

With March upon us, we can reflect back on a busy and productive year for ASD and for our racers who must be congratulated for their incredible performance at the **Special Olympics Nationals** held this February in Crans Montana, Switzerland. Quite a few went to the annual ski trip to **Puy St Vincent** in January. Our Christmas event hosted the annual awards and gave us the opportunity to say a tearful farewell to **Adrian Carey** who has been a key member of ASD for many a long year and a mentor to many.

Christmas party and ASD Annual Awards

In keeping with tradition, the ASD Christmas party held this winter on 8 December, featured **ASD's annual awards** ceremony. This year's awards for the **Most improved skiers** went to **Alice Willans** and **Oscar Wood**.



(above) Ian Bain and Jill skiing on their way home on the last day at PSV; (left) Alice Willans being awarded the Most Improved female skier by Jan

The event also gave us the opportunity to present **Adrian Carey**, who has moved to Wales, a special award for his **Outstanding Contribution to ASD**. He was also presented with a **Lifetime Membership** to ASD.

Landgraaf ski trip planned for 13 & 14 June

The annual weekend coach trip to **Landgraaf**, Holland, is to be held in mid-June this year. Landgraaf is one of the longest indoor snow slopes in Europe. The fun-packed weekend is ideal for those who want to hone their race skills or just potter about on long, gentle snow slopes. Spaces are limited so book now to avoid disappointment. Cost is £215 for ASD members. Contact Pete Jesse through skiracing@me.com.

Puy-St-Vincent (PSV) 2020

— by Sarah Baldwin

On the 8th January this year 42 skiers, guides and helpers set off for our annual trip to Puy Saint Vincent in the French Alps. It was lovely to see familiar faces and also to welcome new ones, who took to the group like

MEMBERSHIP of ASD

We ask that all our skiers/boarders, SO skiers, volunteers and instructors join the club.

The **annual membership** needs to be renewed in **August**. The Membership **Form** is downloadable from our website (click link): asdaldershot.org/index.php/about/membership

The annual subscriptions for 2019-20 (September to August) are:

- Adult member: £18
- Junior member: (18 years or under): £10
- Family Membership: £23
- Associate Member*: £5

(*E.g. volunteers/instructors who are in full-time education)

COSTS per session

Please note that for the sake of insurance EVERYONE, including helpers, must REGISTER before going on to the slope.

Members

- Skiers/boarders £4
- On-slope helpers free

Non-members

- Skiers/boarders £4 plus £1*
- On-slope helpers £1*

Non-members are welcome to come along to their first three sessions with us as temporary members before joining the club. This gives them the chance to see whether the sport is for them.

* Temporary membership fee is £1 per session which covers slope insurance.

DATES AND TIMES

If you are on our email circulation list you will be sent a reminder at least a week before each session. Please reply to the email if you want to come along. Please make sure we have your current email address.

Kitting up: 9.45am, but if you need extra assistance please arrive by 9.30am

Slope hours: 10.15am – 12.15pm. Sit skiers, new and younger skiers may ski for only one hour if the slope is busy. In the Spring and Summer sessions we sometimes hold an additional session from 1 pm and 2 pm. All sessions must be pre-booked.

Session dates for 2020:

8 March	13 September
5 April	11 October (followed by AGM)
10 May	8 November
7 June	13 December (followed by Christmas party)
12 July	
9 August	

Other dates for your diary:

14-21 March – trip to **La Plagne**

17 May – **Special Olympics Race Day**, Aldershot

23-30 May – Grade 2, **Disability Awareness Course**, Austria

13-14 June – trip to **Landgraaf**

18 July – **ASD Summer party** (Bisley) (See page 3)



Surrey Special Olympics team at Crans Montana

ducks to water. As ever, the pistes were in good condition and fun was had on and off the slopes, whether it was cruising the green runs, going through the mini jump park, attacking the blacks or the banter at the end of the day.

It was a very sociable week, with mid morning coffee often at the same café, which became slightly raucous on occasions. ASD's Kathleen Grehan, introduced us to a new BSL sign each day and taught us to sign to John Lennon's "Imagine" on Talent Night. However, the words Talent Night should be used loosely, as it included a number of the Aldershot "boys" and Matt Palamarczuk in his wheelchair, giving us a performance from Swan Lake – complete with napkin tiaras – don't expect to see them on Britain's Got Talent anytime soon.

