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REGIONAL EDITION

UNITED KINGDOM & IRELAND

EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

This year too has not been an easy one. There have been many challenges for everyone to face. Normal life is slowly resuming and some clubs have managed to organise events for the Swiss National Day.

■ *Two major events of 2021 were the arrival of the new Ambassador, Mr Markus Leitner, and the election of the new UK delegates to the Council of Swiss Abroad. On this page, you will find the names of the new representatives and more information about the election. Congratulations to them and a big thank*

you to all those who have cast their vote! In this issue, you can read the message addressed to Swiss citizens by our Ambassador.

■ Some pages are dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the voting rights of women in Switzerland. For this occasion, we have selected from the Embassy's website 'wakeupnow.ch/women-of-switzerland' some of the 50 portraits of ladies who have distinguished themselves for their contribution to society.



GIOIA PALMIERI,
«UK & IRELAND PAGES»

BERN: CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED UK DELEGATES

At the FOSSUK AGM that took place on Saturday 19 June 2021, the outcome of the elections for the UK delegates to the Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA) was announced and ratified.

Franz Muheim, Loredana Guetg Wyatt have been confirmed in their mandate and have been joined by the newly elected delegates: Andreas Feller-Ryf, Michelle Hufschmid, and Lakshmi Sundaram. Congratulations to all of them!

They were elected for a four-year term (2021–2025) to represent all citizens in the UK at the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad in Bern, SwissCommunity.org.

Thanks to all the citizens who voted, to all candidates for standing, to the Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom for checking the identity of voters, the Swiss Clubs and Facebook Groups for promoting the candidates, and in particular to the two election officers Camilla Ghislanzoni and Ané-Mari Peter of on-IDLE. Camilla and Ané-Mari counted and checked all the votes and on-IDLE made it possible that for the first time, Swiss citizens in the UK could vote electronically for their delegates.

Council of the Swiss Abroad, Summer 2021 Meetings

The CSA met twice in August 2021 virtually, replacing the planned conference in Lugano due to the pandemic. It was the first meeting of the 2021–2025 legislature and the Council members had to be ratified.

The OSA also elected its long-time vice-president Filippo Lombardi as its new president. Mr. Lombardi was a Swiss senator for Ticino for over 20 years and is a distinguished expert in foreign policy.

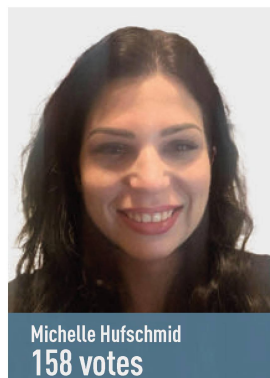
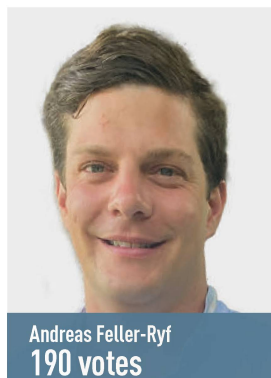
We are also delighted to announce that our delegate, Franz Muheim, was successfully re-appointed into the executive committee, advantaging UK interests for the benefits of the Swiss in the UK.

Andreas Feller has written a detailed report on CSA meeting now available to download on FOSSUK's website: swiss-societies.co.uk/osa

Votation

This year the election committee received a total of 322 voting slips (vs 164 in 2017); 12 slips were void due to voters who did not meet the eligibility criteria. 289 voting slips were received online, 278 of which were declared valid. Only 33 voting slips were received by post with one not meeting eligibility criteria.

