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26th. March. The Great Debate

Finally the long awaited night had arrived where the German, Austrian and Swiss Clubs united to discuss, contend and contest the notion that all the Wellington German Speaking Clubs should unite into one. The Affermative Team argued their points very successfully, the Negating Team tried to combat the opposition with fun and drollery. Gert Wanke, the German President acted as chairman for the night and kept the warring fractions skilfully apart. I ask you, who wants to be in the same club as the charming Austrians who perceive us as only a "Roesti" and "Fotzelschnitten" eating nation? Or who wants to unite with the faultless Germans who still feel a strong alliance to the emperor and who still have a strong will to fight for land, air and sea and who want to provide the president for a possible combined club? To sum it all up, it was a delightful evening, many interesting points were raised and debated. But we all love and relish our very own cultures and clubs, but would appreciate a more regular get together, let's say 2-3 times a year.

27th March. Autumn Walk to the Butterfly Creek

After a night of storm and thunder we were delighted to hike during a most agreeable Indian summer day.

We chose the Muritai Park Entrance which provided us with a fairly easy access to the ridge. The view of the Port Nicholson Harbour was a dream, many boats were sailing and making the most of the placid and peaceful waters. Some of us, for whom the visit to this creek was a first, were looking out for the butterflies!!

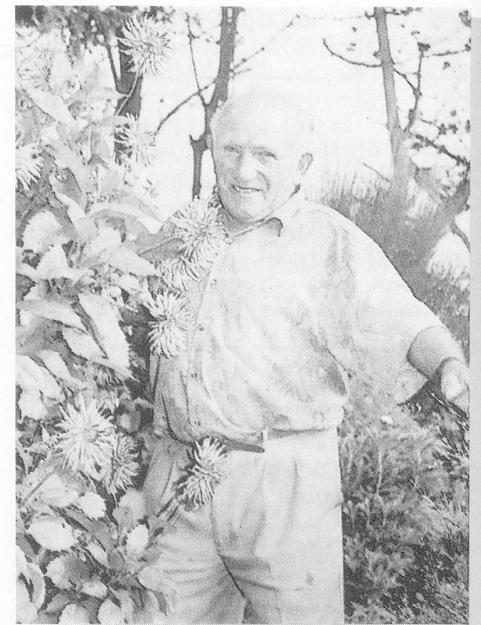
The picnic area is a small paradise. Children can plunge and swim in a safe river, during that time the boy scout leaders or parents can enjoy a well deserved lull and doze.

The icing on the cake was the thoughtful invitation to a cup of coffee by our friend Trudie Bruehlmann. We admired her fishing cottage, which she had transformed with talent and ingenuity into a most adoring home. Great hospitality after an extraordinary walk.

Give it a go one day, Wellingtonians.



Butterfly Creek Walkers: Kathi Trachsel, André Schleicher, Denise Nassenstein-Elton, Monika Sörenson, Lina Sutherland, Sid Smith with Nina, Fleming Sörensen, Maya Beddie-Geiser, Ruth Messmer, Humphrey Elton, Anita Smith, Till Nassenstein-Elton (hidden in the bushes) and Peter Graf, photographer.



CONGRATULATIONS

Cunliffe Street resident Frank REMPFLER has won the North Johnsonville Progressive Association annual beautification competition - again. Mr Rempfler, pictured above in his garden, has been awarded the prize several times over the years and has now won a total of 15 awards in the competition. A cheese-maker, originally from Switzerland, Mr Rempfler has lived in Johnsonville for 25 years and says like most people he does not really enjoy gardening, but likes to be surrounded by beautiful things.

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