



NEWSLETTER – Vol. 14 Iss. 02. – January 2019

THE INTRODUCTION – Paul FitzGerald

January Sales...let's hope we pick up some bargains – our Chairman must have a bit of quandary at present - pay HMRC, or buy some players? We've all been there, I'm sure...

The timing of yet another winding up order would not appear to be much worse. I'm sure it's all a misunderstanding though, as it looked to me, like the club were hoping for some good PR with the paper campaign, to elicit support for a new stadium. I note however, that contrary to expectations, the council does not appear to have an agenda item which would interest most fans, for their planning meeting this month. There is a phrase "always next year" turned into a song by many, which appears to fit our situation quite nicely, and has done since 2008!

On Saturday 15th December, the Trust had asked fans to donate non-perishable items that could be passed on to "Off the Streets", the grass-roots community group which runs a night shelter supporting the homeless, in the Southend area.

I am delighted that so many Southend supporters supported this, including Junior Blue, Stanley Clay, who visited us in the Shrimpers bar to donate...thank you Stanley and everyone else who supported this.

The group concerned were extremely grateful and despite our decision to proceed being made with limited time, the success of it, has lead us to believe we should run it again next year.

We have heard from Aviva (Community Scheme) with regards to our application for a grant to commence our social inclusion project, and I'm delighted to say, that we have been successful! Thank you very much to everyone who voted for us....we have created a working party and our first (2nd and 3rd) initiatives are in various states of planning. I am hopeful that we will be able to announce details shortly.

Our AGM has come and gone – thanks to all those who attended and thanks to Ron Martin for guesting and answering the various questions.



Congratulations to Ray Johnstone (Winner), Colby Kinsella, Deborah Davidson, Darren FitzGerald and Mike Paterson, for scooping the prizes in our annual Xmas Draw. Thanks to everyone who took part. As many of you will know, the money raised forms a large part of the funds we donate to our youth academy, where we have seen so much success lately, in terms of youngsters "coming through". On that point, Isaac Hutchinson's impact and latterly, the wonder goal from Charlie Kelman, has presumably given Chrissy Powell some things to be thinking about - your money really does make a difference!

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Our SUEPA initiative (now 1 year old) goes from strength to strength – I hope you are enjoying seeing some of our ex-players (Lee Barnard being a great example of someone who really engaged with the fans and by all accounts, loved his day back at the Hall) and getting involved where you can – latest signings Martin Carruthers, Mel Capleton and Carl Pettefer.

2018 was a very good year for the Shrimpers Trust, probably the most effective since formation: the conclusion of the Alan Moody Campaign; the Liam Callaghan Wheels, formation of SUEPA and the Social Inclusion Grant from Aviva, showed what is possible when an eclectic and energetic group of individuals get their heads together! These “headline” projects were successfully delivered or initiated alongside the established Youth Academy support, Junior Blues, Away Travel and popular events.

The Trust board (posh name for committee) is said energetic group; it consists of Paul Yeomanson, Lesley Hicks, Clare and Shane Chapman, Alan Perry, Darren Posnack, Jon-Paul FitzGerald, Kay Fogg, Karl Lansley, Andrew Leeder, Richard Coxell and Alec Trott. Often supported by family members and friends, these people need to take a bow alongside a personal thank you from me.....and a request to make 2019 even better!



Talking of Boards, SUCET (Southend United Community & Educational Trust), are looking for a new Trustee and they have asked us whether any of our members would be interested in this very worthwhile role – **please see below for further details**. Please contact Dale or us for a full description of the role and requirements.

Finally many of you will have seen the forms handed out to supporters at a game recently to encourage support for the new stadium. The club are delighted that so many supporters filled this in. In case you did not get a chance and would like to support I promised we would send a copy with our newsletter – **please see details below**.

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.

NEW STADIUM DEVELOPMENT



✂ -----

To Southend Borough Council

I support Southend United Football Club's new stadium development, which includes a 21,000-seater stadium, cinema, Hilton hotel, restaurants, state of the art Academy & indoor soccer domes and enabling residential and retail development. I support the development for a number of reasons including:

- Roots Hall stadium opened in 1955 and whilst can create a good environment on match days is no longer fit for the modern game. The stadium lacks facilities, is tired and now restricting the Club's growth.
- A new stadium and training facilities will be the springboard required to get us up and keep us in the Championship and possibly beyond.
- New facilities will attract higher profile players and the enhanced Academy will help our successful youth set up to flourish still further... the life blood of our Club's future.
- The new development will put us on the football map, generating revenue across the region. In the Championship we would currently see the likes of Leeds United, Aston Villa and Derby County and several thousand travelling fans spending money in our town.
- In 2006 we were promoted at Swansea City thanks to a brace from Freddy Eastwood. The Swans' rise to the Premier League achieved an estimated £58 million per annum to the local economy. The Liberty Stadium has played a pivotal role in their story and the new development could do the same for Southend United.

Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Please note, by signing this letter you agree for your data to be shared with Southend United Football Club and Southend Borough Council.

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Please return to Rhys Ellingham, Southend United Football Club, Roots Hall, Victoria Ave, Southend-on-Sea SS2 6NQ

SUCET – NEW TRUSTEE

Trustee, Southend United Community & Educational Trust (SUCET).



Southend United Community & Educational Trust (SUCET) is the official charity partner of Southend United Football Club. Operating within four key themes of Education & Training, Sports Participation, Health & Wellbeing and Community Cohesion we provide programmes and initiatives designed to engage with local communities through common values.

Being a Trustee is a rewarding role and offers the opportunity to contribute to your local community. Over the last 6 months, we have been reviewing our skill set at board level, and to enhance the positive work that the former and existing members of the board have produced; expressions of interest are invited from experienced and qualified individuals interested in the role of Trustee.

Individuals are sought who have a strong empathy with our objectives to provide sporting, recreational and educational activities that enhance the personal and social development of all participants, and will help us achieve our mission “to engage with one million people through the brand of Southend United by 2026”; and bring skills to help us achieve our vision “to utilise the power of sport and the vehicle of Southend United to have a positive influence on people’s lives”.

The successful candidate should be able to contribute to the strategic leadership of SUCET, and will be equipped with the skills and knowledge to meet the challenges and opportunities faced by the charity. Additionally, the successful candidate will be able to demonstrate experience in a senior role and have an understanding of the role of a trustee in promoting good governance. The candidate should be able to challenge current thinking at Board level and present views in a clear and concise manner.

Southend United Community & Educational Trust (SUCET) is an equal opportunities employer committed to addressing equality and diversity issues and understanding the needs of under-represented groups in Southend and the South East. We are keen to achieve a more diverse Board of Trustees and particularly welcome applications from members of under-represented groups.

To apply, please send your CV with a covering letter explaining what motivates you to apply and how you meet the requirements to dale@southendunited-cet.co.uk or to Southend United Community & Educational Trust, Roots Hall, Victoria Avenue, Southend on Sea, SS2 6NQ.

AGM – RON MARTIN Q&A REPORT

The 2018 Annual General Meeting of the Southend United Supporters Society Limited was held in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall Stadium on Monday 19th November 2018.

This was followed by a Q&A Session with SUFC Chairman Ron Martin.

Ron was in good spirits and addressed those present with confidence that the stadium project was progressing well.

The discussions flitted from subject to subject during the evening with Paul FitzGerald starting off by reminding Ron of his pledge to have Trust representation on the board several years ago and certainly during the period leading up to the building and planning for the stadium. Ron suggested that now was not the right time and although not a Trust representative, he considered Club Director Gary Lockett to be a 'supporter'. Ron went on to say that his primary objective was to get the Club on an even keel within the new stadium and after that he was happy to review requirements.



Ron was also informed that the Trust this season will surpass the £200,000 level of donations to Southend United and related causes.

The discussion moved on to the lack of a Chief Executive at the club and Ron expressed the opinion that he had been unable to find the right candidate so had decided to carry out the duties himself. However in order to help grow the Club this was a position that would be required when we moved into the new stadium.

Ron said that many, including him, hold fond memories of Roots Hall. However he expressed concern that Roots Hall was no longer fit for purpose, highlighting the fact the East stand has wooden floors which in the light of the Grenfell disaster was a worry. Having said that, as re-assurance a full fire safety certificate was in place.

Ron bemoaned the lack of space to add areas that can be used on non-match days and thereby add further income streams. He also explained that the new stadium works must start by June 2019 with the 2nd stage in November and the total build period will be 2.5 years. He advised there are 3 architects involved in the plan and 3 project managers for the stadium, the retail & the residential aspects. The retail tenancy lettings are 42% pre let but 55% triggers extra funding. The tenants for the hotel have been agreed. He felt people may not realise what a massive project this is, with traffic planning meaning roads and pavements for a large radius from the site have to be upgraded, including Warner's Bridge and several existing Roundabouts in the town. This even means pavements have to be widened in some areas.

He was asked if the new site will be a concrete jungle and replied that it certainly will not. As some evidence, he has already purchased 120 9m high trees which in view of the delays to the project are now 11m high and will cause greater transport problems now for the vendor! He advised that he plans a series of flythrough CGI's to help show supporters what the vision is. He was asked what can go wrong now, as he had expressed great confidence it will proceed. He advised that after

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council approval which he was confident would be given, a Judicial Review could cause hold ups or if the Government 'called in' the plans again. However there are numerous parties involved in getting the project proceeding and he remains confident of success.

