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Local News – Great Britain

Swiss National Day Celebration of the Swiss Communities in London

The celebration took place at the Notre Dame Church Hall just off Leicester Square on Saturday 28th July. It was a real Swiss evening with the Tanz-Kapelle "Toni Gehrig", who were specially flown from Switzerland for the evening, providing the music to the obvious delight of all those present, some 300 people of all ages. The Alphornbläser was, to say the least, very impressive. A big thank you to them all. Mr. Berti, President of the 1st of August Committee, greeted everybody most warmly and thanked His Excellency the Ambassador Mr. F. Ch. Pictet and Madame Pictet for their attendance.

The food was excellent and our thanks to Mr. Baumann of the Swiss Centre and his staff for their efforts. Most of all a *big thank you* to all members of the 1st of August Committee for their hard work on everyone's behalf in order to ensure such an enjoyable evening. We look forward to next year's celebration of our country's National Day.

The Editor

His Excellency Mr. F. Ch. Pictet, National Day Speech:

Today's anniversary invites every Swiss to set aside for a moment considerations of a personal nature and instead to direct our thoughts towards our common good and our common concern: the state of our country.

I do wish to thank you for your presence here tonight, because it clearly demonstrates your attachment to Switzerland. However strong the ties that unite you to Great Britain, you are reaffirming your Swiss identity, your dedication and commitment to the values that bind together all the Swiss at home and throughout the world.

In the first place I think we should be thankful for the mere fact that we have a country. This is a privilege of which millions and millions of people are at present deprived who live in exile or sit in refugee camps.

It is another privilege to have a country which lives in peace, which is at peace at home and which is spared the tensions, conflicts and divisions that plague so many parts of the world—a prosperous country, too. We do have problems and difficulties but of manageable proportions. Our inflation remains one of the lowest of the world. The same is also true of overall unemployment, even if the figures conceal individual cases of hardship. Above all, there is no doubt or hesitation either about the determination of the authorities at all levels to keep the country on the right track, or about the support they enjoy from the vast majority of the Swiss people. The national consensus is very strong indeed.

This fortunate state of affairs entails, of course, responsibilities. Switzerland must remain, at a time when national egoism is so widespread, a country open to the outside world, generous and compassionate and ready to cooperate with others whenever possible, ready also to alleviate the sufferings of the victims of underdevelopment, violence or armed conflicts. More can and should be done and every Swiss is in a position to do his share.

On this national day commemorating events that happened almost 700 years ago, we should be grateful for the foresight and the wisdom of the people who made our country what it is today. It should also be an occasion on which we renew our commitment to serve the country and to support the ideas it has stood for for such a long time. Finally, I suggest that we also seize this opportunity to express our gratitude to Great Britain, which has for so many of you become a second home.

In this spirit of rejoicing, friendship and gratitude I invite you to say with me "Long live Switzerland!"

1st August Celebration in Taunton

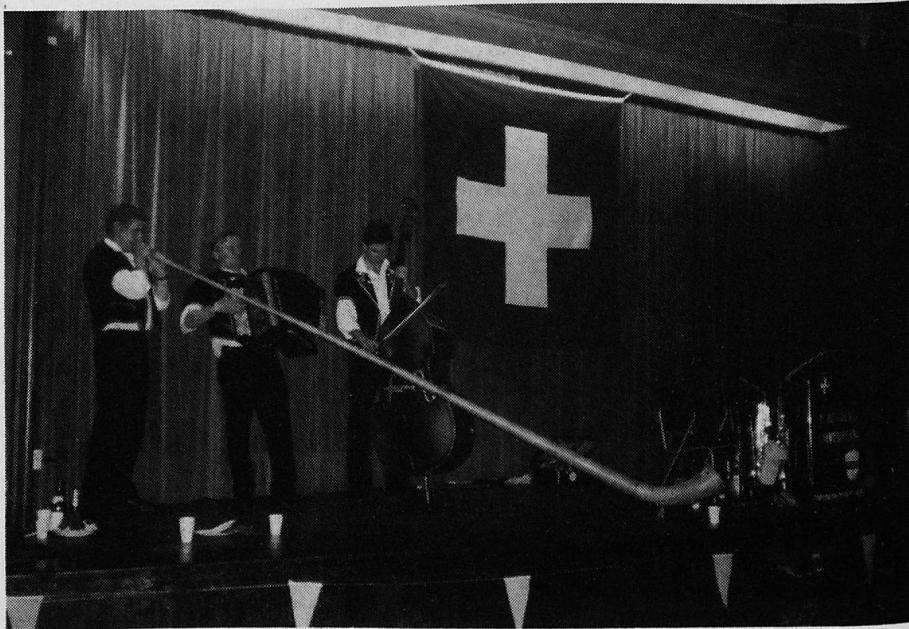
On 1st August the Taunton Swiss Group met in the home of Katra and Tony Haskell to celebrate National Day. It was a delightful evening with delicious Swiss food, wine, good company and traditional Swiss songs were revived and sung with enthusiasm by all.

