

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 41 (2014)
Heft: 2

Anhang: Switzerland in the UK & Ireland

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Switzerland in the UK & Ireland

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exchange
workplaces

2 Swiss
happy
campers

8 20 years at
the helm
for City boss

Top Story

SWISS APPRENTICES SHINE IN IRELAND

For 10 young apprentices from the Swiss Canton of Vaud, the 14th of March was not exactly a normal "day at the office". Instead of learning to operate machines or to network IT systems in their home Canton, they found themselves at Northern Ireland's Department for Employment and Learning in Belfast, where its Permanent Secretary, Mr Derek Baker, hosted a reception in their honour.

The young learners are the first installment of a partnership programme

between the Further Education sectors of Northern Ireland and Switzerland. As part of their Swiss apprenticeship, they are spending five months in a firm in Belfast, Newry or Derry/Londonderry on an international work experience.

The Permanent Secretary said: "This project shows how education can forge alliances across borders and bring different cultures together through the common language of learning. The education and training we provide for our young people must

be of a high quality and appropriate to meet the needs of today's labour market, and part of those needs is to develop the awareness in learners that being adaptable to the increasingly globalised labour market will pay off in the long run."

“
Education can
forge alliances
across borders

When I asked some of the Swiss apprentices during the reception why they had wanted to do a work placement in the UK, they cited both the valuable experience of working and learning in a very different environment and of course the opportunity to perfect their English. Given that they had only arrived six weeks earlier, on 27th January, they

seemed remarkably relaxed and adapted to their new environment.

I wondered whether there had been any problems with getting used to their new workplaces, colleagues or the lifestyle in Northern Ireland? "Not really" was the unanimous answer, "...apart from the first couple of weeks where we had to get used to the Northern Irish way of speaking English!"

The placement of this group was the result of hard work by the Vocational College of North Vaud (CPNV) and its partner organisations in Northern Ireland. During the reception, it became clear that all parties would like to see this established as a regular programme and complemented by a placement of Northern Irish apprentices in Switzerland. First plans about a visit to Switzerland this autumn are under discussion.

Lutz-Peter Berg
Science & Technology Attaché,
Swiss Embassy London



Swiss apprentices with their Irish and Swiss representatives

Education

Further Education in the UK or Switzerland

Your child has successfully completed her education in the UK. What next? Should she continue her education there or apply for education courses in Switzerland. This is a challenge being faced by an increasing number of Swiss families living abroad. For this reason, FOSSUK would like to invite you to a special information evening about further education opportunities in Switzerland. The event, which will be jointly organised by the New Helvetic Society, the City Swiss Club and the Unione Ticinese will take place at the Swiss Embassy on 15th May 2014 at 18.30. Entrance is free.

A panel of four, under the guidance of Dr Lutz Berg, head of Science, Technology and Higher Education at the Embassy, will present the full range of educational opportunities in Switzerland. This will include

vocational training and apprenticeships, as well as academic studies at Swiss universities. Fiona Scheidegger, co-director of "educationsuisse", former AJAS, comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the field. Philipp Gutzwiller from the 'business world' will be present to discuss job opportunities and career prospects for those who have already secured a qualification or graduate degree.

The fourth member on the panel is Anders Hagstroem, Director of Global Educational Affairs of ETH Zurich. Switzerland is known for having one of the lowest youth unemployment rates in all of Europe and it is this diverse educational infrastructure that makes it possible. A Q&A session will follow the panel discussion. The evening will conclude with a reception and further opportunities to put questions to panelists.

Further details and
an application form
can be found on the
FOSSUK website.

As with all events
at the Embassy
it is essential to
register.

www.swiss-societies.co.uk



Editorial

Dear Readers,



I am very pleased to begin and end this issue with stories from Ireland. With the help of the Embassy in London, we hear first-hand about an innovative training programme designed to bring Swiss and Northern Irish apprentices together. Culturally, thanks goes to the Embassy in Dublin for keeping us informed about the involvement of Swiss artists in the Republic's vibrant arts scene.

With this being our early spring issue, we've thrown in a delicious sounding Easter recipe for the whole family to enjoy. Young Swiss abroad can read about exciting opportunities to get to know their 'other' home country better, while club members and would-be presidents can take advice from a chairman who presided over his club for twenty years.

