



The Courchevel Enquirer



The smoking remains of A chalet in the Bellevedere area of Courchevel 1650 after being evacuated on the 21st after a fire tore through the building.

A note from the editor

With the common misconception that Courchevel is so solely riddled with Russians that it resembles downtown Moscow it also hosts a large number of other nationalities. With the exception of those well behaved quiet English, the forward thinkers are already looking for the next big thing. If the Russian bubble bursts who will take their place. What will replace the fleets of black out hummers? Will it be a fleet of Maybacs full of the Arab Sheiks? The Chinese Mandrins riding in the back of stretched Mercs? Or judging by current reports from around the hotels in resort it could well be the Brazilians. Typically more demanding than their Russian counterparts these impatient South Americans have been flashing their cash (and expecting immediate service) in a variety of hotels and private chalets. Not only that but there has been a run on waxing products at the local pharmacy.

THE SURGEON GENERAL WARNS

Doing ski seasons can be highly addictive, can seriously damage your sanity, result in a general lack of sleep, makes your arse bigger, increase the chances of getting a blow job in the skidoo hut outside Kudeta and waking up next to a complete stranger.

draglift fail of the week



Grumpy Welsh snowboarder, **Tom Collins**, likes everyone think that there is nothing on the mountain he can't ride (including sheep). No kicker he can't air and no box he can't grind. Earlier this week ended up with egg on his face after he fell off one of the easiest and slowest drag lifts in 1650. Whilst riding on the petite bosses,

probably day dreaming about wool, Tom caught an edge and landed face first on the snow. If that wasn't bad enough he had to slowly slide down to the start of the lift again, in full view of his mates who were behind him.



Local mechanic and Panda afficiando **Petit Pierre** highlights some of the motors circling Courchevel. At the beginning of February TopGear were over in Val d'Isere doing a sketch. James May AKA captain slow was driving a rally spec Mini sponsored by Monster drinks.



photo courtesy of Kate Newam

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Every week we shall ask what really gets Aaron's goat. This week....

THE BRIT AWARD WINNERS

If you thought James Cordon interrupting Adele mid speech was amusing you will like Aarons views on some of the Brit winners.

Ed Sherran - That ginger element t-shirt wearing singer has probably never seen a skateboard in his life.

Adele - That miserable fat bird who only releases an album when she gets dumped.

One direction - A bunch of happy little c*nts with a strange love/hate relationship

Lana del ray - (Winner international breakthrough act) Who's she?

Blur - Isn't it a coincident they win an award just before they start a new tour...

The Les Menuires 7

This week I came across a page on facebook detailing the plight of 7 chalet hosts in Les Menuires who have barricaded themselves into their luxury chalet after being dismissed with immediate effect and told that they will not receive any wages.

The chalet involved is **Chalet Georgina** run by **Skithe3V**, apparently pulled the same stunt after the busy Christmas and New Year period when they employed a large group of youngsters before dismissing them without any wages as soon as the busy period was over.

Last week saw the company running 10 chalets and, in an attempt to keep up with demand, they rapidly flew in a large number of youngsters from Britain aged between 18 and 25 to help clean rooms, run the chalets and care for guests. As soon as clients left to return home to Britain, an email was despatched to all seven chalet hosts informing them of the termination of their contracts with immediate effect and telling them that they were to vacate their accommodation straight away, return all company belongings and ski passes. They were also informed that they would not receive any wages for the three week period worked or travel expenses, leaving the youngsters stranded with no money to either pay for new accommodation or make their way home.

To say this is the first time I've heard of such a thing (in Courchevel) would be a big fat lie and brings out an interesting point for any unscrupulous tour operators.

At the start of any employment, contracts are signed and in most cases deposits are taken from staff to ensure they will work the duration of the contract. But the same contract allows the tour operators to fire their staff for reasons valid or fictitious. In the case of the M7, 'rubbish clearance' and 'uniform codes' were amongst the reasons.

They went on to say 'Understand clearly we do not employ juniors and inexperienced people to listen to their excuses'. No you employ teenagers because they are easier to fire for vague and petty excuses than grown ups who can stand up for themselves.

A typical exchange might go as follow.

Owner/Manager: Due to a customer complaint on their questionnaire and as you are on probation I have to fire you.

Chalet boy: May I see the complaint in question?

O/M: No.

Check out the Facebook page called the 'Les Menuires 7' for more details. Article taken directly from the facebook page.

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Whats on in March?

With February almost over it's time to look at what's on in March.

DJ Yoda will be playing at Milk bar on March 7th. Apparently he's rather good. Tickets will go on sale soon.

If you are stuck in Geneva airport, waiting for that special someone's delayed flight to arrive, you can always pop next door to the **Geneva Motor show**, one of the best car shows in the world, putting most English shows to shame. 8th to the 18th March tickets are only 16 chf (13 euros)

The Winter X-Games comes to Tignes for the third time with slopestyle and superpipe competitions for Male and female skiers and snowboarders. For the first time **Shaun White** will be competing, so they might as well just give him the gold before they start. The event runs from the 14-16th March.

The Derby du Roc Merlet, probably one of the most awesome open to everyone downhill takes place on Saturday 17th March at around 5pm after the lifts have shut. If you are not working I would highly recommend it.

The 3 valley rally, the blue ribbon of seasonaire events, takes place on the 21st March. More details to follow

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I WANT YOU!

to dish the dirt

The Courchevel Enquirer comes out every Saturday. I look forward to hearing from you.

Confidentiality assured! honestly!!

One of the major criticisms, One of the MANY major criticisms I get about this paper is that of all the Courchevel villages it only covers 1850 and sometimes 1650. The explanation for this is simple. I live in and drink around the bars of 1850 and so I hear what goes on in 1850. That's were you come in. If you have any stories, gossip, photos, suggestions etc. I want to hear from you.

I am usually in one of the 1850 bars every evening. Alternatively for those of you who are more technically minded you can email be directly on info@courchevelenquirer.com

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Courchevel Weather Forecast for 2000 m altitude, issued (local time): Mostly dry. Freeze-thaw conditions (max 1°C on Sat morning, min -15°C on Mon night). Wind will be generally light.
Courtesy of www.snow-forecast.com