



NEWSLETTER – Vol. 11 Iss. 02. – November 2015

THE INTRODUCTION – Paul FitzGerald



Here we are in October. The season is starting to take shape and I'm pleased to announce (somewhat belatedly) that the Shrimpers Trust will once again, for the eighth season, have its name emblazoned on the Youth team shirts. In case you hadn't noticed, the youth setup has been somewhat of a success over the last few years and we are proud once again to be involved and to have helped players such as Dan, Ted, Jack and Jason come through (not to mention those that have been moved on successfully to other clubs). Long may it continue!

Of course, with the annual news of revised plans for Fossetts farm, it is clear that the youth setup forms a key part of Ron's future plans for our club. I met with him recently - just prior to the announcement of the cinema tenant and British Land's involvement - and he showed me the revised schematics.

Hopefully, many of you will have taken the opportunity to see for yourself what the current plan is and let's hope they are pretty much the final version we'll ever see! I don't doubt the intentions of those responsible for the revised plans, but as time goes on, one wonders at the appetite of our chairman post phase 1. I also wonder whether he looks back and wonders what life would be like now if he hadn't picked the phone up from Vic Jobson? The next few months could be the most important in the club's history.

It never ceases to amaze me how much effort people will put in to support their club - step forward Alan Perry, one of the Shrimpers Trust board members. He swam 279 lengths of Southend Swimming Pool, non-stop, in 3 hours 16 minutes, that's a total of 6975 metres or 4.34 miles. Alan took on this remarkable feat to raise funds for the Trust's efforts to support the Youth Team at Southend United and the Alzheimers Society, who will be joint benefactor of the funds raised.



Talking of fund raising - as ever, we are always interested in more ways to increase our funds and therefore our support of the club. This year we are running, for the first time, a Christmas quiz which we hope will entertain and amuse many of you. Further details are below and I hope that many of you will take part.

We have been approached by a Trust member who felt that the club could do with an anthem, specifically following the players' celebrations at the end of last season, he felt that Sweet Caroline, (the Neil Diamond song) would be a good choice. The club did try this at the start of the season, but with no obvious response, they dropped it. Of course, sometimes an anthem needs time to be accepted. The Trust would be interested in your view on this, firstly, about an anthem generally and secondly, about whether Sweet Caroline specifically would be appropriate?

The Trust would like to welcome Danny Macklin to Southend United, previously with Essex Cricket Club; Danny is the new Commercial Director. We'd like to wish him well in his role and look forward to working with him closely in the coming months.

NEWSLETTER – Vol. 11 Iss. 02. – November 2015

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.

We'd also be interested in receiving your views on anything Southend United related – we'd really like to feature our members and their views – so if you fancy penning something for us and this newsletter – we would love to hear from you.

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.

XMAS DRAW - 2015

Enclosed with this newsletter your 2015 Xmas Draw Tickets.

The Trust Xmas Draw is one of our biggest fundraisers, which also offers our biggest prizes of any of our fundraisers.

So, if you want to be in with a chance of winning the 1st prize of £500, please return your completed ticket stubs and payment to:

**Xmas Draw
The Shrimpers Trust
PO Box 5830
Southend on Sea
Essex
SS1 9FD**



Alternatively you can hand your tickets in at the Shrimpers Trust Info Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.

The draw will take place at half time during the game vs Millwall FC on Monday 28th December.

If you did not receive your tickets or would like to receive some more and would like us to send some out to you please contact Alan Perry on 01702 476458, or by email alanperry4@hotmail.com

THE BIG CHRISTMAS QUIZ



This Christmas the Trust are running a 'Big Quiz' with a first prize of £100

The theme for the quiz is "Name the Group or Solo Artist" and the entry fee is just **£1.00**.

As well as the £100 first prize you could also win a visit from the 2014/15 League 2 Play-off Winners Trophy at your Home/School/Place of Work, a Bottle of Champagne, a Signed SUFC football and a Box of sweets.

Copies of the quiz can be purchased from the Trust Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game, or online from the Trust Website (there will be a 50p surcharge for buying online to cover costs and postage).

All entries must be received by Saturday, 9th January 2016. Please note that only original answer forms are acceptable and that photocopies are invalid as entries to this quiz.

FUNDRAISING

100 Club

The latest winners in the scheme, pulled out of the hat during weekly draws since the last newsletter were **Andrew Haddow, Richard Coxell, Paul Yeomanson, Paul FitzGerald, Jon-Paul FitzGerald, John Freemantle, John Spooner, Phillipa Guest, Paul Strutt, Rick Napper, John Onslow, Gary Crowe, Neil Whitehead, Jim Hummerstone and Lorraine Posnack.**

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.

Quid-a-Goal

Our Quid a Goal scheme is now up and running for the 2015/16 Season.



The current total after the game vs Rochdale is £566.26.

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.

For the season 2015/16, money raised from this 'Quid a Goal' scheme will be donated to Ricky Duncan's Youth department to help ensure that players of the quality of Daniel Bentley and Jack Payne continue to be nurtured and made available to the first team.

