



**Rangers Supporters Trust**  
**The very soul of the Club**

# The Blue Spirit

The Newsletter of the Rangers Supporters  
Trust

Issue No. 9: August 2005

## *Formal notice calling the Third Annual General Meeting of the Rangers Supporters Trust On Saturday 27th August 2005*

This year's **Annual General Meeting** of the Rangers Supporters Trust will take place in **Partick Burgh Hall**, 9 Burgh Hall Street, Glasgow, G11 5LW on **Saturday 27th August from 11.00am**. This meeting takes place before Rangers' home game against Hibs but attendees will have plenty of time to get to Ibrox well in advance of kick off. The meeting will finish by 2pm at the very latest. Entry to this meeting will only be granted to current Trust members upon production of their signed membership card and this policy will strictly be enforced by stewards on duty. You can, however, renew on the day if you have not already renewed for this year.

**1. The outline agenda, subject to amendment, is as follows:**

- Welcome
- Minutes of last Annual General Meeting (to be viewed online)
- Chairman's Report
- Secretary/Treasurer's Reports
- Adoption of 2004/05 accounts
- Resolution (point 2 below)
- Election of Members
- Debate and motions (See Note 6 below)
- Vote of thanks

**2. To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following resolution, which will be proposed as a resolution of at least two thirds of members who vote in person or in proxy at the general meeting (and will only take effect once registered with the FSA):**

THAT the Society's Rules be and are amended by the addition of the following new Rules:

**“SHARE SCHEME**

125. The Society will establish, maintain and develop a scheme (the “**Share Scheme**”) for the acquisition and holding of shares in the Club by the Society, which will be established and operated in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Share Scheme (the “**Share Scheme Rules**”) that are approved by the Society Board from

time to time (including any amendments thereto). Each member agrees to be bound by and to observe the terms and conditions of the Share Scheme Rules.

126. The Share Scheme will be administered by administrators (the “**Administrators**”) who will number not less than 2 nor more than 5 persons and shall be appointed (and may be removed) by the Society Board. For the avoidance of doubt a member of the Society Board may be appointed as an Administrator (but any such person proposed to act as an Administrator shall have no vote in regard to his or her appointment). The Scheme Administrators will establish a separate bank account in the name of the Administrators of Rangers Supporters Society, which will be conducted in accordance with the Scheme Rules.”

THAT the Society’s Rules be and are hereby further amended by:

- (i) the substitution of the words “Financial Services Authority” for the word “Registrar” in Rule 96;
- (ii) the substitution of the words “Financial Services Authority” for the words “Registrar of Friendly Societies” in Rule 119; and
- (iii) the replacement of Rule 122 with the following “The Society is registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1965-78 (referred to as the “Act” in these Rules). Any references to the Act include references to any statutory re-enactment and/or modification. Any reference to the Financial Services Authority in these Rules includes reference to the statutory successor carrying on the relevant function of that authority.”]

AND THAT the Secretary and three members of the Society be and are hereby authorised to prepare and execute appropriate copies of the partial amendments proposed above as required by the Financial Services Authority for the purposes of section 10 of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 and that the Secretary or other appropriate officer of the Society be authorised to submit to the Financial Services Authority the completed Forms F and G.

**Note 1:** A member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy (by way of written instruction) to attend and, on a poll, vote instead of him or her. A proxy need not be a member of the Society. The appointment of a proxy will not prevent a member from subsequently attending and voting at the meeting in person.

**Note 2:** To be effective the instrument appointing a proxy, and any power of attorney or other authority under which it is executed (or a duly certified copy of any such power or authority), must be deposited at the Society’s registered office not less than two clear days before the day fixed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting or (in the case of a poll taken otherwise than at or on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) for the taking of the poll at which it is to be used.

**Note 3:** To facilitate entry to the meeting, members are requested to bring with them [proof of identity / membership] which is attached to the proxy card.

**Note 4:** Members should note that the doors to the AGM will be open at 10.30am.

**Note 5:** Mobile phones may not be used in the meeting hall, and cameras, tape or video recorders are not allowed in the meeting hall.

