



# SHRIMPERS TRUST

## NEWSLETTER – Volume 4 Issue 1



### THE INTRODUCTION – Paul FitzGerald

Hello all you Shrimpers and welcome to the latest addition of the Shrimpers Trust newsletter.

Anyway, what a lovely day out for a Southend Supporters and especially lovely to see Franck Moussa get his first Southend goal...it's been coming for a few weeks, a fact not lost on me (see below)!

Let's hope this result can galvanise us into a late surge for glory – well you can but dream!

My Colchester weekend was somewhat unusual in more ways than one, as I and 5 fellow Trust members attempted the Blues to Us' walk. Despite a reasonable amount of training I managed to ignore an important piece, nutrition and hydration. Consequently, I made an unscheduled stop overnight in Broomfields hospital following an otherwise successful first day. This left me with an unwelcome decision, take doctors advice give up and go home....or...yes obviously, completely ignore all that and finish the walk!

So...the remaining walkers had set off with support vehicle at 8:00 from Tiptree (the overnight stop) – the support vehicle had my walking shoes/kit/clothes/blister plasters and bananas!!

I got home from hospital around 11:00am and agonised for 3 seconds....quick dash with family to Tiptree where I started from the correct point at 12:00. A quick wave to family luncheoning at a Pub in Heckfordbridge after 5 miles and still dreaming of making kick off...I missed a turn

following Police advice and turned down an offer of a lift for the last mile from a local man! I then found myself climbing over a fence and across a field to be confronted by the Police Horse van and resting animals....arriving at 15:30 actually feeling greatish!

We had ordered our tickets through Southend United and were delighted on Wednesday to hear they had donated them to us.....Sadly, they had then gone on to sell them, so on arrival the rest of the gang were confronted with legitimate ticket holders sitting in their seats.....gotta love our club! Colchester staff could not have been more helpful to those walkers arriving on time, although it took me a further 15 mins to get into the game which tested my resolve a little..!

Missed the goal sadly and was especially disappointed at that as I'd been betting on Moussa to score the first goal for the last couple of weeks – didn't find the time Saturday..!

I saw the second half, no problem, from the media seats compliments of Colchester United and pondered the stupidity of it all.

I'd made the trip (42 miles), albeit with an unplanned diversion, but with the bonus of a complete health check up for free – some people pay hundreds for that!

What a day it was for the Southend faithful and I for one would like to applaud my fellow fans on the amount of noise we generated! One team in ESSEX!



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### THE BLUES TO U'S WALK – REPORT by Bryan Woodford



#### Blues to U's Walk – the day finally arrives!

After 3 months of walking, waiting and build-up, 6 walkers, Paul FitzGerald, Darren Posnack, Alec Trott, Hugh Cumberland and Sarah Zimmer and me, along with Paul and Jenny Yeomanson who were to be supporting in the Havens Hospices' minibus, assembled at Roots Hall car park with our families and friends at 6.45am on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

After getting out of the car with my luggage the first thing I had to do was speak with BBC Essex and update them on what we were doing and how long it was likely to take us.

Joined by the cameraman from Anglia TV, we moved to the centre spot of the pitch to take some photos and film our start of the 42 mile walk to Colchester Utd's Weston Homes Community Stadium.

Finally getting underway at 7.10am we soon got into our stride and were surprised and amused to see various TV cameramen appearing from nowhere along the route – first it was Anglia again and then BBC Look East.

Moving through Eastwood Road, Hambro Hill and Rawreth Lane Rayleigh we arrived at Battlesbridge ahead of our anticipated journey time and all was going well. We had already been given money by people who had heard of the walk on the radio. By the time we reached the Old Woodham Road the footpaths disappeared so Paul Y came to our rescue protecting our backs from the traffic in the minibus.

Negotiating the steep inclines (people say there aren't hills in Essex) in Woodham Ferrers, we proceeded through Bicknacre with the occasional 'comfort' stops along the route and headed in the direction of Maldon and Heybridge. By this time the team was starting to spread out a bit with the faster walkers moving ahead and the others maintaining a consistent pace. Two more 'live' interviews took place with BBC Essex as they kept people informed of where we were and how we were doing.

By the time we approached Great Totham, Paul Y informed us that BBC Look East wanted to interview us for their 6.30pm show so we all arranged to meet at the The Bull pub car park, which was about 4 miles from Tiptree, our destination for the evening. By this time Paul Y had been telling some of the walkers for the past 3 miles that they had only 3 miles to go before they could finish for the day. Hearing that there was still 4 miles to go proved too much for two of the walkers who had been suffering from painful blisters and strains for some distance and they decided to finish the last short stretch in the minibus while the others marched on.

Finally, the Factory Shop at Tiptree came into view – we had arrived! It was about 4.40pm when the last of the walkers completed the 30.4 miles from Roots Hall. The journey took around 9.5 hours.

After joining Paul and the others in the minibus we made our way to the Swan Hotel Maldon, where we had arranged to stay for the evening. It was there that the buoyant mood altered.