RESULTS



LONDON: MESSAGE FROM THE NEW AMBASSADOR IN THE UK, MR MARKUS LEITNER



*Dear compatriots and friends,
May I first begin by saying how pleased I am to have taken up my new post as Switzerland's Ambassador to the UK, after postings in Spain, South Africa, Chile, Switzerland, Egypt and Iran.*

I arrived in London over the summer just in time for the Swiss National Day celebrations at the Swiss Church, when I was fortunate enough to meet some of you who have made the UK your home. It has been a busy first few months in the job as you would expect, but I look forward to acquainting myself with the large and diverse Swiss community that is to be found across the UK in the months and years ahead.

deadline, late applications are still possible for people in a small number of categories or where exceptional circumstances apply. Further information regarding late applications can be found on the dedicated page on the UK government website (1). You can also find further Brexit-related information in the front page section on the Embassy website, as well as in our dedicated Brexit FAQ (2*).*

We are now seeing an increasing focus on the climate agenda, with the UK due to host the COP26 UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November. You can find out more about Switzerland's work in the run-up to the summit, including Federal Councillor Sommaruga's ministerial visit to London over the summer, on the Road to the UN Climate Change Conference page (3).*

On the bilateral side, Switzerland and the UK have signed a number of agreements in recent months to consolidate our relations after Brexit. Now, we want to take the next step and deepen our co-operation in a number of fields of common interest. You can find out more about Switzerland's 'Mind the Gap' strategy to ensure continuity in our bilateral relationship with the UK on the dedicated page on the FDFA website (4).*

You can stay in touch with our future activities by following us on social media. In addition to my own Twitter account, you can follow the Embassy on Twitter and Facebook, our Culture Section has a dedicated Instagram account, our Science and Innovation Section has a Twitter account focused on Swiss startups, and you can follow the work of our Business Hub on LinkedIn. The Embassy website (5) is also regularly updated with useful, reliable and up-to-date information for Swiss citizens.*

Despite the ongoing challenges, I look forward to getting around the country and meeting Swiss citizens who live here in the UK. Until we hopefully meet, please do take care and I hope to see many of you soon.

*With my best wishes,
Markus Leitner
Ambassador of Switzerland to the United Kingdom*



I'm also pleased to have arrived as the UK has hopefully started to return to more normality, following the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. I know the last year and a half has been difficult for many of our citizens in the UK, who were disconnected from friends and family for long periods of time. But now that we have started meeting and gathering once more, I hope I can welcome many of you back to our events at the Embassy in the near future.

Besides the pandemic, this year was also impacted by the changes prompted by the UK's decision to leave the European Union. Whilst I know that the vast majority of you will have already applied for your settled or pre-settled status under the Settlement Scheme, for those of you who missed the

*** Web links**

- 1) UK government website:
www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/eligibility
- 2) Swiss Embassy Brexit FAQ:
www.eda.admin.ch/london/brexit
- 3) Road to the UN Climate Change Conference page:
www.uvek.admin.ch > Simonetta Sommaruga > Events > Road to UN Climate Change Conference
- 4) 'Mind the Gap' FDFA website:
www.eda.admin.ch/europa > Brexit
- 5) Embassy website:
www.eda.admin.ch/london

WOMEN'S RIGHTS 50TH ANNIVERSARY: WOMEN OF SWITZERLAND – A COUNTRY IN 50 PORTRAITS

In 2021, Switzerland marks 50 years since women gained the right to vote. For this occasion the stories of 50 swiss icons, trendsetters and pioneers have been put available online. 'Women of Switzerland: a country in 50 portraits' is a project of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, initiated by Presence Switzerland and the Embassy of Switzerland in London, in close collaboration with the Swiss Embassy in Tel Aviv and with the Swiss Embassies in Berlin, Madrid, Moscow, Paris, Rome, Vienna and Washington. From arts to politics, science and innovation, it is a chance to explore the achievements of just some of the women who have helped to shape society, in Switzerland and beyond.

50 portraits are certainly not enough to depict a country and the achievements of the women who have shaped it. Inevitably incomplete, these projects do however shine an inspiring light on the paths and the accomplishments of some of the women of Switzerland.