The Taunton Swiss Group is an informal but extremely united group of Swiss, who meet monthly in Taunton for coffee and a chat, on special occasions in the homes of our members. If you live in our neighbourhood, do contact us.

We would like to hear from you.

Ruth Cole

34 Dillons Road
Creech St. Michael
Taunton, Somerset.
Tel. 443021.



Notice

Dear Readers,

Regretfully I must inform you that this issue (No. 3) of the *Swiss Review* is the last one that is to appear in this present format. However, you will continue to receive this *Swiss Review* four times per annum, incorporated as part of the *Swiss Observer*. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of you for your help and contributions.

The Editor.

It is the expressed wish of the President of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the U.K. (FOSSUK) that you should continue to send your contributions at least for the time being to me.

The Editor.

Editor's address:
Mrs. M. E. Hall-Zeller
27 Redway Drive
Whitton TW2 7NT
Tel. 01-894 2114

Congratulations

To Mr. E. Peter Tangemann on being elected President of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the U.K. (FOSSUK).



Mr. Ernst (Peter) Tangemann arrived in London in November 1967, at a time when the Union Bank of Switzerland had just opened its London Branch—its first branch abroad. He began working for UBS in

Geneva, where he stayed for 16 years, and after a brief spell in Zurich, moved to Basel for the period 1964-67. After having headed the Foreign Exchange and Money Market Department, Mr. Tangemann took over as Branch manager in 1972.

Mr. Tangemann has actively participated in the life of the Swiss colony in the U.K. during his residence here. He was President of the City Swiss Club in 1974-75; in 1977 he became a member of the Consistoire of the Eglise Suisse, of which he is now Vice President; he has held the post of Honorary Treasurer to the Anglo-Swiss Society since 1971; he has now been elected to the post of President of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the U.K.

Mr. Tangemann met his wife, Stina, who is Finnish (Swedish-speaking), during his language studies in London in 1948. They have a daughter, Christine, who is married and lives in Switzerland.

Mr. Tangemann's active business life leaves him little leisure time, which he likes to spend in his garden or occasionally playing a round of golf with his wife. His other interests include reading and photography, but he regrets that he does not have more time for this.

Best wishes for a very successful term of office.

Mr. Bernhard Simon a well known and well liked person in the Swiss Community for many years, has retired as President of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the U.K. (FOSSUK).

After 10 years in office Mr. B. Simon feels that it is high time for him to step aside. However he will continue to serve as Delegate for the North to the Ausland-Schweizer Kommission, (A.S.K.) which will allow him to participate in the activities of the Federation Committee. Mr. B. Simon has enjoyed these past 10 years as President, despite the hard work and time involved.

On behalf of our readers I would like to thank Mr. B. Simon very much indeed for all the hard work he has done for the Swiss Community over so many years.

We wish Mr. B. Simon all the very best for the future.