We had just finished an enjoyable meal of pasta etc when Paul FitzGerald announced he was feeling unwell and took on the colour of the 'Incredible Hulk' when he was angry. I tried to help him to the door for some fresh air but he fainted before he got there. He soon regained consciousness but was obviously not well so he was laid on the floor with his legs in the air to recover- not a pretty sight.



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After a while, it was obvious that despite giving him sugar and energy drinks to try and help he wasn't looking or feeling better. By that time, we were getting bored with him and he was curtailing our drinking so someone suggested that we get the hotel to phone an ambulance. A young lady paramedic, followed by an ambulance, soon arrived and carried out several tests. Eventually it was decided to take Paul to Broomfield Hospital for precautionary reasons and, after wishing him a speedy recovery, we all made our way to bed.

It was then I decided to think that the smoking ban in pubs was not such a good idea. My room was situated immediately above the outdoor smoking area which was protected from the elements only by a canvas gazebo. I had no choice but to share the conversations, jokes and laughter until the pub closed after midnight. However, I was probably luckier than some of the walkers who were the other side of the pub, above the disco!

Next morning we packed our clothes away and headed for pre-arranged breakfast at 7am. There was no-one around the pub (or we thought there was no-one) and everything was in total darkness. Eventually, I went in search of life and wandered into the bar and in the darkness could just about make out a couple of black sacks on a long seat, which I thought must contain the rubbish from the previous evening. When the 'black sacks' started snoring my eyes focused enough for me to see that it was a man crashed out underneath a couple of coats and fast asleep.

So we left and had to visit the local Tesco to find something to eat. Not the best of starts to the day!

Just after 8am, we resumed our walk from Tiptree to face the final 12 miles to Weston Homes Community Stadium with Darren limping and hobbling along the way. After completing the lion's share of the walk the day before, the team was in a very relaxed mood and decided to make the last leg of the journey a stroll rather than a march.

A large part of this journey along the B1022 to Colchester was without footpaths and we had to rely on Paul Y to protect us from the speed enthusiasts who seemed to have no regard for our safety. The weather was perfect for walking and with the sun breaking through it was a most enjoyable walk through the countryside, with the occasional stop at the lava'trees'.

At 9.30am we had a call from Southend Radio and it seemed by that time many people had heard about us as cars were passing with drivers tooting and waving encouragement (or was it just to get out of their way?). It was a great atmosphere anyway.

We soon reached Colchester and a Col U fan came over and gave us a fiver towards the Havens collection. Top man, much appreciated.

Making our way through the town, we started the final part of the journey up Mile End Road, a steep incline which seemed to go on forever and made a brief stop at the Dog and Pheasant for a comfort break and to collect a few donations from a couple of Col U fans.

11.30am and the stadium is seen through the trees to the right and we turn the corner into United Way and see Paul Y with camera in hand waiting by the barrier into the car park.

11.38am We've arrived after 42 miles and gagging for a beer!

Col U very kindly allowed us to use one their changing rooms so we quickly smartened ourselves up ready for a beer in the Layer Suite which, again, Col U had invited us to enjoy. It was at this time that Paul Y passed me his mobile as Paul FitzGerald had left hospital and was resuming the walk alone and wanted to know the route through Colchester Town Centre. Putting my thoughts that he was a complete nutcase to one side I quickly gave him details and, escorted by Matt from CUFC, we headed up to the Layer Suite where the first few beers 'didn't touch the sides'.



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Matt then gave us a guided tour of the stadium and we ended up at the players' tunnel where we saw Adam B with Tilly and had a few photos taken. We also had a few pictures in the away changing room with John Stannard, Alf and Steve Parmenter.

Back in the Layer Suite we heard that Paul F had reached Colchester and was expected to arrive at the ground after the match had begun.

At 2.30pm, the announcer told the crowd of our walk and we went around the perimeter of the pitch with the 'Blues to U's' banner.

I have to say that when we turned the corner and arrived at the way end and heard the reception from our fans it brought a lump to our throats and made the hairs on our necks stand up. Thank you all so much, it was really appreciated by us all!

2.50pm and we take our seats, ready for the awaited derby game. The match starts and after 14 minutes, Theo puts the ball over and MOUSSA! puts the ball into the corner, 1-0. Now why didn't I have a £1 on him scoring? The day gets better and better as we hold out for a much needed win. Seeing Adam B at the end show how much that result meant to him, the team and the supporters, just confirmed to me why I am a Southend fan. You can keep your Premiership prima donnas, this is where the real football is.

Paul FitzGerald finally arrived at the stadium, after wading through a ploughed field, at 3.40pm. So he missed our goal but had the personal satisfaction of completing the journey. Well done Paul, we're proud of you, you idiot!

So after a day and a half of bananas, energy bars, bananas, water, bananas, energy drinks, bananas, ambulance, bananas, no breakfast, bananas, blisters and not to mention bananas, the day is over bar and hour in the stadium car park after the game trying to get home.

A special thank you to all at Southend Utd and Colchester Utd for their considerable help in making this a most enjoyable and successful experience. Everyone has been so helpful but in particular I wish to thank Matt the Media Manager at Col U, on behalf of the walkers, for his personal and generous help during our stay at the stadium. Thanks also go to the various media who helped to publicise the event and help to bring in much needed money for the causes involved. It has also been a joy working with Angela Clements and Hilary Metcalfe at Havens Hospices to prepare for the walk.