**Note 6:** Although not wishing to deprive anyone of the right to either ask questions, or propose motions on the day, we are asking for some advance notice of the issues you wish to raise. All this is just to assist the Trust board’s management of the meeting, as it may be the case that several members wish to ask the same question, so we could save time by dealing with them all at once. It also gives some members who might perhaps be slightly nervous in front of the microphone and a large audience, to have their question read out.

If you would like to raise a question please send an e-mail headed AGM question (we request a fresh e-mail for each question) and send it along with your RST membership number to [scot@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:scot@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk) and/or if you wish to propose a motion please send an e-mail headed AGM motion to the same to the same e-mail address quoting both your own membership number and the membership number of your seconder. If you do not have access to e-mail please send a letter to Scot Van Den Akker, Rangers Supporters Trust, PO Box 3099, Clydebank, G60 9AN with your AGM Question and/or AGM Motion. Please remember to state your RST membership number. For motions please state also the name and membership number of your seconder. AGM questions and motions must be received by Saturday 20th August 2005.

Members should also be mindful of the way Trusts work in that we all abide by the will of the majority. So, if you disagree with a fellow member, please extend them the courtesy of letting them express their view; if you disagree, by all means feel free to have your say, or vote against it. Different people have different approaches, but we are all committed Rangers fans and that is what counts. Accordingly, fairly tight timescales will apply, especially in the second half, with speakers limited to one minute slots on an individual subject. This is not designed to restrict members' rights to make their points, but to ensure that all those who really want to speak get the chance to do so.

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## Share Scheme

The board of the Rangers Supporters Trust hope to launch a new initiative at this year's annual general meeting and we encourage as many members as possible to attend to give the new initiative their full backing. At the time of the newsletter going to press, we are unable to supply further information but the initiative will help achieve one of the Trust's main goals. You will see from the resolution proposed by your Trust Board that this project is near completion. On entry to the AGM each member will receive a full briefing note detailing this scheme. The Trust has been working closely with the board of Rangers Football Club on this project.

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## RST welcomes new players to Rangers

We would like to welcome our new signings to Rangers. At the time of the newsletter going to press, we had signed Ian Murray from Hibernian, Brahim Hemdani from Marseille, Jose Pierre-Fanfan from Paris Saint-Germain; Dany N'Guessan from Auxerre and Julien Rodriguez from Monaco. We have also signed Federico Nieto on loan. We hope all our new signings have long and successful careers at our club. Some players have left the club since the end of last season and we wish the players well for the future (except, of course, whenever they play against Rangers).

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## Race Night

The Trust is delighted to announce an exciting fundraiser for the beginning of the new season. In the past we have had several very successful dinners and we thought it was now time that we had a race night. The evening will be great value at only £5 a ticket. Most of us have all been to race nights before and had a fun time. This one won't be any different and as such, over the next month or so, we'll be looking for the usual array of individual race sponsors and horse owners. Furthermore, if you can donate prizes, then that would be most welcome. As usual, if you have any questions about the above, please e-mail [info@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:info@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk) and we'll get back to you as soon as possible.



**THE RANGERS SUPPORTERS TRUST**  
presents  
**A NIGHT AT THE RACES**

Followed by Blue Night  
Disco and live band:  
**'The Thornlie Boys'**

**Saturday 27th August**  
7pm - 1am  
Wee 'Gers Club, Edmiston Drive  
Tickets: £5 - First come, first served

Available from the Clachan Bar (TBO Lounge); prior to the Borussia MG friendly (23rd July)  
by email: [agent00sout@tinyonline.co.uk](mailto:agent00sout@tinyonline.co.uk);  
or directly from any RST Board member

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## SPL Champions – Season 2004/05

Everyone at the Rangers Supporters Trust would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Rangers management and players in winning the club's 51<sup>st</sup> league title. Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May will go down in history as being one of the most amazing in the club's history. Every Rangers fan will remember where they were when they either witnessed or heard that Rangers had clinched their 51<sup>st</sup> league championship!



