

MIDLAND SKI CLUB NEWS

**SOCIAL WEEK
2015 inside!**

JUNE 2014

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 4th June - Note the venue!

The Annual General Meeting of Midland Ski Club will be held on Wednesday 4th June starting at 8pm.

The meeting will be held at **Hollyfields Sport and Conference Centre**, Woodacre Road, Erdington - this is just off the Tyburn Road leading out of Birmingham, accessible from either J5 or J6 of the M6. For sat-nav users the postcode is B24 OJT.

Nominations for the roles of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer as well as members of the committee are welcome and should be made to the current secretary, Diana Horth (01889 800706, diana.horth@ntlworld.com).

CESA Teams

Congratulations to those Midland Racers who have recently won places on the Central England teams for the inter-regional race being held at Gloucester this weekend. Well done to:

*Ollie Weeks, Andrew DuPlessis, Jamie Smith, Jess Mayhew
Sam Dewison, Libby Thomas, Toby Tarrant, Jack Danns
Phil Emmerson, Any Middleton, Tom Lawrence, Rachel Bill
Ethan Hemming, Tom Upton, Matt Kirkland and Sam Lee.*

MSC Club National

The MSC Club National race is on Saturday 28th June at Gloucester Ski slope.

All racers: please get your entry in as soon as you can. Even if you are not registered you can enter as a day-entry - speak to your coach!

All non-racers: we need your help to run the day! Apart from the official race roles, there are lots of jobs which need doing from issuing bibs to selling raffle tickets to clearing up at the end of the day. Contact chiefoftrace@midlandski.org.uk to volunteer.

Don't fancy it? Then why not take a trip to **Wood Farm Brewery** - see inside.

YE OLDE
**SARACEN'S
HEAD**
PUB & DINING
Balsall Street, Balsall Common
MIDLAND SKI CLUB SPECIAL:
25% off all food on bill.
No limit to party size. Drinks excluded.
Offer redeemable upon proof of
membership of MSC or show this
newsletter!

Diary

Tuesdays @ 6.00pm

Young Racer Development Coaching

Tuesdays @ 7.30pm

Race Development Coaching

Thursdays @ 6.00pm

Young Racer Performance Coaching

Thursdays @ 7.30pm

Race Performance Training

Fridays @ 6/6.30/7.30pm

Skier Improvement Coaching

Fridays @ 7.30pm

Adult Recreational Coaching

For all coaching contact:

Roger Crombleholme 07736 821147

Guy Hornsby 07768 253515

Gloucester Summer Races:

14th June;

19th July; 16th August;

27th Sept; 18th October

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4th June - Hollyfields, Woodacre Road, Erdington

Diana Horth - 01889 800706

Wood Farm Brewery Tour

28th June

Mike Thomas - 024 76692792

MSC Club National Race

28th June

Andrew du Plessis, 07904 200232

HATW Lake District

28-31st August - Coniston

Mike Thomas - 024 76692792

vision express
Harborne

Specialist Sports Eyewear Store
Glasses and goggles for many sports
Special offers for MSC Members

144 High Street Harborne, B17 9NP
0121 428 4835 Private car park at rear



Club Holiday: Alpe d'Huez - 7th-14th March 2015

For the 2015 Club holiday we will be staying at the Chalet Hotel Les Cimes in Alpe d'Huez. This is an Inghams run hotel a short walk to the centre of the resort. You can find details in the Inghams brochure. We will be on a half board basis, with afternoon tea each day but one staff have one night off where we will need to make alternative arrangements.

Les Cimes is said to be a comfortable hotel and all bedrooms have been recently refurbished. The bedrooms all have en suite facilities and many have a south-facing balcony. They are all well equipped and all have flat screen TV, safe and hairdryer. It has a sunny, south-facing position, close to the ski lifts with views of the surrounding mountains especially from the sun terrace and the balconies.

