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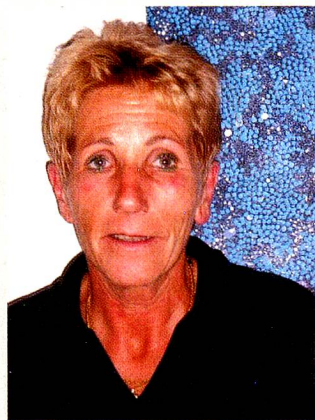
## Official Announcement. Appointment of a new Honorary Consul for Switzerland in Victoria

Dear Compatriots,

As was published in the Swiss Review in March 2006, the Department of Foreign Affairs in Berne has decided to close the Consulate General in Melbourne on 30 September 2006. As of 1 October 2006, the Consulate General of Switzerland in Sydney will be in charge of all administrative, consular and most cultural issues.

I take pleasure in informing you that in the meantime the Federal Government of Switzerland has nominated Mrs Erika Kimpton-Etter as Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Victoria with residence in Melbourne. The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has given its official assent to this nomination on 24 January 2007 in accordance with the Vienna convention on consular relations. I wish to thank you in advance for the support and assistance you may be able to extend to Honorary Consul Erika Kimpton-Etter in the exercise of her official functions.

Mrs Erika Kimpton-Etter, born in 1945 in Bern and originating from Ried/Kerzers FR, has been living in Australia since 1967.



**Erika Kimpton-Etter, New Honorary  
Consul of Switzerland in Victoria**

Please take note of the new address of the Consulate of Switzerland in Victoria:

**Honorary Consul of Switzerland**  
697 Toorak Road  
KOORYONG VIC 3144  
Phone: 03 9824 7527  
Fax: 03 9822 2053  
Mobile: 0413 042 728, Email:  
erikakimpton@optusnet.com.au

*The Consul General of Switzerland,  
Jürg Casserini*

## Swiss Review. Editorial Notes and News

You will find additional information and articles in the online version of the Swiss Review under [www.revue.ch](http://www.revue.ch) (under menu Regionales > Australien). If your Swiss group or organisation is not yet listed in the Regional News, please advise us of your contact details and write us a short brief. The deadline for submissions for the June 2007 edition is on 1 st May 2007.

At the time of printing, there were no further developments with regards to the Social Security Agreement between Switzerland and Australia, which was published in the last edition. We will keep you informed of these Regional News as soon as they become available.

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Sydney, publishes on a regular basis a Cultural Calendar of Events (available on their website) which covers all kinds of Events in Australia. It invites you to into the world of Swiss visual arts, music, sports and culture. Email [syd.vertretung@eda.admin.ch](mailto:syd.vertretung@eda.admin.ch) if you have items you want included.

Calling home? Please remember that since April 1 2007 the area code +41 1 is no longer valid for calls to the Zurich region. Replace the area code with +41 44.

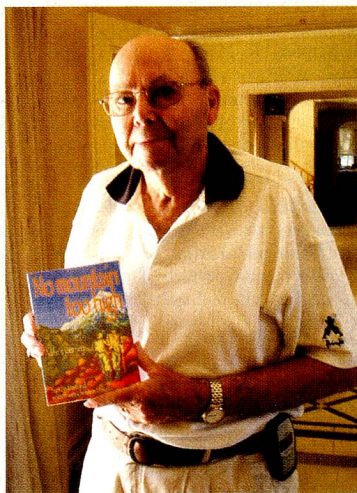
If you have something to contribute please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Marc Godat, Regional Editor*

Phone: (07) 3899 8996, or email to: [mgodat@off-ice.com.au](mailto:mgodat@off-ice.com.au)

## Portrait. Ron Maitland - No Mountain Too High

Ron Maitland, husband of the late Ella Maitland-Bosshard, grew up in Western Australia. As a young man, he served with the AIF in North Africa (Tobruk) during World War II. Captured by the Germans in 1942, he was eventually imprisoned after many hardships in an Italian POW camp near Udine, in Northern Italy. When Ron escaped from that camp, he and his comrades fled across the Alps towards Switzerland where, high in the mountains, they could not believe their good fortune. They stumbled across Swiss guards who let them enter Switzerland! At a holding camp in Wald, in the Zürcher Oberland, Ron got to know Switzerland. He appreciated the care and hospitality he received. There, he met his wife, Ella. They married in Wald in 1944, however Ron's permit to remain in Switzerland ran out at that point and he was obliged to return to Australia, this time via Marseilles. Ella joined him in Western Australia the following year, where they had a daughter, Yvonne. Yvonne eventually moved to New South Wales, and in 1979 Ron and Ella moved to Bowral, NSW, to be near her.



