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Season's Greetings

The Editor and the editing committee of the Helvetia wish all their readers a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Taranaki Swiss Club

Dec. 6— Children's Christmas Party.
Dec. 31— New Year's Eve celebration \$5 each
Feb. 8— Annual Picnic Day, 10.30 am, club grounds.
5— Keglen
26— Championship starts

Hamilton Swiss Club

1987
Feb. 21— Sports Day
Feb. 22— Picnic.

Wellington Swiss Club

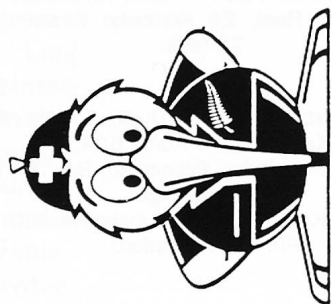
Nov. 29— Christmas Party.
Nov. 30— Children's Christmas Party.

1987
Feb. 21— Cowbell competition.
Feb. 22— Picnic, children's sport, society competition.
Mar. 1— Swiss Society Shooting
Mar. 8— Swiss Society Shooting

Auckland Swiss Club

New Market Hoeck every last Monday of the month.

«Seitdem es Flugzeuge
gibt, sind die entfernten
Verwandten auch nicht
mehr so weit weg, wie
sie einmal waren.»



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TARANAKI SWISS CLUB Christmas Thought

Christmas is a joyous time,
A climax to the year—
Bringing warmth and love,
To all we hold most dear.

On Saturday, November 8, we held our spring social with a good attendance. The usual dancing and music was enjoyed supplied by Z. Hospenthal and B. Tipler with M. Nolly on the piano.

Raffle winners were: 1st prize, a visitor from Switzerland was happy to accept a good box of groceries as prize. 2nd prize, Len Chamberlain, box of biscuits. 3rd prize, Ruedi Dudli, box of chocolates.

During the month 'The Irachengruppe' were invited to the and Theresa Fitzgerald happy birthdays, we all joined in singing the birthday song to them.

During the month 'The Frachengruppe Group' were invited to the RSA Club in Hawera to entertain at a Swiss night. Items of traditional dancing, music and singing were well accepted and appreciated by the audience, with some members participating as well. A happy night for all those attending.

Another improvement has been added to the clubhouse.

Three folding doors have been installed to provide a cosy atmosphere for small gatherings especially in the cold winter months.

Our grateful thanks must go to our Patron, Miss Ida Bernold for her continued generosity to the club in her donation of these doors. Thank you Ida.

DOREEN SCHULER.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

Since the last publication, we had a few more events with our club. Not many people attended our "Preis-Kegeln" but many more came to the clubhouse for the "Barnerabig". We all enjoyed the delicious meat with suurchrut, nicely arranged and served on platters. After meringues with whipped cream and coffee, the evening passed quickly with dancing and talking.

For the Fritz Adam Cup exactly 20 people turned up. So everyone

took part in the games. At the end there were two winners, because Peter Fausch, a visitor from Switzerland, could not win and so Hans Glauser was awarded the cup.

As the weather gets warmer, we have organised, optimistically, an outdoor activity. On a rather windy Sunday, 12 members were meeting at the clubhouse for a walk. We packed some wood in our bags, dressed the two babies in warmer clothes and started for a pleasant walk. After about an hour, we stopped at a place sheltered from the wind and had our lunch with a little fire. After returning to the clubhouse, we sat together for another hour talking and drinking coffee. We all enjoyed our walk.

Farewell to Mr Etienne, Charge d'Affaires and Mrs Etienne.

During our Wellington Swiss Club Christmas party, we will be bidding farewell to Mr and Mrs Etienne.

After four-and-a-half years in New Zealand, Mr and Mrs Etienne are returning to Switzerland in January, for their well-deserved retirement. They have been solid supporters of our club and have been attending most of our functions. Our club is wishing them a safe return to Switzerland and a happy and healthy retirement.