Andrew Littlejohn

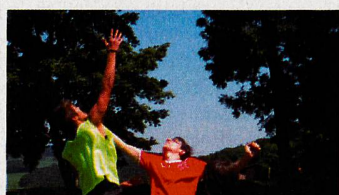
Travel

SWISS STUDENT ADVENTURES

The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad gives the opportunity to young Swiss living abroad to get to know their home country. Over the years it has become clear that an adventure holiday or a language course forges friendships and strengthens young people's ties with Switzerland.

The following diary accounts give an impression of what young Swiss expats got up to last year on their adventure holiday in Prêles, in the French-speaking Bernese Jura.

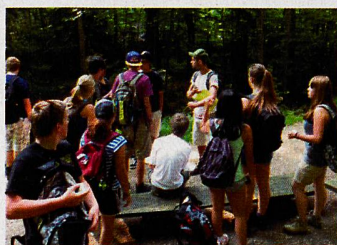
Prêles Day 1: The campers started morning activities with the Sports Olympics. Later, in the afternoon, the teams played several athletic games. There were two baseball variations—one with five bases, and one with a Frisbee. The other games included an egg drop and a game called "Team Header Ball."



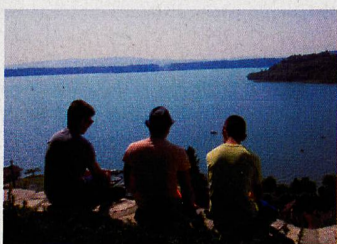
Prêles Day 2: Today was the first day with our main activity groups. After a jump-style warm up, we split up into our different teams: ball sport I, II and III, mountain sport I and II, biking, and communications.



Prêles Day 3: Campers had loads of activities to do; going to a cave, trekking to Mt. Vully, walking to the island St. Peters Insel and cycling!



Prêles Day 4: In the morning, the weather was iffy, but it quickly cleared up by noon. Groups either spent the day relaxing and swimming by Lake Bieler, playing different ball games, or doing rope courses, bungee swings and freefalls in the forest. Despite the hot weather, the cyclists rode over hills and through a forest. They then settled down to eat on top of a hill.



Prêles Day 5: Today was another hiking day. We chose which activity we wanted to do after hiking: water sports, ball sports, or relaxing. At the lake, the water sports group enjoyed the beautiful weather, but later in the afternoon, the wind started to pick up. The relaxing group spent their free time in Biel.

The New OSA Youth Offers
For more information and registration of this year's Youth Offers go to www.aso.ch

What about you?

Enjoy the summer in Switzerland with the new offers of the OSA


Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
www.aso.ch
www.swisscommunity.org



Swiss Church

Easter Vigil 19/20 April 2014

The Swiss Church, together with a group of volunteers, is planning an overnight Easter vigil for the first time this year. The event opens with a performance of Bach's St John Passion on Saturday evening. For 16 hours, from Saturday night until the traditional Easter service on Sunday morning, we will be at the church praying, being silent, sharing food, singing, reading and lighting the Easter fire in the early morning hours. We will experience Easter in a completely new way. Everyone is welcome to join the whole event or to drop in and out for parts of it. This unforgettable overnight experience in our beautiful church will be a unique event for us as a community. A more detailed programme of events will be published on our website. www.swisschurchlondon.org.uk



Christian Women (EFECW), the Swiss Church will run a Pop Up Monastery Day on the 10th May where you will be given the opportunity to join in with a contemplative rhythm of prayer, readings, silence and hymns. The day will be organised in cooperation with the UK branch of the EFECW. Men and women are equally invited. There will be a prayer room for women only in the Gallery.

Monastic Day 10 May 2014

Inspired by the idea of the 'Pop Up Monastery 2015' organised by the Ecumenical Forum of European



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Swiss societies

MANCHESTER TO HOST FOSSUK'S AGM 2014

Dear Friends,

"I am looking forward to a great weekend", these were the words of Jürg Bentele, President of the Swiss Club, Manchester.

Yes, the Swiss Club Manchester is hosting this year's FOSSUK Annual Meeting on the weekend of the 7th & 8th June. As in previous years, an AGM away from London promises to be most enjoyable.

“

**Swiss Club
Manchester
has been busy
preparing
an attractive
programme**

Whilst the FOSSUK committee is responsible for the official part of the meeting, the Swiss Club Manchester has been busy preparing an attractive programme – not an easy task, taking into account all that is on offer in this culturally vibrant city and the limited time available. We hope this "Taste of Manchester" will leave you feeling satisfied and enriched.