After Ella suffered a stroke, Ron used the lonely hours that followed to reflect on his life, which he began to write about. The result is **No Mountain Too High** and is co-authored by Christine Makella. It reveals a courageous and resilient life's journey, during which fortune favours the bold, and at unexpected moments. Enquiries about the book can be made to Yvonne Springett on (02) 4862 3322 or via email to [springet@hinet.net.au](mailto:springet@hinet.net.au).

*Margrit Bachmann*

### Useful Online References

[www.revue.ch](http://www.revue.ch)  
[www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch)  
[www.swissinfo.org](http://www.swissinfo.org)  
[www.eda.admin.ch/australia](http://www.eda.admin.ch/australia)  
[www.swiss.org.au](http://www.swiss.org.au)  
[www.sacci.com.au](http://www.sacci.com.au)  
[www.avs-ai-international.ch](http://www.avs-ai-international.ch)

Swiss Review Online (additional articles)  
Organisation of the Swiss Abroad  
Actual News by [swissinfo.org](http://swissinfo.org)/SRI  
EDA - Swiss Representations in Australia  
Swiss Clubs on the Net in Australia  
Bilateral trade and investment information  
OASI/DI and voluntary contributions

## Important News. OASI/DI-Office Closure as of June 30

Notice to all members of the  
voluntary old-age, survivors and  
disability insurance scheme  
(OASI/DI).

As already mentioned in the Swiss Revue December 2005, I regret to inform you that the Swiss Compensation Office in Geneva has decided to close all its OASI/DI offices abroad. The closures will take place in stages and will be completed by the end of 2007. Existing files will be gradually transferred to the Geneva office, which will administer them in the future. Please note that:

**The OASI/DI-Office in Sydney will be closed as of 30 June 2007.**

and all members will or have received a personal letter with more details.

I am aware that these changes may cause some concern. However, you may rest assured that the Swiss Compensation Office in Geneva will take all necessary steps to maintain the quality of its services. This notice does not affect recipients of any kind of benefits. For further information, feel free to contact the OASI/DI office in Sydney or the Swiss Compensation Office in Geneva.

You may also wish to consult the website at:  
**[www.avs-ai-international.ch](http://www.avs-ai-international.ch)**, which has full information on OASI/DI and voluntary contributions.

### AHV/IV Matters:

Please note: All administrative requirements like passport, ID-Card and Visa matters, change of address and/or change of marital status, registration, etc. will be handled by the Consulate General of Switzerland in Sydney and, **until end June 2007 including AHV/IV matters.**

*Jürg Casserini*

## Event Announcement. World Red Cross Day

Two events to be precise: The annual International World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8th May, and the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 8th June. With regards to the latter, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Regional Delegation for the Pacific is organising an event and a photographic exhibition in Canberra. Read the full story on our online-article or visit the ICRC website on [www.icrc.org](http://www.icrc.org).



## Victoria

### Swiss Club of Victoria

89 Flinders Lane  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
Tel: (03) 9650 1196 Club  
President: Rolf Huber  
Tel/Fax: 03 9807 0282 a/h  
Mobile 0425 805 854  
rhuber@swiss.org.au  
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubvic

Swiss Club Committee:  
Vice-Pres./Secretary: Barbara Kündig  
Treasurer: Urs Derrick Wildi  
New members: Patrick Rychner, Mark Weber

Dear members and friends of the Swiss Club,

This is my first message as the newly elected president of the Swiss Club of Victoria. My purpose is to serve the needs of our members. As such, I would like to extend my greetings to all members and friends and invite you to participate in the life of the Swiss Club. Some of my many goals is to have a friendly relationship with all Swiss sub-groups and other Swiss organisations, to safeguard the future of the club, to further enhance the appeal the club to increase membership and support the redevelopment of the club's top floor. For those who do not know me, I have been a member of the club since 1996 and a member of the committee for the last 5 years.

