



## Chelsea Supporters Trust – Newsletter – July 2014

As a fair bit has been happening over the summer we thought it worthwhile compiling a summer newsletter to keep members up to date, especially with regard to the forthcoming AGM and annual board elections. Hopefully you are having an enjoyable summer. With regard to the World Cup, I suspect many of our overseas members may have enjoyed it more than those of us who follow England...

### Chelsea FC Ticket Exchange

The CST board were very pleased to see the announcement from the club earlier this month regarding the launch of a ticket exchange to replace the much disliked relationship with Viagogo. The Viagogo issue was highlighted in our 2013 survey as a major concern to our members and earlier this year, in conjunction with CFCTickets, we submitted a proposal regarding ticket exchanges to the club.

The club announcement is [here](#) and the CST statement in response to this announcement is [here](#).

### CST Annual Members' Survey

The 2014 CST Members' Survey was issued by email to all members a couple of days ago. Please take the time to complete and return it by the deadline of 15th August. It doesn't take long to complete and gives us a very valuable snapshot of member opinion which is very helpful in shaping priorities for the coming season.

### CST Annual General Meeting – Date and Location Confirmed

Now that the kick-off times for the first games of the season have finally been announced, we can advise members that the 2014 CST AGM will take place in the **Attenborough Suite in the Copthorne Hotel at Stamford Bridge** (the same location as last season) **at 13.30 on Saturday 16th August**.



Agendas etc. will be sent out by e-mail to voting members two weeks before the meeting. Information for members wishing to submit motions is shown [here](#). We will also circulate in advance of the AGM the 2014 CST Annual report, which will be discussed at the meeting, with members able to question the board on the contents. The deadline for motions is 23:00 on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

A reminder that you need fully paid up member to participate in, vote at, or put forward motions to the AGM. You can become a paid up CST member from the website homepage [here](#) and more information on membership options is [here](#).

## Chelsea Museum Tour

As a prelude to the AGM the CST have arranged for a tour of the Chelsea Museum to take place for paid-up members. This will be at 11.00 on Saturday 16th August, allowing members who wish to attend the tour time for lunch before the AGM. Numbers for the tour are limited so please advise us at [membership@chelseasupporterstrust.com](mailto:membership@chelseasupporterstrust.com) if you wish to attend.

## Elections to CST Board – Reminder re Nominations

Members are reminded that nominations for the forthcoming CST board elections are welcomed from voting members. Nominations must be received by 23:00 on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August. Further information on standing for the Board is shown [here](#).

## Make Sure You Can Take Part

Members Remember that you need fully paid up member to participate in, vote at, stand for election or put forward motions to the AGM. If you are not already a voting member, you can obtain voting membership from the [CST website homepage](#). Cost is only £5 per year and includes a unique free pin badge.

If you are already a voting member, make sure your membership has not lapsed. Renewal reminders will be sent out shortly. When you renew you can opt for an annual subscription, which makes renewing in the future more convenient. More information on membership options can be found [here](#).

## Help Design a Shed End Flag

Further to the announcement that there would be a competition to design a new crowd-surfing flag for the Upper Tier of the Shed, those interested in entering are reminded that there are just a few days left to send in entries, with 1<sup>st</sup> August 2014 being the closing date.

Designs should be of a good standard and in Jpeg format and made for a flag with the dimensions of 50ft by 25ft.

As previously stated, a prize of two tickets to any Chelsea home game during the 2014/2015 season will be offered to the designer of the winning entry.



Please send your entries to <mailto:flagdesign@chelseafc.com>.

No correspondence concerning the winning design will be entered into.

## Results of Safe Standing Survey for Chelsea Supporters

The results of the Safe Standing Survey for Chelsea Supporters to gauge the attitudes of Chelsea supporters to Safe Standing at football grounds (and at Stamford Bridge in particular) were [published](#) in early



June. There was very strong support for the concept, with over 96% of the 4,000+ respondents in favour of safe standing being implemented in at Stamford Bridge.