## Announcements from Rangers Football Club plc

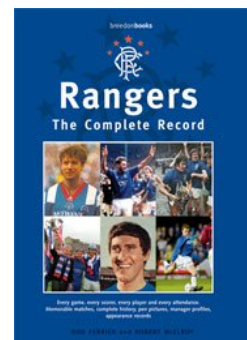
The club has made two official announcements on Ofex since our last newsletter was published: On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, the Rangers Football Club plc announced that it has entered into a four year agreement with Umbro commencing at the start of the 2005/06 football season for Umbro to provide Rangers' kit and to be the Club's exclusive technical sportswear sponsor. In addition Umbro have been granted rights to distribute replica kits and training products abroad. It is anticipated that these arrangements will contribute £6.5m annually through the Club's retail activities. On 21<sup>st</sup> March, the Rangers Football Club plc announced that following recent restructuring of the Club's business operations, Nick Peel, who headed the Clubs retail business, had resigned as a Director of the Club with immediate effect to pursue other business interests. Ofex have recently re-designed their website, and there is now no longer any need to register. Go to <http://www.ofex.com/cgi-bin/profile.cgi?ISIN=GB0007237380> for further details.

## Support for David Murray's statement

On 4<sup>th</sup> August, the Board of the Rangers Supporters Trust released a press statement to say we welcomed David Murray's article in the Rangers News and believes such a statement is overdue. We understand the Chairman's reluctance to name specific journalists but many of our members and the wider Rangers family know who this initiative is aimed at. The Trust Board intends to issue further advisory material containing examples of the sort of coverage referred to. We urge all our members - indeed, anyone interested in objectivity and high journalistic standards - to reconsider any commercial support for those newspapers and radio stations responsible for petty, personalised attacks and vendettas against Rangers FC and Rangers supporters." David Murray's statement is also online at: <http://www.rangers.premiumtv.co.uk/page/News/NewsDetail/0,,5~693937,00.html> and a copy of the RST's media release is at: <http://www.rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk/media/mediarelease030805.pdf>.

## New Rangers book is published this month!

With official backing from the Club, a new book the "Rangers: The Complete Record" is being released this month. This book is the new official history of Rangers from the foundation of the club to the present day. This fascinating title contains information on every game, every scorer, every player and every attendance. Covering memorable matches and manager profiles as well as appearance records, this book will be a must for the book shelves of every Rangers supporter. To pre order the book go to the web site at <http://www.breedonbooks.co.uk/rangersfan> or call 01332 384235. When book is published in August, members can have the book delivered to their home (£4 charge applies for UK) or they can opt to pick their book up from the Club shop. Either way the book costs just £19.99.



## A farewell message from the first chairman of RST

It is with a tinge of sadness that I (Colin Glass) write this. One of my final duties was the overseeing of the nomination process for new Trust Board members. I have to say I was delighted with the quality of all the candidates volunteering for Board positions, and I retire as Chairman, safe in the knowledge that the Trust remains in good hands. On a personal note, after some 18,000 different e-mails over the past 28 months, 48 minuted Board meetings and countless man-hours, I look forward to getting some balance back in my life, as being chairman, although satisfying, is so time-consuming. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all my colleagues who have served on the Trust Board so far for all their support, as well as the many ordinary (or should I say extraordinary?) members who kept us going with offers of help and messages of goodwill. I remain fully supportive of the Rangers Supporters Trust – indeed, I was among the first to renew this year, and I was glad to see so many others doing so over the past few months. It is quite significant that 3 out of the original 4 founding members of the Trust have now served their time on the board, but all three remain committed active members of the Trust itself. June saw the Trust Vice Chairman, David Tweed, and myself attending the NARSA Convention (at our own expense) in Las Vegas. The Trust's admin difficulties are now in the past, and I know that the new Board is working hard on some exciting projects that will benefit us all, but I shall leave it to others to share the good news at the appropriate time. At this time, Rangers Football Club needs a strong and vibrant Trust more than ever – they just don't realise it yet – in order that we may all see us realise our common goal,

which is a strong Rangers dominating Scottish football, gaining entry to the Premiership, and competing well in the Champions' League. At least one of the sides in this season's Champions' League Final is, by any measure, a smaller club than Rangers, so, yes, it can be done. A powerful Rangers Supporters Trust will ensure this dream doesn't die.

