

MIDLAND SKI CLUB NEWS

OCTOBER 2012

HOLIDAYS UPDATE

Family Week, Ski Amade, Austria, New Year: Places still available.
Training Week, Pila, Italy, January: Places still available.
Club Holiday, St Christoph, Austria, March: SOLD OUT.
S.America#3, Chile/Argentina, August: NOW BOOKING - see pg 3

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Members are reminded that **all** memberships expire each year on 1st October, and as such **renewals are now due**. You'll either find a renewal form in with this newsletter (if you get it by post) or will receive one shortly. Please check the form, correct as necessary and return without delay. Alternatively you can renew online at www.midlandski.org.uk/renewal.

You will need your new membership card to claim your free entry into the Birmingham Ski+Board show at the end of October.

OPEN EVENING AT NEW COVENTRY DECATHLON

Europe's biggest sports retailer Decathlon is opening its newest store on 17th October in Coventry. The store is located on the Arena Shopping Park, which is just past the Ricoh Arena south of M6 J3.

Members are invited to join Decathlon on the evening, which will last from 6pm until 9pm. It will involve an official opening of the store, special celebrity guest and free food and drink. There will be vouchers available for all members who attend the evening and give them a chance to check out the winter ski range as well as the other 70+ sports they sell.

Decathlon did a similar evening when they opened the Wednesbury store some years ago and it was most certainly worth going along.

10% off in Chamonix

Around 25 years ago Chris Fecher and his dad were members of MSC and went on a few club holidays back then. He clearly had the bug, as Chris has since then done, as he modestly says "a fair bit of skiing, including about 20 winters in Chamonix" and is now running a small ski school there.

Any one interested can find them on Facebook or at www.tinderboxskischool.com. Chris is offering a 10% discount on private lessons and avalanche safety courses to MSC members.

British Skiing: the Finnish View

Anna Bengts from Finland, who worked at Ackers a few years ago and joined MSC and trained with us, has written an article for a Finnish ski website on artificial slope skiing in the UK. Have a read, , although I suspect that most will need the assistance of Google Translate to understand it: <http://www.relaa.com/sisalto/artikkelit/laskettelua-ilman-lunta--kuivamaäkihiihto-briteissä>

Diary

Tuesdays @ 6.00pm

Young Racer Development Coaching
Roger Crombleholme 01785 714073

Tuesdays @ 7.30pm

Race Development Coaching
Roger Crombleholme 01785 714073

Thursdays @ 6.00pm

Young Racer Performance Coaching
Roger Crombleholme 01785 714073

Thursdays @ 7.30pm

Race Performance Training
Guy Hornsby 01564 779927

Fridays @ 6/6.30/7.30pm

Skier Improvement Coaching
Jane Lee 01905 345416

Fridays @ 7.30pm

Adult Recreational Coaching
Roger Crombleholme 01785 714073

13th Oct

Gloucester Summer Race League
Paul Treuge, 0121 308 5746

17th Oct

Decathlon Coventry Open Evening

26th-28th Oct

Ski+Board Show, NEC

FREE ENTRY TO NEC SKI+BOARD SHOW

Once again those kind people at Global Snowshows are offering free tickets to members of Midland Ski Club. We're not sure yet what the procedure will be got getting your tickets, but we'll post the information on the MSC website nearer the time and circulate it via email as well.

Put the dates in your diary now: 26th-28th October. And you will need to have renewed your membership for 2012/13.



UK Snowsports Coaching Conference **Anne Ford**

A few weeks ago I went along to this year's SnowSports UK Coaching Conference at the Chill Factor in Manchester along with Clem and Roger. It promised seminars on Saturday on a range of subjects and a day of skiing on the Sunday with a sumptuous dinner at Old Trafford on Saturday night.

I was especially keen to attend as the keynote address was to be given by John Mills of British Cycling. Is there anyone more qualified to motivate athletes than a member of the team that gave us 12 Olympic, 15 Paralympic, a tour de France winner and 2nd place and world road race champion, all delivered 4 years ahead of schedule? Who would not want to hear what he had to say?

But surprising to learn was that until very recently British Cycling had no coaches, no path to success, no identifiable goals and were on the verge of bankruptcy. So what did they do? They employed an accountant (of course) by the name of Peter King, who in turn appointed a development coach Peter Keen and with a magic wand and a handful of fairy dust turned cycling from the doldrums to centre stage of sporting excellence.

