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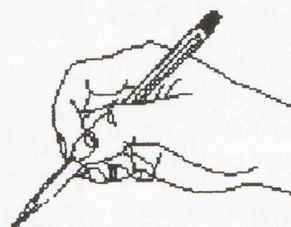
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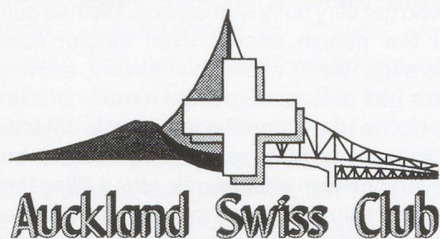
# New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

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

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Auckland  
Hamilton  
Taranaki  
Wellington  
Christchurch



**Auckland Swiss Club**

[auckland@swiss.org.nz](mailto:auckland@swiss.org.nz)

## Dear Club members!

Spring is in the air, in between the cold snaps, and I hope you all had some of that wonderful snow under your feet that we have had on the mountain this year. At least the ones who get a buzz out of this sort of thing.

It has been a while now since we celebrated our National Day. We had about 150 people to celebrate with, enjoyed a very nice meal, and although most of the yodellers were away and missed for their lovely waiata contributions, Oskar beautifully underlined the solemn speech given by the president from Switzerland. The Women's choir shared their songs with everyone, and of course, we all had a blast with the disco music supplied by Martin Van Doren, and looked like some people couldn't tear themselves away from the dance floor. I hope everyone enjoyed the night, and thank you all for coming. A big thank you to everyone who helped and contributed to this evening.

The card season is well under way and the July results are as follows:

1. Andrew Iten	4149 points
2. Jakob Preisig	3998
3. Hans Iten	3964
4. Nelly Steinemann	3801
5. Claudia Bühler	3756
6. Hilda Iten	3719
7. Elisabeth Preisig	3709
8. Louis Wallimann	3709
9. Yvonne Bühler	3589
10. Lynne Danphy	3557
11. Edith Hess	3478

Please note one of our young members emerging as a very capable player, and this could be our chance to compete.... Cowbell prize here we come!

## August results:

1. Hans Iten	4022
2. Fred Tobler	3901
3. Molly Gianotti	3874
4. Jakob Preisig	3815
5. Yvonne Bühler	3687
6. Louis Wallimann	3662
7. Elisabeth Preisig	3577
8. Hilda Iten	3408

Thank you all for coming, for the supper and the prizes you bring along, and I would like to encourage everyone who feels like a game to come along and support the game – it is a lot of fun and..... really not THAT serious.

There are only two more Jass Evenings this year:

Friday 18 October 2002, 7.30pm at Oski's lab,

And Friday 15 November 2002, also 7.30pm at Oski's lab, 224 Hobson St Auckland. The November Evening will

also be the Cowbell Competition for 2003.

Your Jassmaster: Hans Iten Tel. 620 9208

P.S. The Jassmaster has some connection with Wilhelm Tell. More later.

Congratulations! To Jochen and Marie Siegenthaler, on the birth of their baby girl on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2002. All the best to you all, and we look forward to seeing your wee little cherub running around the farm.

## Coming Events:

Saturday 5 October 2002:

## RACLETTE EVENING

Starting at 6.30pm, at the farm at Kaukapakapa.

This is our traditional Fondue Evening, and we have alerted you to this event during the past month. If you have not booked yet, would like to, but think it may be too late, there is only one way to find out, call Trudi now on Tel. 376 4923.

The cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, for children 5-14 years \$6 / \$8 respectively. If you have a cooker that could be used, please let us know, it would be very helpful. This should be a fun night. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sunday 27 October 2002:

WANTERTAG – Walking Day, start 10am.

We are taking in the boundaries of the Farm at Kaukapakapa. This is a 3- hour trek which will be very informative on the life and plant life of the Swiss Farm,

*continued on page 6*

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stunning views over the Kaipara Harbour. Bring a picnic that we can have at the Trig station - halfway round.