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## Survey of Rangers supporters

We noted with interest that Rangers FC conducted a survey of their supporters this pre-season. Last summer the Rangers Supporters Trust conducted the largest ever survey of Rangers supporters. The RST feel it is important for the club to get the views of their supporters. We will read with interest how the RFC survey results compare to the results of the Rangers Supporters Trust survey, which can still be viewed at: <http://www.rangerssupportertrust.co.uk/surveycomplete.pdf>

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## RST board changes

The board of the RST has changed over the last few months. We are pleased to announce that the new Chairman of the Rangers Supporters Trust is Malcolm McNiven. Malcolm, who has been with the RST since the beginning (serving as Secretary for the first two years) was elected unanimously by the new Trust Board at its first meeting. Malcolm replaces Colin Glass, and the whole Trust Board would like to thank Colin for all his hard work and energy during his term as RST Chairman and look forward to his continued support of the Trust. The deadline for nominations for new RST board members closed on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April. As only 6 nominations (including Malcolm McNiven, standing for re-election) were received for the 7 possible vacancies, all six were immediately appointed to the Trust Board, and due to serve three year terms. The five new members are as follows: Scott McMillan from Blantyre, Matthew Moore from Glasgow, Stephen Smith from Feckenham, Stewart Franklin from Tranent and Scott Wilson from Saltcoats.

The applications that were submitted by the new members are as follows:

**Stewart Franklin:** I live in Tranent, East Lothian. I have been a Rangers season ticket holder for 5 years in Copland Road Front (but may be moving to the Blue Order for season 05/06). I am the joint admin of Gersnet.net – an expanding community of Rangers related websites. Our aim is to provide a one-stop resource for the online Rangers fan by having several important sites under one general banner and hosting service. Currently we design, master and host the sites below. Webmaster and designer of the following relevant sites:

- <http://www.gersnet.net/html> - As above which has a busy Rangers forum of which I am a respected member and administrator. Unlike other online forums, we have a no-nonsense approach to bigotry and sectarianism. This seems to be unique and very popular amongst existing and new members;
- <http://www.theblueorder.co.uk> – Site and forum for the Rangers fans' group;
- <http://www.daviecoopercentre.com> – Site for the special needs charity
- <http://www.fmrangers.co.uk> – Site for Rangers research within the PC game Football Manager 2005. I am also the official SI Games researcher for the game.

As such, although I'm not a professional webmaster per se, I'd be very interested in serving the Trust as a webmaster and designer. I also have access to web space that would be free to the Trust and could devote a good portion of my spare time to keeping the current RST website fresh and up to date. I am interested in serving the East region of the Rangers support. At the moment, a lot of the RST's work seems to be concentrated (rightly) in the West of the country. I'd imagine quite a lot of our members would be interested in having reps for their area of the country that they might be able to contact easier. Not everyone can attend Ibrox, or the various meetings in Glasgow, so I feel it would be good to have a regional rep for Edinburgh and the Lothian's. Ergo, I'd be interested in serving those people while also being prepared to attend any main meetings elsewhere. Please note that I have a full UK Driver's license so I can get about freely and without many restrictions. I also have an interesting background in football having been capped at under 15/16 level with Scotland Schools and the SFA Scotland team. I was also 'S' Form with Dundee Utd, signed Youth with Cowdenbeath before moving to Junior level with Tranent Juniors and Ormiston Primrose.