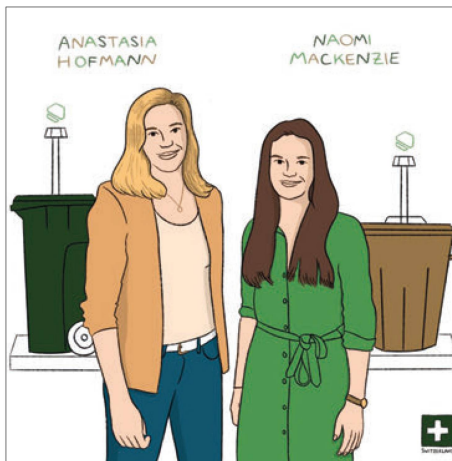
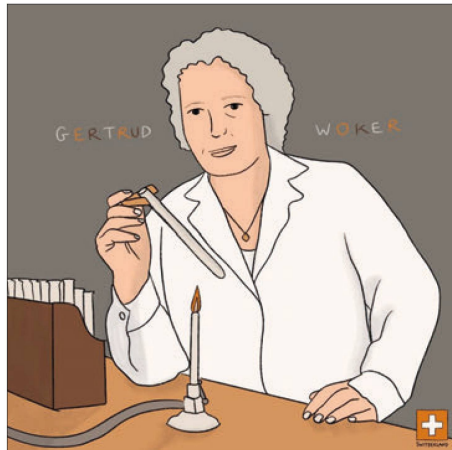
Here, some portraits selected for the Swiss Review. To view the other stories, please visit: wakeupnow.ch/women-of-switzerland

GERTRUD WOKER

Scientist, peace activist, suffragette,
1878–1968

Gertrud Johanna Woker was a biochemist, toxicologist, peace activist and suffragette. Born in Bern, she was amongst the first women in Switzerland to obtain a PhD in 1903. For over two decades, she conducted research on the effects of chemical substances on the human body. As a scientist with a sense of responsibility for the potential harm that could be caused by modern scientific innovations, she fought tirelessly against the use of chemical substances in warfare, which would bring her into conflict with the political and military elites. Between 1911 and 1951 she headed the laboratory for physical and chemical biology at the University of Bern, and became the first professor of chemistry in the German-speaking world in 1933 after being denied a professorship multiple times despite her outstanding scientific achievements.

Ever since she was a young student, Woker stood up for the political equality of women and combined her work as a pacifist, scientist and suffragette by becoming involved in the



Women's League for Peace and Freedom during World War I. A true pioneer of the women's and peace movements, she continued to fight for these causes well into old age.

TILO FREY

Politician, 1923–2008

Tilo Frey, a politician, was one of the first twelve women elected to the National Council in 1971. She was also the first person of African descent to become a member of the National Council. Prior to her service at the federal level, she was active in regional politics as an elected member of the cantonal council of Neuchâtel. She campaigned for equal pay for women, the legalisation of abortion and development aid in third-world countries, demanding the inclusion of local partners in the conversation. Following her career in politics, she returned to her original career in education as director of a school for girls in Neuchâtel. A square at the centre of the Arts Faculty of the University of Neuchâtel was named in her memory, and is the only public place dedicated to a person of colour in Switzerland.

ANASTASIA HOFMANN & NAOMI MACKENZIE

Entrepreneurs, *1992 & *1993

Anastasia Hofmann and Naomi MacKenzie create solutions for the issue of food waste in the hospitality sector. They founded the startup KITRO in 2017.

During their studies at the Swiss Hospitality Management School Lausanne (EHL) they discovered how much food waste is generated in the catering industry, and resolved to address this. They embarked on a global challenge by advocating sustainable change thanks to imaging technology. Based on artificial intelligence, KITRO offers an automated data collection and analysis solution for food waste that can be adopted by the food and beverage industry around the world. Hofmann and MacKenzie utilise their hospitality expertise in the fight against food waste.

MATHILDE GREMAUD

Freestyle skier, *2000

Mathilde Gremaud performs stunning acrobatics to reach the summits of her sport, freestyle skiing. Born in 2000 in Fribourg, she notched up regional and national wins at a very

young age before her international career took off when she won the silver medal at the 2018 Olympics in Pyeongchang. At World Cups, World Championships and Winter X Games, Mathilde Gremaud has claimed gold, silver and bronze medals. In 2020, she was the first woman to land a Switch Double Cork 1440 – a double back loop with four horizontal rotations. She repeated this masterstroke during the Winter X Games in Aspen in January 2021 and won her third gold medal in this competition. Passionate and determined, Mathilde Gremaud continues to defy the laws of gravity.

