

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 66 (2000)
Heft: [10]

Vorwort: Editorial... : with compassion in mind...
Autor: Rust, Rinaldo

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: 18.08.2025

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

Editorial..

With compassion in mind....

'Nobody should try and force me into giving up smoking', said my friend and kept on coughing between every few words during our conversation. No, but you surely will admit that smoking is harmful to your health, was my answer. 'Yes, but it's still my business and my decision', was his! What about the people around you that become "secondary smokers", because of you, was my next question!

- I can't remember his answer since the discussion happened a few years ago. By now we are all more 'enlightened', warnings are printed on tobacco packages, the price of tobacco products has been increased dramatically, TV adverts brought us 'gruesome images' of smoking related illness and now the New Zealand Government is caus-

ing controversy by offering financial help in order to wean the most vulnerable and habitual smokers off their health-damaging habit.

Travelling on Singapore- and on Swiss Airlines recently we noticed that smoking is totally banned. 'Poor smokers' I said, hearing the announcement from the cockpit, while my wife said 'thank God for that'!

On our travels in Switzerland and some neighbouring countries we noticed that the ban on smoking is now generally applied in public places. In some Swiss restaurants there is but a very small corner set aside for the smoker. Equally we noticed that the smoking compartments in modern compositions of the Swiss railways are much smaller than in earlier years. - In the center of the Singapore airport which is like all public places smokefree we came across a specially constructed 'smoker's room' sealed on all sides with self-

closing doors and with internal ventilation system.

I suppose if you should have been in the business of selling tobacco products in recent years, you would have suffered great loss of turnover and that is what we have been told happened in Switzerland also.

- I for myself, a non-smoker, and being thankful for the fact, am still wondering if it was lack of money in formative years, or the good fortune of having had a non-smoking Dad as a role-model which kept me safe from a habit that has become frowned upon.

- With all the 'good news' of reduction of smoking in both our countries New Zealand and Switzerland, it is sad and disturbing to hear that in both countries (maybe worldwide) an extraordinary high proportion of teenage girls are 'bucking the trend' and take up smoking.

- Meanwhile I have just heard a report by Swiss Radio International about some exciting work done by two Swiss Doctors of medicine, researching possible prevention and termination of smoking. The two doctors, **Thomas and Erich Cerny**, are Brothers. Their parents and their grandparents were doctors of medicine as well. Erich has specialised in immunology and Thomas works specifically in the field of cancer treatment. Doctor Erich Cerny had the original idea to create an injectable antidote against nicotine. The result of Erich and Thomas' work is hailed as a sensation in Swiss medical circles.

First trials on animals have been positive.

- The idea apparently demands another four or five years of trials, to be conducted at the Cantonal Hospital in St. Gallen with human patients. With successful long term trials, it will be possible to inject smokers with nicotine antidote, which should neutralise the patients nicotine, thereby preventing the impact of nicotine on the patient's brain in creating an on-going urge for more nicotine.

- The report by Swiss Radio International even suggested that in time it may be possible to use the injectable nicotine antidote as a preventive measure to stop people taking up smoking in the first place.

Exciting news, isn't it, unless you're part of the tobacco growing or manufacturing industry..!

SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

PATRON: Mrs Sylvie Matteucci-Keller, Ambassador of Switzerland

PRESIDENT/TREASURER: Beatrice Leuenberger, 44 Montgomery Crescent, Hamilton, Ph.(07) 843-7971 Fax (07) 843-7941 bea.leun.rachel@xtra.co.nz

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

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

RIFLEMASTER: Peter Rust, 4202 Pepepe Rd. Naikē, RD 2, Huntly 07 8266711

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

COORDINATOR IN NZ FOR THE SWISS ABROAD YOUTH EXCHANGE SCHEME

MRS. NICOLE HELSDON, 58A MARELLEN DR, RED BEACH, OREWA, PH.09 426-0927

EDITOR: RINALDO RUST, 242 TE PAHU RD. R.D.5.

HAMILTON, PH/FAX (07) 871-9946 E-MAIL: RINALDORUST@XTRA.CO.NZ

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

AUCKLAND

SECRETARY: Trudi Fill, 51 Clifton Rd, Herne Bay, P.O Box 40152, Glenfield, Auckland, Ph/fax (09) 3764923, e-amil <weidfill@win.co.nz>

HAMILTON

SECRETARY: Anita Zuber, P.O. Box 11-026 Hamilton, Ph. (07) 8562414

TARANAKI

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

WELLINGTON

SECRETARY: Trudi Brühlmann, 1 Marine Drive, Mahina Bay, Eastbourne, Wellington, Ph. 04 562 8019

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./Fax (09) 366-0403. Email: deutschle@clear.net.nz