The committee and I would like to thank Roland Isler, the outgoing president for his efficient handling of club matters including the launch of the history book and his dedication towards finding a new and reliable tenant for the ground floor of the Swiss Club. I am especially pleased that Roland has agreed to take over the newsletter editing enabling Patrick Rychner to join the committee. We would also like to thank Rita Schwärzler (Membership, Immediate Past President) and Ruth Plagge (Treasurer, Functions) who resigned at the AGM, for their never tiring commitment and friendship. Thank you both for a job well done!

The committee is joined by Mark Weber with Barbara Kündig as Vice-President/Secretary and Urs Wildi as Treasurer. I look forward to working with them. We are on a drive to recruit more committee members so if you feel you can contribute please get in touch with me.

I would also like to warmly welcome the newly appointed Honorary Consul for Victoria Mrs. Erika Kimpton. We look forward to a good cooperative relationship.

The committee and I wish to thank you for your continued support and invite you to join us at the club or the many functions and events for fun, good fellowship and fine food.

Rolf Huber

### Upcoming Events

21/4:	John Wanner Swing Orchestra, Austrian Club
28-29/4:	Swiss-Italian Festa, Hepburn Springs
02/5:	Ladies Luncheon
03/5:	Kapelle Grüezi entertains (club)
19/5:	Jass Night Matterhorn
02/6:	John Wanner Swing Orchestra Austrian Club
07/6:	Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand (club)
16/6:	Jass Night - Swiss Club

### Ladies Luncheon

The Swiss Club of Victoria  
Convener: Heidi Giger  
Tel: (03) 9889 9321

The next Ladies Luncheon of the Swiss Club will be on May 4th.

The Ladies Luncheon includes a 2 course meal (set menu), wine, soft drinks, coffee, and a guest speaker covering all spectra of life. Members and friends are most welcome.

Bookings are essential with the Swiss Club. Tel: (03) 9650 1196.

### The Swiss Companion Singers

Convener: Heidi Giger  
107 Glyndon Road  
Camberwell Vic 3124  
Tel: (03) 9889 9321

We are a mixed choir and meet at the Swiss Club every second and third Thursday of the month for practise, singing old and new folk songs.

New singers are always welcome and do not need a voice of 'Caruso' quality as the group conveys foremost a friendly atmosphere.

Singing is good for the soul! If you have any questions, please contact me or Herbert Schwärzler on 03 9561 7811.

Heidi Giger

### Young Swiss Group

Convener: Amy Bohren  
2/9 Grandview Grove,  
Bayswater, Vic, 3153  
Mobile: 0409 041 528  
amybohren@hotmail.com  
www.swiss.org.au/scvyoung

We meet on every second Wednesday of the month at the Swiss Club, 89 Flinders Lane, Melbourne. Anyone is welcome to come along. If you would like further information, please call me or join the email group via the above link on the Swiss Club website.

Amy Bohren

### Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn

3 Bluegum Court  
Upwey Vic 3158  
President: Marco Unternährer  
Tel: (03) 9752 6996 (h) or  
Tel: (03) 9388 8777 (b)  
mrunt@optusnet.com.au  
www.swiss.org.au/matterhorn

We meet every Wednesday evening at Marco's address (see above) for practice - why don't you join us one evening to see how much fun we have!

The CD that will present some of our favourite songs and a few other gems is in the final stages of preparation, ready for the big launch at our 'Night of Swiss Folklore' on the 2nd of June. We hope to see you there! Bookings from 1st May - ring Marco at the above numbers.

### Upcoming Events

19/5:	2nd Jass, Horticulture Centre, Jolimont Road, Forest Hill
2/6:	CD-Launch, Polish Community Centre, 1325 Stud Road, Rowville

### Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose

President: Sylvia Hochuli  
92 Addison Street  
Elwood Vic 3184  
Tel: (03) 9531 6575  
hochuli@bigpond.com

The group continues the tradition of folkdancing.

