

Junior Blues

NEWSLETTER – Issue 0011 – August 2024

INTRODUCTION

Hi everyone,

HAPPY SUMMER HOLIDAYS! 🌞

I hope you are all having a great time these holidays and looking forward to the new season..... under new ownership!

We have to say a huge “thank you” to Justin Rees, and the rest of the Consortium who took over control of Southend United Football Club, finally, on 19th July. A new era is ahead – one full of hope and excitement and I hope you are all as excited as I am!

Sadly, as we do every season, we have to say goodbye to some of our players, and this end of season has seen loanees **Henry Sandat** and **Marcus Dackers** both return to their parent clubs. We have also been sad to see **Wes Fonguck** move on to Ebbsfleet and **Dave Martin** to a GK coaching role at Ipswich Town.

Saddest of all for our **Junior Blues** members though, was one of our JB Ambassadors, **Callum Powell**, who has moved to Braintree. We thank Callum for his involvement over the past two years and look forward to seeing him when we match up against Braintree later in the season.

As some leave though, inevitably, some join, and we’re delighted to welcome a trio of new signings – striker, **Josh Walker**, from L1 Burton Albion (last on loan at Gillingham), right back **George Wind**, from Billericay Town, and, lastly, a return for defender, **Joe Gubbins**, from QPR, who was with us briefly in 2022.

Finally, I am delighted to announce that **Oli Coker** has agreed to take over from Callum as one of our JB Ambassadors, alongside **Jack Bridge**.

Hope to see you soon,
Sammy



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**SHRIMPERS
TRUST**

WELCOME TO.....



Josh Walker

Aged 26, striker, with 64 goals to his name in all competitions. Youth player at Spurs and Fulham. Spells in the National League with Barnet and Dagenham & Redbridge, in L1 with Burton Albion, and most recently, on loan with Gillingham in L2.



Joe Gubbins

Aged 22, central defender. Youth player at Southampton and Queens Park Rangers, where he made 2 appearances. Spells out on loan from QPR at Oxford City, Aldershot, Southend in the NL and at Accrington in L2 last season.



George Wind

Aged 21, right back. Originally at Bowers & Pitsea before joining Billericay Town, where he was the players' Player of the Year, last season.

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NEW KIT

The new kit for 2024/25 was launched in an outstanding video, starring Harry Cardwell, Jack Bridge and featuring Nathan Ralph, in conjunction with our new front of shirt sponsors, C2C. It can be seen in the link below.

The home shirt features yellow collar and stripes, with matching blue shorts and white socks, while we wear a red away shirt for the first time in many years, with blue collar and stripes, red shorts and red socks.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=beAgrNOARMU>

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AWAY TRAVEL



Book a place by visiting the Trust website at www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/travel.asp 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. They **MUST BE** with an accompanying adult, and may 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 www.shrimperstrust.co.uk

First two away matches of the season are as follows:



HARTLEPOOL UTD FC
SATURDAY, 17TH AUGUST 2024
Adult, Student & OAP members - £40
Non-members - £45
Junior Blues/Under 18s - £10



BARNET FC
SATURDAY, 24TH AUGUST 2024
Adult, Student & OAP members - £17
Non-members - £22
Junior Blues/Under 18s - £10

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. There will be a new winner this year as Evie-May Oliver, who has won for the last two years, is now too old to continue as a Junior Blue. Well done to Evie-May on her achievements.

SUMMER FUN



Junior Blues members, **Ella** and **Mia Nye** got themselves on Sky Sports News during the Euros, when an appeal went out for fans' photos of where they were watching matches, and their Mum sent this pic in then screenshot it!

Here's **Junior Blues** member, **Elsie Young**, who has spent time this holiday making this flag with her Lithuanian Nan – great work, Elsie!



And **Junior Blues** member, **Lucas Monk**, who was one of the first to get his hands on the new home shirt on launch day!

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

We'd like to point out that your Junior Blues membership does not run by season, so it is not necessarily due for renewal right now. If you would like us to check when your membership runs out, then please drop us a quick email to juniors@shrimperstrust.co.uk and we'll get back to you as soon as possible.

Membership can be renewed at any time during the season, so, if you want to take advantage of the free sign up gift and the free coach travel to any one away game on a Shrimpers Trust coach as early as possible, then you can renew by doing so on the Shrimpers Trust website by following the link below:

<https://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/junior-blues/junior-blues-join-here/>

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://twitter.com/JuniorBlues2>

<https://twitter.com/JuniorBlues2>

BIRTHDAYS

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

16 – Louis Campbell; Ellis Cross; Harrison Doherty; Toby Joscelyn & Chloe Wilkins

15 – Lewis Buffin; Oliver Jeeves & Charley Stephenson

14 – Owen Harrington; Fynn Parks; Steve Smith & Fred Traylor

13 – Oliver Duckworth; Arthur Higgins; Olivia Locke; Jamie Moss-Terry & James Phillips

12 – Olivia Beggs; Frankie Bullen; Cruz Guzowski & Elliot Perrins

11 – Finley Barrell; Riley Bryant & Laura Walton

10 – Joseph Bushell; Finley George; Leo Jessop; Beau Lambert & Jensen Stoffell

9 – Kyan Brookes; Vinnie Lewis; Phoebe Lowry; George Marling; Jonah Mulcahy & Oliver Rix

8 – Emily Clayton; George Ebner; Harley Hill; Edward Hutchings; Isla Meredith; Isabelle-Rose Wakeling & Billy Wilkins

7 – Noah Locke; Daisy Maguire; Sylvie McEvoy & Teddy Tremain

6 – Harry Blenes

4 – Rupert Redbourn

3 – Daisy Johnson; Ava Warren & Freddie Wood

And finally, Charlie Carter & James Edwards who both celebrate their 1st birthday!