By the way, this event is a) on Labour Weekend, b) the day after the Stammtisch, so it would be possible to make a whole weekend of it, stay the night on Saturday and go on the walk.

Sunday 17 November 2002:

### MYSTERY TOUR

For this we meet outside the Auckland Museum at 10am.

There will be an entry fee which will be advised in the next Helvetia.

This is all I can reveal about this event, but I can assure you if you take part in this you will have a lot of fun! No information given but bookings taken. Call Barbara Ashton-Egli on Tel. 483 8244.

The next Stammtisch

Is Saturday 26 October 2002, from 4pm onwards. Bring your dinner, sleeping bag, music, guitar, bicycle, walking boots, tent, whatever is needed to make a cosy evening.

Lastly: To the new members who have

joined us recently –

- Alex Biland,
- Edith Müller and Pascal Sigrist,
- Fritz and Margaret Scheidegger,
- Urs and Michelle Schmidlin,
- Rolf Stadler,
- Christine and Martyn William,
- Brigitte Zehnder, -

A warm welcome to our club, and we look forward to having you among us at our gatherings. Please know that the farm, our focal point for activities, is there for you and your family to enjoy. Also, we are a social club, our main function is to help each other be at home in our adopted country, so if there is some way the people in the club could be of help, please feel free to talk to us about it.

And finally, the layman's answer to my question in the last issue, about what is the difference between a piano and a violin: the piano burns longer. Hahahaa!

Until next time,

Trudi.

**Hamilton**  
  
**Swiss Club**  
hamilton@swiss.org.nz

### Past Events..

The First of August function this year was held a week earlier on the 20th July. This was to allow some of the farmers to attend who get very busy with calving. We had quite a few people attend, even though some farmers were noticeably absent anyway! We had at least 80 people for the occasion which is more than the last couple of years. Dinner was also served a bit earlier and everyone was enthusiastic about filling their plates with delicious hot ham, frankfurters, homemade bread and a great selection of homemade salads. Soon after dinner the entertainment began with Kurt Hess and Len Schroeder treating us to some lovely Swiss songs. Rinaldo organised a bit of a sing-a-long and everyone got into the swing of Swiss National Day celebrations. Some keen ones were on the dance floor while others were just happy to chat to friends and drink a few glasses of wine. Later in the evening coffee and cake was served and everyone appreciated the lovely Swiss baking. Many thanks to the committee and all the helpers. It's always a very busy night with dishes to be done and cleaning up to do, but many hands make light work. Also many thanks to Kurt, Len and Rinaldo for the entertainment.

### Forthcoming Events...

Family Walk is planned for Sunday 3rd of November at the Te Waihou Walkway near Putaruru. This is an easy and interesting walk for all ages and hopefully the weather will be a bit kinder than at our last walk. Vehicles can meet at 10.30am on the left side of the road before the round-a-bout in the centre of Putaruru.

From there you will be given instructions of how to get to the walk. Please bring your own picnic lunch, snacks and a drink. Non-members and friends welcome.

**Christmas Function** will this year be held on Sunday 15th December. Further details in the next issue of the Helvetia.

## Ups and downs

This I have never understood  
We chop down trees but chop  
up wood

We draw down wrath, we draw  
up wills

We run down foes, we run up  
bills

We eat food up, we down a  
drink

Which is a little strange, I think

We turn down offers, turn up  
noses

Just one last thought and then  
this closes

We should remember, we poor  
clowns

That life is full of ups and  
downs.



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## The Last Will of an Average New Zealand Farmer

To my Wife - I leave my overdraft at the bank. Maybe she can explain it.

To my Banker - I leave my soul. He has the mortgage on it anyway.

To my Neighbour - my clown suit. He will need it if he plans to stay on his farm.

To the Rural Bank - my fertiliser bin and grain bin. I was planning to let them take them away next year.

To the Junkman - all of my machinery. He has had his eye on it for many years.

To my Undertaker - a special request! I want six stock agents for pallbearers. They are well used to carrying me.

To the Weather Man - let it rain and be cold. No point in having a nice day when I won't be here to enjoy it.

And lastly, to the Gravedigger - don't bother about it. The hole I am in should be big enough.

