



Carlisle and Cumbria United Independent Supporters Trust



Carlisle United Official Supporters Club

A Message from the CCUIST Chair

Dear Supporters

TWO years ago Carlisle and its football club were a national laughing stock - CCUIST was established, the previous owner quoted as saying that the Cumbrians did not deserve a football club and that he would see the number of fans on the terraces reduce to one before he would let CCUIST be involved in the Club. The club came to close to going out of existence. His rallying cry was 'Kill CCUIST not the Club'. Some 11 people answered his call and several thousand ours. Cumbrians made it clear that they would no longer put their money into the bottomless pit which Carlisle United had become. It was inevitable that the Club would change hands. Threats flew. CCUIST, the ordinary supporters, did not waver. The ownership changed.



The Club has a new owner. The Supporters now effectively own 20% of Carlisle United. We have an elected member on its board. All of the pieces for the jigsaw which constitutes a successful modern League Club are now in place. A vibrant and active supporters club doing what Supporters' Clubs do in other league clubs - and a bit more! A squad of players and a manager raring to go. CCUIST, the Supporters Trust which now has the opportunity of progressively acquiring 49% of the shares whilst the current owner is in place and a controlling interest when he leaves.

That was the easy bit. We have the opportunity to pass on ownership of Carlisle United to the generations of Cumbrians who follow us so that they will never have to go through what we have over the last few years. Every penny to CCUIST is vital. If you can afford only the £5 p.a. membership fee that's great. If you can manage a £5,000 sponsorship that's great - or anything in between. All of the Share Fund money goes into the Club, and - not into anyone's pocket.

We concluded the Share deal in May 2003. We needed £400,000 to pay for the first 20%. Impossible? Within two months we have already paid in excess of £115,000 into the Club and we already have a further £70,000 in cash and pledges - £185,000 in two months. Not a bad start. It CAN be done and we've shown that, the ordinary supporters, keep it up!

Alan Steel

*Chair
CCUIST*

A Message from the CUOSC Chair

Dear Supporters

LAST season was eventful in many ways, not least of all as the start of another era in the life of our club. 100 years ago a group of gentlemen met in Caldewgate to discuss the formation of Carlisle United as a Football League Club. Almost 12 months ago we came close to losing that status. With our future secure it's now up to us. Very easy to support the successful; it's much harder to support a team when times are hard. Without doubt there have been hard times but hopefully the pain of those years will fade and be confined to our history.



Your Supporters' Club is here for you, we support the supporter. In the first year of Carlisle United Official Supporters' Club we have tried to include adult and junior supporters in all activities we have organised either in conjunction with or on behalf of the club. The next season we hope to do more of the same.

Funds raised by CUOSC are available to the Football Club for specifically named ventures. You can see already where some of this money has been spent - ground covers, which saved the home leg against Shrewsbury in the LDV Vans Trophy. The installation of audio and visual equipment in the newly refurbished Sunset Suite (well worth a visit and will be open from the first home game of the season). Player sponsorship and once again, sponsorship of the last home game of this season.

We are to hold our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 4 September prior to a Forum. If you wish to ask any questions of any member of the committee, or seek election to that committee please don't hesitate to ask for information from any of the ticket offices, but be warned you will have to work.

This newsletter and the ones to follow will keep you up-to-date with the activities of CUOSC. Support us and help us support the Club.

Kate Rowley

*Chair
CUOSC*

CCUIST Update

IT'S BEEN a very hectic year for CCUIST with the successful conclusion to negotiations with John Courtenay and Carlisle United FC in March culminating in the purchase of 20 per cent of the football club through the issue of a new shares in the club's holding company, CUFC Holdings.

It's fair to say that not too many foresaw such a fantastic achievement back in May 2001 when CCUIST launched in the Sands Centre with over 1,000 people present. There followed a very trying 14 months in which strenuous efforts were made to effect a change of ownership. With John Courtenay's purchase of the controlling stake in July 2002, CCUIST had taken the first small step towards our ultimate goal of owning the club for the local community. We are very pleased to be able to report that the first £100,000 has been injected into the club coffers, with the presentation of the cheque taking place at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium before last season's LDV Vans Trophy Final.



