

## NEWSLETTER – Vol. 17 Iss. 02. – February 2022

### THE INTRODUCTION – Paul FitzGerald

**So much has happened to our football club since our last newsletter, I hardly know where to begin.**

A month or so, is a long time in football and that is no more apparent than at Southend, where a dramatic turnaround from probably our lowest ebb on and off the pitch, now gives fresh optimism to the Southend faithful.

The effort, enthusiasm and commitment on the pitch recently, has warmed the cockles as they may say locally, long may it continue!

The current situation on and off the pitch was one of many items discussed at the last Trust **Liaison meeting** with the football club. (Minutes available on-line)

The various communication channels that the Club has with its fans, was a key topic. The recent forum, hosted by Stan Collymore, being a welcome addition, but not a replacement, for neither the Trust Liaison, nor the Supporter group, meetings. All felt that the supporter group meetings should continue, but perhaps in a hybrid form to allow both physical and on-line attendance. Streaming also to be considered.

We also discussed our Player of the month awards which were curtailed several months back for obvious reasons, all present agreed that these would be resurrected, with the Trust once again making a donation to the charity of the winning players choice.

Further discussion at the Liaison covered our Social Inclusion scheme which appears to fit in very well with the work April Smith is doing at SUCET/SUFC.

An agreement to work closer together to utilise the Trust's Social Inclusion budget was felt the best way forward.

Recent contact with "Children in Care" and the signing of a certain "International" gave us further food for thought.

Liaison meetings are held approximately every 6 weeks and include a variety of topics, if you would like us to raise anything on your behalf, please feel free to send questions/issues to me.

The Chairman of the football club does not attend the Liaison meetings. As many of you know he has been absent recently for games. His appearance on the Zoom calls sparked very mixed emotions, particularly as the decline of the club both on and off the pitch appeared never ending and the calls themselves have ceased. The club were in a tricky position because, their attempt at transparency (2021's most over used word) coincided with a large number of fans not wanting to listen nor believe anything said and many wanting his immediate exit. A sad, but in many ways understandable situation. Ron Martin, of course still owns and funds the club (although not always in a timely fashion), however, his absence physically and the turnaround sparked by the recruitment of Tom Lawrence, Stan Collymore, John Still and Kevin Maher (with his team) seems to have appeased the protesters for now. It is obvious, however, that the situation is still somewhat fragile, as funds are still very tight at the club. It's amazing what three points on a reasonably regular basis does....

Rumours circulate that Ron is ill, he assures me he is not and in fact states "**I am in very good health**". He is also encouraged about progress being made on the new Stadium project, which

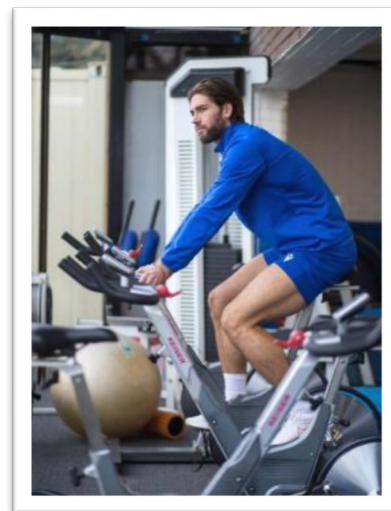
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coincides with comments from Tom Lawrence regarding detailed planning during our liaison meeting.

An “interesting” situation developed for the Trust just before the embargo was cleared. Whilst the club were trying hard to agree a “time to pay”, the hold-up was that the pattern of payments did not match HMRC’s requirements (i.e. more money required up front). The Trust offered a significant amount as a loan which would have satisfied HMRC, however, that offer was politely declined and the money found elsewhere.

It's great to see the newish videos the club are releasing - it's especially good to see that the refurbished gym is featuring in them. The Trust made a significant donation towards the refurbishment works and we are expecting some PR on that shortly.

The money involved in both cases comes from Trust Funds (membership, raffles, Quiz/Race Nights, donations, Retro Shirt sales etc etc) and anyone reading this can be rightly proud that the Shrimpers Trust and its members can make such a significant contribution and difference to the club we love.