I think that the drafting of this Will followed a particularly bad season!!!





### Card Afternoons

These eight afternoons were, once again, well-organised by Charlie and Doreen Schuler ... what would we do without them???!!! Many thanks, on behalf of the committee and all the card players, for the time and effort that you put into organising these afternoons for us to enjoy. Numbers have been down a little on previous years, but the main thing is that the people who have attended have enjoyed themselves. The skilful, or maybe lucky, winners this year were : Jassen - Margrit Dudli, with Walter Seifert second and Frieda Meier third, and Euchre - Tilly Riddick the winner, with Doreen Schuler second and John Kuriger third. Congratulations to you all. Many thanks to all those who attended the card afternoons, and who enjoyed the friendly rivalry. Pot luck teas were often held, and the delicious food savoured by all.

### August 1 celebrations

Our National Day celebrations were held on July 27 with an excellent attendance. After having held our Jubilee dinner recently we were sure our numbers would be down ... but no, we were very pleasantly surprised!!! Firstly we listened to the church bells of Luzern, and then to the wonderful speech by Kaspar Villiger, President of the Confederation. We were all delighted to hear the church bells again, as opposed to the musical ensemble of last year!!! The Swiss Society Medals were then pinned on worthy winners, but we must thank ALL participants in this competition, as without you there would not be medals for distribution. The Singing Group and Trachtentanz Gruppe together with various other forms of entertainment delighted the audience, and then Zeno and Aaron played the accordions for all to dance or listen to. Many thanks to all those who contributed to make this such a culturally colourful evening ... we are so very fortunate to have so many talented people in our midst!!! The tombola tickets were then sold, and many winners took away lovely prizes ... many thanks to all those who donated the great prizes, and to all those who bought tickets. This evening was very enjoyable, and we thank all our loyal supporters for attending.

### August 1 at the Mountain House

Well, as you probably all know ... the Swiss in Taranaki love to celebrate!!! Approximately forty of us decided to go to the Mountain House (as we have done over the last few years) to celebrate the Swiss National Day. We all had a delicious meal, good drink, great company and we provided our own entertainment (for ourselves and other guests!!!). Zeno, Leo and Marianne had their accordions and played dance music and sing-a-long music ... singers were very harmonious ... Maya was in superb form, and was ably helped by many talented choristers!!! It was wonderful to see so many of our members, and also Tom and Tilly Walker from Omokoroa ... great to see you both!!! We had a terrific time ... thanks to everyone who came to have a good time ... and thanks to Keith and Berta our hosts ... an event sure to be repeated!!!

### Singing Group

Our little singing group continues to perform for various clubs and organisations, enjoying their outings immensely. They provide a varied entertainment package, and audiences always appreciate their performances. It is noticeable that they enjoy their culture and traditions, and we hope that our club continues to have their services ... keep up the good work.

### Forthcoming Events

October 3 - Kegeln recommences ... Ruedi, John and committee would love to see some new faces ... come along and enjoy the company, and have a go at nine-pin bowling ... you'll love it!!!  
October 20 - Trudi Ott Belt Shoot and Championship Shoot at 1.00pm ... once again, Mark would love to see some

new faces (of course he still enjoys seeing the old faces!!!) ... try your skill at shooting, it's a great sport!!!

November 17 - Ted Napflin Memorial Shield and Championship Shoot at 1.00pm.

December 1 - Christmas Shoot / Kegeln ... always a great social day ... competition starts at 10.00am, with a potluck lunch and then prizegiving. Children's activities will be organised, so come on Mum and Dad bring your family along to enjoy a social outing. All participants need to bring a prize worth no less than \$10.00, and will of course get one in return. All children's presents will need to be named, and Santa will be along to give them out!

MD

## THE TATE FAMILY

Nearly every organisation has members of the TATE family -

There is old man DICK TATE who wants to run everything.

Uncle RO TATE who tries to change everything.

Sister AGI TATE always stirs up plenty of trouble with the help of her husband IRRI TATE.

HESI TATE and VEGE TATE want to wait until next year.

