

+CARRICKFERGUS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1865

AFFILIATED TO THE IRISH RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION – ULSTER BRANCH

Grounds:

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Club Captain:

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Dear Member,

LETTER FROM CLUB CAPTAIN 2014/15

I want to start my message by saying how honoured and privileged I am to be named Captain of Carrickfergus Rugby Football Club, especially in this remarkable 150th Anniversary Year. As a comparatively new member, I have been made very welcome by all involved in the club.

As Captain, I, together with all my players and other club members, will extend a very warm welcome to all visiting teams, match officials and visitors to our club. This friendship is the hallmark of the rugby fraternity throughout the world and at Carrick I am proud that we do everything possible to continue and nurture this tradition.

On behalf of the players, I would like to thank all those people who provide funds in the form of sponsorship, advertising and other contributions. A special thank you to Maxol for their continued support. A big thank you to our physio team who do a fantastic job preparing and recovering all players in a very professional way, also to ground staff, bar staff and all who contribute so much time to ensure the club is always moving forward.

As a player and a coach I have seen a lot of playing members who play this great game week in and week out. The vibrant youth teams, the remarkable ladies team, the genuine comradeship among members and the craic in the clubhouse after games are all features of the club of which we are proud and I hope these will continue for many years to come.

I obviously jumped at the opportunity when asked to join the club as a player-coach and thoroughly enjoyed the past year working along with two great coaches in Warren and Neil, who have fantastic knowledge of the game. It has been a learning curve for all involved, discovering ways to play and win games in this tough Qualifying League 2. I feel we turned a massive corner in the second half of a hard 2013/14 season, reaching a high standard that some teams never achieve.

I know that if every player in the club comes together to train hard and play their best, leagues and cups will be won throughout the club. However players must push themselves to the limits to realize their full potential. We want players to demonstrate a positive attitude in training, to enjoy performances on match days and to celebrate every team's success on a Saturday, knowing that we will be training again on Tuesday and Thursday nights to have the best chance to win in future fixtures.

I hope to see good numbers at pre-season training from every team in the club. One thing I quickly picked up on in Carrick RFC is that it never has been, and never will be, a one team club.

In conclusion, I would like to wish Bill Crymble well as he assumes the Presidency for a second time. I can think of no better man to lead our club as we enter our 150th year. To all players and members I wish a successful and enjoyable season both on and off the pitch. Let's work together to make it a fantastic one to remember.

Jonny Cullen

Club Captain