This is how it works:

Those who support the scheme with a pledge have their name 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 70 goals in a season from 1st team matches (14/15 League goals - 54). A £0.25 per goal pledge would therefore most likely not cost you more than £20.00 come the end of the season. If you chose to do £0.50 per point and we finished up with 80 points. At the end of the season we will write to you thanking you for your support of this initiative asking you to send us a cheque for the amount of £40.00.

Last year this scheme raised more than £2,000 from the 40+ 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 226)

Christine Cunningham.



Life Membership of the Trust currently costs £100.00 if you have an email account or £150.00 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

Martin Edge, Richard Farrell, Thomas Flynn, Paul Harrison, Ashley Hill, Alec Hitchman, Derek Hodgkinson, Shaun Hodgkinson, Maxine Jones, Richard King, David Luther, Stuart Manley, Neil McDonald, Jamie McGrath, David Merry, Lisa Mulqueen, Michael Mulqueen, Chloe Nicol, Chris Phillips, Ben Rudd, Del Rudd, Kevin Saunders, Laura Scudder, Chris Smith, Dan Smith, Harry Smith, Luke Smith, Brian Spooner, Ian Spooner, Chris Stevens, Paul Thornton, Russell Tilbrook, Peter Valentine and Charlie Woodbridge.

***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 ***

SHRIMPERS TRUST AGM – MONDAY 30th NOVEMBER

The Annual General Meeting of the Southend United Supporters Society Limited will be held in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall Stadium on Monday 30th November 2015 at 7.30pm.



The AGM will be followed by a Q&A session with ex SUFC Captain and recently appointed Assistant Academy Professional Development Phase Coach Kevin Maher.

The Agenda for the AGM has been included with this newsletter and the Minutes from our last AGM can be downloaded from the Members Area of the Trust Website www.shrimperstrust.co.uk

For further details contact Paul Yeomanson: (01702 302373 or info@shrimperstrust.co.uk)

FORTHCOMING FUNDRAISERS

CURRY NIGHT

Monday 16th November 2015
The Maharaja, London Road, Benfleet

The evening begins at 7.30pm and the cost will be £12.00 per person for an 'all you can eat' buffet.



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

For further details contact Alan Perry: (01702 476458 or alanperry4@hotmail.com)

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 28th November 2015
The Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall

The Shrimpers Trust will be holding their second Quiz Night of the 2015/16 Season in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall on Saturday 28th November 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)

HAPPY BIRTHYEAR ROOTSHALL - BY PAUL FITZGERALD

I thought I would share with you a recent article I penned for the All At Sea Fanzine with some of my thoughts on Roots Hall - I've never really been that bothered about visiting every ground, the 92 club etc. I understand the principle and I admire people that achieve it but for me it's never been of great interest. I have however visited 92 different places in Roots Hall at least it seems like it and each one has some sort of story, light or dark attached

1. East Stand - My first game, taken by a neighbour as my parents were not interested was against Barnsley in 66 - I'd like to say it was memorable but...i can't really remember anything about it. We won but I only remember that because I've checked! Nowadays I'd do anything to avoid the East unfortunately that is not possible if I want to attend all games.
2. South Stand Terrace - As I got older and started making my own way to the ground the South and North became regular haunts swapping at half time with the occasional "incident" to go with it. Difficult to think of anything more memorable than the Liverpool game, however I do remember vividly the Villa fans storming the pitch and a somewhat desperate group of SUFC Fans scarping sharpish I was at the front and many jumped over as they leapt into the stand! RUBINS OUT was another memory but probably best not to go there
3. North Bank - this was my home for many years just right of centre close enough to be part of the noise but not the other issues in that area. I was once so incensed as one of my

NEWSLETTER – Vol. 11 Iss. 02. – November 2015

friends was being ejected for swearing (which he wasn't) that I ended up being held in custody too. I was kicked and generally pushed around by the police (at the ground conveniently out of view of others) during that incident and a formal complaint a few days later pretty much just got laughed at....