Presentation of a cheque in exchange for 20% of shares in CUFC

1,000 Members

We took over 1,000 members into this season. We hope as many of you renew as possible as we will need every one of you on board if we are to go on achieving as much as we have in the first two years of CCUIST's history. If you have yet to join, details on how to sign up are on the back cover of this newsletter. There are more details on the CCUIST web site, details again on the back page.

Joining CCUIST

The cost of joining CCUIST is very small at just £5 per year but we are also asking all our members to dig deep and contribute to the Share Fund, the target for which is to raise a further £290,000 by March 2006. Our basic donation scheme is £3 a week, payable by a monthly standing order. Already several hundred United fans are paying into the scheme in this way. It is very easy to set up and provides a simple way for each and every supporter to make a significant contribution. If you want any more information about this scheme or any other aspect of CCUIST, why not drop in at the CCUIST/CUOSC portakabin near the Paddock turnstiles. A CCUIST representative will be on hand to talk to you.

CCUIST Golf Day Result

Friday 4 July 2003 at The Eden Golf Course,
Crosby on Eden, Carlisle

Charme Walks Away with CCUIST Golf Prize

THE BEAVERS entered by Charme Beauty Salon, Denton Holme walked away with the CCUIST golf prize at Eden on Friday. Julie Smith asked the four to represent her Health and Beauty Salon in the event sponsored by Pirelli, Story Construction and Carlisle Glass.

The team members were Joe Smith - Julie's father, Jim Robinson, David Storey and John Harkness. Julie and the four are lifelong supporters of Carlisle United and came home with a score of 103, a clear 6 points ahead of second placed team The Denizens of C Stand and the other 24 teams.



Wayne Cunliffe (Belgium) presenting the Claret Jug to the Beavers

When asked about their success everyone concerned said they were delighted to have won. Customers of the salon will be able to see the CCUIST Claret Jug on display. The four also took home as part of their prize an invitation for 8 into the Eddie Stobart Executive Box at Brunton Park for the Carlisle v Rochdale match together with other prizes which were awarded to the first 10 teams home.

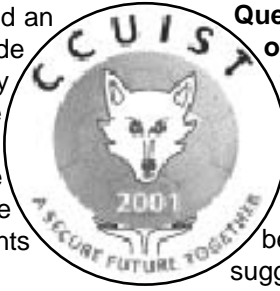
The first 5 teams were The Beavers - Charme Beauty Salon (103), The Denizens of C Stand (97), Sealy A (94), P.K. Electrical (93), Carlisle Golf Centre (last years winners) (92)

The date of next year's golf day is Friday 9 July 2004. Again our day will be spent on the beautiful course at Eden. Anyone wishing to take part should contact Kate Rowley or Jazza Boyle. Information of how to contact is on the back of this newsletter.

CCUIST AGM Report

Foxy's Restaurant, Brunton Park, Sunday 27 July 2003

OUR SECOND Annual General Meeting provided an opportunity for members to hear of progress made and future plans for the Trust. It has been a very busy 12 months and the members present were keen to catch up on details of the historic share purchase as well as quizzing members of the Board, in particular their representative on the Board of directors Alan Steel, about developments over the summer.



The formal business of the day was quickly concluded. Resolutions to approve the annual accounts, to re-appoint Saint & Co. as our auditors and to authorise the Board to fix the auditor's fees were all unanimously passed. With the formal meeting closed, Alan Steel, Dick Young and Kate Rowley addressed the members.

Alan briefly outlined the first two years of CCUIST and the successful fight to change the ownership of Carlisle United. He told members that a deal had been struck with John Courtenay to make a down payment of £100,000 on the purchase of the first 20% of shares at a total cost of £400,000, payable over three years. He said a lot of effort would now go into attracting new corporate donors. The ultimate aim of CCUIST was to pass the club into the ownership of the Cumbrian community.

