

Celtic - League Champions

Out of seeming nothing;
Out of shadow and gloom;
Out of a hollowed vacuum
Came something to keep us in tune.
Something to interest and please us;
Something we call our own;
Something we almost worship;
Loving beyond control.

Boys by practice and training;
Diligently keeping fit;
Men by planning and scheming
Built it bit by bit.
Loyally working together;
Faithful to their scheme;
Out of little or nothing
Came the champion Celtic team

- Crossbar, 1901



New members are welcome!

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Belfast Celtic Society
www.belfastceltic.org

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Belfast Celtic Society



The Grand Old Team

www.belfastceltic.org



"When we had nothing, we had Belfast Celtic.
Then we had everything." - Bill McKavanagh

The legendary Belfast Celtic Football Club was the leading light in Irish football from 1891 to 1949. Despite being twice forced to withdraw from competition due to the political upheavals of the time, the Celtic team won numerous trophies and gained the admiration of the sporting community in Ireland and further afield before withdrawing from League competition for good in 1949.

During their time in competition, Celtic had won the Irish League fourteen times, the Irish Cup eight times, the City Cup Winners ten times and the Gold Cup seven times. The Belfast Celtic team was the pride of Irish football until it was forced out of competition after the dramatic game against Belfast rivals Linfield on Boxing Day 1948.



Belfast Celtic 1923-24

The Celtic team had to run from the pitch for their lives when Linfield fans poured over the terrace barriers at the end of a 1 - 1 draw. Centre forward Jimmy Jones was thrown over a parapet, kicked unconscious and left with a broken leg. Defender Robin Lawlor and goalkeeper Kevin Mc Alinden were also seriously hurt.

At a meeting the same night Celtic's directors decided to withdraw from football once the season's commitments had been fulfilled.



Belfast Celtic 1932-33

The city of Belfast never recovered from its loss and neither did Irish football. The formation in 2003 of the Belfast Celtic Society is living proof that the Grand Old Team is not forgotten.

The Belfast Celtic Society

The Belfast Celtic Society was established in November 2003 to encourage an appreciation, knowledge and awareness among the general public of the historical and cultural heritage of Belfast Celtic Football and Athletic Club. The Society has been granted charitable status and one of our main aims is to raise funds for charitable causes.

The Belfast Celtic Society is an inclusive, non-sectarian, anti-racist organisation in the spirit of the Belfast Celtic Football and Athletic Club. Membership of the Society is open to individuals irrespective of age, gender, ethnic identity, nationality, sexual orientation, race, religion or political opinion.

The main aims and objectives of the Belfast Celtic Society are to promote awareness of the history and cultural heritage of Belfast Celtic Football and Athletic Club. We arrange open lectures and public meetings, maintain a travelling photographic exhibition and we

have established a permanent collection of Belfast Celtic memorabilia in The Belfast Celtic Museum in the Park Centre in Belfast. We actively use the internet and social media to raise awareness of the history and traditions of the Grand Old Team.



The Final Tour 1949

A copy of the Belfast Celtic Society Constitution is available on request. For more information and historical background, please check our website at www.belfastceltic.org and our Facebook and Twitter channels on social media.

Belfast Celtic Society

The annual membership subscription is currently £10.00 or the equivalent in your currency. The application form and payment details are available on the website www.belfastceltic.org or can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary.

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