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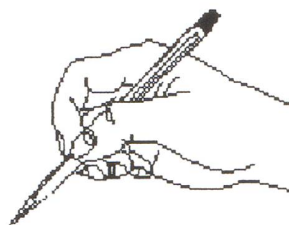
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New Zealand Swiss Club

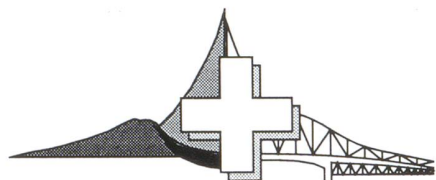
News & Happenings

Web-page - <http://www.swiss.org.nz>

E-Mail - society@swiss.org.nz



Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch



Auckland Swiss Club

auckland@swiss.org.nz

Changes in the Committee:

New Treasurer:

Heinz Matysik, 46 Bel Air Drive, Hillsborough, Auckland. Tel. 624 1589.

Harry Moors has left the Farm Committee. We express our thanks for all the contributions that he has made to the club.

Stammtisch

A regular informal gathering at the farm has now been introduced by our farm committee.

Every last Saturday of the month from 4pm onwards.

Bring food for a shared dinner, drinks, and sleeping gear if you plan to stay the night.

The first Stammtisch was held on Saturday 28 August 1999 and was attended by Markus Bühler, Heinz Matysik, Edi Brändli, Pfennigers, Louis Wallimann, their families and friends, and a very good time was had. There is plenty to do, walking, playing games, collecting wood, eating, drinking, singing, exchanging news and jokes from Switzerland etc.

This is a chance to enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the farm property in a leisurely way and to meet up with people of the club in an informal way.

Make a note of this Stammtisch in your calendar and stroll up whenever you have an idle Saturday afternoon.

The next Stammtisch gathering will be on Saturday 30 October 1999.

If you need more information please call Markus Bühler Tel. 832 3334 See you there.

Results of Card games

July results;

1 Annagret Wolf	4152
2 Marie Therese Melville	4008
3 Othmar Wyss	3953
4 Hansruedi Wolf	3908
5 Louis Wallimann	3907
6 Hans Jten	3706
7 Syd Melville	3613
8 Jakob Preisig	3521
9 Nelly Steinemann	3499
10 Hilda Jten	3413

Thanks to everybody who donated the lovely prizes and or prepared the lovely supper.

H.J.

August results;

1 Marie Theres Melville	4064
2 Molly Gianotti	3942
3 Hans Jten	3912
4 Jakob Preisig	3881
5 Hans Ruedi Wolf	3826
6 Annagret Wolf	3813
7 Louis Wallimann	3740
8 Hilda Jten	3266

Many thanks to all the sponsors for the lovely prizes and to all who supplied the delicious supper.

- See you next time on our 'second-to last' card evening on **October 8th** and then also on **November 19th** for the final game of the season.

Hans Jten; ph. 6209208

Farm Photos Needed !

The photos of the farm on the web-site are old and in need of updating. Photos that have been taken in 1999 with all the new development at the farm would be most appreciated.

Thank you so much for your help, it would make our site so much more interesting to visit for people in and out of the country. TF.

Hamilton

Swiss Club

hamilton@swiss.org.nz

Forthcoming Events

Christmas in the Heartland - this event is being planned by the Hamilton City Council through their Year 2000 Office. This will be a festival of performing arts which all clubs, ethnic groups and schools have been approached to perform. Our committee has decided to perform some singing items, FahnenSchwingen, Alphorn and Schwyzerörgeli. If anyone else is interested in participating or performing, please get in touch with Rinaldo Rust (07) 871-9946.

This event will take place on Sunday 12 December at the University of Waikato.

Past Events

Our First of August celebrations were again held at the Eureka Hall which was as always beautifully decorated for this occasion. The "Woodchopper Band" from Auckland got into full swing early on and was well received by all. It wasn't long before the dance floor was full and everyone got into the mood of celebrating. During one of the intervals the address from the Bundespräsident was played followed by some true swiss entertainment from the

singing group, Fahnenschwingen, Alphorn and Schwyzerörgeli which was much appreciated by all. A delicious supper consisting of hot ham, wienerli, salads and home-baked bread went down very well, followed by coffee, schnapps and swiss baking. The band continued to play until it was time to go home. Many thanks to all those that helped make this evening a lot of fun. Special thanks to the band for travelling such a long distance. It was nice to have "seven guys" stay the night as well (oops, I forgot about Walter which would make eight).

