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# REGIONAL EDITION

## OCEANIA

### Editorial

A warm welcome goes to our new Readers outside of Australia. Starting with this issue, our Regional News is now called "Oceania" and covers New Zealand and the Islands.

Please let me know if we have missed you, your group, or your organization on the last page. I am looking forward to publish your story next time..



MARC GODAT, REGIONAL EDITOR «OCEANIA»

### Embassy: Position of Honorary Consul Melbourne, as of Nov.2015

The Embassy of Switzerland in Canberra is seeking qualified candidates interested in taking over the position of "Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Melbourne". Your functions will be:

- Represent and promote the image of Switzerland.
  - Maintain ties with local authorities and the business community, as well as scientific and cultural circles.
  - Inform the Embassy and the Consulate General of business opportunities, of interesting projects and promote Switzerland at events.
  - Provide information to people.
  - Help in organizing official visits.
  - Promote solidarity within the Swiss community and its ties with Switzerland.
  - In agreement with the Consulate General, assist Swiss citizens in need.
- Profile:** You are a Swiss national with

close links to Switzerland. Your professional activity is compatible with the mandate of an Honorary Consul. You have an established network in the fields of business, politics, science and culture as well as good contacts with local authorities and the Swiss community. You speak at least one Swiss national language fluently and you are interested in taking on the position for a minimum of four years. You are able to provide free of charge the infrastructure (office space, telephone/fax/internet access, administrative services) in order to carry out your official duties. An allowance will be paid to cover expenses in connection with the mandate.

Interested? Please send your application, curriculum vitae and a letter of motivation to the Embassy.

**Deadline to apply: 31 Mar 2015**

See: [www.eda.admin.ch/countries/australia/en/home/news/open-job-vacancies.html](http://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/australia/en/home/news/open-job-vacancies.html)

"Pulling on the same rope together"  
Swiss Community PNG



### PNG: Swiss Community Papua New Guinea

As the "little brother" in the North, it is our pleasure to join the first edition of Swiss Revue Oceania.

In future articles and portraits, you will realize, how unique our Swiss community is. It is togetherness we want to promote in the land of diversity.

JOHN ALT, SWISS COMMUNITY PNG

### New Zealand: Club Portraits

In this first Oceania Edition, our feature articles are short introductions about the Swiss Clubs of New Zealand; so make sure you visit them if you are over there...

#### Taranaki Swiss Club

The Taranaki Swiss Social Club Inc. was formed in 1952 to conserve, promote and advance the cultural standard of citizens of Swiss blood living within New Zealand. In 1981 our Club house in Kaponga was officially opened and we are thankful that our members had the foresight and determination to build such a beautiful hall.

Our 300+ members enjoy a variety of activities including shooting, keglen, jassen, fondue evening, pork and sauerkraut evening, National Day celebration and our very popular annual picnic. (held on February 8 this year).

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## Hamilton Swiss Club

The Hamilton Swiss Club was founded in 1956 and still continues to flourish with a wide and varied membership consisting of families who live in towns, cities or on farms. Our total membership being about 140 families - some are very recent immigrants with young children and some have lived here for 50 years and more and are now in their eighties or nineties.

Our committee consists of 10 very dedicated workers and each year we endeavour to put on a variety of functions. In February we hold our 50 metre medal shooting competition and our annual picnic, which is our biggest function, expecting about 300 people. There are many more functions throughout the year which we will inform about in due time.

## Wellington Swiss Club

Many Swiss tradespeople came to Wellington in the middle of the 20th century. Some knew each other from Switzerland, some had met on the ship that brought them here. It was a six weeks journey to get there. In 1957 they founded the Wellington Swiss Club. In 2000 we acquired the clubhouse in Wainuiomata, a valley close to Wellington.

Since then, second and third generation descendants have joined the club. We also have many young families, often composed of a Swiss parent



Samichlaus function in New Zealand

who arrived in New Zealand in the last 10 years, a Kiwi spouse, and Swiss-Kiwi children.

Our members have done some great maintenance work on the clubhouse, and even built a bowling alley, so that we can practice to compete in the NZ Swiss Society annual Cowbell competition

## Auckland Swiss Club

We are 150 family- and individual members in the club. We are a healthy mix of all age groups, and are particularly happy that we have many young individuals and families. Our young committee does a great job catering for everyone's needs. Many of us have non Swiss partners, some are second generation Kiwis. Our official language is English, although of course we yap in

a Swiss language as long as everyone around understands it.

