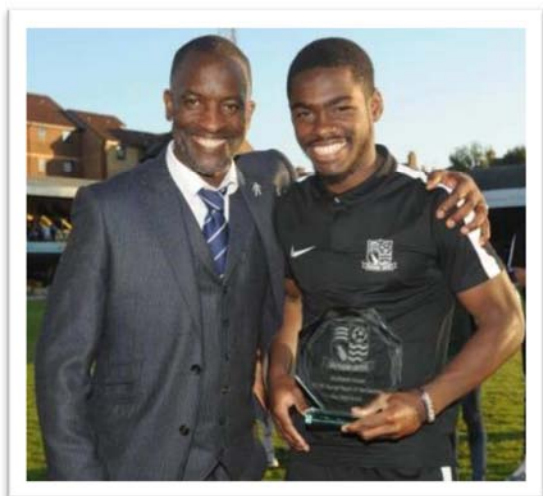




THE INTRODUCTION – Paul FitzGerald

There you go. I promised it wouldn't be so long coming next time.....

A really promising and exciting end of season was very welcome, but the finishing position just makes you think of a few games when a change in fortune or otherwise, would have been the difference between 10th and a playoff place.



Of particular note, was the prominence of several ex **academy players**. Dru has been a mainstay in Chris Powell's starting eleven, but then we see Harry Kypriano and Elvis Bwomono getting their chances and taking them, making all of us at the Trust happy that Ricky's set up continues to be the main beneficiary of your money. Next time you see one of these youngsters pull on the shirt, don't forget that every one of our members has helped this happen, so well done! Also, the best of luck to our various young internationals, almost becoming too numerous to mention. The way things are going, we will be included in the international breaks!

The recent club general meeting of shareholders was a well-attended affair as you'd expect, with our Chairman concluding the formalities in swift fashion before he and Chris Powell answered questions from the floor. In response to one specific question, Ron re-affirmed that when the club move into the new **Martin Dawn Stadium** he would write off the accrued debt (currently 17 Million). "Enabling development" has been a common used phrase during the last umpteen years by Ron, as he explained how our club will pay the rent on the new stadium and progress from the effective rebirth (financially). The problem is, there is no detail on what this means. Whilst it must be difficult (considering the time period) to predict who will be a tenant at some unknown point in the future, it does mean that we continue to be 100% dependant on one individual.....which in fact was the subject of another question from the floor. Whilst this is far from ideal, the fact remains that Ron has continued to support and manage the club through some very difficult times. Those difficult times will get worse if the council do not approve the plans laid before them, currently, as Ron confirmed that Plan B, should they not get approved, is to appeal and that there is no Plan C.

As the annual end of season player considerations continues I am saddened at the departure of **Michael Timlin** as I know many others are. Michael did not have the best of seasons, although personally, I think he rescued that with the games under Chris Powell when he was played more centrally i.e. in the right position, Phil. The time will come for all players and if it were time for Michael to go, then I think it's a shame that once again the club do not seem able to recognise the difference between a stalwart and an "also ran".



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And talking of Ex-players....Our **SUEPA** initiative continues apace with several attending the last couple of games as SUEPA invitees. The total membership now stands at 133 with the most recent signings being - Mark Hall, Jeff Hull, Bill Garner, Mark Gower, Peter Goy, Chris Ramsey, Jim Fryatt, Jason Lee, John Gymer and Bart Griemink. We are working closely with the club to organise some events for next year which hopefully, will appeal to many of our members.

I reported in the last newsletter that SOUTHEND United, SUCET and the Shrimpers Trust were working together to raise £5,000 for a new wheelchair for **Liam Callaghan**, who suffers with Quadriplegia Cerebral Palsy. I am delighted to report that the target was exceeded and Liam has his chair.

Our final **GDPR** compliance is now in place which you can read here http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/home.asp?page_id=800 I will be testing you on this later, so please make sure you all read it.....

I'm sorry to report that **Grant Davidson**, a long time Southend United Supporter and Trust Member. passed away suddenly, at a friend's 80th Birthday on 20th May. He was his usual sociable jovial self until the end and will be greatly missed by his wife Deborah, and all his football friends. His funeral is to be held at Southend Crematorium on Wednesday 20th June at 2pm. Flowers are welcome and donations are for the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Thank you all for your continued support. 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.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

It was standing room only as The Shrimpers Trust held their 2017/18 Player of the Year Awards on 30th April in the Shrimpers Bar at Roots Hall. Trust and Junior Blues members were joined on the night by Chris Powell and his management team plus the Southend United first-team squad. Youth team coach Dave Huzzey and his Under-18s squad were also in attendance.

