

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 63 (1997)
Heft: [10]

Rubrik: New Zealand's Swiss Club news & happenings

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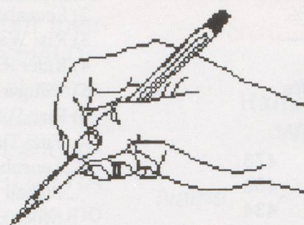
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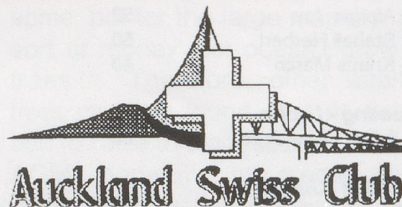
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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings



**Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington**



Forthcoming events

7. Dec. 1997, Santa at the Swiss Farm, Kaukapakapa.
The activities start at 10 am. Santa arrives after lunch. Excellent lunch is available. All families with children are welcome. As soon as you arrive make sure to fill-in the form with comments about your child's behaviour. Every child will receive a present from Santa. Members free, non-members \$ 5.— per child. Wet or fine, no problem, as the roof over the extension is up! You'll be surprised at all the changes since your last visit. Would every child please bring a Christmas tree-decoration for the Christmas tree, thank you.

15.Feb.1998: Picnic at Swiss Farm Kaukapakapa.

15.March: Wandertag.

4.May 1998: AGM.

A.R.

Shooting on Farm at Kaukapakapa

SWISS TRADITIONAL SHOOTING DATES

21.2.98 50m	Smallbore
22.2.98 300m	Obligatorisch
8.3.98 50m	Society Championship
21.3.98 50m	Smallbore
22.3.98 300m	Feldschieszen
18.4.98 50m	Smallbore
19.4.98 300m	Einzelwittschieszen
3.5.98 300m	Hamilton Day
16.5.98 50m	Smallbore
17.5.98 300m	Auslandschweizerschieszen
31.5.98 300m	Reserve Day

- 50 m shooting starts at 1.00pm
- 300 m shooting starts at 9.00am

Shooting dates organised by the Rifle-master, Henry Werffeli:

U.I.T. 300 m, 60 Shots Prone
4. & 5. April 98 North Island Championship
and final qualifying round for
World Championship
Barcelona.

1. & 12. July 98 1st Weekend Auckland
Challenge
19. & 20. Sep. 98 2nd Weekend Auckland
Challenge
14. & 15. Nov. 98 3rd Weekend Auckland
Challenge

If you wish to participate in any of these shoots, please contact the Auckland Rifle-master, Henry Werffeli, as there are some rules regarding equipment and who supplies the ammunition. However everyone is welcome to come and in most cases, I am able to help. Please contact me on 09-410 3476 (home), or 09-622 2800 (work).

Important Note: Please do not use the Auckland Swiss Shooting Range without prior notification.

The Rifle-master, Henry Werffeli

Great News

International Toll Call Rates have dropped again, e.g.

- * 62 cents to Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands
- * 57 cents to Australia
- * 71 cents to Japan
- * 49 cents to United Kingdom
- * 40 cents to United States

Same rate 24 hours / 7 days

Ring me on 09 827 0214 - Maria

Humour

Service station manager explains all the repairs needed on customer's car. "Do you understand all these technical terms" he asks. "How could I" answers the car-owner, "I don't know anything about cars, I'm a horse dealer by profession". Repair man thinks long and hard and answers: It's quite simple, just imagine your car to be one of your horses and you would have a mercy-killing on your hands.

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Hamilton Swiss Club

Forthcoming events

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Date: Sunday 14. Dec. 1997

Time: 11 am. onwards

Venue: Same as last year - Live-stock Improvement Centre on the corner of Morrinsville and Ruakura Roads. Enter at gate 2 and follow the driveway to the back of the buildings.

This end of year Christmas party is not just for families with children, but rather any club member is welcome to attend and enjoy the day.
- The venue has a swimming pool (this is not separately fenced), tennis courts and volleyball courts, a pool table and table tennis table. There are some shaded areas in the complex, but it would be a good idea if sun umbrellas and picnic mats were brought.
- Food will be provided by the club by way of barbequed sausages and bread for lunch, along with Swiss

biscuits, tea and coffee after lunch. A large drink container of raro will be available for the children, as well as ice cream and cones. Please bring any other food or drink which you may want to consume.
- A magician has been booked for 1.30 pm, providing entertainment for children **and** adults. Santa has been asked to come at around 2 pm. As with last year, would parents please bring a small **named** gift for Santa to give to your child to the value of \$5.00.
- The committee is looking forward to organising this day for it's members, and feels it will be a nice way to end the year. Various adult and children raffles will be on sale and your support would be greatly appreciated.

