

IMCZNEWS



FEBRUARY 2016

PRESIDENTIAL DISPATCH **State of the Union**

Contributed by IMCZ President Roger Brooks

The New Year has certainly started with a bang for the IMCZ. We started the year with an interesting talk in its first week on the "Future Development of Rail Transport" by Matthias Kohls of Bombardier, and followed up with three of the club's major events in the same week: the annual IMCZ/ZIWC bowling challenge, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Burns Night! Perhaps this was too much of a good thing, as the attendance at the last two events was somewhat lower than usual.

In any case, those of you who attended the AGM have entrusted to me the post of president. It is an honor and a privilege for me to serve you in this new role. I have enjoyed being a member of the IMCZ since 2007 and have seen many members come, go and even return again. It has been my pleasure to serve on the board for several of those years, and I have particularly enjoyed serving with my predecessor as president, Andy Habermacher. We are very fortunate that Andy has agreed despite his increasing professional commitments to remain on the board in a Public Relations capacity. He is only the third past IMCZ president to continue as a board member after his presidency. I am grateful for and already benefitting from his advice. I can hardly hope to emulate his infectiously lighthearted style of leadership, which has livened up numerous club events during his five-year term, but I will do my best to further the interests of the club.

In this new role I am fortunate to have the support of the other board members. Muthana continues to serve as Vice President, and to deliver a world-class newsletter. Our new secretary, Bill Lichtensteiger, has already enthusiastically begun with his new duties. Unfortunately, a broken ankle prevented him from attending the AGM, but we look forward to seeing him back on his feet! Ilham has presented immaculate bookkeeping during his first year as treasurer and will help us with the unenviable task of keeping our expenditures in line with our income. Ram Ramphal displays incredible energy in organizing events for us, especially hikes, and speakers for the newly reinvigorated Special Stammtisch events. Lastly, Andrew Schofield, who has ably served as Newsletter Co-Editor has bravely stepped up to the challenge of managing our website. Many thanks to all of you!

What Next?

To take a leaf from David LeBow, who was president when I joined the club, this is your club. It lives from your interest, and to serve your interests. Many of the club's activities have come from the membership. It is your interest, which calls them into being, and your interest which keeps them alive. A good example is bowling, which was organized over the years by several different members, but has been a regular monthly activity for the last 8 years under the leadership of Stephen Butterworth. Stephen will be passing on his responsibility for this event in June to Andras Winkler, who volunteered at the AGM to take up the baton. Thanks, Stephen and Andras for keeping the ball rolling!

Please help us serve your interests better. Let us know what you like about the club, and what you don't like about it. If there is an activity you would like to see, let us know. Together we can make it happen! Fill out a contact form on the website, send me an e-mail at president@imcz.com, 'phone me up or buttonhole me at the Stammtisch!

If you enjoy the club as much as I do, don't keep it a secret! Invite your friends and colleagues to get to know us by joining us at Stammtisch!



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YOUR NEWSLETTER GOES PUBLIC

The board had decided to make the current Newsletter available to everyone.

Visitors to our site imcz.com can read the current Newsletter under About Us -> Current Newsletter

FUTURE EVENTS

- WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17 • **Bowling at the White Line Bowling Centre, Meierskappel** Stephen Butterworth
- SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28 • **Hike from Zugerberg to Pfaffenboden.** Meet at 9:30 am at the bus stop near the Zuger Kantonal Bank opposite Metalli. Bus Number 11 to the Zugerbergbahn station.
- THURSDAY MARCH 3RD • **Special Stammtisch, presentation by Dr. Georg Erdmann, Prof at the TU, Berlin, on "The New Role of Energy Companies in the Energy Transformation",** City Garden Hotel, 18:30-20:00 hours. Ram Ramphal
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16TH • **Bowling at the White Line Bowling Centre, Meierskappel** Stephen Butterworth
- THURSDAY APRIL 7TH • **The Swiss Traffic Laws, a presentation by Dr. Rainer Riek** at the City Garden Hotel 18:30-20.00 hours Ram Ramphal
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20TH • **Bowling at the White Line Bowling Centre, Meierskappel** Stephen Butterworth
- THURSDAY MAY 5TH • **Persuasive Communication, a presentation by Ms Stefanie Egger.** City Garden Hotel, 18:30-20:00 hours Ram Ramphal
- THURSDAY MAY 12TH, **New Members' Reception, Introducing all new members, all members are invited.** Venue to be announced, 18:00-20:00 hours. Finger food, soft drinks and beer are sponsored by IMCZ
- WEDNESDAY MAY 18TH • **Bowling at the White Line Bowling Centre, Meierskappel** Stephen Butterworth
- WEDNESDAY 15TH JUNE • **Bowling at the White Line Bowling Centre, Meierskappel** Stephen Butterworth
- SUNDAY AUGUST 21ST • **Annual Barbecue** at the Siehbachsaal, 6300 Zug 12:00-16:00 hours Ram Ramphal



Special Stammtisch Thursday January 7th, 2016 Future Development of Rail Transport

A presentation by Mr. Matthias Kohls from Bombardier

Most of us know of or have heard of **Bombardier** as makers of passenger executive jet aircraft. But they are also very active, among others, in transportation systems, particularly railway vehicles and propulsion systems including Commuter and Regional Trains, Metros, Automated Monorails and Automated People Movers.

Mr. Kohls covered the history of trains from the early days of steam engines till the modern high speed electric trains. Being an electrical engineer himself, the emphasis was on electric trains, their power supply and distribution. It was a very interesting speech and highly informative for the non-specialists. Thanks are due to Ram for organising it.



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STAMMTISCH

Every Thursday
from 18:00-20:30
At the City Garden Hotel

Annual General Meeting

The 36th **Annual General Meeting** of the IMCZ took place on January 21, 2016 at the Park Hotel in Zug. Yes our club is all of 36 years old. It was formed in 1979, and has remained active all these years, providing a convenient platform for English speakers to meet, enjoy a beer and a good chat once a week.

