

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 50 (2023)
Heft: 2

Anhang: Regional news : Oceania

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 09.12.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

REGIONAL NEWS

OCEANIA



ROLAND ISLER
REGIONAL EDITOR – OCEANIA
COUNCIL OF THE SWISS ABROAD – AUSTRALIA

Editorial:

At the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, Swiss-Australian decathlete, Cedric Dubler, gained admiration (and an award!) for his display of mateship, running beside team mate Ash Moloney and encouraging him to pull through and get over the line for bronze. And guess what! – you can find this story now even on a Cadbury Dairy Milk chocolate block!

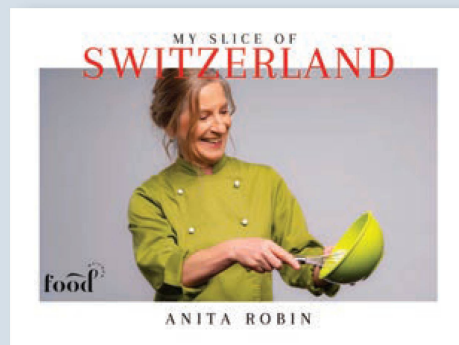
P.S. We are willing to turn a blind eye on the fact that we are indirectly promoting a non-Swiss chocolate ☺.



New Book: My Slice of Switzerland

My Slice of Switzerland by Anita Robin, is a recipe book filled with the traditional recipes that Anita grew up with. It will take you on an adventure through the culinary delights that Swiss people cook over the year. Each ingredient is carefully chosen for the texture, flavour and depth that it offers the dish. The book also covers the festive celebrations and special occasions that bring the Swiss together, as well as providing an insight as to what a food community Switzerland is. Anita's life has been dedicated to food, nutrition and wellness the world over. In every country that she has lived in and visited, Anita has had the joy of sharing her love for Switzerland through the food she has created for her family and friends. Enjoy your travels through *My Slice of Switzerland*!

The book can be ordered online ➔ www.foodbuilder.com.au/my-cookbook



SWISS BUSINESS AWARDS 2022



On 2 February, the historic Great Hall at the University of Sydney made for a most impressive venue for the Swiss Business Awards 2022. The SBA is certainly one of the most exciting events organised every year by SwissCham Australia and it was again a sold-out event with 160 guests attending.

Local Swiss-Australian personality Peter Meury was presented with a well-deserved Life Time Award for being the Founder and First President of SwissCham – as chosen by the committee for the Swiss Business Awards 2022.

Fabian Grass, Deputy Head of Mission at the Swiss Embassy in Canberra, our Swiss Consul General Conny Camenzind and a thrilled Peter Pluess, SwissCham National President, appreciated the opportunity to mingle with the many members and guests. It was a special honour to welcome H.E. Elizabeth Day, the newly appointed Australian Ambassador to Switzerland among the guests.

The winner of the Newcomer/Rising Star is *foryouandyourcustomers* (correct, it is spelt with a lower case f). Bernhard Müller based in Melbourne and Tobias Felbeck based in Sydney, introduced their ventures. ➔ <https://foryouandyourcustomers.com/?lang=en>

The Overall Winner and Established Business Winner 2022 was announced amid great excitement: *dormakaba!* *dormakaba* (yes, lower case d) is a manufacturer of automatic doors and door closers, enabling safe access solutions in buildings, hotels, shops, sporting venues, airports, hospitals, the home or at the office. Kevin Blacow, Craig Gilmour and Bernadette Jonker proudly accepted their well-deserved Award. ➔ www.dormakaba.com/au-en

SwissCham gratefully acknowledges the support of event partner Jeans for Genes – the Children's Medical Research Institute – principal event sponsor Glencore, key sponsors SWISS, MSC and ImportexportTV.com, as well as event sponsors Lindt, Jura, Tissot, Mondaine, Switzerland Tourism, Victorinox, Swiss Mountain Water and dental care specialist Curaprox.



