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5th December 2022

Dear Member

It is with great regret that I write to let the Membership know of two recent deaths.

Harriet Brabazon writes:

**Peter Lord
1949-2022**

Peter worked for many years in Hong Kong, and it was through his friends and connections there that he was introduced to the Club, and was elected in 1988. He was a useful and consistent Junction rider, averaging mid-45s, but this very consistency meant that he was rarely afforded a high enough handicap to lay his hands on silverware at Prizegivings. He was a regular rider in the Seniors Events, and was President of the memorable Seniors Dinner during the 125 Celebrations where his rendition of *The Cresta Senior Blues* was the highlight of the evening. This is the chorus:

*We Cresta Seniors, we just can't have more fun,
Than when we're riding, sliding, gliding down the Cresta Run.
She lies there waiting, we know her every curve;
But if you want, man you've got to have some nerve;
Yes if you really want her, man you've got to have some nerve!*

Quietly gregarious, his unassuming manner disguised a sharp mind, an excellent sense of humour, and a thoughtful and generous character. In addition to his family, golf, shooting and wine, he loved the Cresta, and was a regular in St Moritz with his wife, Caro, and his children. His sons, William and Archie, are both Members but have yet to rival their father's best times! Sadly, in recent years Peter's health deteriorated, but he was able to revel in the joy of his daughter's (Tessa's) wedding earlier this year in the South of France. He will be deeply missed by his many friends, and our deepest sympathies go to the family he loved so much.

There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for Peter on 10th March 2023 at 2.30pm at St George's, Hanover Square with a Reception afterwards at Boodle's. If you plan to attend, please may you email Sarah Marston at smarston2022@gmail.com so they can have an idea of numbers for catering.

Ron Packer
1950-2022

Ronnie Packer was a citizen of the world, over the course of his life living in South Africa, London and Australia, collecting on the way an extensive address book of friends. And they were friends – he was very good at keeping in touch with people and his infectious enthusiasm for any opportunities for a new experience or renewing connections, combined with his ability to remember names, places, relationships, meant that he was always sure of a happy welcome wherever he went. He was a world class yachtsman – he was the navigator on Alan Bond's *Southern Cross* in the 1974 America's Cup, was on the winning boat in the 1979 Admiral's Cup with his brother Chris aboard *Police Car* (so named because no-one overtakes a police vehicle) and skippered a winning boat in a Sydney to Hobart race.

Ron was meticulously organised and a friend getting a lift to a house party when he lived in London was slightly surprised that there was no room for her suitcase in his car. The boot was full of parachute bags, packed for any eventuality: one containing black tie, another with sailing gear, a third with Barbour jacket, wellies and flat cap for shooting, and even one with overalls and emergency kit in case of a breakdown.

He was elected to the Club in 1982, but living in Australia precluded very regular visits, and his navigating skills on water did not necessarily translate successfully to ice. Although he did not fall often, his progress down the Run (although conducted with his customary verve and optimism) was frequently not a pretty sight. His three daughters, Tory, Kirsty and Susannah all became Members in 2019 and were a source of constant pride, joy, comfort and support, particularly over the last few years after his cancer diagnosis. His was a life lived to the full.

Yours,
Tilly MacDonald

Tilly MacDonald

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