



ALPINE CLUB 150TH CELEBRATIONS, ZERMATT

Where better to celebrate 150 years of the Alpine Club than Zermatt – described by one past president as “the mountaineer’s true home”. Zermatt is rolling out the proverbial red carpet for its AC friends and already interest in the celebrations is strong. We will be joined for the weekend by a host of friends from across the international climbing community, including Walter Bonatti, Kurt Diemberger, John Harlin III, editor of the *American Alpine Journal*, and leaders of sister alpine clubs. The weekend programme consists of several celebratory events but do let us know soon if you plan to be there in order to be sure of a place.

Fri 22 June: Reception

Evening reception at the Triftbachhalle, catered by Zermatterhof (in hotel garden if fine weather). The evening is likely to begin with the unveiling of the commemorative stone or plaque marking the 150 years of friendship between the AC and Zermatt and will also be attended by the press and civic leaders. Tickets are £35 per person, including buffet and wine.

Sat 23 June: Dinner at The Riffelberg Hotel and the Riffelberg Restaurant

The main venue is the *Hotel Riffelberg*, high above the town and reached by the Gornergrat railway. We have already received bookings to fill this to capacity (200), but have been able to secure the nearby **Restaurant Riffelberg** just a few minutes’ walk away as an additional venue (also capacity of 200). Bookings are now being taken for the Restaurant Riffelberg.

Formalities for the evening have not been finalised, but it is certain to be an unforgettable evening. A 'late' train has been promised for taking guests back to Zermatt at the end of the evening. Tickets are £30 per person, not including drinks. Dress: "smart casual".

Sun 24 June: morning service at the English Church

St Peter’s is known as parish church of the Alpine Club with not a few of our members buried or commemorated there.

Climbing and walking

Along with the partying, the Zermatt event is also a chance to get into the mountains early in the season. Whilst many will already be making their own arrangements, Zermatt guides are open to support activities members might wish to undertake. If you have any requests or thoughts for organised activities, including before and after the weekend, let Steve Goodwin know. We are anticipating that the Monte Rosa hut will be open. We will update the web as soon as we find out about any other huts.

Steve will act as a co-ordinator and liaise with the Zermatt guides. Many members are planning to extend their stay in order to climb; camping at Randa is likely to be a base.

Accommodation

Many Zermatt hotels are offering a 15 percent discount to members attending the celebrations, the list of participating hotels is attached separately.

Booking of accommodation and travel must be done by members themselves and not through the Club.

Travel Deals

Swiss rail ... flights to Geneva ... Vignette

The myswitzerland.com website allows you to order on line various Swiss public transport travel deals, including a travel card for transfer from airport to your destination with discounts on other transport including some mountain railways.

Discussions are ongoing with the Swiss National Tourist Office in London on possible discounts and deals on flights to Switzerland and rail travel. Updates will be on the web and in the next newsletter.

Motorway tax vignettes, £18 for 2007, can be ordered online from <https://www.swisstravelsystem.com/uk/vignettes/index.php>
[copy and paste the link in to your browser if the link does not work automatically]

Please note that there is an additional £3.50 admin charge doing it this way.

Contacts	
<p>Stephen Goodwin Alpine Club contact for all Zermatt enquiries. E: sg@stephengoodwin.demon.co.uk T: 01768 881077</p> <p>Toto Anne Gronlund E: toto.high@ntlworld.com T: 07884 261247</p> <p>Please also check the website www.alpine-club.org.uk</p>	<p>Switzerland Tourism (London): 30 Bedford St London WC2E 9ED T: 020 7845 7681 F: 020 7845 7699 www.myswitzerland.com</p>
<p>Zermatt Guides: Alpin Center Zermatt Mountain guide's office Snow & Alpine Center Bahnhofstrasse 58 T: +41 (0)27 966 24 60 F: +41 (0)27 966 24 69 alpincenter@zermatt.ch http://www.alpincenter-zermatt.ch</p>	<p>Zermatt Tourism: www.zermatt.ch Bahnhof Platz 5 CH-3920 Zermatt</p>



150th ANNIVERSARY ZERMATT CELEBRATION: Booking Form

Friday 22 & Saturday 23 June 2007

Friday Reception Buffet, £35 per person

I would like Tickets (AC members and guests only) @ £35.00

Saturday Dinner at the **Restaurant Riffelberg** £30 per person (please note bookings are now being taken for the second restaurant, which is only a few minutes from the main venue, the Hotel Riffelberg)

I would like Tickets (AC members and guests only) @ £30.00

I enclose a cheque for £ payable to the Alpine Club.

We will endeavour to send out tickets as soon as possible, but please note that due to administration pressures, this may not happen for some weeks. Please contact Toto Gronlund on toto.high@ntlworld.com if you have any concerns.

Name(s)	
Address	
Contact Phone Number	
Contact email address	

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact:
Steve Goodwin sg@stephengoodwin.demon.co.uk tel: 01768 881077 or
Toto Gronlund toto.high@ntlworld.com tel: 07884 261247

Please print and return, with your cheque made payable to AC, and an SAE, to:
Toto Anne Gronlund, 105 Green Rd, Poole, Dorset, BH15 1QJ
or to The Alpine Club, 55/56 Charlotte Road, London EC2A 3QF.