After the last year's minutes were approved, the President read his annual report, and the treasurer presented his financial report followed by the auditors who confirmed it. After discharging both the board and the auditors, the awards were presented. A bottle of wine was presented to **Ian Stansfield**, **Sergiy Shtangey** and **Tim Harms** for their high attendance at the Stammtisch. **Bas Veenendaal** got a bottle of Whisky for organising the Burns' night. **Stephen Butterworth** got a gift for organising the Bowling events. Both **Joseph Dow** and **Remo Jutzeler** received awards for their regular contributions to the Newsletter. A gift for the departing board member **Amit Purohit** was then presented.

The board then proposed to award **honorary membership** to **Stephen Butterworth** and **Bas Veenendaal** for their exceptional services to the club. The proposal was unanimously approved.

The new board and auditors for next year were then elected. The full text of minutes can be found [here](#).



IMCZ BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member bios are posted under the following link: <http://www.imcz.com/nc/about-us/board-members/board-members-2016.html>.
Go ahead and check them out!

PRESIDENT
Roger Brooks
079 583 9935
President@IMCZ.com

WEBMASTER
Andrew Schofield
079 338 0477
webmaster@imcz.com

VICE PRESIDENT
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Muthana Kubba
079 340 2592
Newsletter@IMCZ.com

EVENTS COORDINATOR
Ram Ramphal
079 318 2554
Events@IMCZ.com

SECRETARY AND
STAMMTISCH COORDINATOR
Bill Lichtensteiger
079 378 6326
Secretary@IMCZ.com

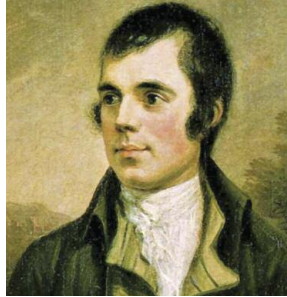
PUBLIC RELATIONS
Andy Habermacher
078 815 8837
PR@imcz.com

TREASURER
Iham Yüksel
079 955 2287
Treasurer@IMCZ.com



Burns' Night Supper

Burns night! What a sophisticated and cultured tradition! This year was no exception. As in recent years it was held in Steinhausen in the banqueting suite at the Guesthouse "Zur Linde". In an age that experienced the sad demise of "Tie Rack" and the "Hoi polloi" garbed in an oxymoron; smart casual (Is it smart or is it casual?), it is such a great pleasure to have a celebration that is also a visual feast of accoutrement. Attired in kilts or evening dress we started the evening off with an apéro. Once all the guests were assembled Craig Holmquist piped in the dignitaries with the Scottish highland bagpipes. Our be-kilted Master of Ceremonies Bas Veenendaal opened the evening with a short description of the pleasures to come along with the potted credentials of the evening's main players.



Brenda Veenendaal led us in the Selkirk Grace. This grace was written by Robert Burns.



'Some hae meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it,
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae let the Lord be thankit'

And there was plenty to be thankful for. After the Cock-a-Leekie soup we were all up standing while Mr Viktor Jans, proprietor of the "Zur Linde" majestically marched in the Haggis accompanied by Craig Holmquist on the pipes. Having got our attention, we were rapt as Bruce Mathers passionately and eloquently addressed the Haggis before poignantly stabbing it toreador fashion. Glasses of "Uisce beatha" were raised to this magnificent spectacle.

The Haggis (warm, reekin', rich wi' Chappit Tatties and Bashed Neeps wi'a dram) was perfect. According to one recipe; sheep's stomach or



Contributed by IMCZ member Ian Stansfield

Ox secum; heart and lungs of a lamb; beef or lamb trimmings (whatever they are); onions, oatmeal and seasoning are all involved. Isn't it amazing how something starting with such inauspicious ingredients can taste so good?

Feeling replete and with a tumbler of whisky to hand ready to join its predecessor we settled down to enjoyed the contemplative part of the evening. Andy Habermacher made a marvellous job of the "The immortal Memory". For those who haven't attended a Burns' night supper, it was Andy's task to educate us about Robert Burns. Why is Robert Burns so celebrated, why don't we have such lavish celebrations for other poets? Andy helped to understand and appreciate aspects of the poet's life, character and poetry. Afterwards we toasted Robert Burns.

Following dessert, Max Lustenberger toasted the lassies. When writing to the ladies, shouldn't the pen be dipped in a rainbow? However in traditional Burns night fashion Max's rainbow must have been a little bit muddy. Catherine Luke replied for the lassies and the gentlemen of the party got just what they deserved. But it was all good fun.

Almost everyone won a prize in the draw and there was plenty of time for lively discussion with our fellow guests.

The evening finished with "Auld Lang Syne". Bas Veenendaal and the organisers had prepared everything to perfection, our piper was a "Brammer", our speakers were ebullient, the raffle sponsors were generous, the staff at the Zur Linde were efficient and good humoured and our fellow bacchanalians were well turned out and made this a fabulous and entertaining evening. Carriages had been ordered for midnight and we were whisked away with an excess of contentment.

Appeal to all IMCZ current and past members

As announced at the AGM, we will soon be publishing the (almost) annual Membership Directory. Please help us find advertisers for the Directory. Those who have their own businesses can profit from the member discount of 20% on ad rates. The rest of us can approach businesses with which we have regular contact, which might profit from access to our diverse international membership. Please pass on [this brochure](#) to those who might be interested, and forward their names to Andy Habermacher, in his new capacity as [Public Relations director](#).



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full page (A5)	130 x 190 mm	CHF 285
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1/4 page	130 x 44 mm	CHF 115
inside cover	130 x 190 mm	CHF 320
back cover	130 x 190 mm	CHF 360

Tonic water, malaria and leg cramps

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



set by the food authorities. After all, it is still a drug and can provoke serious side effects at doses above 200-300 mg (e.g. immunologically mediated hypersensitivity), even though dosages in the treating of malaria are substantially higher. Nevertheless, the popularity of tonic water and probably also of gin and tonic and other cocktails rendered its continued use in tonic water beverages possible.