On behalf of the walkers (Paul F, Darren, Hugh, Alec, Sara and me) I wish to give a special thank you to Paul and Jenny Yeomanson who worked tirelessly over a day and a half in the minibus at frustratingly slow speeds to protect us from harm on the road and keep us supplied with refreshment along the route.

Finally, I wish to thank everyone who has and will continue to contribute to the causes that will benefit from our 42 miles walk. Please see [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk) and [www.justgiving.com/bluestousbryanwoodford](http://www.justgiving.com/bluestousbryanwoodford)

Kind regards to all, it has been a great and memorable experience.

Bryan

*\*\*This article first appeared on the Shrimpers Trust website, [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk), where you can find out all the latest news from the Trust\**



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### MERCHANDISE



Ladies and Gentleman the Shrimpers trust are delighted to announce the launch of our new clothing range.

The new merchandise featuring the 'Southend Shrimpers' logo is expected to compete heavily against household names such as Armani, Hugo Boss and FCUK.

We are able cater for all shapes and sizes and have already experienced a vast amount on interest in our exciting new venture.

Available for purchase are Key Rings, Baseball Caps and a selection of Shirts, and other new items will be added shortly including a New Pin Padge.

To mark the launch of this new range of merchandise for every New Shirt Ordered you will receive free 'Southend Shrimpers' Key Ring.



Please visit [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk) or come see us in the Shrimpers Bar on any home matchday prior to kick off for more details.

See below examples of the new stock available:



### YOUTH TEAM UPDATE

Southend United's Under-18 side have started 2009 in excellent form, winning their only two matches in the calendar year in between a host of postponements.

Frozen pitches, heavy snowfall and treacherous roads have led to the majority of the Under-18 team's fixtures being called off during the opening seven weekends of the year, but home successes at the expense of local rivals Colchester United and south Londoners Brentford have left the young Shrimpers only five points from the top of the Youth Alliance League table with four games in hand over leaders Rushden & Diamonds.

The Colchester clash was United's first encounter for a month after the Christmas break, and witnessed the first goals of their youth team careers for Duran Reynolds and Merrick James-Lewis. Reynolds connected with Jack Morris' 20th minute set-piece to put Blues in front, although Jordan Pavett quickly levelled.



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Top goalscorer Craig Calver restored the advantage with a sweet curling shot two minutes after half-time, and the former Ipswich Town scholar turned provider on 55 minutes when he crossed for Tashan Adeyinka to flick into the path of James-Lewis, who dispatched the ball into the net from 15 yards.

It was another month before United took to the field again, and they had already hit the post through Ronnie Jones' deflected header when Fredrik Ljungström scored the only goal of the game on 23 minutes, turning Justin Hazell's short pass underneath the goalkeeper to secure a 1-0 victory over Brentford, who had inflicted an F.A. Youth Cup penalty shoot-out defeat on the Shrimpers earlier this season.

There were further happy scenes that day as a product of the club's youth system, Franck Moussa netted the solitary strike in the Essex derby against Colchester United, and both Johnny Herd and Stuart O'Keefe, awarded professional contracts in the last month, have also impressed on first-team duty.

Meanwhile, Callum Whittaker was called up to the Northern Ireland Under-18 squad for a tournament in Gran Canaria. Unfortunately, the wintry weather that engulfed the United Kingdom meant that Whittaker's trip was aborted, but he will hope for further international recognition in the future.

The Under-18s play their home fixtures at Boots & Laces on Eastern Avenue in Southend-on-Sea, and spectators are always welcome. Kick-off is generally 11:00am, but it is worth checking the club's official website, [www.southendunited.co.uk](http://www.southendunited.co.uk), for any late amendments.

Match reports of all matches can be found on the Shrimpers Trust website, [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk), as well as season statistics and full player profiles. Comments are always welcome via [info@shrimperstrust.co.uk](mailto:info@shrimperstrust.co.uk).

## MEMBERSHIP

### New Life Members (Total 161)

This newsletter we would like to welcome two new Life Members, **Christopher Goulbourn** and **Hannah Warman**.

If you are interested in joining this group please contact our Membership Secretary, Paul Yeomanson via email at [membership@shrimperstrust.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk), and postal applications will also be accepted via **Shrimpers Trust, PO Box 5830, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 9FD**.

### Welcome to New Members since last Newsletter

**Axel Albrecht, Scott Anthony, John Ayres, Simon Banister, Keith Barnard, Loren Bassett, Lee Baynton, Ken Bedford, Nigel Bedford, Sarah Brown, Peter Churchill, Joshua Freemantle, Gay Groombridge, Maureen Harris, Mr L.R. Hickson, Alan Long, David Long, Daniel Malpass, Gary Mayle, James Pugsley, Steve Simmons, Gareth Smith, Ken Taylor, Richard Thompson, Michael Thomson and Chris Ward.**

*\*\*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](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk) \*\**



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### “A month is a long time in football”

Here at the Shrimpers Trust we have decided to reminisce. So not only will the newsletter update you on all the news from the last month, but it will also look back at this month in years gone by. We hope that these snippets from the past will bring a smile to your face and evoke happy memories, even if the match reports can't!

