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# Local News – Great Britain

## NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

### London Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique

**Mrs. Anne Allen** was born and bred in Neuchâtel, of Neuchâtelois parents. After her beccalauréat she went to Geneva University where three years later she graduated as a translator (Ecole d'Interprètes). She also studied at Heidelberg and Munich Universities and, while still an undergraduate spent many a holiday in England where she took her Cambridge exams. She worked as a freelance translator and interpreter in various European countries. A grant from the Ford Foundation enabled her to travel extensively and for several months across the U.S.A.

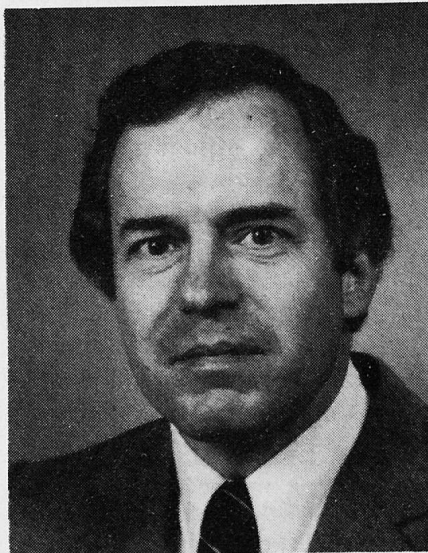


*The new President*

On her return to Europe Mrs. Allen was offered a job as translator at the London headquarters of a Swiss based international organisation. Soon after her arrival she met her future husband, an Oxford graduate, and they were married the following spring. They have two children.

Mrs. Allen is a keen skier, swimmer and loves hiking in the Swiss Alps. She likes as her recreation painting, needlepoint, gardening and cooking. Congratulations to Mrs. Anne Allen on her recent nomination as President of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, and to Dr. Heinz Schneider who has been chosen as Vice President. We wish them both a very successful term in office.

**Dr. H. Schneider** was born in Switzerland (Canton Bern) in 1940, where he attended schools, followed by a University education in Nicaragua, the U.S.A. and in Switzerland, both in business administration and economics. Altogether he has spent some 15 years abroad, including ten years in Central America. Before joining a Swiss bank several years ago and for which he is now working in London, he has been with a Swiss trading company. He is married to Esther Schneider-Handschin.



*The new Vice-President*

If you are interested in joining the New Helvetic Society please contact:

Mrs. A. R. Sharp  
31 Conway Street  
London W1P 5HL  
Tel. 01-387 2173

#### Frauenverein

President: Mrs. Bertie Kaluza,  
14 Amberley Court, Christchurch  
Park, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5UD.  
Tel: 01-643 5941  
meeting every first Tuesday of each  
month at 12.30am for lunch at  
the Swiss Church.

**Swiss National Day Celebration 1984. Saturday 28th July at the Notre Dame Church Hall, Leicester Place, London, near Leicester Square**

Come and meet your friends at a *Soiree Familiale!*

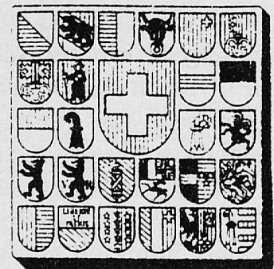
Entertainment with the *Tanzkappelle Tony Gehrig* from Switzerland. Swiss Folklore music and dancing. Swiss specialities provided at moderate prices!

Doors open at 6.00 p.m.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the catering, please contact: Miss B. Schwarz, Tel. 01-340 9740.

For further information please contact: Swiss Embassy, Tel. 01-723 0701.

P.S. The Swiss Church Hall is being renovated.



#### Firnelicht

Wie pocht' das Herz mir in der Brust  
trotz meiner jungen Wanderlust,  
wann, heimgewendet, ich erschaut'  
die Schneegebirge, süß umblaut,  
das große stille Leuchten!

Ich atmet' eilig, wie auf Raub,  
der Märkte Dunst, der Städte Staub.  
Ich sah den Kampf. Was sagest du,  
mein reines Firnelicht, dazu,  
du großes stilles Leuchten?

