

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 65 (1999)
Heft: [2]

Artikel: What is a senior citizen?
Autor: Flühler, Bert
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-945399>

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: 23.02.2026

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



Congratulations !

For the first time in modern Swiss history we find a Woman-President at the helm of the "7-person Swiss federal council".

- Ruth Dreifuss is 58 years old, she lives in Geneva and took over on 1st January 99 from last year's President, Flavio Cotti. She is the only Lady in the federal council and was elected a member in 1993. Ruth Dreifuss represents the 'political left' in the multi-political composition of the Swiss federal council.

Rent a Campervan, Car or Motorcycle in New Zealand

from

Swiss Travel Rent

09-2369023

- ◆ we speak German and French
- ◆ free pick-up and return for airport and Auckland area
- ◆ full cover insurance
- ◆ unlimited kilometers
- ◆ no hidden costs
- ◆ competitive and reliable
- ◆ left hand driving lessons on country roads if required

*some age restrictions may apply

Owned and operated by a
Swiss Family

Humour

A man walks into a dentist's surgery and asks how much it would cost to extract wisdom teeth?

*Eighty dollars says the dentist!
That's far too dear says the man; is
there a cheaper way?*

*Well says the dentist; If I don't use
anesthetics, I can do it for \$ 60.
Still far too dear, said the man.*

*Okay, said the dentist, If I save on
anesthetics and only use the pliers
to pull them out, I can charge only \$
20. ! Nope, moans the man; it's still
too much! Hm.. says the dentist
scratching his head; If I let one of
my students do it as an experience,
I suppose I could charge just \$ 10.*

***Marvellous, says the man; book
my wife in for next Tuesday!***



NEW HORIZON
COLLEGE OF ENGLISH

Registered as New Horizon College Limited

Saletti zame!!

English Language in Napier

Do you have friends or relations in Switzerland who would like to learn **ENGLISH** at the famous Mission in Napier, New Zealand.

Contact me at
New Horizon College of English
for details about our courses.

Christine Schmidli
Phone: 06-844-3026
Fax: 06-844-5387
email: english.newhorizon@clear.net.nz

*Very competitive rates.
Excellent quality programmes.
Wonderful campus.*

WHAT IS A SENIOR CITIZEN ?

A 'senior citizen', is one who was here before the pill, before television, frozen foods, credit cards, and ball point pens. For us "Time-Sharing" meant togetherness, not holiday-apartments and a 'Chip' meant a piece of wood. 'Hardware', meant hard-ware, and 'Soft-ware' was not even a word. Teenagers never wore slacks. We, were before panty-hose, drip dry clothes, dish washers, clothes-dryers and electric blankets. We got married first, and then lived together, and thought cleavage, was something butchers did. We, were before Batman, disposable diapers, "QE Two", jeeps, pizza, instant coffee. And 'Kentucky Fried' wasn't even thought of !

- In our day cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was for mowing, pot was something you cooked in, a 'Gay' person was the life of the party, while 'Aids' meant beauty lotions, or help for someone in trouble.
- We are todays 'Senior Citizens', a hardy bunch when you think of how the world has changed, and the adjustments we have had to make.

thank you to Bert Flühler for this contribution.