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REGIONAL NEWS

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Editorial

Dear readers,

Did you know that 2016 is the 100th anniversary of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad? If you would like to connect with other Swiss living outside of Switzerland you can do that in the internet community www.swisscommunity.org, where 762'000 Swiss have the opportunity to meet online – and you can find fellow compatriots from Southern Africa.

Happy connecting,
Gisela Piercey



GISELA PIERCEY,
EDITOR SWISS REVIEW
SOUTHERN AFRICA

Consular meetings with a mobile passport station in South Africa

The Regional Consular Centre in Pretoria is pleased to inform you, that it is planning to hold Consular meetings with a mobile passport station in Durban, Port Louis, Harare and Maputo as stated below:



Durban, South Africa -

24-25 May 2016

Port Louis, Mauritius -

07-08 June 2016

Harare, Zimbabwe

21 June 2016

Maputo, Mozambique -

30 June 2016

Swiss citizens registered at the RCC will have the opportunity to apply for a Swiss passport and also take this opportunity to attend other consular business. Citizens living in Malawi and Eastern Cape might take the opportunity to join

us in Maputo/Harare or Durban respectively.

Please note that prior to the meeting, application is compulsory with the RCC.

Please check if and for how long your current Swiss passport is valid for, as we intend to plan to visit Mauritius, Harare and Durban every two and Maputo every three years. Should you decide to take this opportunity of the above-mentioned dates and order a new passport, please let us know the number of applicants, their full name, date of birth, email address, preferred location and date by 22.04.2016 at the latest via email only to:

southernafrica@eda.admin.ch

We are looking forward to receiving your tentative bookings and we will send out more information about the next steps in the end of April 2016 by mail. Therefore, it is essential that the e-mail address which you submit with your booking is valid. If you are not available during these days to meet us, it is always an option to get your biometric data registered in a cantonal passport office in Switzerland. Please lodge your application

online beforehand at

www.schweizerpass.ch and send us a mail with the date of your stay in Switzerland and the preferred passport office. As most of the Swiss passport offices have a waiting list, we advise to plan this appointment a few months ahead. Regional Consular Centre in Pretoria:

E-mail:

southernafrica@eda.admin.ch

Tel. +27 (0)12 452 06 61

Fax +27 (0)12 346 26 05

New Swiss Ambassador for Zimbabwe and Malawi

Mrs. Ruth Huber took office in Harare at the end of November 2015 as Swiss Ambassador for Zimbabwe and Malawi.



Ruth Huber is the new Swiss Ambassador for Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Upcoming Swiss passport renewals in Durban, Port Louis, Harare and Maputo.

She presented her credentials to President Robert Mugabe on 17 December. Mrs. Huber has served for the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 1996, in the area of development cooperation. Prior to her posting in Harare, she served from 2011 to 2015 as Regional Director for Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Zambia is now under the responsibility of the Swiss Embassy in Tanzania, Ambassador Arthur Mattli. All consular services for these countries continue to be provided by the Regional Consular Centre Southern Africa in Pretoria.

As from January 2016 the Swiss Embassy in Harare integrates the regional development office in charge of managing the development programmes of SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation) for the Southern Africa Region.

The regional development program covers all 15 SADC-member countries, with a special focus on the five poorest countries: Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe with the aim to reduce the levels of poverty, inequality and vulnerability in the countries of the region. Annual disbursements are around CHF 25 Million, contributing to Food security and the fight against HIV/AIDS.

"Heidi" movie to be released in South Africa

The German-Swiss co-pro has grossed more than \$14m to date; Studiocanal has sold the title in 50 territories, including South Africa.

Heidi, Alain Gsponer's family feature based on the classic Swiss children's story, has become the most successful Swiss film ever at the international box office.

According to Swiss Films, the German-language feature starring Bruno Ganz (Downfall) and

newcomer Anuk Steffen is now the country's most successful international release, taking \$14.1m from the nine territories it has opened in so far.

Studiocanal has sold the title into 50 territories worldwide. Releases are also due across Asia (Japan, South Korea, China, Hong Kong), additional European territories, South Africa and South America.

The film currently sits seventh in the list of most-successful Swiss films by admissions, with more than 355,755 in its home market to date, and is expected to reach the top three by the end of its run.

Heidi, which was made for a budget of \$7.6m, is based on Swiss author Johanna Spyri's well-known 1881 children's book about a young girl who lives in the Swiss Alps with her goat-herding grandfather.

