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CONSULAR DISTRICT MELBOURNE

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Melbourne will close its doors by the end of September 2006. A Honorary Consul will be nominated.

The Department of Foreign Affairs in Berne has decided to close the Consulate General of Switzerland in Melbourne by 30 September 2006. As from 1 October 2006 all consular functions will be taken over by the Consulate General of Switzerland in Sydney.

This announcement and additional information as to the reasons to close was published in the Swiss Review No. 1 / March 2006.

We would like to clarify some points that we have been asked about:

- You do not have to do anything! All files related to your registration with the Consulate General in Melbourne (Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia) will be transferred to the Consulate General in Sydney by 1 October 2006.
- All matters regarding passports, civil matters (births, marriages, deaths, divorces, changes in marital status, etc.), Swiss citizenship, naturalisations, visas, legalisations etc. will be handled by the Consulate General in Sydney from October 2006.
- Life certificates (for recipients of the Swiss Old Age Pension) to be returned to the AHV/AVS office in Geneva. Your signature has to be verified either by your local council, police station, or a notary public.
- A Honorary Consul will be nominated later and you will be kept informed.
- Please do not hesitate to call us if you need more information.

Addresses:

Consulate General of Switzerland - MELBOURNE

Level 7, 420 St Kilda Rd
Melbourne VIC 3004
Phone: (03) 9825 4000
Fax: (03) 9866 5907
Email: vertretung@mel.rep.admin.ch
Web: www.eda.admin.ch/australia

AHV/AVS/(IV/AI) Office in Geneva:

Av. Edmond Vaucher 18
Case Postale 3200
1211 Genève 2
Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 795 91 11
Fax: +41 22 795 97 03

The Consulate General of Switzerland, Melbourne

Melbourne/Sydney, April 2006

Consulate General of Switzerland - SYDNEY

P.O. Box 282
Bondi Junction NSW 1355
101 Grafton St (cnr Grosvenor St)
Tower 2, Level 23
Bondi Junction NSW 2022
Phone: (02) 8383 4000
Fax: (02) 9369 1334
Email: vertretung@syd.rep.admin.ch
Web: www.eda.admin.ch/australia

AHV/AVS: SCO-OASI/DI Office, Sydney

Phone: (02) 8383 1400
(same address as above)

The Consulate General of Switzerland, Sydney

Victoria

SWISS CLUB OF VICTORIA

89 Flinders Lane
Melbourne Vic 3000
Tel. (03) 9650 1196 Club
Restaurant
President: Roland Isler
Tel/Fax. (03) 9558 3877 a/h
Tel. (03) 9524 6335 b/h
risler@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubvic

Dear Friends of the Swiss Club,

With the expiration of the current arrangement at the end of May, the Committee conducted a 'Tender by Invitation' for the running of the Club's Restaurant. Extensive work has gone into the tender process to present it in a professional manner. The Extraordinary Meeting in February resulted in a win/win

outcome for all concerned. We are delighted to welcome Roger Moullet as the old and new chef and manager of the Swiss Club Restaurant and look forward to a successful cooperation to move the Club forward into the future.

Apart from the regular events, we had some great functions during the past few months. The Trachten Evening provided an interesting opportunity to learn more about the colourful range of Swiss folkloric costumes and the Volksfest was staged successfully for the fourth time this year at the Austrian Club. My thanks go to all the organisers, helpers and participants.

Looking ahead, stay tuned for some sporting activities being planned, golf, tennis and bushwalking. The **National Day Gala Ball** will be held on Saturday 29 July. Don't forget to mark this date in your

diary now, it's going to be one event not to be missed! See below for more information, or contact the Ball Convenor Rita Schwärzler.

I look forward to seeing you at the Swiss Club in good health and spirit.

Roland Isler

Please support these forthcoming events:

MAY:

Thursday 4: Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand entertains at the Club

Sunday 7: Comedy Festival ends

Saturday 13: Unterhaltungsabend - Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose

Saturday 20: Jass Night - Matterhorn

JUNE:

Thursday 1: Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand entertains at the Club

SWISS REVIEW

NOTE TO THE EDITORS

The deadline for the 3/2006 edition, covering end of June to end of October, is 8 May 2006.