Nie prahlt' ich mit der Heimat noch  
und liebe sie von Herzen doch!  
In meinem Wesen und Gedicht  
allüberall ist Firnelicht,  
das große stille Leuchten.

Was kann ich für die Heimat tun,  
bevor ich geh' im Grabe ruhn?  
Was geb' ich, das dem Tod entflieht?  
Vielleicht ein Wort, vielleicht ein Lied,  
ein kleines stilles Leuchten!

Conrad Ferdinand Meyer

We wish Mrs. Mariann Meier a very happy retirement and would like to say a big thank you for all the hard work and time she has devoted as President of the Nouvelle Soci  t   Helv  tique during the past 15 years.

Mrs. Meier has lived in London for 50 years. She arrived here as the young wife of a man who was already much involved in the Swiss community. Mr. Meier was President of the S.M.S. for 11 years, and was a founder member of the Federation together with Dr. H. Egli and Mr. Raoul de Cintra in June 1949 (another jubilee this year). Sadly Mr. Meier died in 1961.



Mrs. Meier soon became actively involved in various Swiss Societies. She is a past President of the Swiss Welfare Office. From 1962-69 she was Editor of the *Swiss Observer*. In 1969 Mrs. Meier was elected the first woman President of the Nouvelle Soci  t   Helv  tique and held this office until March 1984. In 1962 she also became a member of the Ausland-Schweizerkommission, A.S.K., being the first woman member and remaining the only one for many years. After 22 years she is retiring from the A.S.K. at this year's Assembly of the Swiss Abroad held in Basel during May.

Many thanks to Mrs. Meier for her unceasing hard work.

As President of the N.S.H. she has devoted so much of her time and energy to ensuring a programme full of interest month after month for so many years. Lectures have ranged from Swiss Politics, Economy, Banking, Freedom of the Media, The Importance of Swiss Women in History, from Energy to Swissair, Swiss Army, Red Cross, etc. The list is endless. Cultural events have included Summer Concerts at Fenton House, Recitals at the Swiss Church, Waldmann Youth Choir,

Orchester Schule of the Zurich Chamber Orchestra, the Lucerne Singers, Valais Chante and others.

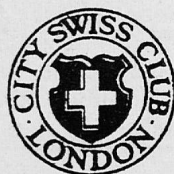
The work of the N.S.H. includes informing members and friends on all topics Swiss, acting as a forum for the discussion of Swiss problems, especially those affecting compatriots abroad, co-operating with other Swiss organisations in the U.K. and the Embassy, with the aim of fostering friendly relations between Great Britain and Switzerland.

Mrs. Meier has certainly succeeded in all these fields, so much so that the London Group of the N.S.H. has firmly established its raison d'  tre. The retiring President may be justly proud on achieving such singular success. The N.S.H. is the only Society with such a wide field of interest and a growing membership open to all.

At the A.G.M. in February, Mrs. Meier was made an Hon. Vice President in the presence of His Excellency, the Ambassador Mr. Pictet and Mme. Pictet.

As if this was not enough, she still found time amongst all her other activities to become the author of *Young Traveller in Switzerland* which has been translated into several languages. We wish Mrs. Meier a happy retirement with her family.

## CITY SWISS CLUB



FOUNDED IN 1856

**Friday, 13th July, 1984; Summer Dance at the Compleat Angler Hotel, Marlow.** For further information contact: Mr. P. Hutter, c/o Swiss Bank Corporation, 99 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2BR.

Would any Swiss living in the Lincoln area be interested in meeting occasionally or regularly for a chat or exchange of ideas, please contact: Mrs. Christa Peck, 128 Gransonway, Washingborough, Lincoln. Tel. Lincoln 792 170.

### Birthday Greetings:

On 10th August Mrs. Mariann Meier will celebrate her 70th Birthday. Congratulations and best wishes to all our readers and any others of whose Birthdays we are not aware.

**Belated Birthday greetings** to Dr. Hans Egli and Mr. J. W. Bonjour on their 85th Birthdays and to Mr. P. Bessire on his 87th Birthday.

It was a very special day in February 1984 for Mrs. A. Notter, who celebrated her **100th Birthday!** Belatedly we congratulate you and wish you all the very best, good health and God's blessing.



