

MIDLAND SKI CLUB NEWS

THE MIDLANDS LEADING SNOWSPORTS CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2006

Autumn Socials Membership Renewal

The Autumn Social program will kick off with a Pre-Season Social on **Thursday 14th September** at the Old Silhillians Club, Warwick Road, Knowle - just off the M42.

Come along with you memories and photos from last year, and discuss your plans for next year.

Sunday Lunch

Join us for Sunday Lunch on 1st October at the Heron's Nest from 12.30. To find the Heron's nest, leave the M42 at junction 5 and south on the A4141. Go through Knowle, and after a very sharp left bend, you'll find the Heron's Nest on the right, just before the canal bridge. No need to book - just turn up and join in!



This year's Warren Miller ski film Off the Grid will be having its only midlands showing at the Leamington Spa Apollo on Tuesday 5th December at 8pm. Tickets are not yet available, but keep an eye on www.warrenmiller.co.uk because they are probably going to be in short supply.

Holidays Update

Bookings for this season's MSC holidays are coming in thick and fast. You'll find all the details repeated in this newsletter. The sooner you book, the more assured you are of getting a place - we'd hate you to miss out!

It's that time of year when you need to renew your membership. If you get your newsletter from the website, you'll get a membership form in the post in a few days, otherwise you'll find it enclosed.

You can now renew online using a credit card through paypal - see the renewal form for instructions.

Free Ski Mags

This coming winter you can find two *free* UK Ski Mags on the web. Each issue of *Snow Magazine* will be available for download from <http://www.snowmagazine.com>, and the freeride mag *Dark Summer* from <http://www.darksummer.co.uk>

High Altitude Training

There are still a few places available on the "High Altitude" Training Weeked will be from 3rd to 5th November, based at Bryn Gwynant Youth Hostel. Located in the heart of the Snowdonia National Park, the hostel has superb woodland grounds and stunning views of Snowdon. We will have exclusive use of the hostel annex with self catering facilities.

We will arrange walks for the weekend, but don't be put off by 'High Altitude'. Climbing Snowdon isn't compulsory; come and join us to make use of a great base to enjoy Snowdonia; walking, cycling, bird watching etc as you please.

The cost of the accommodation is £30 for the weekend. Please book using the booking form at the end of this newsletter.

Diary

Mondays @ 7pm

Adult Coaching
Alan Parkin 01902 751288

Tuesdays @ 6.30pm

Instructor Training - Roger
Crombleholme 01785 714073

Tuesdays @ 7.30pm

Race Coaching - Roger
Crombleholme 01785 714073

Fridays @ 6/6.30pm

Junior Coaching
Nigel Dawes 0121 445 2594

Fridays @ 8pm

Adult Coaching - Roger
Crombleholme 01785 714073

14-Sep-06

British Ski Club for the Disabled,
Tamworth
Hilary Cox 0121 554 9745

14-Sep-06

Social, Old Sils
Jeff Elmore, 07958 967709

16-Sep-06

Summer Race League, Gloucester
Guy Hornsby 01564 779927

27-Sep-06

Ski Test Night, Tamworth
Snowdome
Lockwoods, 01926 339388

1-Oct-06

Sunday Lunch at the Heron's Nest
Rob Weeks, 01926 470656

11-Oct-06

Social, Old Sils
Jeff Elmore, 07958 967709

14-Oct-06

Summer Race League, Gloucester
Guy Hornsby 01564 779927

18 to 22-Oct-06

Daily Mail Ski Show, Olympia

28 to 29-Oct-06

Northern Ski Show, Gmex

2 to 5-Nov-06

High Altitude Training Weekend, N
Wales

Mike Thomas, 02476 692792

2 to 5-Nov-06

Birmingham Ski Show, NEC

8-Nov-06

Social, Old Sils
Jeff Elmore, 07958 967709

5-Dec-06

Warren Miller's Off the Grid
Leamington Spa Apollo

25TH ANNUAL EARLY-SEASON TRAINING WEEK: SESTRIERE, ITALY 14TH TO 21ST JANUARY 2007

You wouldn't believe the trouble we've had arranging the Training week. For this very special anniversary I was keen to find a new resort. Even though the great majority of people who responded to the questionnaire after last year's Training Week said they were happy to go back to Sestriere, I wanted to mark this special occasion with a special resort. Equity, our Tour Operator came up with Serre Chevalier but this brought us up against the perennial problem of taking our own Coaches to teach in France. Equity were sure they could get the OK so the Coaches sent off reams of forms in French with copies of their qualifications. You will not be surprised to learn that even after months of trying we got nowhere.

