

SHRIMPERS TRUST

SOCIAL INCLUSION REPORT 23/24 AND OUR HOPES FOR 2024/2025



- **TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO LIVE FOOTBALL AT ROOTS HALL, FOR THOSE WHO, ORDINARILY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND, FOR WHATEVER REASON**
- **TO CREATE A LASTING IMPRESSION**
- **TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER THROUGH THE POWER OF LIVE FOOTBALL**
- **TO CREATE MEMORIES AND TO CREATE AN OPPORTUNITY TO UNLOCK MEMORIES**

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

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



SHRIMPERS TRUST

HELP US REACH OUR 24/25 TARGET

£5000 WILL HELP US:

- HOST A GUEST FOR EVERY SINGLE HOME GAME OF THE 24/25 SEASON
- PROVIDE MEMORABLE MOMENTS FOR SHRIMPERS OLD AND NEW

DONATE TODAY

NO DONATION TOO SMALL, ALL MONIES RECEIVED TOWARDS THE SOCIAL INCLUSION WORK WE DO.

[HTTPS://WWW.SHRIMPERSTRUST.CO.UK/SOCIAL-INCLUSION/](https://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk/social-inclusion/)



SHRIMPERS TRUST

23-24 SEASON VISITS TO ROOTS HALL



SUFC V BOREHAM WOOD (4-2)

GUESTS: ERNIE CRUMP & PATRICK PENNEFATHER-EVANS

SHRIMPERS TRUST
SOCIAL INCLUSION REPORT 23/24

On 1st April we had arranged for **Ernie Crump** and **Patrick Pennefather-Evans** to attend as part of our community and inclusion project. Both gentlemen wanted to be able to see their beloved Southend United play at Roots Hall again.



Patrick, aged 80, posted his wish in a local supermarket, to be able to go to Roots Hall to watch Southend United, a club he has followed his entire life. He listens, with his wife Jenny, to every game on the radio, from his care home in Maldon. A huge smile fills his face when we score, just like the one in the picture here, when Jack Bridge scored away to Chesterfield.

Sadly, Patrick was too unwell on the day, but fortunately, we were able to fill the available spaces at short notice with members of Ernie's family - four generations in one box no less!

Ernie, aged 100, was a keen player, as well as devout fan, and had try-outs himself for Southend United in his youth, as well as playing for Great Wakering.

However, sadly, as war broke, Ernie made his way to fight for his country.

His daughter Jo, who follows in her dad's footsteps as a Southend fan, wanted to do something particularly special for her dad and so the Trust stepped in to help make this possible.

Although it was disappointing that Patrick was unwell (we'll be trying again with him) it was clear Ernie and his family had a fantastic day, all the more poignant maybe as Ernie passed away recently.

How gratifying it is, to have been able to grant him this wish.



SUFC V WOKING (0-0)

GUESTS: ST CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

Our guests on the 23rd March vs Woking were from the **St Christopher's School** in Leigh on Sea.

The group had a lovely day, the only disappointment being no goals!

Andy Stokes who was leading the group sent me the following;

"Thank you to Southend United Football Club for accommodating some of our pupils from The St Christopher School. Our school caters for pupils who have a diagnosis of Autism and complex needs, many of whom have never been to a football match before. They are extremely excited to be given this opportunity and appreciate being welcomed by the club to experience this match. Come on you Blues!"



SUFC V ALDERSHOT (4-1)

GUESTS: MILTON HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

SHRIMPERS TRUST
SOCIAL INCLUSION REPORT 23/24

On 24th February vs Aldershot we welcomed guests from **Milton Hall Primary School** in Westcliff. The school covers an area of some diversity in our city and not only had many of these youngsters not been to a football game before, but neither had some of the parents.

Andy Douglas, the Head Teacher commented:

“Milton Hall and its children are delighted to be included in Southend United’s offer of tickets for some of our children to attend this home game today against Aldershot. Thank you to Shrimpers Trust for organising this event for the children. The children are very excited and grateful for the opportunity to attend and offer some additional support to the team...”



***..As a school, we have benefited from a number of the projects Southend United Football Club offer and we are grateful to them for supporting the school and the wider community. Long may it continue!
We wish them well in the match today! Here’s for a big win!”***

...and a big win it was!

On 6th January vs Halifax we gave a very warm welcome to **Little Heroes**.

Little Heroes is a small charity support group for parents and family of children with a diagnosis, or potential diagnosis of ASD. They provide activity sessions for the families supported during school holidays and at festive periods. The group was originally set up by Helen Smith-Vicary, ASD Specialist Portage Home Visitor and Kim Drake, whose son Alfie was diagnosed with autism back in 2011 when he was just 3 years old.

Little Heroes ASD Support Group began as a coffee morning at a local children's centre early October 2012. You do not require an official diagnosis to attend their sessions. They offer a safe place for parents and carers to chat with other like minded people, in a non-judgemental environment.

Other regular sessions include Dad's Club, Girl's Club, Youth Club, Home Ed Sessions, After School Club and Evening Parent/Carer Creative sessions.

Feedback from the Group leader confirmed our hopes for the day!



"Really well laid on, everything worked out well and just flowed nicely, everyone was really friendly and helpful. Had a fantastic time. Thank you."

SUFC V BROMLEY (1-2)

GUESTS: RAYLEIGH REBELS FOOTBALL CLUB

On 16th December vs Bromley (1-2) we welcomed guests from **Rayleigh Rebels Football Club**. Rayleigh Rebels is an all-inclusive community club for those with and without special educational needs (SENs) and additional needs.