Dick said fans could be proud of their achievements to date, but there was a big job ahead. He also stressed the need to get more businesses signed up as members, but also reminded the members present that we also needed more individuals and asked them all to urge friends and relatives to sign up. He said there was no time for complacency as another man like Michael Knighton could come along and try and buy the club in the future. It was important this scenario could never be allowed to come about again. He promised to re-launch CCUIST with the aid of more road shows.

CCUIST secretary Kate Rowley informed members that because of the size of the interest repayable on the mortgage that was left behind by the previous owners, CUFC's first six home games of the season were effectively going to pay that interest, with none of that money going into the club. This situation would remain until the CVA was cleared. Questions were then invited from the floor, the best of which are summarised below:

Question: How many CCUIST members are now contributing to the Share Fund?

Answer: There are 189 regular donors at present, plus single contributions made since the renewal forms this year went out at the end of May. £60,000 had been pledged or was already in place.

Question: Does the Board think that people are now of the belief that CCUIST has done its job, now that the ownership has changed?

Answer: That belief was definitely out there, but was incorrect. There was an historic opportunity to take ownership of the club, and the basic donation required is only £3 a week. This message must now be drilled home over the next 12 months. Dick Young suggested a CCUIST lottery could be one way of gaining significant new funds. He appealed for volunteers to come forward and offer to help get this idea off the ground.

Question: Is there confusion between the roles of CUOSC (Supporters' Club) and CCUIST?

Answer: Kate Rowley said CCUIST would only ever raise money to buy shares in CUFC whereas CUOSC would raise money for specific projects connected to CUFC. These projects will be identified by the club and money raised to meet the costs. A small portion of the money held by the supporters' Club provides a service for its members. A merger between the two organisations was ruled out for the foreseeable future. Some members of one organisation do not wish to be a member of the other and visa versa.

Question: There are now three members of the CCUIST Board sitting on the CUFC Board. Were they having any influence on matters at the club?

Answer: Only one Board meeting had been attended so far. However, all the people concerned - Alan Steel, Dick Young and David Clark - were making significant contributions and will raise any issue that fans ask them to. Already the issue of transport to the ground and access for disabled and elderly supporters had been discussed as a result of CCUIST involvement. It was stressed that supporters wanting to get things looked into should contact Alan directly as he was the CCUIST representative on the Board. Dick Young and David Clark were on the Board as individuals.

Alan Steel brought the session to a close by stressing once again that we now had an historic opportunity to progressively purchase Carlisle United for the local community. This was the first chance any group of fans in the country had had to do this in an orderly fashion without a financial crisis to force it upon them.

The First Year of CUOSC

LAST SEASON a new era in the life of Carlisle United started. This was also the case for the new Official Supporters Club. Over the next few pages we will tell you about past events, events coming up and also let you know about how we've spent the money we have raised so far.

2002 / 3 Player and Match Sponsorship

During the 2002/03 season we sponsored Craig Farrell, Marc Nixon and Paul Raven. We also sponsored the final match of the season against Bournemouth at Brunton Park.



Junior Blues

On the last game of the season against Bournemouth sixteen Junior Blues were mascots and walked out with the team. They did this alongside members of Bournemouth's Red Cherries. The day was a great success with the mascots being shown around behind the scenes and they also played football with the players on the pitch prior to kick-off.

CUOSC Fun Day

Following the last match of the season, CUOSC organised an U11 tournament for local schools. Given the diverse nature of the schools in the area we decided to have two separate competitions - one in the morning for small schools and one in the afternoon for large schools.

We were pleased with the response and ended up with a waiting list! Stoneraise were our morning champions with St. Bede's runners up. In the afternoon Inglewood beat Belle Vue in the final. Our thanks to Brian Wake for doing the presentations! As well as the football, we had various stalls, refreshments and sideshows. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.



Fans Forum

The Supporters Club organised two forums last season. It's your chance to ask any questions of John Courtenay our Chairman and Roddy Collins the Manager. Neither has been known to duck questions. BBC Radio Cumbria broadcast the proceedings live and questions were received from supporters in England, Europe, Japan, America and Australia.