Big congratulations also go to Ivan Storey, not only for leading the dancing on Talent Night, but also for being our oldest skier on the trip. A big thank you goes to all those who helped make the trip the success it was, particularly all the ASD guides. Roll on PSV 2021.

Surrey & Aldershot shine at the Special Olympics GB Nationals

— Derek Oosthuizen

The Surrey SO team were extremely successful at the **GB Nationals** which took place in **Crans Montana**, Switzerland, 1-8 February 2020. Competing against athletes from across Great Britain, the ASD-based team, came home with an impressive haul of medals and high places including 5 Gold, 7 Silver, 9 Bronze, 5 x 4th, 3 x 5th, 1 x 6th, 1 x 7th:

Tomas Cardillo-Zello	2 Bronze and one Participation Ribbon
Michael Lines	1 Silver, 2 Bronze
Stefan Nakoneezmy	2 Bronze, 4th
Alexander Scarborough	Silver, 4th, 5th
Annabel Inskip	1 Gold, 2 Silver
Kathryn Martin	1 Gold, 1 Bronze, 4th
Karen Oosthuizen	1 Gold, 1 Silver, 5th
Elanor Sinden	2 Bronze, 4th
Alice Willans	1 Gold, 2 Silver

Bartholomew Meredith-Hardy 1 Gold, 5th, 6th
Rory Slater 4th, 5th, 7th

The event is held every 4 years. Ninety athletes from across England, Wales and Scotland attended the event. Each ASD athlete – 4 advanced and 7 intermediate – participated in 3 events: Slalom, Giant Slalom and Super G.

Despite initial bad weather, the team – led by Pete Jesse who was also the course-setter for the event – performed brilliantly. Nothing could have been possible without the vital help of the support team. Our team returned with 21 medals from the 33 entries across the event. The team that will represent GB at the **World Winter Games** will be selected from the athletes that entered at some point later this year. The venue and date for the next World Winter Games is expected to be announced in the next few weeks.

One of the take aways from the event was that we as Surrey now hold the record for the number of helicopter evacuations during the event. Two of our parents fell and broke their arms under very innocuous circumstances – both were helicoptered off! One of our athletes, Kathryn Martin, went through a safety net on our last day and was also helicoptered off as a precaution. We are so pleased that her injuries were not serious - she was fortunately only bruised and did not suffer any broken bones or other injury. This happened on the free skiing day, after the races had completed.

We all enjoyed the event and despite challenges, our athletes responded magnificently and their amazing results attest to the superb team spirit that our coaches fostered. The team was featured by **Tim Durran's Sport in Focus** on **BBC Radio Surrey** on 3 March. The feature lasted 10 minutes and included good interviews with Pete, Derek and others including Rory had their say.

Christmas Cards

– Paul Hulcoop

A big **Thank You** to all those who purchased our Christmas Cards. We sold all of them and with the sales and donations we made just over £250 for club funds. For the following Christmas we are proposing an art competition.

Art competition

For 2020 we are inviting all club members with artistic leanings to supply us with artwork to use for **ASD's 2020 Christmas card**. Ideas and externally sourced art is acceptable but priority will be given to original members' art. We need the artwork **by the August meeting** to have time to select one, organise printing etc and have them available to show, take orders and sell by the AGM in October.

ASD Summer BBQ Party

Please make a note in your diaries!

This year we are having a garden **BBQ party** to give everyone an opportunity to socialise longer in a party atmosphere.

Where: **Miles Green Farm, Queens Road, Bisley, Surrey GU24 9AR**

When: **Saturday 18th July, 2pm - 6pm**

There will be live music from "Coverstone" in the Marquee and a BBQ.

A nominal charge of £5 will be made to cover the BBQ and portable toilet facilities, We will ask for the usual contributions of salads and desserts! The Marquee and location is kindly provided free to ASD by Amanda Keeling.

Easyfundraising

Since ASD joined Easyfundraising some 3 years ago, due to all our supporters, we have received just over £1,320. A big, big, thank you to all who support ASD. For further information please visit our page at: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/aldershotsnowsports/>

MEMBER NEWS

Please Note: Session fees are set to rise from £4 to £5. The change will come into effect sometime this summer.

