

This has been a great and eventful summer – which included a truly memorable celebration of forty years of snowsports for the disabled here at Aldershot.

Special Olympics

Our annual fixture, the Special Olympics, took place here at Aldershot on 14 June and was – as always – well attended with 7 teams represented. The 50+ racers provided a highly competitive atmosphere with a Team ASD/SO Surrey, winning 5 Gold, 8 Silver and 3 Bronze medals between the 14 skiers in the team – a just reward for the racers' dedication and hard work and all the input from the coaches especially our Pete Jesse. Thanks to Derek and Sonette Oosthuizen, Clive and Jane Friend and the rest of the team for a truly special day.

40 years and a profitable dinner and dance

The 40th anniversary party at the Guildford Rugby Club on 20 June was more than just a great night out with rockers and rollers of all ages, sizes and abilities, it was also remarkably well-attended with guests coming from other UK clubs such as North Wales, Manchester, Milton



The late Hubert Sturges MBE, founder of British Ski Club for the Disabled (BSCD) (centre), flanked by Dick Newbury (right) and Eddy Kirk on (left). (Photo: from the archives)

Keynes, Castleford, Bowles and Knockhatch. Also old BSCD members came from far distant places including France, Switzerland and Majorca. The dancefloor was alive and Al's band, Rock with Magnum, kept the dancefloor smoking. Food and company was great. Moreover, ASD made a profit of around £1000.

MEMBERSHIP of ASD

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

Please note that your annual membership fees are due in AUGUST! We are keeping them the same as last year but expect a possible increase in 2016/17.

Please download the membership **form** from our website:
asdaldershot.org/index.php/about/membership

The annual subscriptions for 2015-16 (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 us to be properly insured 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 a current email address for you.

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

Slope Hours: 10.15am – 12.15pm

DATES:

2015

13 September

11 October followed by our ASD Annual General Meeting

8 November

13 December followed by our Christmas Party

2016 (Provisional dates)

3 January (earlier than usual due to a clash with the Puy-St-Vincent ski trip)

14 February

13 March

Notice of ASD'S Annual General Meeting (AGM)

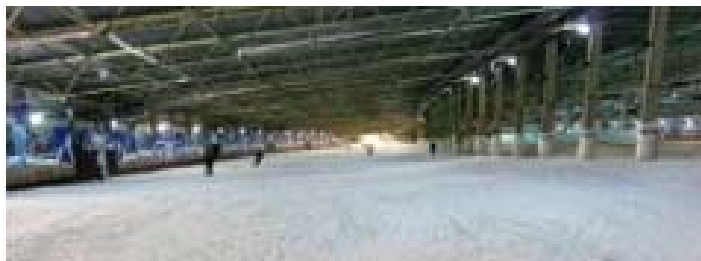
Sunday 11th October, 12.30–1.30pm at the slope at Aldershot, following on from the session.

The Agenda will include reports from officers on the past year and appointment of officers for 2015/2016. If you would like any item discussed at the AGM please contact Jan –

E: disabilityskialdershot@hotmail.co.uk

Tracey steps down

Tracey Franklin has been putting up a great fight against her illness, but has had to step down from her role as organiser for membership, email and slope pairings. Thank you Tracey for all your hard work over the last few years; our thoughts and best wishes are with you.



Landgraaf's ample and empty slopes

Landgraaf 2015

—Paul Hulcoop

This year's trip to Europe's largest snowdome, **Snowworld at Landgraaf**, 16–17th May, was a great success. Our coach left Aldershot at a little after midnight and twelve hours later we met those who had travelled independently and we were skiing. We managed to squeeze our Kartski, two of our sit skis, four outriggers, and all the slalom kit in with the luggage on the coach.

At just over half-a-kilometer, the main slope gave us ample room to give our sit skis and the kartski a good long run for a change. We had nearly six hours on the slope before our evening meal. Then it was boarding lessons and a well earned sleep. We were back on the slope at 7am and squeezed in as much skiing as we could. Home time came all too soon but we all had a fantastic time.

Thanks go to Pete for all his hard work arranging it for us.

ASD awarded CASC status

—Paul Baldwin

In April we heard from the UK Tax authorities that ASD's application to become a **Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC)** had been successful. Being a **CASC** is similar in some ways to being a registered

charity in that it allows us to reclaim **gift aid** on all donations. This will be very valuable to the club as it means that for any £1 of eligible donations, we can get 25p extra from the UK tax authorities. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the club should fill out a gift aid declaration form which can be downloaded from the ASD website or can be obtained from the Treasurer.

Being a CASC also allows us to use online giving services, and ASD has now successfully registered with **MyDonate**, a not-for-profit service similar to its better known competitors like Just Giving and Virgin Money Giving, but unlike those competitors MyDonate does not charge us anything to use its service. MyDonate makes fundraising easier by allowing **online donations**, including those made using credit and debit cards. It also collects and processes those donations for us, including doing the gift aid claim, and will be especially useful for sponsored events. Our MyDonate page:

www.mydonate.bt.com/charities/aldershotsnowsportsforthe-disabled

For more information contact Paul Baldwin, M: 07747 024 029, E: paulmbaldwin@btinternet.com

PSV 2016

Although not an official ASD event (though ASD is always well represented), the annual ski trip to **Puy-St-Vincent (PSV)** will run from Thursday 7th January 2016 to Saturday 16th January. For those who haven't been, this is a great opportunity for all our snowsports enthusiasts and incredible value with superb food too. Contact Jan for more details.

