

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

Rubrik: New Zealand Swiss Club news & happenings

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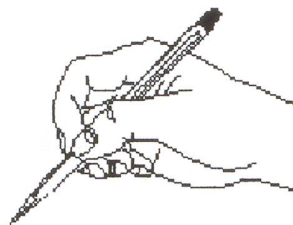
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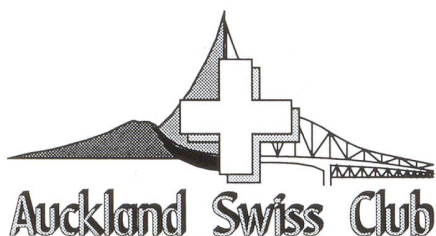
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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings



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Forthcoming Events

Stop Press..Stop Press...Stop Press

Sunday 7 March 1999

Starting at 10 am

Society Games

at the Swiss Farm

Auckland's 1st round

JASSEN, KEGELN, SCHIESSEN

B.Y.O. Lunch

Wandertag, 28 March 99

Time 10.00 am -Walk starts 10.15 am.

Meet at the car park end of Falls.Rd.

Bring your own lunch, BBQ facilities available.

How to get there:

At the end of Highway 16 turn left to Hobsonville Rd. - at roundabout left into Don Buck Rd., right into swanson Rd., left into Scenic Drive-North, left into Henga Rd., left into Falls Rd.

Short Walk: 1 Hour - (Auckland City Walk).

Longer Walk: Cascade Track-Walk.

Both tracks will bring you back to the starting point!

Background-information to Walks:

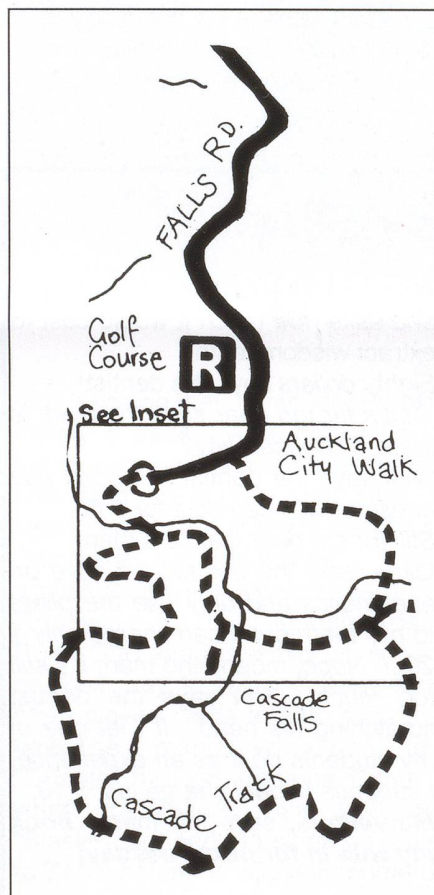
Auckland City Walk;

If you feel like some magic, inspiration and an easy walk through the bush, then this is the path to take. The safe, well surfaced loop trail leads you on a journey to find Aunt

Agathis, a caretaker that lives along the way. The journey will take about an hour and features huge kauri trees (one with a girth of 6.5 metres). A short side track leads up to a spectacular rock gorge and the Cascades Falls. **(one hour)**

Cascade/Kauri - Walk;

Visit this region of the Waitakere Ranges and you will begin to understand what the ranges would have been like before the timber logging days. A backdrop of one of New Zealand's greatest trees, the kauri, crowns the cliff, eyeing the forest as king. Let the lattice of walks and tracks entice you, not just to view the scene as a spectator, but to immerse yourself in it. Come, experience the grandness of the best kauri forest in Auckland. Choose between a range of walks from a challenging but rewarding tramp to a magical, easier discovery walk.



