

Presentation of Belfast Castle Painting to Ann Hayes 25th Anniversary Afternoon at City Hall 26th February 2026

START

Siobhan, food for thought for all of us. Now, a little surprise coming in the next five minutes. Barbara, I would like you to come up with Ann, please, could you? Ann's not expecting this.

Thank you. So, as you know from earlier on, Ann is one of our founder members and was at the original meeting in Belfast Castle 25 years ago, less, well, not less two days, it was in November, the year before the original meeting started. So, in honour of that, and as a wee token of our appreciation for everything that Ann has done, Barbara would like to present Ann with some artwork to support the, or to remind her of that Belfast Castle meeting.



And it says on the painting, presented to Ann Hayes in recognition of her excellent contribution as a founding member to the development of Belfast over 25 years and is dated at this day, the 26th of February 2026. 🙌 🙌 🙌

This is a complete and utter surprise but thank you for thinking of me. I'd like to say that here within us we have another Anne who was also at the first meeting, Anne McGovern, who is still the convener of book group number one, and we've gone there, and we are fortunate that we can still carry on the ideas and the thoughts that Brian had at that first meeting in the castle, and this is just such a wonderful surprise, and thank you so much, and please keep on with the good work. 🙌 🙌 🙌

END