Since 1967 we have been proud owners of the 'Swiss Farm' in Kaukapakapa, where many of our events and all of the shooting take place. The farm is even available for individual members to spend the weekend.

Much has been planned for the year - walks including three days in the Coromandel in March, picnic and games, films, fondue, regular pub nights, Kaffeekraenzli, Rollerblading, the yearly National Day celebration and Christmas Carol singing. Santa's spectacular visit has proven a highlight for many children and grownups. The Swiss Market Day in May is a MUST. You may also want to participate in some of our groups - Shooters, Yodlers, Jassen, Ladies singers.

## Victoria: Events

- 1/02 Foundation Day Celebration
  - 5/02 Kapelle Gruezi Mitenand.
  - 18/05 Swiss Movie Night: Jimmie
  - 25/02 Social Jass
  - 28/02 Jass Night (Matterhorn)
  - 4/03 Ladies Luncheon
  - 5/03 Kapelle Gruezi Mitenand
  - 18/03 AGM & Dinner
  - 20/03 Billiard - Doubles
  - 21/03 Jass night
  - 22/03 Comedy Festival bump-in
- (more > [www.swissclubvic.com](http://www.swissclubvic.com))

## Invitation to Artists

SACA (the Swiss Australian Cultural Association) plans for its 5th "Swiss+Oz Art Expo 2015" at Bondi Pavilion Gallery, Bondi Beach NSW 2026.

Artists from around Australia are invited to express their interest to participate in this unique group exhibition.

- **When:** from November 9-29, 2015
  - **Who can apply:** Swiss citizens resident in Australia and Australians with Links to Switzerland
  - **Apply latest by:** February 28, 2015, Ursula Schappi, Email: [ursul.sch@gmail.com](mailto:ursul.sch@gmail.com)
- More information see [www.swisozculture.org.au](http://www.swisozculture.org.au)

## Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn

The Matterhorn Choir is looking forward to another year of enjoyable singing and performances. It would be great if new singers/yodellers - including female voices - could join us.

## South Australia: Swiss Club of SA

At the AGM held in October 2014, two committee members resigned from their positions. Kurt Gysin-Webster our long-standing secretary as well as Bruno Züger, our president for the past

5 years. We respect their need to have a well-deserved break and would like to thank them for their tireless work they both did for the club over the last 5 years. Our newly elected president is Walter Preisig and the position of secretary is filled by Edith Baker.

**Western Australia:** Swiss Club WA

The year ended with Santa Clause visiting us at Perry Lakes on December 7, talking personally to each child and handing out the traditional "Samichlaus" bags with nuts and goodies. 2015 will start with the AGM on Feb 22.



Samichlaus in WA

**New South Wales:** Events

- 30/1 Aust.Day Craft (Playgroup)
- 10/2 Luncheon, Il Bolognese (SCCS)
- 22/2 Jazz Picnic, Berry Island
- 27/2 Playdoh fun (Playgroup)
- 28/2 Harbour Cruise (Yodelers)
- 15/3 Mushroom trip, Blue Mountains
- 19/3 Gosford RSL (SCCS Central C.)
- 27/3 Easter Craft (Playgroup)
- 28/3 Luncheon, Eiger Rest (SCCS)
- 29/3 Sports picnic, Narrabeen Lakes

**Swiss Club of NSW**

After a hectic few days over the Festive season's break, the Swiss club has a packed program for all Members and their friends to enjoy in 2015.

We are starting off with the ever popular Jazz Picnic at Berry Island on Feb 22. The spot is just around the corner from Wollstonecraft. The Club will provide free drinks to Members.

We are planning a Mushroom trip to the blue Mountains on Mar 15 with a visit to the Swiss Chalet on wheels for afternoon tea/coffee. The sports picnic at Narrabeen Lakes is on Mar 29.



Canberra Swiss Club: Baking of traditional "Grittibänze" for the Samichlaus (Susi Gay and Heinz Buettikofer)

**Australian Capital Territory:** Events

- 20/2 Film night (tbc)
- 28/2 Participating in Harbor Cruise
- 6-9/3 Coast weekend

**Canberra Swiss Club**

Another year with many well attended events has passed. The year ended with the Swiss Club choir "Cremeschnittechoerli" singing at the Kangara Retirement Village and Santa visiting the children. Singing at the village was most enjoyable for both,

the residents and the singers. Santa was pleased to see so many children.