The evening included a number of presentations made to members of both the first and youth teams, culminating in the Trust's 2017/18 Goal of the Season and Player of the Year awards.

The evening was hosted by Trust Vice-Chairman Paul Yeomanson, who got the evening underway by announcing the winner of the Trust's April Player of the Month. Dru Yearwood collected the trophy, which was presented by Junior Blues Member Oscar Field.

It was then on to the main awards of the evening starting with the Youth Team Player of the Year.

Dru Yearwood was the worthy recipient of the Tom Grace Memorial Shield, which is presented each season to the Youth Team Player of the Year in memory of Tom Grace an avid Southend United supporter and a junior member of the Trust who sadly passed away at the age of 15 in July 2007.

Tom's family were guests of the Trust and his father, Len, helped Dave Huzzey present the awards. Runners-up for this award were Nathan Bishop and Emile Acquah.



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Dave Huzzey was invited to say a few words and he thanked the Shrimpers Trust members for their financial backing to the Academy again this term. Huzzey spoke of another fine campaign for the Under-18s, who are currently sitting in fifth position in the Merit League, which will be their best-ever finish, and how pleasing it was to see so many of his squad step up to the Under-23s and then the first-team.

The most recent two first-team squads had each featured eight former Academy players, with 12 Academy graduates having appeared for the first-team during the course of the campaign. Dave said that the main aim of the Academy was to produce players capable of playing first-team football for Southend United, and with the likes of Dru, Elvis Bwomomo, Harry Kyprianou and Lewis Gard stepping-up this had been achieved.



Next up were the Top Traveller Awards. For the 2017/18 season the Trust had again run coaches to all away league and cup fixtures, taking in 28 matches – two of which were postponed at short notice, and having covered some 9,816 miles.

Chris Powell was asked to present the awards to David Cardy, Lesley Hicks, Warren Sadler and Terry Slater, the four supporters who had travelled with the Trust to all these matches. The top Junior Blues Traveller, Callum Turp (6,652 miles), also received his award from Chris.

A thank-you was extended by Paul Yeomanson to Lesley for once again organizing the Away Travel for this season and to all supporters who had travelled with the Trust. He added that we looked forward to welcoming everyone back next season.

The next presentation was the Junior Blues Player of the Year, which is voted for by Junior Blues members and was presented to Southend United goalkeeper Mark Oxley by Junior Blues member Millie Field. Millie had been selected at random from entries received to present the award.



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It was then on to The Martin Cranmer Goal of the Season, named in memory of lifelong Southend United supporter Martin, who had passed away at the start of the 2010/11 season aged 40. The award was presented by his wife Zoe Cranmer.

A video of the contenders for this award as voted by Trust members was shown featuring the goals from Stephen McLaughlin, MK Dons (A) on 21st November, Michael Kightly, Scunthorpe (H) on 27th January, Marc-Antoine Fortuné, Wigan (H) on 10th February and Theo Robinson, MK Dons (H) on 21st April. Midfielder Stephen McLaughlin was confirmed as winner for his goal vs MK Dons.



There was then a short break in the proceedings whilst an auction of a signed first-team shirt and football took place which raised £125 for trust funds. The raffle was also drawn at this time raising a further £114.

It was then time for the final award of the season, the Shrimpers Trust First Team Player of the Year. Video clips of the five nominated players - Simon Cox, Jason Demetriou, Mark Oxley, John White and Dru Yearwood - had been shown throughout the evening and manager Chris Powell was invited to present the award.

Second Runner-Up went to midfielder Dru Yearwood, who added the trophy to the Youth Team Player of the Year silverware he had claimed earlier in the evening. First Runner-Up was defender Jason Demetriou, who has become a firm favourite with fans for his marauding runs down the right flank and his goalscoring prowess from defence.

Blues goalkeeper Mark Oxley was voted by Trust members as their Player of the Season for 2017/18, with Mark proving to be a very popular winner, having also won the Junior Blues Player of the Year earlier in the evening. A montage of Mark's saves during the season drew gasps from the gathering and the former Hibernian custodian thanked all those supporters that had voted for him.



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Chris Powell on behalf of his management team and the players took the opportunity to thank supporters for their continued support over the last season giving special mention to all those that travel to away games.

