



IMCZ

Introducing...new members

THE IMCZ WELCOMES:

Peter Grewal

Peter is a British citizen who had moved to Switzerland from the UK in September 2013. He works in internal audit for Swiss Re in Zurich, a job he had previously occupied from 2008 to 2010 during which he had lived in Zurich before moving back to the UK. Prior to 2008 he had lived and worked in Bermuda for 7 years for financial services companies. His hobbies include reading, movies and cars, although he is planning to survive in Switzerland without a car.



Daniele Viviani

Daniele is a Swiss national originally from Tecino. He spent 10 years in Lausanne where he did his studies in Biology and then a PhD in neuroscience. He subsequently worked in preclinical pharmacology at Actelion Pharmaceutical and is now working as a medical advisor for Ophthalmics at Novartis Pharma Switzerland. He is currently living in Zug. He is married and has one child. His hobbies include Jogging, photography, sailing, skiing, squash fishing and wine tasting.



Adrian Davies

Adrian hails from England, he was born and raised in South East England, close to London. He is a mechanical engineer by profession, but moved off of the tools and into Engineering and Project Management some 15 years ago. He has been living in Switzerland for over seven years. The first five years he had lived in Zurich Oberland, but moved afterwards to Cham to be closer to his job with Landis+Gyr in Zug. His job requires him to travel often around the world, which he considers to be very fortunate. He is married to a Swiss lady and considers Switzerland his home. His wife is still showing him the many wonderful places in and around Switzerland, whenever he is back home long enough. Apart from being an eternal tourist, he enjoys photography and tinkering with computers. He is a keen video gamer, but the years are taking their toll and he finds that his reflexes aren't what they used to be - which means that he has to experience defeat at the hands of the younger online generation the hard way!



Henry Park

Henry hails from New York. He is an intellectual property attorney, and has his own law firm in New York: the Law Office of Henry Park, PC. He represents clients with Intellectual Property (patents, trademarks, copyrights, etc.), corporate, and entertainment needs. He and his wife moved to Zug in July of this year as his wife took a position with Johnson & Johnson. He enjoys running, hiking and is looking forward to skiing all across Europe this winter.



Hans Peter Wüest

Hans P. Wüest "came" to Switzerland when he was born. And since I'm writing this short curriculum vitae on my own I shall not continue in the third person singular. As an admirer of nature in all its forms and as a physician I learned that other living creatures deserve all the respect we think is owed to us. Now, this is an extraordinary introduction of mine. It may get censored or not get printed. But that's me; I try to say what I feel and think. Nature of the scale of the very small to the very large has opened my eyes. I might be a bad actor on society's noble stage. "Confidentially, the type of male I find most enjoyable for a friend is one who has enough fire and assurance to speak up for his convictions." (Marilyn Monroe)



Burns' Night Dinner



This is an advance notice for the traditional event with whisky and Haggis. The venue shall be announced since the Landhouse Restaurant has closed down. It shall take place two days after the AGM. Saturday January 25, 2014.

All members with their spouses are invited to attend. The organiser is steadfast IMCZ member John Stuart.

Annual General Meeting



The Annual General Meeting AGM of the Club shall take place on Thursday January 23, 2014.

Again it shall take place at the Park Hotel Zug at 18:00 hours.

All honorary and regular members are invited to attend and participate in shaping the Club's activities and future. The agenda shall be circulated in December 2013.

IMCZ Ski Day at Stoos



On Saturday January 11, the club is organising a ski day at the nearby ski resort of Stoos.

Click [here](#) for full details, or check our website under Events.

Budget Skiing

Thanks to IMCZ member Tommy Fliski, who pointed out that a truly cheap ski outing is being organised by Radio Pilatus. Here is his mail:



Dear friends in der Zentralschweiz,

I was listening to radio Pilatus this morning, I thought I didn't hear right, so I contacted the radio station regarding a ski trip. Are you perhaps interested in joining with me on a ski trip from Luzern to Lenzerheide, Saturday 18th January 2014? Truly amazing price, I guess tickets are highly restricted so be fast, they have to be bought next week for only CHF 35, trip by bus incl. ski pass and drink, I guess it's hard to beat this offer.

All details are to be found here:

http://www.radiopilatus.ch/artikel/detail/125683/radio_pilatus_schneet_ag_auf_der_lenzerheide

Tommy is going to join and can be contacted directly at fliiski@hotmail.com

IMCZ

BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member bios are posted under the following link: <http://www.imcz.com/Board.asp>. Go ahead and check them out!

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November 28, Joint Stammtisch

The last joint Stammtisch turned out to be a lively one with good attendance from both clubs. In fact the Business Network Group (BNG) of the ZIWC attended in full. The lively discussions that took place were both informative and very interesting.



