

FRIENDS OF COLERAINE FC BULLETIN

EDITION 2 - MAY 2026

HELLO FRIENDS

A great deal has happened since our first Friends Bulletin back in April 2026. In this second edition we'll bring you right up to date and have a look ahead at what happens next for FCFC.

CELEBRATION

The dreams we all have for Coleraine Football Club have started to come true! Bringing the Irish Cup back to the North Coast, a place in Europe, and pushing the Gibson Cup winners to the final day, have certainly laid down the gauntlet for the 2026/27 season. Huge credit to the players, coaching staff and management team for making 2025/26 such a memorable season for Friends and all Bannsidiers.

We were delighted to be joined by Matthew Shevlin at our table for the End of Season Awards event on 26th April. Mechelle Leeming (FCFC Committee) presented Joel Cooper with the Players' Player of the Year Award, sponsored by Friends.



(L to R: Ronnie Hogg, Daryl Cauley, Mark Docherty, Dessie Cox, Norman Calvin, Alan Harrigan, Matthew Shevlin, Mechelle Leeming, Joel Cooper)

Since our April Bulletin Friends Committee has been working hard on refining our draft Constitution and on developing our Core Values, our High-Level Goals and the Strategies and Action Plans to support these goals over the next 3 years. We've also had further conversations with our friends at the Harry Gregg Foundation and Coleraine FC

DRAFT CONSTITUTION

Today we are also separately emailing you a copy of our Draft Constitution for consultation. We are seeking your feedback and questions before an Extraordinary General Meeting of members on Thursday 25th June. Please **SAVE THE DATE**, look out for the email to follow, and respond as requested prior to the EGM.

CORE VALUES

We have developed four Core Values to support the Purpose Statement we shared in our first Friends Bulletin. They are:



1. Respect

We believe sport is for everyone. We create opportunities that are inclusive, accessible, welcoming and meaningful for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. We achieve more together.

2. Community

We are rooted in our community and driven passionately by its needs, using the power of sport to strengthen connections, pride and belonging. We are inspired by a shared love of sport and our local professional football club, bringing energy, commitment and pride to everything we do.

3. Integrity

We act with honesty, professionalism, transparency and accountability, ensuring trust in how we serve our beneficiaries, partners and community.

4. Positive Impact

We create pathways for people to develop skills, confidence and wellbeing through sport - on and off the field. We focus on making a real difference - improving lives through measurable, meaningful outcomes and long-term change.

HIGH-LEVEL GOALS

Friends' Purpose and Core Values are supported and underpinned by our goals. In formulating our four high-level 3-year goals, Friends Committee is mindful both of its rich history and of the climate of change and celebration unfolding among the footballing community on the North Coast.

Friends wishes to preserve our history, and to contribute positively and collaboratively to the changes and celebrations, in equal measure.

From 2026-2029 Friends' four high-level goals are focused on the following areas:

1. People

To identify and address skills gaps within the Friends' management team with appropriate training and succession planning completed by the end of Year 1.

2. Finance

To at least double current annual revenues, year on year, by creating a sustainable and diverse income pipeline by the end of Year 3.

3. Operational

To deliver a minimum of three projects, at least one in each of the next three years.

4. Community

To build a minimum of three new partnerships and, through them, demonstrate a tangible, measurable benefit among the beneficiaries.

We are excited to have commenced the work to deliver on all four goals. We will share more details with you at our EGM on 25th June and in future Bulletins. We look forward to the continued support of all Friends members as we bring our more detailed plans to fruition.

UPDATE ON KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Our conversations with the Trustees of the Harry Gregg Foundation and with representatives from Coleraine FC are continuing. These discussions will continue over the summer months as we move ever closer towards creating collaborative relationships with both organisations. The outlook is highly positive and centres around how we can all best work together, for the greater good of the club and the community in the long-term, and to make CFC's centenary celebrations truly memorable.

MISSING MEMBERS

Part of the ongoing work to achieve our goals involves the creation of a new Friends' Membership Scheme, building on the loyal core membership we already enjoy. Details of the new scheme will be announced early next season, as we prepare to play our part in supporting the Club's centenary celebrations.

Preparations involve ensuring that our current Membership database is up to date, as new members continue to join. If you have received a copy of this Friends Bulletin and believe you are no longer a member please contact secretary@friendsofcolerainefc.org

We also have a number of members for whom we do not appear to have an email address or a contact number. If you become aware of anyone who believes they should have received this Bulletin we would be grateful if you could ask them to share their contact details with secretary@friendsofcolerainefc.org

MEMBERSHIP

Membership under the current membership arrangements remains open until details of the new Membership Scheme are announced in the Autumn. We have attached a copy of the current membership form and FAQs sheet should you be aware of anyone interested in joining Friends in the meantime.

**AND FINALLY
TO EVERYONE AT CFC**



**MORE OF THE SAME
IN 2026/27 PLEASE!**



**“SUPPORTING AND ENHANCING OPPORTUNITIES
FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY THROUGH SPORT”**