### Upcoming Events

5/5:	Unterhaltungsabend Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose (Swiss Club)
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Please book with Roger Moullet at the Swiss Club on 9650 1196. For information ring Sylvia. We look forward to see you there.

Sylvia Hochuli

### Trachtengruppe Schwyzerguess / Australian Swiss Cultural Soc.

Vice-President: Silvia Hochuli  
(contact details as above)

We have eleven members in the group. Over the past twenty years we have enjoyed our contribution to the community. We have visited sick and lonely people. We have organised the Kaffeeklatsch and of course the very popular mystery trip. We also take part in the seniors Christmas.

Sylvia Hochuli

### Groupe Romand Du Victoria

Présidente: Marianne Puccinelli  
Tél: (03) 9561 9595  
www.swiss.org.au/chfrvic

Our group aims to provide the opportunity for French-speaking persons and their families in Melbourne and Victoria to develop a sense of community focused on the French language and cultural traditions, in particular those originating from the French-speaking Cantons of Switzerland. We organise 6 regular outings per year.

More information on our activities can be found in our webpage.

Michel Beuchat

### Pro Ticino - Pro Down Under

President: Claude Rossi  
5 Falls Road  
Hoddles Creek Vic 3139  
Tel: (03) 5967 4542

### Swiss Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry

SACCI (Victorian Chapter)  
President: Thomas Schmocker  
Tel: (03) 9646 9595  
Fax: (03) 9645 3935  
victoria@sacci.com.au  
www.sacci.com.au

For further details refer to the NSW section.

### SANM

Swiss Academic Network Melbourne  
info@sanm.id.au  
www.sanm.id.au

The "Swiss Academic Network Melbourne" (SANM) was established in Oct 2004 with the help and support of the Swiss Consulate in Melbourne.

Together with the efforts of a small group of committed Swiss academics, SANM subsequently developed into an active organization and as of Dec 2006, has about 76 members in Melbourne.

SANM provides a networking vehicle for Swiss academics in Melbourne and in Australia at large, and is also trying to foster bilateral academic exchange between Switzerland and Australia. SANM also intends to encourage short-term visiting Swiss academics to participate in SANM and to use the SANM network to the benefit of its membership.

SANM organizes meetings each second month that alternate between social get-togethers and formal presentations. More information, including details for membership and upcoming events can be found on regularly updated SANM website. There is no membership fee to join SANM.

Bruno Giger

### Saturday Morning Swiss School

Convener: Barbara Kündig  
36 Baker Parade  
Ashburton Vic 3147  
Tel: (03) 9813 8843  
barbara@swiss.org.au  
www.swiss.org.au/scvschool

Our teachers, Petra and Diana, teach the children all about Switzerland in a playful and engaging way. The children learn in small groups according to their language abilities. There is a small amount of self-learning between school lessons. The school is open to all children with a Swiss background and of school age 5 years and over. New families are always welcome. For more details please refer to our website.

### Swiss Playgroup

Ingrid Preston  
17 Mary Avenue  
Edithvale Vic 3196  
Tel: (03) 9772 0516

We meet every first Thursday of the month at the Swiss Club from 11AM - 2PM. Swiss families welcome.

## South Australia

### Swiss Club of South Australia

64 Castle Street  
PARKSIDE SA 5063  
Regula Muller  
Tel: (08) 8337 7548 (work)  
Tel: (08) 8337 0333 (evening)  
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubsa

Gruezi mitenand!

A group of car enthusiasts took pleasure in an interesting drive through the Adelaide Hills to the banks of the River Murray. Some questions along the drive towards Mannum were tricky while others were very easy - young and old enjoyed themselves and compared results during lunch at the Pretoria Hotel. Thank you Warren (organiser), we all had a fantastic time.

The Easter walk at Mount Crawford Forest was enjoyed by many. Some brought their bikes along and explored the great trail along the creek and over the hills. The 'Eiertuetsch' was good fun, some members are very artistic and it almost hurts to crack the beautifully decorated Easter eggs.







