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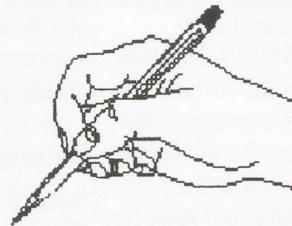
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New Zealand Swiss Club

News & Happenings

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

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Obituary

Max Wilfried Bachmann 1921 - 2002

Max grew up in Rüti, Kanton of Zurich, where he became a butcher and worked for Bell as store manager. He emigrated to New Zealand in 1951 with his wife Elisabeth from Madiswil, BE, and first two daughters, Verena and Elisabeth, and soon offered his sausage making skills to the new homeland with contributions to Vienna Foods and in his own shop in Blockhouse Bay. The couple had three more daughters, Suzanne, Christine and Greta. His dedication to the Swiss immigrants to New Zealand made him a founding member of the Auckland Swiss Club and he played a pivotal part in the purchase of the club's land at Kaukapakapa in 1965.

He was a dedicated father of 5 daughters and grandfather to numerous grandchildren. To his family we extend our deepest sympathy. His spirit that is love and humour will always fuel the

activities of our club.

TF 5. Yvonne Bühler 18552
6. Elisabeth Preisig 18012
7. Hilda Iten 17918

Congratulations to the winner of this Cup!

The Games Evening of the 15th November 2002 was also the Swiss Society New Zealand Jass Competition (the prelude to the nationwide Society Games early next year) and the results were as follows:

1. Fitzi Hans	4441 points	1s Hans Fitzi	869 points
2. Jakob Preisig	4195	2s Hans Iten	770 "
3. Monika Eggenschwiler	4180	3s Toni Manser	745 "
4. Toni Manser	4125	4s Jakob Preisig	734 "
5. Synne Dunphy	3987	5s Louis Wallimann	605 "
6. Andrew Iten	3928	6s Hilda Iten	602 "
7. Nelly Steinemann	3898	7s Oscar Roggen	565 "
8. Elisabeth Preisig	3895	8s Edith Hess	545 "
9. Yvonne Bühler	3636	9s Elisabeth Preisig	418 "
10. Heidi Wilson	3616	10s Yvonne Bühler	353 "

Congratulations to the winners and we hope that you will help bring home the big bell next year!!

This concludes the Card Season for 2002, and I wish to thank all who participated through the year, and also for your donations of prizes and offerings of supper for the nights.

A big thank you also to Oscar Roggen and his company, Prosthetic Processes, who kindly let us use their staff room, with never a hassle. We really appreciate this gesture, as it gives us a very central

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location for everyone to come together. I look forward to seeing you next year and wish you a Happy Christmas.

Hans Iten.

The suggestion has come forward to extend the season a bit by starting earlier, eg March. If no objections come in, the Card Master is in agreement with this, thus the first Game Evening next year is set to take place on Friday 21st March 2003, at 7.30pm at Oski's place, 224 Hobson St, Auckland City. See you then.

★★★★★

The farm is now all trim and ready for the **Samichlaus on Sunday 8 December 2002, beginning around 11am.**

Sausages and Sweets, as well as drinks are available to buy.

Santa will arrive around 1pm and will have his bag of surprises with him for each child. For non-members' children we will have to charge a small price for this bag. Any surplus bags that Santa has can also be purchased (Santa has to make some kind of living these days...). There are some activities for the children while we all wait for Santa. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

★★★★★

An invitation to visit the Compound of the Alinghi Syndicate

has been extended to members of the Swiss Club by the PR Manager of the syndicate, Mr Mark Fitzpatrick:

Friday 13th December 2002, from 6pm-8.30pm

The Compound will be especially open for us and there is a chance to have a discussion with and ask questions of people who are directly involved.

So please, if you've always wondered about.... "which lake will the cup be held

on if Alinghi wins it?"...etc. please take up this opportunity and come down. No booking is necessary. For more information, please call Trudi on tel. 376 4923, or Barbara on tel. 483 8244.

★★★★★

Entries for the new diary:

Saturday 1st February 2003: - Working Bee.

- Shooting for the Society Games

Sunday 9th February 2003: Picnic, at the Farm.

Sunday 9th March 2003: Society Games (other than shooting) with BBQ at the farm.

Sunday 27th April 2003: Cowbell Competition Auckland vs. Hamilton, in Hamilton

Saturday 3rd May 2003: AGM at the Farm.

The next **Stammtisch** is New Year's Eve. E Guets Neuis.

From our correspondence:

★ We receive Newsletters from the Danish Society, the Austrian Club and the Goethe Society (German Cultural arm of the University Germanic Languages Department). We have those displayed at the farm as much as we can, but if anyone wants up-to-date information, please do not hesitate to contact the secretary Tel. 376 4923, and I will gladly forward these to you.