Mrs. A. Notter resided in Liverpool for many years, where her husband was on the committee of the Swiss Club in its very early days. Mrs. Notter now lives with her daughter in Chester. Mrs. Notter has received a lot of cards from her Birthplace, Niederrohrdorf near Baden.



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**Congratulations** to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bonjour-Collet on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 10th June 1984. Mr. and Mrs. Bonjour are both Vaudois from Montreux and Vevey respectively, they have been living in this country since early 1920. Their wedding took place in Montreux. Mr. Bonjour has worked for 44 years at the Swiss Bank Corporation in London, and retired in February 1964.



Mr. Bonjour has been and still is an active member of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique. Recently Mr. Bonjour was made an Honorary Member of the Society by the Council.

Our best wishes and heartfelt congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Bonjour** on their special day!

For Information, Advice or Help  
contact the

## **SWISS WELFARE OFFICE**

**for young people**

**31 Conway Street, London W1P 5HL**

**Telephone 01-387 3608**

*Underground Stations:*

*Great Portland Street, Warren Street*

## **The IV Track and Field Championships.**

**European Veteran Athletes.  
Brighton-Hove and Worthing  
1984.**

**Saturday, 18th August to Friday,  
24th August.**

We are looking for German/English/French interpreters to assist us on a voluntary basis, though some meals, travel expenses and if required, accommodation can be provided. We are expecting some 500 athletes from Germany and about 50 from Switzerland. We need interpreters especially on Saturday, 18th and Sunday, 19th of August, to help the athletes with collecting their briefing material, competition rules, etc.

If you can help, please contact:

Mrs. B. Dunsford,  
71 Hillside Crescent,  
South Harrow,  
Middx. HA2 0QU.  
Tel. 01-422 7157.

Swiss visitors to Richmond upon Thames will like to know there will be Son et Lumière at Hampton Court Palace, July to September. An hourly open-top bus service—Richmond Heritage Ride—connecting twelve tourist attractions will operate from Easter through to September; buy a dialy ticket and hop on and off. On Fridays, June through September, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. there is an invitation to tea at York House to meet the Tourism Association. Ring 01-892 8696 for details.

Swiss publisher in Lausanne seeks qualified Secretary, Swiss National or dual national, English mother tongue, for interesting, varied work with responsibility. Preference will be given to a candidate with notions of French and German. Salary according to qualifications. Send résumé with cover letter to: EDITA S.A., 10, rue du Valentin, 1000 Lausanne 9, Switzerland.



## **Activities of the S.R.A.—London**

The S.R.A. in London was founded in 1923 and as the name suggests, provides its members with the opportunity of target shooting.

We meet regularly at the Rifle Ranges at Bisley Camp in Surrey, currently eight time per annum, where the 300m practices, shooting with both Karabiner and Sturmgewehr, take place. The targets used are the standard Swiss Army A + B targets.

Members, including Ladies, compete for the Club Trophies as well as the St. Gallen, Zuerich & Einzelwettschiessen Medals.

The Military programme forms an important part of the season's activity. Matches are also held each year with a number of English Clubs, such as the Surrey Rifle Association and the Marylebone Rifle & Pistol Club.

The Bisley meetings are also great family occasions and the lunchtime barbecues at the Club House are well known to the shooting fraternity.

Through the good offices of the EMD in Berne, pistols are also available for shooting on the 50m range at Bisley for the same medal competitions as the rifle competitions. In addition, we also have indoor pistol shooting meetings, currently four times per annum. These are held on the 25m range at the elite Marylebone Pistol Club in the City of London.

The Association concludes the season in appropriate style, with a Dinner/Dance and Prizegiving, usually held in November at a suitable venue in London.

Maintained only by the enthusiasm and support of its members, new faces are always welcome (subject to certain rules and conditions) and applications to join should be sent to the Secretary:

Mr. U. Schaerer,  
143 Greenvale Road,  
Eltham Park,  
London SE9 1PG.

Current Family Membership (Husband, Wife and Children under 18):  
£25.00 per annum.