We had gone through this process only on the understanding that we were holding Sestriere as a fall-back, but by the time we had to accept the inevitable that we weren't going to France we ran into difficulty with flights. We couldn't get any from Birmingham, only Gatwick. We know how popular that would have been, so the only thing we could do was to move to a week later when we could go from Bristol. This is a reasonable journey, particularly as Equity will provide a coach.

So, back to Sestriere it is. I hope that you are not disappointed as we know just how suitable the resort and Hotel Sciatori are for our course and the Coaches know the ski area so well that we will waste no time in getting to the best runs straight away. So, even though we have "been there, done that and have the ski shirt" we know there will be no staleness. The new gondola will make San Sicario and Sauze d'Oulx even more accessible and we now know how quickly we can get to Claviere and Mont Genevre. Newcomers, of whom I hope there will be many, will be delighted with this vast ski area and the simple but very friendly Hotel Sciatori. There will be plenty of singles so don't be wary of coming on your own, but you may be asked to share a 3-bedded room because the Sciatori is only just big enough for our party. But this creates a great house-party atmosphere.

The week will follow the usual pattern of 6 full days skiing in a group of about 8 other skiers of similar experience under the expert guidance of a fully qualified BASI or ESC coach. Your friends will be very keen to ski all day, will be supportive and encouraging but non-competitive and your Coach will have plenty of time to give you lots of

personal attention.

Of course I hope that all the regulars and lots of people who have been on previous weeks will be joining us to celebrate the great feat of reaching 25 years.

THE WEEK IS NOT SUITABLE FOR BEGINNERS or people still finding their ski legs because we have to form groups of 8. You should be happy to cruise the blue runs and be keen to move onto reds and beyond.

The cost of the week is £710 but this includes virtually everything; a coach to Bristol, flights, transfers, half board in a 2 or 3 bedded room, all the coaching, insurance PLUS YOUR LIFT PASS. About the only things not included are ski-hire, lunches and drinks.

To join us please complete the Booking Form and return it with a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit of £110 payable to Midland Ski Club. Please note that the cost includes £100 to cover the cost of the instruction and this is not covered by the insurance. Also you will have to obtain the Euro-health card E111 from a post office and have a full, valid passport.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to call John Arnold on 0121 357 1644.

CLUB HOLIDAY: MOTTARET, FRANCE 10-17TH MARCH 2007

For the 2007 Club Holiday we have arranged a return trip to the 3 Valleys staying in Mottaret at the heart of this huge skiing area. With over 600km of pistes, 157 lifts and ample off-piste opportunities, the 3 Valleys rightfully claims to have the largest integrated skiing area in the world. Given that most of this is above 2000m altitude, it's hardly surprising that it also boasts one of the most reliable snow records.

We are staying in the 3 star Hotel

Royal le Mottaret which is 'in a prime ski-to-your-door location 50m from the Pedrix piste, a green run leading to the centre of Mottaret and the main 3 valleys lift system, 350m away.' All rooms are twin en-suite with free use of sauna and fitness rooms. The half board accommodation includes a buffet continental breakfast and a 5 course evening meal. The basic price is £555 including Birmingham flight supplements. For full details see

Neilson's second edition 2006/7 brochure.

If you have not been on a Club Holiday before, it's a social week's skiing where you will always be able to find someone to ski with as hard and as long as you want. There's often a drinks party before the evening meal, and generally as much après ski as you can cope with.

Mike Thomas 02476 692792.

EASTER FAMILY HOLIDAY: DAVOS, SWITZERLAND 30TH MARCH - 8TH APRIL 2007

This year in Davos was excellent, so the choice to go back and find some of the runs we may have missed beckoned again. Once again we will be staying in the Youth Palace. Davos offers 300km of pistes up to 2800m, a great network of lifts, with some very punctual trains and buses. The holiday is based on 6 full days of coaching and one day of free skiing. The accommodation is half board all en-suite travelling by coach leaving on

the Friday 30th March in the early evening from Birmingham, returning on Easter Sunday.