★ The International Men's Club (IMC) in Zürich is inviting people (not just men) who frequently travel to Switzerland (as people of executive status often do) to visit their Round Table gathering which

they hold every Thursday at the Zurich Marriott Hotel, from 6pm onwards. For more information you can view their web page on [HtmlResAnchor www.zimc.ch](http://www.zimc.ch)

★ A Swiss Lady, Bruna Moehl, who lives in Florida or Switzerland, depending on the weather, has written a book, *Whistling La Paloma*, about life as a solo mother in the first half of the 20th century. It sheds a different light on the term "the good old days", as she says. Could make good reading, and if you'd like to know more, you can visit her homepage on [HtmlResAnchor www.trafford.com](http://www.trafford.com) or contact the secretary, Trudi Tel. 376 4923. She is promoting it on her own so it will not be available in shops for a while.

For the coming festive season, may the sun shine on you and give you joy and energy for the coming year.

Love, Trudi and the Committee.

★★★★★

Marriage is a journey towards an unknown destination - the discovery that people must share not only what they don't know about each other, but what they don't know about themselves.

It's human nature to keep doing something as long as it's pleasurable and you can succeed at it -which is why the world population continues to double every 40 years!!!

Unemployment Figures

The national unemployment rate at the end of September stood at 2.8%, the highest figure in 3.5 years. But still better than most other European countries. The highest individual cantons were Geneva with 5.6%, Jura with 3.8 % and Zurich with 3.4%. These figures are not expected to improve before the middle of 2003.

The Federal Council wishes to raise the tax on a packet of cigarettes by 30 cents, which would raise the price from the present Fr 4.80 to Fr 5.10.

However, because of federal tax laws it cannot. The council could raise the tobacco tax on a packet by only 10 cents per year.

So the council appealed to the full parliament to change the tobacco tax laws to grant it a more liberal hand on this.

On September 24, after some debating, the National Council granted the Federal Council's request and passed the new laws by a substantial majority.



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Past Events...

Family Walk

Quite coincidentally, on the Friday evening before our planned family walk, the Te Waihou Walkway, near Putaruru, appeared on Maggie's Garden Show, so those who caught it could see in advance what a great walkway it is. As well, it conveniently served as a reminder to a few people to check the date again. But for a lot of the past week, and then for most of Saturday as well, it just continued to pour down, casting a rather damp cloud over the prospects of good weather for our walk on Sunday. As with the Pirongia walk last April, it looked like it would become another wet and soggy trek.

Luck was on our side, however!

Sunday dawned, and we were greeted by sunshine and blue skies – it was reasonably warm, but very, very windy. Towards 10.30am, people began to arrive at the meeting point in Putaruru, and then it wasn't long before we were heading out towards Whites Road and the car park to begin the 3.7km walk to the pump station. This is the spot where 60% of New Zealand's bottled water is collected from. The water at this part of the river is very still and crystal clear. The walkway itself is all on private farmland along the Waihou River. The track contains some boardwalks, and there are several well-built styles for crossing fences. The riverbanks contain a lot of new and diverse plantings, including many natives - used as a filter to protect the river from erosion.

As most people set off on the walk, a few of us then drove down to the other end of the track and walked the approx 500m to the meeting point from there.

Our group of about 25 people was made up of all ages - from under five to over 70.

By midday, we all came together again and sitting on the riverbank, we enjoyed our picnic lunch, good company and sunshine.

A little later, most started on the return journey down river again. A few people, who only wanted to do the walk one way, walked the shorter distance back to the end of the track for a ride back to the Whites Road car park, where we finally all met up again.

In planning this event, we thought it would be an idea to go to a café afterwards; perhaps in Tirau. But Agnes Gaemperle then invited everyone back to her place for coffee and home made Apfelstrudel - an offer we couldn't possibly refuse! Many sat inside around the large dining table, while others made the most of the sun outside. Thank you, Agnes, for your hospitality. This was a really lovely way to end what turned out to be a very enjoyable day - and as planned, a family day, with many children, and even grandchildren, taking part.

And finally, on the drive home to Hamilton at about 5pm that evening - it started to rain. Someone had been looking down on us for the lovely day we had!

Ideas are welcome for other suitable walks we could do as a group in the future. Please let a committee member know.

Forthcoming Events....

Christmas Party

This will be held on Sunday, 15 December, commencing at 11am, at the **Tamahere School** (the same venue as last year)

To get to Tamahere School (whether you are coming from Hamilton or Cambridge), take the Airport turnoff on SH1 south of Hamilton - then go to the on-ramp heading north back into Hamilton (parallel to SH1) - and then turn left into Devine Rd.

