



## The Chairman's New Year Greeting

ON the field and off, 1972 has been another memorable year for Chelsea Football Club. We did not win a trophy, as we had done in each of the two previous years, but we did the next nearest thing by getting to Wembley in the League Cup, and reaching a Final for the third successive season was an achievement of rare merit and worthy of our heartiest congratulations to Manager Dave Sexton, the Players and Staff. What is in store, in the playing sense, in the second half of the season we must wait and see, and we wish them well in their efforts.

Off the field, we have made enormous strides by advancing our redevelopment programme from the theoretical to the practical stage. As I have said before, when reconstruction on this scale is undertaken, inconvenience is unavoidable. It affects us all and, in writing these words, I would like to emphasise how much we appreciate the patience of you, our Supporters, in your understanding of our problems through these difficult early stages of redevelopment.

On behalf of my fellow Directors, the Management, Players and Staff, I thank you for your continued support and extend very best wishes to you for the New Year, coupled with the hope that it will be one of further progress for our Club.

*Brian Goss*

### Front cover shot

WHAT managers say to players at half-time is not for public ears, but if Chelsea fans still cannot hear what Dave Sexton tells the team, they have at least been able to see what's going on since the policy of staying in the arena during the interval was adopted in home matches last month. So far we've been able to wear a winning smile at half-time only once since we stayed on-field for the break—that was first time out in the League Cup-tie against Notts County. A change today?

**Talk of Stamford Bridge**—*continued* already been staged this time last season. Clearly, as far as Chelsea Football Club is concerned the decrease (*not* decline) in gates is not only accountable through the rebuilding, but if there had been a stand on the East side it is possible that our attendances would have increased.

League Cup Semi-final Second Leg

**Norwich City v. Chelsea**

Wednesday next, Jan. 3 (7.30 p.m.)

THE match is NOT all-ticket this time. As we announced in the National Press and London Evenings on Thursday, our allocation of reserved seats was being put on sale here today—to Season-ticket holders only—from 12 noon at the Ticket Office adjacent to the West Stand turnstiles. Voucher No. 32 from Season-ticket book must be produced. Any seats remaining unsold today will be put on general sale here on Monday from 9.30 a.m.

**The Chelsea Train** will again run to Norwich on Wednesday. Second-class return £2.15; first-class (includes high tea outward and dinner on return journey) £7. Train times (still to be confirmed at time of going to press); Outward, depart Liverpool St. approx. 15.50; return, depart Norwich approx. 22.35, arrive Liverpool St. approx. 00.54. Rail tickets are available ONLY from Chelsea F.C. and can be obtained from the Main Office after today's match or during normal hours next Monday and Tuesday.