**Scott McMillan:** I have been secretary of Blantyre Rangers supporters club for over 8 years now and in each of these years I have grown more concerned about the direction in which Rangers FC is going and the lack of contact the club now have with the fans. I am not anti or pro David Murray although I do believe the club has

been in decline over the last several years. I am positive in most things I do in life and I do not believe in criticising things unless I am willing to help to change things. The biggest problem we have as Rangers fans is lethargy amongst fellow fans and I believe the RST will, going forward, change the attitude of the average Rangers fan and I would like to be part of this process. I believe I can help the RST grow stronger by offering my time on a weekly basis and offer ideas and help with fund raising activities. As secretary of Blantyre RSC I and other members have organised many fund raising nights / activities that have added a considerable amount of money to our club funds. These would include race nights, paintball, raffles, pontoon tickets etc. My biggest fund raising activity was when Motorola (employer) asked me to organise and front their fund raising activities during the run up to Christmas 1996 after I contacted them & asked them to donate any money we raised that year to the Children's Hospice Appeal for Scotland. Although many people gave a helping hand I was solely responsible for organising all events that come hand in hand with raising money for charity. After 3 months of organisation in which I planned everything from prizes for the raffle (4 day trip to New York) to arranging sponsor activities I am pleased to say that we raised £15,202. As this was a Daily Record appeal we appeared in the paper a couple of times to highlight the tremendous amount of money raised. If successful in my application I would hope that the experience gained from these activities would allow me to help the RST raise funds and therefore gain a larger share holding in Rangers Football Club.

**Matthew Moore:** I wish to seek your vote for election to the Board of the Rangers Supporters Trust. I have been a fan of Rangers for as many years as I can recollect, indeed, my Dad once informed me, the first Rangers match I attended, I was the princely age of 15 months old, although, my apologies if my memories of the game are a bit vague. I would consider it a great honour to serve within the Board of The Trust. I have spent all my working life within the printing industry, serving my apprenticeship as a book-binder, having gained a lot of managerial experience along the way, experience I hope I can use to the full benefit of The Trust. I believe, that after a very successful first 2 years The Trust has been in operation, a great deal of work STILL has to be done to get the message across to "The People" that they should welcome and embrace The Trust, not fear it. This is in no way a criticism of the sterling work that's been done in these first 2 years. These are, potentially, exciting times for the future of Rangers Football Club, we (The Trust) have to ensure that we are at the fore-front of that success. We may have no decision on who ultimately pulls on the famous Rangers jersey every weekend, but we CAN be instrumental in ensuring the voices of the fans are listened to within the walls of Ibrox, not just heard. I promise to do all that is in my power to achieve this aim.

**Scott Wilson:** I believe in the aims and ambitions of the Trust because after 30 years of following Rangers I feel the supporters have never felt so disenfranchised from the people making decisions over the future of our Club. At a time when we are asked to pay expensive ticket prices for football in a league which even our Club officials admit is substandard and when our European results are as bad as any time in our history, fans have a right to be represented when it comes to decision making. The Club officials have to be held to account for the decisions they take and this is where a democratic, regulated body like the Trust must come in. I have taken a great interest in football supporters' organisations since the setting up of the Football Supporters Association post Heysel. Now via the internet I have followed the growth of the Trust movement and was delighted to see a Rangers Trust form. We have to get the message out that the Trust is not set up simply to whinge about Murray et al. We have to put forward positive ideas to the Club that will help supporters and the Club. Too many people think joining Trust is in some way being ungrateful or even disloyal to our great Club. We have to show that joining the Trust is the most Pro Rangers thing you can do. I would be in the Trust if we had just won the European Cup and made profits of £50 million. We also have to be seen as the voice of the Rangers fans, the voice that will fight media lies, unfair treatment of supporters at home and abroad and argue against over zealous Policing and Stewarding of games. We have to use the network of Trusts in the UK and supporters groups throughout Europe to get ideas and support for our aims. If I was to join the board I would bring experience as a Trade Union official where I am used to recruitment drives, talking with intransigent managers, preparing documents and papers for members. I also have experience with a fundraising project with Oxfam which included dealing with publicity, arranging sales stalls and arranging sponsors. In addition I have many years experience on the committee of a cricket club which also meant dealing with local media, gaining sponsorship and liaising with governing bodies. I firmly believe I know Rangers and Rangers people well enough that I can represent them to the best of my ability in order to further the aims of the Trust and in doing so we will eventually end up with a situation where supporters feel they truly belong to the Club and are not simply passive customers expected to pay up and shut up. The Trust must develop ideas and campaigns that will prove that the fans have the ambition, drive, creativity and good sense so often lacking at Ibrox in recent years and I believe I can contribute to this.