Not content with success in elite sport they are also aiming for a minor revolution through Go-ride and sky-ride events which are aimed at inspiring non-cyclists to ride bikes. No small task when you consider the British antipathy to cycling.

Membership of British Cycling has risen exponentially and funding has followed, with both lottery money and a lucrative sponsorship deal with Sky. Goes to show nothing succeeds like success. I was left inspired but not convinced we could guarantee the model for British Skiing.

Next on the agenda was a strength and conditioning seminar, where, mercifully, I was not singled out to demonstrate the 'plank', press ups, burpees, or clean and presses. All demonstrated with pin-point precision, by our British karate team coach Neil Welch

British SnowSports chief coach Paddy Mortimer's presentation was a call to arms for coaches to search for excellence, to nurture and develop it. His assertion applied a very scientific approach to what was intrinsically a very human process. That of engaging youngsters in our sport and keeping them motivated and wanting to compete at the highest level without 'burning out' or otherwise becoming disillusioned and quitting. Variety seemed to be the key to it, melding different sports into a rounded athlete.

He introduced the idea of 'road blocks' which are an arbitrary hiccup deliberately put in their training programme, with the intention of giving a super-talented athlete the resilience to deal with problems they may encounter in their sporting life ie not medalling, illness, loss of form, equipment failure etc. This idea seemed controversial to our audience but it made sense on some levels. With the mention of neural plasticity I'm afraid my brain went into melt down so if you want to find out what it means you'll have to wiki it.

Dinner followed at Manchester United's Old Trafford ground. I had never been there before and it was poignant to walk down the Munich tunnel which commemorates the tragic loss of life of the majority of the team in the aeroplane crash of 1958. The walkway was lined with pictures, portraits of the victims, and newspaper cuttings of the time.

One can't fail to be impressed by the history of the place and the fact that it's arena is one of the great 'brands' of Britain. - the dinner wasn't bad either.

Our surprise was Guy Hornsby who turned up out of the blue to receive an award as Race Coach for the Most Successful Club 2012 (that's us: MSC!).

On Sunday there was a varied programme of snow based workshops back in the Chill Factor ranging from race coaching to freestyle, re-validations to snowboarding. All delivered by some of the best snowsports coaches Britain has to offer.

I elected to keep my heels free and signed up for three telemark sessions with the wonderful Chris Stewart. From the beginners session in the morning through to the more experienced tele-skiers in the afternoon I just enjoyed every moment, though my knees felt shredded the next day. Chris is great coach and has that enviable ability to make it seem very simple. I will be following his progress at the Telemark championships at Rauris, Austria in January and hoping that he better his second place of last year.

It was a great week-end and I can recommend it as a great way to net-work, learn some new things, re-discover old things, and do a bit/lot of skiing.

FLOODLIGHTS AT TUDOR GRANGE

Floodlights have recently been installed on the cycle track at Tudor Grange park, which means that the Roller Ski sessions should be able to run in the evenings during the autumn/winter. Call John on 07903 650322 or Anne on 07958 721310 for more information.

Warren Miller 2012

Warren Miller's 63rd movie 'Flow State' is coming to kick off the winter sports season, connecting audiences with inspiring mountains and sensational athletes from around the globe. You won't see ski or snowboard action of this magnitude anywhere else. Flow State...where the mountain meets the mind. Tour dates will be announced soon, so keep an eye on www.warrenmiller.co.uk and don't delay in getting your tickets - they usually sell out fast!

The Warren Miller ski and snowboard film tour is a celebration of great mountain moments and the people who live for them. It's an annual reminder that winter is on its way and, with it, months of an adrenaline-fuelled dance with gravity and dawns with fresh snow. With goodies for every ticket holder and a prize draw every night, it is the perfect excuse to get together with your skiing buddies and get stoked for the season ahead.

Note that MSC will not be showing the film at a social event this year.

BIG SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE ADVENTURE #3

CHILE/ARGENTINA

15th/16th to 30th/31st August 2013

This is an MSC exclusive multi-centre holiday to Argentina & Chile, OR to multiple resorts in Chile. Our flights go from Birmingham via KLM.

OPTION 1:

We will arrive in the evening, so there will be 2 nights in Buenos Aires, the capitol of Argentina. There's a city tour included in our day in this city. Our trip will finish with an optional day in the capitol of Chile, Santiago, with a city tour if you wish. We will also have a wine tour in Mendoza included in the price.

This trip covers a large area so be prepared for internal transfers & hotel changes. We'll be doing some overland travel with beautiful scenery, so cameras are a must!

