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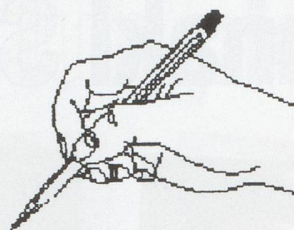
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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

Web page - <http://www.swiss.org.nz>

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Swiss Society semi-final against Wellington

The semi-finals of the Swiss Society competitions were held on 11 February against our friends from Wellington. Competitors take part in one of the four disciplines - jassen, keglen (ten-pin bowling), steinstossen (shotput) and shooting. First arrivals were the Scherrers and Jordans from Wellington who camped the Friday night in the grounds... sorry the sawdust heap made life difficult Theres! At around lunch time the remaining visitors arrived, and we were all duly impressed to see Roland arrive on time! Well done! We served barbequed cervelats and bratwursts with french sticks, washed down with wine, beer or non-alcoholic beverages... we had two apprentice chefs Walter Seifert and Leo Zehnder who did a great job... no burnt sausages to be found! After catching up with old friends

and making new acquaintances, we were down to the business part of the day! It was terrific to see some of the younger members of the Wellington Swiss Club venture north to participate in this event... we look forward to seeing you again. We were fortunate to have a couple of our muscled farming men to throw the shotput and edged out our city-ites by 97.05m to 83.60m. Antoni Sherman top-scored for us... many thanks for your outstanding throws! Simultaneously competing in the Keglen was taking place... our top scorers were Markus Rufer with 36 and Leo Zehnder with 35 (must be the regular practice that helps, Leo!), however Peter Hynes also achieved the great result of 36. Taranaki won with 137 points versus Wellington's 124... yippee... we only needed another win.

The shooting was also a tight affair, with Helen Freiman and Jon Phillips taking the top honours for Taranaki allowing us to win with 314 points against Wellington's 296. Finally we also took out the jassen for a clean sweep. A big thanks to all the participants for their fine efforts, and it was great to see such a big contingent venture north for this competition. After further chin-wags, a delicious dinner was had, followed by music, dancing and singing. A couple of hardy Wellingtonians stayed the night in the club house, along with the campers who were joined by Leo and Doreen in their campervan ... so we had plenty of security guards! Roland was staying at the Benkerts, and what should be a 30 minute drive took one hour! Where did they go? Snail-pace... the Berners, eh!

Annual Picnic

The morning looked dreadful for our annual picnic held on Sunday 12 February! Very cloudy and wet ... but the weather-gods were on our side! Heinz decided that they needed toast for breakfast but was side-tracked by Leo... and only had burnt offerings! And stunk out the club house! Just kidding ... but you must have done a good job of airing the place! While in Taranaki the Wellingtonians decided to do some Karabiner shooting, with good

success. People started arriving at the club grounds, which looked immaculate thanks to Johnny, around 11 o'clock. Children's games had been organised... and Mark did a great job of showing the children two new games which they all seemed to enjoy. The barbeques were once again ignited, and Walter and Leo must have acquired a taste for grilling sausages and helped us out... thank you gentlemen - we will keep you on! A good few kilos were devoured, and we are grateful to the Swiss Deli for consistently supplying great quality sausages. Liquid refreshments were available all day... thanks to the people manning the bars... as were icecreams and iceblocks (to those who didn't get icecreams, we are sorry that we ran out, so we'll invest in greater supplies next year!).

We had live music throughout the day, courtesy of Peter Canziani and Zeno Hospenthal... many thanks for your efforts guys... I know many people appreciate your talent. The schwingen got underway under the watchful eye of Paul Ruchti, and the committee would like to thank all the helpers in the Schwingen for their stirring effort. This "Swiss" sport is always a highlight, and an appreciative audience sits on the bales of hay enjoying the adults and juniors, and loving to watch the midgets. Our "schwingen koenig" this year was Thomas Werder (following in his dad's footsteps!) with Jade Jurgens runner-up. The Juniors was won by Martin Hebler with Dillon Ngatai second, and the midgets was won by Jakob Whakatutu from Paul Whakatutu (descendants of Albi Schuler which sounds more Swiss!). Many thanks to all the participants in the Schwingen, as I know many people love watching you all take part. Tombola tickets were very quickly sold, with lucky winners taking some lovely prizes. Markus had the steinstossen under his wing, with Janick Ruchti winning from Dani Meier in the men's division and the winner in the ladies being Marlies Hebler with Heidi Werder a close second. The barbeques were once again lit, and many people had a bite before going home. Several members stayed on to enjoy dinner and further music before going home... needing a holiday to get over this hectic weekend!