BICE CURIGER

Art historian and curator, *1948

Bice Curiger is an art historian, curator and critic. For forty years she has been revealing the riches of contemporary art to enthusiastic audiences. After her first exhibition in 1980, which was a resounding success, Zurich-based Curiger co-founded the art magazine *Parkett* in 1984 and later served for many years as its editor-in-chief. From 1992 to 2013 she was curator at the Kunsthaus Zurich, the city's museum of art. She has published numerous texts and books on artists such as Meret Oppenheim, Sigmar Polke, Pipilotti Rist, Peter Fischli and David Weiss. In 2011 Bice Curiger was curator of the 54th Venice Biennale, the first woman to hold the post. Since 2013, she has been artistic



director of the Vincent van Gogh Foundation in Arles. She has received numerous awards, including the Canton of Zurich Culture Prize and the Meret Oppenheim Prize in 2012. In 2013, she received the Order of Arts and Letters from the French Ministry of Culture.

SIMONA SCARPALEGGIA

Businesswoman, *1960

After heading IKEA's Swiss operations for 10 years, Simona Scarpaleggia decided to focus her career on gender equality. She is currently Global CEO of Edge, a global assessment methodology and business certification standard for gender equality. But this is not a new departure for her. She co-founded 'Valore D' in Italy in 2009 and 'Advance Women' in Switzerland in 2013. From 2016 to 2018 she co-chaired the UN High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment in the context of the Global Goals for Sustainable Development. Her mission is to boost diversity and to increase the proportion of mixed-gender management teams for the benefit of customers, companies, the economy and society.

More information:
wakeupnow.ch/women-of-switzerland
 Illustrations by Elisa Siro
london.culture@eda.admin.ch
 © ch_plus_uk

BOOK REVIEW: A REFLECTION AROUND THE END OF A PERSON'S LIFE

Thanks to the personal initiative and peculiar resourcefulness of Iris Hunter, a Swiss professional translator living in Cambridge, some Swiss novels, originally written in German, have been translated directly into English.

After the publication of *'The Green Silk Shawl'* and *'Death in Sits Maria'*, this year Iris has made Ueli Oswald's book on his father's assisted dying available to English readers. This is now out under the title *'EXIT – The last year with my father'*.

In this book, Ueli Oswald – a Swiss journalist and author – recounts the last year of his father's life, Heinrich, and how the rest of the family

came to terms with his decision to end his life with the Exit organisation in 2008. Heinrich Oswald was a popular Swiss manager and a known reformer of the Swiss army. From 1972 to 1983 he was President of the Swiss media company Ringier. During Oswald's time at Knorr, the advertising figure Knorrli was introduced, which every Swiss child was familiar with it in the second half of the 20th century.

The book portrays a growing rapprochement of male relatives, as they cross the distance from childhood days when work had often taken priority. For family members, it seems more difficult to accept euthanasia than a natural death, even if this still falls on the loved one. In this book, the author's father, who had found retirement harder than being a successful businessman, decides to make the final decision on the only thing which, in theory, he could not control.

GIOIA PALMIERI



Further information:

[TheLastYearWithMyFather](https://www.facebook.com/TheLastYearWithMyFather)
elioswald-books.com

The audio version 'Death in Sits Maria' will be soon available.

WOMEN CREATIVITY: CECILE JEMMETT, THE LADY WHO MASTERS LINKEDIN

A positive approach to the present, the support of loved ones, self-confidence, and a genuine desire for helping fellow entrepreneurs achieve their goals: this is the winning formula behind the popularity that follows Cécile Jemmett's name when it comes to LinkedIn.

LinkedIn is the most important social business and career network and has grown in popularity beyond the English-speaking market. For the DACH region, Cécile is considered one of the top experts in making LinkedIn work for those who have a coaching business.

She's been running her own successful company since 2015 from the UK, more precisely from Royal Tunbridge Wells in Kent, but she is very much Swiss (and South African – like Roger Federer).

Cécile comes from a small village in the canton of Thurgau where she grew up with her parents who ran a gastronomy business – 'The most popular restaurant in the region', she explains to Swiss Review. She learned very early how to deal with customers, make them feel welcome, and run a business. This marked her attitude toward work and opened up her mind to her future career. 'Before I ventured into self-employment in 2015, I spent almost two decades in the corporate world, mainly in sales and marketing roles in well-known companies.'