Shooting on the Farm at Kaukapakapa

Programme and dates for 1999:

Sun 7th March - Society Medal Shoot

Sat 20th March - 50m Smallbore

Sun 21st March - 300m Feldschieszen

Sat 17 April - 50m Smallbore

Sun 18 Apr -300m Einzelwettschiessen

Sat 15 May - 50m Smallbore

Sun 16 May - 300m Auslandschweizer-schiessen

Sun 13 June - Hamilton Day

For further information, contact Henry Werffeli on ph/fax 09 410 3476 (home, a/h). **Important** For safety reasons, do not use the Auckland Swiss Shooting Range without prior notification. The Riflemaster, Henry Werffeli

Past Events...

Picnic; On the 14th Feb. 99 we had our annual picnic up at the farm. We were not quite sure how many people would turn up, as the weather was not looking too promising in the morning. At 11 am. we started to wonder if it was the right day. But in the end 160 people including children came and it turned out to be a nice day. Lunch was Steak, Bratwurst, Cervelats, Wienerli, Bread with yummy salads, for dessert delicious Nussgipfel - 'Schnecken' and Crème-Schnitten. The Yodelers treated us to alphorn music and yodelsongs. There were Sack-races, Lolly-scrambles and Stein-stossen (unofficial win belonged to Markus, a visitor from Switzerland averaging 6.400 m - Raffles; this was something for everyone.

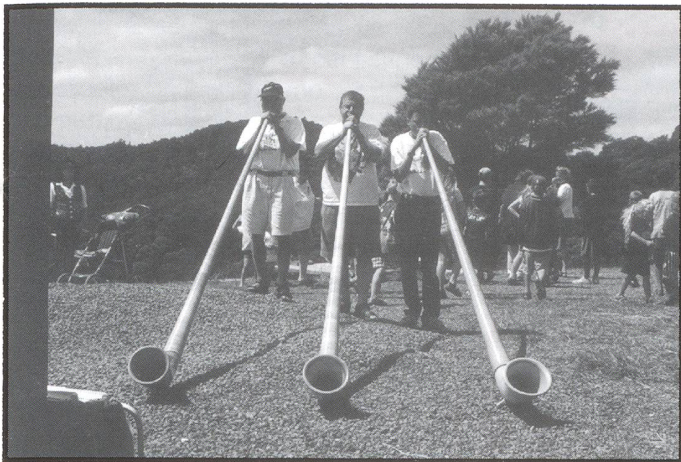
- The day was relaxing and very enjoyable, an occasion for people to catch up with the latest gossip as well as exchange important information.

- I would like to thank everyone who helped to make this day a success.

- Special thanks go to the **Swiss Bakery**, Milford for donating the 'Zopf' and 'Russen-Zopf' (for the raffle) and to Harry Moors, **Swiss**

Watch, West Harbour, for his Vouchers.

E.Gfeller, Pres.



Alphorn trio in action.

Photo J. St.



Auckland Swiss/Kiwi Jodelers in relaxed atmosphere.

Photo J.St.



Wir sitzen so fröhlich beisammen...

Photo J.St.

Swiss Chef Berta Kiwi Host Keith

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Hamilton Swiss Club

Forthcoming Events...

AGM

Any members interested in coming to the AGM on Saturday 17 April will be most welcome. The meeting will begin at 8pm at the Swiss Craft premises, with drinks and socialising beginning at 7.30pm. See you there!

INTERCLUB SEMIFINAL

This year Hamilton will host the competition semifinals between our club and the Auckland club. The tentative date for this will be Sunday 18 April, and will be confirmed next month.

CARD EVENINGS

1 May 7.30pm – Eureka hall.
15 May 7.30pm – Tirau hall.
29 May 7.30pm – Eureka hall.
12 June 7.30pm – Tirau hall.
26 June 7.30pm – Eureka hall.
10 July 7.30pm – Tirau hall.

BY THE WAY....

The Millennium Marathon, the first marathon in the world for the year 2000, will be held here in Hamilton city, starting at 6am from the Te Rapa racecourse. Organisers of the race are expecting approx. 4000 – 5000 runners from overseas, plus around 4000 NZ runners.