So here we go, February from bygone years.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 1951** Southend beat Northampton 3-0 at the Stadium in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division South and on **17<sup>th</sup> Feb 1951** beat Swindon 8-2. Attendance: 11,000 & 10,000 respectively.

## ANSELL BREAKS A LEG AT STADIUM

Unfortunately mishap to Northampton keeper Jack Ansell, who was carried off and taken to hospital with a compound fracture of the right leg, marred this Stadium game on Saturday. For nearly an hour, ten men battled against a flood of one way traffic as a result of it.

Left winger Mitchell, who for the second time in his soccer career took over the vacant place, caught, kicked out and punched away all sorts of efforts, but could not avoid letting in two of the goals.

The opening half hour was full of promise of a fine game. United opened with some splendid forward moves and skipper Mac shook everyone with the unusual. He scored!

The maker of countless goals, got one himself in 18 minutes. Davies pushed across a nice low pass and McAllinden shot low inside a post.

Soon after, racing out to meet Stubbs on the edge of the penalty area, Ansell in his collision with the inside man, met with his accident.

Most of the players, especially after half time were parked in one half and Mitchell kept his charge against a ceaseless barrage. Lawler the finest half on show.

French, Stirling and Loughran kept lobbing the ball back time and again to keep the deputy on tip toe.

The two which beat him he had no chance with. Two minutes before the interval, after Southam had headed off the goal line, Grant from close range put Blues two up.

Twenty minutes into the second half from a perfect Sibley centre, Les Stubbs headed No. 3 – and he did that a few

minutes after shooting over from almost under the crossbar – a real miss and hit.

Sibley the perfect winger, McAllinden until he 'retired' and Davies were the pick of the forward line. Loughran the complete dominating full back and the half back line as good as any in the Division.

Southend Times 14 Feb 1951 - Report by Argonaut  
Reproduced by Paul Smith



Kevin Keegan is born on 14th Feb



## Tippett nets three against Swindon BIGGEST WIN FOR BLUES

Blues revelling in heavy mud, slammed their FA Cup conquerors so hard on Saturday that they had Swindon bewitched, bewildered and reeling like a punch drunk boxer, while they crashed to their biggest win.

Eight times the ball slashed into the visitors net in this amazing game – amazing because in 14 minutes Swindon were leading 2-0!

For well over an hour the Blues goal hungry fans roared themselves hoarse, as their favourites went on to run up the days biggest League score.

Between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> minute Blues rammed in three goals to lead, slashed home two more by half time, and another three in the next 18 minutes – eight in 43 minutes!

Who were the planners of the victory? First and foremost a right wing which ran Swindon dizzy. McAlinden, the superb general, Sibley, the 'commando' who pierced the defences with 'goal marked' centres. Behind, the 'supply' line of French, Stirling and Lawler were superb.

The Swindon right back Lloyd, gave Tippett far too much rope and the winger carved his way to glory as the first hat trick king for Blues in many a long day.

It was he who started this storm of United goals when Swindon were looking complacent. In six minutes Onslow had scored for them with a magnificent 25 yard drive.

Owen followed with a second in the 14th minute and then came the astonishing Southend revival.

Twenty minutes and a deadly Sibley centre curved right across the Swindon goal for Tippett to bang in. The right wing had slipped in to top gear.

Davies (22 mins), another wistful Sibley centre and Grant (25 mins) had headed Blues into the lead – and Swindon out of the game.

Lawler came next with a shot which struck Lloyd on its way in, and Grant made it five before the whistle for a breather.

Swindon were gasping again in two minutes when Davies shot another from Grant's pass and Sibley made two more Tippett goals and his hat trick possible.

Southend Times 28 Feb 1951 - Report by Argonaut  
Reproduced by Paul Smith

A gallon of petrol will cost you 17p



English Third Division South					Pld	W	D	L	Pts
1	Nottingham Forest	30	19	7	4	45			
2	Reading	32	17	8	7	42			
3	Norwich City	30	16	10	4	42			
4	Bristol Rovers	29	16	8	5	40			
5	Plymouth Argyle	30	16	4	10	38			
6	Southend United	32	15	6	11	36			
7	Millwall	31	15	6	10	36			
8	Bristol City	30	15	4	11	34			
9	Ipswich Town	32	15	4	13	34			
10	Exeter City	31	15	3	13	33			
11	Bournemouth & Bosc. Alh.	31	15	2	14	32			
12	Newport County	30	12	6	12	30			
13	Port Vale	30	11	7	12	29			
14	Northampton Town	30	9	10	11	28			
15	Swindon Town	32	13	2	17	28			
16	Aldershot	31	11	6	14	28			
17	Colchester United	31	9	9	13	27			
18	Walsall	33	11	5	17	27			
19	Brighton & Hove Albion	31	7	12	12	26			
20	Gillingham	32	9	7	16	25			
21	Torquay United	33	9	6	18	24			
22	Leyton Orient	31	9	5	17	23			
23	Watford	32	7	8	17	22			
24	Crystal Palace	32	7	5	20	19			

The Blues do the double over Col U. A 4-2 victory at home in front of 21,000 and a 3-1 victory away.