L to R: Bernhard Müller, Tobias Felbeck.
Winner Newcomer/Rising Award:
foryouandyourcustomers



Australian Ambassador to Switzerland
H.E. Elizabeth Day



L to R:
Craig Gilmour,
Bernadette Jonker,
Kevin Blacow.
Overall Winner:
dormakaba



L to R:
Peter Pluess,
Peter Meury, and
SwissCham CEO,
Martin Scarpino

Consular Information



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

OCEANIA: Young Swiss Abroad

Did you know? World-wide, about 162,000 Swiss citizens under the age of 18 live abroad. In 2017 alone, almost 8,000 young Swiss nationals reached the age of majority abroad. Head to the website below for more information ➡



<https://bit.ly/3ycqXHk>

Upon turning 18 years old, you will have to register independently from your parents at either the Consulate General in Sydney, email: sydney.cs@eda.admin.ch or the Embassy in Wellington, email: wellington@eda.admin.ch depending where you live.

Please advise your own email address and mobile number as soon as possible and mention your full name and date of birth in your message.



Online desk for Swiss Nationals residing Abroad

Entering your details in the Register of the Swiss Abroad, ordering confirmations, announcing civil status matters, and subscribing to publications: The

FDFA's online desk offers Swiss nationals abroad the opportunity to request services from the comfort of their homes. It simplifies correspondence between Swiss nationals and their Swiss representation. Once you have opened an account, you can access your details online in the Register of the Swiss Abroad.

➡ <http://bit.ly/3Jc865z>

AUS: May 2023 – Mobile Passport Station in Perth

Ensure your civil status information is up-to-date

Do you plan to take advantage of the opportunity to renew your passport in Perth? Make sure your civil status is updated with the Consulate General of Switzerland in Sydney in order for the representation to inform the competent civil status authority in Switzerland. Please note that registering a civil status change can take up to three months. Passport applications can only be processed once the registration has been completed in Switzerland. Furthermore, please ensure that your email address is up-to-date in the records of the representation in Sydney. **Please note, dates of the visit in Perth are still to be confirmed.**

AUS: Jungbürgerfeier in Sydney

From Swiss Club of NSW: On 27 February, the Jungbürgerfeier event for 2023 was hosted by Consul General of Switzerland Conny Camenzind at her Residence in Sydney. Invited were young Swiss living in NSW who have or will turn 18 this year and are registered with the Swiss Consulate. The event aimed to highlight all the services that are extended to Swiss citizens in Australia. Other topics covered were voting rights of the Swiss Abroad and of particular interest to some young Swiss were the education possibilities at Swiss Universities, opportunities for overseas travel and networking, and Swiss events and culture in Sydney.

Approximately 20 young Swiss attended the event. Among the guests were also Consul Andrea Köppel Nko'o, Head of Trade Point Australia Mascia Buzzolini, Council of the Swiss Abroad Beat Knoblauch, Vice-Chair at Australia Chapter at European Travel Commission Livio Goetz and Martin Frutiger, Webmaster at the Swiss Club of NSW. The Swiss Club offered the young Swiss a 3-year free membership to the Club.

The Young Swiss also participated in a 'Swiss Quiz' organised by the Swiss Consulate, which tested their knowledge of Switzerland. Congratulations to the winners who took home Swiss gifts. After the formal proceedings, the young Swiss and guest speakers had the opportunity to network and chat. The evening ended with the presentation of Swiss goody bags containing numerous Swiss items, gifts, informative pamphlets, and Lindt chocolate offered by generous sponsors.

Congratulations to the young Swiss who took the time to celebrate this important moment in their life and for showing pride in their Swiss heritage.





Switzerland opened its first representation, a Consulate, in the year 1912 in Auckland. In 1937 the Consulate moved to Wellington and in 1959 it was upgraded to a Consulate General. Switzerland established diplomatic relations with New Zealand in 1962 and opened an Embassy in Wellington in 1963 since New Zealand had a growing need for more independence in their foreign policy.

