

# Midland Ski Club News

October 2019

## Midland Ski Club expands with new developments at Swadlincote Ski Centre



Midland Ski Club is proud to announce a new expansion into the North Midlands by starting race training sessions at the Swadlincote Ski Centre in Derbyshire, in addition to our current Ackers sessions. The slope used to be the home of the Arrows Ski Club and this history has been included in the name of the group who will be known as the Midland Arrows.

Initially our own coaching team will be responsible for coaching at Swadlincote, but we hope to develop local coaches in the future.

To start off with we have 2 sessions a week, both on Wednesday, one for Juniors (11 and under) at 6:00 and one for the rest at 7:30. All club members are welcome.

## Diary

*Training times at Ackers Adventure, Swadlincote Snowsports Centre, social events and holidays*

Roger Crombleholme 07736 821147

Tuesdays @ 6.00pm: Young Racer Development Coaching

Tuesdays @ 6.00pm: Recreational Coaching

Tuesdays @ 7.30pm: Race Development Coaching  
Wednesdays @ 6.00pm Young Racer Development (Swadlincote ski centre)

Wednesdays @ 7.30pm Race Development (Swadlincote ski centre)

Thursdays @ 6.00pm: Young Racer Performance Coaching/coach development  
Taster sessions

Thursdays @ 7.30pm: Race Performance Training

Fridays @ 6/6.30/7.30pm: Skier Improvement Coaching

Fridays @ 7.30pm Adult Recreational Coaching

Thursdays @ 6pm Taster sessions 3/10, 10/10, 17/10, 24/10 under the Snowsport England 30 Days of Snowsport campaign. The Go Ski Go Board website has details.

**Gloucester Summer Race League** 19/10/2019

**Club Championships & Open** 08/11/19

**Winter Race League** 29/11/19, 13/12/19, 17/01/20, 07/02/20, 06/03/20

**Midland Schools Race** 29/03/20

### Club Holidays

Christmas/New Year Family training week. Details on page 8

18-25/01/2020 Club training week, Champoluc (fully booked)

07-14/03/2020 Club holiday, Ischgl

**Social Evenings:** Wednesdays at Hollyfields

23/10/19 Japan revisited

27/11/2019 Start of winter social – ski films, vin chaud and mince pies and a chance to discuss plans for the winter

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## **Warwickshire Walk - Catherine Frankenburg**

**June - Lowsonford Walk, Warwickshire** - a dedicated band of us started under a grey sky from Baddesley Clinton and walked across rolling fields, the sun came out for us, we got to Yarningdale Common, admired the views, then walked back through the woods, along the Stratford Canal to the Fleur de Lys pub, Lowsonford for a good lunch, most of us choosing the pies they are famous for. Then torrential rain started, so we waited for the worst to pass before continuing back along the Stratford canal, with improving weather, we took the canal link to the Grand Union canal. We finished the walk back to Baddesley Clinton in sunshine, dry and well exercised! Many thanks to Mike Thomas for organising the day and leading the walk.



## **Skiing with the Special Olympics September Social Function - Catherine Frankenburg**

In September we heard from Head Coach Shaun Gault, and Chair Alan Lines, both from the West Midlands group of Special Olympics Skiing. We learnt about the development and the philosophy of the West Midlands skiing section, and of the transformative benefits of skiing for people with learning disabilities. We then heard from an athlete who has been on a Special Olympics committee with support and encouragement from her mentor and she spoke about the growth in her self confidence and her skills doing that. She also told us about her competing at the World Winter Games in Japan, of meeting fellow athletes from round the world, the friendships that develop. and the experience of skiing in competitions and her thrill at winning medals. Shaun and Alan talked about the efforts needed to fund the trips and the benefits that the trips gave to the athletes, and their philosophy of inclusion that all athletes could participate no matter what their ability.

