

For Publication - November 2014

The Committee of Knocklyon United wish to thank all those who give their time and energy to make our Club what it is, a community Club. To those who manage and assist with our teams, to our parents who wash jerseys, help with the shop in Delaford and stand on the side-lines encouraging our players in all weathers, we thank you. We are very fortunate to have so much support from every age group in our Club and in this, our 30th year we look forward to the future and hope you will all continue on this journey with us.

Knocklyon United 30th Anniversary

In May 1984 Knocklyon United made its first appearance in an edition of the Knocklyon News. At the time we had just acquired our pitches in Delaford and were hoping to join the Schoolboys League. Since then, we have grown to have over 550 registered players in our 37 teams including 2 Leinster Senior League teams. As the Parish of Knocklyon celebrates its 40 year anniversary and we in Knocklyon United reach our 30 year anniversary we are delighted to be part of such a vibrant community and wish everyone involved in both Parish and Club continued progression and success.

Guinness World Record Attempt

May 23rd 2014 will be long remembered by Knocklyon United players as the day they tried to break the record for the 'World's Largest Football Training Session'. Despite a pretty soggy day weather wise, our players, coaches, managers and parents turned out in their hundreds. With assistance from the local Gardai and community we packed 686 people onto our Ballycullen pitches. At the time of printing we're waiting for good news, but hopefully we will hear we are record holders before too long!!

Nursery

2013 was a great year for our Nursery and it looks like 2014 will be even better! Under the expert guidance of Jimmy Pakenham and his team, almost 70 children aged five and six are learning their basic football skills in a structured but fun environment. Training takes place every Friday from 6-7pm in St Colmcille's Astro facility. The involvement of our parents is key to keeping a Club like ours running and we always have room for parents who are interested in helping out. Contact any of our Managers or our Committee for more information.

Goalkeeper training

The role of the goalkeeper is a vital one in the team and this is reflected in our goalkeeper training which takes place every Tuesday evening in Delaford from 7-8pm for our junior keepers and 8-9pm for our seniors. We're one of only a handful of Clubs who offer this specific training and our goalkeeper coaches, Derek Kennedy and Mark Fitzpatrick, teach our goalies how to deal with the many challenges they face with this position.

Team News

Connell McGlynn's Sunday U12-5 team got off to a slow start to the season but all the new players have settled in perfectly and their hard work at training is now beginning to bear fruit. The team have now recorded three consecutive wins against some tough opposition and are beginning to show great confidence for the tougher games ahead.

Our U16 team managed by Gary Farrell has been invited to play Preston North End Academy in the Preston Sports Arena in the UK at the end of this month. Gary expects a good showing from the team and is delighted with the chance for the players to showcase their skills. It is with thanks to David Bobbett and H&K International, our main Club sponsor, that this trip is possible, as they have supported the team right from the beginning of their football journey as 7 year olds. Best of luck to the lads on their trip.

A date for your Diary

On Saturday the 6th of December between 4.00 and 5.30pm, Santa will be visiting Ballycullen to meet all our Nursery boys and girls. There'll be lots of fun and games, prizes and presents so make a note of the date in your diary now!



Knocklyon United Football Club celebrate in Ballycullen after their Guinness World Record attempt on May 23rd 2014