Her move from Zürich to London in 2010 wasn't smooth sailing. 'It was a real culture shock for me. The fast-paced city challenged me in many unexpected ways. Not least, the English infatuation with tea. Oh, the minefield when it was my turn to do the tea run! I mean, seriously, how many ways are there to make a cup of tea?!' she remembers smiling.

'But eventually I got to grips with it, fell in love with London and really enjoyed my work. When I met my husband, Luke, things naturally fell into place. We moved away from London when we were expecting our first daughter. Despite my original intentions, a return to my old job and the long commute were no longer an option. I had to come up with a plan B – starting my own business.'

'I first ventured into the online world as a virtual assistant, but I was struggling to find clients. I tried everything – Facebook, Twitter, and so on, and only eventually landed on my LinkedIn profile. Thanks to this amazing platform things started to happen and everything changed.'



Cécile immediately understood that LinkedIn had great potential, especially for the German-speaking market where there wasn't much information for entrepreneurs and professionals wanting to utilise this social media.

LinkedIn has a considerable authority on the internet. This means that a LinkedIn profile would often appear before one's own website in search results. Cécile's speciality is lead generation, she offers training, business mentoring and support for professionals who run coaching, consulting, and service-based businesses.

'I am very passionate about serving this kind of customers, as they, just like me, love helping others and have such a positive impact on the lives of their clients. I pride myself on being very present and approachable. My signature program is a six-month Mastermind program, where my clients find clarity on their target audience, their offering, pricing, sales mindset and where they learn a solid lead generation/marketing strategy. They are also connecting with like-minded entrepreneurs that are on the same journey, which is a much-undervalued bonus.'

Although she can never lose her 'Swissness', here in the UK, Cécile found love and a profession she is proud of. 'I feel at home in this country. It has opened my mind and my heart. It brought me new motivations and a different approach towards working. Ironically I ended up becoming a happy tea lady now.'

GIOIA PALMIERI

Cécile's Profiles:

[in/cecilejemmett](#)
[@cecilejemmettdotcom](#)
[cecilejemmett.com](#)

NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY



WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SUPPORT OUR VIBRANT SWISS CLUB IN LONDON WITH EVENT ORGANISATION, ADMINISTRATION AND ONLINE TASKS.

Please contact us via social media or email info@newhelveticsociety.org.uk



NEW DATES!

12 - 17 JULY 2022 | BANKSIDE GALLERY
48 HOPTON STREET, LONDON

THE EXHIBITION IS ENDORSED BY THE VILLE DE CAROUGE AND ITS MUSÉE, LA PALETTE CAROUGEoise AND NOTRE HISTOIRE, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.



The event will be reviewed and adapted to follow Government COVID-19 guidelines

ANNIVERSARY: HELVETIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN – 75 YEARS YOUNG

The Helvetia Philatelic Society of Great Britain, the society for all collectors of Swiss stamps, covers and postal history, is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year. Edward H. Spiro invited a few fellow members of the Wimbledon Philatelic Society who were interested in Swiss stamps, round to his house, and they founded the embryonic 'Helvetia Stamp Club' in 1946, later to evolve into the Helvetia Philatelic Society under Edward Spiro's enthusiastic leadership.

Following a public display of Swiss stamps at the Stagg & Russel Exhibition Gallery at Leicester Square, London, and the formation of a formal committee, the society flourished. Many eminent philatelists such as Professor Landau, Dr. K. Strauss, Lawrence Moore MBE, Colonel H. DeWatteville CB, R.F.Bulstrode OBE, Alma Lee and many others were at one stage active members of the HPS. One of the first lady members, Mrs Edith Rawnsley, became a firm pillar of the society in her roles as secretary and newsletter editor. She wrote many articles about Swiss stamps and philately in all the British stamp magazines, always fostering the Helvetia Philatelic Society.