The Swiss club is one of several organisations which has been invited to set up one of the drink stations around the course. In addition to handing out drinks, this will involve having a decorated stand with Swiss music, costumes, etc.

If anyone is interested in being part of this possible venture, please contact one of our committee members, or come to the AGM to voice your opinion.

The organisers of the marathon have also sent me registration forms, should anyone require one.

HF

Taranaki Swiss Club

Forthcoming Events...

4th March - Kegeln

18th March - Kegeln again... with 'Jassers' also welcome... they're much noisier than the skittlers!!!, but we put up with them...!!

21st March Championship / Society Shoot at 1.00 pm.

26th March Singing practice

27th March Multicultural ethnic parade in NP..., great day out... any supporters most welcome, with the parade commencing at 10-00 am at the clock tower. The 'Singing- and Trachtengroups' are performing. Other ethnic groups will also be performing; so come along and join us. You won't be disappointed!!

Past Events...

Picnic;

On February 14th we held our annual picnic... on a typically beautiful sunny Taranaki Day !!

The first arrived at 9.30, with steady flow thereafter. Our grounds had been beautifully manicured by Don.. grateful thanks for your terrific work, it's truly appreciated. The committee and helpers set up the different activities..., a game of quoits was arranged with good participation by the children. Marlies had brought a horse which was also well supported and enjoyed by the Kids, a lolly scramble was held and as always the high light of the day was 'Schwingen' !! And this year we were all so very pleased to have a Swiss-Kiwi winner..., our heartiest congratulations to Nicol Ruchti, who after being runner-up several times finally won the "Kranz". We were all so proud of you !!! Winner of the Midgets was Thomas Werder with Martin Hebler the runner-up. Winner of the juniors was Gerard Muggeridge with Dani Werder the

runner-up..., many thanks to Walter Zumbühl for donating a beautiful cowbell as 'Wander-preis' ! Many thanks also to Nic Werder and Paul Ruchti for organising and refereeing the 'Schwingen'..., the committee really appreciates your effort and dedication..., and certainly the picnic wouldn't hve the same attraction without the 'Schwingen'. Another big thankyou to Christian Padrutt for bringing the hay, that many enjoyed sitting on, no injuries from thistles recorded !!!

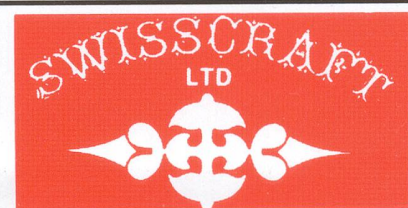
- It was great to see many NZ'ers competing this year, with one tourist and two exchange students.

- A tombola was once again held and we must thank everyone for their terrific support of this raffle !!

Our new musical equipment was put to good use, with excellent music flowing through the grounds.

Throughout the day our dedicated team of barbequers kept the hungry crowd fed with delicious 'Bratwürst' and 'Cervelats'..., thanks for your good work, and thanks to the Swiss Deli in Auckland who always supply these sausages promptly and which are so very delicious. A nice dinner was held for those still at the Club-house later in the day. Many thanks to Zeno and Aaron for the music..., what a talented duo !!! We had a great day and grateful thanks to all our loyal members for their continued support of the club.

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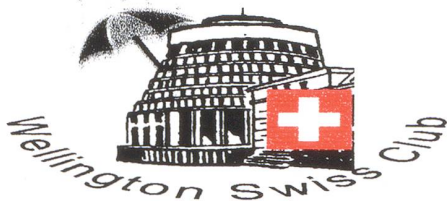
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Forthcoming Events....

The February walk has been organized for **March 07, 1999** at the Tunnel Gully Recreation Area.