Current Individual Membership:  
£15.00 per annum.

### Unione Ticinese celebrates its 110th Anniversary

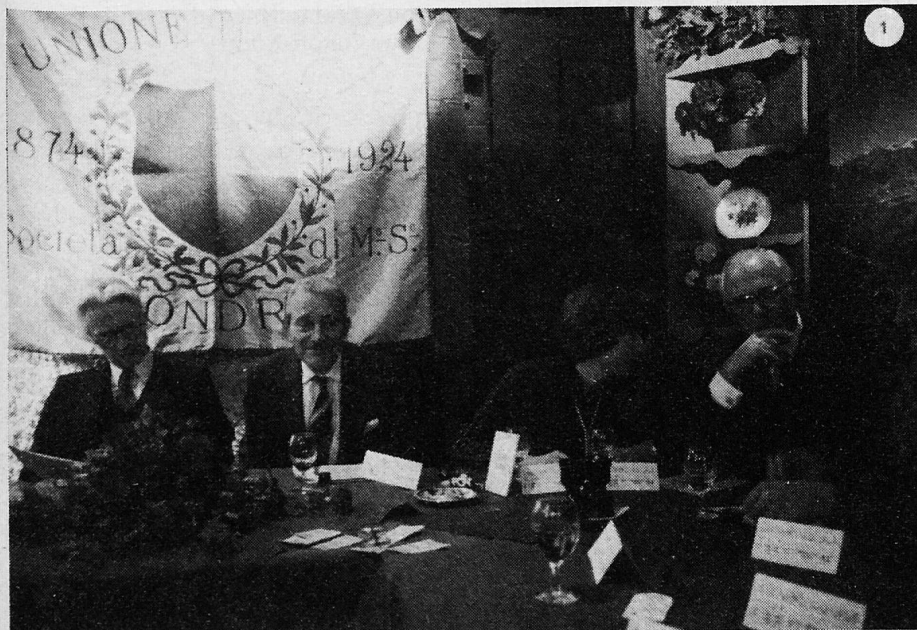
A social evening to celebrate the 110th Anniversary of Unione Ticinese, founded in London on 8th February, 1874, was held at the Swiss Centre Restaurant in London on Friday, 3rd February, 1984. The new Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur F. C. Pictet and Madame Pictet were guests of honour; Mr. Ernst Tangemann, Vice President of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK, and Mrs. Tangemann were also guests. The excellent buffet dinner was attended by some 110 members, their families and friends. Among those present were Mr. and Mme. C. Duboulet, Mr. and Mme. Rossier and Mrs. Mariann Meier.

After dinner the President, Mr. Luigi Bozzini, welcomed the guests and thanked the Ambassador for accepting to become the Hon. President of the Society. He conveyed the apologies of various personalities from Ticino who were unable to attend and read out a message of greeting and good wishes from the Swiss Ambassador to the USSR and Mme. Fritsch. He also took the opportunity to wish Mr. Rossier success in his new post, and both him and Mme. Rossier a pleasant stay in Morocco. Mr. Bozzini then went on to thank the Society's Sub-Committee for organising the evening, before proposing a toast to the Society.

The Vice President, Mr. Giuseppe Broggini, speaking in Italian, then gave a brief outline of the historical background of the past 110 years and stressed the importance of attracting new members of the younger generation and also of co-operating more fully with the other Swiss Societies.

The Ambassador thanked the Society for asking him to become Hon. President and for inviting him and Mme. Pictet to the celebration: it was his first public engagement since taking up his post a week earlier.

A young couple of accordionists, who had been flown in from Ticino for the occasion, entertained the guests before and after the dinner, when many of those present joined in the singing of Ticinesi folksongs. The evening was a great success, much enjoyed by everyone present.



#### Swiss Club, Liverpool

Saturday, 7th July, 4.30 p.m. Traditional "Schueblig Party" at The Green Bank House Club, Greenbank Lane, Liverpool 17 (Mossley Hill).

Friday, 5th October, 8.00 p.m. Fondue Party, at The Green Bank House Club, Green Bank Lane, Liverpool 17 (Mossley Hill).

