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CSA. Spring Session

Report on the meeting of the
Council Of The Swiss Abroad
in Berne, 27 March 2010

New legislation for the Swiss Abroad: The Swiss Secretariat is heavily involved in discussing and preparing legislation concerning the Swiss Abroad. It is very comprehensive and is currently under review and preparation by various working groups. The items which gave most rise to discussions was the way the new legislation provides that future delegates of the Swiss Abroad to the Swiss Council are elected. The working group suggestion is that, only those Swiss Abroad who are registered to vote in Switzerland can elect delegates, not any more the registered Swiss Clubs. I was one of only a few to object to that method because it eliminates the influence and the hard work the Swiss Clubs have done in the past. I think it would be a different matter if the delegates from abroad are elected to the Swiss

Parliament, but it is another thing if the delegates are only members of the current Council. No doubt this will continue to be debated. This method of selecting and electing delegates to the Council needs to be further discussed and thought through.

Subsidy for www.swissinfo.ch
The Swiss Federal Council has indicated its intention to cut totally the subsidy for the website www.swissinfo.ch by 2012. Strong debate, everyone urged the Council to make strong representation in order to keep the subsidy, also a resolution was passed. The representative of the Federal Government did say that he didn't think that a final decision in this regard had been made and therefore the matter is still pending and under consideration.

Electronic voting: e-voting for the Swiss Abroad is getting closer, at least in some cantons. After Neuenburg, Geneva should get its act together for 2011 and for Zurich the Swiss from Abroad should be able to vote still this year electronically.

Peak Organisations: I also took part in a specially arranged meeting the day before the official meeting, which was convened especially by our friends from Germany and France to discuss the advantages of having peak organisations of all Swiss Clubs in their country [which we did not think useful here in Australia]. Nevertheless, the discussion and experience was quite interesting. The main advantages seem to be: receipt of official information from Swiss authorities and dissemination to all clubs in all regions which

seems to be working well. They stress also that the flow of information is better guaranteed and quite easy. They also claim that if a Swiss from anywhere wants to have some contacts anywhere in Germany they can help more easily. A peak organisation also takes on some representative functions.

Congress of the Swiss Abroad: It will be held from 20th to 22nd August, 2010 in St. Gallen. Marc Godat will keep you up to date in the next issue.

Please also note, in order to have a say on all matters Swiss, do register to vote in Switzerland and contact your nearest Swiss Consulate. Swiss Abroad should be heard and they can make a difference.

Beat Knoblauch, CSA Delegate

Please say no to budget cuts and participate in the online-petition:

www.rettet-swissinfo.ch

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CONSULATE GENERAL

Consulate General of Switzerland
101 Grafton Street, Cnr Grosvenor St
Tower 2, Level 23, Bondi Junction,
NSW 2022, Australia

Postal address:
**P.O. Box 282, Bondi Junction,
NSW 1355, Australia**

Phone: 0061 2 8383 4000
Fax: 0061 2 9369 1334
E-Mail: syd.vertretung@eda.admin.ch
Web: www.eda.admin.ch/australia

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- www.swiss.org.au
- www.sacci.com.au
- www.avs-ai-international.ch
- Swiss Revue Online (ad-rates / deadlines / history / downloads)
- Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
- ASO Portal Australia (Local CSA Delegates / Hot Topics)
- Actual News by swissinfo/SRI
- Swiss Clubs on the Net in Australia
- Bilateral trade and investment information
- OASI/DI and voluntary contributions (AHV)

EDITORIAL / DEADLINE

Marc Andre Godat, Regional Editor Local Pages, (07) 3899 8996, mgodat@off-ice.com.au
Next Deadline for October-2010 issue: **9 September 2010**

CSA. *No* to the Dismantling of Information Services

After the Swiss Review was reduced from 6 to 4 editions in 2009, the federal government announced on 25 February 2010 that it intends to discontinue its financial contribution to swissinfo as part of its budget program for 2011-2013. This would almost certainly mean that without the government subsidy, the Swiss Broadcasting Cooperation would also withdraw its financial support immediately, which would spell the certain end of the multimedia news and information platform swissinfo. Jacques-Simon Eggly posed the question which communication strategy Switzerland is perusing with regards to openness to the world and its connection to Swiss citizens world-wide: "It cannot be that our country is withdrawing from the rest of the world" he said, and adding: "The axing of swissinfo must be averted. It is in the hands of the parliament to prevent this from happening. The proposed budget program cannot be adopted if the members of the federal councils refuse to change the Radio and Telecommunication law." He appealed to the councillors to say 'no' to these budget cuts and reminded them of the government's obligation to serve as an information service provider to the Swiss Abroad. After the closure of Swiss Radio International, swissinfo remains the only world-wide media showcasing Switzerland in all national languages as well as the major world languages. swissinfo is Switzerland's virtual window to the world and provides an essential information service to Swiss Abroad.