More recently, anecdotal evidence suggests that quinine may also help against leg cramps. A review on available studies between 1993 and 1997 concluded: "a few small studies suggest that quinine is effective in decreasing the frequency of nocturnal leg cramps

However, bitter substances with no potential side effects have begun to waken the interest of science as cramp relief. The hypothesis is that it is the bitter taste itself, which could provoke a neurological effect on muscle contraction. In this respect, it was already shown that pickle juice ingestion had no metabolic effect causative for cramp relief. But the ingestion of pickle juice or mustard may have practical limitations exactly because of its bitter taste, as you may imagine. Typical doses used are 60-100 ml of pickle juice or mustard! This probably poses a similar challenge as drinking about 4 litres of tonic water.

By the way, another quite unique property of quinine is its fluorescence quantum yield, which makes your gin tonic (and even your teeth, when drinking it) glow with iridescent blue light at the bar;-)

Some of you may know quinine by name, the bitter-tasting ingredient of tonic water, but not many may have heard of its history. Quinine was originally a medicine used as a malaria treatment during the days of colonial India. British officers in the Indian Army improved this bitter medicine by mixing it with soda water, sugar, and gin. The original gin and tonic cocktail was born, and it soon became very popular in the British Empire.

Naturally found in the bark of the cinchona tree in Peru, the first documented use of quinine for its anti-malarial properties stems from there, in the year 1630. Today, quinine is rarely used for medical purposes, and the exact anti-malarial mechanism of action is unknown. But quinine is still prohibited for use in food or in beverages other than tonic water, and there is an upper limit of 80 mg/litre in tonic water

but not their severity or duration". This adds to similar observations from the ingestion of pickle juice or mustard in the prevention or treatment of leg cramps. Of course, leg cramps are a common phenomenon associated with many comorbid disorders, especially peripheral vascular and neurologic disorders, or simply due to an electrolyte misbalance or dehydration. Consequently, depending on the exact cause, quinine or other bitter substances may or may not work. However, the FDA in the US judged quinine as not appropriate in the treatment of muscle cramps due to potential health concerns.



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Brave New World

Contributed by IMCZ President Roger Brooks

Looking back on 2015, some related news items stand out, which promise to radically shape our future.

Human Genome Mapping

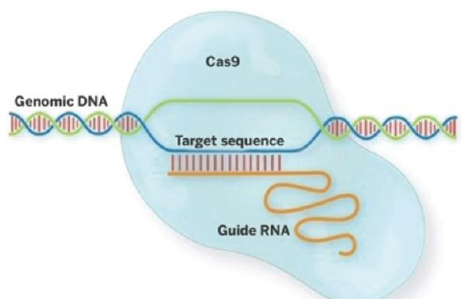
Tremendous progress has been made in mapping the human genome. The Human Genome Project already mapped the complete human genome in 2003. However, only a few 100,000 people have had their genomes mapped, and there is still a wealth of ignorance about how genes really work. A so-called “reference genome” has been developed from this small sample, but we are still a long way from understanding the functions of the billions of genes in the human genome. In fact, we have recently discovered that genes long thought to have no function can influence the



expression of other genes. Even more surprisingly these genes can change during an individual's lifetime, and the changed changes can be passed on. This revives the long discredited theories of Lamarck, who was roundly sneered at for postulating that acquired traits could be bequeathed to descendants. It reminds me of Wegener's theories of “continental drift”, which were also considered ludicrous in his time, but are now widely accepted, in the form of plate tectonics. In 2015 a new method for generalizing the acquired knowledge about individual genomes was proposed. It is called a “graph genome”. If successful, it will help to understand the tremendous variation among human genomes, many of which have substantial differences from the “reference genome”.

The New Genetic Engineering

Humans have practiced a form of genetic engineering for millennia, by breeding plants and animals for desirable traits. The identification of DNA made it possible to modify genes directly, instead of having to experiment for generations to achieve a desired trait. A new method of genetic



engineering, which promises much greater precision in modifying genes was announced in 2012. This uses newly discovered enzymes, CRISPR and CAS9, to precisely excise unwanted DNA, and even replace it. Early in 2015, its first use on human embryos was reported by a team of Chinese researchers. In connection with the previously mentioned mapping of the human genome, it quickly became evident that this could lead to the creation of designer babies, perhaps even chimeras. Geneticists use the term chimera to refer to an organism which has acquired traits from another species through the implantation of foreign DNA. Such chimeras exist already in the form of crop plants (such as the renowned BT wheat), which have been genetically engineered to be particularly robust by implanting the genes of other organisms. The experiments on human embryos by Chinese researchers had a poor success rate, and were widely criticized by ethicists and by other scientists. In view of our relative ignorance about the ways in which genes work together, geneticists worldwide agreed to a moratorium on experimentation on human genetic material.

Preimplantation Diagnostics

In 2015, preimplantation diagnosis of human embryos for genetic defects became legal in Switzerland. It has long been possible to perform tests for known genetic diseases on one cell of a mere 8-cell embryo. In fact, this technique is already in use in the U.S. and is also being used to preselect in vitro fertilized embryos for other traits, such as gender.

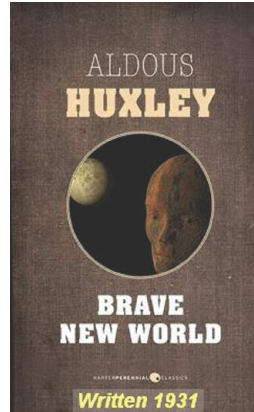
The New Old Genetic Engineering

As mentioned above, the old method of genetic engineering was to substitute human selection for natural selection in breeding useful species of plants and animals. Our recently found ability to comprehensively analyze genetic material has made a new form of this possible. Instead of breeding hybrids to maturity in order to find out which individuals have the desired traits, the desired traits can be identified in the seeds of traditionally bred hybrids. Because genetic engineering is used only for selection as opposed to directly modifying genetic material, the resulting lines can be considered as “natural” as any other which we have bred to our own purposes. New types of vegetables bred in this way, such as the Garden Gem and Garden Treasure tomatoes, which combine desirable flavor, texture and transportability, are therefore not considered “genfood”.