Nominees for the 2014 Board

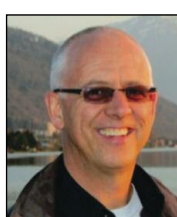
The current board nominates the following members for the 2014 board of the Club:



President
Mr. Andy Habermacher



Vice President and
Newsletter Editor
Dr. Muthana Kubba



Secretary
Mr. Adrian Luedi



Treasurer
Dr. Max Leyherr



Webmaster
Mr. Roger Brooks



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and Public Relations
Mr. Danilo Bertocchi



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Don't worry about full-fat dairy products: bread, not butter, is the suspect!

Contributed by IMCZ member Remo P. Jutzeler van Wijlen, Head R&D Sponser Sports Food Ing. Appl Food Sciences, MAS Nutrition & Health ETHZ



A common dietary recommendation from nutritionists to those wishing to reduce weight and the risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD) at the same time is to cut down on full-fat dairy products. Although this seems reasonable in order to reduce calorie intake, it is not clear that the lower calorie intake from substituting low-fat or partly skimmed dairy products is not compensated throughout the day by other foods. More importantly, the advice most probably is meaningless regarding the supposed reduction of CVD risk.

A 12 year follow-up study to the huge Swedish-Mammography-Cohort-Study, which has run on an original population of 39'000 women since 1997, has been published (Patterson, *J Nutr*, 2012), examining the association between dairy food consumption and risk of myocardial infarction in women. Of the 33'636 subjects without any CVD, cancer or diabetes, 1392 experienced a myocardial infarction within the 12 year period. Myocardial infarction is still the major cause of death in the Western world.

But – surprise, surprise – comparing the 20% of subjects with the highest and lowest consumption of milk and dairy food,

respectively, the risk of myocardial infarction was 23 percent lower in the former group! Among specific dairy food products, total cheese (the “fattest” full-fat dairy food you can get) was even inversely associated with myocardial risk (26% risk reduction). No other specific food associations were found, no difference between consumption of specific low-fat and high-fat dairy foods, either. Of course all these results were corrected for potential confounders such as smoking, physical activity, consumption of alcohol, fruits and vegetables, blood pressure, education, drug intake, and so on.

Particularly interesting was a sub-analysis of butter consumption. If butter was used for cooking, a trend toward reduced myocardial infarction was observed compared to no butter consumption. But if butter was consumed as spread, this association reversed into a significantly increased risk (+34%) for myocardial infarction! In view of this, it is a reasonable assumption that the health risk is not the butter, but the bread!

Bread causes a high glycemic load in our diet. This conclusion is confirmed by recent meta-analyses, which identified high glycemic load as an independent risk factor for both myocardial infarction (Mirrahimi, *J Am Heart Assoc*, 2012), CVD (Ma, *Atherosclerosis*, 2012), and type-2-diabetes (Dong, *Br J Nutr*, 2011).

Coming back to the higher caloric content of high-fat compared to low-fat dairy foods, it may appease the concerned that normal-weight, but untrained men have a nearly doubled risk of overall disease mortality than overweight (or even obese), but trained men! This is good news for those, who want to reduce weight only for health (not aesthetic) reasons ;-). The bad news is that you probably have to start getting more active anyway...



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Electric Trains without overhead power lines

Contributed by IMCZ honorary member and Newsletter Editor Muthana Kubba

What? Electric trains have been with us for decades, and virtually the whole railway network in Switzerland is electrified, so what is new about them?

Well, plenty! All of the major manufacturers of train engines and rolling stock are hard at work trying to develop and test a battery run train. We have battery-powered electric cars, so why not battery-powered electric trains? It may sound absurd to store energy in bulky batteries or flywheels, when the same energy is available overhead, but think how much more flexible and functional electric trains would be if they were at least partially autonomous? Batteries can supply the required energy when overhead power is not available, or is interrupted for any reason.

On June 22, 2005 the whole Swiss rail network ground to a halt for three hours, stranding at least 100'000 people, following a major electric power breakdown. This was the most serious breakdown to date. The only other one was in 1997 when the trains in Western Switzerland were halted for 40 minutes. Imagine how much less stress the passengers would have suffered had all the locomotives had, say 20 minutes of autonomy. Trains in

tunnels would have cleared them; others would have taken the passengers to the next station on the line, etc.

Not only are such trains a blessing during power interruption, in several European countries there still are many suburban and isolated railway lines which are not yet electrified. At present they are served using diesel locomotives. Such locomotives could advantageously be replaced by battery operated ones. The batteries would be charged automatically whenever the locomotives contact overhead lines.

The name given to such locomotives is IPEMU: Independently Powered Electric Multiple Unit. Feasibility studies are being carried out now, notably by Bombardier of Canada.

Field trials are now underway in the UK. Two different types of batteries are undergoing extensive tests on a Bombardier Electrostar train: lithium phosphate and sodium nickel batteries. If the tests prove successful, the train shall enter passenger service on an electrified section in Anglia, UK. The exact route has yet to be chosen. In case of problems, the 'pantograph' (the current



collector from overhead power lines), would be raised to run the train normally. By the end of 2014, it is anticipated that the program shall be completed. The collected data and experience collected shall determine which form future battery powered trains shall take. It is anticipated that electric traction can be introduced to several sections of the railway network without the need to electrify them.