The prices are all in - Travel, accommodation, lift passes and training - with only your equipment, insurance, liquid and lunchtime refreshments to pay for.

Prices are: 4 Share £570 each, 3 share £600, 2 Share £680. Child discounts are £40 (15-17), £90 (13-

14) £130 (6-12) £190 (under 6). Insurance is not included but it is a requirement that a policy is in force to cover the booking, annual policies are usually best, the club can set this up for you at a competitive price.

Please book using the form in the newsletter, any queries please call 0121 445 2594 or ndawes@dsl.pipex.com



SKI TEST NIGHT AT

THE TAMWORTH SNOWDOME

Wed 27th September 2006 8-11pm

Here's your chance! Test the brand new 2007 models from Salomon, K2, Atomic, and Rossignol for a Special Price of £19.60 giving you upto 3 Hours of ski testing!

(Present the voucher below to obtain the Special Entry price)

FREE NIGHT OUT

Purchase a pair of 2007 Skis from Lockwoods before the 31st October 2006, and Lockwoods will refund the cost of your entry fee from the Ski Test Evening, upon presentation of the entry receipt.

One refund per pair of 2007 skis purchased.

Only Test Night receipts showing the discounted amount will be accepted.

Offer ends 31st October 2006



The usual Ski Club discount will still apply in addition to this offer.

If the maximum allowed number of skiers on the slope is exceeded, the Snowdome may, at times, need to limit numbers of skiers on the slope.



LOCKWOODS SKI TEST VOUCHER

This entitles the bearer(s) to a special entry price of £19.60 each on Wednesday, 27th September 2006 from 8pm-11pm at the Tamworth Snowdome

HIGH ALTITUDE TRAINING WEEKEND - 3rd-5th NOVEMBER 2006

To: Tony Costin, Lea Farm, Post Office Road, Seisdon, South Staffs. WV5 7HA

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

I enclose..... [£30 per person] for the High Altitude Training Weekend in North Wales. Cheques made out to Midland Ski Club

Signed _____

TRAINING WEEK SESTRIERE - 14th-21st JANUARY 2007

To: John Arnold, 102 Yateley Avenue, Birmingham B42 1JL

Please reserve ___ places on the Early-season Training Week. I enclose a cheque payable to Midland Ski Club for £110 per person as a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and I undertake to pay the balance of the cost at the end of October. I understand that the cost includes £100 for coaching and this is not covered by the insurance. We will obtain EHICs and have full passports.

Name(s) as per passport:

Address:

Post Code Telephone:

Special dietary requirements?

Do you require ski hire? **Y/N**

Please say how long you have been skiing and your present level so we can put you in the best group.

.....

Signed Date

CLUB HOLIDAY MOTTARET - 10th-17th MARCH 2007

To: Mike Thomas 71 Cannon Hill Road Coventry CV4 7BT

Please reserve places on the MSC Mottarets holiday. I enclose a non refundable deposit of £130 per person, payable to Midland Ski Club

Name(s) as per passport:

Address:

Phone number: Email:

Special dietary requirements?

Please indicate quantities you require: Adult 3 Valleys lift pass £144 []

Ski and boot hire £83 [] Seniors (60-71yrs) 3 Valleys lift pass £115 []

I accept the terms and conditions detailed in the 2006/7 Neilson brochure

Signed Date

FAMILY HOLIDAY, DAVOS - 30th MARCH-8th APRIL 2007

To: Nigel Dawes, 5 Private Way, Cofton Hackett, Birmingham B45 8UD

Please reserve ___ adult and ___ child places on the Family Ski Holiday. I enclose a cheque payable to Midland Ski Club for £100 per person as a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and I undertake to pay the balance of the cost at the end of January 2007. I understand that the cost includes £100 for coaching and this is not covered by the insurance. We will obtain EHICs and have full passports.

Name(s) as per passport:

Address:

Post Code Telephone:

Special dietary requirements?

Do you require ski hire? **Y/N**

Signed Date