RBSG Ski Club (South)

Newsletter. Issue 1, 2006

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Events for your diary

Date	Description	Cost Per Person	Contact
18 Jul 2006	**AGM, The White Swan, 21 Alie Street** details issued by e-mail	Free + free drink	Stuart Mazdon
07-14 Jan 2007	**Skiing Holiday to St Anton, Austria** Mark Warner ChaletHotel Schweizerhof. details in this issue	Under £550	Dave Beecham

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AGM

As mentioned above, the AGM invitation and details were circulated by e-mail. If you did not receive this, please let the secretary know your up-to-date e-mail address. Note that we always now circulate e-mails as a bcc, so no-one else will be able to see your e-mail address.

Club News

Things have been a bit quiet in the club recently, with the Chairman spending 4 months as a Ski Club of Great Britain rep in the Alps, and the Vice Chairman emigrating to Zurich for the foreseeable future.

However, we have held the following events since the last newsletter in November:

Indoor skiing trip to the Snozone in Milton Keynes
Dave Beecham organised a group trip to ski on the real snow at Xscape on 26th November.

Ski Club Social
This was held on 5 January at the Liberty Bounds where we met a few new club members.

2006 Club holiday to Tignes
Full report in this issue

Wine Afloat – see opposite

Dave and Ian have also had several visits from Ski Club members during their time abroad.

There will only be one major Ski Club holiday in 2007, the trip to St Anton advertised in this issue, but we plan several more events nearer home in 2006.

Wine Afloat Weekend

28 April – 1 May 2006

As in 2005, we managed to fill two narrowboats, this time with a total of 16 people aboard Emily and Sophie. After advertising the trip in November, the places were quickly filled for a bank-holiday weekend sailing up the Lee and Stort rivers north of London. In charge of the fleet, navigation and provisions was Admiral Street.

After departing from Broxbourne on Friday afternoon, the first evening included a wine-tasting organised by Ian Huggins. Several of the wines were high quality clarets with subtle differences, but the two teams did quite well at identifying them based on the choice of descriptions provided by Ian. The cheese to accompany the wine was also well selected and very tasty. The winning boat in the call-my-bluff style tasting competition was Emily.

Locks on the Stort Navigation were wide, but too narrow for two boats, so they needed some care with ropes and steering. We sailed past the Beckham mansion on Saturday as a police helicopter circled overhead looking for a youth on parole who had made his getaway by narrowboat. We winded (turned the boats around) north of Sawbridgeworth and then spent the evening in that town, with a curry or pub meal, followed by a few drinks with old friends in their old local pub.

Sunday weather was again sunny as we continued back south despite Emily suffering a broken throttle cable. We could still control the speed directly on the engine with the floorboards up. Engineers from the boat yard arrived to fix it during our lunch stop at a riverside pub. Emily got a head start through the locks after lunch but Sophie eventually caught up and the club chairman executed an audacious overtaking manoeuvre just before we arrived back at the boat yard.

Skiing Holiday to Tignes, 15-22 January 2006

In conjunction with Huggins Tours we had 42 participants (plus 2 part-timers) in our holiday to Tignes. This included 4 from Exeter organised by Amanda Hadaway. Staying at the Mark Warner chalethotel Aiguille Percée most rooms had a balcony with views out across the slopes and of Tignes du Lac. As usual the hotel staff were very friendly and the food was generally very good, especially the afternoon cakes. We took advantage of the ski hosting that Mark Warner provide to show us around the slopes and after the minimal amount of skiing we were able to do in Val d'Isère in 2004, we were keen to explore the whole of the Espace Killy this time. The weather and snow conditions varied - when we arrived the snow was at least two weeks old though still in good condition. Snowfall from Monday evening to Wednesday afternoon meant that it was cold and we had deep fresh snow on many pistes - like skiing off-piste on-piste - until they were either pisted or turned into moguls by Thursday. On Thursday to Saturday morning we skied in glorious sunshine with almost all slopes and lifts open but still with soft snow.

Usual Ski Groupings:

- Leisurely: Rachel, Dave Peachey, Philip Street, Clare Naden, Sarah Coxon, Bob Jones, Christine Jones, Jill Newbrook, Margaret Wolfe, Marcia Khan (partly), Sandra Money, John Barker (end of week)
- Slow-intermediates: Sally, Paul Huggins, Simon Huggins, Mark Guilford, Mark Waddoups, Ben Newbrook, Matt Newbrook, Kate Sheppeck, Marcia Khan (partly), Amanda Hadaway (partly), Mary Russell (end of week), Richard Arthur (partly)
- Fast-intermediates (also known as the "Linda nutter group"): Aaron, Chris Woodard, Linda Woodard, Steve Pearson, Stuart Mazdon, Vince Patel (when allowed), Ged Sheppeck, Gemma Nahum, Nick Martin, Richard Arthur (partly)
- Fast: Nick, Tariq Khan, Jumbo Wieckowski, Colin Helps, John Llewellin, Clive Richmond (partly)
- Exeter: Ian Huggins, John Taylor, Richard Gough, Resh, Alan, Amanda Hadaway (partly)
- Ski school: Caroline Duncombe, Bridget Cooke, Adam Khan, Zak Khan
- Independent: Philip Culpan, Andrea Jerome

Sunday

As the majority of people gathered at Gatwick we bumped into Jane and Nigel from last year's holiday - they were sadly not joining us in Tignes. The 3½ hour coach trip was sunny and notable only for the injury to Mary Russell during the interim stop where she twisted her ankle, an injury that would prevent her from wearing ski boots until later in the week. Another injury became apparent upon our arrival at the hotel: Annie had fractured her fibula on the Orange piste the day before during a week's warm-up with Ian in Val d'Isère. The RBSG Ski Club Chairman, Dave Beecham, was also there to greet us, popping in from his Ski Club of Great Britain repping in Val d'Isère. Much later, Bob and Christine arrived in their hire car, having followed their AA directions from Geneva airport, but taking the summer route. They found themselves just a few kilometres from the hotel, but on the other side of an impassable mountain pass, and had to take the route back and round the long way to eventually reach the Aiguille Percée. Perhaps the hotel staff felt sorry for them and allowed them to park outside the hotel for free (as opposed to €69 in the underground civic car park).