The hotel's dining room has views of the Oisans valley. There is also a bar and lounge with fireplace and it is here where pre-dinner canapés and apéritifs are served. You can also relax here after dinner with coffee etc.

The centre of the resort is just 5 minutes' walk away including a selection of après-ski bars and restaurants. Here you will find the the resort indoor/outdoor swimming pool and ice rink, entry to which is included with the lift pass.

The nearest ski lift is the Grand Sure chairlift which goes direct to the Signal and this is just a minute's walk away. You can also ski back to this point at the end of the day.

The resort of Alpe d'Huez itself is 1860m with the highest lift to Pic Blanc at 3320m. It is an extensive area (south facing) but with a good number of lifts.

If you have not joined a club holiday before now please be reassured that we do all we can to make sure you are included, that you have a group to ski with and that you're not left alone wondering who to talk to.

We are flying with Monarch from Birmingham to Geneva. Flight times are provisional

7 March depart Birmingham at 0920 to arrive Geneva at 12.20

14 March depart Geneva 18.55 to arrive Birmingham at 19.55

The base cost of the holiday is £630

Deposit £150 per person. Balance will be due early December

The cost of area lift passes is yet to be confirmed. Provisionally they are Adult £209 and Senior £169

Again to be confirmed, it looks as though those over 75 may get a free lift pass.

Similarly I don't have a fixed price for ski hire but advanced are usually about £100 and intermediate about £75. We will be given a discount by the travel agent.

Any questions then contact me at dianahorth@virginmedia.com or 01889 800706 or 07806 777049.

The holiday is sold under the terms and conditions of Hotelplan Ltd (Inghams) and full details can be found in their ski brochure 2014/15.



CLUB HOLIDAY 2015 - BOOKING FORM

To: Diana Horth, 23 Lockside View, Rugeley, Staffs WS15 1NJ

Please book me ___ place(s) on the club holiday to Alpe d'Huez from 7th-14th March 2015. I enclose a cheque payable to Midland Ski Club for £150 per person as a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and I undertake to pay the balance in early December.

I have a current (or will obtain) European Health Insurance Card - do check the expiry date. I have a full passport valid for the dates concerned.

Name(s) (as per passport) _____

Nationality _____

Passport number _____

Passport date of issue & date of expiry _____

Issuing office _____

Country of residence _____

Date of birth _____

Contact Address: _____

Phone & email: _____

Ski carriage? £35 yes/no _____ number of ski bags _____

Lift Pass Adult (£209) _____ Senior (£169) _____

Ski Hire Intermediate _____ Advanced _____ Boots? **Y/N**

Special Dietary needs _____

I would like to share with _____

Gloucester Summer Race League

Saturday May 10th saw the first Gloucester Summer Race League for this season. The rain held off (mostly) and we saw a fair amount of sun and some good racing.

Midland A finished the day in 3rd place behind Gloucester A and Western Counties A with 170 points, not a bad start for the new young team - apart from myself and John I hastily add.

Midland B very creditably came in ahead of Western Counties B and Harlequins, , despite not having a full complement of racers.

MSC results can be found on the MSC website,

Everyone should be pleased with their performance and take home some positives and ideas for next time, as no doubt Roger will illustrate with his video at some point soon!

Well done to all.

Best Overall Position: James Shakeshaft 19th
Best in Age Group: Anya Hemming 2nd U12
Scored over 20 points: Anya, Rhian Llewellyn, Dan Sandler, Patrick Kelly
Won all 3 duals: Adam Eaton, Rebecca Tinley, Dan, Patrick
Most Improved: Sally Giles whose 2nd run was 2.33s faster than her first!

Thanks also to Ethan for forerunning – he got in plenty of runs.

And thanks for all the help on the day, and for offers of help. I came back from a rushed practice to find the money collected, flag raised, the bibs dished out, the team meeting attended. Also thanks for the results recording! All of which were really appreciated on my first occasion as team manager. The cup of tea was welcome as well!