CUOSC Update

2003 / 4 Season Membership

New membership forms are now available and due to demand your committee has decided to allow memberships of 1, 2 or 3 years duration. For full information you can collect an application form for any of the ticket offices, the club shop, reception or the CUOSC website at www.cuosc.co.uk. Your membership entitles you to the following:



- Discount on merchandise in the club shop
- Discount on Away Travel (see page 6)
- Priority ticket purchase for games outside normal league fixtures
- Free entry into all Forums (see page 7)
- Full voting rights
- The chance to be included in all activities of the Supporters' Club

Memberships will run from 1 September - 31 August of each year.

Player & Match Sponsorship

We will continue to sponsor Paul Raven, and have taken the decision to sponsor the last home game of the season against Cheltenham Town. We are also to sponsor the matchball against Torquay

Olga the Fox Sponsorship Junior Blues

The Junior Blues are sponsoring Olga the Fox for the 2003 /4 season. He will have Junior Blues printed on the back of Olga's shirt and we'll also help him with his slot in the programmes.



Keep up-to-date with CUOSC news at www.cuosc.co.uk/news

CUOSC - 2002/3 End of Season Awards Dinner



THE FUNCTION was the first for the Supporters' Club and was a chance to present their awards to the following category of player. The evening was hosted by John Bell who commenced the proceedings by making a special presentation to Brian Wake who, with his injection of goals in the last few games of the season helped to save the evening for the Supporters Club.



Martin Vevers presenting the Supporters' Club Player of the Season to Peter Murphy. This award was kindly donated by Newcastle Brewery.



Jimmy Glass presenting the Away Player of the Season Award to Matt Glennon

Awards

Player of the Season

Peter Murphy

Goal of the Season

Lee Maddison (vs. Leyton Orient)

Away Player of the Season

Matt Glennon

Junior Blues Player of the Season

Matt Glennon

Most Improved Player of the Season

Mark Birch

Players, Player of the Season

Peter Murphy

CCUIST Player of the Season

Peter Murphy

Carlisle United Ladies Player of the Season

Leigh Stewart

Special Awards

Special awards were also made to Leon Osman, who attended with his family, John Courtenay and Kate Rowley for all her hard work for both CUOSC and CCUIST.

Prize Draw

A prize draw was held during the evening, anyone who failed to be impressed by our choice of raffle ticket sellers must be hard to please. Thank you to the ladies of Carlisle United Football Team.

To you all many thanks for your support, but beware we will be back again as we are having a giant draw to raise more money. More on the Grand Draw in our next issue.

CUOSC - 2003/4 Away Travel

CUOSC WILL be running coaches to ALL away games this season. You may also be interested to know that we are to have a travel club, which will allow those travelling to all away games to pay a set amount monthly over a 12-month period to average out the cost of travel.

How to Book Your Seat

To book and pay for your seat please call in a the Paddock Booking office on matchdays. Payment must be made prior to travel. Alternatively, you may contact Kate Rowley or Susan Elliott

Contact

Kate Rowley

Tel: 01228 527081 (home)
Tel: 07968 498941 (mobile)

Susan Elliott

Tel: 01228 541995 (home)
Tel: 07764 3003919 (mobile)

