 01702 302373. Alternatively please contact any Committee Member at this Years MTBD or in the Shrimpers Bar prior to the Home Game v Peterborough on Saturday 9th August.

Curry Night – Tuesday 2nd September 2008

The first Shrimpers Trust Curry Night for the 2008/09 Season will be held on Tuesday 2nd September 2008 at the Maharajah, 358 London Road, Benfleet.

The evening begins at 7.30 pm and the cost will be **£12.00** per person.

We welcome Members and Non Members alike so why not come along for some good food and chat.

As a fundraising event for the Trust we will also be holding a Raffle.

For further details or to book a place contact Alan Perry by email alanperry4@hotmail.com or by Phone on 01702 476458.

MEMBERSHIP

Life Membership (total: 149)

This newsletter we would like to welcome three new Life Members, **Peter Bushell, Brian Sheridan and Michael Smith.**

If you are interested in joining this group please contact our Membership Secretary, Paul Yeomanson via email at membership@shrimperstrust.co.uk. You can also join up as a Life Member in the Membership Section of the Trust Website www.shrimperstrust.co.uk, and postal applications will also be accepted via **Shrimpers Trust, PO Box 5830, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 9FD.**

The Shrimpers Trust would like to welcome the following New Members:

Jack Bloye, Ian Cooper, Aaron Cross, Blake Dumbrill, Bill Holmes, Rob Irwin, Adam Marsh, Calum Randall, Derek Reeves, Mark Riley and Lewis Yearly.

***Please note that the Shrimpers Trust would like to know if any of its members' addresses change, or if they have a new email address so that newsletters and other correspondence can be sent to the correct address. Please send any change of address details to **The Shrimpers Trust, PO Box 5380, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 9FD**, or alternatively fill in our on-line contact details form which can be found in the Membership Section of the Trust Website, www.shrimperstrust.co.uk ***

15th July 2008