Furthermore, in all probability, most national railway organisations shall introduce, at some stage in the future, hybrid locomotives, which can store sufficient energy to have up to 20 minutes of autonomous drive, on most of their networks.

Further reading:
E&T Engineering and Technology

White Space Broadband WiFi

Contributed by IMCZ honorary member and Newsletter Editor Muthana Kubba

The availability of WiFi for our mobile devices has become so important that hotels and restaurants vying for customers prominently decorate their ads with 'Free WiFi'. The problem with present-day WiFi is that its range is limited, typically to about 30 metres; hence every location which wants to provide WiFi coverage has to have its own internet connection and WiFi transmitter. The reason for the limited range is the frequency allocated to WiFi by the ITU, the International Tele-communications Union. At 2.4 GHz, the wavelength of the WiFi signal is only 12 cm. Its range is limited because it is easily absorbed by walls and air.

The ITU had allocated such frequencies because lower frequencies which would have increased the coverage have all been allocated to other services, mostly analogue television broadcast. In order to overcome this impasse, resourceful enterprises, searching for a window of frequencies, have proposed using the channel separation gaps for WiFi coverage. In order to reduce interference between channels, the ITU had put in fairly large gaps between adjacent channels.

It is the gaps in between TV channels in the UHF range of frequencies (470-790 MHz) that are being considered for WiFi large area coverage. The term earmarked for such a system is, "White Space Broadband". First field trials and pilot projects are already well underway. The purpose of such trials is to demonstrate the feasibility of the system and

to put to rest the fears of the ITU regulators that interference with TV signals might result from its deployment. Due to less stringent controls, the first pilot projects to verify the system took place in Africa. Both Google and Microsoft started testing the system in several African countries already. In one test experiment, Google installed antennas in ten schools in Cape Town and sent signals to them from the roof of the building of the University of Stellenbosch. Although the city is surrounded by mountains and has several television transmitters, there has been not one single malfunction or interruption over a six months period. Google was trying to prove that the system is sound and is waiting for the go ahead from the authorities. Unlike Google, Microsoft has been concentrating on sub-Saharan African countries, Kenya and Tanzania where it is trying to bring the Internet to the masses, wirelessly at a cost of under \$1.50 per month.

Special Receivers

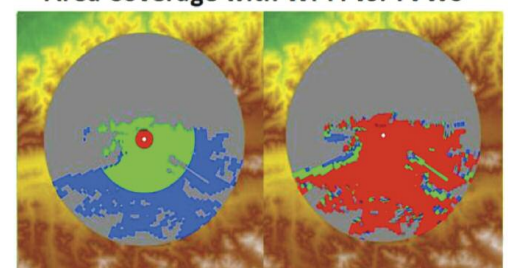
Needless to say, special receivers are required to receive the White Space signals and to transmit back signals to the base station. Internet works in Duplex mode. This means, the user sends a request, e.g. a web address, and then he receives an answer in the form of a data stream from the site requested. Similarly with emails, etc.

Once White Space is firmly established and becomes widely available, a new generation of smart phones will undoubtedly become

available. They shall be able to receive conventional WiFi and White Space, so one can always remain on line everywhere, without the need to use the cumbersome and very expensive GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) over the telephone network, whenever no WiFi is available.

Further Reading
Rural Connect
(<http://www.carlsonwireless.com/products/ruralconnect-ip.html>)
Cambridge White Spaces Consortium
(<http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/spectrum/cambridge-tv-white-spaces-trial-recomms.pdf>)
TV White Space Trial
(<http://eandt.theiet.org/news/2013/apr/white-space.cfm>)

Area Coverage with Wi-Fi vs. TVWS



Coverage with 5 GHz

Coverage with 470 MHz

Area coverage using microwave (5 GHz) and UHF TV spectrum (470 MHz) in a 25 mile radius of propagation. Areas in red show best coverage.



Sailing the Adriatic, Part 3

Contributed by IMCZ board member and Webmaster Roger Brooks with photos courtesy of ZIWC member Margareta Pfander

Rovinj, Thursday

The northernmost point we visited in Croatia was our next port of call, Rovinj, or Rovigno, as it is called in Italian. Rovinj is situated just south of the bay of Lim. Like the bay of Kotor, the bay of Lim is sometimes called a fjord although it is actually a ria, the estuary of the river Pazinčica. We took the first tender ashore in Valdibora Bay, north of the old town, then enjoyed strolling along the bay and beach, past open-air markets and into the old city. The Italian influence is more noticeable here than in Hvar or Dubrovnik: much of the signage is bilingual, and St. Euphemia's Basilica even boasts a campanile (bell tower) which looks a lot like the campanile of St. Mark's in Venice, on a somewhat smaller scale.

Rovigno was one of the most important towns in Istria governed by Venice from the 13th to the 18th centuries. It subsequently belonged to the Austrian empire up to World War I, and then to the kingdom of Italy between the two World Wars. Thereafter it became part of Yugoslavia, until Croatia became independent during the Balkan war of the early 1990s. The main economic activity today is tourism. High-speed catamaran ferries (Adriatic Jet) bring tourists to and from Venice in less than three hours.