The chosen accommodation for the event is the Marriott Victoria and Albert Hotel, a tastefully converted old warehouse. The AGM will also be held at the hotel, as well as dinner on Saturday evening. As is customary, there will be an informal meal for those arriving on Friday evening.

Saturday morning begins with a guided tour of the splendid Town

Hall – a cultural treat before the AGM in the afternoon. Ambassador Dominik Furgler has kindly sponsored a "vin d'honneur" prior to Saturday's dinner. With all the work behind us, a guided city coach tour on Sunday will give us the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the sights and sounds of Manchester before our return journey.

We look forward to welcoming you at the FOSSUK AGM 2014 and trust that you will make Jürg Bentele's wish come true: "It would be fantastic if many of you could attend at least some of the events!"

Margrit Lyster, President
president@swiss-societies.co.uk

Booking details:

Please use the special booking link for room reservations at the Marriott Victoria and Albert. Early booking is advisable as weekends in June are much favoured for weddings. The room rates are: £120 for a double and £110 for a single, breakfast is included. The very last booking date is 9th May 2014. Book under the group rate: *Federation Swiss Society AGM*

For more information about alternative hotels please go to the FOSSUK website.
www.swiss-societies.co.uk



AGM 2014 – Manchester

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that I have to inform the Friends of the Swiss Societies and Swiss Church in London of the death of our dear Nelly Burri who passed away Saturday, 15th of March, at the age of 99. Nelly had been a longstanding member of La Causerie and was also actively involved with the Swiss Benevolent Society and the Swiss Church. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to her daughters and family.

Lisa Hall-Zeller, La Causerie



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom

Embassy sets up 'entry camp' for Swiss innovators in UK

Switzerland is internationally renowned as a centre for innovation in business areas as diverse as biotech/pharma, ICT and creative industries. As the UK has the largest industries in Europe in these sectors, it offers many opportunities for savvy Swiss start-ups looking to broaden their market access. For this reason, the Embassy (in collaboration with the Swiss innovation agency CTI) is setting up a "CTI Market Entry Camp UK" to help Swiss start-ups engage with UK-based high tech markets and stakeholders in 2014. The idea is to develop a platform for two-way interaction: both a launch-pad for Swiss start-ups, and a way for UK companies to identify new Swiss innovative technologies.

www.kti.admin.ch/startup

Regional Consular Centre London

Are you a Swiss resident in Ireland?

The Regional Consular Centre in London is your point of contact for **all** consular matters such as travel documents, births, marriage and death certificates, change of address, etc.

Are your Swiss travel documents valid?

Please book your appointment for a new passport and/or ID card in good time, and ensure you arrive punctually. Let us know in advance if you need to cancel the appointment.

www.eda.admin.ch/rcclondon
rcclondon@eda.admin.ch

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Benevolent
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who need financial or social support.
Because charity begins at home.**

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BENEVOLENT
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London WC2H 9DY**

Tel: +44 (0)20 7836 9119

Email: info@swissbenevolent.org.uk

Website: www.swissbenevolent.org.uk

Swiss Clubs

TICINESE MARK 140 YEARS IN LONDON

The 140th year of Unione Ticinese's history was duly celebrated on Saturday 8th of February 2014, the very day of its foundation in 1874.

The Grand Hall at the Swiss Embassy was full to capacity. Over 85 members and friends of Unione Ticinese were welcomed to the melodic sound of folk music, courtesy of accordionist Claudio Sartore and vocalist Luca Turlon, both from Blenio.

Some members travelled from Switzerland, including former UT-president Valeria Ossola from Lugano. Presi-

dents from London-based societies were also present.

The speech by Giampiero Gianella, Cancelliere dello Stato e Repubblica del Canton Ticino was as polished as always and reminded the audience that the Unione is the oldest association of Ticinesi not only in Switzerland, but worldwide. Paolo Beltraminelli, Presidente del Consiglio di Stato followed in his enthusiastic appreciation for our sense of belonging to Ticino and all that the Cantonal authorities stand for.

President of Pro Ticino Centrale, Giordano Elmer, originally from Losone, praised the personal and sustained contribution our Society is giving to the umbrella organisation and pleaded that the Committee should take all opportunities to defend the Italian language, despite the overpowering need in Switzerland to learn English at the cost of Italian.