After the establishment of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and New Zealand, the first Swiss Ambassadors characterized the

relation as mutual “getting to know each other”, which from today’s perspective also included amusing and clichéd aspects. For example, the local media in New Zealand were interested in the cooking skills of the diplomats’ wives and mentioned the beauty of the Alpine country. New Zealand readers also learned that Swiss women had no voting rights until 1971. Max Corti, the first resident Ambassador, moved to Wellington in 1969. The customs and traditions of the New Zealanders, as well as their leisure activities, initially seemed strange and unfamiliar to him but he soon focused on the economic and political aspects of the bilateral relations. Ambassador Corti underlined the importance of adequate and appropriate Swiss representation in New Zealand. In the following years economic relations improved and trade delegations from New Zealand travelled to Switzerland and vice-versa. While New Zealand was in search of new foreign investors, Switzerland lamented about certain customs barriers and other obstacles to trade. Soon after, a double taxation agreement was signed and with a few exceptions, the volume of trade increased slightly but steadily.

The Swiss representation in New Zealand was headed four times in succession by a Chargé d’Affaires. Although no disadvantages are seen in the appointment of a Chargé d’Affaires instead of an Ambassador, it was observed that New Zealand would appreciate the appointment of an Ambassador again at a later stage.

In the late 1980s, multilateral political and scientific issues and topics gained increasing importance and more bilateral agreements were signed. In the year 2000, Ambassador Sylvie Matteucci presented her credentials in Wellington. There has never been a New Zealand Embassy in Switzerland, it is based in Berlin instead. Thus, in 2002 it was observed that the bilateral relations between Switzerland and New Zealand were good but not very intensive and therefore the closure of our representation in Wellington was being considered. Thanks to a strong lobby in the parliament, the Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland did not press ahead with the closure of the Embassy.

In the past, Switzerland offered its good services to New Zealand and represented the country three times: in 1952/53 in Iran, between 1956-1959 in Egypt and from 1984-1995 in Libya.

2023 marks the 60th Anniversary of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and Aotearoa New Zealand, the land of the Long White Cloud. Yet, there are no clouds on the bilateral horizon. On the contrary, we share the same values and advance them together in the international arena – most notably by defending a rules-based international order for the sake of peace, human rights, the climate and free trade. Our bilateral trade relations provide room for more and there are sectors in which our relations can be developed further, e.g. by bringing Swiss trains, transport and waste management solutions to New Zealand or by increasing our cooperation in the field of vocational education and training.

NZ: Cyclone Gabrielle: New Zealand in a state of emergency

On 12 February, cyclone Gabrielle hit New Zealand’s North Island’s northernmost region and tracked down the east coast leaving behind widespread trail of devastation and destruction. The storm killed 11 people and caused damage on a scale that New Zealand has not seen for at least a generation. About 10,500 people have been displaced and 144,000 properties remained without power. The Government declared a National State of Emergency for 14 days which applied to six regions: Northland, Auckland, Tairāwhiti, Bay of Plenty, Waikato and Hawke’s Bay and announced an emergency relief package of \$186m. Experts fear that the total costs of the disaster could rise above \$8bn.

The Embassy of Switzerland in Wellington followed the events closely and has always been at the disposal of Swiss nationals (residents and tourists alike) in need. We have been contacted by a few Swiss tourists stranded in Napier and had several requests by Swiss tourists whose travel plans have been affected. However, so far there were no reports of any Swiss people injured or gone missing. New Zealand’s disaster response has been active and functioning but due to internet fibre cuts and power outages, some communities were without cell phone and internet connection for several days and until connections were restored, relatives overseas had difficulties communicating with their loved ones. Thus, New Zealand Police encouraged people to report that they were safe via registering via the New Zealand Police ‘I’m Alive’ website: <https://forms.police.govt.nz/im-alive>

New Zealand has been affected by tropical cyclones and flooding due to heavy rainfall previously and is also located in an earthquake zone. Furthermore, there are numerous volcanoes active on the North Island.

The Swiss Embassy therefore advises Swiss nationals to observe the weather forecasts as well as the warnings and instructions by the local authorities such as the Civil Defense (www.civildefence.govt.nz/) and GeoNet (www.geonet.org.nz/) carefully.

Travellers from Switzerland are advised to download and register with the Swiss Travel App

➡ <https://bit.ly/41jiBEA>

Community News and Events

NZ: Taranaki Swiss Club

Keglen has started again for the New Year and so far numbers have been great. It's wonderful to have a chat, a laugh, participate in keglen and enjoy a delicious supper. Do come along!!