We appreciate very much the support we have received from members of the local Swiss community in our campaign to save swissinfo! The CSA has two demands: a return to 6 Swiss Review editions per year from 2011, and maintaining federal funding for swissinfo.

Roland Isler, CSA Delegate

Nationwide

Swiss-Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Suite 303, 46 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Tel. 02 9262 1511 / Fax: 02 9290 1928
admin@sacci.com.au
www.sacci.com.au

SACCI EVENTS

11/8 UBS Luncheon, Sydney
26/8 European Luncheon, Sydney
21/9 Cocktail Function, Sydney
18/10 SACCI Swiss Ambassador Cup
(corporate golfday), Melbourne

We now share our offices with Switzerland Tourism and Rail Europe. Please feel free to visit us at our new "Swiss Business Hub"!

Marcel Svatos,
SACCI General Manager

SAAN

Swiss Australian Academic Network
info@sanm.id.au
www.saan.id.au

SBS Radio (on air in NSW/VIC/ACT)

Ursula Schaeppi, Senior Producer
Tel: (02) 9430-2824
Email: ursula.schappi@sbs.com.au
www.sbs.com.au/radio

Tune into the Swiss-german program "Echo Helvetia" on Sundays 8:30-9pm

Melbourne: 93.1FM / Sydney: 97.7FM
or digitally (DAB+) on SBS-2 in Perth,
Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney & Brisbane

Victoria

VICTORIA EVENTS

1/9 Ladies Luncheon
2/9 Kapelle Gruzei Mitenand, Club
4/9 Jass Finals, Club



OSA taking part at the Swiss Festival



Opening of the second floor, Swiss Club of Victoria

Editor's Note. Swiss Review - Stats and Facts

Back in May, the ASO conducted a survey and asked 2850 recipients how they would prefer to receive the Swiss Review in the future, either in print or electronically. Interestingly, they got over 1130 responses (which is quite high for such a survey) and 70% still prefer the print version. It also seems that the print version is read more thoroughly as 79% of the recipients read the whole Review from A-Z in comparison to only 46% receiving the email copy. Also, the return to 6 issues per year had the most votes. (Source: ASO May 2010)

This clearly shows that there is a strong demand for print media such as ours. Unfortunately, about 30% of all participants in this survey complained that they had problems with the timely delivery, mostly caused by a change of address. Therefore, make sure that you are registered properly with the Consulate. If you have missed an edition, you can also download the most recent issues on the revue website.

In regards to the contents of our own 4 regional pages, I have planned to change the format a bit. It has been voiced to me now on several occasions that some of the reports contain very localized information which are not that interesting to other readers residing in other states; also most clubs now have a website which members can read reports of their past events in full. What I plan to focus on from now is still to provide basic contact details as before but shorten the club reports and publish more stories and CSA activities. Of course, if you have any good ideas or like to contribute an article please let me know. At the end it's your publication and I want You to be one of the «99%» which reads the Regional Pages from A-Z.

Marc Godat, CSA Delegate & Swiss Review Editor

forward to seeing you at the club in the heart of Melbourne.

Ladies Luncheon

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

Bookings essential with the Swiss Club.

The Swiss Companion Singers

Convenor: Heidi Giger
107 Glyndon Road
Camberwell Vic 3124
Tel: (03) 9889 9321, or
Herbert Schwaerzler (03) 9561 7811

Practices at the Club every second and third Thursday of the month.

Young Swiss Group

Convenor: Amy Bohren
abohren@swiss.org.au
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/
YoungSwissMelbourne/

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

With the Swiss Yodelling Festival in Interlaken less than one year away, practicing our competition song has become a priority, but we are also keeping up with a good repertoire for other performances, like the recent evening of Swiss songs and music at the Strathdon Nursing Home in Forest Hill, and our traditional participation

at the forthcoming 18th Swiss Italian Fiesta in Hepburn Springs (16/17 October).

We are still looking for new choir members - why not join us at one of our enjoyable Wednesday evening practice sessions at Marco's place.