Please note: To give the committee some idea of numbers attending, please let us know *before 7 December* if you will be coming. You can contact Heidi - ph. 847-1353, or Beatrice - ph. 843-7971

ANNUAL PICNIC

This date has been set for Sunday 22 February 1988 at the Villiger's farm. The shooting competition will be held the day before, on Saturday 21 February 1988.

"40 YEARS WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB"

As original members of the Wellington Swiss Club we had the pleasure of participating in their 40 years celebration held in Wellington during weekend 25th and 26th October.

Celebrations commenced at the Skyline Restaurant (which overlooks the beautiful Harbour and City of Wellington) at 7 p.m. with nibbles and drinks, then a welcome speech by President, Maya Beddie-Geiser, followed by a delicious buffet meal. After dinner the Chargé D'affairs, W. Simmen, gave a short address, then there was a Rose Ceremony when former members of the Wellington Club, and visitors were called up and presented with a beautiful red rose each.

During the evening we were treated to entertainment by the Basler Clique, Yodel by Kathy Trachsel, Songs by the Taranaki Choir, Folk dance music by Marianne Benkert and Leo Zehnder, Alphorn Blowing by Ruedi Dudli, and Folk Dancing.

The next day was also well organized with three adventures - (1) Historic walk, (2) Trip by Ferry, or (3) Tourist tour through Wellington. At 5 p.m. the Club House in Ohariu Valley was open to everybody for Jassen and Kegeln. Later the Wellington Committee provided a delicious dinner.

We had a wonderful time catching up with old friends we had not seen for years, especially Maria and Harry Suter who came all the way from Canberra.

We would like to thank the Wellington Committee for an unforgettable weekend, and on behalf of the Hamilton Swiss Club we wish the Wellington Swiss Club all the best for the future.

Josie and Bert Flühler.

THANK YOU

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Congratulations to

Alice Werder

from Te Aroha who
will celebrate her 80th
Birthday in December!



Forthcoming Events

December:

31. New Year's Eve at the Club House.... happy hour commences at 4.00 pm with a BYO barbeque to follow at approx. 6.00 pm. Entertainment provided..... if you have any skits, items etc., please don't be shy !!! Admission \$ 5.00 per person, and Ladies a plate.

February:

5. Kegeln again.
7. Interclub Competition against Wellington.... We look forward to your support..., should you need further information, please contact a committee member.
8. Annual Picnic.... this is a great social occasion..., plenty of entertainment and socialising....., your committee would love to see you.
19. Kegeln... and jassers.... and table soccer players welcome.

Members of Taranaki Swiss Club trip to Wellington

On Saturday, 25th October nearly twenty of us descended on Wellington to attend the Wellington Swiss Club's 40th anniversary celebrations. With three campervans we headed south, stopping at Woodlands Lodge to enjoy lunch. What a beautiful place to stop and admire the building and surroundings. We then continued to Levin where we invaded a liquor outlet and to Otaki to invest funds in Lotto (in an effort to extend our séjour in Wellington !!!!). We commenced the last stretch.... but had an unexpected stop 10-km north of our accommodation..... Leo started emitting black smoke (oh....sorry, I meant the van!!!), and finally ground to a halt. The men tried to find a solution to the problem... Lou activating the fuel hand-pump managed to ensure that Leo eventually completed the trip !! In the evening we made our way to

the Skyline Restaurant where the celebrations were being held..., WOW...., what a fantastic view !! Unbelievable !!

After thoroughly delicious starters and drinks and then a scrumptious meal, various speeches and entertainment followed. These were interesting and enjoyed by all..., our singers, alphorn player and accordionists were there in force too !! Tombola tickets were sold, and our very own Margrit Dudli certainly was flavour of the month for the Taranaki contingent, drawing out our numbers at will !! Many thanks, Margrit, a job well done !! Holdi and Regi won a mystery weekend (second.... third... honeymoon??!!) and everyone was envious !! You might find some followers when you go !!!

Our next lucky person of the night was Bertha Kuriger winning a guitar ! After strumming all weekend she was in dire need of a sticking plaster to help heal the wound !! Anyone wishing to have lessons, please feel free to call Bertha...., no strings attached !!! Others won beautiful hand crafted wooden bowls and a cheeseboard. All too soon the evening came to a close, and we left for our motel and vans. Next day, Wellington members generously gave of their time to conduct city tours, a walk around the wharf or shopping...., many thanks Wellingtonians....., everyone thoroughly enjoyed their time with you all. We were then all treated to a lovely meal at the club house, where cards, kegeln and talking prevailed. We also watched an enjoyable video covering the previous 40 years of the Wellington Swiss Club. Excellent entertainment value !! All too soon

(again for the Taranaki ragers !!) the fantastic evening came to an end. Many thanks to all members of the Wellington Swiss Club who helped make the weekend so very memorable. We will be back !! Thanks also to Peter who arranged a new fuel filter for Leo's van...., excellent service !