After a flight and transfer, the first resort we'll ski is Las Lenas for 3 days, then have a rest day in Mendoza with a wine tour before moving on to Chile to ski for 1 day in Portillo. Finally it is to our friend Pao's Hotel Possada de Farellones to ski for 4 or 5 days "The Three Valleys"... El Colorado, La Parva & Valle Nevado which link together to form a large ski area. One day here is the optional day to Santiago, well worth it if you haven't been before.

We'll finish off with time for coffee in Santiago before our afternoon flight back home.

Proposed Itinerary:

Day 1: Flight and time to Buenos Aires on KLM via Amsterdam TBA

Day 2: In Buenos Aires with City tour

Day 3: Morning flight to Mendoza, transfer to Las Lenas.

Day 4 - 6: Ski at Las Lenas (3 days skiing) and return to Mendoza last evening

Day 7: Rest day in Mendoza with afternoon wine tour

Day 8: Drive to Portillo resort. 1 day skiing then on to Los Andes overnight

Day 9: Transfer to Farellones and optional short ski from approx. 11:00am. Overnight at Hotel Pasada De Farellones. <http://www.farellones.cl>

Day 10-14: Ski La Parva, Valle Nevado, & El Colorado. (See details from the above web site). 5 days skiing or 4 days and optional day in Santiago with city tour.

Day 15: Morning coffee in Santiago. Fly home from Santiago in the afternoon on Air France via Paris.

Basic cost is £2175 per person + approx. £1086 for flights, based on a group of 8

The price is based on 2 people sharing a twin room with en-suite. Sizes may vary between hotels, but will be comfortable for 2 people.

A group of 6 / 7 would add a further £280 per person, however, a group of 10 to 16 would reduce the cost by £160 per person

OPTION 2:

Whilst the two country option is great, I am concerned that the cost will be too much, so I have asked Andes Travel to look at a multi-centre to Chile, which is cheaper than Argentina.

Tentative Itinerary is:

Fly into and out of Santiago.

Ski Chillan and Pucon, or do a mix of Chillan in the south and Portillo

Then four or five days at Farellones to ski "The Three Valleys"... El Colorado, La Parva & Valle Nevado.

A full day in Santiago with a tour has been requested.

Also a wine tour.

BASIC COST TBA, BUT IT WILL BE LESS THAN OPTION 1. INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS WILL BE SIMILAR, CIRCA **£1086.

Which ever we choose, A non-refundable deposit of **£500 per person** is required by **30th November 2012** to guarantee a place. Deposits after this date up to 31st March 2013 cannot guarantee places, but are likely to be OK.

(Dates subject to confirmation of flights)

Final payment will be required no later than **31st May 2013**.

** Flight prices are based on those for July 2013, so should be pretty close.

The following are included in the cost of this trip:

- Transfers
 - 5 or 6 nights Farellones, ½ board
 - B&B in the cities / other resorts.
 - 1 City tour is included in Option 1 and Option2.
 - ½ day Wine Tour
 - Access to tour Representative/Guide
- We will take an emergency fund with us to support anyone in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

EXCLUDED

Optional tour of Santiago for Option1.
Insurance evidence that you have insurance is necessary at the time of your final payment. Ensure repatriation is included.

Ski carriage €200 total (our discount will cover this if we get 10 or more people!). 1 pair of skis, 1 pair of poles & 1 pair of boots totaling no more than 23kg total.
Ski passes (£50/day Las Lenas, cheaper in Chile, less for the 60+).

6 or 8 evening meals, lunches (inexpensive & good quality even on the mountains) and drinks, plus general spending money. ~

Ski, boot and board hire. days "The Three Valleys"... El Colorado, La Parva & Valle Nevado

Are you interested in either of the options?

If so, please can you email Maureen Crombleholme at Maureen@ims-lifebalance.com or phone 01785714073 / 07710511388 with any queries and I'd really appreciate it if people could let me know if they have an interest in either of the options.