The committee would like to thank everyone for coming to the picnic and enjoying the various activities, and look forward to seeing you at our forthcoming events. We were particularly pleased to see some new faces... but we enjoy our loyal band of supporters too!

Many thanks to the entire committee for their tireless efforts... in preparing food, barbequing, looking after activities of various natures, bar people, music... and the list goes on... but without your efforts, functions like this wouldn't happen! THANK YOU!



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Forthcoming Events

March 1 Annual General Meeting of the Taranaki Swiss Club will be held in the club house at 8.00pm. Come and hear about the events that your committee organised, and let's look forward to another successful year.

2 & 16

Keglen ... come and join in the fun ... new members always sought ... many people take part in a game of jassen too!

19

Come and try shooting ... this Sunday the Society Shoots can be done, together with Championship Shoots at 1.00pm. Mark looks forward to seeing you there!

April onwards will be in your new programme which will be out shortly. If you have any ideas about new activities or functions, please come to the AGM and voice your opinion.

MD

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Hamilton Swiss Club

hamilton@swiss.org.nz

Forthcoming Events...

In 2006, our Hamilton Swiss Club will be celebrating 50 years, so we plan to have a big function and reunion – confirmed for 22nd July at the Waldorf Lounge. We have just had our first meeting with the newly-formed sub-committee. We are still happy to receive volunteers to help with this function and in particular we would like to gather names and addresses of past members or families who attended any of the functions over the years. Please forward any contact names and addresses to zuber@xtra.co.nz or phone Anita (07) 856-2414. Please leave a message on the answer-phone if I'm not home.

Sunday, 19th March – Family Walk in Te Aroha. Please meet at the visitor centre (opposite the supermarket) at the bottom of the Domain at 11am. Please bring a picnic lunch and togs (optional) as there are lovely hot pools to enjoy after the walk and lunch. There will be an option to do an easy walk or a more difficult walk, depending on demand. For further information ring Kurt (07) 858-3306

Shooting Update :

Anniversary Shoot in Auckland, 25th & 26th March. Hamilton members will probably travel to Auckland on one of these dates. If you are interested, please give Hans a ring on one of the numbers below.

300 meter shooting – The Hamilton members are booked for 6th + 7th May 06 at the Swiss Farm in Kaukapakapa.

A man says, "We are about to celebrate our 50th Wedding Anniversary. My wife is a wine lover. What region and vintage would you recommend for such an occasion?" Wine salesman replies, "Hard to say. Do you want to celebrate or forget?"

(Newcomers, please give me a call even if you are only slightly interested).

For any further information on the above event, please call me on 07 855 3294 evenings or 021 658 733, Hans Vetsch (Riflemaster).

Saturday, 22nd April – Club AGM will be held at Swisscraft Premises, Colombo St, Frankton at 7.30pm for drinks. The meeting will commence at 8pm, to be followed by supper. Everyone welcome.

AZ



wellington@swiss.org.nz

Past Events

The Wellington Swiss Club has had a number of events since the last report in the Helvetia. In November we had a visit to Mt Bruce Wildlife Sanctuary. We were joined on the trip to Mt Bruce by the Ambassador and the Nobs family and enjoyed getting close-up and personal with a range of iconic native birds. The kaka that fly free around the sanctuary, a short distance above the heads of visitors, were a particular highlight.

December's events had a Christmas theme. A large number of members and friends celebrated Christmas over a meal and with carols and readings on 3 December. Samichlaus and Schmutzli made a visit on the following day when a number of our younger members and their parents had afternoon tea at the club house. A couple of the participants received a reminder about the need to behave themselves but everyone got a small bag of treats to take away with them.

The club's programme for the New Year kicked off on 22 January with shooting practice and then a family picnic day at the club house on 29 January on a typically warm and settled Wellington afternoon. Both events provided opportunities to practice in preparation for the shooting and Steinstossen competition with the Taranaki Club.

Unfortunately the practice opportunities didn't

Grüetzi Mitand!

For warm, personal advice from an experienced, professional consultant, see Silvana Gottini

I have recently returned to NZ after 8 years in Latin America & Asia. With Swiss & Austrian parentage, I am fluent in German and Spanish and looking forward to helping with your business trips, visits to relatives or adventures into the unknown!