Monday

The first proper injury of the holiday didn't take too long, as Barry, from the Exeter group, a skier with an instructor's qualification, had his skis dragged awkwardly under his feet by a drag lift that first stopped then leapt forward with a jerk with no warning. He was ambulanced down to the hospital in Bourg St Maurice where they found he had a compound spiral fracture that needed pinning - he stayed in hospital until a grand re-entrance to the hotel on Friday). Huggins Tours arranged themselves in the hosting groups along the usual lines - Paul and Simon managed to find the prettiest host, who turned out to be hosting the slow-intermediates group. Ian also joined this group (until the re-shuffle), still recovering from the Val d'Isère bug, as did the two Marks who had progressed from the leisurelies after their extra Canadian holiday last year. The leisurely group included Mary for the first run only as her ankle was too painful thereafter.



Lunch on the slopes

All the groups skied around Tignes du Lac and Val Claret as this allowed for switching between groups at elevensies and a lunch which was taken at the Bagus Café, bagus being Bahasa Indonesian for "good". The skiing day was not brilliant due to the poor light and was punctuated by unusual falls by Simon, Linda (on the rope drag) and Steve. Simon also had fun at the bottom of a chair lift, falling over and having to duck under the next two approaching chairs. In the evening quiz, it was fairly inevitable that a Huggins Tours team would win, given that we populated 5 out of the 6 teams present. There was a tie for first place but "The Small and Therefore Disadvantaged Team in the Corner" emerged triumphant

from the tie breaker which was to guess which woman was dating one of the male hotel staff. Team members were Richard Arthur, Colin Helps, Dave Peachey and Gemma Nahum. Dave Beecham managed to persuade a few hardy individuals, notably Vince, Nick and Mark Guilford to join him in a late night trip to the Alpaka bar. They returned at 2am while the snowfall continued all night.

Tuesday

We had a couple of early contenders for wipeout of the week today as Clive practised a head-plant and Ged ignored the fresh snow and went for it big time on the schuss at the bottom of Trolles. The boarders Vince and Phil along with Stu and Andrea took a wrong turn near the glacier and ended up on the black unpisted Leisse - 2 foot deep steep fresh snow. They were later joined by the other boarder Matt, but all four chivalrous chaps managed to take one Tomeuses chair and leave Andrea on her own on the next one in the blizzard which blighted the day. To warm up they finished with Trolles non-stop in 10 minutes, and then Phil and Vince did it again.



Apres-ski at the Alpaka bar

The fast intermediates with Aaron did the black Face run and loved it, Steve describing it as the best (or worst) black ever - just when you've finished the worst bit an even harder bit is just over the next ridge. Margaret didn't have a good day as her poles were swept from under her as she took a rest on them and then she experienced chest pains which required a stay in Grenoble hospital for the rest of the week. Marcia managed to lose the rest of the leisurely group early in the day, when she stopped to speak to one of the twins in ski school. They were reunited at lunch - perhaps this prompted her to join the slow intermediates later in the week. The regimented antics of the leisurely group attracted the attention of the piste-inspectors during the day. Usual procedure was for the group to ski down each section of piste in each other's tracks and then stop for 5 minutes for a chat. Unfortunately this appeared suspicious to the pen-pushers from Paris who required Rachel to appear at the local gendarmerie later where they quizzed her for 2 hours. Luckily the fast intermediates feature 10 different routes and 10 different styles - with a 5 second break for directions. Bridget and Caroline were in ski school all week, but today Caroline had an asthma attack which required her to be rescued on skidoo. The skidoo driver descended rather quickly so Caroline had to hold on to him quite tightly!

Ian had a day off and the sports massage he booked turned out to be a gentle Swedish massage - no pain no gain. At dinner Linda was very keen to arrange a 9am start the next day to ski Face before the hoi-polloi, a request which Aaron acceded to in the interests of a quiet life.

Wednesday

Much more snow had fallen overnight, and continued, delaying the opening of some of the lifts and runs including the Aeroski, thus scuppering Linda's plans. This gave Linda and Stuart (or Mr & Mrs Woodard as they assumed in the shop) the chance to swap their skis for something more suitable to the conditions. Chris declined the opportunity as the explanation for the change was insufficient, a decision that he and Steve (who took an early bath) regretted, as only those on the lightweight wide skis could manage long runs in one go. Paul bumped into his doppelganger (C&A 1993) who hailed from Gloucester, mis-heard by Simon as Austria (or perhaps he thought Doppelganger was his surname). Simon was therefore bemused when his parting "auf wiedersen" was met with a blank expression. Sally lost her lift pass and Simon volunteered to accompany her to get one for the afternoon as her Mark Warner outfit and a phone call to the hotel were insufficient to convince the piste inspectors that she had a full-season pass.

