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# REGIONAL NEWS

## SOUTHERN AFRICA

### Editorial

Dear readers,

The former ASO representative for Southern Africa, Peter Mueller, succumbed to his severe illness on 5 February. He lived a truly remarkable life, always in the service of the Swiss and South African community. Please read his special obituary in this issue. Peter, you will be missed!.

Gisela Piercey



GISELA PIERCEY,  
EDITOR SWISS REVIEW  
SOUTHERN AFRICA

### Young Swiss citizen's day in Pretoria

On February 4th, a reception was organized at the residence of the Ambassador of Switzerland in Pretoria to honor the Swiss Citizens reaching majority in 2017 and those who acquired Swiss citizenship in 2016.

The day started with a Swiss culinary experience with delicious pastries, a typical cheese raclette and Swiss wines. The Consul, Mr. François Duvanel, welcomed the guests and their family and congratulated them on their new civic rights. Swiss citizens abroad can vote on federal issues and participate in National Council elections without having to travel to Switzerland. He explained not only their rights as an adult, but also their obligations and how important it is to remain duly registered with the Regional consular Center (RCC) of the Swiss Embassy.



As a reminder, the RCC in Pretoria is here to help with the following consular services:

- Registration/deregistration at the Swiss representation
- Applications for identity cards and passports
- Civil status affairs (births, marriages, divorces, etc.)
- Notification of change of address, phones and e-mails
- Political rights

Finally, Swiss nationals living in South Africa are requested to report events affecting their civil status and changes of coordinates (address, phone number, e-mail) to the Swiss representations. More information is available on our updated internet site.

Afterwards, Mr. Duvanel introduced the Swiss Clubs in the province of Gauteng and provided information about their programs to its members and activities which gave all compatriots an excellent opportunity to network. The President of the Swiss country club in Johannesburg and the Swiss society Alpina of Pretoria who also attended this meeting, gladly responded to different questions.

Congratulations and best

wishes to all of our young Swiss citizens and newly Swiss citizens.

### CVs of Hans-Georg Bosch and Marcie Bischof

The elections for the delegates of the Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA) will take place worldwide between January and June 2017. Below the CVs of the two current delegates for Southern Africa who make themselves available for yet another term.

#### *Hans-Georg Bosch*

HGB did his schooling in Zollikon and Zürich where he obtained the Handels Diplom in 1973. From 1980 until the end of 1990 HGB successfully completed various further studies at the universities of Pretoria and Wits Business School in the fields of Industrial Marketing and General Management.

Since his arrival in South Africa in 1976 until mid 1992, HGB worked in the Motor Industry mainly with the companies Mercedes-Benz SA and BMW SA. His main duties during this time were in the fields of Marketing and later also the Training of BMW dealer personnel in a multitude of functions, from product knowledge to sales,

Big welcome for young  
and new Swiss citizens.  
Photo: F. Duvanel

management, finance and computer skills. From October 1987 to August 1991 he also ran the BMW Sales Cadet Program, which focused on grooming young people into professional sales specialists for the BMW dealer network.

As from 1992 HGB concentrated his efforts on his company H.G. Bosch & Associates. He started doing consulting for various companies and in 1994 became the world's first recognized pioneer in the field of applied GSM data communications.

HGB operates two offices, one in Pretoria and one in Zollikon. He spends approximately 4-5 months a year in Europe, travelling between 4 – 6 times to Switzerland every year.

Since 1977, HGB has actively partaken in Swiss activities in South Africa, first as a member of the Swiss Club in Durban, and as from late 1978 in activities of the Swiss Club Alpina, Pretoria. Since 1983 HGB serves as a member of the "Vorstand" of the Swiss Club Alpina. His is currently serving his 7th term as the President of this same Club. HGB is also President of the Swiss Parents Association of the German School Pretoria.

### **Marcie Bischof**

Marcie Bischof was born in 1970 and is South African-Swiss. She has been having close ties with the local Swiss community for the past 27 years, is a member of the Swiss committee and responsible for the Catering at the Swiss Club Cape Town. She speaks English, Afrikaans and German.

From 1993 until 2005 she worked as a Compliance Officer for a Signal Futures Derivatives in Cape Town, followed by a position at Interactive brokers in Zug.

From 2012 she acted as Director of EV Real Estate Lucerne

for 3 years. Since 2016 she lives and works in South Africa and stays in Bloubaerg, Cape Town.