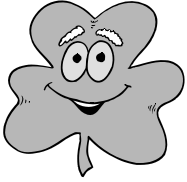
MATCH	DEPART		PRICES		
	Brunton Park	Penrith Railway Station	Adult Members	Concession Members	Non-Members
Walsall	2.30pm	3.00pm	£13.50	£10.50	£16.50
Yeovil Town	6.30am	7.00am	£24.50	£21.00	£27.00
Boston United	8.30am	9.00am	£15.00	£12.00	£18.00
Darlington	11.30am	12.00pm	£8.00	£5.00	£11.00
Northampton Town	12.30pm	1.00pm	£17.00	£14.00	£20.00
Southend United	6.30am	7.00am	£24.00	£21.00	£27.00
Kidderminster Harriers	9.00am	9.30am	£14.50	£11.50	£17.50
Hull City	9.30am	10.00am	£13.00	£10.00	£16.00
Huddersfield Town	10.30am	11.00am	£11.00	£8.00	£14.00
Lincoln City	9.30am	10.00am	£13.00	£10.00	£16.00
Cheltenham Town	8.00am	8.30am	£23.00	£20.00	£26.00
Oxford United	7.30am	8.00am	£19.50	£16.50	£22.50
Bury	10.30am	11.00am	£10.00	£7.00	£13.00
York City	11.00am	11.30am	£10.00	£7.00	£13.00
Bristol Rovers	7.30am	8.00am	£23.00	£20.00	£26.00
Cambridge United	7.30am	8.00am	£19.00	£16.00	£22.00
Macclesfield Town	10.30am	11.00am	£11.00	£8.00	£14.00
Scunthorpe United	3.00pm	3.30pm	£12.50	£9.50	£15.50
Torquay United	6.00am	6.30am	£25.00	£22.00	£28.00
Rochdale	10.30am	11.00am	£10.00	£7.00	£13.00
Swansea City	6.30am	7.00am	£24.00	£21.00	£27.00
Leyton Orient	6.00am	6.30am	£24.00	£21.00	£27.00
Mansfield Town	9.30am	10.00am	£13.00	£10.00	£16.00
Doncaster Rovers	10.00am	10.30am	£12.00	£9.00	£15.00

Note

- The price for each journey has been reached by calculating away travel over the whole of the season, to allow us to do this we were determined that no single fare would cost over £25.00
- Departure will be from Brunton Park and Penrith Railway Station ONLY. Tickets will be available at the time of booking, and these will be required to assure you of your seat on the coach. Included in the price of each ticket will be the cost of a raffle ticket. 'Bob's bargains' (crisps, biscuits, drinks and other nibbles) will continue to be available on transport this season.
- Whilst it is the aim of the Supporters Club to get as many fans to away games as cheaply as possible, it is not our intention to make a loss on travel neither do we wish to use monies from the main fund of the Supporters' Club to subsidise the cost of away travel.

CUOSC - The Ireland Trip

IT ALL started back in April during the long journey back from Wrexham (6 - 1) when my dad, in one of his deepest "United" depressions yet, promised that if we stayed in the Football League he would take me on any pre-season tour United did.



I don't think my dad ever thought United would ever do an overseas tour and I didn't think we would make it home. I was sure he was ready to drive straight off the Thelwall Viaduct! But he kept his promise.

At 6.00am on Thursday 17 July I woke up full of excitement and anticipation. The day my dad and I had waited on was finally here. I had never looked forward to the start of a pre-season for so long. We were about to get on the coach and set off on Carlisle United's tour of Ireland. The first stop on our journey was at the Chester services where blind panic ensued as we nearly missed the coach after our pit stop due to my dad's insistence on having a coffee in Costa's and then spending what seemed like an hour in the rest rooms!. Our next stop was at the ferry terminal at Holyhead where our coach was boarded straight onto the ferry for our journey to Ireland. Everyone on the coach was in really good spirits.

When we arrived at our hotel it was absolutely pouring down and I was worried that our first match against Ballyfermont United would be cancelled but we got the news it was going ahead. The driver did struggle to find the ground but with a few minutes to spare we made it. It was an enjoyable match which finished 2 - 2. The highlight of the match was John Courtaney's outburst at the referee at a Ballyfermont player after a bad tackle on Ryan Baldachino. No one can doubt this man's passion for the club.

Friday was spent in Dublin. After spending two hours trying to sort out why I couldn't receive any calls from home on my mobile it suddenly struck me that lack of calling credit might be the culprit! Once my exasperated dad and I left the Vodafone shop, we had a really good day. My dad really enjoyed the tour of Dublin by bus, especially as due to industrial action the driver was not collecting any fares! We returned to the hotel with sore feet and my dad's wallet untouched.

