

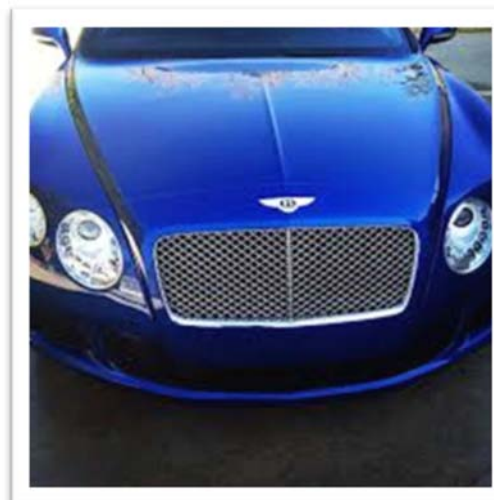


THE INTRODUCTION – Paul FitzGerald

As we approach the end of our season I reflect on a campaign, as ever recently, with such promise and yet it looks like yet again automatic promotion is going to be just beyond us. By the next newsletter we will know our fate as will many of the players with us through this campaign

So.....life after the Bentley, and I don't mean what will happen if FF never happens - I am referring to when our young starlet moves on to pastures new as he surely must. Daniel Bentley has done us proud over the years and when the time does come we must wish him well - let's hope that it is after celebrating a promotion.

Of course, Southend's youth Academy has produced some useful keepers over the years and what a delight it was to see Ted Smith take Dan's place when the latter was injured recently. Ted not surprisingly didn't let us down and grabbed his chance no doubt revelling in the experience. The Trust supported by the readers of this Newsletter can rightly be proud of its involvement with the Youth and to have played a part in both keeper's progression through the ranks. I understand there is a further decent prospect not too far behind - I think someone deserves a pay rise!



Talking of pay rises one wonders about the new super Meccano kit delivered recently to various parts of Southend and of course movement (in paper terms) on the development. No doubt all will be revealed in the fullness of time or hopefully a bit earlier at the long awaited AGM on Wednesday 22nd April 2015.

I met with our Chairman a week or so back during which he cleverly orchestrated a call from Sainsbury's (only joking Ron), he remains positive as to the outcome of the development but remains tight lipped as to the detail for obvious reasons.

Ron, ever a wind up, had clearly mislaid his cheque book or perhaps under called his relationship with Dechert – if it wasn't so sad it would be funny to see the guys who worked with us on the HMRC turning the tide and using "process" they clearly did not agree with at the time against the club. One wonders how many more of these "disputed debts" may have slipped the Chairman's mind. One can only imagine how damaging this is to the club in their attempts to increase sales which to be fair seemed to be progressing this season.

Southend United have designated the match against Tranmere on 11th April as "Exiles day" and alongside the Exiles group are encouraging fans from afar to celebrate all things Blue. The "Exiles" group work with the club to make supporting Southend United a better experience for those not fortunate to live in the borough – if you are interested in joining them, then contact Philip Stace (the membership secretary) at stacepc@yahoo.com.au note how far out of the borough Philip is!

NEWSLETTER – Vol. 10 Iss. 04. – April 2015

I'd like to take this opportunity to comment on Trust member Bob Mays, who some of you may remember organised and took part in a sponsored Walk to Oxford on behalf of Help for Heroes....well he's at it again - this time he is looking to raise money for Parkinson's, a condition that he suffers from. He has organised transport, food, accommodation, and guides to tackle the challenge of the three peaks - Ben Nevis - Scafell Pike - Snowdon over three days. He is taking a team of 23 to walk these peaks. This includes fellow Shrimpers Warren Sadler, Paul Marshall, Del and Joe Reeves, Simon Mayes and Sam Wilson. The challenge starts on 14th May 2015.

I know how hard this challenge is going to be but can't imagine what it will be like for Bob. As well as the Oxford walk, Bob has also raised money for the Richard House Hospice and Parkinson's previously.

I'd like to wish Bob and indeed all those taking part the best of luck and if anyone reading this can spare some money for this very worthy cause please visit Bob's justgiving page justgiving.com/bob-mays

The Trust committee is always looking for new blood and ideas – so if you would like to get involved in any of our activities at any level, please don't hesitate to contact us.

As ever, you can contact me at pfitz666@aol.com if you'd like to comment on anything the Trust does or does not do.

RACE NIGHT – CHEQUE PRESENTATION

On Saturday 28th February we held a Race Night to raise funds for the Trust and the Urology Department at Southend University Hospital.

We are pleased to announce that the evening raised just over £1000 of which £500 has been donated to the Hospital to go towards the purchase of a 'Robot' to aid Prostate Cancer Surgery.

The cheque was presented to Sampi Mehta, Urology Clinical Lead and Sam James, Clinical Surgical Manager from Southend Hospital at the home game vs Cambridge United on 21st March.