The leisurely hosting group whittled down their 10 participants at the start of the day to just 4 by the end. They experienced near white-out conditions in the morning where it could be very difficult to tell which way they were going - with only gravity to determine whether they were going downhill. Despite this Dave and Clare did the Carline run into Val Claret a couple of extra times instead of taking a coffee break. Better conditions were found on the lower runs down to Les Brevieres, though there Bob suffered a knee injury and packed up for the day. The fast hosted group were a bit depleted in numbers too, as Clive was skiing with the Ski Club of Great Britain today, so they joined up with the fast intermediates after lunch (very large omelettes in Les Brevieres). After rumours the night before that the FIs were as fast as the fast group there wasn't too much opportunity to test this as the fog descended on La Daille. The group took a very cold chair up past the Aiguille Percée, but they were prevented from descending the Sache piste by the blizzard blowing from its direction.

Dave P and the two Marks went scouting for some decent beer that evening and eventually found La Caleche where they had several large vases(!) of Leffe accompanied by (free) olives and parma ham slices. At dinner Linda was easily persuaded to hire a GPS system which would track her every move on Thursday - the no-hosting day. Later a trip to Alpaka had been organised and most people went along once they could be dragged away from the pool table, and the prospect of relay pictionary. A few party animals went on to a couple of night clubs afterwards and Simon had a go at pole-dancing, downstairs at the Grotte du Yeti.

Thursday

A few hours after his return from the night clubs, Vince was ready to join the big GPS day out. Chris & Steve also swapped their skis, though the snowfall had stopped and we were in for a sunny day on fresh snow. The GPS team of 8 took almost the quickest route to the Pissaillas glacier, including most of Face which was easier than on Tuesday. There was a scary chair, Leissieres, to rival last year's to cross into the Le Fornet valley and the fastest speed of 84kph (52mph), as we later discovered, was recorded on the schuss down to the cable-car at Le Fornet. After a 45 min lunch the group just had time to do the Orange piste before ascending to the Grande Motte glacier. The black, mogulled Campanules piste delayed them sufficiently that they ended up catching the last cable car, at 15:30, to the top of the Grande Motte. Ged carried the GPS for a while in order to register a higher speed on one of the sections down from there, but the readings were obviously not taken frequently enough to register his maximum. The GPS was also claiming to be low on battery power and turning itself off. The group arrived at the Tufs lift a good 10 minutes before the last chair back to Tovierres. Little did they know that they would be sitting stationary in mid-air for 25 minutes. Shortly after 16:30 some wag on the piste below called up "c'est fermée", while Vince's company on the chair consisted of two northerners who it seemed didn't take too kindly to soft southerners and who discussed the case of the skier who froze to death on a stationary char lift in Tignes. Shortly after 16:50, and some time after hats and scarves had been donned, the lift restarted to much relief and some cheering. The black Trolles was insufficient to warm up some of their toes before a hasty afternoon tea. Vince asked one of the hotel staff to retrieve the chocolate cake from the bin, and was presented with about twice as much as he could eat.

The full GPS readout, and piste map coverage can be seen in the Adobe file on the Huggins Tours web-site at www.hugginstours.com/Skiing/2006/gpsinfo.pdf (2.5MB)

Ian, Richard Gough and John Taylor skied very quickly today, especially John Taylor. Richard lost the tip off one of his skis on a rope-tow due to some idiot diving onto the drag and running over his skis. Later on the Orange red that did for Annie, Ian hit a hidden rock, throwing him head-long and making a huge gouge in the bottom of one ski. Matt didn't snowboard today as he needed a hospital check-up for palpitations (not caused by the extra-large omellete the day before). The slow intermediate group largely stayed together today and reported back on a diversion from a closed blue run that turned into a black run that the other groups had yet to discover, the Epaule de Charvet. It must be one of the longest mogul fields in the Alps. The leisurelies also stuck together, staying in the Val Claret valley. After lunch they did a couple of runs down Prariond then determined to go back to the hotel via bus. However, they bumped into Dave B at the bus stop and he scoffed at their stopping skiing at 2:30 so they took the bus back to Tignes, did several runs down Anemone and (on the final one) stopped of for a vin chaud (Erdinger for Dave!) at the café. Ian Huggins skied again with the Exeter group while Phil, Andrea and Clare skied together. For dinner, we had no in-hotel catering, so various groups made their own arrangements. Mark Guilford claimed he was going to a bar with three small tables (La Caleche again), but it turned out to be a large restaurant seating at least 50. Mark didn't eat, and had a late night out with a few others. Another group found a table football game in the Angel Bar, followed by the aftermath of a Quiz night in the Grotte du Yeti. Ian and Annie joined Amanda, Sandra, Resh and Alan (the two care-home owners) at a nearby very French restaurant which took a while for Annie to reach, even with the crampons on the bottom of her crutches.



Everyone trying to be at their most stylish

Friday

Back in the hosting groups the fast and fast intermediates combined and promptly lost Gemma, Jumbo and Ian (father of one of the Mark Warner staff) on the first turn of the day. They were reunited after a phone call from Gemma which most of the group expected to be on their phone. Dave Beecham joined us during the day but shared himself between the various groups to get some varied video coverage. Phil and Andrea explored the ice cave on the Grande Motte glacier and then did Leisses again - this time more moguls than snowdrifts. The SIs skied down to Le Brevier, expertly guided by Sally. At one point Paul, who was standing still in the middle of a narrow red, started to resume skiing in his usual blasé fashion just as Mark G warned him not to move - and was promptly knocked over. It was shortly after this incident that Paul began to look UP the slope before pushing off, thus breaking the habit of a lifetime. Later Mark G was inveigled into a stint of role-playing by a French teacher who wanted to entertain her children. Mark duly slipped round the back and, as all the children were calling out for Mr Bear, roared for all he was worth. The children duly scattered - directly into the path of the oncoming skiers, one of whom was Mark W. Was this just a ploy to make Mark W fall over again?