News from our Ex-Players section (**SUEPA**) - Alan Foggon became our 353rd SUEPA signing and completes our collection of the 77/78 promotion squad. Alan played for us towards the end of a career which saw him achieve a clean sweep of the four North East power houses (including Hartlepool!), win a Fairs Cup and play for Man United plus in the US. He notched up 26 apps for us scoring just once but played his part in our Division Four promotion season including that 4-2 comeback win v Newport which will forever remain in the memories of the 5,840 at Roots Hall that evening.



On the Retro shirt front we have added the 1910/11 'Beef & Mustard' Shirt to our collection. For one season in the early days Southend United experimented with what became affectionately known as the 'beef and mustard' shirt. Form, whilst playing in it was not great though, and there was a drive to 'go back to blue' which eventually won through. We think you will all agree it is a unique top, and one to wear if you like to get noticed! You know the drill by now...head over to our website.

Our last SUEPA event was supposed to be the Friday-night'er v Grimsby on Feb 18<sup>th</sup>. It was to celebrate the 75/76 FA Cup run, with Dave Worthington, Andy Ford and Kenny Foggo joining us as guests in the Legends Lounge. Oh, those wonderful wins, in particular v Brighton and Cardiff, such great games. Of course that game was postponed....more, as soon as we know more.

In terms of fund raising, our next quiz night is sold out and we are planning a race night which we hope will be very successful as it is in conjunction with Chris Phillip’s Run Free group.

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Our Quid A goal scheme, after a somewhat shaky start, for obvious reason has improved dramatically recently – thanks to the following for their pledges

Alan Perry, Andrew Perry, Paul Yeomanson, Helen FitzGerald, Jon-Paul FitzGerald, Scarlett Hicklin, Dave Bishop, Michael Smith, Alec Trott, Shane Chapman, Clare Chapman, Peter Moorhouse, Graham Hilder, Duncan Sheekey, Ron MacKenzie, Brian Cornell, Nigel Bedford, Ken Page, Sheila White, Chris & Marion Cave, Ray Johnstone, Frank Van Wezel, Michael Markscheffel, Alan Stivey, Penny Marc & Gary Hitchman, Peter Smith, Robert Wright, Paul Bygrave, Jack Broadbent, Vic Riley, Guy Rickard, Lesley Hicks, Andrew Styles, Michelle Cousins, Brian Denton, Bob Melton, Dave Wolff, Ian Crossman, Tony Gardener, Phil Allen, Darren Assiter, Trevor Hardy & Freya Barnard.

## Social Inclusion



Our first guests of the season were the Badgers Den group from Rochford who were with us on October the 9<sup>th</sup> to watch the game against Chesterfield. The Badgers Den offer bespoke Day Opportunities for young people & Adults with learning disabilities, they specialise in Growing independence, teaching life skills, spending time with friends, socialising and accessing the community.

The day was a great success despite the result!



We took a short break after the Badgers Den visit because of the toxic atmosphere at Roots Hall

Our project was to restart in February with guests Vibrance. However, due to the postponement of the fixture they were attending, this will be re-arranged (hopefully 19<sup>th</sup> March). This wonderful group help people with extra needs, to live as normal a life as possible.

However, scheduled for the 26<sup>th</sup> February, are the **Lancaster Lions** (they are an inclusive football club for athletes with a variety of different needs. They aim to play football in a fun and enjoyable way.)

Coming soon after, will be **Little Heroes** (They are a parent lead support group for families of children who are on the autistic spectrum). They will be our guests for the game vs Dagenham and Redbridge on 12<sup>th</sup> March.

We try to make the day more than just a football match for our guests, to create a lasting impression. The groups are usually welcomed around midday and given a tour of the stadium, as well as being given the chance to meet the manager and players,



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depending on timings. There are photo opportunities throughout, and food and soft drinks are provided, along with the match day tickets, either in the stands, or in executive boxes, depending on the cause.