Race bulletin - continued from back page

4. Useful links and noticeboard

If you haven't found the MSC noticeboards at Ackers then why not have a look? Much of the information needed by skiers is on the notice boards, generally kept fairly much up to date. We have plenty of information on the MSC website www.midlandski.org.uk and there is information on the Britski site that is of interest to new skiers, particularly

Starting Competing -

www.midlandski.org.uk/wiki/doku.php?id=competing_in_club_nationals

Ski Preparation -

www.midlandski.org.uk/wiki/doku.php?id=ski_servicing_guide

Slope Guide -

www.midlandski.org.uk/wiki/doku.php?id=rough_guide_to_race_slopes

GBR Series - questions and answers -

www.britski.org/GBRSeriesQA.pdf

Guide to ski racing rules - www.britski.org/racingguide10.pdf

Fun for Minis - www.britski.org/fun4minis.pdf

Performer registration - top of page - www.britski.org - this site shows the race calendar and all race results - almost everything you ever wanted to know about national ski racing is there

Please feel free to ask me or any of the coaches if you have any queries.

Jane Lee

canal.cottage@bopenworld.com

0774 923 5579

If you have read this as a hard copy or on the website or in the newsletter and would like to subscribe to the mailing list then please ask through the 'contact us' section of the website, giving your name, email address and membership number if possible.

EARLY SEASON TRAINING WEEK 2013 - AOSTA VALLEY

13th-20th January 2013

Planning for next year's training week is based on consultation with and feedback from members. We have listened to concerns of rising costs and looked at ways to resolve it but without giving too much compromise. We have looked at a number of options but prices are not getting any lower

We will be travelling with Crystal Ski, flying from Birmingham and staying **on slope** in Pila in the Hotel Chalet des Alpes <http://www.crystalski.co.uk/ski-resorts/italy-ski-holidays/pila/hotel-chalet-des-alpes/>



This ski in/ski out family owned hotel offers simple accommodation, buffet breakfast and 3 course evening meals with ¼ litre of wine per person. All rooms have TV, telephone, safe and hairdryer.

You will ski in a group of about 9 friends with similar experience and a BASI or SSE Coach. And this isn't just

for a few hours like ski school but for 6 full days from 9am until the lifts close. The coaching is done 'on the move' with a minimum of exercises and you will do an amazing number of miles. But there will be ample time for your coach to give you lots of personal help.

This is the club's first formal visit to Pila by MSC but we know from a day visit out of Champoluc in March 2012 that it is suitable for our training week. There is plenty of skiing with a good variety of pistes.

The week is not suitable for beginners

The cost for this holiday will be **£859**. It includes flights from Birmingham, transfers, half-board in the hotel, all the coaching and your lift-pass. You will need to buy your own lunches each day.

The cost does **NOT** include insurance and you **must arrange your own insurance**.

The only other cost is either:

Ski carriage at £35 if you bring your own
Ski hire is £59 for basic, £70 for intermediate or £86 for advanced skis.

To join us please complete the booking form and return it with a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit of £130. We are sorry to be strict about this but the Club has invested a lot of money to reserve the holiday and this is not covered by funds.

You must have a full passport and your the name on the booking form must be the same as your passport.

You must hold a European Health Card.

I hope I've given you all the information you need to persuade you to join us but if there is anything else you wish to know please ring me on 0121 357 1644.

John Arnold

BOOKING FORM: TRAINING WEEK 2013

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

Please reserve _____ places on the Training Week in Pila. I enclose a cheque payable to Midland Ski Club for £130 per person as a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and I undertake to pay the balance of the cost by 30th October 2012.

I understand that the cost includes £130 for the coaching and this will not covered by insurance. I will obtain the European Health Insurance Card and have full passports.

Name(s) (as per passport) _____

Nationality _____

Passport number _____

Issuing office _____

Passport date of issue & date of expiry _____

Country of residence _____

Date of birth _____

Contact Address: _____

Phone & email: _____

Special Dietary needs _____

Ski carriage £35 _____

Do you wish to hire skis ?- Basic £59 _____ Intermediate £70 _____ Advanced £86 _____

Skiing Experience: I have skied for ___ years and am happiest on blue/red/black runs (delete as appropriate).

Signed _____ Date _____

NEW YEAR FAMILY TRAINING HOLIDAY

29th December to 5th January

Following several successful holidays in Altenmarkt, we are continuing with our tried and trusted formula, and returning to stay with Elke and her family, at the Jungend Hotel Ennstahlerhof. For those of you who have never visited, this is a lovely hotel in Altenmarkt, it is conveniently located at the bus stop, that takes you to either Zauchensee or Flachau, both resorts boasting a variety of runs from FIS world cup level to easy blue runs to move between local resorts. It also gives the option for any groups to explore a little further if they wish to drive. Schladming, Radstadt, Wagrain and St. Johann/Pongau, or even the Dachstein Glacier, are all possible day trips

The hotel has double, family and multi-bedded rooms, and has plenty to keep the kids amused in the evening with TV rooms, swimming pool, climbing wall and the "disco dungeon" (underground bar, which has in the past been opened up for New Year or last night celebrations). For the rest of us who don't have this much energy after skiing, there is a bar adjacent to the dining room, where many a happy evening can be spent, swapping stories from the day.