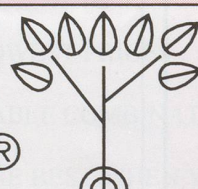
- On our trip home, we stopped again at Otaki to pick up our winnings...., a little short of the sum invested !! Sufficient though for us to purchase lunch for everyone and appreciate it and the sun at a rest area !! Great way to spend our winnings !!!! Visited Lindale which was interesting. Most Ladies enjoyed sampling the schnapps...., the men...., no-where to be found...., obviously not very fond of shopping !! Our next stop was Dudding Lake...., a very scenic, peaceful place where afternoon tea was devoured. Then on to the Restaurant 'Kurigers' (still strumming her guitar !!!!)...., where we enjoyed a delicious soup and cheese and bread...., can highly recommend this restaurant !!!, and schnapps kindly provided by her neighbours !! Many thanks Maya...., it was really appreciated (especially by Heidi and Lisette !!). On behalf of the passengers, I would like to thank the drivers very much...., they were great...., never complained...., did as they were told...., just like males should be !!! No...., all jokes aside...., we all really appreciated being able to sit back and enjoy the view, and of course chat !!!! We all look forward to another trip.... in the near future !!!!

MB.

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Obituary
Claude Wüest, 1944 - 1997



Born in Switzerland he emigrated to New Zealand in 1961. After working for his Uncle for a few years he was able to take over his farm in "Lowgarth".

- In 1966 he married Glenis Schicker and two children came into the family.
- In 1992 he shifted to the South Island on to a larger farm. The whole family is now involved in this farming enterprise.
- As a loyal member of our Club he was always able to enjoy the company of his fellow Swiss.
- To Glenis and her family we offer our deepest Sympathy.

R.D.

7.12.1997: Christmas Carols
Singing in the Botanical
Garden (Sound shell) at 7 pm.
Christmas cookies to be brought to
Maja Beddie-Geiser's house by De-
cember 3rd.

13.12.1997: Adult Christmas party
at the Club house. 7.30
pm. Buffet. Price \$ 18.—/members,
\$ 20.—/non-members. BYO.

25.1.1998 / 1.2.1998: Society
Competition
Shooting.

7./8.2.1998: Cowbell Competition
in Taranaki.

Second Reminder
Second Reminder

Overdue memberships !!

There are a number of members
who have not yet paid their dues.

Please pay now, or if you are not
sure whether you have paid -
please contact Ruth Messmer 388-
6249.

Obituary
Judy Wilson née Schuler,
1947 - 1997



Born in Kaponga as the Daughter
of Charly and Doreen, she grew up
in Kaponga amongst three Broth-
ers and one Sister.

- 28 years ago she married Vic
Wilson and they lived in New Ply-
mouth and had a family of three
children. They were able to give all
the children a university education.
- As I knew Judy, she was a bit re-
served, but once you got to know
her, she was very proud of her her-
itage as a Swiss and Scot descen-
dant. 6 years ago her big dream
came true, when together with her
husband she was able to see with
her own eyes the beauty of the
Scottish Highlands and the Berner-
Alps with the centre of Grindel-
wald, the place her Grandmother
came from.

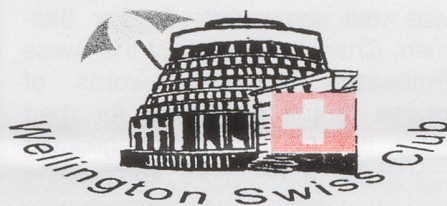
She was very impressed to see
this village nestled between the
three mountains "Jungfrau, Mönch
and Eiger".

- To Vic, the two Daughters and
Son, our deepest Sympathy. I liked
especially the ending of her
youngest Daughter's poem:

"Mum, I say goodbye, you now will
join Grandmas and Grandpas
and also Diana and Mother
Theresa".

May She rest in peace !

R.D.



Forthcoming events:

6.12.1997: Samichlaus at the
Club house, 2 pm. If
you wish Samichlaus to make spe-
cific comments to your child, please
contact Michelle 476 7805. Please
bring a small plate for afternoon tea.
Drinks will be provided by the club.