Brave New World

The ancient Greeks used to abandon babies, which they thought unfit to survive. With our

advances in medical science, we have gone to the other extreme, virtually eliminating natural selection, at least among humans in the western world. An “unnatural” selection for gender has taken place for quite some time in



countries such as China and India and, as mentioned above, more recently in the U.S., using more refined methods. It is only a matter of time before the newly available instruments empower us to perform a far more precise selection of our progeny. What will this look like? Are we facing a dystopian future such as the one described in Aldous Huxley's famous novel, “Brave New World”? Will we create a new chimeric human race with superhuman capabilities, like

the “super-soldiers” who have figured in several TV science fiction series in the last decades? If governments are allowed to control the results, I fear that this will be the case. Our experience in the last century with eugenics cannot make us very optimistic on this point. But what if these procedures and the choices they imply are left in the hands of the individual parents? What parent does not want to pass on his or her best traits to their progeny? A more optimistic version of what this could look like can be found in the Robert A. Heinlein novel, “Beyond this Horizon” (ISBN 0743435613).

Further Reading

<http://www.technologyreview.com/news/537916/rebooting-the-human-genome/>
<http://www.genome.gov/12011238>

Klee, H. J.: “Improving the Flavor of Fresh Fruits”, *New Phytologist* 187, 2010, pp. 44-56

“Gene Editing und Genterapie”, Spektrum der Wissenschaft

“Gezielter Eingriff ins Erbgut”, Margaret Knox, *Spektrum der Wissenschaft*, September, 2015

“Köstliche Früchte ohne Gentechnik”, Ferris Jabr, *Spektrum der Wissenschaft*, Dezember 2015

“CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene editing in human tripronuclear zygotes”, Liang P¹, Xu Y, Zhang X, Ding C, Huang R, Zhang Z, Lv J, Xie X, Chen Y, Li Y, Sun Y, Bai Y, Songyang Z, Ma W, Zhou C, Huang J, *Protein & Cell* 6, 2015 May, S. 363—372, 2015

<http://www.crispr-cas.org/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CRISPR>

Nature 520, S. 593-594, 2015

Nature 522, S. 20-24, 2015



The “Ski Forests” Around Brig:

Contributed by IMCZ Sports' editor Joseph Dow

Bellwald, Rosswald and Rothwald

The folks at **RTC Ski** of Wallis invited me to their home base in **Brig-Glis** for the brand's re-launch and introduction of the new 185cm **FIS Worldcup Skicross** model (*definitely serious machines for the speedfreak*) and **Arty-C** limited edition graphics skis. That was all the excuse I needed to take a couple extra days to visit some of the lesser-known ski areas around the city. Most skiers traveling through Brig will head to one of the two major nearby resorts in the **Oberwallis region**, the expansive **Aletsch Arena** (*Riederalp, Bettmeralp and Fiesch-Eggishorn*) or **Belalp** (see my previous review of *Belalp* in the April 2013 newsletter) or transit to the big international resorts of Saas Fee and Zermatt. However, there are some other interesting options in the vicinity.

Wald means “forest” in German and the ski areas of **Bellwald**, **Rosswald** and **Rothwald** all have a portion of their available skiing on trails cut through the trees. I managed to make it to Bellwald and Rosswald, but unfortunately, the snow at Rothwald was questionable. Since I was unsure if the ski area was operating (*not reporting on myschweizerland.com*), I went back to the Aletsch Arena and Belalp on the other days. Both Bellwald and Rosswald were not what I expected, and I was very impressed with both areas.



Location/ Travel

By Train to Brig

The trip takes 2 ¼ hours from Zug to Brig, via Zürich and Bern.

Bellwald – the farthest ski area of the bunch from Brig. Bellwald is reached via the same train that goes past the Aletsch Arena and continues on towards Andermatt. It takes about an hour from Brig, but the walk up from the top of the Bellwald LFÜB Cableway through the village to the chairlift will take you 15 to 20 minutes, unless you wait for the infrequent shuttle bus.

Rosswald – just above the city of Brig. A local bus, #632, takes you to Rosswald from the Bahnhof in 30 to 50 minutes, depending on the time of day and number of stops requested.

Rothwald – also close to the city of Brig, across the next valley from Rosswald. A local bus, #631, takes you to Rothwald from the Bahnhof in around 35 minutes.

Ski Area Details

BELLWALD – This “smaller” ski area seems rather remote at “the Top of Goms,” but it is surprisingly modern and upscale, although the vibe is definitely Swiss and not international. The architecture in the town is traditional and old (*historic*) but quite new in the ski village.

Sectors

Above the treeline – The Golden Rabbit lift takes you from Fleschen to the top. Here are some surprisingly big, wide open red runs with black options where you can really open up the throttle. I was flying on a pair of 128cm RTC 28'er funcarvers and it was a pure adrenaline rush!

T-bar sections in the middle and side of the area – This sector in the middle has some open pistes where the ski schools practice. Once they are gone, it's great for perfecting your carving.