The hotel is situated across the road from an indoor/outdoor water park the "Therme Amade", which I believe is the largest water park in Austria.

I have again arranged the hotel, instructors and ski pass, so all you need to do is find your own way there. Cheap flights to Salzburg or Munich are the order of the day, with transfers available on the internet for approx. €41 return (with skis) from Salzburg, or I would suggest train from Munich. For those who wish to drive, it is approx. 12 hours from Calais, (700 miles). This holiday is aimed at families with school age children, as we book to account for the school holidays, and generally we have a mixture from all age groups, so friends can be made, but as always, it is open to all.

If someone in your family doesn't ski, but still wishes to join us, please let me know, and I will confirm the price.

Costs include ski pass for whole area, instruction for 6 days (with our own MSC instructors), and half board accommodation in a family room:

Adults £670, "Youth" (age 16-18) £620, and child £540 (there may be a reduction of £100 for children under 7 years, but I can't promise this until lift pass prices are published.

An upgrade to a double, twin or triple room is £25 per person.

Single rooms may be available, price on application. There may also be the possibility of extending your holiday either earlier or later than these dates; I can approach the hotel if you wish.

If you don't have your own skis or boots, these can be rented locally, but you will have to arrange this yourself. I would advise renting on the Saturday, ready for skiing on Sunday, to avoid losing valuable skiing time.



Winter holiday insurance has to be taken out by all, - remember that the club does offer discount on travel insurance (please see our website).

Any questions please try to catch me on a club night at the Ackers, or call me in the evenings on: 01788 337280.

Alternatively drop me an email with your phone number, and I will try to return your call.
holidayaddicts@yahoo.co.uk

BOOKING FORM: ALTENMARKT

To: Kim Hancock, 12 Saffron Close, Rugby, CV23 0XA or email holidayaddicts@yahoo.co.uk

Please reserve me _____ places as indicated below for the New Year Family Training week in Austria. I enclose a cheque payable to Midland Ski Club for £100 per person as a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit. I understand that the holiday cost includes coaching, and that this is not covered by most insurance companies. I will obtain the Euro-health card, and will have a full passport. I am a member of Midland Ski Club - <http://www.midlandski.org.uk/membership> I understand that the holiday price does not include transport to the accommodation or ski hire.

_____ Adults (£670 each) _____ Youths (£620 each) _____ Child/children (£540 each)

_____ room supplements of £25 each. Total holiday cost _____.

Names (as on passport), and DOB for under 18s. _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Signed _____ Date _____ membership number _____.

MSC RACE BULLETIN

Welcome to MSC Race Bulletin No 15. Anyone is very welcome to contribute to a race bulletin, just send the detail to me (Jane Lee- email: canal.cottage@btopenworld.com).

1. Gloucester Summer Race League 2012

Saturday 15th September saw the latest and penultimate round of the Gloucester Summer race League.

I couldn't attend this round, but from the feedback I have had and by all accounts quite a difficult course was set, I guess to challenge everyone towards the end of the season. Quite a straight course to start to get some speed up then a long verticalle, leading to some difficult tight turns at the end. I believe the course caused a few injuries, Ollie fell on the first Hd to Hd, and had to retire, Dave H pulled his thumb back, but never the less went to become the one and only king of the Hd to Hd's scoring max 9 points, and Joe B literally had a scrape with the matting. I believe they are all okay now.

Despite all that we still managed to keep our default positions. Midland A 2 nd on the day and 2 nd overall to Western Counties A, and Midland B 11 th on the day and 11 th overall. With only 1 round to go I can't see these positions changing now.

Top scorers this time out Anya and Karl with 24 points, and mention for James C who had a very good race. Jack T and Ollie won their age groups.

20 points plus: Gerry and John (20), Ethan, Ollie, Ieuan (21), Jack, Dave H (23), Anya, Karl (24).

9 points max Hd to Hd's: Dave H.

My thanks to everyone who helped on the day, Gerry, Kim, Gill, Jane, James E and Sam Lee who stepped in as Finish Judge, and of course anyone else I have forgotten to mention.

