

# Snow Crazy

115 years of British Ski History



Arnie Wilson

On 6 May 1903, twelve men sat down to dinner at the Café Royal in London and started a ski club. It would become the most famous in the world — the Ski Club of Great Britain. Exotic places like Val d'Isère and Courchevel had yet to be invented. Zermatt was a climbing village famous for the Matterhorn (conquered for the first time less than 40 years previously) but not for its skiing.

In those days, to the British, skiing was little more than a slightly odd sport practised by English eccentrics. There were no ski lifts or resorts, but nevertheless the British pioneered Alpine skiing so that they could indulge their passion for a craze that was about to grip the world of Winter sports. Over the years, the Ski Club published an almanac, which became a document of fascinating, amusing and downright bizarre anecdotes of the Brits on the slopes as the sport went from being a minority diversion to the worldwide obsession it is today.

Snow Crazy is a collection of these anecdotes, littered with tales of great derring-do, all recorded in the quaint and colourful language of the golden age of skiing. It is an essential compendium for the millions of ski addicts across the world.

## About the author

**Arnie Wilson** was born on Valentine's Day. At twenty he travelled around the world on a molasses tanker.

He then began a forty-year career in

journalism, which included ten years as an on-screen reporter for ITV.

He took up skiing at thirty and the experience changed his life. He became skiing correspondent for the Financial Times, and is now one of the world's most respected skiing writers.

In 1994 he entered the record books by skiing every day for 365 days. He wrote about his experiences in the bestselling *Ski the World*.

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