On 11 February we were to hold the semi-final of the Cowbell Competition against our friends from Wellington, but unfortunately they couldn't muster a sufficient number of people for a team, and we therefore won by default. However some of their members did venture north and enjoyed a dinner and social evening with us, which was great!

On 12 February we held our annual picnic under fine weather. Around 300 people came through the gates to enjoy the Swiss music, cervelas and bratwurst, pony rides, face painting, bottle fishing and the highlight of our picnic, the Schwingen. Sami Werder was crowned Schwingerkönig – don't know how many times he's won it, but he certainly hasn't lost any strength or skills – well done Sami!! A close second was Erwin Hebler with Michael Appert third. The junior division was won by Sean Frieslaar with Tayla Detting second and in the midgets the title was taken out by Micah Gut. It was also a pleasure to meet our new Ambassador Viktor Vavricka and his son Valentin.

Unfortunately Cyclone Gabrielle hit parts of New Zealand on 14 of February, and we all feel for those affected by this devastating storm and the incredible destruction and havoc that it has created and left behind. We are all thinking of you, in various parts of New Zealand affected by the cyclone, and hope that we can in some way help you to resurrect your lives and livelihood. Take care and look after yourselves, and please reach out if you feel the need.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

6/4 & 20/4: Keglen is on from 7.30pm.

Come along and enjoy the company and have a game of skittles.

16/4 & 23/4: Jassen recommences for the winter at 1.15pm. Enjoy some games of cards, a delicious afternoon tea and then have a few more social games of jass.

16/4: Society / Championship Shoots from 1pm. Come and give this Swiss sport a go!!

3/5: Seniors' Social Day...come along for lunch and entertainment. This is a new function we're organising for our senior citizens.

4/5 & 18/5: Keglen again.

13/5: Our fabulous fondue evening (or cervelas and salads or BOTH!!) served between 6-8pm.

14/5: Swiss Society sports competitions

from 11.00am. Take part in shooting, shot put, keglen and jassen. The top 20% in each discipline will win a beautiful certificate and prize. A separate competition is held for under 16s. Come along and give it a go!!!

21/5: Jassen from 1.15pm. Put your skills to the test!

NZ: Otago/Southland

With the FIFA Women's World Cup to be held in a number of Australian and New Zealand cities, we here in the Deep South were excited to hear the news that the Swiss team have chosen Dunedin as their home base for the duration of the tournament. This means the team will arrive in early July and leave sometime in August. During their time here, they will play two games at Forsyth Barr Stadium – against the Philippines on 21 July and against New Zealand on 30 July. The latter may put some loyalties to the test – which team to support?! – but we can at least confidently say that “we” will win!

Esther Gilbert, the co-ordinator of the Swiss Community of Otago and Southland, is working with both the Swiss Embassy and the Dunedin City Council to ensure the Swiss team are warmly welcomed to the city, and wishes the team all the best with their preparations.



SA: Swiss Club of South Australia

Summer is typically the time for a break here in South Australia, during which we plan and prepare our events, and this year, we have a great program for all!

Our first event will be our very popular Fondue Night at the Austrian Club, on Saturday 29 April. This will be followed by our National Day celebration at Montacute Community Hall on Saturday 29 July.

Our AGM will take place on Wednesday 6 September in the evening, followed by a traditional Swiss meal at the Austrian Club.

Finally, we will hold our Wuerstli Broetle at the end of October at Kuitpo Forest, and conclude with our Samichlaus brunch on Sunday 3 December at Montacute Community Hall.

Make sure you keep the dates free, and if you are visiting from interstate or from overseas, please don't hesitate to reach out to us! We welcome you to our events and look forward to catching up with you soon!

If you are a new to Adelaide or to South Australia, the Swiss Club might be just what you need to keep in touch with Switzerland. We are all about get-togethers among friends and



people from the same area of the world, and we have a lot of fun as a virtual, itinerant and vibrant Club, promoting our traditional events

You may also want to tune in to our Swiss Radio program: 5EBI (103.1FM) every Saturday, from 6pm to 7pm ACST (<https://5ebi.com.au/programs/swiss/>) for traditional Swiss music.