Ron felt that on an ongoing basis it will be likely he will need a partner for the project. He was keen to ensure there was no overspend as the Amex stadium have gone massively over budget and had cost £92M.

He advised that he will shortly be writing off £8M of debt the football club owes to him and intends to write of the other £9M in the foreseeable future, with the intention of leaving Southend United debt free. A discussion followed about 'Enabling Development' and how much money is required in income terms to make the project viable. It was pointed out that the Stadium Development income is separate from Southend United's Income and that at some point detail needs to be forthcoming on how Southend United will be funded.



There are 640,000 people living in the immediate locality and there is every possibility attendance could increase with a successful football team in Southend.

In answer to a specific question about access, Ron said The Park & Ride idea was not a sensible option in view of the lack of sites for the 'Park' aspect.

Several aspects of the footballing side were discussed and he made it clear that whilst there have been times he has gone into the dressing room, it is a rarity. Decisions regarding which players are employed, sold, released etc. are all down to the manager to control within his given budget. He feels Chris Powell is an excellent manager and possibly the best he has employed during his reign at the club likening his open and honest leadership style to that of Steve Tilson. He felt Chris has been hit by an incredible run of bad luck regards injuries.

Many players were discussed during the evening, including Nile Ranger, Michael Timlin's departure which many fans felt was a mistake, and Rob Kiernan's failure to overcome injuries. Ron was questioned regarding employing players who were injured at the time of being employed or who had a history of injuries. He advised that they have a network of scouts and a lot of information exchanges went on between clubs. He would like to keep Dru Yearwood as long as possible although accepted that in his long term interest he will undoubtedly move on. He felt Elvis Bwomono & Charlie Kelman are both great prospects. The decision to bring in Stockdale was not his but he felt putting Nathan Bishop in the team for an extended period at that time was a gamble that may not have been in Nathans long term benefit. Missing out on Lyle Taylor was understandable as Charlton represented a better prospect to Lyle.

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He was asked what targets we had lined up for January. He reminded the audience that frequently mid-year teams get rid of players on loan etc. who are unable to make the first team and there are not many 'Taylor Moore's' out there. He is aged 22 and Ron hopes to keep him beyond January.

Discussions spread to Bilel Moshni, Adam Barrett's departure, Anton Ferdinand & Michael Turner's red card. Ron stated that he is not very good company after a loss by the team, as his wife and family will testify. He is deeply committed to its advancement and remains upbeat.

Ron was thanked for giving up his time and for his enlightening comments.

EFL FANS FORUM – CHECKATRADE TROPHY

On the evening of 10th December Clare and Shane Chapman went to an EFL fans forum concerning the Checkatrade Trophy at Wembley Stadium on behalf of the Trust.

The evening was hosted by David Prutton and in the first half of the evening Shaun Harvey (EFL Chief Executive), Colin Murray (presenter of EFL on Quest TV) and Ian Holloway (pundit on the aforementioned show) were there to answer questions. There were representatives from a large number of League One and Two clubs present.

It was emphasised that since the format of the cup was changed in 2016, (whereby premier league under 21 teams joined what had always previously been a cup for the lower league teams) the prize money has increased, as every team gets a participation fee and then prize money increases the further a team progresses in the competition. Lincoln City, who won last year, have been able to build a training ground which they wouldn't have been able to do without their winners' prize money. It was also mentioned how lower league players get the chance to play against youngsters who may become stars of the future. Peter Crouch and Gareth Barry have also played for the under 21s (the under 21 teams are allowed a few older more experienced players, a fact that the fans at the forum thought rather ridiculous) and playing against players like these is supposed to give lower league players some great memories.

The league guests were asked for a show of hands as to who had attended a match involving the under 21s and only one person put their hand up. It was acknowledged that gates have dropped significantly since the format of the cup has changed but it was suggested that as the clubs get a participation fee, they are not losing out financially.

Colin Murray of Quest TV said he was in complete sympathy with how fans felt and Ian Holloway said he had first been against the new format but had now come round to it.

It was emphasised over and over again in the first half of the evening and even more so in the second when the panel changed to be Stewart Donald (owner of Sunderland Football Club), Joe Edwards (Chelsea Development Squad Manager) and Andy Amber (FA Director of Game Relations), the benefits for the youngsters of the under 21 teams from joining the competition. The Premier League squads are so large that the under 21s only played against each other before 2016. Now they get to enjoy lower league football and show themselves to the managers of those clubs, who can get an idea if they would like those players on loan.