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“A month is a long time in football”

5<sup>th</sup> February 1983 The Shrimpers draw 1-1 at home to Bradford City. Attendance : 2,858.

# BOSS DAVE SAYS WE'VE BLOWN IT

Its all over now – that was the verdict of Southend United boss Dave Smith and most of his men on their promotion chances after Saturdays dismal 1-1 draw with Bradford City.

But one lone optimistic voice could be heard among the doom and gloom as Blues players drowned their sorrows afterwards – goalscoring ace Steve Phillips.

“I never admit defeat until its absolutely hopeless” he said. “Three or four wins on the trot and you are right back in the hunt again.”

But perhaps a more realistic appraisal came from Smith who said sadly “we had to win all our home games to stand any chance at all – and this draw is a real body blow.”

Indeed it will take several more flashes of brilliance like Phillips showed when he put Southend in front if his dream is to come true.

He picked up a loose ball, went past two defenders and curled a superb 22<sup>nd</sup> minute chip over Neil Ramsbottom from fully 25 yards for his 12<sup>th</sup> goal of the season.

And that goal after a bright start looked sure to send Blues on their winning way, but it wasn't to be.

Within 15 minutes battling Bradford were back on terms. Micky Stead made a clumsy challenge on Bobby Campbell as they went for a cross which hung in the wind and the referee pointed to the spot.

John Bluck, having his first League outing for a year, blasted in the penalty to give on loan keeper Martin Thomas no chance.

In fact, for the rest of the game Thomas was a frustrated spectator as most of the action stayed in the Bradford half.

But a mixture of stout defence from Bradford with ex-Leeds and England star Trevor Cherry outstanding, and some terrible finishing, made sure there were no more goals.

Young Danny Greaves somehow turned an Anton Otulakowski centre across the face of an open goal and Dave Cusack fired over from just eight yards out.

Then, in the dying seconds, Tony Hadley pounced on a left-wing corner and fired goalwards, only for the ball to hit luckless Keith Mercer's ample backside and rebound to safety.

“I thought I had scored” said Hadley “but unfortunately it hit Keith who just couldn't get out of the way.”

But these moments apart, Southend's attacks were more frenzied than calculated although Otulakowski always threatened to prise an opening.

Bradford put bodies back behind the ball and relied on swift breaks which almost caught Southend out a couple of times.

They tackled fiercely and certainly deserved a point for their hard work alone, but ex Southend star Terry Gray refused to concede Bradford were merely a team of workhorses.

“Southend put us under a fair amount of pressure but I thought we contained them well and might even have sneaked a win for the first time in 12 matches” he told me.

Smith didn't argue when I suggested that the old failing, poor shooting, again cost Southend victory.

“Yes, you're right – we had enough chances to have won the game with ease” he said.

“I thought we had ended our goal drought – seven goals in our two previous home games gave me hope – but we were back to shoddy finishing again.”

“Perhaps I should have put Martin Thomas up front – he couldn't have done much worse could he.”

Certainly Thomas will remember his Southend debut and must hope that in the weeks ahead he finds opposition strikers just as generous as his new team mates – but somehow I doubt it.

Southend : Thomas, Stead (sub Nelson 80 mins), Yates, Moody, Hadley, Cusack, Pountney, Phillips, Mercer, Otulakowski, Greaves

Bradford City : Ramsbottom, Podd, Chapman, Lester, Jackson, Cheery, McCall, Gray, Campbell, McNiven, Black

## Echo

7 Feb 1983 – Report by Howard Southwood  
Reproduced by Paul Smith

English Third Division 1982/83

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pld	GD
1 Cardiff City	28	17	4	7	50	38	55	14
2 Lincoln City	26	17	3	6	58	24	54	32
3 Bristol Rovers	28	15	5	8	62	34	50	28
4 Portsmouth	26	15	4	7	42	30	49	12
5 Huddersfield Town	27	13	8	6	50	31	47	19
6 Oxford United	27	13	8	6	46	31	47	15
7 Newport County	27	12	7	8	45	36	43	9
8 Plymouth Argyle	27	12	4	11	40	44	40	-4
9 Southend United	27	11	6	10	42	35	38	7
10 Wigan Athletic	28	12	3	13	47	46	39	1
11 Brentford	27	10	6	11	58	51	36	7
12 Gillingham	28	9	8	11	32	34	35	-2
13 Sheffield United	25	9	7	9	32	31	34	1
14 Bradford City	27	8	10	9	40	42	34	-2
15 Exeter City	29	8	10	11	51	64	34	-13
16 Bournemouth	29	9	7	13	33	50	34	-17
17 Leyton Orient	28	10	4	14	35	58	34	-23
18 Wrexham	27	8	9	10	26	39	33	-13
19 Chesterfield	28	7	9	12	33	37	30	-4
20 Reading	29	7	9	13	41	56	30	-15
21 Doncaster Rovers	28	7	8	13	43	53	29	-10
22 Walsall	26	7	8	11	32	43	29	-11
23 Millwall	27	5	10	12	31	46	25	-15
24 Preston North End	27	5	7	15	35	51	22	-16

Men at Work are at No. 1 with 'Down Under'.