Aunty IMI TATE wants the organisation to be like all others.

DEVAS TATE wants to be the voice of doom, while

POTEN TATE wants to be the big shot.

However, FELICI TATE helps out.

Whilst FELICI TATE is also helpful in organisational matters, Cousins COGI TATE and MEDI TATE always think things over before Lending a helpful, steady hand.

The blacksheep of the family is AMPU TATE who has completely cut himself off from the organisation.

I am sure that any one of these could also qualify as a 'SOMEBODY'.

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*The world is a net; The more we stir in it, The more we are entangled.  
The most wasted day of all is that during which we have not laughed!!!  
Most people don't mind criticism as long as it's about someone else!!!  
Change is not merely necessary to life. It is life.  
Fear can keep us up all night long, but faith makes one fine pillow.  
Laughter is the brush that sweeps away the cobwebs of the heart.*



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#### **Past events**

July 14 - The Sunday walk to the Rimutaka Forest Park had to be cancelled because of bad weather.

August 1

We could not have wished for a better evening for our National Day celebration at Petone Beach. After so many days of rain it was wonderful to have a clear evening and to be able to stand around the traditional fire, prepared by Heinz and Peter. We all enjoyed the hot frankfurters and coffee or cold drinks. To finish the evening the keen singers stood around the warming fire and sung well known Swiss songs including the national anthem. A wonderful atmosphere and some good voices too.

August 3 - National Day Celebration Dinner

The National Day Celebration Dinner was a scrumptious gourmand dinner accompanied by soft country music. Theres did us proud with a deliciously cooked Fillet Wellington, fresh vegetables and mashed potatoes.

We needed the president's strength to master the creaming of the potatoes.

Unfortunately many of the members are in Switzerland or were engaged in other interests and could not share the fabulous dinner with us. However those attending the evening had a wonderful time.

August 8 - Book Discussion Group led by Trudy

We met again to an enjoyable, relaxed lunch in the sun, in the Clubhouse Garden. We were introduced to a very early Swiss writer: He lived 1735-1798 and came from a humble background.

Our writer was one of many children of a poor mountain farmer. In winter he went to school for 10 weeks, but sometimes the snow was too deep to get there. Soon he had to contribute to the family income by herding goats - not always a rewarding job. Later on he was conscripted into the Prussian Army and went to Berlin; he had to walk all the way there and back. He married and had his own large family. They eked out a meagre living by farming and home weaving. He bought and sold cotton, with little success, was always in debt, had a nagging wife at his heels - and in spite of all this he managed to take time out to write the story of his life. Friends introduced him to literature. He read all of Shakespeare and was so moved that he gave his own comment to all the plays.

I am sure you would all love to read 'ULRICH BRAEKERS', Lebensgeschichte und Natuerliche Ebentheuer des Armen Mannes im Tockenbun, and his Gespraechen ueber Shakespeare. For a loan of the book ring Trudi at 04 562 8019.

We also had two children's books in very simple language: 'Der Findefuchs und Die grauen und gruenen Felder', by Ursula Woelfel.

August 11 - Sunday Walk/City to Sea Walkway

Nine keen hikers and three children tackled the Sunday walk from the City to the Sea. Again the weather was kind, not too much sun or wind. We started at 10.30 at the Bolton Street Chapel, a great peaceful walk through the old cemetery. There are very interesting tombstones to be seen. Then on through the Botanical Gardens to the University. From there between the buildings down to Aro Street with interesting and newly painted old houses. It is a very old part of Wellington. The last stage was to Lotti's where a drink and a rest were most welcome. Many of us living in Wellington for years have discovered areas and walkways we never knew existed. Thank you Lotti for organising the walk.

August 21 - Jass Afternoon

The Jass Afternoon in the clubhouse was attended by the usual keen players. They enjoyed their games out in the garden in the sunshine followed by a nice afternoon tea.

#### **Forthcoming events**

October 13 - Swiss Society Shooting

For more information on the shooting please contact Hans Glauser at 478 9899.

Hans would love to see some new faces amongst the shooters. Please make a special effort and participate.

October 19 - Chef's Special  
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