The evening ended as it began with our two musicians from Blenio, Claudio and Luca, treating us to their rich repertoire of Ticinese folk songs.

In short a memorable day, which had started earlier that morning with Stella Eusebio's fascinating guided tour on a combined river, cable car, DLR trip across London. Peter Barber then enlightened the group with an erudite account of the history of the Unione.

Let me conclude by expressing my warmest thanks to all who contributed to the success of the 140th Event.

Ewiva l' Unione Ticinese;
Ewiva la Pro Ticino.

Joe Broggini

“
The Committee
should take all
opportunities to
defend the
Italian language



Joe Bröggini receiving his Socio Benemerito of Unione Ticinese

90th anniversary celebrations

La Causerie

La Causerie, or La Couture, l'ouvrier de l'Eglise suisse as it was originally called, was founded in 1924 by Swiss French ladies as a sewing club to make up garments which could be distributed to the needy.

Over the years, this French speaking club has become a meeting place for Swiss ladies. La Causerie now numbers over 35 paid-up members and meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month at the Swiss Church in Endell Street for lunch. Our program includes outings, concerts, visits to museums and parks and meals in restaurants.

Lisa, Françoise, Geneviève
and Jacqueline



Outing to Greenwich

The Frauenverein

The Frauenverein meets every first Tuesday of the month at the Swiss Church for tea and coffee and sandwiches. Our program consists of talks, flower arrangements, films, summer outings and concerts. Like La Causerie, the Frauenverein started out with sewing and knitting a variety of useful items for the Swiss Benevolent Society and making up Christmas parcels for those less fortunate in the community.

Our main purpose in coming together monthly is to exchange views be it about Switzerland or our adopted country, but mainly to be among our compatriots.

Maria, Ruth and Helen



Outing to Eltham Palace

CHFUK Swiss Cultural Events in the UK

29 – 30 April 2014, 7.30 pm

ALIAS

SIDEWAYS RAIN

Alias is an award-winning contemporary dance company based in Geneva led by choreographer and director Guilherme Botelho. Since its creation, Alias has produced more than 20 new works worldwide. 20th anniversary year – only UK dates!

Venue: Hippodrome, Birmingham B5 4TB

17 and 18 May 2014

THOMAS HAUERT

ENHANCED DANCE TO DISGUISED MUSIC

This weird and witty dance that stretches the limits of movement and unleashes the imagination is award-winning choreographer Thomas Hauert's first piece for a younger audience. UK première at Brighton Festival.

Venue: The Old Market, Brighton BN3 1AS

Supported by: Pro Helvetia

1 – 31 May 2014

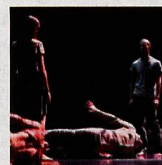
FRIEDRICH GLAUSER / HANNES BINDER

CREAKING SOLES – AN EXHIBITED SHORT STORY

In a small exhibition, a short story by Swiss novelist Friedrich Glauser (1896 – 1938), pioneer of modern crime writing, with illustrations by the renowned artist Hannes Binder, is brought to life beyond the pages of a book.

Venue: Goethe Institut, London SW7 2PH

Supported by: Presence Switzerland, Swiss Embassy



Miscellaneous

CLUBS AND CULTURE · CLUBS AND CULTURE · CLUBS

Dates for the diary

Midlands Swiss Society

Friday 2nd May: AGM followed by a traditional Swiss fondue evening using Vacherin Fribourgeois and Gruyere cheeses. 7pm start.

Saturday 17th May: Evening meal in Birmingham followed by a concert of English Choral Classics with the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and the Birmingham Choir.

Friday 13th June: Visit to the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas with a walk for those who wish and an evening meal on return.

Please feel free to contact the Chairman, Graham Baker on 02476411736 or e-mail bakerperrin@gmail.com Members and non members welcome.

Southern Area Swiss Club

Friday 9th May: 7pm for 7.30pm – **Skittles and Supper**
Location: Jolly Farmer, Blacknest, Alton, GU34 4QD

Saturday 2nd August: 5pm for 5.30pm – **1st August Celebration**
Location: Darby Green Centre, Yateley

Swiss Club Manchester

Friday 4th April: AGM in Prestbury

Sunday 18th May: Malbummel in New Brighton

The weekend 6th/7th/8th June: FOSSUK AGM in Manchester

Sunday 13th July: Manchester Ship Canal Cruise

Yorkshire Swiss Club

A well-attended Club AGM took place in Bradford in March. Various activities are planned for the future and we look forward to welcoming members

and non-members to our Fondue and Entertainment event on August 2nd. For more Information please phone 01347 848 473.