This is a family function, and children will have use of the school playground equipment. and the pool may possibly be available, depending on weather conditions. Parents must take full responsibility for their own children, both on school property as well as in and around the pool.

And even if the weather isn't as we'd wish - it rained last year - we also have full use of the Tamahere Hall and can hold the function indoors.

The Club will provide barbecued sausages and bread for lunch, drinks (juice), along with baking and coffee for afternoon tea, but please bring your own snacks or any other drinks.

Please don't forget to bring money to support the Club with the usual popular raffles.

Santa will also be coming so bring your named presents up to the value of \$10 for your children.

Remember, this function is for everyone, so we look forward to seeing lots of people, young and old. Come and enjoy a relaxing Sunday afternoon with friends away from the Christmas rush - We'll have a few decks of cards available, so

there will even be an opportunity for a Jass for those keen players !!

Shooting and Annual Picnic

The annual Swiss Society medal shooting competition will be held, as usual, on the day before the picnic, on **Saturday, 22nd February 2003**, commencing at 10am at Elmiger's farm, Chudleigh Road, Te Aroha.

Please bring your own lunch and drinks. For further details, contact the Riflemaster, Hans Vetsch, ph. (07) 855-3294.

And on **Sunday, 23rd February** our Annual Picnic will once again take place at the **Eureka School**. from **11.00am**.

Please remember to bring your own sun umbrellas, etc, as there is very little shade, along with chairs and rugs. The pool and playground will again be available for the children, as well as the usual activities of Kegeln and Shotput. There will also be plenty of grilled Bratwurst and Cervelats for sale as well as Swiss baking, coffee and cold drinks.

This is another great family event for all ages, and a wonderful opportunity to catch up with Swiss friends in an informal setting.

BL



Forthcoming Events

December 12, 11.30am at the Clubhouse: Book Discussion Group

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Singing Group

This multi-talented group has recently performed for several Christmas and social functions in the Taranaki area. Their polished performances have captivated their audiences, with Walter keeping everyone on their toes (including the singing group!!!). Walter, you really ensure that the performances are alive, and bring another dimension to the popular singing group!!! Your enthusiasm livens up the entertainment!!! Keep it up, as enthusiasm is contagious!!! The wide variety of entertainment offered ensures that the audiences are kept spell-bound from the beginning to the end. Be sure to keep these traditions going, as demand for your group to entertain is always strong.

Forthcoming Events

Our functions are now increasing in number as the farmers have the worst behind them ... we hope!!! We have a variety of events in the next few months, and would love to see as many people as possible attend them. They are all good social days, and I'm sure that you won't be bored!!! The Kegeln and Shooting Clubs have started their new programmes and would love to see you attend ... Ruedi has enjoyed seeing a few new faces at

the Kegeln. Please remember there are some lovely medals up for grabs and as the saying goes "Practice makes perfect" ... well may be!!! Mark also has some beautiful cups and trophies in the offing, so support him and you maybe one of the lucky winners.

December 1 - Christmas Shoot/Kegeln. Commences at 10.00am with a potluck lunch to follow. Prizegiving will then be held. A wonderful day, organised by the very capable Mark Kiser. Come along and enjoy this wonderful day.

December 31 - New Years' Eve, of course!!! Great entertainment is a definite highlight of the evening, and we can assure you that you will enjoy this. Walter and Leo are sure to have their bag of tricks ... so beware!!! A BYO barbecue starts at 6.00pm, which can hopefully be enjoyed outside. As with previous years, the campervanners will be joining us (for bad or for worse!!! ...no, just kidding...they are truly a great bunch of people...full of laughs). Come and join in, and you are guaranteed a great night.

February 9 - The annual picnic of the Taranaki Swiss Club is the highlight of our social calendar, and enjoys a great crowd ... especially if the weather is on our side ... perhaps we had better have words with our local lad, Jim Hickey!!!

Many activities available for children to participate in. Delicious barbecued sausages (mouth-watering bratwurst and cervelats fresh from the Swiss Deli), alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, icecreams and iceblocks are all available until supplies run out. The highlight of the day is the Schwingen, where young and old can participate ... just go and see Nic Werder or Paul Ruchti and they will find you an opponent or two!!! Our members enjoy watching this Swiss sport, especially with the youngsters competing as well. We have the ever popular tombola tickets for sale, so do remember to bring your wallets as there will be some great prizes up for grabs!!!

March 4 - The AGM of the Taranaki Swiss Club at 8.00pm. Come and listen to what's happened this year (which has kept your committee very busy!!!) and join in the discussions.

March 6 - Kegeln...good practice for the Society competitions so join in the fun.

March 16 - Championship Shoot and Society Shoot commencing at 1.00pm. There are some lovely medals for the winners in the Society Shoot so come and give it a go ... juniors most welcome.



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