

Obituaries : Joseph Arnold-Portmann 18-12-1915 to 08-01-2003

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Obituaries



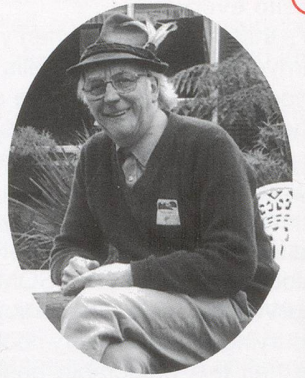
Keith Anderson

Keith was born in Auckland on 12 November 1930. With his parents he lived in Taumarunui for five years and they then moved to Taranaki. Keith became a printer and he started our local paper, the Stratford Press. During that time he promoted and supported Stratford businesses and tourism in general, which he continued to do all his life. He married his first wife, Jenny, and had four children. In 1975 he bought Dawson Falls and renovated it into a typical Swiss lodge. During this time he met up with Berta Deck from Schwyz and they married and had two more children. In 1985 they purchased the Mountain House where they have lived ever since. He was very proud to become a Swiss citizen in 1995. In the last twenty years he has painted many landscape oil paintings (most

of them of Taranaki scenery, and especially Mt Egmont) which are now displayed in many homes throughout New Zealand and even overseas. Keith was on his way home from town on Saturday 1st February when he was killed in a head-on collision with Swiss tourists driving on the wrong side of the road.

He is survived by his wife Berta, his children Heidi, Hans-Peter, Ross, Sonja, Carl and Ward, and five grandchildren.

The Taranaki Swiss Club and the Swiss Society of New Zealand extend their deepest sympathy to Berta and family.



LB



Joseph Arnold-Portmann 18-12-1915 to 08-01-2003

Joseph (Sepp) Arnold was born in Alpnach, Switzerland, into a farming family. In 1938 he purchased half of his father's farm and settled at The Rengg to farm. He married Alice Portmann on 20/11/45 and six of his seven children were born in Switzerland. Sepp became a member of the Hergiswil Yodel Club and in 1948 Sepp founded the Alpnach Yodel Group. In 1961 they sold up and moved to New Zealand where his NZ farming career commenced at Hairini. Eventually Sepp sharemilked 120 cows at Springdale and in 1964 purchased 200 acres and milked up to 180 cows.

Alice and Sepp joined the Hamilton Swiss Club and then started the Yodel Chorli with Hans & Heiri Oettli, Ernst Studer and Rinaldo Rust.

The final son, Andrew, was born in 1964. Sepp and Alice retired to Hamilton in 1978, where they continued to play cards and enjoy travelling and family.

After a short stay at Trevellyn Resthome Joseph died there, peacefully. He is survived by his wife, Alice, and all his children Joe, Franz, Peter, Kurt, Heidi, Bruno and Andrew and 15 grandchildren.

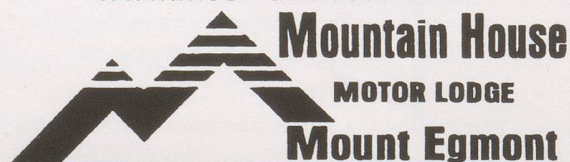


The editing team wishes to apologise to the Arnold family for inadvertently not printing the photo with the obituary in the February issue of the magazine.

YOUR SWISS CHEF, BERTA

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It is with great sadness that we note the passing on of Ernst Thurnheer, an Ambassador of Switzerland in New Zealand several years ago. Many of you will remember him fondly, as an ambassador who had a great relationship with all the Swiss Clubs in New Zealand and who regularly visited them. He passed away suddenly in Switzerland at the end of January. To his family we offer our sincere condolences.

MD