The Editor

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November

Stadt-musik Zürich

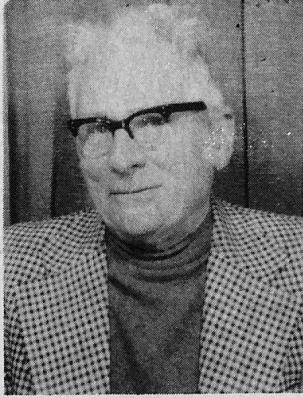
The "Stadt-musik Zürich" will be taking part in the Lord Mayor's Show in London, at the invitation of the Inns of Court and City Yeomanry. The Royal Yeomanry Band, as reciprocation for that band's visit to Switzerland last year. The programme so far reads as follows:

November

9 Fri	Joint concert by the two bands at Battersea Town Hall
10 Sat	Participation in Lord Mayor's Show

SWISS CLUB MANCHESTER

Congratulations to Mrs. Trudy Bolliger on becoming an Honorary Member of the Club in recognition of her outstanding services and Mr. Hans Scheiwiller on becoming a Veteran Member for over 40 years loyal membership.



Forthcoming Events:

Please make a note in your diary now!

Thursday 22nd November at 19.30 for 20.00 hours: Traditional Raclette Party.

Saturday 15th December at 15.00 hours: Children's Christmas Party.

Every 1st Thursday of each month: Get Together and Jazz

Venue of all events: Deanwater Hotel, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire.

Friends, new members, guests are always welcomed!

Applications and further enquiries to:

D. M. Salden (President)

40 Ack Lane, East Bramhall,
Stockport SK7 2BY.

Tel. 061-440 9087.

Mrs. S. Glauser (Hon. Secretary)

260 Bramhall Lane, Davenport,
Stockport SK3 8TR.

Tel. 061-487 1428.

Notice

Are there any Swiss living in the East Midlands interested in forming a Swiss Club? Or at least to meet informally from time to time? Please write to Silvio Cordazzo, Ash Cottage, 15 Rushton Road, Wilbarston, Market Harborough LE16 8QL.

UNIONE TICINESE

Barbecue—Sunday 24th June 1984

Once again Mrs. Cynthia Parrott was the gracious hostess for this now traditional event, as she and her husband welcomed some 65 members with their families and friends in the garden of their lovely house in Hurstpierpoint. Although it clouded over now and again we were all able to enjoy alfresco the delicious meal consisting of risotto prepared by Mr. Pietro Jacomelli—followed by steak—barbecued to perfection by our President—and a salad. Although we were unable to go strawberry picking, we did not have to forego the pleasure of fresh strawberries and ice cream for dessert,

thanks again to Mrs. Parrott who had managed to pick 15lbs of the luscious berries all on her own!

The raffle, for which various members had contributed prizes, was organised by Mr. Joe Diviani and raised approximately £50 for the Society—not bad considering there were many children and far fewer adults than last year.

After lunch small and larger parties dispersed in various directions for a walk in the surrounding countryside, the bravest climbing the steep Downs. Later all returned for tea and cakes, and it was nearly 6.30 pm before the party began to break up, after what had been another successful and most enjoyable gathering.

Valeria Ossola



The Yorkshire Swiss Club

July 1984

It seems a while since I wrote about the activities of the Yorkshire Swiss Club, but we have not been altogether idle. Last week we had a meeting at the Yorkshire Wolds Gliding Club, and spent a most interesting and enjoyable evening. Approximately 50 members turned up and 34 "went up". The weather was sunny and rather windy, but we were assured this was the best conditions for gliding. Many who had not booked to glide, decided to do so, after talking to and watching others. Our committee member, Mr. Franklin Pope who arranged the evening was kept very busy all evening helping. After the gliding we all gathered in the Clubhouse to celebrate. It was indeed an experience, new to all of us. We already have several requests for a repeat.

Lilian Baumann
Secretary

Saturday October 27th Annual Luncheon at Sandal Restaurant, Bradford.

Saturday December 8th Christmas Party at the Foreign Language Circle, Eldon Place, Bradford.

Further details of these last three events will be sent as soon as possible.