**Stephen Smith:** I was born in Johnstone, raised in Paisley, currently living near Redditch in Worcestershire. I am a former member of Paisley Central RSC and one of the founder-members of the Blackpool True Blues RSC. A lifelong bluenose and season ticket holder until 2001, I attend Ibrox as often as I can and have followed Rangers across Europe. I am standing as a candidate for election because the Rangers Supporters Trust is the

most effective and appropriate organisation representing Rangers fans, and I want to play an active part in it. A democratic body run by 'one-person one-vote', offering all fans an equal stake in the Trust and a Share in Rangers PLC deserves support – there is no substitute for elected, accountable representatives. I oppose cynical attempts by Club employees to hand-pick unelected people as 'representatives' acceptable only to them. This is an obvious attempt to frustrate and sideline the Rangers support, and we deserve better. Supporters (not customers) are the chief source of income for the Club and we should have more, not less, of a say in how Rangers is being run. As a senior officer of one of the UK's largest trade unions, I hope to use my experience and knowledge of successful campaigning, good PR, the law, the media and an involvement in politics to good effect on behalf of the Rangers support. I believe that Rangers supporters and the Club are treated disgracefully in the Scottish media. I am appalled that journalists like Spiers, McNee and Leckie can regularly portray us as hate-filled neanderthal bigots without the Club holding them to account. I will lobby for sustained pressure on Messrs Murray, McLelland and Bain to defend our Club and the support robustly, instead of continuing with the cowardice and dignified silence (sic) currently masquerading as a PR policy. Rangers supporters can put our own house in order if necessary, without facile lectures from one-eyed, ignorant media hypocrites and politicians who despise us anyway. I also believe that the Trust should continue to work within the Assembly - despite my reservations about why Rangers set up the RSA - because there are decent people within the Assembly who understand and share the concerns of Rangers fans. I see few valid reasons for allowing the Murray regime to play 'divide and rule' with the support. Issues such as: the inadequate ticket allocations, poor Policing and stewarding of away fixtures; the unacceptably poor relationship between the support and Club employees, as seen recently by the disgraceful treatment of 'Blue Order' members; having an adult debate about tackling sectarianism and racism; and the Club's spineless PR 'policy' and refusal to acknowledge our roots and identity are too serious for internal division and petty squabbling. The RST should aim to work alongside all those people genuinely interested in improving the lot of the Rangers support. I will listen to the concerns and views of all Rangers fans I meet, RST members or not. If the RST is to continue to grow and repeat successes like the scrapping of the idiotic union flag ban at Tynecastle, exposing Neil Lennon as a sectarian bigot and getting the Club to face up to some of the negative propaganda aimed at us, then the Trust must articulate the central concerns of the thousands of decent bluenoses everywhere. I will support initiatives to increase the RST membership base and remind fans that the RST is the only independent, accountable, democratic body legally recognised as the voice of the support. I will devote time and energy to the Trust if elected, and will stand down if I am not making a worthwhile contribution. On that basis I ask for your support. Thank you for reading this.

**Malcolm McNiven:** Having acted as secretary and treasurer for the trust since inauguration, I seek re-election to the trust board for a further 3 year period. In my time with the trust, I have held numerous meetings with the club on a number of issues, such as the rights issue and youth development. The trust was heavily involved in both areas, as I believe we should be. As Finance Director of Direct Sharedeal I hope to bring my financial expertise and large network of contacts to the trust. I feel that I contributed to the success of the trust in its early years, although there is still much more than can be done. If re-elected my personal aims are to: Launch the share save initiative within 3 months and have 1,000 members within its first year; increase the profile of the trust with high net worth Rangers fans, in the belief that the trust could play a big role in any future change of control within the club and to continue to seek board representation for the trust on the board of Rangers FC plc.