Please make sure your contributions, preferably in electronic form (email), arrive in time at the following address:

Consulate General of Switzerland
Level 7, 420 St Kilda Road
Melbourne VIC 3004
Tel. (03) 9825 4000
Fax (03) 9866 5907
Vertretung@mel.rep.admin.ch

Saturday 17: Jass Night - Swiss Club

Please ring the Club or check our website for the most up-to-date calendar and details of events.

LADIES LUNCHEON

**The Swiss Club of Victoria
Convenor Heidy Giger
Tel. (03) 9889 9321**

The Ladies Luncheon of the Swiss Club takes place on the first Wednesday of every second month.

Dates to remember:

5 July
6 September
1 November

The Luncheon includes a 2 course meal (set menu), wine, soft drinks, coffee, and provides a guest speaker covering all spectra of life. Members and friends are most welcome.

Bookings are essential with the Swiss Club, Tel. (03) 9650 1196.

Heidy Giger

Swiss Club of Victoria
NATIONAL DAY GALA BALL

Saturday 29 July, Hilton on the Park, Grand Ballroom

The 715th anniversary of the Swiss Confederation, the 150th anniversary of the Parliament of Victoria, 150 years since the opening of the Swiss Consulate Melbourne, and to say farewell to the consular staff – it's an occasion for a

GRAND CELEBRATION

Enjoy the elegance, the exquisite culinary delights, the great entertainment by the fabulous J.W. Swing Orchestra... and a few surprises! Make sure you don't miss this event.

Book now!

Contact the Ball Convenor Rita Schwärzler on (03) 9561 7811
Tickets: \$120 Swiss Club Members, \$140 Non-members. \$100 discount for a table booking of 10

THE SWISS COMPANION SINGERS

Urs Marfurt
44 Greenways Road
Glen Waverley Vic 3150
Tel. (03) 9802 5182

The group practises at the Swiss Club every second and third Thursday of the month from 8pm. New members are most welcome. For more information call me on the above number.

Urs Marfurt

YOUNG SWISS GROUP

Convenor: Amy Bohren
5419, Building 11
Monash University Vic 3800
Mobile 0409 041 528
amybohren@hotmail.com
www.swiss.org.au/home.
php?ID=27

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at the Swiss Club (89 Flinders Lane, Melbourne). Anyone is welcome to come along. If you would like further information, please call me or join the email group via the above link on the Swiss Club website.

Amy Bohren

SWISS YODEL CHOIR MATTERHORN

3 Bluegum Court
Upwey Vic 3158
President: Marco Unternährer
Tel. (03) 9752 6996 (h) or
Tel. (03) 9388 8777 (b)
Mrunt@optusnet.com.au
www.swiss.org.au/matterhorn

Our work on the CD is keeping the Choir busy and - perfectionism being somewhat of a Swiss trait - is taking more of our time than we had anticipated. Still, good progress is being made. Our major functions for the remainder of the year are the Swiss National Day Picnic at Gembrook on Sunday, 6 August and the Jodlerabend on Saturday, 11 November at the Polish Association Hall in Rowville. We will tell you more about these events later, but please put these dates into your diaries now.

The 'Jassen' is in full swing and the remaining dates at the Forest Hill venue are

Saturday, 20 May and either Saturday, 12 or 19 August (to be confirmed).

New singers are welcome! The prerequisite is simply a love for singing and a basic understanding of a Swiss German dialect. If you are interested, just phone Marco on the numbers above or turn up at practice every Wednesday (except first in the month) from 8pm at the above address.