All the groups met for lunch above La Daille, but not all finished before the sun went behind the mountains there. The slow-intermediates were joined by Mary Russell (ankle getting better) and Nick, while the leisurelies were joined by John Barker who was unmistakeable in yellow gloves, long scarf and skin-tight black leggings. The slow-intermediates decided to tackle the black Face run but

Mark Waddoups took the sign at the side of the piste literally - he decided to descend it on his face. Apparently he managed half a turn before sliding a few hundred feet in various orientations, passing Paul, Simon, Nick and Ben in his eagerness to reach the bottom, bringing the rest of the slope to a complete halt and filling Mark G and Kate with trepidation at the top. The skier who rescued Mark's skis handled Face as if it were a nursery slope! Nick was the only person to witness both Ged's and Mark's wipeouts and judged the latter to be superior. The moguls needed flattening anyway.

Gemma went off with Dan the Barman to explore the "Lost Valley", no, not a euphemism, it's a rocky crevasse above La Daille which involves 10 foot drops and taking your skis off to squeeze through gaps in rocks. Barry rejoined the Exeter group for some varied skiing - a bit of fast carving and some moguls. The leisurely group took a trip up to the Grande Motte glacier, though without Dave P who dropped out having fallen twice during the day and cracked the back of his skull so he was feeling a bit groggy by then.

Before dinner, we had a session reviewing old photos provided by Steve Pearson from holidays in 1996 to 1999. Somebody noticed that Paul was currently wearing the same shirt as the one in one of the photos, though it is now a little faded. There was also discussion about the possible venue for next year's holiday, with St Anton looking like the favourite. In the bar later Linda was provided with her GPS readout and it turned out that the GPS hadn't failed, but the readings stopped roughly at the bottom of Tufs, before the group got stuck on it. After a lack of chicken for the whole week, we now had the option to eat it for starter and main course - an option that many people took. Alternatively we could have unshelled prawns for starter and in the seafood risotto. Gemma was the only party animal to stay out to the wee small hours.

Saturday

The last day of skiing did not start well for Steve or Richard both of who had stomach upsets, but both skied in the end. Five of the fast intermediates hired snowblades for the day even after the man in the ski shop said they were exchanging a Ducatti for a moped. At first this seemed true as their speed was drastically reduced while they got used to the new technique required. With well-pisted slopes their speed returned, though only John, Vince and Stuart continued on blades in the afternoon, Chris and Linda preferring their wide skis again.

The leisurely group started off with the same group as Friday, but after a heavy lunch at Les Brevieres it was down to 5 as only the hardcore of Dave P, Phil, Sarah and Clare stuck with Rachel. Jumbo joined Dan the Barman for the Lost Valley which they completed quite rapidly to join the other fast/FI people who had just gone down the Epaule de Charvet moguls - easy on snowblades. Dave Beecham did a bit more videoing in mixed light as we had a sunny morning and a cloudy afternoon.

The pistes and the Bagus Café (for lunch) were both deserted because most tour operators do their changeover on Saturdays. As a bit of fun on one of the last pistes Linda made a few jumps over the mounds of snow to the side of the piste; however the last one she attempted absorbed her skis and catapulted her into the snow face first - hence the fat lip you'll see in a few of the photos. Ian, Richard and John whizzed over to do Sache black down to Breviere (technically an on-piste black but in reality an off-piste mogul safari). They also tried a very similar black run next door to Sache called Silène.

Awards were presented at dinner with all going to the combined Huggins Tours and RBSG Ski Club group.

- Best skier: Tariq Khan
- Most elegant/stylish: Marcia Khan (for skiing black runs with style)
- Most improved: Dave Peachey
- Most elegant/stylish: Linda Perle (for outstanding keenness)
- Best wipeout: Mark Waddoups (best of the season so far)

Ian then thanked Stuart for organising the trip and Stuart in turn presented the Mark Warner staff with the usual token of our appreciation. Most people then got a relatively early night, except for Vince and Matt who thought there was no point in going to bed to get up at 4:30am, so they visited a few night clubs.



Dinner at the chalethotel Aiguille Percée

Sunday

This year Vince was the only person to send his bags off on the wrong coach which at least meant that his luggage was ready and waiting when he arrived at Geneva airport. There was a one hour delay during which time Bridget attempted to set of a security alert by leaving her bag in the scanning area while Phil, Clare and Andrea passed security checks into departure Zone A instead of C. Back at Gatwick Stuart just had time to sell another two DVDs from last year's holiday - to John Llewellin and to Jane who we saw again with Nigel.

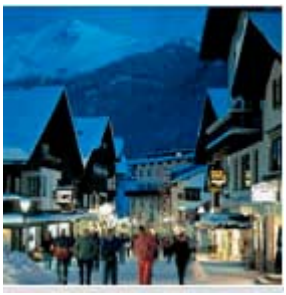
A compilation of high-quality photos will be available on CD from Stuart. E-mail your requests to him at stuart@mazdon.com.

Austria and St Anton, 07-14 January 2007

Ski Holidays In Austria

The natural & cultural beauty of Austria makes the country a small jewel in the heart of Europe. Ski holidays in Austria offer everything you could wish for from your European skiing holiday: spectacular vistas, Alpine splendor, wild nightlife, sophisticated shopping, classical culture and culinary delights. The region has manicured pistes for expert skiers, off-piste and snowparks for snowboarders and gentle slopes for families. Diversity and excellent conditions allow every skier and snowboarder to accomplish their goals.

