

## **Annual Report of the Committee of the Carlisle United Official Supporters' Club – October 2004**

Your committee has met on 10 occasions since our last Annual General Meeting.

In excess of 30k has been made available by way of donation and sponsorship to Carlisle United Football Club.

Members of the Supporters' Club have assisted the club when requested to do so with the sale of tickets and the distribution of the Season Tickets.

In conjunction with The United Trust our newsletter has been produced every second month for the past year. The decision has been taken that the Newsletter will in future be produced 4 times a year. This decision purely down to cost.

The second Annual Awards Ceremony held in the Shepherds Inn, Carlisle was well supported, the main player awards going to Kevin Gray and Brendan McGill. This season's ceremony will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2005, put this date in your diary.

Your committee decided not to increase the cost of membership this year, which we are sure, you will agree is more than generous at £5 and £10 per year.

The Junior Blues goes from strength to strength, their Christmas party is in the planning stage and one not to be missed. Each JB will be sent a birthday card, which we are sure, will prove popular.

The web continues to be an excellent source of information. The CUOSC on line site continues to be popular with the fans and very informative. Together with the club site and the message board your committee is kept up to date with the views of the supporters.

The schools football tournament at the end of last season was well supported by local schools and attracts some of the smaller schools from the surrounding areas outside the City.

The Grand Draw earlier in the year raised £13,000, which was magnificent. The credit for this success goes to all those who sold tickets, collected and donated prizes.

There is now a Lancashire Branch of the Supporters' Club, which is looked after by Barry Stephenson.

Consideration has been given to moving the popular Fans Forums from location to location, however because of the involvement of Radio Cumbria and their staff providing a service at no cost the Forums will remain at Brunton Park. Your committee is grateful to BBC Radio Cumbria for their transmitted of the forum and their involvement at no cost. Questions have been sent from all over the world. The next Forum will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January.

Crests on the Warwick Road End. You will have noticed (unless you stand in the Warwick Road end) the two crests that were put up prior to the start of the season, one is the logo of the Supporters' Club the other the new crest of the United Trust. This gives the message that the club and supporters are working together for the good of CUFC. Sadly Border Television continue to show an old picture of the Warwick Road end of Brunton Park, lets see how long it takes them to get themselves down to BP and take a new photograph for their sports programme.

Sadly discount in the Blue Store was cut to 5% at the beginning of the season, this was without consultation with the committee of the Supporters club and caused a great deal of concern, that concern was expressed to the commercial management team who apologised for not consulting prior to the change.

A Quiz night is scheduled for Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November. This will take place in the Sunset suite and details of this event can be found on the web or in match day programmes.

Travel – A supporters' Club coach visited all away matches last season, this season we will be doing the same – a huge thank you for supporting us. The annual weekend away will be for the Farnborough v Carlisle match in April 05 – for more information see the advert contained in this newsletter.

Player sponsorship – the supporters' club has sponsored home and away strips for Brendan McGill and away strip for Kevin Gray, Bobs Bargains - available on away travel, sponsor Tom Cowan. The Junior Blues sponsor Olga the fox. All money going into the club.

Platinum suite - concerns were expressed by our fans that away supporters had been placed into the Platinum stand, which is in essence a family stand. Bad language and inappropriate behaviour was displayed by some of the visiting fans, which is unacceptable. After representation we have been reassured that the Waterworks end will be used in future or the East Stand should the visiting fans warrant it.

When Knighton went so did much of our history in either picture or press coverage. We would like is to try and compile some items relevant to Carlisle United history whether in picture, programme or any type of memorabilia that would be beneficial to a museum at Brunton Park. Where possible we will have your precious memories copied and the originals returned to you. Tullie House are keen to display some items and are willing to advise and collate items for us. If anyone has anything they feel would be beneficial to a museum please contact Chris Fuller through the Supporters Club.

This is a resume of the areas that your committee has been involved with, on your behalf over the past 12 months.

Where has your money gone?

Answer –

Audio and technical equipment purchased for the Sunset Suite.

Audio and technical equipment purchased for Foxy's

Technogym equipment for the physio department

Sponsorship of 3 players  
Sponsorship of Olga the Fox  
Sponsorship of games  
Paint and painting of the Warwick Road End  
Signs for the Warwick Road End  
Sponsorship of those providing match reports for the web site  
Support for the Trust £350 for United  
Supporter's notice boards  
Pitch cover  
Washing machine  
Seats at Supporters Dinner for players  
Sponsorship of seats for kids  
Various tickets for worthy causes  
Trophies for Awards Dinner

You can be assured that your committee will continue to raise money for the club to be used for the benefit of the supporter.

CUOSC