Today the society is as popular and as active as ever. The flagship publication, the HPS Newsletter, has been published without interruption since the late 1940s and continues to offer the membership about 150 full colour A4 pages annually of philatelic and society news, research articles on Swiss philately and postal history, questions and answers, and meetings reports. A large part of this treasure trove of information has been digitized and is now available to the membership on the society's equally active and ever-growing website, www.swiss-philately.co.uk.



Other benefits of membership include a fantastic philatelic reference library covering Swiss stamps and philately. With over 300 books and catalogues, it is one of the largest such libraries outside Switzerland, and members can borrow the books without charge. The Society also offers a postal sales packet offering a wealth of stamps and covers for and by members. Meetings are about to be resumed after the pandemic, with an annual 2-day national meeting (this year in October), usually three southern England meetings per year in Salisbury, and now new regular Zoom meetings as well.

Anybody interested in the stamps and postal history of Switzerland is invited to join the Helvetia Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

For a very modest £10 annual membership fee they can enjoy all the benefits outlined, including our Newsletter in digital form. (Subs. including Newsletter by post: £22)

WERNER GATTIKER

Please contact the Secretary Mike Sharp
 ✉ secretary@swiss-philately.co.uk ☎ 01905 423 091



NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

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☎ 020 7499 9806 ✉ smile@HolfordCuraden.com
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To get informed about the latest from the Swiss clubs and community living in the UK and to get in touch with the UK OSA delegates, please visit the website swiss-societies.co.uk/ and FOSSUK's social media:

Facebook: @ukswiss
 Twitter: @FOSSUK

1: SWISS CLUB EDINBURGH

Belated National Day Celebration

18 months after our last indoor face-to-face event, the Swiss Club Edinburgh celebrated 3 weeks after the official date the Swiss National Day 2021. Last year's celebration was cancelled out of obvious reasons and this year's had to be postponed by three weeks. We had to wait until the Community Centre was allowed to open its door for us. The only way we could meet in person during the past 18 months was on organised walks, which we held fortnightly on Sunday mornings. 18 of our members did find the way on this rainy Saturday to the Community centre for 'Cervelat and Bratwurst' as well as vegetarian alternatives from the grill, served with Swiss style potato salad, green salad and 'Zopf/Tresse', followed by Swiss style fruit tart and cakes. We strictly followed the new basic hygienic rules so we were able to create a safe environment for our event and, with educated and well informed members, it was for the organisers easy to keep it safe.

The absolute highlight of our National Day celebration was the Swiss National Anthem performed on the bagpipe by our Honorary Consul Peter Müller. It was so emotional, that some couldn't resist and started to sing. This is a perfect example of how integration should be: not forgetting our roots but adapting to the culture of our new home.

www.swissclubedinburgh.co.uk
www.facebook.com/Swissclubedinburgh
twitter.com/swissCEDinburgh

2: JEFFREY LONG 90TH BIRTHDAY

The former president of FOSSUK and Yorkshire Swiss Club, Jeffrey Long, will turn 90 Friday 22nd of October. For this very special occasion he has organised a charity fund dinner in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support and Cancer Research UK on Saturday 23rd October at the Midland Hotel in Bradford. The cost is 35£ per person. Lounge Suits is required.

Swiss Anthem performed by Honorary Consul Peter Müller.



Jeffrey with the Schaffhausen's flag which represents his Swiss origins.



1st of August celebration in Mynydd llandigay.



Club's annual lunch at Cote Brasserie.



Club is ready to organise new events.



To book a place call Jeffrey 01274 560780 or the hotel 01274 735 735.

To celebrate with Jeffrey this great milestone, the Swiss Review will publish an interview with him in the next issue (February 2022). Don't miss it out and happy birthday Jeffrey!

3: SWISS IN WALES

Swiss compatriots in the North of Wales organised an informal 1st of August Celebration in Mynydd llandigay. The first gathering after the lifting of the lockdown restrictions.

To get more information about the Swiss in Wales clubs and gathering, please write to:

ruth.thomas88@gmail.com

or visit the [website swissinwales.org](http://website.swissinwales.org)

FB: [@swissinwales](https://www.facebook.com/swissinwales)

4: SOUTHERN AREA SWISS CLUB

The Southern Area Swiss Club created a WhatsApp chat group to keep in touch with our members, exchanging information and generally boosting morale.