South Africans will be able to watch the new "Heidi" movie with Bruno Ganz.



ASO conference 5-7 August 2016

Dear Compatriots, 2016 marks the Centenary of ASO and we will keep you informed of all the upcoming events.

Just so that you can plan, the ASO Conference takes place this year in Berne and promises to be a grand affair (5 – 7 August).

We wish all readers a happy and prosperous new year.

Your Southern African ASO Delegates, Hans-Georg Bosch and Marcie Bischof.

Email: aso@hbosch.com

Swiss Club Info

SWISS CLUB IN JOHANNESBURG:

Swiss Society Helvetia, 31 Moerdyk Ave, Vorna Valley, Midrand, Chairman: Mario Valli, 082 451 8040; office: Debora Wolf, T/F 0118053039, C 0826516152, www.swissclubjhb.co.za, Swiss Country Club Rest. The Courier, Wolfgang Wollauz, T/F 0118053040, C 0826510063, Tue-Sat 11-21h30 Rest./kitchen, 11-24h Bar, Sun 10-17h, T/F 0118053040, C 0826510063, www.dining-out.co.za. The Courier.

Our Clubs of Society: Afro Gugge, Amicale Suisse Romande, Boccia, Skittling Club. Associated Groups: Swiss Choir, Swiss Rifle Club, Swiss Golf, G.S.N.A. Senior Swiss Circle meets every 2nd Saturday of the month for Lunch Swiss Ladies meet every 4th Thursday of the month for lunch; The Swiss Club Johannesburg had a busy 2015, with some movements within the Committee. In November St. James Global independent wealth managers booked our Club and Restaurant for another presentation on financial matters and planning for offshore asset protection and we trust that it was a valuable presentation accompanied with complimentary culinary delights for those of you who managed to spare the time. We were absolutely delighted about the response to our final event – the Christmas and yearend lunch, as we received 142 bookings for this by now obviously very popular event and at the same time we apologise to those who we just couldn't accommodate anymore, as we had to call a cut-off for logistical reasons. Thank you so much for joining us and we trust that you enjoyed the extraordinary and

fantastic value for money meal, the company who you may have mingled with and the entertainment by the Swiss Choir. A special and huge thank you goes to Charlie Dufey, Proprietor of B & S Agencies, who again sponsored the fantastic and very generous cheese selection providing a brilliant culmination to the great meal. We would also like to convey a big thank you to Debbie and Wolfgang for organising and preparing this event and for the hard work on the day, making this another very successful day – well done! Swiss Rifle Club Johannesburg: We shoot every 4th Sat of the month, from 9am. We normally shoot two different programs, with Swiss rifles, provided by the club. Visit our Facebook site or call Daniel: 082-5699146.

SWISS CLUB IN PRETORIA:

Swiss Society Alpina, Hans-Georg Bosch, President, T 0123478310, C 0825510222, swissclub.pta@hbosch.com, Biffy van Rooyen, Secretary Facebook group: Swiss Club Alpina.

The Annual General Meeting took place in late February. The 1st August National Day function will be held on 31 July at the Johannesgemeinde function hall, as in previous years. Wishing all a prosperous and happy New Year. Hans-Georg Bosch, President

SWISS CLUB IN CAPE TOWN:

Swiss Social&Sports Club, Bill Peters Road, Green Point, www.swissclub.co.za. PRESIDENT : Stefan Pflocksck, stefanp@execsonthemove.co.za T 021 715 2703, C 082 920 9351. VICE PRESIDENT: Nicky Rodrigues nicky.rodrigues@za.sabmiller.com T 021 658 7276, C 072 218 5759. SECRETARY: Marcie Bischof mwbischof@telkomsa.net T 021 554 0176, C 082 925 2280.