Shergar is kidnapped.



Car of the Year Audi 100.



After months of conjecture Deirdre Barlow chooses to leave Mike Baldwin.





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### FUNDRAISING

#### 100 Club

The latest winners in the scheme, pulled out of the hat during weekly draws since the last newsletter were: **Wally Depsy, Zoe Cranmer, Charles Ball, Mrs L Posnack, John Smith and Gary Crowe** each collecting around **£35.00**.

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](mailto: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.

#### Quid-a-Goal

This Season's Quid A Goal scheme is now up and running and with numerous pledges made so far the current running total after **39** matches is **£1,494.80**.

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 visiting the Trust Info Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any Home Game or by completing the form printed in this season's SUFC Match Day Programmes.

Application forms are also available for download from the Trust Website [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk)

### 2008/09 SEASON TRUST EVENTS

#### [Race Night– Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2009](#)

**The Trust will be holding one of their exciting Race Nights on Saturday 7th March 2009 in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall, first Race at 7.30 pm.**



With 8 Brand New Horse/Dog Races plus an ever popular novelty race (if times allow), this is a great event for all the family.

Admission is by Ticket Only and will cost **£3.00** which can be purchased in Advance from the Trust Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to every Home Game or online at [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk).

Tel: 01702 302373 or email: [info@shrimperstrust.co.uk](mailto:info@shrimperstrust.co.uk) for further information.

#### [Curry Night– Tuesday 31st March 2009](#)

**The Shrimpers Trust will be holding another of their popular Curry Nights on Tuesday 31st March 2009 at the Maharajah, 358 London Road, Benfleet.**



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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.

This is a fantastic social evening and is a great way to beat the recession, we look forward to seeing you there.

For further details or to book a place contact Alan Perry. email: [alanperry4@hotmail.com](mailto:alanperry4@hotmail.com) or by Phone on 01702 476458

### Programme Fair – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2009

The Shrimpers Trust will have a stand at the Annual Southend United Football Memorabilia & Programme Fair on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April** in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall, where we will be selling our normal range of Trust Merchandise including Pin Badges, Books, Shirts, Coffee Mugs, Car Stickers and much, much more.

We will also be selling from our Stand '**The Southend United Miscellany**' by Dave Goody & Peter Miles.

The book is a 100-page, A5 paperback, featuring hundreds of interesting facts and snippets about Southend United. The book has over 200 photos/illustrations, 173 in black/white and 34 in colour and priced at just **£7.99**



This annual event, organised by The Football Programme Directory is a must visit for those wishing to add to their Programme Collection or wanting to buy Football Memorabilia in general. Admission is just **50p** and there will be several Programme/Memorabilia Vendors in attendance.

## OSCAR NOMINEES – DON'T QUIT YOUR DAY JOB



With the Brits making a real impact on the movie scene over the past year, we really made our mark at the Oscars, but which footballers have put on acting displays at Roots Hall over the past few seasons.

### 1) Bas Savage Southend United vs Tranmere Rovers 2008/09

Never before have I seen quite an acting display than during our fixture against Tranmere rovers a couple of weeks back. This guy was diving all over the place and one example was his amazing ten roll combination following the smallest of impacts.

### 2) Cristiano Ronaldo Southend United vs Man Utd 2006/07

A player who's acting needs no introduction, Cristiano was up to his usual exploits for Manchester United in our most famous victory of all time.

### 3) Sean Thornton Southend United vs Leyton Orient 2007/08

The peroxide blonde midfielder put on an energetic display against the mighty blues on the opening day of the 2007/08 season, which despite his stunning 30 yard free-kick (which ultimately won the game for the O's), he will be remembered for his cheating which led to Alan McCormack's unjustified dismissal.



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### MATCH REPORTS – Bashford's Banter

**Due to Work Commitments and Re-Arranged Fixtures we are unfortunately only able to bring you two match reports in this Newsletter.**

#### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2009 – Stockport County (Away) – Result (L) 1-3**

Saturday was a classic “after the Lord Mayor’s Show” performance. After two great performances against Chelsea, we saw a below par performance at Edgeley Park. In fact there was more action between the visiting fans and the Stockport security guards that at times on the pitch.

Two team changes from Wednesday with Freedman replacing Barnard (injured again – he is fast becoming the “new sick note” of Roots Hall) and McCormack returning from suspension in place of Moussa. The game took ages to burst into life, whereas on the terraces the first Southend fan was extracted from the ground for leading a leading a chant of “stand up if you support Southend” – standing up clearly infuriated the Gestapo.

- 20<sup>th</sup> minute: First real action from either team. Rowe breaks clear down the Stockport left and a fine pull back from the by-line saw Pilkington fire home for 1-0.
- 34<sup>th</sup> minute: Herd breaks down Stockport and puts McCormack free but his shot was fired wide – still our first “attempt” on goal.
- 36<sup>th</sup> minute: McCormack fouled about 25 yards from goal. Stanilslas’s long range effort was miles over the bar and would have been appreciated by the Sale Sharks fans, who share Edgely Park with Stockport as would have been two or three points in rugby union.
- 38<sup>th</sup> minute: Grant loses the ball in own half and Pilkington scores his second with a screamer from 25 yards.
- 43<sup>rd</sup> minute: The day goes from bad to worse. Peter Clarke sent off for a lunge / bad tackle on the half-way line and McCormack, who appeared to have a groin strain, was replaced by Moussa.