That night the match was against Ashtown Villa who heralded the match as "Roddy's back in Town" in the programme. A large crowd enjoyed the game which ended 5 - 0 to United. An invitation to a local hostelry was eagerly accepted and a very enjoyable day was finished off in the perfect manner. On the Saturday we were taken to the village where Ballykissangel was filmed. The place itself wasn't quite what we were expecting but the countryside was lovely. We took the scenic and narrow route back to Dublin, where we had a very enjoyable visit to the Guinness Brewery. I must admit I didn't like the taste very much and my dad gave his token for a free

Too soon and it was the last day. We were playing St. Patrick's Athletic in the Sunday World Challenge Match (the description on the front of the programme). The streets of Dublin were packed full of supporters wearing blue and white, but sadly they were not all Carlisle United supporters. There was a Gaelic cup final match between Laois and Kildare taking place who also wear our colours. The very exciting match ended 2 - 1 to Carlisle and the two hundred or so Carlisle fans that came to the match were more than happy with the result.

The atmosphere on the coach on the journey back to the ferry terminal was very upbeat, I think that quite a few people had been enjoying the benefits of the tasty Irish water. All in all our Dublin trip can only be described as brilliant. The travelling arrangements were very well planned, the accommodation was first class, the company great and the people of Dublin made us all feel very welcome. Let's hope that there are many more tours for us to enjoy in the future.

A very big thank you to all involved!

Andrew Scott

CUOSC - Fans Forum

The first Forum of this season will be held in the Sunset Suite at **7.30pm on Thursday 4 September 2003**. This is the supporters' chance to ask questions of the Chairman and Management of Carlisle United Football Club. BBC Radio Cumbria will transmit the proceedings live on their website and will take questions from the floor and over the web. Derek Lacey will be in the chair for the evening.

Entrance will be **FREE TO CUOSC MEMBERS ONLY** (on production of CUOSC membership card) or £2 for non-members. Please note that a limited amount of people can attend, so please arrive early.

CUOSC - AGM

Prior to this Forum, the Supporters' Club will hold their Annual General Meeting at **6.45pm**. Should any member feel that they would like to join the committee of the Supporters' Club then this will be your chance to get a member to propose and another member to second you for the committee. Details of the agenda for the AGM will be forwarded to each Supporters' Club member prior to the meeting.

CUOSC / CUOSC Contact Details

The CCUIST Board

James Boyle
 Lord Clark of Windermere
 Brian Hall
 Martin Hudson
 Eric Martlew MP
 Dave Nicholson
 Kate Rowley (Secretary)
 Michael Scott
 Adam Sheridan
 Alan Steel (Chair)
 Norman Steel
 Alastair Woodcock
 Dick Young (Deputy Chair)

CCUIST Representative

Alan Steel - alansteel@ccuist.org

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 CA1 2UT

Website

www.ccuist.org

E-Mail

info@ccuist.org

Telephone Numbers

07968 741128
 07968 498941

Membership Fees

£5 per year (no concessions)

Membership Forms

Available in club shop, CCUIST / CUOSC
 portakabin & via website

Member Benefits

15% discount in club shop
 Priority on all-ticket cup-ties

The CUOSC Committee

Phil Bell
 Yvonne Bowman
 James Boyle
 Claire Brown (Junior Blues Organiser)
 Kevin Brown
 Wendy Brown
 Susan Elliott (Membership Secretary)
 Louise Fawcett
 Ramona Fleming
 Bill Frizzel
 Chris Fuller (Treasurer)
 Helen Fuller (Treasurer)
 Stuart Gilbey
 George Graves
 Brian Hall
 Bob Lindsay
 Brendan Murphy
 Martin Robson
 Kate Rowley (Chair)
 Michael Scott
 Adam Sheridan

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Website

www.cuosc.co.uk

E-Mail

info@cuosc.co.uk

Telephone Number

07968 498941

Membership Fees

£10 Adults £5 Junior Blues £20 Family

Membership Forms

15% discount available in club shop
 Priority on all-ticket cup-ties
 Discounted travel to away games
 Free entry to Fans Forums

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER PLEASE CONTACT KATE ROWLEY