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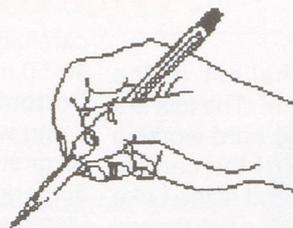
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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

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

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Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch



auckland@swiss.org.nz

Dear Swissies in Auckland

Finally, sadly, The Cup is gone. The dust is settling, the tourists scatter and we "Swiwis" can go about our business once again without having to apologise for our nationality. The whole experience has been quite a varied one for everyone. Some of us made some very warm connections with the members of the Alinghi team. One of our members was welcomed into the ranks of the team just by expressing her support and acknowledging that it is not only the expertise of the Kiwis that won the cup. Many of the suppliers of material and food - Puhoi Cheesemakers made Raclette for the crew and supporters, Chris Hochuli prepared the hotdogs for the various parties - report that the whole team was just one wonderful bunch of people who just worked towards one goal.

Apologies to the people who were a bit confused on the stand the club, as a body,

made towards Alinghi. Representatives from the media repeatedly asked what the club was doing in support - and the committee's answer could only be one: we will not make a joint stand. The point is that there was no stand to make. That the club, most of its members, was split in its allegiance. The unanimous opinion, in hindsight, really was: 'Good on them but please don't win'. Now that they did, I'm sure the New Zealander in us will get over it.

Our Yodlers sum it up like this: Alinghi, what did it mean to the Swiss in New Zealand??

For us **Yodlers** and **Alphorn players** it meant going down to the wharf and playing a tune every time the boats went out. Oscar Roggen gathered his troops at 9.30am to urge on the Alinghi sailors.

At the same time we watched over the fence Team New Zealand getting ready to depart through the big crowd of Loyal people, our hearts were really with them, we wanted the Cup to stay in New Zealand!

But it wasn't to be. Being involved with Alinghi we found their campaign very professional and a great bunch of sailors to get on with.

Let's hope that New Zealand is able to launch another syndicate for the next America's Cup which will bring lots of

different nations together again.

For us Swiss here it was a little taste of Switzerland with the good old Kiwi talents behind it!

P & U Arnold

Past Events:

On the 8th March the Yodlers, held their **Aelperchilbi** at the farm, and - I wish I'd been there - all had a wonderful time. The Yodlers put on a stage show that showed mostly their humorous side. The food was exquisite and plentiful, and the disco was a blast. Needless to say they sold all the tickets available and considered the evening very successful. Thanks go to all the people who contributed to the evening.

As we wrap up the club year, we ask everyone to consider taking a turn in the active running of the club by nominating themselves, or letting someone else nominate them, to be elected into the ranks of the committee. This should be done by the middle of April as the **Annual General Meeting of the club is on Saturday 3 May 2003, at 4pm at the farm, with official address being Rapson Road, Kaukapakapa. The official notice will be in the post to you now. Please all be there.**

At the end of this month, **Sunday 27 April 2003**, we will carry out the **semifinal of the Cowbell**



*The Alphorns send off the Alinghi team into yet another victorious race.
The players are: Oscar Roggen, Martin Van Doorn, Kurt Hirzel, Albert Ryter, Menk Abplanalp.*

Competition in Hamilton, at their "headquarters" - **Swisscraft Ltd. 33-39 Colombo St, Frankton, Hamilton.**

We need all the stone-throwing muscle, the card-playing brain/speed/boldness and the bowling prowess on top of the shooting precision/calm/focus of you Aucklanders, and we have a pretty good chance of making it to the finals. Just a little enticing fact: the Hamilton club is an incredibly hospitable bunch and they always make us feel so welcome. Please call the president Ueli, Tel. 0942 75309 or Henry Tel 410 3476 to be included in the team.

Card players please note:

The next card evening will be on Friday 25th April 2003, 7.30pm at Oski's Lab, 224 Hobson St, Auckland

City. (This is Anzac Day and the fourth Friday of the month, but the previous Friday is Good Friday, and we hope you will be able to attend).

All interested are welcome. Please bring a plate for supper. Donations for prizes are gratefully accepted. For any queries please call the Card Master Hans Iten, Tel. 620 9208.

Further dates:

Society AGM - Queen's Birthday Weekend in Wellington.

The events calendar will be published after the new committee is elected.

Look forward to seeing lots of you at the AGM.

Yours truly, Trudi.

Hamilton

Swiss Club
hamilton@swiss.org.nz

Past Events...

Our annual picnic was held on Sunday 23rd February at the Eureka School. The forecast was for good weather so we were expecting our usual big crowd, but I think maybe too many farmers had prayed for rain and we ended up with a constant drizzle the whole day. Fortunately it didn't deter people from turning up and it wasn't long before the bowling alleys were busy and people were queuing up for grilled bratwurst and cervelats. Of course hot coffee with schnapps proved to be very popular because of the weather and as always the home-made cakes and biscuits were snapped up.

Congratulations to Heidi Leuenberger for obtaining the highest score for the ladies' bowling trophy which was in fact the same score as the highest men's trophy winner, Herbert Staheli. I believe they are going to share the trophy. Also congratulations to Heinz Leuenberger for winning the shooting trophy and to Peter Rust for winning the shotput trophy. Many thanks to the committee and all the other helpers on the day. It is always a big task filling the roster and as always, many hands make light work.