Cape St. Euphemia as seen from Valdibora Bay



St. Euphemia's Basilica is a baroque church situated in a lovely garden replete with cypress trees. St. Euphemia can be seen standing on top of the bell tower. Paradoxically, the tower, which was built in the 17th century, is older than the church. The current church was built in the 18th century on the site of older Christian churches, and the façade was renovated in the 19th century. We climbed to the top of the tower, which offers a splendid view of the town, the harbor and Katarina Island at the harbor's mouth.

After touring the town we returned to the Royal Clipper and enjoyed snorkeling from the ship's stern platform, whose access was conveniently located next to our cabin. The visibility was a bit disappointing, and there was little sea life to see, but we did spot a couple of beautiful large jellyfish, which reminded me of the mother ship at the end of the film "Close Encounters of the Third Kind".

We were invited to the Captain's Table for dinner, where we met several interesting fellow passengers. Among them was a woman from Tessin and her Australian husband, who now live in Canada. The passengers were altogether quite international, including many British, Germans, Scandinavians and a few Swiss. There were even a few others from Kanton Zug, including the passengers in the adjacent cabin to ours, who came from Baar.

After dinner was Talent Night. Most of the performances given were by crew members, the most memorable being a traditional wedding dance performed by a Filippino couple, but there were also a few contributions by passengers. These included a lively dance performance by a young couple, several seaman's songs (mostly German) rendered by an Englishman who accompanied himself on an accordion and my own rendition of Paul Anka's "My Way", accompanied by the board pianist. The audience was very enthusiastic, singing along with the words "My Way" each they came around.

Koper, Friday

Our last stop before returning to Venice was Koper, Slovenia. The original schedule called for us to visit Piran, but Koper was substituted at the last minute. The activities coordinator

The bay of Koper is situated between the peninsulas of Piran and Debeli rtič. The name "Koper" means "goat town" and comes from the ancient Greeks. It was originally a settlement on a small island in the bay of Koper, which was eventually connected to the mainland and to another island, Sermin, by reclaiming land from the bay. It was once the capital of Venetian Istria, which explains the modern Italian name, Capodistria. Koper is officially bilingual (Slovene & Italian) and has a scenic old town, which we explored on foot.

The heart of the old town is Titov Trg (Tito Square), named after the former Communist dictator. It is bordered on its south side by the magnificent Praetorian Palace. The palace was first built in the 13th century, but was destroyed in the 14th century by the Genovese and then rebuilt in the 15th century and subsequently renovated in the 17th century. It was renovated again at the end of the 20th century and now serves as the city's town hall. On the east side of the square is a cathedral variously (and confusingly) referred to as the church of St. Mary's Assumption or of St. Nazarius. The latter is the patron saint of Koper, and his sarcophagus rests in the church. The church was built in the 12th century on the site of an even more ancient Roman basilica and features (as in Rovinj) an Italian-style bell tower. The altar features a 16th century painting by Vittore Carpaccio, but most of the building is from the 18th century.

We took a figure 8 tour of the city, passing twice by the Muda gate, one of the last remnants of the old city walls, at the south end of the old town. Just inside the gate is Prešernov Square, named after the famous poet France Prešernov and featuring the da Ponte fountain. The fountain was commissioned in the 17th century by the Venetian governor Lorenzo da Ponte, when Koper was still an island, to bring water from the mainland out to the island. Appropriately enough, it features a bridge, which resembles Venice's Rialto. The figures under the bridge on the left are said to be Gorgons, mythological offspring of Neptune and those on the right to represent deities. The fountain was the city's main source of drinking water until the late 19th century.



The da Ponte fountain in Prešernov Square

After setting sail from Koper, the crew deployed the tenders at sea, so that we could photograph the Royal Clipper at full sail. The "photo tenders" circled the ship for the better part of an hour, so that all of us could snap plenty of pictures. One of these appeared in the first installment of this article, in the October edition of the IMCZ Newsletter.



San Giorgio's Cathedral in Venice, early morning

Venice & Return to Switzerland

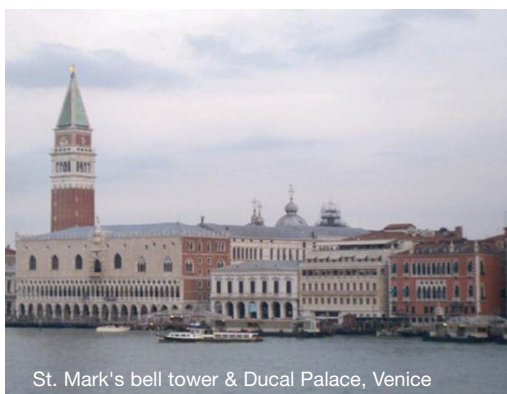
That night, as is customary on cruise ships, we had to pack our luggage and put it out in the corridor, for the crew to prepare it

for offloading in Venice. We came into the Giudecca Canal in the early morning, with the nearly full moon still visible. The amount of traffic in the canal at that early hour was amazing, and we were pursued through the canal by the Cunard Queen Victoria. The Queen Victoria is the smallest Cunard ship, but at 294 m., still enormous compared to the Royal Clipper.

