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REGIONAL NEWS

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Editorial

Dear readers,

■ As the pandemic has put additional pressure on many Africans, the support of organisations such as Rotary International is very much appreciated. Rotary International has been instrumental in ending Polio in Africa while promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, supporting education, growing local economies, providing maternal and child support, supporting the environment, and facilitating disaster response. This year, Rotary International celebrates 100 years in Africa with an online event which includes leading visionaries, pioneers, leaders and icons. I salute everyone who is making a difference, no matter how big or small.

■ *Warm regards,*



GISELA PIERCEY,
EDITOR «SWISS REVIEW
SOUTHERN AFRICA»

100 years of Rotary in Africa

2021 sees Rotary International celebrate 100 years in Africa – a century of doing good and facilitating impactful socio-economic change on the continent. Rotary International has been instrumental in ending Polio in Africa while promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, supporting education, growing local economies, providing maternal and child support, supporting the environment, and facilitating disaster response.



This year's Rotary Africa Centennial International Conference is taking place on the 24 and 25 April and will see international delegates gather online to hear from and network with visionaries, pioneers and icons. These include the likes of Bill Gates, Philanthropist and co-chair of the Gates Foundation, Kenyan designer and eco innovator Anyango Mpinga who has taken inspiration from her culture and childhood in Nairobi.

ANCHOR SPONSOR SHINES A SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICAN INNOVATION

Proudly
at work
at the
Children's
Resource
Center.

African Brand Architects, a South African based turn key Marketing Agency with an all African women's corporate team and a branch in Switzerland, is the Anchor Sponsor. "We have aligned with Rotary because our vision for the short,

medium and long term align with Rotary's vision. We share a passion for all things African - we want to see African potential materialised and African networks and businesses prosper," director Shereen Hunter says.

Projects in South Africa

Swiss Rotary members are implementing many projects in South Africa. The Rotary Club Sempachersee supports a sewing project in the townships of Cape Town.

With donated sewing machines and materials, and under proper guidance, women and girls learn to make insulating bags, as well as hygiene products. The same Club in cooperation with the Children's Resource Center in Cape Town, supports the establishment of model plant gardens.

As the COVID-pandemic started, the Rotary Club of Toggenburg in partnership with the local Rotary Club of Hout Bay, began providing food to children and families in two townships.

Swiss Rotary members regularly organize and coordinate Rotary International's Youth Exchange program.



Visit at Khayelitsha township.



People in Lesotho will benefit from improved NCD care.

SolidarMed-led consortium fights NCD epidemic

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, high blood pressure and impaired mental health are the number one cause of death and disability globally. A consortium of implementation partners and researchers led by the Swiss NGO SolidarMed proposes a multi-disciplinary research for development program fighting this disproportionate health and socio-economic burden in Lesotho.

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) will fund the program with 6 Mio CHF over the next five years. Lesotho faces a situation where the health burden of NCDs now overtakes HIV and other infectious diseases. The country has successfully managed to reduce HIV transmission and AIDS-related deaths due to a

decentralized HIV testing and care strategy. A key attribute of this strategy is the involvement of community health workers (CHW) to guarantee access of testing and treatment to the rural population. The awarded program aims at applying similar approaches in the fight against NCDs.

The program called ComBaCaL (Community Based chronic disease Care Lesotho) has been jointly developed by a consortium led by the Swiss NGO SolidarMed together with the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH), the National University of Lesotho, the Lesotho Ministry of Health, and an affected community member.

Further collaborators include the University of Zurich (Department of Informatics) and an eHealth start-up from Lesotho.



Community health workers guarantee access of testing and treatment.

Online desk for Swiss nationals residing abroad

It is our pleasure to inform you that the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) is providing Swiss nationals residing abroad with an online desk for consular services.

This allows you to view and update your data, for example change of address or civil status. You can also order certain documents online and pay for them by credit card. The desk can be accessed on www.eda.admin.ch under 'Online desk' and on the websites of the Swiss representations. We plan to expand the services on an ongoing basis and hope that with this innovation, Swiss nationals abroad will be able to communicate even more easily with the Swiss representations.

