



# Newsletter

March 2017

| OPENING TIMES  |        |
|--|--------|
| Easter – Sat 15th, Sun 16th, Mon 17th April          | CLOSED |
| May Bank Holiday – Sat 29, Sun 30 April, Mon 1st May | CLOSED |
| Spring Bank Holiday - Sun 28, Mon 29 May             | CLOSED |
| Last Saturday afternoon open - 22 April              |        |
| During <u>May</u> closing on Sundays at 3.30 pm      |        |
| During <u>June</u> closing on Sundays at 2.00 pm     |        |
| Close for the summer - Thursday 29 June at 9pm       |        |
| Re-opens - Monday 4 September                        |        |



WHEN YOU COME TO THE SLOPE, PLEASE DON'T PARK ON THE GRASS AREA BY THE ROAD, USE THE CAR PARK AND PARK BEWEEN THE RED MARKERS. IF YOU PARK ON THE ROAD PLEASE RESPECT THE RESIDENTS. THERE IS ADDITIONAL PARKING AVAILABLE AT BATHPOOL PARK ENTRANCE. Sat Nav.ST7 4JA



**Getting your skis  
and boots at the  
club**



As recommended by ski and boot manufacturers a new system is to be introduced when giving out skis and boots.

It will take a while to roll this out to all members so please be patient with the staff as we get this underway.

You will be asked to complete a form giving details of your height (in cms), weight (in kgs), age, shoe size and ski ability. The ski technician will then give you a label to stick on the back of your membership card showing the size of ski and din setting to be used.

If you do not have a membership card you need to bring a **passport size** photo to the ski club then you will be given one. Each time you come to the ski club you will be asked for your membership card with the details so that the skis and boots can be set up for you.



**SNOWSPORT  
ENGLAND**

Member of the British Ski Slope Operators Association

Kidsgrove Ski Centre, Bathpool Park, Kidsgrove,  
Stoke on Trent, ST7 4EF Telephone (01782) 784908  
[www.ski-kidsgrove.co.uk](http://www.ski-kidsgrove.co.uk)  
Company Number:4337963



Active  
Accessible  
Accredited

## Club Holiday — La Tania , January 2017

Although I have been involved with the ski club since 1989, when I learnt to ski on the old Dendix, I have never been able to join the club on its annual holiday. So I was delighted when I was able juggle work commitments and hand to Jo my deposit cheque. ( How was this going to compare with the unofficial trip to Chamonix in the early 90's when we travelled in the old ski club van?)

I arrived early at the airport to find that the check in desks were not yet open, however I was not the first. I was beaten by one of our members who was about to experience her first week on snow and blow us all away with her enthusiasm and ability. As other members arrived there were many more excited faces, old friends and soon to be new friends.

On arrival at our hotel I found my room to be spacious and comfortable, with a pretty view of the nursery slope and the trees and mountains beyond. The communal area, with its bar and open fire provided a cosy atmosphere to relax and exchange stories about the days skiing.

Breakfast and a delicious three course dinner was served in the dining room by the friendly hardworking staff. Afternoon tea, home made cake and biscuits, was served downstairs amidst the chatter of the day.

As a regular visitor to the Three Valleys I enjoyed sharing my knowledge of the ski area, and the location of those cheaper eating places, including a restaurant run by a rather feisty lady from Stone!



Another highlight was enjoying a vin chaud in a Canadian Indian Tepee with an open fire. We watched in awe as an authentic fur and feather Indian headdress was constructed before our eyes. Some even succumbed to full Indian face paint!



As if things couldn't get better we were blessed with a flutter of snow on the first few nights and blue skies every day. What more could we ask? Apart from the inevitable .... please can I come again next year?

A big thank you to Jo for all her hard work and hopefully I will see you all next year.

# Kidsgrove Freestyle

**NORTH STAFFS SKI CLUB**

**FREESTYLE FRIDAYS**

**Ski - Kidsgrove**

**Skiers and Snowboarders welcome!**  
All ages welcome!  
All abilities welcome.

**PRICES**

Members-Free  
Junior-£10  
Students-£10  
Adults-£15

**7PM-9PM**  
LMW Visuals

**Dates:**  
20th January  
3rd February  
17th February  
3rd March  
17th March  
31st March  
28th April  
12th May  
26th May  
9th June

Saturday afternoons Freestyle Coaching Sessions.