The club was set up in 2018 as a youth project to provide free football sessions for boys and girls. It was decided that sessions would be free so that every child had the opportunity to play football whilst also feeling a part of a team without judgement. As the team grew, they were approached by parents who found there was a lack of teams able to cater for those with SENs and additional needs.

Those parents felt mainstream teams lacked the knowledge and understanding of SENs and additional needs. The club caters for boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 16-years-old and currently has three teams: two in Rayleigh and one in Great Wakering. The Rayleigh Rebels Inclusive Community Football Club can be contacted via email at RayleighRebelsFC@hotmail.com.



SUFC V BROMLEY (1-2)

GUESTS: JAMES WALKER AND FAMILY

On the same day we were also delighted to welcome our former player, **James Walker**, and his family. James played for us between 2008 and 2010 and, as most of you are now aware, he suffered a cardiac arrest back in 2019 which left him with severe health issues.



Back in May, our Ex-Players Association, SUEPA, ran a legends' benefit match for James, which raised over £21,000 to help buy badly-needed additional therapy sessions. We have since been in regular contact with James and are pleased to learn that he has been making steady progress. The Walkers had a fantastic day with us. A real bonus was meeting up with James's long-time pal Myles Weston, who had just signed for Bromley. We couldn't quite persuade James to venture too far on to the pitch before kick-off, but he got a great reception from the Roots Hall faithful, and he and his family all had a top day.

SUFC V AFC FLYDE (1-2)

GUESTS: LANCASTER LIONS

Our guests on 23rd September vs AFC Flyde were the **Lancaster Lions**

Lancaster Lions FC is an inclusive football club for athletes with a variety of different needs. They aim to play football in a fun and enjoyable way.



Lancaster Lions FC currently runs two different ability-based sessions involving a warm-up, skills and drills and then implementing these into a gameplay scenario. The Lions train at Lancaster School every Saturday at the following times:

08.45-09.45- Fundamentals (suited to players who just want to try football and play with their friends)

10.00-11.00- Advanced (suited to players who want to play competitively and have a good knowledge of football)."



If you are interested in attending a training session or getting more information, please email the manager Simon:

sbest@lancaster.southend.sch.uk

SUFC V OLDHAM (4-0)

GUESTS: LEE CLARK AND FARKE KNIGHT RISES

Our first guests of the season were Lee Clark and his **Farke Knight Rises**, Lee is a serial fund raiser and his team provided the opposition in our Match for James which raised so much money for James Walker's rehabilitation. Lee said about the Farke Knight Rises:

"We were formed in 2019 to use football to make a difference in our community and wider. We were so happy to be involved with the James Walker game and have made friends for life. If you would like to play us, please get in touch across our social media platforms."



We'd like to thank Lee and his team mates very much for their efforts generally and specifically for their tremendous support with the James Walker Fund Raiser

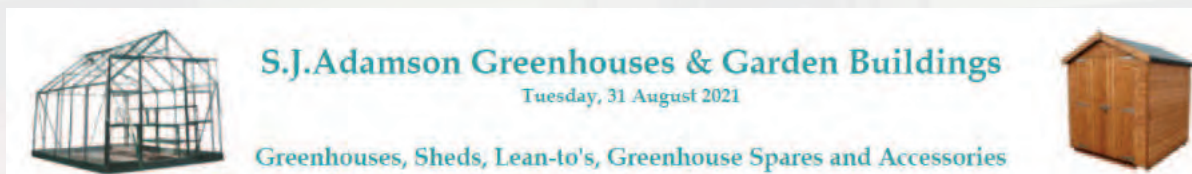
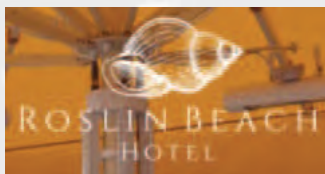


THANK YOU

These visits would not be possible if it were not for the work that goes on behind the scenes by Trust volunteers, especially **Karl Lansley & Michelle Gargate**

Club personnel **April Smith, Rylee Doe, Kevin Maher** and several of the players

To our kind sponsors:



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 Beach Hotel

Also, thanks to the following individuals for their donations - take a bow all, together we have made a difference:

Philip Hood, Wayne Hickey, Karl Ramsey, David Cousins, Lew Carey, Luke Dennis, Mark Austin, Ewan Brown, Andrew Leeder, David Laurie, Tony Bridge, Stephen Cowdrey, Geoff Creswell, Austin Wilks, Andrew Polkinghorn & Jason Rodwell.

If you would be interested in participating in the scheme or have a recommendation of a worthy cause please contact karllansley@aol.com, jphfitz@gmail.com, michelle.gargate@icloud.com and chairman@shrimperstrust.co.uk



In Memory of Alan Stivey

A donation of £1,000 was received from the estate of Alan Stivey

Alan had been a Member of the Trust since 2002, and was very active, attending several of our events, including our AGMs. He was also a supporter of our fundraising events, including our 100 Club, Quid A Goal Scheme and our various draws & raffles.

We are very grateful to **Alan** and agreed with his daughters, **Karen** and **Jacqui** that we would use this bequest for our Community and Inclusion Projects.



In Memory of Ernie Crump

James Joscelyn presented a cheque to the Shrimpers Trust for £365, money of which was raised by those attending the funeral of his grandad **Ernie Crump** to help others benefit from the social inclusion scheme.

Ernie was a life long blues fan and we had the opportunity to treat Ernie and his family to a day at Roots Hall before he sadly passed away.

RIP Ernie and thank you for this amazing gesture