Another half of an ifs, buts and maybes performance from Southend - a chance to go 2 – up quickly followed by an undeserved equaliser. Southend cannot be faulted this was a fighting performance and can only get better in the second half.

2 – 0 down at half-time and a big challenge for Tilly and Brush to motivate the ten men to cope the onslaught anticipated from a youthful Stockport team in the second-half. Francis replaced Stanislas - not the best of ends to what has been a successful loan spell from West Ham.

- 47<sup>th</sup> minute: A Herd free-kick falls to Grant and his clever chip was tipped over for a corner by Williams, the Stockport keeper. From the resulting corner, which Stockport easily clear, Pilkington runs two thirds of the pitch and his resulting shot well saved by Mildenhall
- 62<sup>nd</sup> minute: Revell pulls a goal back but he made the visiting fans wait an eternity before scoring.
- 64<sup>th</sup> minute: Herd cautioned for deliberate obstruction
- 65<sup>th</sup> minute: Southend half clear a Stockport free-kick, the ball falls to Baker who fires just over.
- 67<sup>th</sup> minute: Southend defence clear umpteenth Stockport corner, but Pilkington, looking for his hat-trick, fires wide.
- 70<sup>th</sup> minute: First Stockport substitution – Baker replaced by Turnbull
- 84<sup>th</sup> minute: Cross from the right finds Rowe who side foots home to make it 3 - 1
- 88<sup>th</sup> minute: Second Stockport substitution with Blizzard replaced by Thompson
- 89<sup>th</sup> minute: Betsy replaces goal scorer Revell
- 91<sup>st</sup> minute: Stockport are running down the clock and replace McSweeney with Johnson.

A “bad day at the office” but the ten men fought a valiant fight in the second half. We need to start winning away as Crewe away seems a long time ago. Orient will now not be easy with the departure of Martin Ling.

Much is being written and said about the Stockport stewarding and being followed up with Stockport County, Southend United, Essex Police, the FA, the Football league, etc. - dossier being collated. Remember it takes two to tango so we must ask ourselves how much were the security staff provoked?

Now that Ritchie Foran’s loan period at Darlington is over, and he scored some goals and proved hit fitness, why is he not in the squad?



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Crowd: 5,762

League Position: 16<sup>th</sup>

**Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa, Barrett, Clarke, Herd, Grant, Christophe, McCormack (Moussa), Revell (Betsy), Stanislas (Francis) and Freedman.** *Substitutes Not Used: Joyce and O'Keefe.*

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**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009 – Leyton Orient (Away) – Result (D) 1-1**

*Match Report Not Available*

Crowd: 3,835

League Position: 15<sup>th</sup>

**Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa, Francis, Barrett, Herd, Betsy, Grant (Walker), Christophe, Moussa, Revell (O'Keefe) and Freedman (Barnard).** *Substitutes Not Used: Joyce and Scannell.*

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**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2009 – Yeovil Town (Home) – Result (L) 0-1**

Who are you kidding Mr Tilson when you say we were lucky? Yes the Yeovil goalkeeper, Wagenaar, had an inspired second half. Who gave away another goal from a dead ball situation after only 6 minutes? This happens week in and week out. What happens on the training ground? Yes we created some chances but no one on the payroll was able to put into the back of the net. I agree with you that we are unlucky with long term injuries (i.e. Revell and Laurent) but please explain why we cannot get a sequence of games from our main strikers (i.e. Messrs Freedman and Barnard)? They play one game and then are injured again!!!!

Our current form scares the "pants out of me" because it looks like a relegation fight rather than a dash for the play-offs. One league win in November, December and January to date is relegation form and we are much nearer to Crewe than Leicester. Are we paying for the extensive use of loan players in the first half of the season? Are we paying for the players we let go during the close season? We must now forget the Chelsea FA Cup games and "splash the cash" on quality players, not "untried babies". We must forget the new ground and splash the cash to protect our short and medium term future. If we are paying the wages of players, who seem to be able to score for other clubs but not get a look in at Roots Hall (i.e. Messrs Foran and Furlong), then release them from their contracts today to reduce our wage bill and let them further their careers elsewhere or play them and stop going into the short term loan market.

Barnard and Walker started up from following injuries to Revell (broken leg) and Freedman (persistent sick note). Welcome to Theo Robinson from Watford – let us hope he forms a goal scoring partnership at Roots Hall similar to his exploits at Hereford with Hooper last season that saw them promoted. Our first home league game of 2009 and in first half our only method of attack appeared to be the Johnnie Herd long throw!!!!