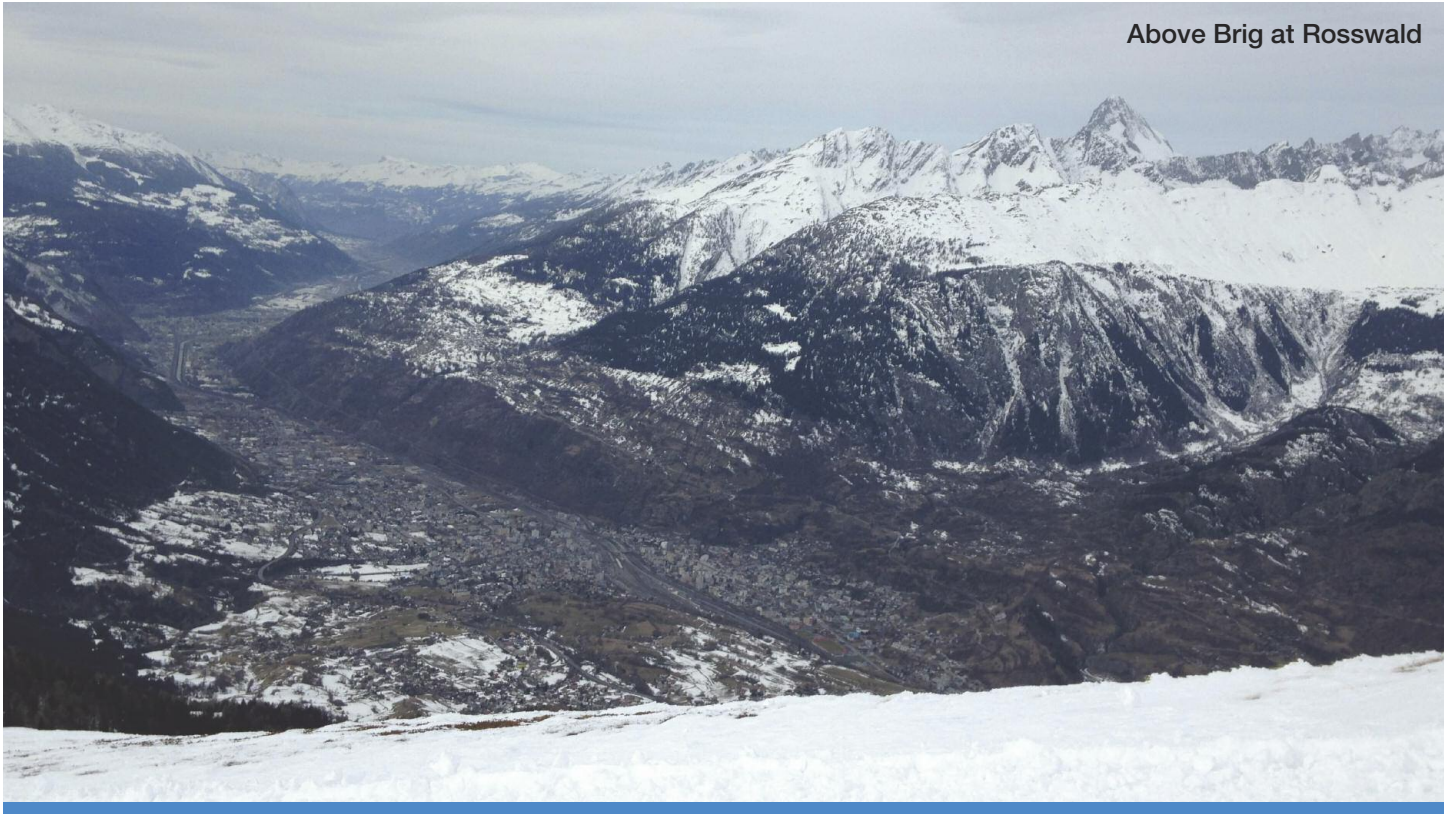
Through the trees to the base – From Fleschen there are a number of options to return to the base after passing the open areas served by the t-bars. They are mostly typical traversing runs back to the base but have a pleasant atmosphere.

Pisted Area: 35km

Vertical Drop: 958m (from 2'558m at the top of the Furggulti chair down to 1'600m at the base station at Gassen)

Lifts – The lift system seems brand new with two modern chairlifts, as well as a few t-bars.

Food on the mountain – I had lunch at Bergrestaurant Fleschen next to the Golden Rabbit chairlift to the top. It was simple Spaghetti Bolognese but was prepared well and had a nice flavor.



Above Brig at Rosswald

Scenery – The scenery here is absolutely stunning, especially the view of the Klein Wannenhorn (3'706m). The panorama rivals Zermatt and Jungfrau. You can see beautiful peaks all around, including a lot of the famous 4000'ers and the Aletsch Arena can be seen across the valley. The remote and magnificent Finsteraarhorn (4'274m) is right behind the ski area, but unfortunately, I was disappointed that it is not visible from the top. However, I was told you could see it from the train station in the valley.

ROSSWALD – This is a small, family area but has gorgeous views of the city of Brig below and a couple of nice ski runs through the trees. During the week, it seems quiet, and I had the entire place to myself until 1pm when hordes of little kids in school groups showed up. Once they got through the queue at the t-bars, the bunches spread out at various areas of the trails and the skiing wasn't too congested.

Sectors

Through the trees to the base – From Fleischboden to the base, there are two rolling runs, one blue and one red, which form the majority of skiing at Rosswald. They are cut through the trees and immensely enjoyable, coming together at an open piste just above the village. If the crowds are thin, you can zip down these runs at a nice speed.

T-bars on the side and up to the top – This sector, especially near the top is only black runs and is quite steep. The top is cold and windy and that was on a mild day. I can't imagine going up there

on a harsh winter's day! But, the views are amazing. So, I suffered to get a few pictures.

Pisted Area: 26km

Vertical Drop: 717m (from 2'536m at the top down to 1'819m at the base)

Lifts – Except for the aerial tram that takes you up to Rosswald, all of the lifts are t-bars. After a day of riding the t-bars, my feet were killing me, but that's the price to pay for some delightful skiing.

Scenery – The scenery is very impressive with views of the city and valley far below as well as great views of Belalp and some of the big mountains like the Aletschhorn, Weisshorn, Mischabel, Fletschhorn and the tip of the Matterhorn.