A.Z.

**** Happy 70th Birthday ****

to Bert Flühler
honorary Society and Hamilton
Club Member

Our Congratulations and
Best Wishes

****Congratulations****

to Bruno and Anna Rufer
on the Birth of their second son, and
brother for Benjamin

Anton Jakob
born at 9.00am, on 9.9.1999



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ALOIS STEINER 1917 - 1999

Alois Steiner (Louis, as he was known by his people) was born in Goldau, at the foot of the Rigi mountain. He was the third born of a family of six children, 3 boys and 3 girls. He was nine years old when it became necessary for the children to be admitted to the appropriate orphanage as there was not enough income on the small farm to support the family as well as the Grandparents. His Parents worked at different places to support the children. After the short school years Louis and his siblings went their different ways; his older brother studied for the Priesthood and became a Missionary in China. Louis worked on a farm. He was about 15 when he developed the habit of sleep-walking. Once he climbed out the window and fell 4 stories to the ground and no harm came to him, he just went back to bed and only felt a bit sore all over !

- Later on he moved on as a herds man, he was well known as one of the best hand-milkers to be found.

In 1939 he decided to emigrate to New Zealand because he couldn't see any future at home. As fate would have it Walter Risi and Family traveled with Louis on the same boat. Louis started his first job as a farm labourer, but very soon he took on a sharemilking contract with his younger brother Frank, who had followed him to New Zealand. For a number of years they worked together.

- After 10 years Louis went back to Switzerland for a holiday, where he advertised New Zealand so well, that quite a number of fellow Swiss decided to adopt this "Land of opportunity" as their future country. Louis was sharemilking on his farm for many years before he managed to buy it, his well earned place. As a diligent worker he was outstanding.

- In 1957 he married Mary Eberle, and together they raised a lovely family of 3 sons and 2 daughters. His hobby was playing Swiss cards and most often he would win first prize! His Religion was very important to him and in later years, due to ill health, he attended Mass with great difficulty, thereby being a great example to all of us.

May He rest in peace !

Members of the Hamilton Swiss Club together with the Swiss Society join in extending sincere condolences to Louis's Wife and Family.



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Adolf IMLIG

19. May 1923 - 6. Sept. 1999



With a sad heart we farewelled Dolfi on Saturday 11. Sept. He died very suddenly; a massive heart attack brought his life to an end.

- Dolfi was born in Arth, Switzerland, he had 6 brothers and 3 sisters. All his school years were spent in Arth. After leaving school he worked for his uncle, who had a small farm as well as a shop, where cheese and milkproducts were sold.

- Dolfi was a very good and reliable worker. He had a special touch with horses. - He also worked in a butcher-business as a delivery man.

- During the war he spent a lot of time in military-service.

- He loved his music, he played the accordion happily in his spare time.

- In 1954 he decided to emigrate to New Zealand. He worked on farms and in a dairy factory.

- He met Anna Täuschl and they were married in 1957. Together they started sharemilking in Tātuanui and then in Tokoroa. From there they went to Galatea and on to their own farm. The family increased by two boys and one girl, making for a happy family life.

- Galatea was their home for 25 years. Later the farm was sold and Dolfi and Anna retired to Matamata. Dolfi's health deteriorated over the past few years, but despite of this, he was a very active man. He was involved in the Swiss Club and enjoyed a game of cards. - He will be sadly missed! - May he rest in peace!

RM.B.

The Hamilton Swiss club together with the Swiss Society of New Zealand wish to extend deepest sympathy to Dolfi's family and friends.

Annual Shooting Event in Auckland

In the early hours of Sunday, 13 June, eight shooters from the Waikato travelled to the Swiss Farm at Kaukapakapa to compete in the various Swiss shooting events.

The Hamilton Swiss Club would like to thank the Auckland Swiss Club for the privilege of once again being able to be included in this regular, annual 300m shoot. Our appreciation of thanks must be extended to Henry Werffeli and his co helpers, who always make our group feel most welcome. Special mention to our chef of the day, Chris Hochuli, who whipped up a goulash, which was much appreciated by the troops. This is always a treat for our members and makes the day one of real camaraderie.