For further details on how to become a member or getting in touch with our business partners, head to our website www.swissclubsa.org.au or email us at info@swissclubsa.org.au



VICTORINOX

SPECTRA 3.0 LET INNOVATION TAKE YOU FURTHER

Expand your horizons and let life take flight: with an ingenious and sustainable design for effortless travel.



reddot winner 2022

FROM THE MAKERS OF THE
ORIGINAL SWISS ARMY KNIFE™
ESTABLISHED 1884

QLD: Fraser Coast Swiss Group

Sadly we had to say goodbye to Ernst (Ernie) Hug who passed away at the age of 93.

Arriving in 1952, he and his brother constructed many buildings in the area. He was a visionary pioneer, respected businessman, mentor and friend to many.

According to the census, the Fraser Coast has:

- People born in Switzerland:
2021=117 (2016 = 84)
- Speaking Swiss at home:
2021 =193 (2016= 183)

8 to 25 of our group still meet every 15th of the month for lunches. Where are the others? We welcome anyone coming to Hervey Bay area.

For details contact organiser Cecile Scherrer on 0409 286 326, cecile.sch70@gmail.com.



NSW: Cercle Romand

After having to cancel last year 'Pétanque & Brunch at the park' due to bad weather, we were fortunate to gather on 26 February under a blue sky to play pétanque and enjoy a beautiful brunch at Ballast Point Reserve, Birchgrove. It was a pleasure to welcome amongst our guests Mrs Conny Camenzind, Consul General of Switzerland based in Sydney. Good atmosphere and friendly competition made it a special day for all to enjoy.

Eleven teams participated in the pétanque tournament to win the 'Paul Lambert Trophée'. After the qualifying round, the best three teams played the final round to

determine the winning order. Congratulation to Connie and Serge for winning the competition, followed by Suzanne and Andreas in second place and Catherine and Philipp in third place.

The details for each activity are published on the club website: www.cercleromand.com.au where location, time and booking information can be found.

The committee thanks all its members for supporting our club and looks forward to seeing you in the coming months.

NSW: Swiss Community Care Society (SCCS NSW)

A thought to do with dementia

An important part of our journey to Europe last year was my father-in-law's 100th birthday. We planned a celebration with about 35 guests who consisted of many relatives, the few of his remaining friends and several people he knew well from work or from his involvement with the union. With the help of staff of the aged care facility, especially its fantastic chef, it became a great occasion. The president of the Basel Bürgergemeinde visited as well, together with her 'Weibel' in historic costume (the lady's personal assistant), who presented the centenarian with a wonderful bouquet. This made the celebration even more special. The festive meal was certainly enjoyed by everyone, not least by my father-in-law, who, to our surprise, took more than three hours before he nodded away sometime after coffee and then needed a proper rest upstairs. In the days and weeks which followed, he mentioned again and again to my husband: "My birthday was such a wonderful day! To think that all these people were there just for me!" And a little later: "Bisch jetzt du au do gsy?" ("Have you been here as well"?).

It proves to me what I read in an article many years ago, that "people with dementia may forget events (or their details) quite quickly, but emotional memory lingers. Feelings of frustration, joy, happiness or despair may continue well past the event that provoked the feeling". (Meredith Gresham, SMH 14.1.2013).

Isn't it good to know that we can make people with dementia feel joyous. So, if you have an older relative or friend whose brain is no longer functioning as it used to, do not give up on him or her. Take this person out for a lovely walk through the garden or drive to the beach together, look at old photos and reminisce about the olden days, sing songs you both remember and, especially if it is your mum, dad or grandparent, don't forget to give each other many hugs.