On the 7th of November the Club had its AGM. After 10 years the president Heinz Buettikofer decided not to stand for election again. Thank you Heinz and congratulations to 10 successful years! Heinz will still be involved in Club activities. Thank you to all committee members who have contributed to a successful and enjoyable year and welcome to the new committee members.

Swiss Yodlers of Sydney taking part at the triannual German Sangerfest

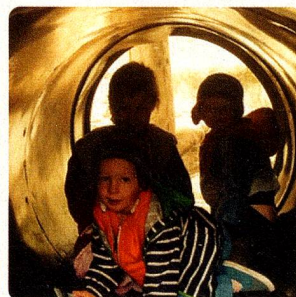
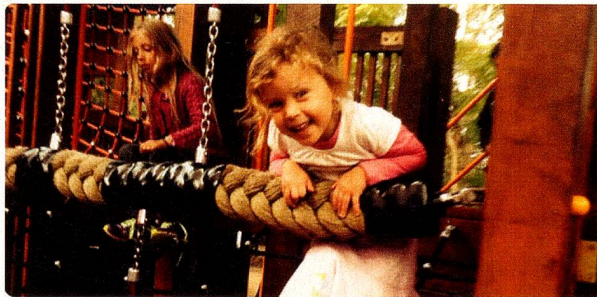


Swiss Play Group impressions from recent trips to the zoo and the spring craft event.

**Swiss Play Group**

We have enjoyed some wonderful events in 2014 including visits to the ZOO, Powerhouse & Nicholson muse-

ums, Balmoral beach, Shelley beach, Manly, Manly dam and a brilliant Samichlaus hosted together with the Swiss Club. Please visit our new website [www.swissplaygroup.com](http://www.swissplaygroup.com)



**Swiss Yodlers of Sydney**

Spring had sprung in Canberra on the long week end in October turning on magical weather and the Floriade as well as the triannual German Sangerfest. The yodler's took part together with two other Swiss choirs from Canberra and Tasmania for the first time. We were also performing together with the alphorn players, at a somewhat rowdy but jolly, Oktoberfest in Wollongong.

Our annual harbour cruise will take place on Saturday Feb 28.

**Queensland: Events**

- 1/2 Bushwalk
- 8/2 BBQ (Fraser Coast)
- 22/2 Family Picnic
- 25/2 Film night
- 15/3 Bus trip
- 29/3 Easterbunny
- 7/12 Samichlaus, Brisbane

**Swiss Yodel & Folklore Group Baerg Roeseli**

We meet every second Thursday at 7.30pm at Des Alpes Swiss Restaurant for rehearsals to practice singing with our teacher, play Swiss music and enjoy the company of our Swiss friends. We perform for the wider Swiss community, multicultural events as well as for private functions.

In October, Baerg Roeseli went singing for Elsy Schütz, who sadly passed away Dec 3, 2014

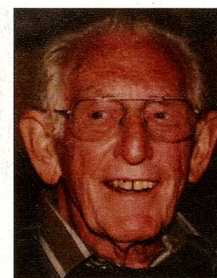


**Fraser Coast Swiss Group**

We were invited to use the 40 acre property of Lausanne Nicole and Ian and the 2 girls. This year a Samichlaus came directly from Berne to visit us in Bauple during his holidays in Australia. Some of the 7 children and also adults had poems or songs for Santa – well done – it added to the celebration

All the 34 participants fit on the veranda so no worries about the heavy rain on Saturday. The 12 people staying over night just used the 2 big wattertight tents, the “Guesthouse” and found a bed in the house or one on the veranda.

It was really a relaxing weekend – thank you for the great hospitality! We will come again



In memorandum: Hans Heer, Honorary member and co-founder of the Swiss Society of Qld. Thank you Hans for all the years - you will always be in our hearts

**Swiss Club Sunshine Coast**

Members and guests of the Swiss Club Sunshine Coast met at the Yandina

RSL Hall on 6 December 2014 to celebrate Christmas. A scrumptious buffet which included Swiss and Australian traditional Christmas fare was again prepared by the Club’s chef Ueli Marfurt. Despite the heat and humidity, ladies of the Club baked a selection of wonderful traditional Christmas cookies which prove very popular every year. A raffle was held again with many prizes on offer.

Events for 2015 are not yet finalised but dates and details of upcoming events will be listed on the website.

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