

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 63 (1997)
Heft: [7]

Rubrik: Letters to the editor

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: 19.08.2025

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

Editorial



A reflection on: 1. August celebration / my computer / William Tell / Jesus Christ.

What a combination of themes for an editorial, you'll say and you would be right. - But let me explain!

By the time you read these lines you will most likely have observed our national day celebration in one form or another. If you have recently had any contact with, or news from our "old country Switzerland", you will also have heard of problems and accusations Switzerland is dealing with at the moment. These problems and accusations seem so far away for us here in New Zealand and yet they can disturb our memories of an

earlier Switzerland in a very painful way.

Working with my computer and a catalogue of electronic book-images, recently, I came across a funny combination of images as shown above. I happened to browse within the index of "People with Christian Religion". To my astonishment and great amusement I found a familiar image of William Tell between two images of the crucified Christ. Well, the crossbow of our old folk hero William Tell and the wooden cross of Jesus Christ have a similar shape I thought forgivingly. Thinking about the mission of our legendary folk hero and comparing it with the mission of Jesus Christ, I found some startling similarities. Didn't both, William Tell and Jesus Christ bring the same message of freedom and hope, I asked myself? Weren't they both mystical figures and yet so very real? The worldly-political William Tell bringing free-

dom leading to the neutral country of our forebears, the other, Jesus Christ, bringing freedom from slavery of sin and spiritual destruction. And how successful have both of these missions been? Is Switzerland not still struggling and paying a price for a political neutral way of life? Is Switzerland and the world not still struggling with the adoption of the ideals of a true Christian life style?

I suppose we will all answer these questions in our own way, but hopefully we will never lose hope for neutral countries like Switzerland to retain their neutrality and for Christian people around the world to live up to a true Christian life-style.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The July Issue of HELVETIA has prompted a most welcome letter of encouragement from Mr. W.R. Simmens, Chargé d'Affaires of the Swiss Embassy in Wellington.

- However, commenting on the Wellington Swiss Club-logo, Mr. Simmens points out an unfortunate aspect of the design. The logo could indeed imply some special connection between The Embassy and the Wellington Swiss Club.

Here is an extract from Mr. Simmens's letter:

The Swiss Embassy has no particular affiliation with the Wellington Swiss Club which could in any way be deemed to be a "special relationship" compared with that of any other Swiss Club in the country.

A letter of thanks has been sent to Mr. Simmens for pointing out the negative implications the logo could have.

Please feel free to send any comments, constructive criticism, suggestions, etc. for inclusion in this column. Obviously we insist on your signature but your contribution may be published under a nom-de-plume.

Society President's Report

With a great sigh of relief, I have made friends with my computer and it usually does what I ask of it, to the extent that it even printed some labels for me! Our first HELVETIA reached all your mailboxes on time, and about six of us managed to get

SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

PATRON: Mr Walter Simmen, Chargé d' Affaires of Switzerland

PRESIDENT/TREASURER: Beatrice Leuenberger, 44 Montgomery Crescent, Hamilton, Ph/Fax (07) 843-7971

VICE PRESIDENT: Bert Flühler, 1 Bettina Rd. Hamilton, Ph. (07) 855-4308

SECRETARY: Ruth Waldvogel, 89 Crosby Rd. Hamilton, Ph. (07) 855-3417

RIFLEMASTER: Peter Rust, Bayley Rd. R.D.3. Te Awamutu, Ph. (07) 872-2636

DELEGATES TO THE SWISS ABROAD CONFERENCE IN SWITZERLAND

DELEGATE: Heinz Leuenberger, 33 Russell Terrace, Putaruru, Ph/Fax (07) 883-8537

DEPUTY DELEGATE: Marie-Therese Melville-Schöpfer, P.O Box 79-294, Royal Heights, Auckland 1230, Ph. (09) 833-4029

EDITOR: Rinaldo Rust, 242 Te Pahu Rd. R.D.5. Hamilton, Ph/Fax (07) 871-9946

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

AUCKLAND

SECRETARY: Albert Ryter, 32 Sunrise Ave. Mairangi Bay, Auckland, Ph. (09) 478-8547

HAMILTON

SECRETARY: Heidi Fransen, 30 Melva St. Hamilton, Ph (07) 847-1353

TARANAKI

SECRETARY: Doreen Schuler, Palmer Rd. P.O. Box 33, Kaponga, Ph. (06) 764-6533

WELLINGTON

SECRETARY: Michelle Köppel-Schneider, c/o. Embassy of Switzerland, Home Ph. (04) 476-7805

EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND: Panama House, 22 Panama St. Wellington, Ph. (04) 472-1593 or (04) 472-1594 Fax (04) 499-6302

HONORARY CONSUL: Peter Deutschle, P.O. Box 90-209, Auckland Mail Centre Ph. (09) 366-0403