The event offers yet another opportunity for us to pit our sporting skills against those foes north of the Bom-bays! It also offers a battle on a personal level as we try and better our scores from previous years.

Alas for some, scores are like seesaws, they go up, and they go down. Age never has anything to do with it, but the weather is always to blame! Our shooters did extremely well overall - especially Wayne Hodel who shot a magnificent tally of 319, putting him into first place, two

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points ahead of the leading Auckland on 317. And then, with 315 points, Walter Zuber finished in a creditable third place. Age before beauty, aye Walter ?!

To both of you - Well Done!

Battered but not to bruised, the rest of our shooters all gained medals and/or certificates for the day's efforts. So yes, one can say it was another successful excursion up north.

We then headed home for the green pastures of the mighty Waikato. And even though we weren't carrying the shield (as our rugby players already have that scalp), we had the satisfaction of being able to contribute well to the scores that the Auckland shooters achieve, which in total rank their club amongst the best in the Ausland. We look forward, as always, to next year's competition! Bill Miles, Riflemaster



taranaki@swiss.org.nz

Ten-Pin Bowling

On 21st July a group of about sixteen members of the Taranaki Club went to New Plymouth to try the art of bowling with ten pins instead of nine!! It was a great afternoon, with twenty of us going out to dinner afterwards. Many thanks to Johnny Bishop for organising the event - everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable day. L.B.

First of August Celebrations

Our celebrations took place on 31st July, although most members were still there on 1st August! It was great to see so many members in costume as this certainly adds colour to the evening. Approximately 127 members, from the young to the young at heart, were seated by 8.00 pm when the celebrations were to commence. We listened attentively to the speech by

the President of the Swiss Confederation, Ruth Dreifuss, and then the singing group sang the National Anthem beautifully. The Swiss Society medals were then presented to the worthy winners, with our top competitor, Michael Zimmermann, earning a triple medal... well done, Michael !!

An hour of entertainment followed - with performances from the dancing group and then our alphorn duet of Ruedi and Beni; Remigi throwing the flag (we've now know that we should remove light bulbs from within reach of his accurate throwing!!); Silvia singing a lovely solo yodel, as well as a duet with Lisette; and the singing group performing their beautiful rendition of popular Swiss yodels. The entertainment was superb, and many favourable comments were heard throughout the evening. It was great to see some new faces in our Club - we hope you enjoyed yourselves and look forward to seeing you at future functions.

Later there was further dancing with music provided by Zeno, Peter, Maria, Aaron and Jennifer - we are very fortunate to have such talented people within our Club and your music was appreciated by everyone. Proof of this was the fact that people stayed so long!!

At 10.30 pm a delicious supper was served by our caterers, The Windmill, with scrumptious cervelats from the Swiss Deli - they were gone very quickly! A tombola was also held, with some great prizes up for grabs. Many thanks for the donations from the Mountain House and Campbells World Travel, and also to all committee members, for their terrific prizes. The tickets were sold so quickly it was amazing. Many people enjoyed reading the sayings, but I'm sure that they would have preferred a number!!

All too soon the evening was over, and people took their leave. The committee is grateful to everyone who came to enjoy themselves and participate in our celebrations. We really appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you again at future functions. Many thanks also to all those who sold tickets in the different areas - we appreciate the time and effort you put in. Zeno, the flowers were beautifully arranged and your artistic flair is cherished.

The next morning the committee met to clean up (although there wasn't a mess!!), enjoy a beautiful lunch (your soup was delicious, Doreen), and have our very first open-air committee meeting. Walter looked most handsome with his sun glasses... were they to hide the small eyes??

A very fitting way to end our National Day Celebration.

Cards

Our card afternoons have now finished for the year. These have been most successfully run by Charlie and Doreen, with John Hermann the trusty raffle ticket seller. Thanks, John, for going in early to switch on the heaters. This was really appreciated! The winners for this year were:

Jassen - shared by Bertha Sidler and Markus Rufer, with the Euchre Cup going to Kathleen Zehnder. Well done!!

Many stayed on for a pot-luck tea with more cards afterwards. Thanks to all the participants, and to the Schulers for the time and effort put into running these afternoons. M.B.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Kegeln - 7 October

some beautiful medals are up for grabs... a new series, so come along and join in.