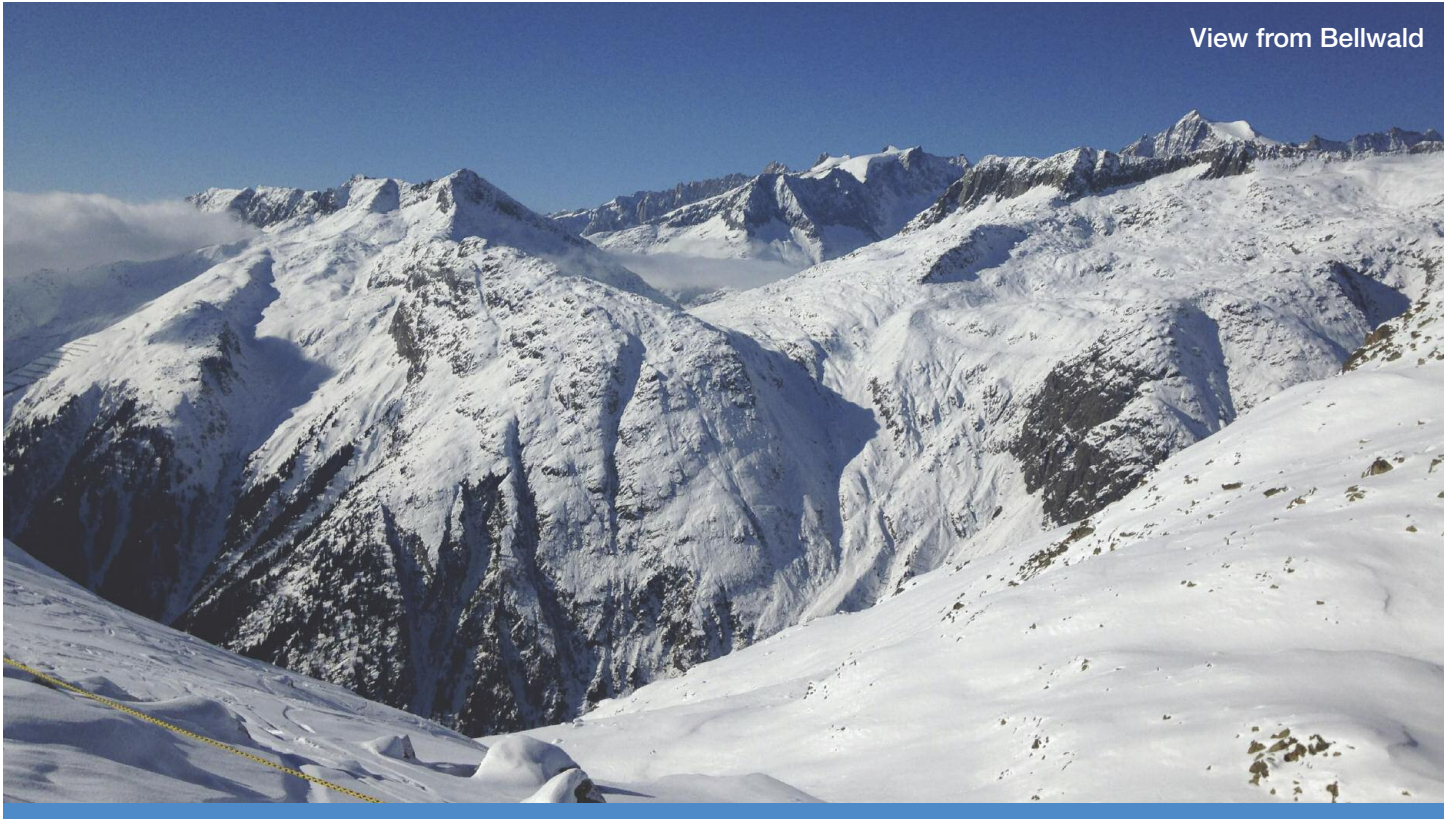
Brig-Glis – Brig is a good-sized city with plenty of restaurants, shops and supermarkets and other activities if skiing is not your only pursuit. It has a large, imposing castle, the **Stockalperpalast**, which is the centerpiece of the town with its distinctive towers called the *Three Wise Men*. Brig is a pleasant place to stay without having to sacrifice modern conveniences and reaching the skiing is not too difficult..

Where to stay

Hotel Ambassador – 4* This hotel is the number one place to stay in Brig, although it is not particularly luxurious. The rooms are clean and comfortable and mine was recently renovated. The location is excellent on a quiet side street about two minutes from the Bahnhof and the old part of town.



Stockalp Palace at night



View from Bellwald

Restaurants

Channa Pizzeria This pizzeria has a nice variety and some tasty specials like the Mexican menu for Fasnacht, which included Mexican soup, an enchilada, a beef taco, chili con carne, and a raspberry sorbet for dessert. It wasn't particularly authentic, but it was good.

Wii Stuba A cozy place for local specialties and Swiss food. I opted for Cholera (*a savory pie from the region made with potatoes, leeks, onions, cheese, and apples*) and a salad. Yummy!

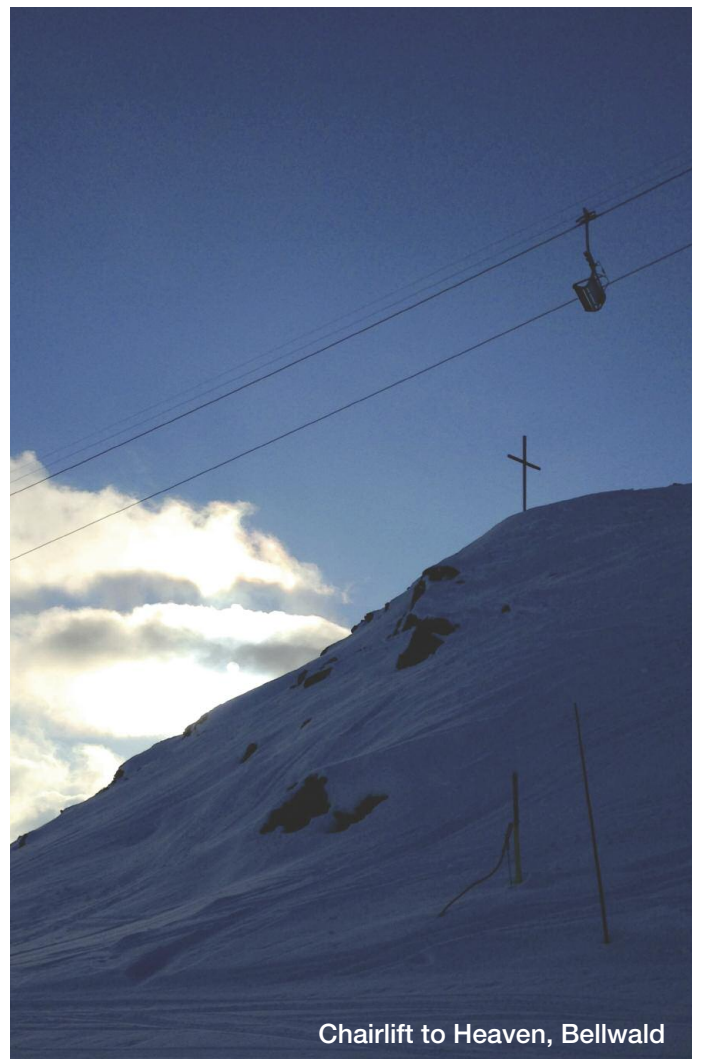
Zenhäusern Bäckerei at the Bahnhof Brig's answer to Sprüngli with an extensive selection of baguette sandwiches and sweets. Very, very good for what it is.

