

6th January 2021 - President's Letter.

Dear Member

After such a rotten year, it was a joy to see our beloved Cresta Run finally open on Tuesday December 29th, albeit under very restricted conditions.

Many of us eagerly read the daily time sheets, enviously thinking of our friends enjoying lots of rides, some glorious snow and the intoxicating Engadine air, even if the usual champagne (or Nyetimber) exuberance has been confined to private homes. Nevertheless, we looked forward to a happy and healthy start to 2021, hoping, optimistically, that the Swiss rules would be relaxed on January 22nd, the British tier system would help abate the virus, and we could visit our Club and our Engadine friends in a few weeks time.

It was not to be. The United Kingdom national lockdown, imposed on Monday night, firmly dashed any dreams the Brits held of February fun on the Run. The opportunity for other international Members to visit St Moritz this winter looks equally remote. The Corviglia Ski Club is closed and the British & International Mono Bob week in early February has been cancelled. There will be no Cresta videos this season as our videographer could not travel to Switzerland.

The AGM on 19th February will be held on Zoom. Harriet will send out details of how to register for this in due course.

Whilst I cannot believe I am imparting such a gloomy message I have a few suggestions:

- This could be the best ever Season to ride as a Beginner or SL, at a sensible time of day, and to apply for Membership. Therefore, please could our Swiss Members (indeed, anyone for that matter), who can find their way to St Moritz, spread the word, and bring your friends to come and ride. You will be welcomed by our indefatigable Tower Team, and looked after like royalty.
- 2. Have a look at Noni Cuthbert's new Cresta shop Instagram page **cresta_shop**. This is a private account, open only to SMTC Members. She has worked incredibly hard to source some fabulous and stylish items you cannot afford to miss. There are some Shop items which are available for Members in the UK to order (items in Switzerland would cost a fortune with re-import duty).
- 3. When the St Moritz bars and restaurants reopen, have an extra drink for those of us sadly stuck at home.

Wishing I was somehow there again Wishing I was somehow near...

Yours ever

James Sunley