Walter Schellenberg

SWISS FOLK DANCE GROUP ALPENROSE

President: Sylvia Hochuli
92 Addison Street
Elwood Vic 3184
Tel. (03) 9531 6575
hochuli@bigpond.com

TRACHTENGRUPPE SCHWYZERGRUESS / AUSTRALIAN SWISS CULTURAL SOCIETY

President: Brigitte Jukes
25 Tullimbar Circuit
Vermont South Vic 3133
Tel. (03) 9887 8489
b_jukes@yahoo.com.au

GROUPE ROMAND DU VICTORIA

Présidente: Marianne Puccinelli
Tél. (03) 9561 9595
www.swiss.org.au/chfrvic

PRO TICINO DOWN UNDER

President: Claude Rossi
5 Falls Road
Falls Creek Vic 3139
Tel. (03) 5967 4542

VICTORIAN CHAPTER OF SACCI

Swiss-Australian Chamber of
Commerce and Industry
victoria@sacci.com.au
www.sacci.com.au
Victorian Chapter
President: Thomas Schmockler
Tel. (03) 9458 5800
Fax: (03) 9458 5877
thomass@redc.com.au

For information on SACCI please refer to the SACCI article under the heading of "New South Wales".

SATURDAY MORNING SWISS SCHOOL

Convenor: Barbara Kündig
36 Baker Parade
Ashburton Vic 3147
Tel. (03) 9813 8843
barbara@swiss.org.au

Our teachers, Petra and Diana, teach the children in a playful and engaging way in Swiss German about Switzerland, its history, culture, and traditions. The children learn in small groups according to their language abilities. Each child participates in at least 30 minutes intensive language lessons. There is a small amount of self learning between school lessons. The school is open to all children of Swiss background and of school age (5+). New families are always welcome.

School dates for term 2 are:

Sunday, 9 April (at the Swiss Club Volksfest in Heidelberg)

Saturday, 22 April, 6 May, 20 May, 3 June, 17 June at the Swiss Club from 9.30am - 12.30pm.

SANM

info@sanm.id.au
www.sanm.id.au

What does it stand for? It is the Swiss Academic Network Melbourne, a newly formed group of Swiss and Australian academics in the Melbourne area who

- foster bilateral academic exchanges between Switzerland and Australia

- provide possibilities for networking in various fields

Curious to know more? Then look up their website www.sanm.id.au or enquire at info@sanm.id.au

*The Consulate General of
Switzerland, Melbourne*

We also plan another trip to the Snow (Mt Buller) on **20 August** and we offer spare seats on a first in basis to interested parties/families. Go to the Swiss Club website for further information or contact the convenor.

In addition, we plan another exciting Trivia Night for October - again details will be on our web page.

Barbara Kündig

SWISS PLAYGROUP

Ingrid Preston
17 Mary Avenue
Edithvale Vic 3196
Tel. (03) 9772 0516

South Australia

SWISS CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

64 Castle Street
Parkside SA 5063
President: Regula Müller
Tel: (08) 8337 7548 (day)
Tel: (08) 8337 0333 (evening)
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubsau

On Saturday, 29 April at 2pm we will go on a tour to visit the Metropolitan Fire Service station. The girls can check out the firemen and the boys can have a look at the trucks. We meet at 1.45 pm, 99 Wakefield Street, Adelaide.

The 'Fondue Plausch' is on Saturday, 20 May at the Austrian Association, 1-17 Torrens Road, Ovingham at 7.30pm. Bookings are essential by 13 May. Of course, there are plans for the Fondue floorshow, too. According to the Club's undertaking to support our environment this year, the theme for the Fondue night is "go green and support our environment". It's up to you to show how much you care by wearing something environmentally friendly. Be creative and feel free to come up with some fancy costumes

(e.g. grass skirt, fruit headpiece and so on). Have fun preparing your outfits and we look forward to see your creations!

Bring along your family, friends and neighbours to all of our activities.

For any bookings please call our Treasurer Hansjoerg Wiget on (08) 8271 1505, or Regula Müller on the above numbers.

Regula Müller

HOCKETE

Everybody is most welcome to join us on the first Friday of the month at the Austrian Association, 11-17 Torrens Road, Ovingham from 6.30 pm onwards. Come along for a Schnitzel night, a goulash or just a 'Schwätzli'.

SCHWYZER FRAUECHRAENZLI

The 'Schwyzer Frauechränzli' group meets on the first Monday of the month. The ladies organise gatherings at each other's houses or visit a special place for a good time out. For details please call Rosemary Copeland on (08) 8336 5932.