Midland B was not a full team this time, with exams and other commitments, but I'm confident we can field full teams in June onwards and build up the participation.

If you want to race in year's summer race league, then get in touch me at Gerry@elgy.org.uk.

Wood Farm Brewery Tour

Join us for a brewery tour and meal at Wood Farm Brewery on Saturday June 28th at 7.00pm.

The tour takes about 3/4 hr, and the £19.95 price includes; tokens for six half pints (which you can either enjoy on draft after the tour, or take home in bottles) a souvenir pint glass, and a meal with a choice of Fish and Chips, Steak and Ale Pie, Sausage and Mash or a Vegetarian Dish.

Wood Farm is in the wilds of Warwickshire, about 6 miles north of Rugby and has a delightfully relaxed restaurant where the food is excellent, and the choice of real ales is overwhelming. The brewery visit has been highly recommended. For full details and location of Wood Farm see <http://www.woodfarmbrewery.co.uk/>.

In order to develop a thirst for the trip, there will be an optional-gentle cycle ride departing from Wood Farm at 5.00pm. Please complete the form overleaf if you would like to join us, and note the closing date is June 19th.

Lake District HATW 28th-31st August 2014

2014 is a special High Altitude Training Weekend - the 25th! - so we're off to Coniston in the Lake District. As the M6 on a Friday night is so grim, this year we're having a long HATW starting on Thursday 28th.

Low House is the new venue, but as it belongs to the Midland Association of Mountaineers, those who have been to Glan Dena will be familiar with the type of accommodation. i.e a modern practical self-catering kitchen, small dormitories, a comfortable lounge with a real fire, and a superb drying room.

Low House is perfectly located for ruffy-tuffy mountain walks, and delightful easier walking to admire the Lake District. Of course the walking isn't compulsory; come and join us and enjoy the Lake District from a super base. Accommodation cost for the 3 day weekend is £32.

If you would like to join us just complete the application form below.

Lake District HATW 28th-31st Aug 2014

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

I enclose £32 per person for the 2014 HATW to the Lake District. Cheque made out to Midland Ski Club

Name _____ Phone _____

E.mail _____

Wood Farm Brewery Tour - 28th June

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

I enclose a cheque made out to 'Wood Farm Brewing Co Ltd' for £19.95 per person.

My choice of meal is: Fish and Chips [] Steak and Ale Pie [] Sausage and Mash [] Vegetarian Dish []

I/we would like to join the gentle cycle ride. []

Name(s) _____ Phone: _____

Address _____

Training Week 2015: Pila, Italy

For the 2015 Training Week we are returning to Pila in the Aosta Valley. We will be travelling with Crystal Ski, flying from Birmingham and staying once again **on slope** in Pila in the Hotel Chalet des Alpes <http://www.crystalski.co.uk/skiresort/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.

There is plenty of skiing with a good variety of pistes. 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.

The cost for this holiday will be £895 . 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. Outbound flight departs Birmingham 0600 with Thomson Airways to flying to Turin. Return departs at 1010am arriving Birmingham 1120.

The only other cost is either:

Ski carriage at £35 if you bring your own; or

Ski hire has not yet been confirmed but will be about which is £50 for basic, £70 for intermediate or £80 for advanced skis.

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

To join us please complete the booking form below and return it with a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit of £175. We are sorry to be strict about this



but the Club has invested a lot of money to reserve the holiday.

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

You should hold a European Health Card. The week is not suitable for beginners

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, Bryan Arnott on 07578 428864 or bryanarnott@gmail.com

TRAINING WEEK - PILA - 11th-18th January 2015

To: Bryan Arnott, 40 Woodland Way, Birchmoor, Tamworth, Staffs B78 1AY

Please reserve _____ places on the Training Week in Pila. I enclose a cheque payable to Midland Ski Club of £175 per person as a NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and I undertake to pay the balance of the cost by **9th October 2014**. (this is early but tour operators are now expecting final balances a good 3 months before the holiday starts)

I understand that the cost includes £140 for the coaching and this will not covered by insurance. I have a current (or will obtain) European Health Insurance Card - do check the expiry date. I have a full passport valid for the dates concerned.