Shooting - 17 October, at 1.00 pm
Trudi Belt and Championship Shoots

Kegeln - 21 October

Singing Practice - 29 October

Kegeln - 4 & 18 November

Shooting - 21 November, 1.00 pm
Ted Napflin Memorial Shield and Championship Shoot

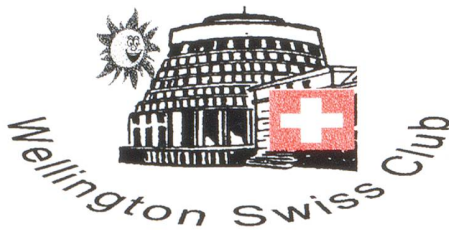
Shooting & Kegeln - 28 November
Christmas Shoot / Kegeln - and an excellent day for socialising. Starts at 10.00 am with a Pot-luck lunch

Remember your French??

L'automatisme. Encore une méthode qui n'a pas évité la part de poussière sous le paillason.

Pierre Alechinsky

Automation hasn't prevented dust from accumulating under the carpet.



Past Events;

31 July : National Day - Fondue

I hope you didn't miss out on our Fondue; you'd have missed the best fondue in town, without a doubt.!

- Thank you Max Fuhrer, for buying and looking after the special cheese mix; thanks also for the extra help from so many members.

- Monika Sörensen and her team did a great job, as usual, and we didn't hear any complaints from the over 80 guests.

- In the singing of the national anthem, however, there would be room for improvement, to put it mildly. How about a practice session beforehand, next year?

- Louise Macdonald managed to sell almost all the badges; thank you for this great effort.!

1 August;

Bonfire on Petone Beach

After a week of fairly bad Southerlies 1st August was lovely and calm - perfect weather for our traditional fire! Thanks to all the 'Hynes-elmännchen' we had an impressive stack of wood, and it even burnt - with a little bit of initial liquid help - for well over two hours. The warmth was appreciated, and everybody enjoyed this informal low-key Swiss get-together.

t.b.

EUROPEAN FORUM VARIETY CONCERT AND DANCE 21 AUGUST 1999

What a great way of spending a chilly and wet Saturday evening - sitting in a warm hall with your friends enjoying a night of music and dance. Various cultural groups put on a wonderful show for us all.

It was great to see that some cultures encourage their children to keep up with their ethnic traditions. To get the audience warmed up we were asked to participate in a sing-a-long with old favourites. For those able and willing there was even an

opportunity to brush up on their dancing steps.

This is an evening well worth supporting and I'm looking forward to next year. Who knows members of the Swiss Club may even make a contribution.

Many thanks to all the volunteers for the wonderful work.

supplied by;

Committee member - Christine Alderdice

Forthcoming Events;

25 Sept: Spring Celebration

The timing is a bit unfortunate: It will be a past event by the time you get this Helvetia. We'll write more about it in the next issue.

By the way: Have you ever thought of sharing your memories of what used to signify Spring in Europe for you? the 'Schlüsselblüemli'? or the hassle each year with the geraniums, the temptation to get them out from the basement before the 'Eisheiligen'? or, as a child, the battle for kneesocks instead of stockings?

16 October: Society Jassen

Apart from the opportunity of winning a medal, it's a pleasant evening in good company with a rich, delicious supper.!

t.b.

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News from Samoa supplied by M.Kappenberger

Dear Compatriots,

Just a note to share with you the good news that we were 18 celebrating Switzerland's National Day in Samoa, on Upolu island, on the first of August 1999.

In this most Western place of the world, it was the very last Swiss National Day celebration held on August 1st anywhere.

Coming from all parts of Switzerland, we conversed in five languages and greatly enjoyed our food, music, drinks, humor, songs, fire and traditional decorations, while having lots of fun at this the largest Swiss gathering ever in Samoa, the cradle of Polynesia..

Welcome to any of you coming anytime for whatever length to the Samoan islands!

You'll enjoy the extreme beauty of this tropical botanical-garden-like environment where the villagers live their traditional culture along the coastline, between the coral reefs and the rainforests.

Do let us know when you'll come this way and we'll see to it that you'll really enjoy your stay!

Just contact us at;
<kappenberger@samoa.net> or
00685 25528, phone or fax.
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With best wishes and greetings,

Marco Kappenberger

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