RADIO SEBI FM 103.1 Adelaide

Tune in to the Swiss Corner - Radio Schwyzeregge on Saturdays from 6 to 7 pm on 5 EBI FM 103.1 to hear the latest news from Switzerland. If you are interested in joining this dedicated team yourself, phone Albin Manser on (08) 8344 3904. Or call on the night to request your favourite song on (08) 8211 7066.

Western Australia

SWISS CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

PO Box 411
Northbridge WA 6865
President: Claudia Henzen
Tel. (08) 9246 9623
clhenzen@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubwa

Grüezi mitenand

At the end of February, we again celebrated a very successful fifth interim Fasnacht/Carnival at the Rhein Donau Club. It was a colourful Saturday night ball with two bands entertaining on different stages. The event was followed by the children's Fasnacht on Sunday afternoon which proved to be very successful as well. Many people attended the two days of traditional festivities.

Our traditional 'Metzgete' at the Old Austria club in Maddington is held on 27 May. Especially those who crave blood or liver sausages with Sauerkraut or even a "Gnaggi" should come and join us. Vegetarians are also catered for. It will be another great night of music, entertainment and

delicious food. For more information and bookings please call Claudia Henzen on the above number.

Another happening is a Raclette night on 17 June that we are organising again. The venue details will be announced as soon as we know how many people will be attending. Be quick with your booking as there is only limited space available. For bookings and information regarding the Raclette night, please call Mayumi on (08) 9246 4777.

The wine bottling will be held on 8 July and hopefully we can again bottle a good drop.

Don't forget to celebrate with us the 1st August National Day Dance on 29 July at the University of Western Australia.

We are looking forward to greet you on any of these events.

Claudia Henzen

COMING EVENTS:

27 May: Metzgete at the Old Austria Club (for bookings/information call Claudia Henzen on the above number)

17 June: Raclette Night (venue tbc. For information call Mayumi O'Neale on 9246 4777)

8 July: Wine Bottling, Garbin Estate

29 July: 1st August Dance at the University of Western Australia

5 August: Bonfire at Giddegannup/Rolling Green

September: Car Rally Wildflower drive

For the following events you can also check our web page or contact us for more information.

REGULAR EVENTS:

Swiss Sport Club: Usually every first Friday of the month at 7pm at various locations. Contact René Henzen (08) 9246 9623 if you want to attend.

Jass Evening: Every third Thursday of the month starting at 7pm sharp at Borsalino Ristorante, 35 Hampden Road, Nedlands (Tel. 9389 8141, fully licensed, dinner for \$15). For more information contact Peter Mueller on (08) 9291 8402.

SWISS RADIO PERTH

Swiss Radio Perth broadcasts on 6EBA FM on 95.3 MHz between 7pm and 8pm every Tuesday night. The program is in French every fourth Tuesday of the month, and the other programs are in Swiss German. Contact the presenter at the studio on (08) 9227 5953 during the program, or James Kunz on (08) 9370 5307.

THE GUGGEBURRAS

The Guggemburras are the best Guggemusig group in Western Australia. Please contact Jenny Leutenegger on (08) 9277 7826 or

leutech@iexpress.net.au for more information or if you wish to join the group.

THE SWISS YODELLERS OF WA

The Swiss Yodellers are a unique experience, presenting Swiss folk music. For enquiries ring Peter Mueller on (08) 9291 8402 or write to 8 Mitchell Road Walliston WA 6076.

PLAYGROUP

The Swiss playgroup meets every first Friday of the month. For more information please call Alexandra Schaub on (08) 9403 2241 or Karin Villemin on (08) 9203 5953.

ACT

CANBERRA SWISS CLUB INC.

Correspondence to:

The Secretary

PO Box 3211

Manuka ACT 2603

President: Heinz Buettikofer

Tel: (02) 6246 5722 (bh)

heinz@swiss.org.au

www.swiss.org.au

Dear members and friends,

The year is progressing steadily and it is not long before winter arrives and with it also the Fondue time. I would suggest you mark your calendar now for this popular event.

The film nights are proving successful with an ever greater number attending. In February, the 'Sternenberg' film screening registered over 60 people.

Please note that the date of the bushwalk, which was initially planned for 14 May, has been brought forward to 7 May 2006. For further details please ring Alice on (02) 6162 8417.