4. West Stand – can't say I'm a big fan, but one of the proudest moments of my life was watching my Son playing and winning the U16s Cup final with his team, goodness a few years back now.
5. South Bank Upper – is where I live now, again in the centre – I like to be behind the goal I never enjoy anywhere else quite as much. I did play football until quite recently and have in fact signed for a team again this year as an emergency stand in the park out of the way type utility player. They say being behind the goal is the same view/idea as playing football – I'm not sure that's right but it does it for me and this is where I will stay until the great day that surely must come soon when we watch Kevin Maher's testimonial from the comfort of our new seats at our "shiny" new stadium. A slightly embarrassing episode involving too much Beer and a shouting match regarding not enough seats in the East led Ron to instruct the stewards to open the South Bank.
6. Shrimpers Bar – before the match of course this is where I will be and I'm so enjoying drinking real ale from the newly purchased cheap, non-recyclable plastic "glasses". We now have our own WIFI in the bar which certainly makes losing money a lot simpler than it was using Paddy Power and Skybet on 3G
7. Classroom – used to be part of the Shrimpers Bar providing light and fresh air.....
8. Far Post Bar – can't quite get away, even on non-match days....my daughter had her 18th party here and very accommodating the club were too – I wasn't there of course - not allowed, shame really because she doesn't remember it either
9. Directors Box – as Youth team shirt sponsor the Trust is allowed a few seats – and several very enjoyable evenings have been had watching Rickys promising youngsters go about their business. As Co-Chair of the Ronny Pountney testimonial committee - also enjoyed the fruit of our labours from the box for one of Southend's greatest ever players and just shows what is possible if a group of ordinary fans get together
10. The Paddock – seriously? Why would anyone have gone there...
11. South bank Lower – my last row with "Authority" at Roots hall, not that long ago actually. Apparently the 100 or so people in attendance had to sit in the middle because they weren't opening the bit 10 yards further over...needless to say "off" was one of the words used
12. Car Park – The Trust loads it Supporters Coaches of course from the Car Park. Not something I am usually involved with however of course for a big game it's all hands and we've had a few big ones recently.
13. Shop / Ticket Office – oh yes many a time spending life wasting moments I was never going to get back, in a line incredulous at the inefficiency of it all (not always to be fair)
14. Shed – For one of our big trips – I spent a couple of sessions selling coach tickets to Cardiff
15. The Blues Lounge – various visits here, largely to do with Q & A's not sure I've availed myself of the hospitality
16. The Platinum Suite – last season was perhaps my only visit here and very nice it was too
17. The Lift – one of Vic's great folly's – no one in their right mind would have built this and "forgotten" the equivalent stairs...the fact the lift often has a mind of its own just adds to the amusement
18. Executive Boxes – An irregular treat. One usually full of expectation but largely unfulfilled the reality is I prefer the terrace
19. The Tunnel – on my way to....
20. The Pitch – several visits actually....the last being to present a cheque to Southend Hospital following our walk to Dagenham....also a little while ago to celebrate a certain promotion - A pleasure no longer allowed due to petty rules
21. Groundsman's Arms – not sure why I was in here presumably before a game when the South Upper wasn't open

NEWSLETTER – Vol. 11 Iss. 02. – November 2015

22. Family Bar – this used to be accessible from the South Upper so the key was racing up there for half time to try to get a pint in
23. West Stand Bar - ditto
24. Control Room – reviewing CCTV footage on a rather unpleasant incident in the South Upper many years back
25. Ron’s office – it’s been a few weeks since I’ve been invited for tea and biccies here and in fact it usually takes sarcasm and nagging to get a response from our leader who is far too busy working on issues that mere supporters would not understand.
26. Steve K’s Office – regular trips here for the Liaison meetings
27. Directors Lounge – Ron’s personal entertainment room and woe betide anyone being around when Ron is at a game – the Trust fell foul of this after accepting an invite to this room for one Youth team gamegoodness me he was not happy – not big enough to tell us himself of course just made it very clear for subsequent games....yawn
28. West Stand Burger Bar – yeah probably
29. South Upper Derelict Tea Bar – for a few years a convenient half time, time waster....sadly condemned now
30. Bit under the stairs South Upper – I pass this every game and wonder how the guy choking on his hot dog some years back is now after a good friend of mine performed the Heimlich manoeuvre on him to remove said dog.
- 31.– 40 Toilets – I must have been in every one....even the Ladies for appropriate circumstances trust me
41. – 90 – loads of other places.....

91. Press Box – ok I’ve not actually been in there but standing outside talking to Chris does count

92. Platform hosting TV Cameras – on my list.....

So what does this all mean....well using my calculator I reckon that’s approx. 3750 hours at Roots Hall....getting on to ½ year of my life...! - I look back and wonder whether it’s been worth it – Hell yes! That said – I will miss it if we do ever move but I want to move, Roots Hall is broken and not fit for purpose anymore and I hope Ron does continue pulling the rabbit out of his hat.

XMAS IS COMING!!!

Christmas is just around the corner so why not treat your fellow SUFC friends or family to some Shrimpers Trust goodies



The new Trust Pen is an ideal stocking filler

With a Blue, Yellow & White body the Plastic Push Button Ballpen has the Trust Logo printed on the main body and has a unique Magnet Clasp printed with a football design.

This unique pen is exclusive to the Trust and will cost just £3.00.

Or why not splash out on one of the items in our Exclusive Sammy the Shrimp Jewellery.

NEWSLETTER – Vol. 11 Iss. 02. – November 2015

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 and other items in our merchandise range can be purchased from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar or alternatively you can purchase any of our 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.



GOOD LUCK

And finally, good luck to Trust Members Kevin & Suzanne Feasey in their new venture.

As of last week Kevin & Suzanne are the new owners of the Tradesmans Arm pub in Scorrison, Devon.

The pub can be found in Scorrison Village near Buckfastleigh only a 3 mile drive from the A38 Devon Express way. It is a traditional "country pub" which offers quality real ales, homecooked food, a selection of wines and B & B accommodation.

So why not pay them a visit if you are an SUFC Exile in Devon or Cornwall, when holidaying in the area, or the next time SUFC play at one of the West Country teams.



For more information visit the Tradesmans Arms website www.thetradesmansarms.co.uk or phone 01364631206.

6th November 2015