Cunard's Queen Victoria in the Giudecca Canal



After a blessedly short and uneventful ride on a crowded vaporetto from the San Tomaso cruise terminal to the train station, we joined our fellow sailors from Baar for the train ride back to Switzerland. We had just enough time between trains in Milan to grab a sandwich for lunch. Even though our train from Milan was delayed we made our planned connection in Zug with barely a minute to spare and arrived home on schedule. We are always glad to come home, but it was a lovely trip, and we look forward to visiting the Adriatic again.



St. Mark's bell tower & Ducal Palace, Venice



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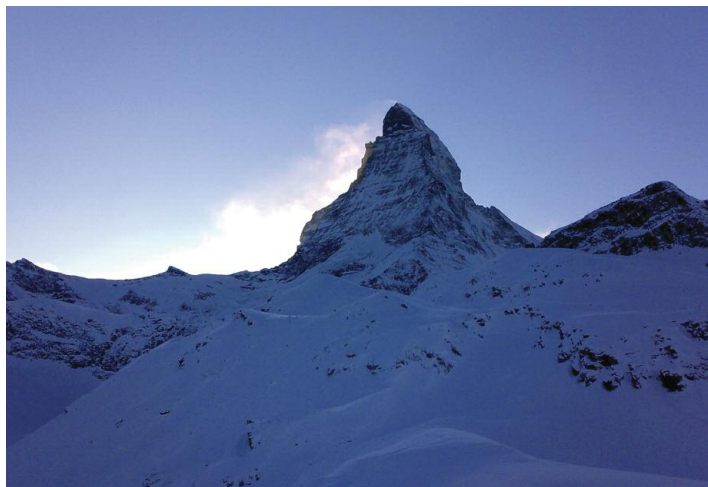
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ZERMATT: November Ski Test Weekend

Contributed by IMCZ sports' editor Joseph Dow



Each year near the end of November, Zermatt has a huge, weekend ski test at the Trockener Steg station, up next to the Matterhorn. After three years of trying, I finally made it there for this special event.

First thing on Saturday morning, I rode up on the Matterhorn Express and took a look in the big room of the main test. There were hundreds of skis from all the big ski manufacturers. All the usual suspects were there: Dynastar, Rossignol, K2, HEAD, Atomic, Blizzard, Elan, Nordica, etc. For 50 CHF, a skier can take out any and as many skis from all of the manufacturers participating. It was packed and people had torn-out pages from ski magazines and were checking off the skis they tried with a pen. Pretty serious business.

But, there was a big problem: the test was sold out when I inquired at 9:15am! It seems most people sign up with a group package that includes the test, hotel, and meals and reserve the space long before the weekend of the test. Who knew?

Luckily for me, I had little interest in the big brands and was there to try something different. Outside the station, a few of the smaller makers had set up their own tests. I saw AK, Exonde (XO), RTC, as well as the permanent Stöckli Test Center.

I chose to test from the company RTC, which intrigued me with their relatively short models. Each day, I did 18 runs over 5 hours straight through lunch to try as many different skis and lengths as possible, along with my own "benchmark" ski, the AK Black Race, 174cm, a GS racecarver. For boots I used my new Salomon Impact 120cs boots, custom fit by master bootfitter, Andreas of Stöckli in Cham. The conditions ranged from packed powder to hardpack with snowpiles to a little bit of skied-off ice with visibility from fair to good. My test area was mostly the runs between Trockener Steg and Furgg. I managed to try both RTC models in every length, except the Ladies model, for about 3 to 4 runs per ski.



RTC "Ready to Carve" Swiss Handmade Skis:

RTC is a Swiss ski manufacturer, located in Glis near the city of Brig, producing handmade skis, suited mostly to the piste, constructed completely in Switzerland. They make two models, a classic carver and a new crossride model, in multiple sizes. The construction is traditional sandwich, woodcore construction with full vertical sidewalls.

The Zermatt ski shop, **Stoked**, provided the test skis and the test was free, which was nice! The guys were friendly, enthusiastic, and efficient in switching out the skis and letting you test anything you wanted.

Classic Carver – This model is the perfectly designed for carving turns on the piste. The different lengths made for quite different experiences and the plate worked fine.

68'er – length 168cm, sidecut 115mm-66mm-93mm, radius 15.1m
Wow, this ski is a real racing machine. It's very fast and feels like a 185cm race stock GS. You need a lot of leg strength to handle this beast.

58'er – length 158cm, sidecut 115mm-66mm-93mm, radius 13.3m
The 58'er seems to be the perfect ski for the piste to me. It skis beautifully and turns very easily and quickly. Not as speedy as the 68'er, but a nice choice for fast cruising. This would be my choice in a "normal" ski.