NEWSLETTER – Vol. 10 Iss. 04. – April 2015

The Trust would like to thank all those that attended the Race Night and to the following sponsors without whose help we would not have raised such an amount.



SCC Domestic
Plumbing & Heating



SAMMY THE SHRIMP JEWELLERY

Exclusive to the Shrimpers Trust

The Trust have commissioned some unique pieces of 'Sammy the Shrimp' Jewellery.

Manufactured in Sterling Silver with Blue Spinel the items are available as a Pin or Cufflink Set which come in their own presentation box.

Each of the items are priced as follows:

Blue Spinel Pin: £45

Blue Spinel Cufflinks: £75

Plain Pin: £35

The Pin measures 24.5mm high x 21mm wide and is also available in a plain Silver version and the Cufflinks measure 20mm high by 17mm wide.

These unique items of Jewellery can be purchased from the Trust Shop using a Debit/Credit card on the Trust Website.

Alternatively they can be purchased from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game where we will accept cash/cheque/credit or Debit Card payments.



Payments powered by **PayPal**

Additionally the Jewellery can be ordered by post from:

The Shrimpers Trust
PO Box 5830
Southend on Sea
SS1 9FD

Please enclose a covering letter advising items required and a cheque payable to **The Shrimpers Trust** for the total amount adding **£3.50** per order for postage & packing by 1st Class Recorded Delivery.



SHRIMPERS TRUST PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Trust's Player of the Year Awards and Season review will be held on Tuesday 28th April 2015 at 7.30pm in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall.

The host for this season's Awards evening will be former SUFC goal scoring legend and current matchday host David Crown.

This Season the Annual Shrimpers Trust POTY Awards will also include, the Junior Blues Player of the Year, the Martin Cranmer Goal of the Season and the Shrimpers Trust Youth Team Player of the Year with the winner receiving the Tom Grace Memorial Shield.

During the evening there will be a short review of the Season put together by Scott Wallace from SX Sports Media Film Production, which will also include the top 3 in the Goal of the Season Award.

Further details including details on how to vote for your POTY and Goal of the Season have been included with this Newsletter.



JUNIOR BLUES PIN BADGE

For all you badge collectors out there - it's here, the all new Junior Blues Hard Enamel Pin Badge.



The metal badge finished in hard enamel is priced at just £3.00 and is based on the Junior Blues logo featuring Sammy the Shrimp and Elvis the Eel.

The badge is also fitted with a safety clasp on the back.

The Badge can be purchased from the Junior Blues Webshop on the Trust Website, or alternatively they are available from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.

FUNDRAISING

100 Club

The latest winners in the scheme, pulled out of the hat during weekly draws since the last newsletter were **Mrs C. A. Harvey, Steve Stone, Wally Despy, Chris Karkoski, Jack Bond, Alec Trott, John Walton, David Mason, Valerie Fane, Richard Harrington, Peter Brock and Andrew Perry.**

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 476458 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 around £28.00 per week at the present time.

NEWSLETTER – Vol. 10 Iss. 04. – April 2015

Quid-a-Goal



So far we have raised £1,427.25 and as the season draws to a close we hope to be able to reach the total raised last season.

The aim of the scheme - like most of the Shrimpers Trust's activities is to raise money for Southend United Football Club and make sure that there is a club for us to be supporting in the foreseeable future.

In particular, some of the money raised from this Seasons "Quid a Goal" scheme will again be donated to the Southend United Physio Ben Clarkson and his Department to help purchase much needed equipment.

This is how it works:

Those who support the scheme with a pledge have their name and details of their pledge displayed in the United match program each week and are detailed on this web site.

We ask you to pledge £0.25, £0.50, £1.00 or more under various headings such as clean sheets, various players scoring goals, or team goals. This does not have to cost you a fortune as you can easily judge in advance how much your pledge will cost you come the end of the season.

For example, the Blues rarely manage more than 80 goals in a season from 1st team matches. A £0.25 per goal pledge would therefore most likely not cost you more than £20.00 come the end of the season. If funds are tight how about £1 for every goal scored by our full backs? If you chose to do £0.50 per point and we finished up with 72 points as we did last season this would cost you £36.00. At the end of the season we will write to you thanking you for your support of this initiative and asking you to send us a cheque for the amount owed.

Last year this scheme raised around £1,850 from the 68 people that helped us. This includes support by some of the Southend United's directors.

If you would like to help raise funds for this worthy cause you can do so by completing the QAG Entry Form which has been included with this newsletter and return to us either by post to the address shown on the form or by handing in at the Trust Info Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.

Entry forms are also available from the Trust Website www.shrimperstrust.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to New Life Members (Total 223)

Clive Burlton and Sir Teddy Taylor.



Life Membership of the Trust currently costs £100.00 if you have an email account or £125.00 if you prefer to receive Trust Mailings by post.