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### **RST information only e-mail list**

The information only e-mail list has been a success since it was launched at the start of last season. The list is for RST members only, and with its introduction, we have kept members regularly updated on Trust matters. There is not a high volume of e-mails, but it is useful to be kept informed of press releases, open days, fundraising events and such like. To join, just e-mail [joanne@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:joanne@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk) supplying your name and membership number, as well as the email address that you wish the e-mails to be delivered to.

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### **Change of home or e-mail address**

If you move to a new address or change your e-mail address please let the Rangers Supporters Trust Membership Secretary, Joanne Percival, know as soon as possible so we can update your details in the Rangers Supporters Trust membership database. Please email any changes to [joanne@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:joanne@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk) or write to the RST using the contact details below. If you move to a new home you should also complete the relevant section of your Rangers share certificate so that any shareholder mailings from Rangers FC plc are sent to your new address.

## New webmaster of RST web site

Our thanks go to Euan Currie who has recently stood down from being the webmaster of the Trust's web site. Our new webmaster is Stewart Franklin who can be contacted at [stewart@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:stewart@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk). On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June, we uploaded the new RST web site, which has received positive feedback from many members.

## Free hosting from the RST

The RST is pleased to announce our intention to offer web design and hosting for free to any Rangers Supporters Club or other potential sites related to the Trust and/or Rangers. At the moment you can view our proposed template at <http://www.rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk/rsctemplate/html/home.html> (only home and about pages available to view currently). Obviously graphics and menu choices can be tailored to suit each Rangers Supporters Club's needs. For more information please contact [stewart@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:stewart@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk) and we'll get back to you as soon as possible with full details. As part of this new free hosting programme we would like to announce our first RSC to be hosted by the Trust. The Ipswich Loyal RSC is a brand new club currently registering with the Supporters Alliance. They have just 12 members initially but are looking to increase this number. There are other Rangers supporters in the area but need to make them aware of the club, hence the valuable exposure a free RST associate website can give them. The club hope to meet for every televised Rangers game in local Ipswich pubs and already have one pub willing to let them borrow a private room for their meetings. Over time, they will also be looking to run buses to Rangers games for members to attend. To see the Ipswich Loyal's new site visit <http://www.rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk/ipswichrsc/home.html>

## NARSA Convention in Las Vegas

The first week of June saw retired chairman, Colin Glass, and vice chairman, David Tweed, visit Las Vegas to attend the annual convention of the North American Rangers Supporters Association (NARSA). Although essentially a social function, both men and their wives met up with a good number of RST members over there from the UK, Canada and the USA and got some renewals completed as well as a few new members signed up. The Trust Board members were only attending in a personal capacity - this being a NARSA Convention - so were not involved in any formal meetings, but that didn't stop either of them enjoying rubbing shoulders with over a thousand other Bears, still in euphoric mood following the thrilling climax to last season.



At the start of July the founder of NARSA, Tam Plunkett, died in Detroit. Tam had fought a three year struggle with cancer with amazing bravery and fortitude. He was released from hospital to return home for a few days as the doctors could do no more for him. Our thoughts are with Tam's family and friends at this sad time.

## Rangers Supporters Trust contact details

**Mail:** Rangers Supporters Trust, PO Box 3099, Clydebank, G60 9AN (NB: new PO Box address)

**Tel:** 0141 270 3296

**E-mail:** [info@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:info@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk)

**Web site:** <http://www.rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk>

If you are a member of the media, please note that all media enquiries should be directed to either Stephen Smith (07904 240 560) or David Edgar (07796 893 619).

## Next issue of "The Blue Spirit"

The next newsletter will be issued in October and will include a full report of the Trust's annual general meeting. It will be distributed via e-mail to all members who have given an e-mail address to the Rangers Supporters Trust. It does not cost the Trust anything to send via e-mail, so please let Joanne Percival know if you have an e-mail address – [joanne@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:joanne@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk). If you feel anything is missing from the Trust newsletters, please e-mail The Blue Spirit's editor Derek McAvoy at [derek@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk](mailto:derek@rangerssupporterstrust.co.uk)