## Q: Who can do freestyle?

**A:** Anyone who can consistently perform linked snowplough turns. You need to sign a disclaimer form and read the rules which can be found on the Freestyle notice board. For beginners it is recommended that you have a short waves introduction lesson from one of the instructors at the club

## Q: Do I need specialist equipment?

**A:** A helmet is essential for all levels of ability. As you progress and become more adventurous back protectors, padded shorts and a gum shield are advisable.

## Q: When can I participate?

**A:** When the club is open and on Freestyle Fridays when both slopes are dedicated to freestyle. These take place on alternate Fridays. See the notice board for dates.



## Invitation to Banff Mountain Film Festival (Stafford) and prize giveaway!

This is to invite you and your group to the Banff Mountain Film Festival, coming to the Gatehouse Theatre, Stafford, on Wednesday 29 March.

Featuring a brand new collection of the most exhilarating mountain and adventure films on the planet, witness phenomenal landscapes, inspirational characters and a whole heap of adrenaline coming at you from the big screen! Celebrating the mountains and the great outdoors, the screenings have a real community feel – and there are fabulous prize giveaways too! A great social night out.

The events start at 19.30, with doors and the bar opening an hour before. There are discounts on tickets for groups of six and more.

You can check out more details and watch the trailer on our website: [www.banff-uk.com](http://www.banff-uk.com).

It would be brilliant to see you there! **Lauren Woodwiss**



## Just look what skiing at Kidsgrove can lead to.

### Cameron Stewart proudly wears his BASI Level 2 badge

Some of you might recognise Cameron Stewart, one of our young ski instructors. He has been very involved with teaching junior members of the club to ski on Sunday mornings both in the freestyle park and getting the juniors through their Snowlife Awards on the main slope. He first qualified as an instructor at Kidsgrove in 2015 and he has recently topped that with gaining a BASI Level 2 Award in Italy he says :-

"The course I was on was with Interski, in Pila which is in the Aosta valley, Italy. It lasted 10 weeks including 3 weeks which were exam weeks.

The first two weeks were 10 days of intense training getting us ready for the level one exam, which lasted 5 days. During the exam we were assessed on long and short turns, central theme and our teaching skills.

After the level one exam we started shadowing ski groups that were out on school ski trips. We were shadowing for four days a week and training for two with one rest day. After our level one we had to do 35 hours shadowing to get our certificate and before we could do our level two we had to do another 35. The shadowing and training continued for 5 weeks.

The level two exam was a ten day continuous assessment over two weeks. It consisted of long and short turns, our ability to ski steep terrain, bumps runs and variables (tracked powder), as well as our central theme and our teaching ability. All of the practical assessments were followed by a written exam.

There were fourteen people on the course and all of us passed level one but only six of us passed the level two. The age range of the people on the course was from 18-56.

Straight after I passed my level 2 exam I started teaching the next week in Pila and I had a group of beginners who had never skied before. During the six days I had them we managed to get down a few steepish reds and all their turns were parallel on the blues.

What I would like to do now is keep working though all of the BASI levels, and hopefully work all around the world."

**Well Done Cameron!**

### Newcastle under Lyme Festival of Sport during May 2017

**Saturday 6th May**

**As part of the festival the ski club will be holding a taster day**

**FREE HALF HOUR TASTER SKI LESSON**

**10am - 3pm**



Its a good way for friends and family to find out about skiing and have a go if they want to! Support your ski club by telling all your friends and family about this event. Sessions bookable in advance.

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**



Sport England has announced significant investments into a number of sports as part of their new strategy for sport. As part of this investment Snowsport England has been awarded £1,050,000 for the four years from 2017-2021.

The funding will support Snowsport England's strategic direction to invest in the core of the sport including inspiring people to participate at their local club/facility, growing young talented athletes, get more people competing, getting more coaches coaching and encouraging more volunteers to make snowsports happen in clubs and organised activity across England.