Over the last years not much news about our Club has emerged, yet we are still alive and kicking, though a number of very active members have died or moved away. But then strength does not lie in numbers only, but we can still muster a good crowd for our by now all traditional events.

Are any Swiss, living in the East Anglia area, interested in meeting occasionally? Please contact:

Mrs. Hanni Beedel,  
17, Estuary Drive,  
Felixstowe,  
Suffolk IP11 9TL  
Tel. Felixstowe 286384

or

Mrs. Susanna Bristol,  
Hill Farm House,  
Lamberts Lane,  
Rushmore St. Andrew,  
Ipswich.  
Tel. Ipswich 78320.

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Whitton TW2 7NT  
Tel. 01-894 2114

#### Swiss Review

Deadlines for your contributions  
and illustrations:

2/84 June, 27.4.84

3/84 October, 3.8.84

4/84 December, 12.10.84





**Association of British  
Members of the Swiss  
Alpine Club**

**19 September**

Mary Briggs—"Himalayan  
Flowers"

(This will be a joint ceremony with  
the Anglo Swiss Society and will be  
photographically superb)

If you are interested in coming as a  
guest or joining the Association,  
please contact:

John Eccles  
New Members Secretary  
Albertine Cottage  
52 North Street  
Marcham  
Oxom OX13 6NG

**Southern Area Swiss Club**

**Forthcoming events:**

**6.7.84:**

Louise and Marcel entertain.

**4.8.84:**

Celebration at Swiss Farm, Elstead.

**7.9.84:**

Redfields Nursery: Gardening in  
Autumn and Preparation for Winter.  
Please bring friends.

**5.10.84:**

Fondue. Please book early (40 sittings  
only).

**Swiss Mother's Group**

meeting every third Wednesday of  
each month at 11.00 am at the  
Swiss Church and the last Friday  
evening of each month, at 7.30 pm  
at the Swiss Church 79 Endell  
Street, London WC2.

For further information please  
contact:

Maya Harhalakis: 01-946 4896

Gret Schwab: 01-937 9401

Lisa Hall: Colnbrook (964) 3804

At the Wednesday meeting  
children are very welcome!

Please come along!

We send our warmest congratula-  
tions to Erika Tolan and Marina  
Engel on the arrival of their baby  
sons, named Julian Keith, and  
Oliver Alexander respectively.

**Romandes de Londres  
et environs**

Nous sommes un groupe de  
dames. Nous réunissent chaque  
2<sup>ème</sup> Mardi du mois à l'Eglise  
Suisse, 79, Endell Street W.C.2  
pour un Lunch en commun. Suivi  
parfois d'un film court metrage,  
d'un récit de voyage ou plus  
simplement d'échange d'idées.  
Venez donc nous joindre alors, à la  
causerie le mois prochain. Pour  
tout renseignement: Tel. 01 458  
3859 or 01 262 0097.

7 Windsor Close,  
Alton,  
Hants. GU34 1QU.

**Protection for Tenants in the  
Confederation**

Dear Editor,

I wonder what consideration has been  
given to legislation for the protection  
of tenants in Switzerland, possibly on  
similar lines to that which exists in the  
United Kingdom.

I am prompted to raise this issue be-  
cause my parents, now aged 83 and 81  
are being evicted from their flat in  
Zollikofen BE after 17 years occupa-  
tion, apparently because the landlady  
wishes to modernise it.

It would be interesting to know  
whether any of your readers have had  
similar experiences and what remedies  
they suggest.

yours faithfully,  
Jutta Aaron-Kopp.

Dear Editor,

I am sure you must have received a  
number of communications already re-  
garding the *Swiss Review* No. 1/84.  
However, I only just returned from a  
trip abroad and having glanced at the  
*Review* thought I would drop you a  
few lines. In fact I am still laughing and  
am not quite sure whether it is an April  
joke or whether the Ladies concerned  
were indeed most disgusted with the  
elections in Switzerland.

Winston Churchill would enjoy the  
picture on the front page ... after all he  
practically invented the Victory sign.  
Yet, I am sure, he also knew and  
probably used the reverse for other  
purposes.

sincerely,  
Hans Hefti.

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