P.S. Some dates of events of the year are now on our website: www.swissccs.org.au

REGULA SCHEIDEGGER

President:	Regula Scheidegger	0432 031 085	rscheidegger49@hotmail.com
SCCS CONTACTS IN RURAL NSW:			
Newcastle:	Rita Schaad	02 4956 2272	maritahl@optusnet.com.au
Gosford:	Gerhard Moser	02 4322 3588	gerhard@homeloanguru.com.au
	Peter Meury	02 4388 4809	petermeury@bigpond.com
Armidale:	Heinz Hauptli	0417 446 542	heinz.hauptli@bigpond.com
Coonabarabran:	Herbert Würsch	02 6842 8278	
Wagga Wagga:	Elisabeth Rorrison	02 6931 9090	jrer@ozemail.com.au
Cobar:	Werner Muehlethaler	02 6836 2091	wernerm@exemail.com.au
Bathurst:	J. & R. Geissmann	02 6337 4103	geissmann@bigpond.com
Orange:	Monika Rickli	0419 435 917	monika.rickli@hotmail.com
Blue Mountains:	Elizabeth Bizzini	0408 414 863	bizzini1@hotmail.com
Ballina:	Hans Schaffner	0448 308 146	hschaffner@bigpond.com

VIC: Matterhorn Yodel Choir

Happily the Choir has been attracting new members and has increased in size to a respectable 15 at present. There is diversity in the group which range in ages, birth nationalities and interests in life. We come together to celebrate the joy of singing and celebrating the traditional Swiss Yodel. Our conductor Chris is happy to spend time with individuals' one-on-one or in small groups so that the singers feel comfortable when the group is together as one.

Our choir is always welcoming new members. Practice sessions are generally bi-weekly, although when a performance is scheduled, weekly practices are preferred. These sessions are held on Wednesday evenings.

If you are interested, or would like to have further information please call Chris on 0428 427 434.

VIC: Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose

Since it was founded in 1949 by members of the Swiss Club of Victoria, the group has performed countless times at Swiss functions and in a variety of other settings. The group is keeping alive a wonderful and beautiful Swiss tradition far from its place of origin.

For our group continuing to promote this tradition and showcasing our beautiful Swiss costumes for future generations to enjoy, we are seeking to add new members to our friendly and welcoming group. No experience is required, costumes are provided, our membership ranges in age from 30 to 80 – as you can see all ages and abilities are welcome. We practice twice a month on a Tuesday evening at the Swiss Club, 89 Flinders Lane in the city.

For more information don't hesitate to contact Sylvia Hochuli on 0409 968 624 or 9531 6575 or Sue Rogger on 0410 588 771.

Jass Nights

The dates for the competition Jass nights at the Swiss Club for this year are as follows:

■ MARCH 25 ■ MAY 27 ■ JULY 8 ■ AUGUST 26

For information or to book contact Paul Eisenegger on 0409 444 607.



VIC: Swiss Club of Victoria

SCV Barefoot Bowling Family Day

Melbourne enjoyed a glorious afternoon on Sunday, 12 February – perfect for the Swiss Club's barefoot bowling family day. Nearly 60 people turned out to try their hand at lawn bowls and pétanque. The day attracted many kids, grandparents and parents alike who enjoyed the sensory experience of the manicured greens at St Kilda Bowls Club. The day involved some tuition for the families who were learning to bowl for the first time as well as hosting some strong competition for some of the more experienced bowlers. A big thank-you to the lovely hosts at St Kilda Bowls Club who supported the day as well as Marc and Rémy Favre who did a fantastic job in providing the pétanque tuition. It wouldn't be a Swiss event without the tempting scent of Cervelat and Weisswurst hovering over the greens. Thanks to the support of Malvern Continental Butchers in Glenferrie Road who provided the sausages and of course...the mustard!

A big thank-you to the Swiss Club members and committee for supporting the heavily subsidised family events as an investment into the future of the Swiss Club of Victoria also. Keep an eye out on the Swiss Club calendar and the Swiss Alliance Australia Calendar for further events in 2023.

Swiss Moving Service AG



worldwide moving service

to and from anywhere in Switzerland and the world

- Personal service and individual advice
- Door to door service for household goods, cars and motor bikes
- Full and partial container service to/from all major places in the USA, Canada, Australia, Asia, Latin America, Middle East + Africa

Wiesenstrasse 39
CH-8952 Schlieren Zurich
Switzerland

phone +41 44 466 9000
fax +41 44 461 9010
www.swiss-moving-service.ch
info@swiss-moving-service.ch



Lending a hand
since 1879

The Swiss Society of Victoria's purpose is to assist fellow Swiss in Victoria, old and young, who need financial or personal support. If you are experiencing difficulties, or you know a Swiss who does, please contact us. We are here to help.