Would you like to learn British Sign Language (BSL)?

You may know two of our skiers, Kathleen and Paul, who are Deaf. They are teachers of BSL and are very anxious to encourage more ASD members to learn BSL. They are offering a 2 hour taster session for BSL in September. This would be suitable for everyone – volunteers, skiers, parents, family and friends – all are welcome! In the autumn, a BSL Level 1 course will be available for anyone who is interested. For more information, please contact Jan –

E: disabilityskialdershot@hotmail.co.uk

ADRIAN'S COLUMN: BASI and courses at Aldershot, contact Adrian Carey, Training Officer: adrian@acarey.co.uk; M: 07586 376184

Grade 3 Guides Training Course

Thanks to a lot of hard work by Paul Hulcoop, we will be running a Southern Ski Club for the Disabled (SSCD) Grade 3 Guides training course on the weekend of August 15th and 16th at the Aldershot slope. We know that a lot of our members would like to attend the course but cannot make these dates, so we will be looking at the availability of another course later in the year.

This is a great course that introduces guides and helpers to working with the full range of disabilities. It will be a great help to our guides and helpers in raising their awareness and ability to help at our monthly sessions.

We will report on the course in the next newsletter.

More Training

We would like to sort out regular training to give our guides and helpers more chances to develop their skills and knowledge. We would like to organise monthly training sessions on one evening a week (e.g. the second Tuesday of each month from 19.30-21.00). We would

produce a training schedule and cover one major discipline/piece of kit per session. If you think this would be a good idea, please let us know with any thoughts on the best evening.

BASI Adaptive

We are aware that several of our members are interested in doing the BASI adaptive courses. The latest BASI newsletter has an item that states that the Brookie Bursary (aimed at helping candidates to pay for the course) is now available again. More information can be found on the BASI website at: <http://www.basi.org.uk/article/brookie-bursary-now-open.aspx>.

40th Anniversary Celebrations

What a great evening! It was so nice to see so many friends past and present at such an enjoyable event. Great band, lovely food, and cakes!! Also some great moves shown on the dance floor – what a great way to keep fit. Can we make this a regular event please?

For any queries regarding the Aldershot sessions please contact:

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(Extract from *Aldershot News and Mail*, Thursday 2 July 2015)

Charity marks 40th anniversary

More than 100 people marked the 40th anniversary of a disability charity in Aldershot with a rock and roll party. ... Based at Aldershot's Alpine Ski Centre in Gallwey Road, ASD provides opportunities for disabled people to experience skiing and snowboarding.

The slope dates back to the 1960s and was later taken on by Rushmoor Borough Council and the army. In 1974, the British Ski Club for the Disabled (BSCD) was founded and it was around a year later that ASD became one of the first BSCD clubs in the UK, based at the centre. Members range from expert skiers to newcomers, and the club provides tuition for people who require specialist equipment.

Committee member **Mike Nell**, himself a disabled snowboarder, said: "What club members all have in common is a determination to not let disability stop them from interrupting their love of snowsports. That determination was evident at the party, with friends, new and old,

shouting themselves hoarse trying to be heard above the glorious cacophony of Rock with Magnum – a six-piece rock band looking like a slightly younger version of the Rolling Stones, and who were surprisingly well-versed in the Stones' back catalogue. The dance floor filled quickly with skiers, helpers, and at least one sit-skier, Jenny, showing that you can still be a slave to the rhythm, even when you need two walking sticks to stand up!" "The night featured a raffle, with prizes donated by club members, including sponsors Salomon, Snow and Rock and also the Ski Club of Great Britain, amongst others."

**ASD would like to thank our sponsors:
Salomon, Snow and Rock, Edge & Wax, Icebreaker, Denbies,
Hemel Snow Centre, and Ski Club of Great Britain**

ASD are also grateful to the following members for helping in organizing the event: Jan, Cristina, Sarah, Kath & Dev. A special thanks to Rock with Magnum for keeping us on our toes



(clockwise from top left) Alan, our liftee and rock king, with 'Rock with Magnum'; Adrian 'big bopper' Carey with Bella 'dancing queen' Mayes, the dance floor heaving with Ivan 'clouds' Storey in the foreground (back to camera); some of our skiers singing along to 'We are the Champions', Nick and Derek Simmons collecting their raffle prize.



ASD / BSCD – Through the ages

Clockwise from left: Hubert Sturges MBE manning the lift in later years; La Plagne; Dave Ryder, Bill Bailey and Ian Edwards; Special Olympics opening ceremony at Aldershot; a racing start; ASD trip to Landgraaf (2014); Adrian Carey leading a skier in a donut to the bottom of the slope (l) and Jon Ball and bi-skier waiting to load (r); the late Audrey Timmis (the first Slope Organiser at Aldershot and one of our founding members) with a young skier.