Some day, I will have to return to Oberwallis and base out of the nearby city of Visp and ski the five small areas of "Rund um Visp!"

Think Snow!!!

Additional Information:

- Brig Simplon Tourism: www.brig-simplon.ch
- Oberwallis: www.oberwallis.ch
- Rosswald: www.rosswald.ch
- Bellwald: www.bellwald.ch
- Rothwald Wasenalp am Simplon: www.rothwald.ch
- Blatten-Belalp: www.belalp.ch
- Aletsch Arena: www.aletscharena.ch
- Stockalper's Castle: www.valais.ch/en/activities/culture-customs/castles-fortresses/stockalper-s-castle
- Hotel Ambassador: www.ambassador-brig.ch
- Channa Pizzeria: www.channa-brig.ch
- Wii Stuba: www.wii-stuba.ch
- Cholera: www.myswitzerland.com/en-ch/cholera.html
- Zenhäusern Bäckerei-Konditorei, Brig Bahnhof: www.chezen.ch/de/bahnhof_brig_laden_restaurant_shop_zenhäusern
- RTC Ski: www rtc-ski.ch
- Swiss Ski Conditions: snow.myswitzerland.com/snow_reports
- Rund um Visp: www.wanderland.ch/en/services/places/ort-0228.html & www.myslopes.com/switzerland/reviews-rund-um-visp.php



Chairlift to Heaven, Bellwald



2016 Challenge

Organised and compiled by IMCZ honorary member Stephen Butterworth

We are all agreed it was a lovely evening out with an even number of members from both clubs the ZIWC and IMCZ for a total of 14 players. It would be great to make this more than once a year (!).

The IMCZ retain the Bowling trophy scoring a total of 4,053 pins and the ZIWC had 3,341. However the mere pins do not tell the whole story as it was great to see so many board members of the ZIWC club - a pity we could not have had any from the IMCZ!

Wine winners for the ZIWC were 1. Judith Jaspers, 2. Tracey Stansfield and Marlene Perry - well done ladies.

Wine winners for the IMCZ were 1. Sergiy Shtangey, 2. Christian Wagner and 3. Hans-Peter Schubert well done guys, you made up for my poor scoring and helped us retain the trophy and honour.

The next challenge I hope will be organised by the ZIWC...



HANDICAP RESULTS									
First Name	Surname	Game1	Game2	Game3	total	this months avg	overall_avg	handicap	
Sergiy	Shtangey	153	121	143	621	139	115	68	
Christian	Wagner	130	129	110	597	123	107	76	
Hans-Peter	Schobert	116	142	121	583	126	116	68	
Roger	Dixon	124	105	143	576	124	116	68	
Beat	Züger	151	108	157	572	139	136	52	
Thomas	Pézier	106	109	96	563	104	NEW	84	
Judith	Jaspers	78	91	127	548	99	NEW	84	
Stephen	Butterworth	114	92	131	541	112	116	68	
Tracey	Stansfield	85	101	66	504	84	NEW	84	
Malene	Perry	76	78	95	501	83	NEW	84	
Ann	Weber	83	106	51	492	80	NEW	84	
Ruth	Derbshire-Moore	69	54	93	468	72	NEW	84	
Valerie	Gitter	68	68	40	428	59	NEW	84	
Joanna	Brown	48	62	38	400	49	56	84	

IMCZ		
First Name	Surname	Total
Sergiy	Shtangey	621
Christian	Wagner	597
Hans-Peter	Schobert	583
Roger	Dixon	576
Beat	Züger	572
Thomas	Pézier	563
Stephen	Butterworth	541
TOTAL	IMCZ	4053

ZIWC		
First Name	Surname	Total
Judith	Jaspers	548
Tracey	Stansfield	504
Malene	Perry	501
Ann	Weber	492
Ruth	Derbyshire-Moore	468
Valerie	Gitter	428
Johanna	Brown	400
TOTAL	ZIWC	3341

Vocal Emotions

Vocal Emotions is looking (or listening) for a few good men! The mixed chorus Vocal Emotions, based in Baar, has about 50 active members (including our president, Roger Brooks), but too few who sing bass or tenor. If you like to sing, why not drop by for a rehearsal, to see if you would like to join! The repertoire covers a wide spectrum, including gospel, jazz and pop, and most of the lyrics are in English. Rehearsals are conducted in Swiss German, usually on Tuesday nights from 20:00 to 22:00 at the [Reformiertes Kirchgemeindehaus Baar](#). There are typically a church concert in the spring and a rehearsal weekend and three public concerts in the fall, but the chorus can also be booked for private performances.

For further information, please consult the [Vocal Emotions website](#), write to info@vocal-emotions.ch or talk to Roger.