The next GSRL meeting is the final round, and has been put back to Saturday 13 th October to I believe allow further slope lengthening and modifying. The last round is always a good end of season bash, and perhaps we could organise a visit to the Elmbury Lodge afterwards to celebrate.

So first call for availability now, and anyone who would like to race please contact me via the usual way. Remember Seed points lowered to 80 for ladies only. 0121 308 5746 (evenings only) or p.treuge@sky.com

Best wishes to everyone, Paul.

Results are here www.midlandski.org.uk/raceresults. For further details see previous race bulletins www.midlandski.org.uk/racenews.php.

Contact: Paul Treuge. 0121 308 5746 (evenings only) p.treuge@sky.com

Important Note : October race has moved from 6th October to 13th October.

2. Championships

We're nearing the end of the championship season, the toughest races, the big results. There is a possibility of low seed points, in Championship races there is no minimum penalty, so it's possible to finish with zero points, as Harry did in the British outdoor. The challenge is to finish two races with zero points and head the seed list for next year.

All England Championships and Inter Club team race

This past weekend saw another long trek east to Norwich for the penultimate championships of the season. Following some excellent performances at the British and the Welsh, there were high hopes for this weekend. Some very damp conditions on the Friday night gave some cause for concern, but Saturday dawned bright. Some interesting course setting on both runs led to a close fought competition for both the women's and the men's races.

The girls, skied some solid turns, and put in respectable results, with a SEN podium for Rachel to end a tough day competition. On the mens side, after a promising display on the first run with 4 MSC skiers in the top 10, the day ended with 3 in the top 15, Harry (5 th), Adam B (8 th) and Jonny P (11 th). There were age group podiums for Harry (2 nd SEN) and Ollie (1 st U12), to round off what has been another wonderful season for MSC.

The MSC Race Bulletin is issued every few weeks (depending on what is happening) and distributed to members via email. The latest bulletin is on this page and the next. If you are not getting bulletins by email but would like to do so, please send an email to admin@midlandski.org.uk asking to be added to the distribution list and we'll get it done!

Sunday saw the inter-club team dual event, with three MSC teams competing. The A and B teams put in some excellent performances against some stern opposition during the morning rounds, to secure berths in the quarterfinals in the afternoon. The Bears team in the open competition, displayed some great skills, but unfortunately failed to progress from the morning group stages. The afternoon saw the A and B teams drawn against the eventual finalists, and did themselves proud despite suffering narrow defeats. Ollie, showed that size doesn't matter and blew some senior competition away in the start gate. The strong team performances paid testament to the team spirit which has been displayed through the season by all of our racers. A special thank you to Jane Lee and Phil Emmerson for managing the teams and to our volunteers who took on the officialing tasks throughout the weekend.

Also congratulations to those selected for the England team, Lucy Deller, Harry Hornsby, Adam Beardmore, Jonny Powell and Andy du Plessis.

Finally congratulations to everyone for the CN overall series victory for the second year running.

Andy

Congratulations to Ollie – his win here in the All England championships gives him his 4th major award this year – 1st in U12M British Indoor, 1st in U12M in both Indoor and Outdoor GBR series and now 1st in U12M in the All England Championship. All come with brand, sparkling new perpetual trophies, this is the first year of U12s racing, so Ollie will have the pleasure for years to come of looking back and seeing his name right at the top of the list. Rob and Gill need a huge extension to the mantelpiece to accommodate all these trophies.



Irish Champs

In Kiltarnan, near Dublin on 29 th / 30 th September. This was a great weekend last year, although wet. The race entry fee includes a t-shirt and food and drink all weekend, breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. On Saturday is the international dual slalom, for this race as well as the usual A and B team for each country there are development teams as well, so a chance to race for quite a number of the visiting racers.

These races are all really well worth entering, if only for the experience of big races to get a good idea of what is ahead. MSC will be going for gold in all these races, aiming for a record number of Championships podiums for 2012 to go with the record number of overall and age group podiums already won.

3. ESSKIA

The regional finals were on 15th September at Stoke. Hopefully we can bring you a full report in the next bulletin.

ESSKIA English age group finals are at Norwich on 6 th October and the Open finals at Norwich on 7 th October. I know that Heart of England, Solihull and Princethorpe all have teams who have qualified – good luck to all. Norwich is a new venue for ESSKIA and this should be a great weekend.

The British finals go back to Pontypool this year on 18 th November, I think that a number of our teams will progress right through to these finals.

(cont pg 3)