## **Worcestershire walk followed by a barbeque led by Catherine Frankenburg**

**Sat 13th July**

**July - Worcestershire walk followed by a barbeque** - this year we took a different walk from Holt Heath across the fields, again with good weather, (although not as scorching as last year), and through the woods. We continued to an amazing pub, with roses growing all over the outside, and inside within a time warp from 50 years ago for our refreshments. We then carried on back across pastureland, and back to Liz and Bruce's for another great barbeque in their lovely garden in Holt Heath, luckily with great weather again. Thank you to Liz and Bruce for planning and leading the walk and for hosting the Barbeque.

## **Upcoming Social Functions**

**October 23 - Japan Revisited**



Gerry and John Elgy present their experiences of a ski trip to Japan at the end of February 2019

## **November 27 - Seasonal Social evening with mulled wine and mince pies**

Discuss all your next season's skiing plans with other members of the club, drink mulled wine and eat mince pies while watching a collection of action packed skiing videos. 1980's one piece ski suits and equipment welcome.

Both functions at Hollyfields Sports Club starting at 7:30

## Landgraaf Training Camp - Julie Jones

On Monday 22 July we descended on Landgraaf in Holland for our long-awaited five-day camp with Roger and Joe. The children were all bursting with excitement to get onto the slopes, as were the adult skiers, although perhaps a little less excitedly after some long and stressful journeys. Little did we know that our outward journeys were a breeze compared to our homeward journeys – more of that later!

The accommodation and facilities were fantastic, and with a full timetable of events throughout the day everyone was kept very busy. Despite the almost 40C heat outside, the temperature on the slopes was below freezing allowing for great skiing conditions.

The stand-out highlights of the camp were the amazing improvements we could see in everyone's skiing, together with a wonderful team spirit of supporting and helping each other.

Gerry and John Elgy, on top of organising the whole trip (thank you so much) were out on the slopes every session showing the youngsters how it's done. John even managed some aerobatics and pirouettes on the last day, thankfully coming off the slope in one piece.

Paul Johnson threw himself into the camp with enthusiasm and energy and our new friend John Willetts was a welcome addition to the team.



*For some sessions we had the slope to ourselves*

*The skiers and coaches*

Lucy Sainsbury worked really hard all week, attacking the course with vigour every day, showing the Irish national skiers in the next lane a thing or two.

Joe Pearce improved hugely despite breaking a pole on day one. We thought he and Jonathan were being responsible and having an early night every night, but it transpires there was some sort of gaming challenge going on between them. Jonathan turned 14 on the last day, so we (hopefully) thoroughly embarrassed him, with a cake with sparklers as big as indoor fireworks!

Eleanor Schofield, a comparative newcomer to racing, came on leaps and bounds and was turning beautifully by the end of the week. Special thanks to Eleanor for rooming with Lucy and bringing Joe P out to Landgraaf with her. Jonathan skied faster and faster as the week progressed, almost unrecognisable from the start.

The Kendalls, Alex, Lydia and Ned, joined us on an MSC trip for the first time, with Ned flying down the slopes like a pro, although he seemed to have a penchant for losing his poles. Hats off to Alex for being the only one of us brave enough to run up the huge flight of steps outside, no mean feat anytime let alone in such hot weather!

The Tolleys, Sacha, Chris and Terina also came on their first MSC trip, and Sacha dazzled on the slopes, not only with her wonderful skiing but with a stylish array of outfits, one so white she almost blended into the snow! Chris let slip at the last minute that it was his birthday too - good job Joe had blown up plenty of balloons...

The Hampsons joined us en route from France, taking in a few of the local sights whilst Amelie skied. The improvement in Amelie's skiing was fantastic, and she and Jasmine really took Sacha under their wing. Jasmine, accompanied by her Dad, Jason, also had a great week, making huge improvements, although after a nasty cut she learned that she probably needs to wear her ski prep gloves next time! Interestingly, a gentleman on the ski lift saw the Kingsley name on the girls' clothes and shared with them that he was an ex-pupil. The girls were gracious enough not to correct him!