Meeting Point: Tunnel Gully, Lower Picnic Area at **10.00 am.** - Tunnel Gully is 7.5 km north of Upper Hutt. Follow Road to Featherston, turn off State Highway 2 at Te Marua and follow Plateau Road. Bring a torch along.

- Dogs are OK on this walk. Please bring a picnic along and confirm your participation with Franz Schneider on 476 78 05.

13 March 1999, 7 pm at the Clubhouse:

"Fritz Adams Cup"
please bring a plate!

Walk on **March 28 1999**, Korokoro Dam.

Meeting point: Cornish Road, Petone at **10.00 am.**

- Dogs are OK on this walk. Please bring a picnic along and confirm your participation with Franz Schneider on 476 78 05.

Still a fair way off, but it won't do any harm if you make a mental note already;

17th. April, Annual General Meeting of the Wellington Swiss Club.

You might think AGM's are a bit boring, but the coffee and cake afterwards and the friendly atmosphere are definitely worth coming to our AGM. And there should be time for a 'Jass' too!

tb.

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Christchurch Swiss Club

Forthcoming Events...

Coming up shortly is the **Wine Trail** on **Sunday, 7th March.** By bus, we will visit some vineyards north of Christchurch. Families are also welcome. To check for space, please contact Werner Schibli immediately, Ph. 332 5525

Playgroup - First Friday of each month, at the home of Nicki Damm, 45 Ramahana Road, ph 332 8520. Open to all mothers with pre-schoolers, from 9am. Call Nicki by the prior Wednesday to confirm.

Stammtisch - Every first Tuesday of the month at René's of Cass Bay, 15 Governors Bay Road, Cass Bay, beginning at 6pm. Magnus's Swiss snacks, sweet and savoury, will be available on the evening.

TAURANGA SWISS PICNIC

Held on Sunday, 7th February 1999, and hosted by Colleen and Henri Limacher on their property in Oropi Road. - Many tables were set up with colourful umbrellas, where there was ample sitting room for the 85 adults and children present. It was great catching up with old friends and also becoming acquainted with many new people.

- The B.B.Q. luncheon was delicious and plentiful - Bratwurst, Frankfurters, salads, fruit salad, pavlova and ice cream, followed by coffee.

- The afternoon passed quickly with activities provided for all ages - swimming, bowling, darts, cards etc. or a nice amble around the spacious grounds.

A big thankyou to Colleen and Henri and their willing helpers for organising such a wonderful picnic.

J.F.

News Snippets from Switzerland

**Trouble with
the draft accord on the free
movement of persons between
the EU and Switzerland
(Feb.1999)**

Swiss Trade unions are worried that free movement of workers could lead to wage dumping in Switzerland, when workers from low-wage-countries come to Switzerland.. The Swiss Government says overall the bi-lateral accord with the EU is a good deal, giving plenty of opportunities for commercial expansion. But from the very beginning it was clear that Switzerland as a high-wage-area could act as a honey-pot for workers from southern Europe or low-wage-countries like Britain and Ireland. Swiss Trade unions fear that Swiss employers would not resist employing workers from low-wage-countries, thereby putting pressure on Swiss wage-levels. Employers, Trade unions and the economics Minister Caspar Couchepin have been getting together a draft package offering a measure of protection against wage or social dumping. Employers say the proposals go too far, the Unions say not far enough. Despite Union and employer criticism Mr Couchepin remains optimistic agreement can be reached. Labour relations in Switzerland are largely governed by industry-wide collective contracts. The Government is suggesting that if any employer substantially undercuts the provisions regarding wages, working hours and holidays, a collective contract can be imposed on the whole industry. Where no collective contracts are present the authorities can impose minimal wage levels and social standards. A law is due to be introduced obliging foreign firms who send foreign workers to Switzerland to comply with Swiss labour regulations. Neither the Trade unions nor the employers are totally satisfied by this package and the Unions are threatening a referendum against the bilateral accords. The final draft however is not due until June/July. A compromise will no doubt be reached by then.