Swiss Club Manchester

Our annual Raclette Party in March at the Brookdale, Bramhall was a big success. Over 70 members and friends came along to the event, plus 2 new couples who had recently moved to Manchester.

Special thanks go to those who kept the 3 raclette ovens working flat out to feed everyone.

Swiss Club Edinburgh

Swiss Club Edinburgh celebrated its 54th Annual Dinner in January at the Balmoral Hotel.

The evening started with Mauleur Champagne followed by a wonderful dinner served in the most exquisite surroundings with amazing views of Edinburgh. The evening ended with the customary lengthy goodbyes.

New Helvetic Society

Well over 70 people enjoyed listening to 'Dana Gillespie sings the Blues' in November last year.

With Dino Baptiste on keyboard and Jake Zeitz on guitar, Dana treated

her enthusiastic audience to a mix of classic blues covers and her own great originals, which were so good it was hard to tell them apart. This was fantastic authentic Blues from one of Europe's finest exponents.



© Daniel Pedroletti

Young Swiss and German musicians perform in Cardiff

The 6th Mansion House concert took place in Cardiff in February. The aim of these classical music events is to provide a platform in Wales for talented young Swiss, German and Austrian musicians.

Representing Switzerland this year was horn player Florian Hunziker from Thalwil. The young musician is currently in his second year as a postgraduate at the Royal Welsh College of Music in Cardiff. Florian skilfully presented six fantasia pieces

for horn and piano, Op. 6 (1850) by the Swiss composer Johann Carl Eschenbach (1826 – 1882). He was aptly accompanied on the piano by the young German pianist Immanuel Voigt and the German oboist Katharina Fritzsche.

The event would not be possible every year without the excellent collaboration of the two Honorary Consulates in Cardiff, Switzerland and Germany, and their two corresponding societies.



Literature

THE ART OF THE TRANSLATOR

In 2011, Dalkey Archive Press began its Swiss Literature Series, which makes available major works of Swiss literature in English translation. The number of titles in the series is constantly growing and *The Alp*, the first novel in Arno Camenisch's celebrated "alpine" trilogy, was added to that list in April this year.

The novel was translated by Donal McLaughlin, a specialist in translating

Swiss literature and a highly-regarded ambassador for translated fiction. Donal is also a successful author, published by Dalkey.

Swiss Review caught up with the Irish translator in Saxony, Germany where – with author Monica Centieni – he was taking part in a Swiss-funded project "In other words" (In anderen Worten) as part of the Leipzig Book Fair, which introduced young people to authors and their translators.

Swiss Review: Is your specialism in translating Swiss literature self-chosen and influenced by your own reading preferences? If not, how did such a skill come about?

Donal McLaughlin: Various factors – or steps along the way. Frisch and Dürrenmatt were among the first writers I read at school and university. Andersch – a German who became Swiss – was the subject of my PhD. A residency in Berne and translating for the New Swiss Writing anthologies also proved crucial.

SR: What are the particular challenges of translating Swiss fiction?

DM: The so-called Helveticisms. Though dictionaries can normally help. If need be, I ask. Also while at university, I specialised in the Third Reich and the post-war period from a German point of view. Translating someone like Urs Widmer requires research on the Switzerland of the same period; the political landscape etc. The actual landscape can be challenging too.

SR: Your translated version of *The Alp* was published in April. Camenisch's handling of the lives of his four characters is described as "full of affection,

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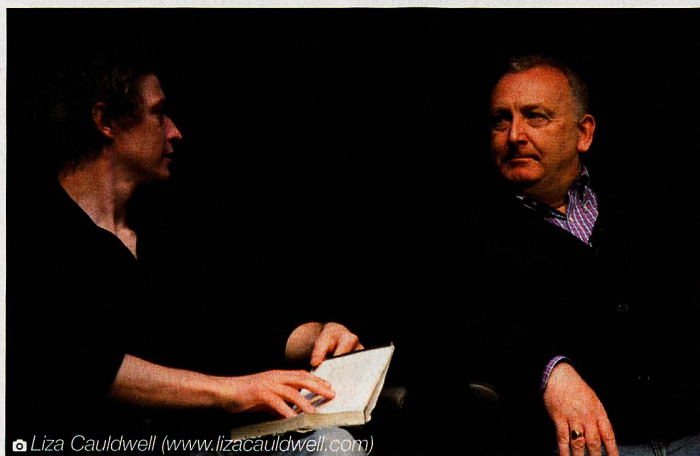
**I don't do
dead writers**

surreal humour and a brilliant ear for the sounds of the setting". How easy has it been to immerse yourself in the 'voice' of the author?