The Jones arrived in Landgraaf having spent a couple of days in Bruges buying chocolate, all of which promptly melted en route. Tommy did an impressive Superman crash and survived being thrown in the trash by Joe. Robert seemed to like the netting more than the slope, crashing in pretty much every way possible. Les had intended to do a little recreational skiing to get his knee back in action after his Pila crash, but given the opportunity to operate one of the walkie-talkies, he couldn't resist so was out with the coaches every day. And I mustn't forget those of us, Jason, Alex and Julie, who occupied the window tables in the bar every day in a vain attempt to get some work done whilst "watching" our offspring ski. At the end of every session we'd respond to the choruses of 'Did you see me do that really fast run?' with a slightly ambiguous note of congratulation that didn't reveal the fact that we'd been staring at our laptops most of the time.



*Not all the trip involved pleasant skiing.  
Some serious gym work was also required*



*And skis had to be prepared*

This newsletter isn't long enough to share with you the sagas that we all had on our homeward journeys (tunnel delays, ferry docking issues, fires, lost luggage) but the Kendalls trumped all of our problems when their flight home was cancelled, although their unplanned overnight stay in Dusseldorf gave the airline time to retrieve Ned's skis that had somehow been sent to Istanbul. Thankfully Ned and Sacha's missing kit eventually turned up.

So overall, and despite a few travel issues on the way home, the camp was a wonderful, memorable, experience for all involved. Roger and Joe had unwavering enthusiasm and energy, coaching all day and providing video feedback late into the night. Thank you so very much from all of us. The children formed an amazing tight bond and worked together as a team; it really was wonderful to see.

Tommy's review of Landgraaf:

When I started to ski at Landgraaf the slopes felt much faster, which I really liked because you could go much faster! I also really liked it because it didn't matter if you crashed because there were no spikes or diamonds to catch your fingers in so you could try and go a lot faster and not worry about crashing! I also liked it because the conditions on the slope were different every day so you didn't know what was going to come at you the next day so I liked seeing what it was like and it was mysterious because it would have loads of bumps one day but the next day it would have much more ice on it.

Robert's review of Landgraaf:

Landgraaf was as good as Pila! The most memorable moment was when I sped at the netting at 30mph, taking out half the netting. The quality of the snow was brilliant, much better than the glaciers are at this time of year. The coaching was excellent because they guided me towards lots of improvements in my technique and it was really enjoyable. The accommodation was modern and had some really cool features: the sliding door to the bathroom, the pictures on the wall, the English T.V. channels.

Quote from Roger:

It was a terrific camp, such a friendly supportive environment created by Midland Ski club for everyone to enjoy, learn, gain experience and improve their skills at their own pace. The interaction, personal engagement to learn and team atmosphere is something you should all be very proud of.

# Gloucester Summer Race League - Dave Beech

**July 13 2019**

The Midland Ski Club once again sent a very strong team to the Gloucester Summer Race League. After the problems of the first races in the season the efforts of Tom, Cameron and all of the team at Gloucester ski slope with the support of Stuart Robertson must be commended. The day was well organised, went without incident and finished on time, I passed on our appreciation on behalf of Midland ski club. There was a requirement for all teams to be more active in gate judging and changing - sincere thanks to all of our parents for all of your support, we couldn't do it without you. The dual courses were set prior to lunch and the practice commenced immediately which helped the day proceed smoothly as fewer racers were trying to get on at the same time and the duals could start straight away after lunch.

Both the timed course and the duals were fast if you were willing and able to commit to them which made for some dramatic racing.

We had reduced numbers today as Kingsley school didn't have any racers joining us, they were missed and we hope to have them back with us at the next race.

