



**31st August 2021**

**Dear Member**

I trust that everyone is returning from staycations, and forays abroad for some much needed sun – the latter despite the complications of red/amber/green lists and constant Covid testing.

### **HEINRICH PLATZER**

**1940-2021**

Cresta riders will be sad to hear of the death of Heinrich Platzer on 23rd August. A distinguished skeleton rider, with a clutch of medals won in the early 1970s, he turned his hand to toboggan design and development, and with the Gansser brothers, pioneered the introduction of the flat-top on the Cresta. Checking the times in the Annual Report, records were pretty static up till 1983 when suddenly the fastest times were being lowered every season, with Franco ("The Man") Gansser finally breaking the elusive 50 second barrier on 21st February 1987 with 50.97. According to Wikipedia: "[Heinrich Platzer's] sleds... won all national and international titles... The official regulations of the international association IBSF are based on over 90% of his sled technology and his inventions." I think it is true to say that, on the Cresta, all records (up to the introduction of the Wave toboggan in the early 2000s) were on Platzer toboggans; a tribute to the skill, dedication and ingenuity of a master rider and toboggan builder. All riders owe him a great debt.

### **CRESTA SHOP**

It has become apparent that in order avoid the necessity of visas and/or work permits, it would be a great deal simpler if the Cresta Shop next season was manned (womanned?) by Shop Assistants with a Swiss or EU passport. Should you have a suitable youngster in the family, or could recommend anyone, please could you let [Noni Cuthbert](#), our inestimable Shop Keeper, know. It is a great holiday/gap year opportunity.

**WEBSITE**

The calendar is up and running on the website and ready to take bookings for Beginners and SL riders.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions, plus the charges for slots/lockers/Aris boxes fall due on 1st October, and I apologise in advance that the reminder letters may well be going out slightly later than I would wish. Following the restructuring of the Club, the changes required to the Billing program and our accounts package are more than somewhat complicated and are still in the process of being fine tuned.

## ... and FINALLY

Only three and a bit months before our glorious Run opens once more (hooray!). I have to add "Covid restrictions permitting" in order not to jinx this fervent hope.

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Best wishes

Harriet

**Lady Brabazon**

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