St Anton





St Anton is one of the most exhilarating Alpine resorts in Europe. Names like 'Valluga' and the "Pfannenkopf" are known throughout the world for the challenge they present to even the most experienced skiers and snowboarders. However, the region has something to offer everyone with numerous red and blue runs suitable for any standard of skier. Villages like St Christoph, Zurs and Lech are near by and easily reached by car or local transport.

A buzzy resort in a splendid location, St Anton lives up to its reputation as the place for big skiing, soft snow and wild nightlife.

In St Anton skiers are perfectly placed to enjoy Austria's most exciting skiing. For those who want adventure, the Valluga cable car climbs in two stages from the resort centre to span a series of rocky crests separating magnificent unpisted bowls and gullies where steep thrills are guaranteed, whether snow conditions are bumps or powder.

Inexperienced skiers need not be deterred: there are wide nursery slopes on the edge of the village. Intermediates will find friendly terrain at Gampen, Rendl and St Christoph, and enjoy the long blast down to Stuben, where a few chairlifts serve a vast area of uncrowded north facing powder slopes. Many of the best runs in the Arlberg follow hidden valleys far from lifts and piste markers. Join ski school for expertly guided adventure. For a morale boost on perfectly groomed pistes, head over to Lech and Zürs, easily reached by post bus.

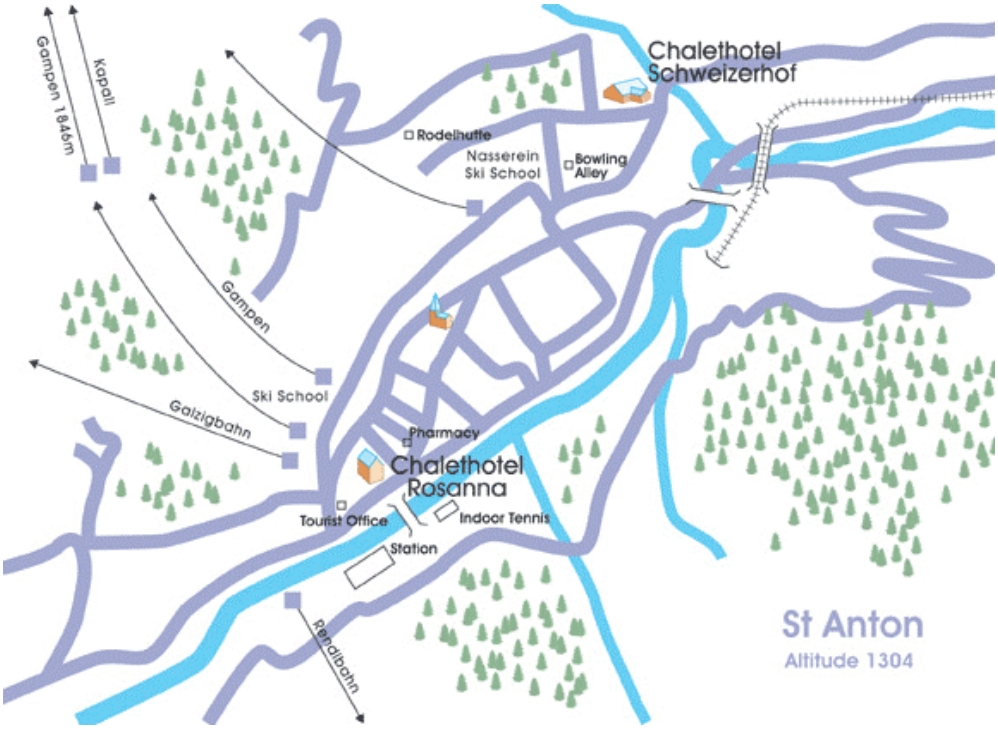
Off the slopes St Anton is a delightful mix of old and new architecture with inviting shops lining a pedestrianised main street. You could mistake it for a quiet and peaceful town - until the evening, that is, when St Anton really lights up, with something to suit every mood from coffee shops to pubs, discos, karaoke and live music. For chilling out the resort has a stylish spa centre with indoor and outdoor pools, a gym and treatment rooms. Indoor tennis, skating, sleigh rides and paragliding are also available.

Off-piste in St Anton

St Anton offers extensive and challenging off-piste terrain for anybody from strong intermediate level upwards. Graham Austick and his Piste to Powder Mountain Guiding Team, all qualified IFMGA International Mountain Guides invite you to explore the Arlberg Mountains away from the crowds and ultimately ski the best snow and terrain suited to your skiing level. They cater for individuals joining a group or group bookings of equal level ability on a one day and three day booking basis specialising in:
- Off piste guiding/tuition
- Ski touring
- Snowshoeing
- Ice/rock climbing

Graham will visit Chalethotel Schweizerhof at the start of your holiday to explain the service in detail but if you require further information, prices, or wish to book any of the above:

www.pistetopowder.com, Email: info@pistetopowder.com
T: 0043 6641746282





Ski Facts & Costs

Resort Altitude	1304m
Skiing Altitude	1304-2811m
Pistes	260km
Snowmaking	24km
Cross-country trails	44km

Number of Lifts (Arlberg area):

Chair	38
Drag	35
Cableways	10

Transfer time from Innsbruck Airport: 1 hours

Yes, Mar Warner do now fly to Innsbruck, so this is their shortest transfer time.