We did field a strong A team as we were joined by Adam Lee, Josef Feiven and Joely Side, I was our B team! Overall we did very well for the day, joint second with a single point separating the first three teams, well done to all of our racers who ALL contributed to a great team effort. Adam Lee won the event and scored a lock out with 29 points! Tommy Jones, Sacha Tolley and Robert Jones all scored maximum points in their duals as well. Josef Feiven finished in 3rd place overall and produced some great skiing, although he decided to prove just how sharp his edges were early in the day by trying to remove some of his finger and decorating his skis with a major blood splatter pattern! Joely Side finished 8th overall and didn't feel the need for any drama, Abigail Ward skied superbly and finished 28th overall, she did decide to take course inspection to the next level with a surreptitious face plant during practice, taking a very close look at the dendix. Both Josef and Abigail are OK.

It is generally accepted that 20 points is a good score for a racer at Gloucester (this is harder for some that are in more competitive age groups) but 8 of our A team surpassed this! Nicholas Evans and Jonathan Schofield both improved upon their previous recorded times with some great skiing,

The atmosphere at the race was very good and everyone enjoyed the day very much indeed, there is a summer break with no race in August, there are 2 more races remaining, Saturday 21st September and Saturday 19th October for the final race of the series - it has been suggested that as this is a 'fun' race it may be nice to emphasis this element with a Halloween fancy dress theme for the last race....to be confirmed!

**September 2019**

This was the largest entry ever for the Gloucester Summer Race League with over 160 entries. So many in fact that they ran out of bibs with the skiers from 150 onwards wearing some rather natty tiny bibs with hand written numbers.

A few highlights to pick out, first and foremost well done to all of our new racers that joined us and who all performed really well and greatly contributed to a wonderful team effort. On the day our A team finished 4th, our B team finished 12th and our C team finished 14th - well done everyone.

We had 7 newcomers to the GSLR this season, including 3 adults: Kristian Kott, Maria Batko and Eleanor Schofield. With the exception of Kristian who is already a very good racer, it is good to see adults taking up the sport

Winning all of their head to heads for max points; Bella Hoban, Nicholas Evans, Chloe Gardiner and Alex Chadwick. Amelie Hampson only just missed out with her final head to head called as a draw!

Scoring 20 or more points; Tommy Jones, Sacha Tolley, Alex Chadwick, Jonathan Schofield, and Josef Feiven. Robert Jones scored the most points with 23.

Once again a massive thank you to all of the parents for all of their help throughout the day.

The final meeting of the summer race league series is on Saturday 19th October, please let me know if you would like to join us.

## Race Success - John Elgy

First of all I must apologise for missing out on lots of success by our racers. I no longer get to many of the races and never made it any national championships or GBR races. I can only publish what people send to me.

First of all congratulations must go Amber Fennell for winning both outdoor and indoor GBR under 14 female series this summer. Not bad for a snowboarder who only skis during the summer months.

At the All England Championships in Norwich the Midland Ski Club had a lot of success. We had podiums from the following racers:

Ollie Weeks ~ U21 Male 1st & 2nd Overall    Abigail Ward ~ Senior Female (silver)  
Sasha Tolley ~ U10 Female (bronze)

In the Inter Club competition on the Sunday, Midland A progressed through to the knockout stages where they were knocked out by Aldershot A. Midland B unfortunately didn't make it past the group stages. Midland C also managed to progress through the knockout stages in the Open Competition, where like Midland A they were knocked out in the first round in the afternoon.

Some other podium finishes

Ellie Jackson: 3<sup>rd</sup>, British Indoor

Ollie Weeks: 1<sup>st</sup> Welsh Outdoor, 1<sup>st</sup> English Open, 2<sup>nd</sup> All England, British Outdoor Overall 3<sup>rd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> U21, Anglo Welsh Indoor 4<sup>th</sup> Here shown holding a rather large cheque for winning Team Evolution Da\$h for Ca\$h.



## A holiday opportunity - Catherine Frankenburg

**Early season Skiing in Tignes, places have now become available!**

We have a spare self catering studio apartment available Sat 30 November- Sat 7 December in Tignes Val Claret. It sleeps 2 comfortably (3 or 4 if you're organised with bunk beds in the corridor). There are already 7 of us going out that week, flying from Birmingham, so you would not be alone! We go every year and there's always been good skiing despite it being early in the season.