It was agreed at the end of the evening that there will always be fans who are not happy with the format of the cup now. Shane and Clare thought the evening was geared to convincing us the decision however it felt like it was a PR exercise to justify the FA to bring on the 21s teams in the cup so weren't happy but it was a good evening with hot and cold drinks and food and lovely to see Wembley.



MEMBERSHIP

Life Membership (Total 240)

Welcome to New Life Members Victor Riley, Kay Fogg and Kevin Fogg.



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

Donald Bailey, Arthur Bentall, Darren Bentley, Ray Bentley, Luke Clarke, Alan Coleman, Rylee Doe, Scott FitzGerald, John Freemantle, Heidi Harragan, Kelvin Harragan, Mark Hitchcock, Ray Holden, Mary Kelly, Andrew Lench, William Mailes, Peter Martin, Doug McMahon, Judith McMahon, Chris Pither, James Powell, Hollie Power, Veronica Russell, David Scott and Sam Waters.

***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 ***

FUNDRAISING

100 Club

The latest winners in the scheme, pulled out of the hat during weekly draws since the last newsletter were **John Smith, Lesley Hicks, Gordon Harvey, Alec Trott, Peter Hall, Valerie Fane, Mike Smith, Philip Endell, John Cornwell, Mrs C.A. Harvey, Albert Chittock, Paul Yeomanson, John Clench and Richard Cunningham.**

Congratulations also to Robert Russell who scooped up our 100 Club Xmas Draw prize of £300.

The nature of the 100 Club means the more people that sign up, then 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 £29.50 per week at the present time.

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Quid-a-Goal

Our Quid a Goal scheme is now up and running for the 2018/19 Season.



The current total after 36 games is £1,635.00

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 2018/19, some of the 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, Ted Smith, Jack Payne, Dru Yearwood, Elvis Bowomo and Charlie Kelman 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 (15/16 League goals - 58). 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 just over £2,000 from the 60+ people that helped us. This includes support by some of the Southend United's directors.

An entry form has been included with this newsletter and they are also available from the Fundraising Page on the Trust Website or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar.

FORTHCOMING FUNDRAISERS

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 22nd January 2019
The Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall

The Shrimpers Trust will be holding their second Quiz Night of the 2018/19 Season in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall on Saturday 22nd February 2019.

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)

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RACE NIGHT

Saturday 16th March 2019
Shrimpers Bar, Southend



The Trust will be holding a Race Night on Saturday 16th March 2019 in the Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall, first Race at 7.30 pm.

With 8 Horse/Dog Races and novelty race if times allow, this is a great event for all the family, with **Cash Prizes** for each race plus chances to win **Bottles of Wine, Goodie Bags** and loads more including **Meals at the East Chinese Restaurant.**



This year as well as raising funds for the Trust 50% of the Nett Proceeds will be donated to the Carli Lansley Foundation.

On 1st June 2017 Trust Member Carli Lansley sadly passed away from Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome (SADS) at the age of just 36, leaving her husband Karl and two young children, Jessica (11) and Ethan (7).

It has naturally been a devastating time for the family but they are now trying to do something positive to make sure no other family should go through what they are going through.

Their aim is to raise sufficient funds to cover the cost of holding ECG screenings for young people (aged 14-35) in the Southend area. These screenings will enable 100 young people per day to receive a free ECG.

Admission is by Ticket and will cost just **£3.00** and can be purchased in advance from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to every Home Game or from the Events Section in the Trust's Online Shop.

For further details or to purchase tickets contact Paul Yeomanson Tel: 01702 302373 or Email: info@shrimperstrust.co.uk

The Trust would like to thank the following companies for their support:



SCC Domestic
Plumbing & Heating

T-SCAPE

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CHINESE NIGHT

Thursday 28th March 2019
East, 33 Alexandra Street, Southend.

The evening begins at 7.00pm and the cost will be £15.00 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.

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

For further details or to book a table contact Alan Perry Tel: 01702 476458 or Email: alanperry4@hotmail.com



PROGRAMME / MEMROBILIA SALE

Sunday 10th March 2019 - 09.30 - 12.00 - The Shrimpers Bar, Roots Hall



In addition to our current large stock of programmes we have received several more donations of programmes some dating back as far as 1949.

We are unable to give any further details regarding the new programmes received as they are still yet to be catalogued and added to our database.

So we will once again be opening the doors of the Shrimpers Bar to supporters/collectors on Sunday 10th March 2019 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

SHRIMPERS TRUST MERCHANDISE

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.

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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.

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 as well as the usual cash and cheque payments we can now 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/sufcofficialawaytravel  twitter.com/shrimperstrust

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

22nd January 2019