### **ASO Session**

On 25th March Hans-Georg Bosch attended the ASO March session in Bern. A full report on the proceedings has been sent to all the presidents of the various Swiss Clubs in Southern Africa. During December 2016 and January this year, Hans-Georg visited a number of Swiss Clubs and gave presentations on the banking- and pending E-Voting issues.

### **Obituary Peter Mueller (1947 - 2017)**

Peter Mueller served as member of the Ausland-schweizerrat and delegate for Southern Africa for many years, and in an incredibly devoted way. On 5 February 2017 he passed away. This is the obituary, written by his best friend.

Unfailingly he lived up to the best of his Swiss & South African heritages - he was trustworthy, loyal, dependable, intelligent, generous, brave and kind.

Peter was extraordinary in mind and in spirit - he was undaunted by the severely debilitating motor neurons disease that beset him in his later years - he lived in an elevated place above his body. In his mind he could relive in vivid detail his past experiences including the wonderful music concerts that he had attended, the places he visited and the huge number of people that he met & knew. Peter celebrated his life & was grateful for all the blessings he had enjoyed.

He was born in Cape Town to Swiss parents who came out to establish a cement factory. Tragically his father passed away when he was still a small boy. His mother stayed on in South Africa in order for Peter to continue his schooling at Bishops College, one

of South Africa best schools. He excelled in the academic field and graduated with several degrees from The Universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch & UNISA. He went on to work in the marketing of the renowned Mount Nelson Hotel and this led to his involvement in promoting South Africa as an emerging tourist destination and as a developing country.

Always ready to serve - Peter represented his community & Cape Town as a City Councillor from 1978 until 1995 - and as Mayor through 1987/8.

Clara & Peter were a devoted couple and enjoyed a wonderful marriage. They met fortuitously at a local community function when a table collapsed scattering broken glasses on the ground - and both instinctively set about clearing the debris so that no-one would be injured. They were later tested to the highest degree in caring for both their mothers - and each other through severe health issues.

Peter was my best and closest friend - the sort that one could be sure would stand by one in the most dire circumstances. I celebrate his life.

Bruce Ravenhill



## 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](http://www.swissclubjhb.co.za), Swiss Country Club Rest. «The Courier», Wolfgang Wollauz, T/F 0118053040, C 0825610063, Tue-Sat 11-21h30 Rest./kitchen, 11-24h Bar, Sun 10-17h, T/F 011 805 3040, C 082561 0063 [www.dining-out.co.za](http://www.dining-out.co.za) «The Courier»

Our Clubs of Society: Afro Guggie, 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. 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@hbsch.com](mailto:swissclub.pta@hbsch.com) Biffy van Rooyen, Secretary [bvrooyen@gmail.com](mailto:bvrooyen@gmail.com) Facebook group: Swiss Club Alpina

On 3rd March we held our AGM at the premises of the Swiss Society Helvetia in Vorna Valley. See our newsletters for details of club events etc. Our next function will be the Fondue which will take place on 24th June at the Treffpunkt of the Johannesburggemeinde (next to the DSP).

### SWISS CLUB IN CAPE TOWN:

Swiss Social & Sports Club, Bill Peters Road, Green Point, [www.swissclub.co.za](http://www.swissclub.co.za). PRESIDENT: Nicky Rodrigues [president@swissclub.co.za](mailto:president@swissclub.co.za) T 021 658 7276, C 082 921 7729 VICE PRESIDENT: Stefan Pflöcksch, [vicepresident@swissclub.co.za](mailto:vicepresident@swissclub.co.za) T 021 715 2703, C 082 920 9351. SECRETARY: Nadia Luedi. C 082 393 4704 ASO representative: Marcie Bischof T 021 554 0176, C 076 389 7824 The club remains open every Wed and Thu for dinner. To receive the "newsflash" contact the club at [catering@swissclub.co.za](mailto:catering@swissclub.co.za) or on 0214348405.