Arlberg Pass

6 day area pass (2006/07 prices)

Adult	180€
Senior Citizen	156€
Child	108€
Teenager	156€

Beginners ticket also available

CHILDREN: born 1991 to 1998. ID required!
TEENAGERS: born 1987 to 1990. ID required!
SENIOR CITIZENS: men born 1942 and earlier, women born 1947 and earlier. ID required!

All prices in € incl. VAT plus € 4,- deposit charge for the ARLBERG CARD.

Equipment Hire

Adult Skis	Sport	£85
	Superior	£108
Adult Ski Boots		
	Sport	£41
Kids Skis, Boots & Helmet		
	4-6 yrs	£32
	7-12 yrs	£63
Sport snowboard		£85
Superior boots		£41

Instruction (2005 Prices)

Adult ski	
(5 half days)	£135
Adult snowboard	
(5 half days)	£140
Child (5 Full days)	
aged 4-5 (max class 6)	£135
aged 6-12 (max class 10)	£185*

*lunch included

The Hotel



The Schweizerhof offers the best of both worlds - a peaceful, secluded location within walking distance of the lively, buzzing centre of St Anton, with the slopes and the ski school just a brief hotel shuttle bus ride away.

Situated in the quiet hamlet of Nasserein, against a backdrop of pine forests, this chalet hotel is smart and sophisticated. Decorated in Tyrolean style, with wood panelling, bright colours and big picture windows, the Schweizerhof is full of light and space. The dining room is particularly impressive: an elegant, open plan room with magnificent views over the village and up into the mountains. It's the sort of place you'll want to linger in. The bar is comfortable and inviting, too, opening on to a cosy lounge with low sofas. Even more relaxing is the Viva salon, where you will find a sauna, steam room, and tranquil treatment rooms for massage, body wraps and facials. Children get pampered here too, with a crèche that is big, bright and full of colour.

Bedrooms are prettily furnished with wooden bed frames and thoughtful attention to detail. They are all ensuite, roomy and many can take an extra child's bed. For families with younger children, a number of rooms are interconnecting.

Note that Mark Warner applies no price differentials to different sized rooms, or those with balconies, baths or showers. The better rooms will be allocated to the first to apply.





RBSG Ski Club (South) Prices:

Adult:	under £550
Single room supplement:	£200
Child reductions:	
Age 2-4	£50
Age 5-10	£40
Age 11-15	£30
Sharing with 2 adults	£200
Childcare:	
Baby Club (4m to 11m)	£285
Toddler Club (12m to 2y)	£285
Mini Club (3y to 5y)	£180
Kidz Club (6y to 12y)	£150

Infants under 2 on the return date of travel are free. They must sleep in the parents' room and sit on their laps during the flight and coach transfer. A cot, linen and highchair are provided.

The final adult prices will be dependant on the ski club subsidy that is available (for full & associate members), and will be less than £560 for non-members.

Flight supplements:

Gatwick	nil
Manchester	P.O.A.

Prices include flights from Gatwick, return coach transfer to resort, 7 nights accommodation, cooked breakfast, afternoon tea, dinner (excluding Thursday), ski hosting and a simple programme of evening entertainment Prices do not include insurance or any ski hire/ski school costs.

Mark Warner are currently holding 50 places in the Chalethotel Schweizerhof. Any bookings above that number can probably be accommodated but will depend what other bookings Mark Warner have taken for the Hotel. All bookings will be on a first come first served basis.

As those of you who have been on Mark Warner holidays in the past will know, the benefits are terrific:

- full English and/or continental breakfast
- evening meals 6 days per week
- free ski hosting for abilities from slow intermediate to advanced (but limited in Austria to 2 days per week)
- free unlimited wine with evening meals
- afternoon tea with home-made cakes (and soup!)
- all English-speaking staff

In addition the ChaletHotel Schweizerhof features:

- 2 days ski hosting
- Single rooms
- Childcare
- Sauna and steam room
- Viva salon
- Non-smoking

In order to ensure that you fulfil the Mark Warner booking conditions, and so that you are covered for cancellation, we need you to provide full details of your current holiday insurance cover, as set out on the booking form. A summary of the cover offered by Mark Warner is given below.

Mark Warner Insurance Policies

Mark Warner have arranged a comprehensive Winter Sports insurance Policy through Aon Travel on behalf of Europ Assistance Holdings Ltd thus providing first class security. The policy is optional but it is a condition of booking that all guests have insurance which provides at least the same level of cover as the policy recommended by Mark Warner. For increased limits, including cover for physiotherapy expenses in the United Kingdom, we recommend our Super cover policy, details of which are shown below. Cover for additional travel and accommodation expenses due to a disruption in the travel arrangements is included in the price of all holidays booked through the brochure. For maximum cover, we recommend you purchase cover at the time of booking your holiday. Your Mark Warner invoice is proof of insurance and full details of the policy wording will be sent to you with your confirmation of booking. Premiums include insurance Premium Tax.

Insurance Premiums

Premiums:	**Adult 18-65 yrs**		**Child 2-17 yrs**	
	Standard	Super	Standard	Super
10 Days	£44.00	£48.00	£30.00	£34.00
17 Days	£50.00	£55.00	£35.00	£40.00

The premiums for adults aged 65-69 years are double the above premiums. Guests over 69 years are not covered under this policy. Infants (under 2) are insured free of charge providing one adult has taken insurance cover

This policy is only available to persons resident in the EC

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Your attention is drawn to some important features of your policy as follows:

• **Material Facts:** You must declare to Us all Material Facts that are likely to affect this insurance. Failure to do so may prejudice entitlement to claim. If You are uncertain as to whether a fact is material, You should declare it to Us by calling the policy helpline on 0845 673 2015. Please refer to the definition of a 'Material Fact' in the Meaning of Words.