48'er – length 148cm, sidecut 116mm-68mm-96mm, radius 11.7m
We're getting a bit short here, but this ski was surprisingly stable. I've heard this is the ski they call the "all-arounder," and I agree.

38'er – length 138cm, sidecut 117mm-73mm-99mm, radius 11.0m
I really enjoyed this ski. The stability was there and it was quite zippy.



28'er – length 128cm, sidecut 113mm-69mm-98mm, radius 9.0m
This ski is radical and it seemed to be tucked away behind the test rack. It was discontinued but brought back last season by popular demand. They only brought one pair and it had last year's graphics: a wild mango orange with the RTC logo. With low visibility, it seemed they didn't want to lend this one out. On the second day, I convinced them to let me take it. WOW!!! This is an amazing ski. I loved it. So much fun. I think the idea is to ski it without poles, making lay-down carves, but you can still ski it with a regular style and poles as I did. The sidecut is not radical, at all, and is similar to a normal racecarver. So, I could make very long-radius turns without problem and had no stability problems or the fore and aft balance issues that you would find with a skiboard (around 95cm long.) Obviously, the ski can turn on dime, but it was not twitchy or nervous, and I felt secure the whole time. I carved turns, danced through the snowpiles, and handled the slight ice very well. I wonder if this ski could be used all day long in any conditions, except deep powder, that one would encounter on the piste. What a treat to have a 128cm ski when you have to carry them, too!



4-Point Plate – For the carver model, RTC offers an unusual, substantial and relatively tall (15mm) two-piece riser plate with a 4-point attachment.

Crossride – This model, which is new to the line, is wider and meant to handle softer snow and variable conditions.

70'er – length 170cm, sidecut 123mm-74mm-102mm, radius 15.2m
Very well behaved and stable. It felt exceptionally secure. I don't think I need this model this long, however.



60'er – length 160cm, sidecut 123mm-76mm-103mm, radius 14.1m
Similar to the 58'er carver, but wider and not as quick, but livelier than the 70'er. A nice choice if you want a ski that can comfortably handle the whole mountain in different conditions.

50'er Men – length 150cm, sidecut 123mm-74mm-101mm, radius 11.8m A bit quicker than the 60'er and still nice and stable. I liked this length the best in this model.

50'er Ladies (soft) – length 150cm, sidecut 123mm-74mm-101mm, radius 11.8m I didn't try this one, but it is softer for the lighter skier.

Option – "Design your own" program:

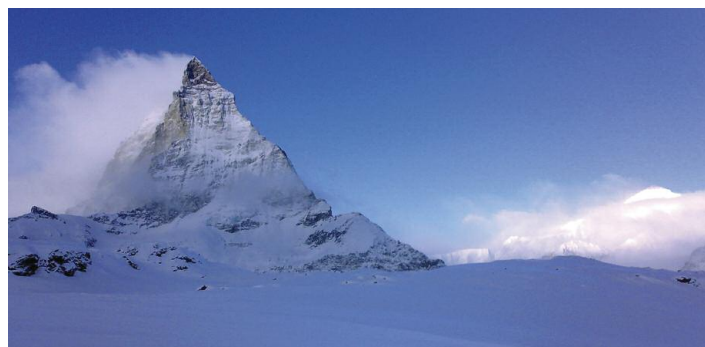
It is also possible to design your own graphics for your chosen RTC model. I think it would be very cool to have a few pairs of IMCZ skis made. Let's talk to Max! I'll ask Ron to come up with the design.

For further information:

RTC Ski AG: www.rtc-ski.ch

Stoked ski shop in Zermatt: www.stoked.ch

Zermatt Ski Area: www.matterhornparadise.ch



Next Month:

More information on the fantastic resort of Zermatt



33% No Show

Although 12 had booked, only 8 hardy souls showed up for our fun evening, and it turned out to be a busy one. First we welcomed two new bowlers Art and Shearl Seibel, and look forward to seeing more of them in the future. After the welcome ceremony we took off to a late start just after 20:00 hours.

Along with Otto Steuri, Janis Meier stood out. Both played very well.

The bowling alley tried to confuse everyone by screwing up the handicap scoring system. It was next to impossible to read, at a glance, the scores for each completed game until the end. Very off-putting.

The wine went to Art Seibel and Gail Brenton. I very much hope that next month the bowling alley guys shall put their act together and see to it that their new software is well and truly tamed so that we can get back to accurate results both during the game and afterwards.

Some of us, like my good self, have tried harder, as witnessed by low scores. All was not lost though as it was a fun evening out.