If you have any questions, please contact the Regional Consular Centre Southern Africa in Pretoria (southernafrica@eda.admin.ch).



SWISS CLUB INFO

PLEASE NOTE: THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SWISS CLUBS MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS.

SWISS CLUB IN JOHANNESBURG

Swiss Society Helvetia, 31 Moerdyk Ave, Vorna Valley, Midrand.

Chairman: *Mario Valli*, 082 451 8040; office: *Max Waspe* 083 412 0161, 011 805 3039, office@swissclubjhb.co.za, www.swissclubjhb.co.za, Swiss Country Club Rest. The Courier: *Wolfgang Wollauz*, T/F 011 805 3040, C 082 561 0063, Tue-Sat 11-21h30 Rest./kitchen, 11-24h Bar, Sun 10-17h, T/F 011 805 3040, C 082 561 0063, www.dining-out.co.za «The Courier». Please visit our website for information and updates on events at the club.

■ 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.

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: 082 569 9146.

SWISS CLUB IN PRETORIA

Swiss Society Alpina, President: *Hans-Georg Bosch*, T 012 347 8310, C 082 551 0222, swissclub.pta@hbosch.com, Secretary: *Biffy van Rooyen*, bvrooyen@gmail.com, Facebook group: Swiss Club Alpina

SWISS CLUB IN CAPE TOWN

Swiss Social&Sports Club, Green Point Common, Off Bill Peters Road, Green Point. P.O. Box 2279, Cape Town 8000, T 021 434 8405 www.swissclub.co.za President: *Christian Schiess*, president@swissclub.co.za C 079 088 8233 Vice President/Treasurer: *Andreas Reichmuth*, treasurer@swissclub.co.za C 083 297 3803 Secretary: *Chayenne Rusi*, secretary@swissclub.co.za C 082 569 8446

To receive the "newsflash" contact the club at catering@swissclub.co.za or on 021 434 8405.

The Swiss club Cape Town is open for dinner every Thursday evening. Every 1st Thursday of the month is Pensioner's Lunch. Join the Swiss Jass players every LAST thursday of the month. There is much more happening at our club, meeting friends, host a party, club events etc. For more information, please send an email to: info@swissclub.co.za

IMPRESSUM

DELEGATES OF THE ORGANISATION OF THE SWISS ABROAD FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

Marcie Bischof, Cape Town
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NEXT REGIONAL ISSUE DEADLINES

Issue	Next Deadline	Distribution
03/21	07/05/2021	11/06/2021
04/21	04/09/2021	08/10/2021

FOR ADDRESS CHANGES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICIAL SWISS REPRESENTATION IN YOUR COUNTRY AND DON'T EMAIL THE EDITOR OF SWISS REVIEW SOUTHERN AFRICA. THANK YOU.

The independent Swiss Rifle Club can be found on the Swiss Club Cape Town club's website www.swissclub.co.za under rifle club and on Facebook.

President: *Dierk Lüthi*, hdluthi@gmail.com & dierk@telkomsa.net;
C 083 441 4626. Shooting takes place mostly at the SA Navy 'Klawer Valley' range off Red Hill road above Simon's Town. Shooting dates and times are listed on the website and the 2 Facebook pages.

SWISS CLUB NATAL

President: *Philippe Lanz*
C 082 493 2673, T 031 765 1625,
p.lanz@absamail.co.za

■ JASS EVENTS

This is held on the second Friday of each month and will commence at 2 p.m. and is held at Rolf Klein Jass Stube, 3 Bona Terra Road, Assagay (directions on our website).

■ SPORT TARGET SHOOTING

Held on the 4th Saturday of each month (weather permitting) commencing at 08:30 a.m. - Nottingham Road (calendar available on our website).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

*For up-to-date information regarding times/venues/directions, please visit our most informative website www.swissclubnatal.org.za

SWISS CLUB PORT ELIZABETH

President: *Anne Diener*, C 079 089 4428, Comm.member: *Urs Leuenberger*, C 074 355 2182,
Secretary: *Heidi Schultes*,
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SWISS CLUB EAST LONDON

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