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 at **Shrimpers Trust, PO Box 5830, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 9FD.**

Welcome to New Members since the last Newsletter

Josh Butcher, Barry Dean, Vicky Gardener, Hayley Gardener, Alan Hale, Ken Jarvis and Mark Wallaker.

NEWSLETTER – Vol. 10 Iss. 04. – April 2015

****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 5830, Southend on Sea, SS1 9FD**, by email to membership@shrimperstrust.co.uk 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 ****

FORTHCOMING EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 25th April 2015
The Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall

The Shrimpers Trust will be holding their final Quiz Night of the 2014/15 Season in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall on Saturday 25th April 2015.



The doors open at 7.00pm with commencement of the quiz at **7.30pm sharp**.
The cost will be £10.00 for adults and £6.00 for under 16's.

Included in the price will be a choice from 5 meals (*Chicken & Chips, Chicken Nuggets & Chips, Sausage & Chips, Fish & Chips or Vegetarian Spring Roll & Chips*). The meals are provided by the Fish House and will be served at around 8.45pm.

Ideally we need tables of 8, but if you would be happy to join others who will come in parties of less than 8 please let us know.

For further details or to book a table contact Alan Perry (01702 476458 or alanperry4@hotmail.com)

RACE NIGHT – RAISING MONEY FOR PARKINSON'S

Saturday 30th May 2015
The Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall

The Shrimpers Trust will be holding a Race Night in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall on Saturday 30th May 2015 with the first race starting at 7.30pm.



All funds raised will be going to Parkinson's UK and the evening will include a Golf & Cricket Auction and a Raffle.

Tickets cost just £3.00 and can be purchased from the Trust Stand in the Shrimpers Bar or by contacting Bob Mays on bmays@aklander.co.uk

MARATHON MAN

Southend United manager Phil Brown is running the London Marathon this year, and needs your support!

For Phil, it will be the first time he has undertaken the 26.2-mile challenge, and is running in aid of the Amy May Trust and Sparks children's charity.

The Amy May Trust was set up after Amy May Shead suffered a terrible allergic reaction after a single bite of food whilst on holiday with four friends.

The reaction was so severe, Amy suffered a cardiac arrest. She was starved of oxygen and suffered brain injuries due to this.



NEWSLETTER – Vol. 10 Iss. 04. – April 2015

After initially being in a Budapest Hospital, Amy was transferred to St Thomas' Hospital in London, where she remains today.

Sparks helps babies and young children with medical research, and is a charity that Phil has worked with for over a decade.

Phil said: "I've been involved with Sparks for the last 12 to 15 years. You get a wildcard when running as a celebrity for Sparks, and that was a way in for me to do the Marathon.

"The Amy May Trust is closer to home. Amy is related to the Club's Chairman. She has a nut allergy, and had an allergic reaction that unfortunately turned into a coma".

"I'll be attempting to raise money and awareness for both charities.

"I'm doing 60-70km a week and looking forward to running my first Marathon. I'll be going all guns blazing, hopefully it'll be a great day and we can raise as much money as possible for the two charities.

To support and sponsor Phil for his Marathon, and for further information visit the SUFC Website here <http://www.southendunited.co.uk/news/article/phil-brown-southend-united-marathon-2330665.aspx>

MERCHANDISE

Programme Drinks Coasters

These are a set of four Brite-Mat low profile, non-slip base drinks Coasters featuring four iconic SUFC programme covers – The first ever SUFC programme vs Millwall, the SUFC vs Norwich programme for the first match at the current Roots Hall, the SUFC vs Liverpool programme from 1979 and the one from the Carling Cup Match vs Manchester United in 2006.

The set of four Coasters will cost **£7 (plus postage & packing if required)**.



Coffee Mugs



The Sparta Ceramic mug comes in midnight blue with the new Trust Logo printed to both sides in white.

Priced at just £6.00 (plus postage & packing if required) the mugs are a must for your kitchen or office.

To purchase these and other items in our new range please visit us at the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar, alternatively you can purchase any of our Merchandise online in the Trust Shop at www.shrimperstrust.co.uk

Please note that that as well as the usual cash and cheque payments we can now accept Credit/Debit Cards for all purchases including Merchandise & Memberships.



WELCOME ABOARD

The Shrimpers Trust would like to take this opportunity to welcome Stephen McLaughlin to Southend United after joining on-loan from Nottingham Forest.

Stephen has spent the last few months on loan at Notts County and made 7 assists in the 13 appearances.



WE WANT YOUR FOREIGN COINS



The Shrimpers Trust our always looking at ways we can improve fundraising and what better way but to make use out of your unwanted foreign coins.

They could be out of circulation coins/notes, but we can still use these to make money for the trust.

So if you have coins cluttering up your man draw which you don't want to look through, please contact Jon-Paul FitzGerald on 07824398236 or come and see us any home game in the Shrimpers trust.

Thanks in advance and up the Shrimpers!

2nd April 2015