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: _____

Ski carriage? £35 yes/no number of ski bags _____

Do you wish to hire skis - costs have yet to be confirmed but are likely to be in the region of: Basic £50 Intermediate £70 Advanced £80

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

Special Dietary needs _____

I would like to share with _____

PRE-CHRISTMAS IN TIGNES

The DIY option:

Cathering and Clem have timeshare studio apartments available in early December in Tignes, Val Claret (France) for Sat 29 Nov -6 Dec (only 1 now available), or Sat 6 Dec - 13 Dec (2 available) or both weeks is possible!!!

Easyjet flights to Geneva are currently modestly priced!

The cost is around £200 for each apartment per week, making it a modest cost per person for skiing in a good resort, with quiet pistes. For the last 3 years there has been excellent snow cover to the resort in that first week, but there is always snow up on the glacier

We are going to be out there both the weeks, and have booked flights Luton to Geneva . Coach transfers from Geneva airport direct to Val Claret are available

Our 3 apartments are adjacent on the first floor; they each sleep up to 4 people: 2 single settees in the lounge, and separated by a door, in the corridor are 2 wide and solid bunk beds, so they sleep 2 or 3 easily, 4 if you are organised! Bed linen and towels are provided, all fuel bills are included. They are pleasantly furnished, and cooking is fine, plus there's a dishwasher but the kitchen area is compact. Reception speak excellent english, and are helpful. Warm ski lockers; a free pool in the block with single sex saunas, and the free ski bus stops to Tignes Le Lac and Lavachet are nearby, or it's about 200 m along the flat road to the lifts at Val Claret.

To book an apt we ask for a deposit paid to us of £50 per apartment to secure it, the balance to be paid in euros to reception at Check In.

You can travel anytime within the dates, (we are going out on Sunday 30 Nov), but the apartment will be the same cost.

For more details call 0121 681 3611 to leave a message and we'll get back to you.



The organised trip:

Welcome to SkiMAD! This is a trip 6-13th December to Tignes (Val Claret) in the French Alps. The holiday will celebrated its 28th anniversary trip this year.

You will probably find the main reasons why you should come with us in 2014 in the following summary:

- A good break before Xmas
- High resort with glaciers; early season skiing guaranteed
- Inexpensive way to ski in the French Alps
- 6 days of potential skiing in your week's holiday
- More time on skis ; efficient lift / train system, short queues
- Medium-sized friendly group (c.30-40) ; big enough for all standards
- Good for singles, pairs or small groups. Company when you want it, privacy when you don't!
- High standard apartment block Inter Residence, near to lifts; heated swimming pool, two saunas, table tennis pool table and games room
- Last but not least, personal recommendation; 2/3rds come back next year!

SkiMad is Midlands based and organises the flights, transfers by private coach and accommodation in owner owned, and splendid up-market time share apartments. Our flights are: mid-morning from Luton and Gatwick airports to Geneva.

Our apartments are offered on a "first come first served basis"

The cost of flight, transfer, apartment travelling from Luton will be £395. Per person, based on 2 people sharing a large apartment

The cost of flight, transfer, apartment travelling from Gatwick will be £415. Per person, based on 2 people sharing a large apartment

Additional occupancy 3rd and 4th person will pay £270 per person

There are a limited number of small apartments and the price is

Based on one person sharing £405 flying from Luton

Based on one person sharing £425 flying from Gatwick

Ski Carriage is an additional £60 payable at e time of booking. As at 16.4.14.

These prices are available for a short time only. A review will be made in early July. Keep abreast of changes on our website www.skimadclub.co.uk

Further information is available from Nigel & Elizabeth Harrison skimad@liznigharrison.plus.com