Erwin Weinmann

Swiss Folk Dance Group

Alpenrose

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

The Dance Group was delighted to welcome special visitors from Switzerland, Rosmarie and Viktor Schilter. Rosmarie is the regional leader of the Swiss folklore and costume commission of the eastern part of Switzerland. The Schilters gave up a day of their holidays to teach us new Swiss Folk dances. The Group embraced the opportunity to learn new dances.

The Unterhaltungsabend was a fun night. Kappelle Gruezi mieten and entertained the guests with popular tunes and sing-alongs. We were privileged to have live music for our performance. I would like to say 'thank you' to Consul General Mr. Meli and his family for being part of the evening.

To everyone, many thanks for taking part in making the night a big success. A big 'thank you' to the Swiss Club and Roger for their continued support. We look forward to performing at the Swiss/Italian Fiesta in Hepburn Springs.

Silvia Hochuli

Trachtengruppe Schwyzergruess / Australian Swiss Cultural Soc. (contact same as Alpenrose)

We would like to extend an invitation to all our Senior Citizens (over sixties) to a wonderful afternoon of coffee, cakes and a chat, "Kaffeeklatsch", at the Swiss Club. Sunday, 12 Sep, 2 pm.

There is no charge for this cosy afternoon, however our Group is thankful for any donations.

Please reserve a place by ringing or leaving a message with Marlies Krumenacher (bus: 9578 5049, home 9503 9921) or Rosmarie Oswald (9583 9048). RSVP no later than Monday, Sep 6.

Groupe Romand Du Victoria

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

Pro Ticino - Pro Down Under

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

Saturday Morning Swiss School

Convenor: Andrea Pinch
Tel: (03) 5331 6762
pinch@hotkey.net.au
www.swiss.org.au/scvsschool

Swiss Playgroup

Ingrid Preston (03) 9772 0516
Chantal Imbach (03) 8407 3766
www.swiss.org.au/scvplaygrp

Meets 1st Thursday of each month from 11am-2pm at the Swiss Club.

South Australia

Swiss Club of South Australia

64 Castle Street
Parkside SA 5063
President: Bruno Zueger
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubsa

The Swiss Club meets on the first Friday of the month at the Austrian Club in Ovingham for dinner, socialising and getting together with other Swiss people.

The Fondue evening is our "premier" event on the Swiss Club Calendar and this year was no exception. It was an evening filled with entertainment, music, and dance but of course and most importantly, with a delicious fondue produced by our own "Master chef" Martin and his helpers. Just shy of one hundred people arrived to a welcome drink at 7pm and after some "hoi wie gaht's" or "ha di scho lang nueme gesh". The evening started to roll on and between the food, old and young had a go at tossing a coin at a Kirsch bottle, danced to the Austrian music performed by the 'Jaegermeister band' or took their chance at winning one of the beautiful raffle prizes on offer.

In conjunction with the monthly get together at the Austrian Club, we have launched a "Freitag's Jass" following the meal at the Austrian Club. It starts from 7pm. For all who like to play Jass or like to play cards and would like to come, play or learn, you are most welcome to join us there on Friday.

On the 17th of September 2010 we will have our Annual General Meeting, and on the 10th of October 2010 we are planning to go to the Adelaide Zoo with a guided tour by Werner zur Eich (animal expert and zoo keeper).

Bruno Zueger, President

SA EVENTS

17/9 AGM, Austrian Club

10/10 Visit to Adelaide Zoo

Regular Events:

"Hockete", first Friday of the month at the Austrian Association at 11 - 17 Torrens Road, Ovingham from 6.30 pm.

"Schwyzer Frauechraenzli", first Monday of the month. Call Rosmarie Copeland on (08) 8336 5932 for details.

Radio 5EBI - Swiss Corner
"Swiss Corner" every Saturday 6-7 pm on 103.1FM. Phone-ins on (08) 8211 7066.

Western Australia

Swiss Club of Western Australia

Correspondence to: PO Box 411
Northbridge WA 6865
President: Helene Ostrini
Tel: (08) 9259 1699
swissclubwa@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubwa

NEW Swiss Radio Perth, every Tuesday 7-8pm (4th Tuesday of the month in French) on 95.3MHz, or on www.6eba.com.au.
Studio / Presenter: (08) 9227 5953, General Info, James Kunz: 0414 421132.

The Guggeburras, only "Guggemusig" in Australia, practice is every Tuesday.

Contact Jennifer Leutenegger on (08) 9277 7826 or send an e-mail to guggeburras@swiss.org.au

Play Group, meets every first Friday of the month. For more information ring Alexandra Schaub on 08 94032241.