He also acknowledged the work the Trust does for the Academy which is now paying dividends with the number of players now appearing in the first-team squad. Chris was keen to pass credit to the way that the players had responded since he arrived to reach his target of 60 points for the season, and the work that his backroom staff have played since January.

The evening was wrapped up by Paul Yeomanson with thanks to Chris, Dave and the rest of the management team plus all the players for taking the time to attend the evening.

Thanks were also given to Trust and Junior Blues members who had attended on the night and to the various people who had helped organise the evening.

PROGRAMME / MEMROBILIA SALE

Sunday 8th July 2018 - 09.30 - 12.00 - The Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall



We currently hold a large stock of programmes the majority of which have been kindly donated by supporters dating from the 59/60 season.

We will once again be opening the doors of the Shrimpers Bar to supporters/collectors on Sunday 8th July 2018 when any reasonable offer will be accepted for any of our programmes and memorabilia that will be on sale on the day.

We have a vast amount of SUFC Home programmes many of which have now been catalogued up to the end of the 1991/92 Season.

If you wish to receive a copy of the programme list prior to the sale please email us at info@shrimperstrust.co.uk

FUNDRAISING

100 Club

The latest winners in the scheme, pulled out of the hat during weekly draws since the last newsletter were **Mike Smith, Paul FitzGerald, John Williams, Steve Stone, John Onslow, Jim Hummerstone, Teresa Perry, Roy Rice, Gordon Harvey and John Smith.**

The nature of the 100 Club means the more people that sign up, the bigger the weekly prize.

100 Club Application Form and Standing Order Form are available from the Fundraising Page on the Trust Website or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar so why not join up and put yourself in with a chance of winning the weekly prize.

For further information, you can contact Alan Perry at alanperry4@hotmail.com or by calling 01702 476458.

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.

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Quid-a-Goal

Our Quid a Goal scheme is now finished for the 2017/18 Season.



The total at the close of the season is £2,069.25. Thank you for generous pledges!

Alan Perry is in the process of writing to all those that took part with the amounts owing for each pledge.

Details of next Season's QAG Scheme will be included in our next Newsletter

MEMBERSHIP

Life Membership (Total 233)



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

Gillian Box, Ian Box, Amy Crow, Martin Day, Mike Dunwell, Stuart Field, Patrick Grant, Neale Harvey, Alec Hitchman, Philip Hood, Chris Hunt, Dave Juniper, Lesley Lawrence, Dave Oram, Heather Oram, Trevor Suckling, John Symons and Tracy Symons.

****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 MERCHANDISE

CAR STICKER



Shrimpers Trust Vinyl Self Cling Car Sticker featuring the New Trust Banner. Measures 200mm x 33mm.

Priced at £2.00 the Car Sticker can be purchased from our online shop at www.shrimperstrust.co.uk or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.

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COOL BAG

The Cool Bag is Navy with Trust Logo Printed to Top and is ideal for carrying your lunch when travelling to away games.

It's manufactured from Polyester and is suitable for 4 x 300ml Cans with a Zip Main Compartment and Webbing Carry Handle.

Priced at £5.00 the Cool Bag can be purchased from our online shop at www.shrimperstrust.co.uk or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.



SEASON CARD HOLDER



This Oyster Card style Season Card Holder comes in Navy with the Trust Logo and Web Address printed in full colour on the front.

Priced at £2.00 the Season Card Holder can be purchased from our online shop at www.shrimperstrust.co.uk or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.

FRIDGE MAGNET

The Plasticised 'Sammy The Shrimp' Fridge Magnet features the Trust Shrimp in a Navy SUFC Kit with the Shrimpers Trust website address at the bottom.

Priced at £2.00 the Fridge Magnet can be purchased from our online shop at www.shrimperstrust.co.uk or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.



These and other items in our merchandise range can be purchased online in the Trust Shop at www.shrimperstrust.co.uk or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.

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



Payments powered by **PayPal**

SHRIMPERS TRUST ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Follow us on twitter @shrimperstrust and like and follow us on Facebook "ShrimpersTrust" to keep up to date with all our latest news and events.



The
SHRIMPERS TRUST



**OFFICIAL AWAY SUPPORTERS TRAVEL
ORGANISER FOR SOUTHEND UNITED F.C.**

 07892 905338  travel@shrimperstrust.co.uk  www.shrimperstrust.co.uk

 facebook.com/sufofficialawaytravel  twitter.com/shrimperstrust

We now also have a dedicated Away Travel Facebook Page "sufofficialawaytravel" where you can find all the latest details on the Official Away Travel for Southend United.

18th June 2018