## **CST reaction to Chelsea FC's Fulham Broadway Study**

A major development over the summer was the club announcing a study into the Fulham Broadway area. The statement read,

*“A study of the area from Fulham Broadway town centre to Stamford Bridge and beyond has been commissioned by Chelsea Football Club's owner Roman Abramovich.*

*“This study will review the potential for improvements to publicly-owned areas along Fulham Road and the area around the football ground, including the possibility of decking over the railway lines to the east and north of the ground.*

*“This could create landscaped public walkways and cycleways, while also reducing pedestrian traffic on Fulham Road and nearby streets on matchdays.*

*“The study will also assess the feasibility of an expansion of the stadium within the existing historic site boundaries, potentially to enlarge its capacity, enhance its facilities and improve the movement of people and vehicles on match and non-matchdays.*

*“As a first step, a consultation will take place with local stakeholders, including community and residents' groups, for opinions on the existing conditions in the area.*

*“The consultation will not concern itself with any design or details of a redevelopment on the stadium site. Instead it will ask about the surrounding publicly-owned areas and in particular the civic infrastructure necessary to ensure a successful and feasible redevelopment.*

*“We will keep our supporters informed as the study progresses.”*

We welcome the announcement of the study, particularly that it “will also assess the feasibility of an expansion of the stadium within the existing historic site boundaries”. The full CST reaction to this study is shown [here](#).

## **External Engagement**

In the past couple of weeks, CST board members have attended separate meetings with senior representatives from the FA and the Premier League, and will be meeting PL representatives from next weekend's Supporters Summit.

In addition, we had input into an information gathering session run by Clive Efford MP, Shadow Minister for Sport. We believe that external engagement is absolutely essential in getting supporters opinions across to decision makers.

Once notes of these meetings have been agreed, relevant information will be placed on the CST website.

## Kick Off Times

New season, same old nonsense. The Burnley away kick off time, on a Monday evening, doubtless sets the scene for another season blighted with inconvenient kick off times for supporters of Premier League clubs as a result of the demands of the TV companies. Decisions are clearly made without any thought for match going supporters, especially travelling ones.

This will doubtless be a major theme of the Supporters Summit next weekend, referred to above. Interestingly, the summit is sponsored by BT Sport, and we will be ensuring they get the message clearly that the impact on match-going supporters needs to be taken into account when kick-off times are agreed.

This [article](#) by Charlie Skillen highlights the issue nicely, flagging eleven PL games it is impossible to travel to by train in the first tranche of fixtures, including three Chelsea ones, the most of any club in the Premier League.

## Further Reading

Chelsea related news:

- [On sale dates for all Chelsea matches](#)
- [Putney Bridge closed until October](#)
- [Chelsea ask supporters to design a new flag as...](#)
- [Shed Atmosphere campaign gathers momentum](#)
- [The Black Bull by Stamford Bridge reopening as The Chelsea Pensioner](#)
- [1989 video on the history of Chelsea FC \(part 1 of 7\)](#)
- [The story of Chelsea's 1929 tour of South America](#)

General news:

- [Results of the FSF's 2013-14 away fans survey](#)
- [Welsh Assembly backs Safe Standing](#)
- [Time for fans to kick ticket pricing categorisation into Row Z](#)
- [Sepp Blatter's tirade against "racist" British media](#)
- [John Oliver on FIFA and the World Cup \(video\)](#)
- [If you've done nothing wrong at the football you've got nothing to fear, right?](#)

## Transport Information

It's now the Close Season, but it's still worth adding links to transport pages in your browser favourites and Twitter following.

Advance train ticket alerts from thetrainline.com. Please be aware fixtures are subject to change due to television demands, before booking:

<http://www.thetrainline.com/ticketalert/football/premier-league>

Travel to the Bridge by train? Weekend travel news from TfL:

<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/tfl/livetravelnews/realtime/track.aspx?offset=weekend>

Follow TfL travel status & updates on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/TfLTravelAlerts>

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If you have comments or questions on any of the above information, or any other CST activity, please let us know: [enquiries@chelseasupporterstrust.com](mailto:enquiries@chelseasupporterstrust.com)

The next newsletter will be after the AGM, soon after the new season starts. Let's all get behind José and the team and hopefully we'll manage some silverware this coming season. There are some changes, but with the new faces that have joined our already excellent squad it looks like it is going to be one very enjoyable season, that's for sure.



### ***'Making Your Voice Heard'***

**Chelsea Supporters Trust**

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