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NEWS OF THE COLONY

Auckland Swiss Club

Have you too come along to the wine and dance evening held at Nelson Street Cellar on June 17th? Why not? You really missed something. All of the present folks — and there were about a hundred — whether Swiss or New Zealanders, do agree to the lovely atmosphere we had down in that garage. Yes, you were right! Garage!

Some gifted hands turned three old-looking rooms into three white painted, decorated and modern looking ones. Of course, some of our Club members have put a hand on the decoration as well. The smell of fresh pine trees as well as an open fireplace could tell you this. And what better idea still than this, to cook your own "Bratwuerste" on an open fire? — together with a glass of wine or beer and to be listening to our tremendous "Hausmusik-Kappelle" orchestra. And wasn't the dancing most enjoyable? Do you still feel your legs?

Late in the morning at 4 a.m., also the last guest decided to leave and the happy atmosphere was still hanging in the air after everybody has left. We all are looking forward with great enthusiasm to the next social evening. Of course you will come along again. —E.S.

Christchurch Swiss Club

TRIP TO ARTHUR'S PASS

On 2nd July some of our active Club members met at the railway station at 8.15 a.m. Considering that over 300 people boarded the train we represented only a small party. Shortly after 8.30 a.m. the train started moving and soon we were in open country. A 15-minute stop at Springfield gave everybody the opportunity to get something to eat and drink. The 16 tunnels between Springfield and the Pass proved to be very exciting for the children. We all enjoyed lunch at Hans Bonie's Chalet restaurant with a glass of wine and a coffee Kirsch to finish off with. After two days of north-west conditions there was no snow left at the Pass but we managed to find a place with just enough snow and a nice patch of ice and everybody had great fun.

Time passed quickly and soon the train began its journey downwards and at 6 p.m. we were safely home again. A very enjoyable day indeed! —A.M.

Wellington Swiss Club

Under intense wintry conditions a rejuvenated Swiss Club soccer team defeated Wellington Tramways by 2-1 at Seatoun Park on June 25th.

A well taken goal by H. Iten gave the Swiss Club a slender 1-0 lead at half-time. Soon after the changeover, the Swiss added to their score after some good build-up work by R. Wederich. Tramways' goal was scored by R. Byron from close range. Stars for the Swiss Club were David Dabson in goal, W. Wederich and H. Iten.

—K.S.

SWISS SAFARI

On Saturday, 17th June, members of the Wellington Swiss Club with their youngsters and friends went on a Safari to Brookenia, somewhere in the deepest heart of Africa. At the airstrip where they landed, a monkey welcomed them and showed them the direction in which the most beautiful animals were to be found in their natural surroundings. On their way the travellers encountered some big snakes displayed in cases and safely locked behind bars, ready to be sent to zoological gardens in Europe. They showed their frightening red tongues. Some of the most original masks were displayed by Africans to please the tourists. A wild buffalo was running around and some audacious travellers were throwing darts at him.

Of course, the bar and restaurant, which wasn't difficult to spot, attracted most members of the big crowd. A tiger was peacefully drinking water in the river nearby. People were a bit puzzled as they read the menu card —

The Chef's suggestion: Grilled Snakes
Bleached Elephant Droppings
Soured Jungle Grass

As the Swiss do like exotic food, the waiters were quite busy with serving. After the abundant meal people felt more like dancing, "chegeln" and playing the tabel soccer game than to go on big adventures. But suddenly the loudspeaker announced the appearance of some animals with human legs, and one was invited to take part in the beauty contest choosing the most beautiful legs. The winner was to receive a most attractive prize: pantyhose. Other prizes could be won in the tombola.

To finish my account of this terrific happening I would like to give very special thanks to those members of the Committee who lent their artistic talents and much time for the decoration of our old Brooklyn Hall, which they transformed with many life-size drawings, masks and camping lights into a real Safari place: Kathy Keller, Ann Fuhrer, Hans Lüthy and Joe Hangartner. —M.K.