We hope that by offering easy access and an enjoyable environment, that we will make a real difference to a number of lives.

I'd like to re-iterate my thanks to the following for their donations, which has helped us get to this point (We'll feature more on these companies as the project progresses):

- **Karen Dovaston** of Dovaston Law, Specialist Family Law Solicitors
- **Nitin Khandhia** – for and on behalf of BTMK Solicitors
- **Ken Adamson**
- **Stuart Leslie** at Safe Fire Protection
- **Jacqui Dallimore** at the Roslin
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The Shrimpers Trust have run a Social Inclusion Project since 2019. Our aim is simply to bring people together and provide the opportunity to attend Roots Hall for those who would not ordinarily be able to do so, for whatever reason.

Since the launch, we have invited several groups to Roots Hall, which include:

- Kingsdown - the Special Educational Needs School.
- Off The Streets - the Westcliff Homeless refuge.
- The Community Coffee Club from South Woodham - they try to combat loneliness.
- R.E. House - a Resource & Enterprise centre that supports adults with learning disabilities

We are still accepting donations and if you feel you'd like to contribute, you can do so here [http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/home.asp?page\\_id=859](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/home.asp?page_id=859)

**If you would be interested in participating in the scheme or have a recommendation of a worthy cause please contact [karllansley@aol.com](mailto:karllansley@aol.com) or [jphfitz@gmail.com](mailto:jphfitz@gmail.com)**

### SHRIMPERS TRUST XMAS DRAW RESULT

The delayed Shrimpers Trust 2021 Xmas Draw took place prior to the game vs Yeovil Town on Tuesday 11th January 2022.

The winners are as follows:

	Prize	Ticket Number	Name
1st	£500.00	12469	Steve Ray
2nd	£250.00	05181	Clive Burlton
3rd	£100.00	06490	Ian Clements
4th	Meal for 2 in the Blues Lounge	05091	Vic Copping
5th	Bottle of Champagne	11894	Alan Stivey



All the winners are in the process of being notified and the Trust would like to thank all those that bought and sold tickets helping us to raise over £1,000.

## THE BIG XMAS QUIZ RESULTS

Over 150 of the 2021 Christmas Quizzes were sold.

58 entries were received by the revised closing date of which 8 were 100% correct. So well done Alistair Ambrose, Julian Ambrose, Andrew Ashenhurst, Bill Cooper, Paula Cooper, Bernardine Harker, Dave Longbottom and Tony Moul.

The draw for the 5 prizes was undertaken prior to the home game on 21st January by Matt Dennis and the prize winners are as follows:

**1st prize of £150 cash won by Bernardine Harker**

**2nd prize of 4 seats in the Centre Circle Lounge was won by Julian Ambrose**

**3rd prize of a bottle of champagne was won by Paula Cooper**

**4th prize of a signed SUFC Shirt was won by Dave Longbottom**

**5th prize of a box of sweets was won by Alistair Ambrose**

We'll be in touch with all the winners in due course to arrange for their prizes to be collected/delivered, and would like to thank everyone for supporting and entering the Quiz.

Look out for the next Big Xmas Quiz later this year.

The Trust would once again like to thank MSPFX Foreign Currency Services for their sponsorship of the quiz and Southend United FC and Alan Perry for donation of prizes.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

You may have noticed recently that the Trust have updated its social media accounts with a new theme.



This subtle, but noticeable change, has been brought to help improve engagement and hopefully appeal to more users. In a world where we all spend our nights scrolling through our phones, we understand the importance of engaging social media to keep you guys entertained and attract a new audience.

Recently, the Trust joined Instagram as we continue to modernise in this technical world! We'd appreciate it if you could give us a follow, as well as our already established accounts on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

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We are also close to reaching a milestone of 1,000 likes on Facebook so would appreciate any help in getting us there. We will also be using our accounts to advertise of our hugely successful Social Inclusion scheme, so be sure to keep an eye out as we welcome more guests to 'The Fortress' over coming months.

