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President's Letter

2nd February 2025

Dear Member

It is Morgan Cup Sunday, the Services have departed after a great Race, St Moritz looks stunning and blessed with wonderful snow, and we now look forward to some classic Top races after a thrilling Bott Cup.

I'm mindful there has been enormous pressure on the Run at busy times. We are victims of our own success, and it will be an important topic for the Committee to discuss. Please think now about your team for what will be a huge Johannes Badrutt field, as lunch that day will be a celebration of the Life of Brian.

As a tribute to Sir Brian Williamson, the Club has decided to offer one of the David Wynne maquettes for sale. The proceeds will be used to top up the Youth Fund, which supports young Cresta riders, and the Archive Fund which helps sustain our unique history. We miss Brian's eloquent voice, and a particular project will be to interview and record the Cresta memories of our senior riders.

The sales process will be a silent auction with sealed bids. Anyone interested in placing such a bid should contact the Treasurer Charlie Bott (cresta-run.com) for details.

The Club still owns three of the six maquettes which David Wynne donated to the Club in our centenary year 1985, when we presented the town of St Moritz the iconic sculpture opposite the Kulm that he created. The first three maquettes, auctioned forty years ago, achieved £23,000 - £25,000 each, and helped finance the cost of the sculpture. The subsequent highest price paid was £100k in 2011 at a Christie's auction.

David Wynne was a colourful Cresta Member and one of Britain's most famous twentieth century sculptors. His obituaries can be <u>read here</u>.

Unless the successful bidder wishes to remain anonymous, we plan to announce him or her at Prizegiving on 16th February, with best bids submitted by the close of the

AGM on Valentine's Day. Don't forget to order flowers...

Yours in anticipation,

James



Cresta Rider

bronze with a brown patina

14 in. (35.5 cm.) long

James Sunley

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