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**Wellington Swiss Club,
40th Anniversary Celebration,
25/26th October 1997**

It could not have been a clearer and sunnier evening on Saturday, October 25, when the first guests, our Swiss friends from Taranaki arrived at the Skyline restaurant in their colorful and elegant traditional costumes. The Wellingtonians, equally dressed up to the occasion, soon joined them and there was much joyous greeting, talking and laughing going on even before our throats were refreshed and appetites whetted with good wine and tasty nibbles.

The restaurant was decked with Swiss cantonal flags, lovely flower arrangements, little flags and red chocolate hearts on the tables made it look even more festive. The view over the harbour and on to the Rimutaka range was stunning - yeas, it touched the "Lueged vo Bärgh und Tal" spot of our Swiss hearts - quite adequately - on this day, the 40th anniversary of the Wellington Swiss Club.

A wonderful big, red and white flower arrangement, sponsored by the Auckland Swiss Club, decorated the entrance table on which were displayed their framed "Document" congratulating us to our 40th Anniversary, together with the message from the editor of "Helvetia". Mr. and Mrs. Bert Fluhler came as representatives of the Hamilton Club.

Our president, Maya Beddie Geiser welcomed everyone and wished a happy evening, which no doubt it was going to be.

The Basler Clique in their original costumes and masks 'drummed and piped' all guests to table and were much applauded. Everybody enjoyed the buffet dinner - some of our guests needed lots of patience until it was their turn, sorry about that !

After the meal, Ruth Messmer, our Treasurer of over 30 years, shared a few memories of what the club was like, when it first started - how modestly it had all begun, and how well it developed. André Schleicher had more stories to tell, and he added a somewhat pensive note by his reflections on the recent Swiss-Jewish/American relations.

However, the mood was quickly revived and brightened by the charming rose-ceremony conducted by Maya Beddie-Geiser. She presented 40 roses to the founding members of the club and to many others who during the past 40 years won special merits for their activities in and for the club. Hans and Therese Scherrer were made honorary members. Thank you all who have served the club in such different ways.

Thereafter, Ruedi Dudli delighted us with his Alphorn - a rare sound that attracted even the curiosity of the waiters of the restaurant, and was well applauded. Walter Simmen, Chargé d'affaires of the Swiss Embassy, addressed words of praise to the committee for their work, and he also encouraged the members to be more enterprising and try to make the club attractive to the younger generation. Thank you, we'll bear it in mind.

Ah, there was again the sound of Basel pipes - and the "Bebbis" came for a second round - this time even with an original "Schnitzelbangg", here it comes:

"Mir sind scho sit viile Joor
In dem schöne Land
Gueten oobe mitenand
Vo der Schwiiz und Neuseeland.

Mir sind do ane kho
Als jungi Pärli
Und s'isch is do vorkho
Wie immene Märli

Dänn hämmer ghüroote,
Händ glaini Bebbis gha
Und de Schwiizer Club aagfange,
Ziit isch schampar schnäll vergange.

Hüt simmer bigoscht scho
Grossmamme und Grossbappe
Und hän halt immer no ne frächi Klappe

Wellington, me sait em die windig Stadt,
Aber mir finde's doo trotzdem glatt
...wänn's numme kaini Zürcher hett !!

Em Aafang hesch nüd emol en guete Kaffi
gfunde
und em sechsi z'oobig händ d'Beize zuegmacht
und alli Liit sin verschwunde

40 Jöörli Schwiizer Club
Congratulation
Schwiiz-Neuseeland - a super combination"

Lots of laughter - particularly at the Zürcher-rhyme - old "friends" never die!!)

When this last evening drew to an

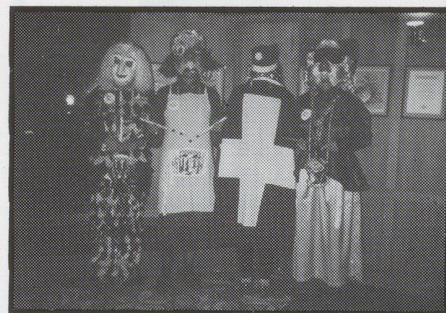
end, everybody went home happily and looking forward to - well, the 50th anniversary celebration. Lots of planning, discussion and work had gone into this weekend - everything worked out well and we would like to thank all the organisers, helpers, sponsors and most of all the participants for their contributions to this memorable event.

Michelle KoeppelSchneider
Secretary, Wellington Swiss Club.
14.11.1997.

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Swiss Club**

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Participants at the 40th Jubilee celebration. From left to right: Mäni Züzt, Lou Butler, Leo Zehnder and Mathys Seifert. Regi Mathys, winner of the mystery weekend is in the background.



Kathi Trachsel & Marianne Benkert, entertaining.