



**23rd March 2022**

**Dear Member**

It is with regret I write to let you know of the recent deaths of Tony Nash and Urs Gfeller. Please note (below) the revised date for the service of celebration for the life of Rosie Snook.

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**Tony Nash, MBE**

**18th March 1936 – 16th March 2022**

Tony Nash, a Life Member of the Club since 1962, has died two days short of his 86th birthday. Delving into the Archive, I believe he first started riding the Cresta in 1954, and it was here that he teamed up with Robin Dixon, to form the famous partnership in the two-man bob, winning the gold medal for GB at the Winter Olympics in Innsbruck in 1964 – a result that has yet to be repeated by subsequent British teams. It was a golden age for the true amateur, and there were many Cresta riders who competed in those Olympics – Victor Emery (Gold for Canada in the 4-man Bob), Monty Gordon, Robin Widdows, Robin Seel, Guy Renwick, Bill McCowen and Andrew Hedges. In those days there was no funding, and competitors had to raise money themselves. Their victory in 1964 was a surprise – and was due to the generosity of Eugenio Monti, of the Italian team, who provided a bolt for their bob which broke during the race. I cannot improve on this [link](#), which (despite annoying adverts) is an excellent summary of their partnership, and a story that demonstrates the true Olympian ethos. The duo went on to win the World Championship in 1965, taking bronze in 1966.

Corners 5 & 6 on the Olympia Bob Run in St Moritz are named after the pair. Following in the footsteps of these giants were further Cresta Olympians – in the luge and bobsleigh, Dick Liversedge, Keith Schellenberg, Jonnie Woodall, James Manclark, Michel de Carvalho and Peter Clifford in the late 60s and 70s, and (in more recent years) in the Bob and Skeleton, Tony Wallington, Clifton Wrottesley, Tyler Botha, Alex Kefalas and Pascal Oswald. Olympian

Cresta Riders are a very special breed indeed; Tony was the crème de la crème. Our condolences go to his wife, Pam, and his children, James (ex-Tower Boy and Member), and Annabel.

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### **Urs Gfeller**

**26th March 1939 – 24th January 2022**

Urs Gfeller, an architect who practised in Basel, joined the Club in 1978, and rode regularly until the turn of the century. Sadly, I did not know him but I am grateful to Nick Bonham for conjuring a picture of a man who was larger than life, and who attacked everything he did with verve and enthusiasm, enjoying a wide range of sports including scuba diving and parachuting. During the Centenary celebrations he spectacularly did a parachute jump to land in the snow beneath the Sunny Bar Terrace – what skill. He was known for enveloping friends in a bear hug of welcome – leaving the recipients somewhat breathless and surreptitiously checking for cracked ribs. Generous, kind, and a *bon viveur*, we send our condolences to his daughter, Kathrin Toffol-Gfeller and his ex-wife, Ursula Gfeller, both of whom are Non-Active Life Members.

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### **Celebration for the life of Rosie Snook**

The thrice-postponed celebration of Rosie Snook's life will take place at Guildford Cathedral GU2 7UP at 2pm on Saturday 30th April, and afterwards in the cathedral refectory for refreshments and ABBA. There is plenty of on-site parking. Please let Tony know if you will be attending - [as13@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:as13@hotmail.co.uk)

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With best wishes  
Harriet

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#### **Lady Brabazon**

Membership Secretary, SMTC Ltd  
3 Swains Villas, Swains Road  
Bembridge, Isle of Wight PO35 5XT  
[harriet.brabazon@cresta-run.com](mailto:harriet.brabazon@cresta-run.com)  
M: +44 (0)7866 49 47 46  
T: +44 (0)1983 87 22 58



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