The club remains open every Wed and Thu for dinner. To receive the "newsflash" contact the club at catering@swissclub.co.za or on 0214348405. Active sub-sections: Rifle Club, Cycling Club & Tennis Club. The ladies meet monthly – last Wed. Please contact info@swissclub.co.za or André Häberli, Membership & Advertising, Cell 076 933 03 04, Newsletter: www.swissclub.co.za

SWISS CLUB NATAL:

President Philippe Lanz C 082 4932673, T 031 765 1625, p.lanz@dabsamail.co.za

JASS EVENINGS: Westville Country Club, Link Rd, Westville (first road on the left when travelling from the Pavilion exit towards Westville). As before the Jass evening takes place every second Friday evening of the month 17.45

for dinner.19.00 start Jassen: 8.4., 13.5., 10.6., 8.7., 12.8., 9.9., 14.10., 11.11., 9.12.2016 (Price Jassen). TARGET SHOOTING: Dave Nicol Shooting Range, Nottingham Road, KZN Midland starting at 8.30 am: 30.4., 28.5., 30.7., 27.8., 17.9., 29.10., 26.11.2016 OTHER EVENTS: 15.5 Beach Breakfast, 26.6 Train Ride Kloof - Inchange followed by lunch, 16.7 Cheese Fondue Evening, 31.7 Swiss National Day. For more up-to-date information please visit our website www.swissclubnatal.org.za

SWISS CLUB PORT ELIZABETH:

John Diener, President, PO Box 5608, Walmer 6065, T 0413792421, [johndiener@bluewin.ch](mailto: johndiener@bluewin.ch); comm.member Mark Krebs C 0823214693, T w 0413671422; Heidi Schultes, secretary, C 0613696598

SWISS CLUB EAST LONDON:

c/o Christine and Paul Stiffter, T 0437483542, C 0837008846, C 0832874324, christinestiffter@telkomsa.net

SWISS CLUB FAR NORTH:

Michael Holford. Contact Number Cell: +27 83 229 3787. Postal Address: Private bag X2465, Louis Trichardt 0920, Secretary: Suzanne Holford-Salchli Suzanne.holford@gmail.com.

SWISS CLUB IN NAMIBIA:

Rudolf Imhof, President, T+26461240598, C+264814427217, e-mail : er.imhof@iway.na, Yvonne Vorster, Vic President, T +264818527957, email: yvonne.mantle@hotmail.com. Honorary Consul General: Urs Gamma, Independence Avenue 175 / Gathemann Building, P.O.Box 9245, Windhoek. Tel.: 061 223853 Cell: 0816507075. e-mail: Windhoek@honrep.ch

SWISS CLUB IN SWAZILAND:

Ruedi Hofer, Calabash Rest., T (h) +2684161095, T (w) +2684161187, C +2686028545, calabash@swazi.net.

SWISS CLUB IN ZIMBABWE:

Oscar Rothen, 4 Blue Haze Lane, Umwinsdale, Harare (Physical) P.O. Box CH 837 Chisipite, Harare. C +263772241537, H +2634861702, lorothen@zol.co.za.

SWISS CLUB IN MAURITIUS:

Club Suisse de Maurice, Secrétariat: Alois Fürer, Comet Street 19, Roches Brunes, Beau-Bassin, T 466-2014 fureralois@intnet.mu

IMPRESSUM

Delegates of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad for Southern Africa:
Marcie Bischof, Cape Town
mwbischof@telkomsa.net / mwbischof@bluewin.ch,
Hans-Georg Bosch, Pretoria
info@hbosch.com / swissoffice.hbosch@bluewin.ch

Editor of Swiss Review Southern Africa:
Gisela Piercey, P.O. Box 848, Sun Valley 7985
Phone 021 7851939, Fax 086 6020489,
gisela@afriicantwisttravel.com

NEXT DEADLINE
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Trevor Noah to write book about his childhood

Trevor Noah's childhood experiences just got him R48 million richer. The son of a South African Xhosa mother and a Swiss father will reveal more about his interesting upbringing during the Apartheid era.

Trevor was a child of a prohibited relationship in that era and also growing up in Soweto. His mother was jailed and fined by the South African government at one stay. His father later moved back to Switzerland and Noah was raised by his mother and maternal grandmother.

His mixed-race heritage, his experiences growing up in a Soweto township, and his observations about race and ethnicity are leading themes in his comedy. He is a polyglot and speaks several languages including English, Xhosa, Zulu, Sotho, Afrikaans and German.

He is on a road to greatness with the US Late Night "The Daily Show" doing better than expected to mingling with the right people and now signing multi-million Dollar deals. Trevor Noah has become a household name in the United States since he took over "The Daily Show" from Jon Stewart on 28 September 2015. It was a surprise nomination for everybody, but Noah has successfully started making the show his own.

"I couldn't find a good book about myself so I decided to write one," said the comedian. The book will be available on shelves in November 2016 and is yet to be titled.



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