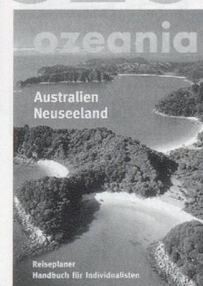
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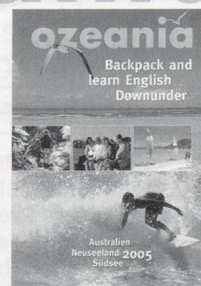


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lead to any changes in form and when the various events ended late in the afternoon on 11 February the cowbell stayed snug and secure in its now familiar surroundings in the Kaponga clubhouse. About 15 of our members made the journey to Taranaki and were met with the Taranaki Club's renowned hospitality and good humour. Hopefully at some point in the not so distant future there will be a change in form and the trophy will go south Alan Bond style. The next club trip is to the intriguing Putangirua Pinnacles in southern Wairarapa on 5 March. Approximately 40 minutes walk from the road end leads to a landscape of rock and gravel stacks that are being eroded away leaving a range of colours and textures. Because it will be only a short walk there will be plenty of time for a picnic, photos and conversation. Please call Craig and Petra for details on 04-563-8600.

Forthcoming Events.

Sunday March 5th Day trip to Putangirua.

The walk to the pinnacles in the Wairarapa is a very interesting walk. It needs medium fitness and good walking shoes.

If you are interested in taking part in this walk please ring Petra or Craig at 563 86 00

Saturday March 11 Jassen Competition. 7.00pm

A contribution of \$ 5.00 will give you the chance of winning a medal.

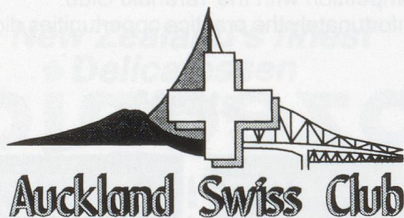
Saturday April 22 AGM at 7.00 pm in the Clubhouse.

We need a lot of input from our members young and old to achieve success. It won't be an easy task to take over the Helvetia from Taranaki next year, so please come to the AGM and support your committee. Invitations will follow. The committee will serve a light supper.

Sunday 7 May Euro Fest Queens Warf Events Centre 9am to 5 pm

Euro fest was created to celebrate European cultural identities and promote the richness and diversity of European cultures to the people of Wellington.

The Wellington Swiss Club has been invited to take part in the celebration. We need some ideas and helpers to prepare and participate on the day. If you have some spare time and some suggestions please ring Vreni at 526 9841.



auckland@swiss.org.nz

Shooting Section

Jubilaums-Schuetzenfest 2006
Vorschiessen/ Preshoot: 25 & 26 Feb
Hauptschiessen? Main-Shoot:

25 & 26 March

Sommernachtfest/ Schuetzen gala Sat 1 April

This is a catered evening with the Auckland Woodchopper-Band as Entertainment. Ticket price \$40p/p

You are invited to shoot the following Competition:
Jubilee Competition

Team Competition Auckland Waikato Competition Fun Shoot Junior Competition

For Reservation please call Henry Werffeli
on 09 410 34 76
or Email for further Information:
werffeli@orcon.net.nz

Forthcoming Events:

5 March

Cowbell Semi-final against Hamilton in Auckland. (Date still under discussion)

11/12 March

Swiss Shooting 300m. Feldschiessen

12 March

Seniors' Over '65 Tea Party at Rothesay Bay Residents' & Ratepayers' Hall, Rothesay Bay, at 2pm. For bookings for this event phone Edith Hess 444 6972.

25 & 26 March

Official Anniversary Shoot at Farm.

8 & 9 April

Swiss Shooting 300m.

Einzelwettschiessen

23 April (Sun.)

Alternative date for Cowbell Semi-final against Hamilton? (Still under discussion)

29 April

Club AGM at Farm (Kaukapakapa)

6 & 7 May

Swiss Shooting 300m. Hamilton Day

20 May Candlelight Dinner

3,4,5 June Society AGM in Taranaki

10 & 11 June

Swiss Shooting 300m. Swiss Abroad Competition

24 June Fondue Evening

29 July

Swiss National Day Celebration at the Farm

7 October

Jubilee: 50th Anniversary of the Auckland Swiss Club at Springs Garden Restaurant, Western Springs.

14 & 15 October

Any Sights, Any Rifle, Shooting Competition

25 November Working Bee.

3 December Samichlaus.

Thank you! To those of you who helped so willingly at the recent Working Bee.

That's all from me! Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Heidi.

CHRISTCHURCH SWISS CLUB NEWS

Forthcoming Events

Culture Galore

Saturday 18 March 2006. Ray Blank Park, Maidstone Road, Avonhead from 12 noon - 4.00pm. The Swiss Club will have a stall again, so come and visit us and enjoy the diversity of Canterbury's cultures with its' food and entertainment.

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