## MEMBERSHIP

### Life Membership (Total 279)

**Welcome to New Life Members Clare Chapman, Anthony Clarke, Edan Farmer, Ian Harrison, Peter Jacobson, David Laurie, Mike Paterson, Andrew Perry, Paul Sargeant, Daniel Saunders, Gareth Tandy and Anna Woodman.**



Life Membership of the Trust currently costs £100.00 or £70 if aged 70 or over. An email account is required for Life Membership.

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

### Welcome to New Members since the last Newsletter

**Robert Arnold, Darren Assiter, Archie Bell, Max Brown, Daniel Chester, Clare Campbell, Anthony Clarke, Hugh Coleman, Dean Curtis. Brian Denton, Rylee Doe, Chris Downes, Duncan Eastoe, Robin Eastoe, Adam Edge, Edan Farmer, Andrew Finlayson, Bharat Gandhi, Kay Gentry, Jake Guinness, Stephen Guinness, Matt Hines, Peter Jacobson, David Knibb, Thomas Lee, Tom Osbourn, Kyle Overall, Kinga Parker, Phil Parker, Miles Pettit, Colin Roberts, Paul Sargeant, Daniel Saunders, Lawrence Schooley, Matt Selfe, John Taylor, Michael Torode, Kevin Verner and Dean Woods.**

**\*\*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](mailto: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](http://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 **Andrew Haddow, Tim Roberts, Paul Richards, Jack Bond, Steve Stone, Mike Paterson, David Mason, Valerie Fane, John Clench, Albert Chittock, Tim Wilson, Mike Roles, Simon Dodd, Philip Endell, Donna Stone, Robert Askew, Martin Simper, Lorraine Posnack, Coral Perry, Richard Coxell and Andrew Leeder.**

**Congratulations also to Neil Whitehead who won £325 in the Xmas Draw.**

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](mailto:alanperry4@hotmail.com) or by calling 07901 845012.

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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 £31 per week at the present time.

## Quid-a-Goal



**The current total after the game vs Eastleigh on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February is £1,029.50**

The aim of the scheme - like most of the Shrimpers Trust's activities is to raise money for Southend United Football Club and in particular Ricky Duncan's Youth Academy helping in the progress of players such as Daniel Bentley, Jack Payne, Nathan Bishop, Elvis Bwomono, Dru Yearwood, Tom Clifford, Lewis Gard, Terrell Egbri, Harry Phillips, Charlie Kelman and Matt Rush.

### This is how it works:

Those who support the scheme with a pledge have their name displayed in the United match program.

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. 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.

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.

## SHRIMPERS TRUST MERCHANDISE

### POLO SHIRT

**The Silverswift Two Tone Polo Shirt comes in Navy Blue with a Royal Blue Insert and has the current Trust Logo embroidered on the Left Breast and our web address on the Right Hand Sleeve.**

These new Polos are available in Small to 3XL and are priced at **£23.00** and can be purchased from our online shop at [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk) or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.



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## 2021/22 SHIRT KEY RING



**This two sided football shirt key ring is in the SUFC home & away colours for the 2021/22 season with the Shrimpers Trust youth team shirt logo.**

Priced at **£1.50** the Key Ring can be purchased from our online shop at [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk) or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.



## SEASON CARD HOLDER

**Bought a Season Ticket for the new season? – Why not treat yourself to the Trust's 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 **£1.00** the Season Card Holder can be purchased from our online shop at [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk) or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.



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## 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 **£1.00** the Fridge Magnet can be purchased from our online shop at [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk) or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.

## CAR STICKER



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

Priced at **£1.00** the Car Sticker can be purchased from our online shop at [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk) or from the Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar prior to any home game.



## **BALLPOINT PEN**



**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 **£2.00** can be purchased from our online shop at [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://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](http://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 can now accept Credit/Debit Cards for all purchases including Merchandise & Memberships.



## 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.

You can also follow shrimperstrust on Instagram and you can connect with us on LinkedIn at [www.linkedin.com/company/75033660](http://www.linkedin.com/company/75033660)

**SHRIMPERS TRUST**

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**We 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.**