The Swiss Club Down South

Correspondence to:
Mrs Nicole May, 276 Holbenroad
Cowaramup WA 6284
Tel: (08) 9755 5297
mayfamily@westnet.com

Northern Territory

Swiss Social Club Darwin

PO Box 241, Nightcliff NT 0814
President: Alois Kissling
Tel: (08) 8927 5794
Mobile: 0438 060 515
swissclubdarwin@hotmail.com

ACT

Canberra Swiss Club Inc.

Correspondence to:
The Secretary, PO Box 3211
Manuka ACT 2603
Tel: (02) 6246 5722
President: Heinz Buettkofer
email: heinz@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/canberraclub

Dear members and friends,

Again, our beautiful Canberra weather this year didn't let us down. It was just in time for our annual event, when it turned cold for the fondue night. Over 120 members and guests turned up to enjoy this traditional and delicious dinner, prepared as it has been for many years by our chef, Alois. Thank you.

As previously announced, we are planning a whale watching cruise at Jervis Bay in October. This is a special full day outing, partially subsidised by the club, it will be a great opportunity for young and old to see something different. More details on this including a booking form were sent to you in the July newsletter. If you have not made your booking yet, there is still time as long as we receive your payment by 31st of August.

CANBERRA EVENTS

Sept possible Bowling night (tbc)

17/10 Jass Tournament Round 3

Oct (tba) Whale watching, Jervis Bay

Jass evenings are in full swing and are held every second Wednesday.

Canberra Swiss Club Choir is singing traditional songs in our national languages. Rehearsals are held at the Harmonie German Club from 6pm to 7:30pm on the last Tuesday of every month. Contact Regula Neilson, at r.neilson@netspeed.com.au.

Canberra Ethnic Radio FM91.1, Gabi & Werner broadcasts a Swiss program every Monday night from 5-7pm.

We are always pleased to see new faces and welcome anybody wishing to participate.

Heinz Büttikofer

New South Wales

NSW EVENTS

13/8	Get-together, Austrian Club
19/8	Fyrabig drinks
22/8	AGM / Fondue Vigneronne (Cercle Romand)
29/8	Bushwalk
2/9	Soirée Pub, Chatwood (C.Romand)
6/9	Committee Meeting / Socialising
7/9	Entrepreneurs Lunch
12/9	Bushwalk
16/9	Fyrabig Drinks
18-19/9	Car Rally
24/9	Swiss Play Group
6/10	Entrepreneurs Lunch
7/10	Soirée Pub, Drummoyne (C.Rom.)
10/10	Tournoi de Pétanque & pique-nique, Gladesville (C.Romand)
11/10	Committee Meeting / Socialising
16/10	Seniors Luncheon
16/10	Film Night
21/10	Fyrabig Drinks
	(all events organized by the Swiss Club except where otherwise stated)

Swiss Australian Cultural Association Inc. (SACA)

27 Burra Road, Artarmon NSW 2064
President: Bronwen Kretz
Tel: (02) 9419 7277
akretz@bigpond.net.au
www.swiss.org.au/saca

Following on from the third successful Swiss/Oz Art Expo held at the Bondi Pavilion Gallery, Bondi Beach, SACA invites Swiss/Oz - Oz/Swiss artists to register with it so that information can be readily forwarded to artists advising them of any future exhibitions SACA may hold. Such a registry would enable greater lead time, thereby giving artists time to create new works. The exhibition attracted submissions from artists in WA, SA, TAS, VIC, QLD as well as NSW. The committee's thanks go to the artists for making this event happen!

I would like to acknowledge the late Paul Frischknecht's contribution to SACA and to the arts in general. As an architect, art was in his blood. He dedicated much of his life to enabling others to experience visual art and classical music as well as being passionate about Australian bushland.

Our next function will be a soiree to be held on Friday, 5 November 2010 at the Goethe-Institut, Woollahra NSW.

Bronwen Kretz

Swiss Entrepreneurs

info@swissentrepreneurs.com.au
www.swissentrepreneurs.com.au

The Swiss Club of NSW Ltd.

GPO Box 3713, Sydney NSW 2001
President: Noemi Guyer
Tel: (02) 9905 5500 / 0416 160 919
Fax: (02) 9905 5700
swissclubnsw@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubnsw

The Swiss Club meets every first Monday of the month at Il Bolognese in Gladesville for an evening of socialising