Price for 2 people would be £575 which includes apartment and transfers to and from the airport, as long as you book your own flights to fit with our booked transfer (which I can supply).

We also have a place for a male sharing a neighbouring apartment, as someone has dropped out. This shared apartment is available for 2 weeks 30 Nov - 14 Dec or it could be just for the first week, or just for the second week, which would be slightly more expensive and the flights are probably more expensive too, as we have a large group going out for the week 7-14 Dec (the Ski Mad group).

More details available from me if you're interested.

Catherine Frankenburg  
mobile 07739 460 950  
Home phone 0121 681 361

## Welcome to new members

A warm welcome to our new members: Lana Chauhan, Ian Walsh, Jasmine Price, Mackenna and Maelann Rodgers Jourdenais, Chris Ellans, Daisy Dunlop, Claudia Estrada and Evie Gardner

## Renewal reminder

Thank you to everyone who has renewed promptly. Some of you have had error messages and we apologise for this and hope to have it sorted very soon. If you haven't yet renewed, a gentle reminder to do so!

[Http://www.midlandski.uk](http://www.midlandski.uk)

# SL'OPEN DAY

Saturday 12th October  
10am - 8pm



Come along and celebrate our Slope Launch, SAVE on future bookings as well as have a 'rait good day!

OCT  
12

Sl'Open Day

Public · Hosted by Swadlincote Snowsports Centre

## Details from Swadlincote Snowsports Centre:

**Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards** will be on site during the day!

Officially opening our slope!

**RACING DEMOS/FUN RACE -**

**CESA CHAMPS - WITH TEAM EVOLUTION -** Call to Book your place on the race! £5.00 entry fee - donated to Cancer Research.

**PRICES SLASHED -**

If you visit on the day, you can buy everything you need to get you ready for winter whilst saving 25%!! See further down for everything included in this offer.

**TASTER LESSONS -**

45 Minute Ski and Snowboard Taster Lessons £5.00pp OR try both for £9.00pp.  
spaces limited.

Have a go at either sport or both - 8 years+

**TOTS TASTERS -**

30 Minute Taster Lessons.

Suitable for 4-7 years.

£5.00pp - spaces limited.

**OPEN PRACTICE -**

£5.00pp - 1 hour Open Practice Sessions.

**TOBOGGANING & DROP SLIDES -**

We will be selling Toboggan and Tube Drop slides for just £1pp - Available all day!

**SNO -TUBING -** We will be running Tube sessions but these are very limited due to slope use needed for tasters. **BOOKING ADVISED.** £5.00.

**FOOD -**

Breakfast Menu available from 9am-11:30

BBQ - available from 12-4pm

Alpine Lodge Menu / Snack Menu available all day.

Bar, barista coffee and soft drinks available.

**CESA championships**

As part of our Sl'Open day with the support of CESA and Team Evolution we will be hosting the CESA Champs. All clubs welcome. The format will be 3 runs, best two times for U14+ and best single time for U10/12.

CESA region invites entries from registered racers and racers who are members of registered clubs anywhere in the UK in the following age categories:

OPEN (1998 and earlier), U21 (1999-2001), U18 (2002-2003), U16 (2004-2005), U14 (2006-2007), U12 (2008-2009), U10 (2010-2011).

There will be awards for the top 3 male / female racers in each age group.

Entry Fee is £5.00 per head with this being donated to the centre Chosen Charity – Cancer Research. Prizes and Medals on offer with support from Team Evolution.

Please enter by end of day Thursday 10th October to be on the start list. Late entries may be possible.