Future Events for 2006:

7 May: Bushwalk exploring the Murrumbidgee River

16 June: Fondue Evening

9 July: Wood Collection

30 July: National Day Celebration

Aug/Sept: Film evening (date and title to be announced)

September: Trivia night (date to be announced)

15 October: Jass Tournament

3 November: AGM

3 December: Samichlaus

Details about our events are announced in the newsletter or can be found on the website.

The Canberra Ethnic Radio FM91.1 broadcasts a Swiss program every Monday night from 5-7pm. The program is informative and entertaining with local content and news from Switzerland. So don't forget to tune in your radio!

Heinz Buettikofer

CONSULAR DISTRICT SYDNEY

New South Wales

SACCI

Swiss Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Head Office:

Dean Storchenegger, General Manager

Level 5, 23-25 O'Connell Street Sydney NSW 2000

Tel: (02) 9223 7222

Fax: (02) 9223 7211

admin@sacci.com.au

www.sacci.com.au

Chapter in Victoria:

Thomas Schmock, President

Tel: (03) 9458 5800

Fax: (03) 9458 5877

thomass@redc.com.au

SACCI's aim is to promote the expansion of bilateral trade relations between Switzerland and Australian business. Celebrating 20 years, SACCI continues to promote Swiss industry and facilitate networking opportunities for our members. We provide a variety of services to our members including the forwarding of trade leads; business partner searches; and trade magazine, through to numerous functions and events held across Victoria and New South Wales.

The SACCI secretariat is responsible for handling all commercial related

enquiries on behalf of the Consulate General of Switzerland. Please contact us if you have a query or if you would like further information about the chamber and its services. Regardless of which state you reside in, please consult our website for details on the type and variety of activities we are involved in or simply call!

Dean Storchenegger

SWISS AUSTRALIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION INC. (SACA)

c/- Baker & McKenzie

AMP Centre

50 Bridge Street

Sydney NSW 1223

Membership Secretary:

Elizabeth Isele

Tel. (02) 9498 4475

elisele@ozemail.com.au

THE SWISS CLUB OF NSW LTD.

GPO Box 3713

Sydney NSW 2001

President: Peter Pluess

Tel. (02) 9416 6190

Fax: (02) 9416 6508

swissclub_nsw@hotmail.com

The committee meets at the Eiger every first Monday of the month and the Jassers get together at the Eiger every Monday night. Every second Friday of the month the Swiss meet at the Austrian Club in Frenchs Forest

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and this has become a very popular evening.

So if you feel like a bit of friendly Swiss company with a nice glass of wine or beer and some delicious food, come and join us at the Eiger or the Austrian Club.

New members are always very welcome. If you or your friends with a Swiss connection are not yet members why not give it a go?

Peter Pluess

SWISS PLAYGROUP SYDNEY

Gabriela Elias:
Tel. (02) 9938 4239
Helena Nobs:
Tel. (02) 9997 4131
g&g@elias.com.au
nobschiu@ozemail.com.au

SCHWYZERDUETSCH FOR KIDS

Nikki Robertson:
Tel. (02) 4732 2829
nikkibrobertson@ozemail.com.au

SWISS YODLERS AND ALPHORN GROUP OF SYDNEY

27 Burra Road
Artarmon NSW 2064
President: Alois Kretz
Tel: (02) 94197277
akretz@bigpond.net.au

Dear friends,

As the big dry continues unabated, about 130 friends and members of the Swiss community boarded the MV Reclaim at Huntley's Point Wharf, Gladesville for our annual harbour cruise. This new departure point proved to be a most convenient and picturesque spot for us to gather before embarking. The haunting sound of the alphorn drifting through the air, played by Housi Kaufmann, brought joy to many, to be followed by a bright interlude on Siggie Ackermann's accordion.

The magic of Sydney harbour at night lived up to expectations as well as the camaraderie and entertainment by the Yodlers and the immortal Siggie.

In January the Yodlers accepted an invitation from Novartis Pharmaceuticals to be part of their entertainment at an Australia-wide sales conference held in Sydney. We yodelled our hearts out trying to be heard above the din! We are looking forward to having further such opportunities arising during the year.