• **Health:** This policy contains restrictions regarding Pre-existing Medical Conditions which unless declared and accepted by the Insurers in writing prior to travel may invalidate any subsequent claim. If You are in any doubt as to whether You would be covered by the policy please call the Medical Screening Helpline.

• **Changes in health or medication:** You must contact Us and declare any changes in Your health or Your medication that occur between the date You take out this policy and the date You start any Trip.

• **Special Sports & Activities:** This policy includes participating in or practising certain sports activities (as detailed under Special Sports & Activities Cover Section). If you are going to take part in special sports and activities where there may be a high risk of injury or if You are in any doubt as to whether cover will apply, please call the policy helpline on 0845 673 2015.

• **Age Limit:** No Section of this policy shall apply in respect of any person who has reached the age of 70 years at the commencement of the Period of Insurance.

• **Trip Limits:** This policy contains strict limits on the length of time You can spend travelling abroad on each Trip. Please refer to the definition of the 'Trip' in the Meanings of Words. TRAVELLING OR INTENDING TO TRAVEL IN EXCESS OF THE TRIP LIMITS WILL INVALIDATE ANY CLAIMS RELATING TO THAT PARTICULAR TRIP. Trips must commence and end in the EU country of residence and a return ticket must have been booked prior to departure.

• **Medical Emergency:** In the event of a medical emergency You must contact Us as soon as possible. You MUST contact Us before incurring expenses in excess of £500. If You are physically prevented from contacting Us immediately, You or someone designated by You must contact Us within 48 hours.

• **Pregnancy:** No cover is given under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this policy in respect of any claim arising from pregnancy within 8 weeks (or 16 weeks in the case of a known multiple pregnancy) of the estimated date of delivery.

• **Third Party Liability:** If You use a motorised vehicle, (e.g. car, motor cycle, moped or scooter) sail or powered boat, or an airborne craft, no liability cover will apply under this policy and You must ensure that You have cover for third party injury or property damage in place.

• **Personal Possessions:** While this policy provides cover for Your Personal Luggage, if You are planning to take expensive items such as sophisticated photographic equipment, jewellery and other Valuables with You then You should check that You have adequate personal possessions cover, under a home contents insurance. The maximum We will pay under this policy for Valuables (as defined) owned by each Insured Person is limited to £400 for Standard cover or £700 for Super cover (or £100 if the Insured Person is aged under 18). Personal Luggage claims are paid based on the value of the goods at the time that they are lost and not on a 'new for old basis' or replacement cost basis; thus a deduction is made for wear, tear, and depreciation. Payment of any claims in respect of any one article or Pair or Set of articles will be limited to £50 unless satisfactory proof of ownership is submitted. Evidence of replacement value is not sufficient.

• **Policy Limits:** Most Sections of Your policy have limits on the amount the Insurer will pay under that Section. Some Sections also include other specific limits, for example: For any one item or for Valuables in total. You are advised to check Your policy.

• **Policy Excess:** Under most Sections of the policy, claims will be subject to an excess. This means that You will be responsible for paying the first part of the claim up to the excess value per Insured Person each and every incident, each and every section of cover. A definition of Policy Excess is in the Meaning of Words.

• **Reasonable Care:** You need to take all reasonable care to protect yourself and Your property, as You would if You were not insured.

Summary of Cover	Standard	Excess	Super	Excess
Medical Emergency & Repatriation	Up to £2,000,000	£50	Up to £5,000,000	£50
Emergency Dental Treatment	£250	£50	£250	£50
Additional Accommodation & Travelling Costs	£750	Nil	£1,000	Nil
Hospital Benefit	£15 per day up to £700	Nil	£30 per day up to £1,000	Nil
Cancellation, Curtailment & Trip Interruption	Up to the contracted holiday cost	£50/£15 LoD	Up to the contracted holiday cost	£50/£15 LoD
Travel Delay	£20 for 1st 12 hour delay & then £10 for each 12 hours thereafter up to £250	Nil	£30 for 1st 12 hour delay & then £20 for each 12 hours thereafter up to £250	Nil
Missed departure	Up to £500	Nil	Up to £750	Nil
Personal Luggage	Up to £1,000	£50	Up to £2,000	£50
Single article, or Pair or Set of articles	£200		£350	
Valuables	£400		£700	
Luggage Delay	£50 per 12 hours up to £150		£75 per 12 hours up to £225	
Money & Passport	£500	£50	£750	£50
Cash limit	£200		£350	
Cash limit under 18 years old	£50		£50	
Personal Liability	Up to £1,000,000	£250	Up to £2,000,000	£250
Personal Accident		Nil		Nil
Death	£10,000		£25,000	
Loss of one or more Limbs, or total and irrecoverable Loss of Sight in one or both eyes	£10,000		£25,000	
Permanent Total Disablement	£10,000		£25,000	
Legal Protection	£10,000	Nil	£10,000	Nil
Hijack	No cover	Nil	£100 per day up to £1000	Nil
Winter Sports Cover				
Skis, ski equipment	£500	£50	£750	£50
Ski pass	Up to £75 per day up to £300	Nil	Up to £75 per day up to £450	Nil
Ski equipment delay	£20 per day to up £300	Nil	£20 per day to up £400	Nil
Piste closure	£30 per day up to £300	Nil	£40 per day up to £400	Nil
Avalanche or landslide	Up to £200	Nil	Up to £200	Nil

For further details or clarification of the above please refer to your policy.