We have also e-mailed useful information to our members, like updates on the Swiss Bakery in Ham.

Our next events will be held at the Darby Green Hall, Blackwater, GU17 0DT (near Camberley, Surrey).

Events will be published on our website www.saswissclub.org.uk and on Facebook in the Swiss in the UK Group.

For further information please contact Bernadette Curtress

berni@nbtsc.plus.com

5: SWISS CLUB MANCHESTER

The Club needs to find out who would be interested to attend the New Year Lunch in January 2022. The secretary kindly asks to the Club's members or people who would like to join to let them know by email or letter. The Club is still organising Coffee Mornings. For further information please get in touch with: Juerg Bentele, 7 Greenhill Road, Timperley WA15 7BG

bjbentele@ntlworld.com

OBITUARIES: SWISS CITIZENS RECENTLY PASSED AWAY

Arnold Odermatt

Died at the age of 96, he was a Swiss traffic policeman whose images of the aftermath of car accidents taken in the 1950s and 1960s emerged from his attic half a century later to be hailed as photographic masterpieces of eerie beauty. *Arnold Odermatt*, born May 25 1925, recently died the 19th of June 2021.



Arnold Odermatt's photographic masterpieces

Carlos Reutemann

Descended from a Swiss-German grandfather, an Argentine father and an Italian mother, *Carlos Reutemann* was the first successful Argentine Formula One driver to come along since the retirement of five-time World Champion Juan Manuel Fangio in 1958. His paternal grandfather left Guntalingen/Zurich in 1859 to take up farming in Argentina. He passed away on the 9th of July 2021.



Carlos Reutemann

SWISS CLUB MANCHESTER

Ruth Pickford-Isler & Rosa Mhar

It is with great sadness that we have to inform you of the passing of our Swiss Club Member *Ruth Pickford-Isler*. She died peacefully in her sleep in hospital. Ruth and her late husband Trevor were members of our club since 1997. Sadly we also have to inform you of the passing of *Rosa Mhar*. Rosa was together with her late husband Ilias a member of our club for many years.

Obituaries of Swiss citizens living in the UK recently passed away can be published in the September issue of the Swiss Review. Please send an email to: editor@swissreview.co.uk

SWISS CHURCH IN LONDON: SUNDAY SERVICE RESUMING

Although The Swiss Church in London was not able to host the usual Swiss National Day celebrations for the Swiss Community in London this year, we were able to hold a unique Swiss National Day Sunday Service on 1st August with 40 people, and with Marcus Leitner, the new Ambassador to the UK, as guest of honour. A small reception was held after the service, giving guests the chance to meet Ambassador Leitner.

After the summer break, we will resume Sunday services at the church on Sunday 5 September, every first Sunday of the month, and continue to provide an audio service every third Sunday. We missed being able to host events for the Swiss community during the summer. It would have been fantastic to have celebrated our national team's incredible run in the Euros together watching the matches on our big screen. We hope to be able to hold a Christmas carol service in December for all the community, and a Swiss family Christmas event too. Look out for further news of events on our webpage, and social media.

COLIN MCINTYRE
TRUSTEE - THE SWISS CHURCH IN LONDON

More Infos:

- www.wisschurchlondon.org.uk
- info@wisschurchlondon.org.uk

BEATRICE SCHLEGEL: LOST IN TRANSLATION

*Reda wia eim
dr Schnabel
gwachsa isch*

Being one of my grandfather's favourite sayings, I remember hearing it often, when I was little. Making the link between beak and mouth early on, I checked every morning whether my mouth had changed into a beak overnight as my grandfather explained, it means speaking in your own dialect rather than a standard language.

As I found out much later, this saying also has another meaning, namely 'sich unbeschönigt äussern'. It appears that it was used as early as the 16th century by Luther to explain how people express themselves in front of a surprised prince, namely freely, without inhibitions and truthfully.

Presumably my grandfather had reason to use this saying so often because there's such a marked difference between Mundart, the spoken local Swiss-German dialect, and standard German, the written language in Switzerland. Variety is the spice of life!

IMPRESSUM

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