DM: 'Voice' has been an important aspect of Irish and Scottish writing for the past thirty years or so. I've grown up with that. 'Voice' is also central to my own writing. All this background made me especially keen to translate writers like Arno and Pedro Lenz.

SR: How important is close liaison with your authors in general?

DM: A number of the authors I translate are involved in the Swiss 'Spoken Word' scene – and, thankfully, like what they hear when we read together. I don't do dead writers. I'd miss the contact, the exchange, the opportunity to ask those remaining questions I've not been able to find answers to myself.



© Liza Cauldwell (www.lizacauldwell.com)



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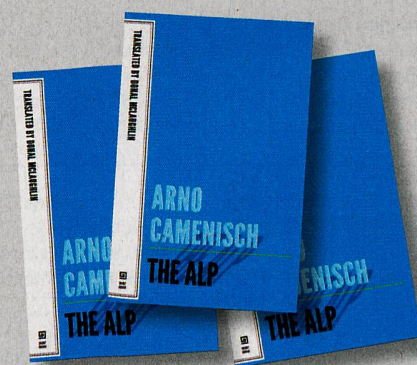
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To readers

If you would like to write a review of the newly-published English-version of "The Alp" by celebrated Swiss author Arno Camenisch for the next issue of the Swiss Review, please email:
editor@swissreview.co.uk



Dr. Louis Guenin

B.D.S., L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

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Business

BAKING UP A STORM WITH THEIR SWISS BREADS

It may be a young company, but Swiss Bread LLC prides itself on an old tradition; good quality Swiss breads and pastries. With plans for their first shop in London, managing director, Tanja Gugger, explains how a simple idea can become a reality.

André (Brogie) and I met each other at hotel management school (Belvoirpark) in Zurich. We both come from the hotel & restaurant industry and know how important good bread and pastries products are for this industry.

André worked as a chef in Brown's hotel in London and realised that most hotels were forced to bake their own bread, because of a lack of good quality bread products in and around London. This is how it all started!

We recently expanded out of London to deliver bread to the Hyatt hotel in Birmingham. On the way to Birmingham we pass Aston Villa's football ground, so we decided to contact the Executive Head Chef of the stadium. We are now the proud supplier of a Premier League football team! Staying on the football theme, we also deliver bread to Croatian International Mladen Petric who has played for Fulham and West Ham.

Our customer base, which includes top hotels, private clubs, catering services & restaurants, is continually growing. And now we are looking to open our first bakery in Richmond, south London.

*Tanja Gugger,
Managing Director, Swiss Bread LLC*



Recipe Osterchuechli

Ingredients:

Ready-rolled shortcrust pastry
3 tea cups milk
1 dash salt
½ tea cup semolina
2 eggs
2 teaspoons sugar
2 teaspoons vanilla sugar
3 dessert spoons sultanas

Preparation method:

1. Heat the milk, salt and semolina and stir to a thick mash. Let the mix cool down slightly, then add the eggs, sugar, vanilla sugar and sultanas.
2. Preheat the oven to 180°C. Roll out ready-rolled shortcrust pastry on a floured surface. Cut out round pieces with the help of a cookie cutter and press them into the baking forms. Take a fork to pierce small holes on the base of the pastry. Divide filling in the forms and bake for around 30 minutes, or until the top has turned a lovely brown colour. Sprinkle icing sugar on top before serving.



Caran d'Ache proud to sponsor the Pastel Society

The Pastel Society UK in its present form was instituted in 1898. There were seventy-seven members in those days, among them such well-known names as George Clausen RA, Solomon J. Solomon and the founder G. F. Watts RA. The Society joined the Federation of British Artists at the Mall Galleries in 1970 and this year celebrates its 115th anniversary.