Organised and compiled by IMCZ member Stephen Butterworth

First Name	Surname	Game1	Game2	Game3	Bowled total	overall_avg	handicap	STRIKES	SPARES	Split
Otto	Steuri	171	178	160	509	145	44	9	14	2
Janis	Meier	160	164	119	443	123	62	10	8	2
Art	Seibel	138	169	116	423	90	88	7	11	1
Beat	Züger	126	150	146	422	135	52	8	7	4
Shearl	Seibel	110	114	91	315	90	88	3	6	1
Stephen	Butterworth	120	91	103	314	119	65	2	8	1
Gail	Brenton	90	102	107	299	82	95	1	4	4
Roger	Dixon	102	108	82	292	117	67	2	3	7

First Name	Surname	Game1	Game2	Game3	Handicapped	overall_avg	handicap	STRIKES	SPARES	Split
Art	Seibel	138	169	116	687	90	88	7	11	1
Otto	Steuri	171	178	160	641	145	44	9	14	2
Janis	Meier	160	164	119	629	123	62	10	8	2
Gail	Brenton	90	102	107	584	82	95	1	4	4
Shearl	Seibel	110	114	91	579	90	88	3	6	1
Beat	Züger	126	150	146	578	135	52	8	7	4
Stephen	Butterworth	120	91	103	509	119	65	2	8	1
Roger	Dixon	102	108	82	493	117	67	2	3	7

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Contributed by IMCZ member, Ian Stansfield

All web sites included in this series are offered in an unbiased way and do not necessarily reflect my personal views or those of the IMCZ; the reason for bringing them to your attention is that I found them interesting and informative, perhaps offering an alternative point of view, but above all else definitely worthy of note.

On-line telescope

[Real Telescope](#)

[WorldWide Telescope](#)

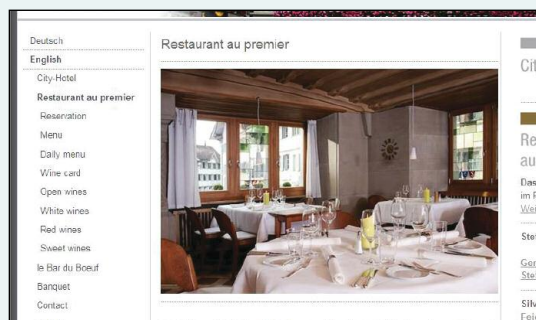
Quite some time ago (pre- publicly available internet) I joined an evening class for astronomy. It was about this time of year (Long cold dark nights). We would have some evenings in the classroom learning theory. Other evenings we would be in the car park shivering, waiting our turn to observe the heavens. I now live in the country and there are very clear skies here. The whim to purchase a telescope became irresistible. I looked around and found the sort of gadget that we had used on the course (link 1). With some telescopes having a price tag circa 10,000 CHF, I started to question my interest. I also remembered more acutely hanging around outside in the freezing cold. So rather than invest in a white elephant, the idea came to me that there might be an online telescope. I found the second link. I'm now hoping to be able to sit in the warmth and watch the Universe.



Fine Dining

Wildenmann (Buonas)	16 GMP
Falcon (Neuheim)	16 GMP
Schäfli (Neuheim)	12 GMP (Fine dining room)
Hinterburgmühle (Neuheim)	12 GMP
Krone (Sihlbrugg)	16 GMP
Aklin (Zug)	
Ochsen (Zug)	
Rathauskeller (Zug)	16 GMP (Fine dining room)
Kaiser Franz (Zug)	16 GMP
Sternen (Walchwil)	16 GMP

After all that violence (exploding stars, black holes, new formed galaxies and microwave energy), you may be feeling hungry. There are so many fine dining ([Haute cuisine](#)) restaurants near to Zug. I used to work next to a colleague, who was in a very different field to mine. Both of us worked, long hours and concentrated very intensely. Consequently several months passed and we had hardly spoken a word together. We wanted to get to know each other so we arranged to have a lunch together at the best fine dining restaurant that we could find locally. There were so many that we had a hard time choosing. We started at the Wildenmann on the other side of Lake Zug. The ambience was so enjoyable along with our varied conversation that we decided to repeat the experience on the last Thursday of each month. If you intend to visit one of these restaurants, a budget of 150 CHF per person is advisable and if you intend to go heavy on exotic wines don't expect much change from a gold bar. In good company expect a meal to take from 2 to 3 hours. The list is reasonably comprehensive, but there are some that I have not included, either because they were sub-fine-dining or I was not aware of them at the time. The [Gault Millau](#) (GMP) points system is similar to the Michelin star system in that they are independently awarded to restaurants. Restaurants do not and cannot pay for the privilege of being included. Some restaurants have more than one dining experience, be careful to choose the right restaurant. Enjoy!



What is Christmas and who was Santa Claus?

