



FRIENDS OF COLERAINE FC BULLETIN

EDITION 4 – OCTOBER 2026

www.friendsofcolerainefc.org

HELLO FRIENDS

There's lots to report in this edition of Friends Bulletin as we approach a very busy Autumn period.

Our Membership continues to grow, underpinning our aspiration to become the biggest, strongest, most impactful fan-led movement in local football.

Since the last edition you may have noticed: some very special presentations to the Club in recent weeks; some teaser posters about our FAB FANS event on 10th October; and the re-emergence of some online activities on our Friends of Coleraine FC Facebook page – in particular on the evenings before our home matches.

As members we all have a chance to win in the exclusive members' draw so do tune in at 7pm on Matchday Evenings!

Expect more news in the months to come as we continue to forge new collaborative relationships with Coleraine FC and the Harry Gregg Foundation.

We are looking forward to sponsoring the home match this weekend against Cliftonville and to seeing as many of you as possible at the FAB FANS event we are hosting upstairs in the social club afterwards. Keep an eye on social media this week for some familiar faces.

C'mon the Bannsidiers!

Peter Morrow (Chair, Friends of Coleraine FC)

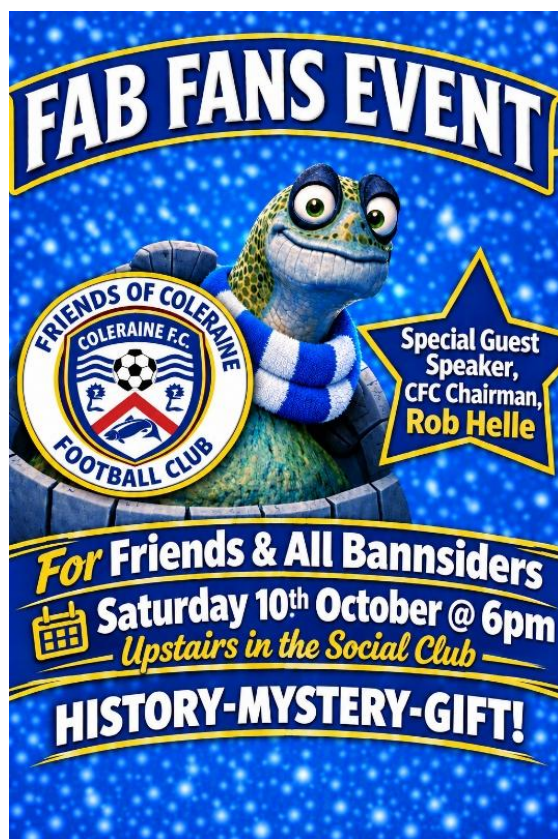
“AND IF YOU'RE IN THE HISTORY ...”

The history of Friends of Coleraine FC is a story etched in cheers, fears, tears and triumphs.

From the genesis of the “Friends” concept in 2003/2004 - to save the Club from financial extinction – ownership of the Club from 2006 - through to the current day, founder and current members have been sharing their recollections of how we evolved as an organisation, supported the Club for over 20 years, and are now looking forward to a new chapter for Friends and All Bannsidars.

As part of our support for the Club’s centenary celebrations, we are now working on creating a full historical record of the period from Friends’ creation through to our sale of the Club in 2024. Watch this space for further updates but meantime you can get a taster of what’s to come from Hunter McClelland at

OUR “FAB FANS” EVENT ON SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER @ 6PM



We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us upstairs in the Social Club for this special event after the Cliftonville match on Saturday. Watch out on the Friends of Coleraine FC Facebook page this week for further details.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Thanks to the continued support of our members, Friends recently made two very special presentations to the Club:

- A donation of £30K towards the stadium improvements project on the south side stand area – the impact of this is already visible and being enjoyed by all who view the match from our traditional home terraces.

- A donation of three seating units to act as a catalyst for our amazing new Fanzone behind the Railway End – if you haven't visited the Fanzone yet, pop round on a matchday, meet old friends, and soak up some of the atmosphere!



Coleraine FC CEO, Dale Pryde MacDonald, receives a Friends' donation of £30K



Coleraine FC CEO, Dale Pryde MacDonald, receives a Friends' donation for the new Fanzone

Friends have also made recent donations of over £1400 to support the development of the CFC goalkeeping department across all age groups at the Club.

FRIENDS EGM – DIARY UPDATE – Wednesday 28th October @ 7:30pm @ Social Club

In our last Bulletin we announced that a Friends Annual General Meeting would be held on Wednesday 28th October in the Social Club.

This meeting will now take the form of an **Extraordinary General Meeting** with the Annual General Meeting to follow in late November/early December. We will advise on a date for the Annual General Meeting as soon as possible.

The EGM is necessary to ensure that we follow a carefully determined series of steps in the legal process for transition to a charitable model at the subsequent AGM.

We will write to all members again in advance of 28th October to share the relevant documentation and a final draft of our new constitution.

This meeting (and the AGM) will herald key moments in our transition towards a charitable model for the organisation so please save the date.

COMMITTEE INCOMINGS AND OUTGOINGS

Friends Committee would like to place on record our thanks to two Committee members who have stood down recently.

Simon Archibald and Neil Leeming have been dedicated servants and supporters to the organisation throughout our period of change and transition, bringing valuable insight and sound judgement to our new direction of travel. We are grateful to both Simon and Neill for their contributions and for their continued support and enthusiasm – albeit from a distance.

We are delighted to announce that Melody Hogg, a longstanding Bannsider and servant of the Club, has recently joined Friends Committee. Melody will help to strengthen our administrative function going forward, including a new role as Membership Secretary, as we continue the busy period of transition towards charitable status.

MEMBERSHIP DATABASE UPDATE AND ANNUAL FEES

We are in the process of updating our membership database for the 2026/27 season in preparation for migration to a new member management system.

We would remind all recipients of Friends Bulletin that, to continue to qualify as a paid-up Friends member, a payment of the minimum annual fee (£60) or standing order/direct debit (£5 per month) must be received by 31st May 2027.

We would ask all Friends Bulletin recipients to help us with our database update by letting us know now of any change to your membership status by emailing us at:

info@friendsofcolerainefc.org

AND FINALLY ...

For those of you who enter the stadium via the Railway End turnstiles, you'll hardly have missed a "new" Friends presence at the entrance to the Fanzone!



Thanks to Chris Gray and Daryl Archer for rescuing and updating this wonderful piece of Friends history from its former position inside the ground.

Friends' membership numbers continue to grow rapidly as we launch a major recruitment drive starting at the FAB FANS event on 10th October.

Why not bring the signage to the attention of a fellow fan – and grab a beverage or a burger with them in the Fanzone!

We are All Friends and All Bannsidars!

C'mon the Bannsidars!



"Supporting and Enhancing Opportunities for the Local Community Through Sport"