- 4<sup>th</sup> minute: Barnard turns well and shot well saved by Wagenaar.
- 6<sup>th</sup> minute: From a free kick on the right Welsh crosses in the Southend penalty area, Mildenhall fails to collect and Brown hooks home unmarked to make it 1 0 to the visitors.
- 11<sup>th</sup> minute: Good combination play between Herd, Moussa and Christophe see Barrett furthest forward and his header just wide.
- 25<sup>th</sup> minute: Herd crosses from the left, Sankofa heads back across the penalty area and Captain Courageous heads just wide again.
- 27<sup>th</sup> minute: Yeovil substitution Tomlin for Warne.
- 31<sup>st</sup> minute: The tenacious Luke Rogers, who led the Yeovil line well, cautioned for a foul on Grant.
- 33<sup>rd</sup> minute: Rodgers again – this time he robs Francis, sets Downe free but his effort wide and high.
- 34<sup>th</sup> minute: Herd long throw partially cleared by goal score Browne, but Walker fires wide
- 45<sup>th</sup> minute: Betsy's last effort of the game a caution for a late tackle on Peltier, Referee plays five minutes added time – the crowd groan.

The second half was like time standing still with the clock in the South Bank stuck on 3:50. One half time substitution for each team – Murtagh replacing Peltier for Yeovil and Robinson replacing Betsy for Southend.

- 46<sup>th</sup> minute: Moussa corner partially cleared but Christophe's effort straight at Wagenaar
- 53<sup>rd</sup> minute: Downes sent off for a two footed lunge at Herd.
- 63<sup>rd</sup> minute: Penalty appeal turned down as Christophe glides into Yeovil penalty area.
- 64<sup>th</sup> minute: Moussa feeds Barnard but effort well saved by Wagenaar.
- 65<sup>th</sup> minute: Yeovil right back cautioned for a foul on Walker.
- 67<sup>th</sup> minute: Francis and Christophe combine well but the Frenchman's shot again well saved by Wagenaar.
- 68<sup>th</sup> minute: Southend old boy Nathan Jones enters the fray as a replacement for Welsh.
- 70<sup>th</sup> minute: Grant fires over



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- 72<sup>nd</sup> minute: Good play down the left and Herd's cross come shot inches wide of far post.
- 75 minute: Walker's point blank effort well saved
- 82<sup>nd</sup> minute: Rodgers catches Francis in the face, a red card beckons but referee plays on with "a smile on his face"
- 83<sup>rd</sup> minute: Double Southend substitution with Scannell and O'Keefe replacing Sankofa and Christophe.
- 90<sup>th</sup> minute: Scannell beats Nathan Jones but shot pushed away for a corner.
- 91<sup>st</sup> minute: Walker "wins the ball" but cautioned for a foul. I
- 93<sup>rd</sup> minute: "Last role of the dice" but Francis's long range free kick inches over.

Another "bad day at the office" with no points or no goals. No Walker wonder goal as at Orient to give us a point.

**Crowd: 6,409**                      **League Position: 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa (Scannell), Francis, Barrett, Herd, Betsy (Robinson), Grant, Christophe (O'Keefe), Moussa, Barnard and Walker. Substitutes Not Used: Joyce and Ademeno.**

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**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2009 – Leeds United (Away) – Result (L) 0-2**

*Match Report Not Available*

**Crowd: 20,392**                      **League Position: 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa, Francis, Barrett, Herd, Betsy, Moussa, Christophe, O'Keefe (Barnard), Walker (Scannell) and Robinson. Substitutes Not Used: Joyce and Ademeno.**

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**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2009 – Bristol Rovers (Home) – Result (W) 1-0**

*Match Report Not Available*

**Crowd: 7,234**                      **League Position: 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa, Clarke, Dervite, Francis, Barrett, McCormack (Scannell), Christophe, Moussa, Freedman (Barnard), and Robinson. Substitutes Not Used: Joyce, Herd and Betsy.**

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**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2009 – Tranmere Rovers (Home) – Result (W) 2-1**

*Match Report Not Available*

**Crowd: 6,507**                      **League Position: 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa (Betsy), Clarke, Dervite, Francis, Barrett, McCormack, Christophe, Moussa, Freedman, and Robinson (Laurent). Substitutes Not Used: Joyce, Scannell and Barnard.**

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**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2009 – Crewe Alexandra (Home) – Result (L) 0-1**

*Match Report Not Available*

**Crowd: 6,614**                      **League Position: 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa (Laurent), Clarke, Dervite, Francis, Barrett, McCormack, Christophe, Moussa, Freedman (Betsy), and Robinson (Barnard). Substitutes Not Used: Joyce and Scannell.**

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**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2009 – Colchester United (Away) – Result (W) 1-0**

*Match Report Not Available*

**Crowd: 8,651**                      **League Position: 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa, Clarke, Dervite, Barrett, Grant (Francis), McCormack, Christophe, Moussa, Laurent (Barnard), and Robinson (Betsy). Substitutes Not Used: Joyce and Scannell.**

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Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009 – Scunthorpe United (Home) – Result (W) 2-0

*Match Report Not Available*

Crowd: 6,028

League Position: 13<sup>th</sup>

Team: Mildenhall, Sankofa, Clarke, Dervite, Barrett, Grant (*Francis*), McCormack, Christophe, Moussa, Laurent (*Barnard*), and Robinson (*Scannell*). *Substitutes Not Used: Joyce and Betsy.*

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*27<sup>th</sup> February 2009*