

Philip Campbell Goddard
1961 –2023

Philip first experienced The Cresta Run in 1988, and immediately fell in love with the thrill, fun and companionship of the Club. He became an Active Member in 1993 and then changed to a life Member in 2012 regularly riding in practice and races, completing 800 rides. Later with his wife Sharlie, they became an integral pair of club life, in St Moritz and London, as well as regulars on the Club 'World Tour' events. Anyone lucky enough to be on the Zambezi Tour last year, will never forget his 'Firework' at Victoria Falls meant as a thank you to the extremely tolerant Rovos Rail Staff who had endured 70 Cresta members for 4 days. This led to an immediate explosion of African chanting and dancing in response.

Philip was the Shuttlecock President in 2015 and together with Sharlie they organised an amazing night at The Palace Hotel. Few will forget the 'maneater' video and the tiger outfits.

Philip was regularly described as a Bon Vivreur. A real party animal, entertaining, mischievous, always the life and soul of any party, always staying to the bitter end helped by an amazing constitution and stamina that none of his friends could match. He did have an extraordinary number of friends, many of whom he introduced to the Cresta Run.

His life was full of Joie De Vivre, an extraordinary love for life, adventures and misadventures. Motor Racing, Rugby, Fishing, Shooting, flying, card games, skiing and of course the Cresta Run were just some of his passions. Lunch on the Sunny bar never passed without Philip pulling out a pack of cards and ordering cognacs all round. More often than not, the card game would pay for his lunch.

In his life as an eccentric extrovert few people saw the quiet side of Philip, however he was fiercely intelligent, and a very astute businessman, taking on the family veterinary business and expanding it to become the biggest independent practice in Britain. Although his progression into the Veterinary profession was nearly halted before it even began, after he crashed his car into the senior professor at The Royal Veterinary College, on his way to an exam.

In 1990 Philip set off to climb Mount Blanc with some friends. He had not even left the car park before he was admonished by his Guide for the excessive size + weight of his rucksack. He was forced to remove a large carton of cigarettes, a full sized board game, 3 hardback books and two

bottles of whisky. After completing the climb to the summit, exhaustion still got the better of him and he somehow managed to organise a helicopter to take him and his party back down the mountain.

Philip never troubled the record books in any scratch races, however he did manage to get the better of the handicap committee several times. His last ride on the Cresta was in 2022, whilst in the midst of full chemotherapy, after which he received an emotional standing ovation in the clubhouse. He will be a terribly sad loss to the 'fun' side of the club.

Philip is survived by his wife Sharlie and their 3 children, Alex, Gertie and Jackobee.