For those that didn't know, our Club boasts a traditional Swiss Jass Club (card playing club) so join in on the 'Jassen' every last Thursday of the month where you can hone in on your traditional Swiss card playing skills. There are also weekend trips planned during the year and Baenze Jass days. For more information contact [Mettswiss@bucknet.co.za](mailto:Mettswiss@bucknet.co.za)

Our little Gem in the Jonkershoek Valley has continuously been blessed with many upgrades this past year. Since this facility is enjoyed by the club members as and added benefit, we would encourage you to become a member so that you too can enjoy this little piece of forest. Contact [membership@swissclub.co.za](mailto:membership@swissclub.co.za) for more info on becoming a member Newsletter: [www.swissclub.co.za](http://www.swissclub.co.za)

### SWISS CLUB NATAL:

President Philippe Lanz C 082 4932673, T 031 765 1625, [p.lanz@absamail.co.za](mailto:p.lanz@absamail.co.za)

JASS EVENINGS held second Friday of every month at the LAPA, Ethelbert Village, 5 Park Road, Malvern at 7pm commencing - 7th April 2017. SPORT TARGET SHOOTING – held monthly – at 08.30 am commencing 25th March, 22nd April, 27th May, 24th June, 22nd July, 26th August, 23rd September, 28th October, 25th November, 9th December 2017 & 27th January 2018 – held at Nottingham Road Shooting Range. CHICKEN FARMING & EGG PRODUCTION TOUR/BREAKFAST – 9th April 2017 – Von Moos Farm, Drummond. BEACH BREAKFAST – 14th May 2017 – 9am at Amanzimtoti Beach Picnic Area. KLOOF TO INCHANGA STEAM TRAIN RIDE/LUNCH – 18th June 2017 – 8am – Kloof Railway Station. CHEESE FONDUE EVENING – 15th July 2017 – 7pm Crowhurst, Gillitts. SWISS NATIONAL DAY – 30th July 2017 – 10am – Von Moos Farm, Drummond. ZULU CULTURE TOUR – 20th August 2017. TEN PIN BOWLING – 17th September 2017. TALA GAME RESERVE – 15th October 2017. PRIZE JASSEN – 8th December 2017 – 6pm at the Lapa, Ethelbert Village, 5 Park Road, Malvern. YEAR END FUNCTION – 10th December 2017 – 11am – Krantzklouf. SWISS FILM EVENING – 20th January 2018 at 6pm – film and venue to be advised. AGM – 4th March 2018. For more up-to-

date information regarding times/venues/directions please visit please visit our website [www.swissclubnatal.org.za](http://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 Stiffler, T 0437483542, C 0837008846, C 0832874324, [christinestiffler@telkomsa.net](mailto:christinestiffler@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](mailto:Suzanne.holford@gmail.com)

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Rudolf Imhof, President, T+26461240598, C+264814427217, e-mail : [er.imhoff@iway.na](mailto:er.imhoff@iway.na), Yvonne Vorster, Vice President, T +264818527957, email: [yvonne.mantle@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:Windhoek@honrep.ch)

### SWISS CLUB IN SWAZILAND:

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

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## Noah's book a bestseller

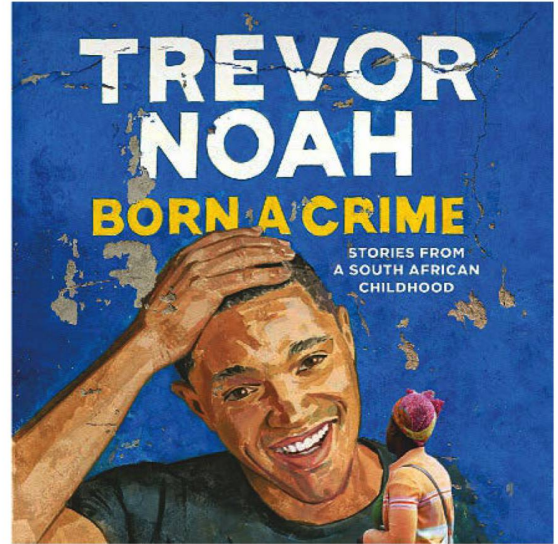
Trevor Noah's "Born a Crime" book is a bestseller. Daily Show host Trevor Noah, Swiss-South African, takes his experiences growing up in South Africa and puts them together in Born a Crime for our entertainment and enlightenment.

The compelling, inspiring, and comically sublime story of one man's coming-of-age, set during the twilight of apartheid and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed.

Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Living proof of his parents' indiscretion, Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the

earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa's tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and freely and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle.

Born a Crime is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother — his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.



Noah's book "Born a Crime"

The stories collected here are by turns hilarious, dramatic, and deeply affecting. Whether subsisting on caterpillars for dinner during hard times, being thrown from a moving car during an attempted kidnapping, or just trying to survive the life-and-death pitfalls of dating in high school, Trevor illuminates his curious world with an incisive wit and unflinching honesty. His stories weave together to form a moving and searingly funny portrait of a boy making his way through a damaged world in a dangerous time, armed only with a keen sense of humor and a mother's unconventional, unconditional love.

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