VERENA RICKLI
(Secretary)



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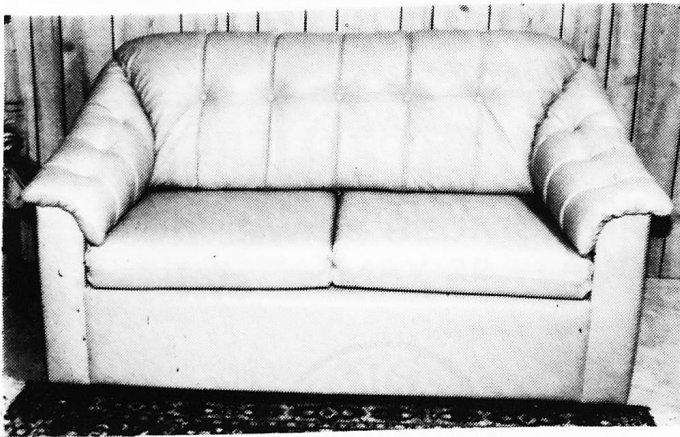
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Tit for Tat

The principal of our local primary school has this notice on his office wall: "If you won't believe all your child tells you about us, we won't believe all your child tells us about you."

Bath Times

Over the centuries, attitudes to bathing have fluctuated, says Lawrence Wright in his book *Clean and Decent*. Washing was sometimes believed vital for cleansing the soul and sometimes bad for the skin.

After Saint Benedict's sixth-century command that bathing should "seldom be permitted", people developed an aversion to water. Mixed bathing was forbidden, public baths were declared hotbeds of vice, and all Europe went unwashed. It was the monks, strangely, who were to become the advocates of bathing. Any monk drifting into worldly thoughts had to sit up to his neck in freezing water, while the well-behaved monk was allowed a warm bath.

By the 13th century, some royal bathrooms had fixed baths, tiled floors, bathmats and running water. At London's Westminster Palace in 1275, Robert the Goldsmith was paid 26 shillings and eight pence for "four keys (taps) of gilt bronze and four leopards' head(s) for the baths". Four centuries later, washing was still not held dear by many, but attitudes were beginning to improve. A handful of country mansions had their own water supply. People who were not wealthy faced a brisk wash under a pump in the street.

Towards the end of the last century, sanitation and plumbing were dramatically improving. There was more money about and the bathroom offered a way of impressing friends, as evidence of riches. Everything was made big and solid. Not to be outdone, Queen Victoria had brass taps on her bath at Osborne House that look more capable of operating the boilers of a battleship than merely filling the bath.

—Amanda Evans

Not long ago I received a cookbook from my sister. It is titled "Old Favourites" and gives you 100 recipes grandma used to have.

Green Potato Soup

1 tablespoon butter, melt in pan

1 onion finely chopped

1 clove of garlic

Chives, finely chopped

FRY FOR SHORT WHILE

1 small leek (green parts only)

100gr raw spinach (only leaves)

Cut in small pieces,

add to put and saute.

200g potatoes in cubes, add to veges

1 tablespoon flour, mix in 1 litre of beef stock, bring to boil.

Add pepper and nutmeg.

Boil the soup for 30 minutes, put through strainer (or blender), add 1 dl cream, heat up and serve.

Platzlibratan

600g red meat, cut in ½ cm slices. Fry dark brown on both sides and take out of pan. Salt and pepper to season.

Add 2dl stock to pan and boil for a few minutes.

Put meat alternately with 250gr bacon slices and eight thin slices of bread in shallow gratin dish. Add stock, cover and bake for 45 minutes at 200°C.

Add 2 dl cream and bake for another 15 minutes.

Dessert from the Barbecue

1 banana in skin, fry on light heat until black-skin and put on plate.

Pour 1 teaspoon sugar 1 tablespoon brandy or rum over it and light with match.

When flame dies add vanilla icecream and enjoy it.

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