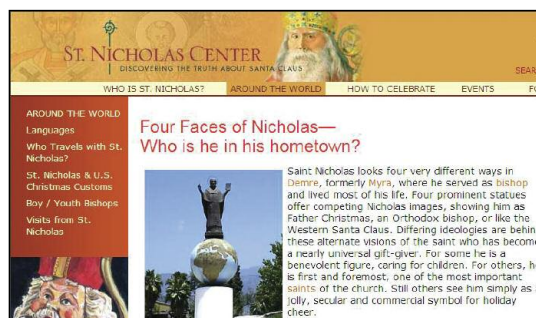
[Santa at the North Pole?](#)

[Cloudberry](#)

[St. Nicolas or Santa Claus - His church today](#)

[A history of Christmas](#)

I remember taking my children to see Santa Claus in Rovaniemi (Finland) (Bottom Link). At the time they were then about 7 years old. It was fantastic experience for all of us. We stayed about a week and also went [ski-doo](#) driving on a frozen lake. We fished through a hole in the ice. The food was very good and different. We took toasting forks and cooked reindeer steaks on the open fire in our room. There was a sauna in all the apartments. They used to have wars over cloudberry (Link 2)! Having tasted them I can see why. It seems that Santa Claus did not start out in Finland but originated as a 4th century bishop in Turkey. Legend has it that he gave dowries to poor girls of marriageable age (3 set of links). Christmas was celebrated long before Christianity and started as a Roman orgiastic festival (Link 4).





Dead Jackass

Father O'Malley rose from his bed one morning. It was a fine spring day in his new west Texas mission parish. He walked to the window of his bedroom to get a deep breath of the beautiful day outside. He then noticed there was a jackass lying dead in the middle of his front lawn. He promptly called the local police station.

The conversation went like this: "Good morning. This is Sergeant Jones. How might I help you?"

"And the best of the day to yourself. This is Father O'Malley at St. Ann 's Catholic Church. There's a jackass lying dead in me front lawn and would ye be so kind as to send a couple o'yer lads to take care of the matter?"

Sergeant Jones, considering himself to be quite a wit and recognizing the foreign accent, thought he would have a little fun with the good father, replied, "Well now Father, it was always my impression that you people took care of the last rites!"

There was dead silence on the line for a long moment...

Father O'Malley then replied: "Aye, 'tis certainly true; but we are also obliged to notify the next of kin first, which is the reason for me call..."

True Friendship

A man brings his best buddy home for dinner unannounced at 5:30 after work.

His wife screams at him as his friend listens in,

"My hair & makeup are not done, the house is a mess, the dishes are not done, I'm still in my pajamas and I can't be bothered with cooking tonight! What the hell did you bring him home for?"

"Because he's thinking of getting married..."



Brochure of a Chinese tourist hotel

Getting There:

Our representative will make you wait at the airport. The hotel bus runs along the lake and you will feel pleasure in passing water. You will know the hotel is near, because you will go round the bend. The manager will have intercourse with all new guests.

The Hotel:

This is a family hotel, so adultery and children are welcome. Nurses are available in the evenings to put down your children. Guests are invited to conjugate in the bar and expose themselves to others. But please note that ladies are not allowed to have their babies in the bar. We organize social games, so no guest is ever left alone to play with himself.

Your Room:

Every room has excellent facilities for your private parts. In winter, every room is on heat. Each room has a balcony offering views of outstanding obscenity. Please feel free to ring for the chambermaid and take advantage of her.

Hospitality:

When you leave us at the end of your holiday, you will struggle to forget it.

Jewellery Shop

A couple were out doing some Christmas shopping together. The shopping centre was packed, and as the wife emerged from a shoe and handbag shop, she was surprised to find that her husband was nowhere to be seen.

Irritated because they had a lot to do, she called his mobile to ask him where he was.

In a subdued voice he replied, "Do you remember that jewellers' we went into a couple of years ago, where you fell in love with that beautiful diamond necklace that we couldn't afford, and I promised that I would buy it for you one day?"



Barely able to contain her emotions and with tears already forming in her eyes, she said, "Yes, of course I remember that shop."

"Well, I'm in the pub next door."

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Sudoku

There was a small problem with the November puzzle. The shaded diagonals of the October puzzle were left in and there was also a reference to them in the text, leaving several members puzzled that there must be a mistake. Of course the error was quickly rectified and the correct version uploaded, just the same many members did not try it once more. Some correct solutions were received and according to the hat the winner is Roger Brooks. Congratulations Roger your drinks during the next Stammtisch you attend shall be on the house.

This month's puzzle is quite straight forward and is meant for those who

have never tried to solve a Sudoku before. If they would have a go and solve it, then, who knows, they might get the bug and become experts. It is worth a try, anyway, to fill in the long holidays ahead.

The easiest form, in which the solution is sent, is nine rows of nine numbers in a Word document, Excel or email. In every Sudoku, every digit between 1 and 9 occurs exactly once in each row, column, 3x3 square. Please send your answers to newsletter@imcz.com, on or before the last day of the current month, i.e. on New Years eve at the latest.

			1			6		
		2			6	7	9	
		9		4				
		3				4		
7	8					3	6	
	4					8		
				8		3		
2	1		5			9		
	5				9			

Solution November 2013 Puzzle

1	8	4	5	3	6	9	2	7
7	6	9	2	8	4	5	3	1
5	3	2	7	1	9	8	6	4
3	1	6	8	4	2	7	9	5
2	9	5	6	7	1	3	4	8
8	4	7	3	9	5	2	1	6
4	7	8	1	2	3	6	5	9
6	2	1	9	5	8	4	7	3
9	5	3	4	6	7	1	8	2



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Park Hotel in Zug.