

INTRODUCTION

Hi everyone,

Hope you all had a great Christmas and got some great pressies! You're probably all settled back into school by now and Christmas seems a-g-e-s ago!

Loads of positivity around our football club, with Justin Rees and the other Consortium members taking more control of the club meaning Kevin Maher has been able to go out and sign some new players at long last.

So, welcome to the club **Adam Crowther**, **James Morton** and **Danny Waldron** on permanent contracts, and welcome back to **Marcus Dackers** who joins to the end of the season on loan from Salford City, and to **Henry Sandat** who signed for a month originally, which has also been extended to the end of the season, on loan from Hull City.

There's also been a flurry of new, extended contracts for favourites including **Nathan Ralph**, **Jack Bridge**, **Jason Demetriou**, **Cav Miley**, **Noor Husin**, **Oli Coker** and **Collin Andeng-Ndi** – which is great news as it will give us a strong basis for a team to move forwards with.

In this issue, we have a competition to come along to watch a training session on 22nd February, and to meet one of our ambassadors, **Jack Bridge**, and receive a certificate and a signed card on behalf of the **Junior Blues**. This is an invitation only event to all player sponsors, and as we sponsor Jack, this gives one lucky member that chance to come along with a parent/guardian.

Don't forget to share your photos if you have them taken with me at a match, they might be added to my "Wall of Fame"! Full details below:

https://www.southendunited.co.uk/fans/sammy-the-shrimp

Hope to see you soon, Sammy

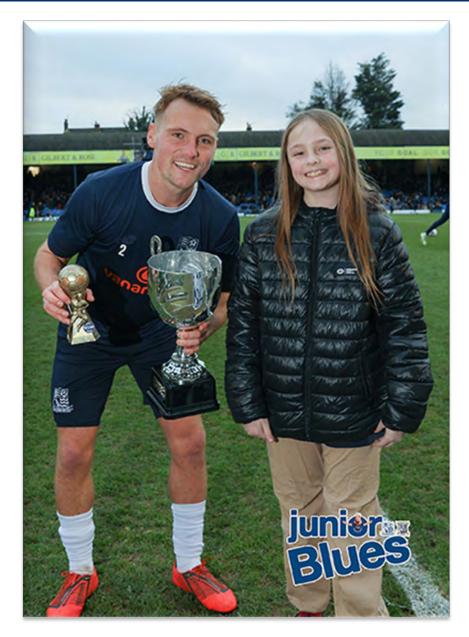




Junior Blues c/o The Shrimpers Trust PO Box 5830, Southend on Sea SS1 9FD Email: juniors @shrimperstrust.co.uk Website: www.southendunited.co.uk/juniorblues



PLAYER OF THE MONTH

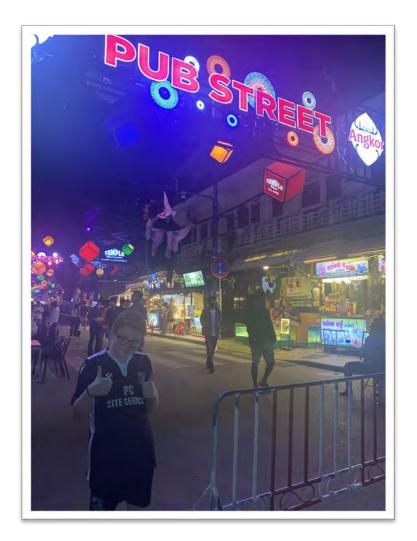


Due to bad weather and a number of match postponements, we've only had one Player of the Month presentation since our last newsletter.

The Shrimpers Trust November **Player of the Month** award was won by the ever popular and always smiling **Gus Scott-Morriss** and he was presented with his award by **Junior Blues** member, **Skyrah Thomas.**

HOLIDAY PHOTOS

It's always great to see our **Junior Blues** members proudly wearing our colours while off on their holidays, and here is young **Junior Blues** member, **Elliot Baker**, wearing his while on holiday in Cambodia last year:



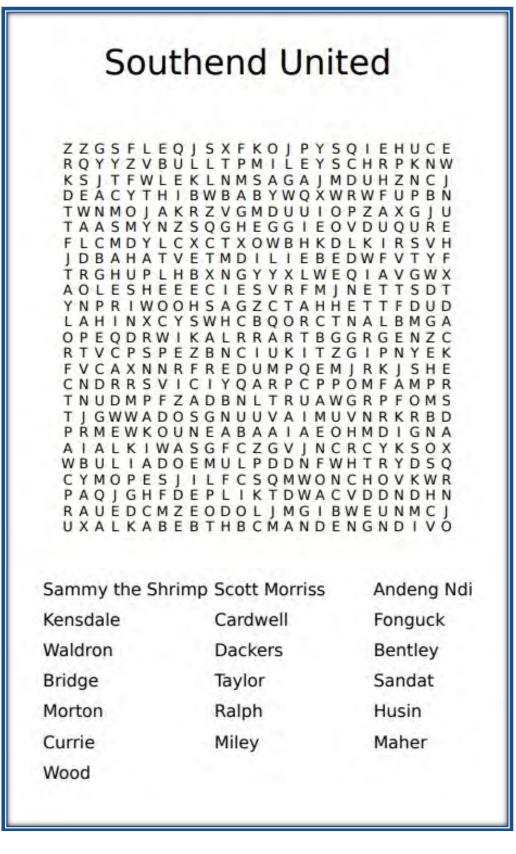
COMPETITION – JUNIOR PLAYER SPONSOR – JACK BRIDGE

An "invitation only" exclusive training session for player sponsors, will be held at Roots Hall Stadium on Thursday 22nd February 2024. Doors will open at 10am, and the Club envisages the event being finished by 12.30pm. There will be the opportunity for you to purchase food and drink at the stadium.