The Pastel Society's Annual Show 2014, which is being sponsored by Caran d'Ache, the Swiss manufacturer of art and luxury writing instruments, will open to the public between the 10th and 21st June. The annual exhibition is held at the Mall Galleries, The Mall, London, SW1.

For more information:
www.thepastelsociety.org.uk



Artists at work at the Mall Gallery



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Meet the Presidents

HENRY ANGEST, CITY SWISS CLUB

Founded in 1856 in London, the City Swiss Club is one of the oldest Swiss clubs in the UK with a strong foundation and interesting history. Last year Henry Angest handed over chairmanship of the club after 20 years at the helm. This is the longest period anybody has ever served as president of a club. The Swiss Review sought some advice.

Swiss Review: How do you become President of a club and then stay 20 years in the job?

1 Don't aspire to it

I was a happy Vice-President of the City Swiss Club until one day the then President, Rudi Duttweiler, called me and said I had to take over as he had just been offered a new job abroad which he couldn't refuse.

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Being part of a Swiss Club is the next best thing to being in Switzerland

2 Frequently offer to retire and give way to new blood

I stayed 20 years in the job because no-one else was willing and in a position to devote the necessary time and provide the infrastructure to do a proper job.

3 Let others do the work

I was blessed with an extraordinary PA, Julie Streader, who ran the Club and I was fortunate to have a wonderful Committee who did the remaining work. As Chairman of two banks there was no way I could have done the job on my own.

4 Make friends with the Swiss Embassy

We worked very closely with the Embassy. Without their help, it is fair to say that the Club would probably have slowly withered away. I am extremely grateful to the unstinting support of every Ambassador during my time, from Messrs. Muheim, Nordmann, Spinner, and Lautenberg through to Thalmann, as well as the Embassy representative on the Club's Committee from Messrs. de Watteville, Sieber, Furgler (now the new Ambassador), and Kaufmann through to Filliez.

5 Instil financial soundness

As a banker, I was maybe more focussed on the importance of financial independence for the Club than any other person. We, therefore, made great efforts to put the Club on a sound financial basis from the early days. We made sure we generated enough income and we earned every penny before we spent it. In other words, we were very frugal, so much so that when I finally handed over the reins, we left about £75,000 in reserves. It was satisfying to hand over the presidency with the club in a healthy state.



City Swiss Club AGM & dinner at Mosimann's

6 Openness to Change

We live in a fast changing world and the City of London, in particular, has experienced a transformation over the last 20 years with the Big Bang and the most severe financial crisis since the Great Depression being the two most fundamental events. The Club had therefore to change with it, from a business club to a social club, to a networking club with social aspects. The Club has survived for over 160 years and with good management it will continue to prosper. I have every confidence in the future of the City Swiss Club.

Please note: The Club referenced their President as "Chairman" in order to distinguish him from the Hon. President, a title usually given to the Ambassador.

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Design

Marc Peter, Colin Schmid
on-IDLE Ltd, www.on-idle.com

The Swiss Review, with its 'Switzerland in the UK' supplement, is published six times a year (four with the UK supplement) in February, April, June, August, October, December. The deadline for the next UK issue is **14th May**. Date of publication: 11th June

Swiss perform at Irish Arts Festivals

23 May 2014

Dublin Writers Festival 2014 welcomes young Swiss/Liechtenstein writer, Patrick Boltshauser.

The Austrian Embassy, Goethe-Institut and the Swiss Embassy in Dublin have come together to organize a joint reading of young German-speaking authors.

The title of the event: New Writing in German: Contemporary authors from Austria, Germany and Switzerland. The three writers are Steffan Popp (Germany), Eva Menasse (Austria) and Patrick Boltshauser (Switzerland). The 9-day festival runs from 17th – 25th May.

www.dublinwritersfestival.com



Patrick Boltshauser

9 – 11 May 2014

Now in its fourth year, the much anticipated Barrow River Arts Festival (Co Carlow) is curated by Swiss musicians Maya Homburger (violin) and Barry Guy (bass).

The weekend event is famous for the mix of baroque, new music, poetry, theatre and art.

The visiting artists attending this year from Switzerland: Thomas Demenga (cello), Lucas Niggli (percussion), Anton Kernjak (piano).

Works by Swiss composers include the première of Barry Guy's "Rondo for Nine Birds".

www.barrowartsfestival.com