Our annual Swiss National Day celebration will be held on Sunday, 6 August, from 11 a.m. at the Franciscan Capuchin Conference Centre, Jersey Road, Plumpton. There will be a live band, yodelling, alphorn playing,

pony rides, a jumping castle, wine bottle fishing, a tombola and mega raffle draw, Bratwurst, Fleischkäse, Cervelas, Senf, Brötchen, Nussgipfel, tea and coffee. BYO family and friends. Drinks will be available to purchase. We look forward to welcoming you to this traditional event.

Alois Kretz

SWISS FOLKDANCE GROUP "ALPEGRUESS", SYDNEY

Tel. (02) 9403 6212 (H)
Tel. (02) 9560 0666 (W)
Fax (02) 9568 2196
Mobile 0412 403 741
President: Marco Nussbaumer
Marco@micromania.com.au

CERCLE ROMAND

Président: Marcel Diebold
122 Blackbutts Road
Frenchs Forest NSW 2086
Tel: (02) 9451 3565
marcel.diebold@bigpond.com
www.swiss.org.au/
cercleromand

SWISS COMMUNITY CARE SOCIETY INC.

c/o Consulate General of
Switzerland
P.O. Box 282
Bondi Junction NSW 1355
President: Beatrice Stuber
Mobile: 0405 449 499
Fax (02) 9332 4729

Please contact the president on the above number if you need support.

Beatrice Stuber

SYDNEY/MELBOURNE SBS "Swiss Radio"

SBS broadcasts, within the German language segment, a special Swiss half hour every Sunday night from 8.30 pm to 9 pm. It is prepared by Mrs Ursula Schaeppi at the Sydney SBS studios. The Sydney FM frequency is 97.7 and the Melbourne one FM 93.1. Ursula is also allowed to make community announcements, such as functions. So, please give her a ring at home on (02) 9955 7628. Tune in to the latest news and information.

THE SENIORS OF THE SYDNEY AREA

Ida Gugger
2/73 Frederick Street
Rockdale NSW 2216
Tel. (02) 9597 7096

The next meetings of the Seniors of the Sydney area will take place alternating between the Eiger Restaurant and Concordia Club.

May 6: Eiger Restaurant

July 22: Concordia Club

October 7: Eiger Restaurant

December 16: Concordia Club

Costs range from \$15 to \$25 for meal and dessert.

For information and booking please contact Ida Gugger.

Ida Gugger

Queensland

SWISS SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

PO Box 10
Wellers Hill Qld, 4121
Tel. 0500 81 1291
President: Marc Godat
www.swiss.org.au/ssq

A warm welcome to all Swiss in our area. It's this time of the year again where you will need to warm up from time to time, even in sunny Queensland. Make sure you book in for the fondue night in time as spaces are limited. Here is a list of other events which are on in winter:

Saturday, 10 June: Metzgete, Southport

Sunday, 18 June: Bushwalk

Saturday, 1 July: Fondue, Club House

Sunday, 16 July: Bushwalk

and the big one:

Sunday, 30 July: Swiss National Day (Mudgeeraba and Petrie)

Additionally in July, the Gold Coast Group will organize a theatre night. Please check our website for more details on events and contacts. Besides the advertised events, our Swiss community is very active in

bringing together Swiss from all backgrounds. We have ladies' meetings, Jass evenings (every second Thursday), Young Swiss get-togethers and much more. If you have an idea, if you wish to participate in any of the activities or in our main events, please get in touch with us.

Your President, Marc Godat

SWISS YODEL & FOLKLORE GROUP "BAERG-ROESEL" INC.

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President: Köbi Berger
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bjberger@tpg.com.au

SWISS COMMUNITY CARE SOCIETY INC. (Qld Chapter)

85 Moorbell Street
Tarragindi Qld 4121
President: Lorly Wihler
Tel. (07) 3298 5300

GOLD COAST SWISS CLUB

c/o Mrs Kathy Moitekaitis
Vice-President
7 Birdsville Street
Mudgeeraba Qld 4213
Tel. (07) 5530 6913 (A/H)

Northern Territory

SWISS CLUB DARWIN

G.P.O. Box 4335
Darwin NT 0801
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