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## President's Letter

20th March 2023

Dear Cresta Friends and Family,

### **2022/2023 Season Review**

Count Dracula closed his vaults at the weekend, only nine months to wait before his mistress ice maiden Cresta will open again to reveal her latest secrets.

She has been on Top form this last Season, especially shaking her voluptuous third bank, where 21 new victims are now looking forward to a sumptuous lunch sometime in May, somewhere in St James's where ladies are welcome.

**The AGM Minutes** are enclosed [here](#) to give Members a flavour of a brilliant Season, highlighted during the last weekend by our very own Butlinburlesque redcoat Mills who led a cracking End of Term Party when Martin and Tilly were rightfully feted for their brilliant first Seasons.

That night we toasted many absent friends, and I'm sad to include [here](#) an obituary about the remarkable American Dick Cowell who sported more badges than he had rides. Only ten days ago a beautiful service at St Georges, Hanover Square, Mayfair was held remembering Peter Lord, my toboggan locker friend and much more besides. Members may think they can live forever, but in their hearts they know only their ice maiden is eternal.

The End of Term Party also revealed the Cresta editions of the brilliant David Yarrow's iconic photographs....every SMTC member will need a pair, but only after they have invested in a beautiful Season album from Melissa.

On that note, in February we went back to 1930's Chicago for Brad de Hond's fantastic **Shuttlecock Dinner**. Melissa has curated a wonderful gallery of photographs from the

evening and the private link to view and purchase them can be found [here](#).

### **America Toboggans**

As is tradition, the last weekend saw the America toboggans in action with Rocco Pitsch in full flight with a second victory from Top, emulating his father. As some of you know, many of these toboggans are past their sell by date. We are building twenty new ones all named after the benefactors (circa CHF 3,000) ...ten remain, please let the Secretary know if you want Cresta immortality with your name on a toboggan.

### **Ice Sports Foundation - Super-Sliders**

We are very proud to be a curious British tobogganing club heading down a crooked run, but the achievements of our Skeleton World Champion (Matt Weston) and our Silver Medal World Four Man Bob Team (Brad Hall) are beyond remarkable. Their sports would not have existed but for The Cresta Run, their achievements not for their talent. To encourage more British talent, Tony Wallington has founded a charity to give young people a chance to experience ice track sports. For a donation of just £10 you could win an amazing sporting prize. More information can be found [here](#).

### **Membership Applications**

Looking forwards, new Active Members are welcome to add to our fun and replace those in the twilight of their riding careers. Less welcome has been Proposers and Seconders inability to follow the rules and send in supporting letters before the end of the Season. This year, fines for late letters added CHF 1,500 to the Arbeiters' coffers. Next year applications will not be considered if letters are late. Enclosed [here](#) is the list of this year's applicants, please write in for those you know. Having let in many admirable post Covid members in the last two years, the chances of success have lessened.

### **Summer Events**

In thanking Members yet again for their support, I look forward to seeing many of you in May. There will be a cocktail party at the Cavalry & Guards Club on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, followed by golf at Swinley Forest on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Tilly will be sharing details on how to book in due course. The dates for the Summer Events in St Moritz are 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> July. More information on that is also to come.

All good wishes,

As Ever.

**James Sunley**

President, SMTC Ltd

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