We are pleased to offer the place for **Jack Bridge**'s Junior Sponsor to a competition winner from among our members. The winner will also receive a signed card and certificate.

There is one place for a Junior Blue and one for a parent/guardian on offer as the winner must be accompanied by an adult.

Simply complete the wordsearch and scan it back in to us at juniors@shrimperstrust.co.uk to be received no later than 14th February. The winner will be drawn from all correct entries and contacted.



Your name:

Your contact mobile number:

JUNIOR BLUES GOODIES SALE

We're pleased to offer you the chance to buy some of our former join up gifts that we still have some stock of. These can be bought via the Shrimpers Trust shop on the Trust website using the following link <u>https://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/product-category/junior-blues/</u> or from the Shrimpers Bar, by ordering in advance for collection.

These will also be on sale at the upcoming programme, memorabilia and clothing sale which the Shrimpers Trust is hosting in February, please keep an eye on our social media for confirmation of when this will be taking place.



Money box – a blue (what else would you expect?!) piggy bank ideal for saving towards that Southend United merchandise you really want to buy yourself!

Priced at just £2.00 plus packing & postage.

Lunch bag – a cool navy lunch bag with cool insulated lining, perfect for school or days out.

Priced at just £3.00 plus packing & postage.





Pop Socket – perfect for putting on your mobile phone.

Priced at just £1.00 plus packing & postage.

Junior Blues scarf - to match your great, new beanie hat!

Priced at just £5.00 plus packing & postage.



TRAVEL



Book a place by visiting the Trust website at <u>www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/travel.asp</u> or call **Lesley Hicks** on 07892 905338.

Online bookings now require payment to be made at the time of booking.

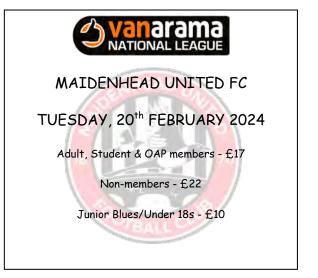
This season, **Junior Blues** will once again be entitled to one free travel per season to a league game of their choice, on the official travel coaches organised by the Shrimpers Trust, as long as they are with an accompanying adult and travel for the fantastic bargain price of just £10 at other times!

*All under 18s must be accompanied.

A full set of Away Travel Terms and Conditions can be found at <u>www.shrimperstrust.co.uk</u>

Next matches:





TOP TRAVELLER

Every year we run a competition for the Junior Blues to see who travels the furthest with the Shrimpers Trust, with an exclusive prize at the end of the season for the one with the highest miles tally.

Top traveller results so far are as follows, up to and including the match at Chesterfield on 27th January:

1 st place	Evie Mae Oliver, who has travelled 2,186 miles
2 nd place	Lucas Monk, 1,078 miles
3 rd place	Maisy Gowans, 396 miles
4 th place	Fred Hutchins,346 miles
5 th place	Jake Wilson, 266 miles

So well done to Evie Mae, who still leads the way. Can anyone catch her now?

SOCIAL MEDIA

You can follow the Junior Blues on social media, with dedicated platforms on Facebook, X *(formerly known as Twitter)* and Instagram.

This is the best place for up to date news..... for announcements of events and whether we are looking for flag bearers so PLEASE make sure you or your parents/carers are following us! We also post pictures of our flag bearers here in reasonably quick time – sometimes even LIVE!

You (or your parents/carers) can find us and give us a follow here, it's where information can be found quickly about events, flag bearers etc:



https://www.facebook.com/thejuniorblues

https://www.instagram.com/thejuniorblues

https://twitter.com/JuniorBlues2

BIRTHDAYS

SENDING BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR JUNIOR BLUES WHO HAVE HAD BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY AND WHO HAVE THEM COMING UP IN FEBRUARY:

16 – Noah Hammond; Isabelle Jarentowski; Alan Kirkland; Ellis Lowe; Liam Radley; William Stearman; Isaac Waters & Ben Wing

15 – Jack Hilson & Oliver Redgrave

14 – Erin Radley; Oliver Soussana; Luke Tiller; Ethan Williams & Jake Williams

13 – Ryan Dodd; Alf Gibbons; Arben Gjolena; Grace Murdoch & Alfie Smith

12 – George Assiter; Jacob Clarke & Callum Evestaff

11 – Freddie Collins

10 – Charlie Beavon; Chloe Dixon; Tommy Furnival; Alfred Hutchins; Lily MacDonald; Poppy MacDonald; Ralph Osborne & Hayden Roche

9 – Thomas Bacon; Teddy Baker & Elsie Young

8 – Rose Dougall; Stanley Dougall; Eddie Goddard; Sam Whiteley & Jake Wilson

7 – Arthur Bailey; Faith Cox & Oliver Ingram-Palmer

6 – Teddy Richards

5 – Joshua Aldridge

4 – Jack Edwards; Mia Nye & Max Forsyth

And, finally, a big welcome to the Junior Blues family to Edward Johnson who was born on 3rd December and to Isabella Martin who was born on 3rd January!