Divine Gift

There was a man who, worked for the Post Office, whose job was to process all mail that had illegible addresses. One day, a letter came addressed, in shaky handwriting, to God with no actual address. He thought he should open it to see what it was about. The letter read:



“Dear God,
I am an 83 year old widow, living on a very small pension. Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had \$100 in it, which was all the money I had until my next pension payment. Next Sunday is Christmas, and I had invited two of my friends over for dinner. Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with, have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope. Can you please help me?
Sincerely,
Edna”

The postal worker was touched. He showed the letter to all his colleagues. Each one dug into his or her wallet and came up with a few dollars. By the time he made the rounds, he had collected \$96, which they put into an envelope and sent to the woman. The rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of Edna and the dinner she would be able to share with her friends. Christmas came and went. A few days later, another letter came from the same old lady to God. All the workers gathered around while the letter was opened. It read:

“Dear God,
How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me? Because of your gift of love, I was able to fix a glorious dinner for my friends. We had a very nice day and I told my friends of your wonderful gift. By the way, there was \$4 missing. I think it might have been those bastards at the post office.
Sincerely,
Edna”

Speed Driving

A mature lady gets pulled over for speeding...

Older Woman: Is there a problem, Officer?

Traffic Cop: Yes ma'am, I'm afraid you were speeding.

Older Woman: Oh, I see.

Traffic Cop: Can I see your driving license please?

Older Woman: Well, I would give it to you but I don't have one.

Traffic Cop: Don't have one?

Older Woman: No. I lost it 4 years ago for drunk driving.

Traffic Cop: I see...Can I see your vehicle registration papers please..

Older Woman: I can't do that either.

Traffic Cop: Why not?

Older Woman: I stole this car.

Traffic Cop: Stole it?

Older Woman: Yes, and I killed and hacked up the owner.

Traffic Cop: You what!?

Older Woman: His body parts are in plastic bags in the trunk if you want to see.

The traffic cop looks at the woman and slowly backs away to his car while calling for back up. Within minutes 5 police cars circle the car. A senior officer slowly approaches the car, claspig his half drawn gun.

Officer 2: Ma'am, could you step out of your vehicle please!

The woman steps out of her vehicle.

Older woman: Is there a problem sir?

Officer 2: My colleague here tells me that you have stolen this car and murdered the owner.

Older Woman: Murdered the owner? Are you serious?!

Officer 2: Yes, could you please open the trunk of your car, please.

The woman opens the trunk, revealing nothing but an empty trunk.

Officer 2: Is this your car, ma'am?

Older Woman: Yes, here are the registration papers.

The traffic cop is quite stunned.

Officer 2: My colleague claims that you do not have a driving license.

The woman digs into her handbag and pulls out a clutch purse and hands it to the officer.

The officer examines the license quizzically.

Officer 2: Thank you ma'am, but I am puzzled, as I was told by my officer here that you didn't have a license, that you stole this car, and that you murdered and hacked up the owner!

Older Woman: Bet the lying bastard told you I was speeding, too.



Go, get your Mother

A fifteen year old Amish boy and his father visited the city for the very first time. They wandered around, marvelling at the different sights. Eventually they got to a mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but they were especially amazed at two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and then slide back together again.

The boy asked, “What is this Father?”

The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, “Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life, I don't know what it is.”

While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat old lady in a wheelchair rolled up to the moving walls and pressed a button.

The walls opened, and the lady rolled between them into a small room. The walls closed, and the boy and his father watched the small numbers above the walls light up sequentially.

They continued to watch until it reached the last number, and then the numbers began to light in the reverse order. Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous 24-year-old blond woman stepped out.

The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman, said quietly to his son... “Junior, go get your Mother.”

Liver and Cheese

Three musketeers were having their Saturday night out, and decided to go to a local bar for a drink. Once there, they found the bar quite empty except for a young lady sitting alone on a table sipping an orange juice. She was truly exceptionally beautiful, shapely, enticing and strongly perfumed. Soon they got to talking to her, ordered their drinks and joined her on the table. They found her quite pleasant, intelligent and she seemed to enjoy talking to them, what is more she was quite aware of her charms and her obvious effect on the three suitors.

Soon it became obvious that they were all furiously competing for her favours and who would take out for the night. In order to avoid a fight, she announced that she would go out with whomever could win a contest. They agreed, so she asked them to use the words, “liver” and “cheese” in an imaginative and intelligent sentence. The tall blond guy said, “I love liver and cheese”, she looked blankly at him and turned her face to the tall dark guy. He said, “I hate liver and cheese”, she looked even more disappointed, and turned to the last of the three, a shorter but pleasant looking guy. He gave her a smile, a sly wink, and then turns to his other two fellows and says, “Liver alone, cheese mine.”





Members' Marketplace

Are you **selling** your yacht (harboured in Piraeus)?
 Your Aston-Martin old-timer with the roll top roof?
 A gorgeous view of the Bay of Biscay,
 with a little bit of house attached?
 Or are you cashing in the half of your stamp
 collection that is finally worth something?
 Perhaps you're **looking** for all of these things?

Then ADVERTISE here, in the IMCZ News;

The Members' Marketplace is reserved for unformatted advertisements of 150 characters (approx. 3 lines) of text. These are free of charge to IMCZ members. Advertisements must be submitted as illustrated below. Longer advertisements cost CHF 30.-

Example: FOR SALE: gorgeous view of Bay of Biscay with stunning sunsets and high waves. Wee house (12 rooms), dock and yacht included. Call Bill at 041 123 45 67.

IMCZNEWS Advertising Rates

Circulation: 300 plus online download.

Issued: Monthly

Format: A4 vertical, full color.

Ad content delivery:

electronic by e-mail, .pdf, .jpg, .gif

Advertising Rates:

- Full page, A4 vertical. (19 x 27.7 cm), Fr. 200.-
- 1/2 Page, A5 horizontal (19 x 13.5 cm), Fr. 110.-
- 1/3 Page, vertical (6.3 x 27.7 cm), Fr. 85.-
- 1/3 Page, horizontal (19 x 9.2 cm), Fr. 85.-
- 1/4 Page, A6 vertical (9.2 x 13.5 cm), Fr. 60.-
- 1/4 Page, horizontal (19 x 6.9 cm), Fr. 60.-
- Business Card (9.2 x 6.45 cm) Fr. 45.-



Extra costs may be incurred for typesetting, special formatting, etc.
 IMCZ Members receive a 20% discount on advertisement costs.

Place your ad for an extended period and receive a discount: get seven months of advertising for six months paid, or receive twelve months for the price of ten.



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