We regret that there are some members we have not seen for some time now, and we do trust they are well. If you cannot attend functions, we are still always pleased to hear how you are getting on, and if without transport, it's always possible we can arrange a lift by car in order that you may attend.

Peter and Olga Selby-Huber are offering bed and breakfast in Switzerland for 18 Swiss Francs per night—their Swiss address is 19 Kanton Strasse, Bütikon, 8863 Switzerland.

With good wishes.
Jeffrey Long
President.

Notice

Vaudoise living in Mid-Wales would like to hear from other Swiss living in Powys-Shropshire-Herfordshire Border. Contact Marie-lise Jones-Martin, Knighton, Powys LD7 1HF. Tel. 0547 528076.

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40 Years on...

Little did I realize what fate had in store for me, as I got off the Post Auto at Wolfertswil on that snowy November afternoon in 1943. I was to start work as a "Weberin" in the little factory, owned by Mr. Pfaendler. Mr. Befa, my future boss met me, and helped me find accommodation with two elderly maiden ladies. Next he persuaded "Ma" Stadler, the landlady of the Loewen next door to my lodgings, to allow me to share lunch with another young lady from the factory.

I had no idea that there were British Evadée Soldiers stationed in Switzerland and particularly in these little Toggenburg Villages, as far as Degersheim.

Of course it had to happen: Us two girls had our lunch in the "Nebenstube", and in the "Gaststube" some 30 soldiers were having theirs. In the evening, Ma Stadler invited me over, and so I met my Scots Guardsman. On my birthday, we got engaged and decided to get married.

"That was easier said than done."

Practically every day my fiancee walked to Degersheim, where the officers were stationed, and was told over and over again that it was impossible to get married to a foreigner in wartime and in a "Host Country". That made him all the more determined to succeed. We enlisted Major Gurney's help and the Rev. Ernest Peyer from St. Gallen, who was Chaplain to the Evadées in the area.

After a long and patient wait, we were given a date when we could marry, the 8th of April 1944. When we had to call the bans, Frank had no birth-certificate, therefore "No Wedding."

In desperation, my fiancee wrote to Lieutenant Boyle, who was in his Regiment, and also Mrs. Norton, whose husband was the British Minister in Berne. Thanks to their help we finally got permission to get married on the 4th of July 1944.

From there we were transferred to Arosa, where we spent a lovely three months in "Haus Wolfensberg". Most of the British soldiers were allowed to return home in October.

I was now expecting a baby and wanted to be in England to be with my husband. I started writing to the British Consul in Zurich, and my husband wrote to the British Home Office. After many false starts, we finally had a definite date: the 24th April 1945.



It was still wartime of course, and we could only travel at night. We arrived in Newhaven in the late afternoon of the 26th April. My companions on that momentous journey were:

Mrs. Smith from Buelach,
Mrs. C. Meredith from Flawil,
Mrs. A. L. Dick-Mueller from Luzern,
Mrs. Ida Goddard-Huber from Degersheim,

Mrs. Gertrud Kitchen-Gerbert from Degersheim,

Mrs. Hulda Smith-Buehler also from Degersheim area.

We would love to hear from any of these ladies, who are hopefully still in this country, to reminisce and maybe meet.

In our own area, we have a thriving Swiss Club, and although we have a very large catchment area, I have never heard of anyone from these first arrivals in this country. We have three children all of which are married, one lives in Switzerland, one in New Zealand and the youngest lives in England.

Mrs. A. M. Doy from Wolsen-Obfelden. We now live at 8 James Way, Camberley, Surrey, at which address we would love to receive some signs of life.

Births

Congratulations to the Rev. Hans Wunderli and his wife Doris on the arrival of their baby son Paul Kaspar on 20th May 1984, to Mr. and Mrs. Alf Häuselmann on the birth of their son Oliver Reto on 20th June 1984, and to Mr. and Mrs. Stewart on the birth of their daughter Jennifer on 20th July 1984. Best wishes and good health to you all.

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