Adrian moves away

Adrian Carey, as all must know, was one of the pillars of our great little club. He provided a huge amount of knowledge on every aspect of skiing at ASD. Adrian was also a guiding force in developing the infrastructure of ASD, whether it was with knowledge of the technicalities and use of equipment, to working with the most challenging situations on the slope. Needless to say, his absence will be sorely missed.

No one is quite sure when he first started with disability skiing at Aldershot, but needless to say it was over a couple of decades ago. ASD awarded Adrian the honour of being the first life member of the club. His spirit will remain and we all expect to see him from time to time. All the best Adrian.



Christmas Combo Found in Swansea.

Some of our skiers have mentioned that they missed the Christmas Combo at the Christmas meeting and party. It was absent from its usual position outside the ski centre with flashing lights and Christmas carols. Rumour has it moved to Swansea. It was sighted, and heard playing Christmas carols, on Christmas Eve in the Duvant, Killay, Sketty area complete with its cargo of 6 people, including at least one Elf.

Ivan, our oldest and longest serving member turns 80

— by Jan Williams

We would all like to wish a very happy 80th to our oldest and longest serving member, Ivan 'Cloud man' Storey. Our very own cloud specialist and weather man, Ivan is known to and loved by many of our members! We have all heard his cries of "Timber" as he skis down Slope 2 in his very own distinct style.

We are not absolutely sure when Ivan started skiing at Aldershot but he started skiing with the British Ski Club for the Disabled, our parent club, at Hillingdon at least 30 or 35 years ago. He has also been on many adaptive ski holidays over the years.

Ivan suffered a stroke 2 years ago but made a remarkably quick recovery and was back on the slopes within months. Ivan, may you ski with us for many years to come!



Nicole Jewett

One of our regulars on the slope, sit-skier Nicole, has been taken ill for sometime now and hence her absence. We all at ASD wish her all the best. She has been at Basingstoke Hospital but was quarantined due to MRSA and now with the new threat of C19, visiting her is going to be difficult.





TRAINING COLUMN: by Paul Hulcoop,
Training Officer: p.hulcoop@ntlworld.com



If any of our helpers would like to take the **Grade 3 Disability Awareness Course** please contact me and we will try to arrange a course later this year. If anyone would like to have any training, ski set up, boot fitting, lift operating etc please contact Paul and we will do our best to arrange it.

Grade 2 Disability Awareness Course to be held in Austria in May

Ian Edwards is planning to run a **Grade 2 Disability Awareness Course**, to be held on the **Stubai Glacier**, Austria, **23 to 30 May** (the late May Bank Holiday so only 4 days off work). The course is primarily for Grade 3 Guides (or equivalent) but it depends on the interest.

Accommodation will be at a hotel in **Neustift**, on **halfboard** in double rooms, **ski pass** with free use of the bus to the slopes is included. It is "Summer skiing" so early start, ski each morning until the sun turns the snow to "porridge", then back to the hotel for afternoon practical sessions and mini lectures. Each day a different disability topic: Sit Skiing, 3 and 4 Tracking, Visually impaired, Blind and Blind Guiding, Hearing Impaired, plus others.

The cost which includes getting there, either flying or in the van/minibus is approximately £1,000 dependent on numbers, as it includes a share of the cost of van hire and crossing for the equipment which the Training Team will bring out. It will include a Manual. There is no profit in this, the Training Team pay the same as everyone else. If you're interested let Ian know on ian.chris68@brandjoe.com as soon as you can. He will answer any questions and get back to confirm price etc.

Images of PSV 2020: (top left) Ian Edwards and Lionel Aloe, (left) Ivan trying snow-shoeing for the first time and striking a distinctly Shackleton-like pose; (below left) Jan, Jill, Mike and Kathleen and almost the entire PSV group taking over the café at 2000m; below, Ian and the editor in the bowl.



For any queries regarding the Aldershot sessions and general enquiries please contact

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Support ASD either by going to our website and to the Fundraising page under About Us or contact

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ASD is registered with HMRC as a Community Amateur Sports Club. CASC Reference: CH10416