Registered charity with the
Australian Charities and
Not-for-profits Commission
(ABN 41 419 264 390)

<https://swissocietyvic.org/>
Susan Brealey – M: 0401 170 036
E: admin@swissocietyvic.org

Study mission to bolster cooperation in vocational education and training

SÉBASTIEN MONNET | SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION ADVISOR | EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND IN AUSTRALIA

Most young people growing up in Switzerland have an important choice to make when aged 15 years old and nearing the completion of lower secondary school: around 60% of young people opt for an apprenticeship, or in other words, vocational education and training (VET).

Apprenticeships are an integral part of Switzerland's educational system. It prepares a broad cross-section of students for over 230 professions across the entire economy – technology, hospitality, banking, insurances, health, as well as most traditional trades and crafts, so white-collar as well as blue-collar jobs. This well-regarded career pathway that combines on-the-job training with one to two days per week of lessons in vocational schools contributes significantly to maintain a low youth unemployment rate, but furthermore, Swiss companies offer apprenticeships as part of their strategy for building a talent pipeline. In turn, the apprentices receive a high-quality vocational education, which then gives them direct access to the labour market. The combination of highly skilled professionals with academically trained specialists is key to drive innovation outputs and thus to lift the global competitiveness of the export-oriented Swiss economy. The professional associations (trade and branch associations) and the individual companies are responsible for defining and continuously updating the actual training content, thereby ensuring that the skills of the workforce meet the needs of the labour market. The companies offer apprenticeship positions and cover the practical part of the training. The social partners (employers association and trade unions) also have a role in the management of the system. VET enjoys high social status and is therefore perceived as being an equally valuable alternative to the academic path. In fact, former apprentices have risen to lead



Plenary session at the 'Future of apprenticeship' conference in Melbourne.



Powhiri (Indigenous Maori welcome ceremony) for the 'Future of apprenticeships' delegates on Waiheke Island near Auckland.

major companies across the Swiss economy, Federal Departments and even the Swiss Confederation – as was the case in 2021 with then President of the Swiss Confederation Guy Parmelin, who started his professional career after his apprenticeship in agriculture. In Switzerland, VET is part of a flexible and permeable education system that ensures everyone has access to further training, higher education, or the possibility to explore career changes throughout their lives. There are no dead ends in the Swiss education system. The Swiss model of apprenticeship is widely considered a success story, and yet, in a fast-changing environment, exchanges amongst experts, trainers and practitioners is necessary to keep up with today's challenges. This led a

consortium of organisations including Movetia, the Swiss national agency for mobility and exchange, the Swiss Federal University for Vocational Education and training, and the Geneva-based Global Apprenticeship Network to undertake a mission in Melbourne and Auckland on the topic of the 'Future of apprenticeships' from 5 to 10 February 2023.

Over 170 delegates, with 32 speakers from six countries, gathered with the aim of sharing perspectives and building stronger relationships and areas for future collaboration. The two Swiss Embassies in Oceania were actively involved in supporting the mission as part of their mandate to promote the Swiss education system and foster international mobility of students and young professionals.

REGIONAL NEWS OCEANIA

These Regional News Oceania pages have a circulation of 22,000 – 8,300 of which are printed copies. They are distributed to all Swiss Abroad households registered with the relevant Swiss representation in Canberra and Wellington.

Editor: Roland Isler
risler@csa-oceania.org +61 (0)412 935 565

Publishing Information 2023

Issue	Editorial deadline	Publishing date
1-January	Mon, 02.01.23	Fri, 27.01.23
2-March	Tue, 28.02.23	Fri, 24.03.23
3-May	Tue, 18.04.23	Fri, 12.05.23
4-August	no regional news	Fri, 11.08.23
5-October	Tue, 26.09.23	Fri, 20.10.23
6-December	no regional news	Fri, 08.12.23

Visit the umbrella organisations in Australia and New Zealand for community news and information, as well as links to Swiss Clubs, community groups, professional organisations and consular representations in Oceania:

www.swissallianceaustralia.org
www.swiss.org.nz



Swiss Alliance Australia Inc.
Umbrella Organisation of Swiss Associations in Australia



The Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc.
Established 1935