**Race Secretary**

Gemma Whetton

Swadlincote Snowsports Centre

01283 890089

**Chief of Race:**

Jane Lee

leej001a@outlook.com

0774 923 5579

Facebook

Facebook entries -

<https://www.facebook.com/events/981843888830082/> or phone

Swadlincote Snowsports centre

**Provisional Timetable**

08:30 to 09:00 Bib Collection

09:00 to 09:30 Open practice

09:00 Officials Briefing

09:30 Course Setting

09:50 Course Inspection U14+

10:05 Course Inspection U10/U12

10:20 Race start: 1st Run U10 / U12; 1st / 2nd Run U14+

2nd / 3rd Run U10 / U12; 3rd Run U14+

14:00 Prize Giving

There will be a fun race during the day for non-registered / non-club racers, organised by Team Evolution with timings available.

No pre-registration is necessary.

**The centre will be open from 8am offering Breakfast.**

With the advantage of such a wide slope, open practice will run as usual on one side of the slope and is available from 10am - 8pm.

(Full slope available from 2:30pm) - However we will close the slope for a period of time whilst we run the taster with poles. A timetable will be released nearer the event.

## Success for Kingsley School

Our Kingsley School satellite have finished 3rd in the U19 English Schools Championships in Norwich last weekend! With the girls in Year 11, they were the youngest in the category against those in Years 12 and 13. An incredible achievement! Very well done and all that hard work has paid off.



## Family Training Week in Pila Sun 29-Dec 2019 to Fri 10-Jan 2020

As in previous years this is timed to coincide with the

**05 - 07 Jan Artemis Anglo-Scottish Cup, Pila, ITA**

You can book any coaching time period between Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020 inclusively depending on your circumstances, 13 days coaching in total.

This year's MSC coaching price will be £216 for 6 days (£36/day) any more or less days will be charged on a pro-rata basis. Also just a reminder that this is an organise yourself trip. It is your responsibility to arrange transport and accommodation.

The Family Training Week trains both children and parents alongside each other based on ability with approximately 70% of time focussing on children/juniors training. In this arrangement parents may possibly end up not skiing with their own children but possibly with other children from other families. Thus adults act as temporary guardians if there is a problem on the mountain - this may mean staying with a child/junior from their group in a restaurant until their parents catch up with them or escorting them to another location where they could meet up and so on.

There is more information and booking forms in the Google Group mail from Roger.



## More about Swadlincote

We are very happy to announce new Wednesday training sessions at Swadlincote.

An exciting opportunity has arisen at [Swadlincote Snowsports Centre](#) with the re-matting of the main slope to diamond pattern Skitech mats to broaden our scope to have a new regular training sessions there. This has the advantages of being a wider and longer slope that eventually will be homologated for National, GBR and Championship races.

In conjunction with Swadlincote Snowsports Centre management the new race training sessions will be held under the name of Midland Arrows and will regularly be held on Wednesday evenings, two sessions to start with, Children under the age of 12 where training and racing will be in stubbies and Juniors over the age of 12 who will predominantly be training and racing in full slalom gates. The origins of the name go back a long time, Arrows was the name of the original race club at Swadlincote, Midland had already forged close links and when the matting changed, maybe as long as 10 years ago, it merged with Midland Ski Club. It will be great to get back to training on this fantastic 160m slope.

The timing of sessions will be:  
6:00pm to 7:30pm for the Under 12's and  
7:30pm to 9:00pm for those over 12.

Session prices will be £20 for 1.5 hours and it's not covered by the Ackers 'contract' fee.

The first sessions were on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 ahead of their opening day SL'OPEN Day on Saturday 12th October and continue every Wednesday thereafter apart from major holidays.

These sessions will be in addition to existing sessions at Ackers Adventure.

All existing members will be able to take advantage of any Midland Ski Club sessions run at Swadlincote.

See you there... and ski down the 160metre slope. Then of course there is the Cresta Run, an awesome 500m toboggan ride that takes you through a series of exhilarating twists and turns.

For more information

<https://www.jnlswadlincote.co.uk/event/whats-on/>