IMPORTANT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

You must comply with the following conditions in order to have full protection under this policy. If You do not comply We may, at Our option, cancel the policy, refuse to deal with Your claim or reduce the amount of any claim payment.

This insurance operates on the following basis:

1. To be covered, You must be healthy, fit to travel and to undertake Your planned Trip;
2. The insurance will NOT cover You when You are travelling against the advice of a Medical Practitioner (or would be travelling against the advice of a Medical Practitioner had You sought his/her advice);
3. The insurance will NOT cover You when You are travelling with the intention of obtaining medical treatment or consultation abroad.
4. The insurance will NOT cover You if You have any undiagnosed symptoms that require attention or investigation in the future (that is symptoms for which You are awaiting investigations/consultations, or awaiting results or investigations, where the underlying cause has not been established).

No claim arising directly or indirectly from a Pre-existing Medical Condition affecting You will be covered unless:

• You have declared that condition to Us; and

• You have declared any changes in Your health or prescribed medication; and

• We have accepted that condition for insurance in writing.

Each Insured Person who has a Pre-existing Medical Condition must make a Medical Health Declaration before each Period of Insurance and, if there are any changes in Your health or prescribed medication, prior to commencement of the period of insurance or departing on any Trip. Failure to declare any Pre-existing Medical Condition that is relevant to the insurance may invalidate the policy.

We may require You to obtain a medical report from Your General Practitioner or Consultant in order to assess whether cover applies. Any costs incurred in obtaining this medical report shall be borne by You.

Based on Our assessment of the medical information supplied to Us, We will decide whether or not the person is suitable for insurance, if certain exclusions or restrictions should be imposed, or if cover can be offered subject to the payment of an additional premium. If We offer cover, and, if the cover is subject to the payment of an additional premium, cover will not commence until full payment has been received by Us and written confirmation has been provided by Us. To declare a Pre-existing Medical Condition or change in Your state of health or prescribed medication, You should contact the Medical Screening Helpline during office hours on: **0870 737 5952**.

This policy will NOT cover any claims under Section 5 (Cancellation, Curtailment or Trip Interruption) arising directly or indirectly from a Pre-existing Medical Condition, known to You prior to the commencement of the Period of Insurance, affecting any Close Relative, travelling companion who is not insured under this policy or person with whom You intend to stay whilst on Your Trip:

• for which they have required surgery, or inpatient treatment or hospital consultations, or have been prescribed medication or undergone any treatment, during the 90 days immediately prior to the commencement of the Period of Insurance; or

• if they were on a waiting-list for, or have knowledge of the need for, surgery, inpatient treatment or investigation at any hospital or clinic at the commencement of the Period of Insurance; or

• if a terminal diagnosis had been received prior to the commencement of the Period of Insurance.

You should also refer to the General Exclusions.

Booking Form - Ski Club holiday to St Anton – 07 - 14 January 2007

Return to:	**Dave Beecham, Change Management, Group Technology, Desk GF01E07E, O/1 East, Goodmans Fields, 74 Alie Street, London E1 8HL. Depot Code 028**	**by 18 Aug 2006**

Please keep the holiday details, and a copy of this booking form, for your future reference.

Group Leader's Name : (Must be a club member)		
Contact address :		
Telephone:	Work:	Home/Mobile:

		No.	per person	TOTALS
Holiday deposits			x £150	=£
Insurance deposits	A. Mark Warner Standard Insurance (Adult)		x £44	=£
	B. Mark Warner Standard Insurance (Child 2-17)		x £30	=£
	C. Mark Warner Super Insurance (Adult)		x £48	=£
	D. Mark Warner Super Insurance (Child 2-17)		x £34	=£
Total of deposit cheque(s) enclosed (payable to "RBSG Ski Club (South)")				**£**

***Please note:**

Own Insurance. You must provide a copy of your insurance certificate and the latest renewal notice at the time of booking or take Mark Warner cover. The Mark Warner insurance prices quoted here are approximate based on last year's figures. The amounts shown should be paid now.

Single rooms will be subject to payment of £200 supplement. Avoid this extra cost by sharing - list age and relevant habits etc. overleaf so you can be matched with a compatible (same sex) sharer.

Childcare/Junior Ski School. Mark Warner offer nursery, crèche and childminding services 6 days a week for children aged 4 months to 12 years and Junior Ski school is offered for children from 5 yrs – 14 yrs. Prices are quoted in this newsletter. Please list your requirements overleaf.

Special diets can be catered for. List requirements overleaf.

Final invoices will be issued in September/ October. Balances will be payable in October.

	Your details (for additional rooms, please photocopy this sheet)							**Your preferences** (these cannot be guaranteed)		
Room	**Full Name as on Passport**	**Daytime Contact Number (Mobile no. preferred)**	**Next of Kin Contact Name and Phone Number**	**Insurance (A/B/C/D/ Own)***	**Age (if under 16)**	**Ski Club Member**	**Own Skis**	**Room type (Austrian Twin or Single/*)**	**Departure Airport**	*** Special Requirements (list overleaf)**
1st										
2nd										

Declaration (by Party Leader on behalf of each person in party): We agree to the Mark Warner booking conditions (copy available from organiser on request or can be viewed at www.markwarner.co.uk/book_your_holiday/booking_conditions/ski). We have applied for Mark Warner insurance or already have insurance providing at least the same cover as Mark Warner's Standard cover. We accept that deposits cannot be refunded once the booking has been made, unless a suitable replacement person can be found and any change of name charge is paid.

Signature: ..... Date: .....