Forthcoming Events...

Annual General Meeting - Saturday, 12th April. This function will again be held at the Swiss-craft premises, 39 Colombo Street, Frankton, commencing 7.30pm for drinks and 8pm for the

meeting. Please come along and share your ideas about the club and maybe consider joining the committee if you would like to join our team of hard workers! The meeting will be followed by supper and the usual delicious selection of baking.

First Card Evening and Medal Jass - Saturday 26th April, 7.30pm at the St John Ambulance Hall, Rawhiti Street, Matamata (please note new venue replacing Tirau).

Cowbell Competition, Hamilton vs Auckland - Sunday 27th April at the Swiss-craft premises, Frankton. This is the day when our top bowlers, shotputters and card players compete in the semi-final. The final will then be held in Wellington on Queen's Birthday Weekend.

Second Card Evening and Medal Jass - Saturday 10th May at the Union Parish Church Hall, Queen Street, Cambridge. (also new venue replacing Eureka)

300 meter Shooting Programme in Auckland for Hamilton Club Members - Saturday and Sunday, 17th and 18th May. This weekend was very successful last year and if you would like to join the members or need further information, please phone the riflemaster, Hans Vetsch (07) 855-3294.

Congratulations to Marianne Rust who has just celebrated her 70th birthday.

Also congratulations to Roland and Amanda Rufer who recently celebrated their wedding day.

Which Club Member Are You???

Some are like wheelbarrows
No good unless pushed.

Some are like trailers

They have to be pulled.

Some are like kites

If you don't keep them on a string they fly away.

Some are like footballs

You can't tell which way they are going to bounce.

Some are like blisters

They always show up when the work is done.

And some are like the good watch
Open faced, pure gold, quietly busy and full of good works.

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taranaki@swiss.org.nz

Bus trip to Wellington 22nd and 23rd February to participate in the semi-final of the Cowbell Competition.

On the above mentioned weekend, twenty-one of our members joined me to travel to Wellington to defend our beloved cowbell, in the 2003 cowbell semi-final!!! The weather was glorious, as always, when we go travelling!!! Our friends welcomed us with a lovely barbeque lunch when we arrived at their clubhouse. After eating and drinking, the serious part of the day started. Looking back now, the competition was really hard work!!! I don't know, is it because we are getting older or because we didn't have too many of our young, sports-orientated members with us???? Anyway, the competition ended in a DRAW!! Wellington won the shotput by 42 centimetres, and they thrashed us in the cards: six games to three games!!! We won the shooting by six points and the bowling by eleven points!! Both clubs agreed to have a play-off after dinner. Our friends from Wellington outdid themselves by serving up a first class dinner!! Congratulations

to the chefs!! After the meal and another "cuppa", the card players sat down once again, fighting fit for the play-off!!! Three games of cards were played and the luck changed in our favour. We won two out of the three games!!! Sorry but that's the way it goes with cards!!! I believe most of us would have been only too happy had it gone the other way!! Well, all we can say is "better luck next time"!! Anyway, to cut a long story short, we would all like to thank our friends from Wellington for their fair sportsmanship in the competition and their generous hospitality during our stay. We all enjoyed the weekend with you tremendously and we are looking forward to meeting you all again in June!!! Danke schon fur alles!!!

WS

Annual General Meeting of the Taranaki Swiss Club.

This was held on 4th March at 8pm in our clubhouse. We had a good attendance of 37 people and lively discussions were held. We had four resignations from the committee and we thank Peter Gillbanks, Josie Gillbanks, Ros Monti and Ruedi Benkert very much for their contribution to the Taranaki Swiss Club. We appreciate, and are grateful for, the time and effort that they put into our club. As Walter wrote in our club newsletter: "Ruedi deserves a special mention, having served as a committee member for more than two decades, twenty-two years as our Kegelmater and a few years as our vice-president". Wow Dad, don't know if I'll achieve as many years!!! A delicious supper was enjoyed by all, and people enjoyed catching up with each other.

Your committee for the following twelve months is:

President : Walter Seifert
 Vice President: Othmar Hebler
 Secretary: Doreen Schuler
 Treasurer: Marianne Drummond
 Ladies: Emmi Kiser, Erna Zimmermann, Christine Amstalden, Silvia Schuler, Heidi Werder, and Lisette Benkert.

Men: Zeno von Hospenthal, Johnny Bishop, Mark Kiser, Charlie Schuler, Beno Noetzli, Don Luond, Mathias Seifert, Markus Rufer, Remigi Zimmermann and Franz Schuler.

We also have a new Patron - Charlie Schuler - congratulations from us all, Charlie. You are fully deserving of this honour!!!



*The Taranaki Swiss Club Committee.
 Absent: Markus, Don and Beno.*

For those of you who don't know Charlie, here is a short profile of him :

Charlie was born in Kaponga of two Swiss immigrants, his father was from Goldau and his mother from Grindelwald. Charlie attended school in Grindelwald for one year, hence his very good Swiss-German. The remainder of his schooling was at Kapuni School, and the day of his 14th birthday he left school to work on the family farm. He then worked for Bob Hiestand as a building labourer and in due course commenced his own concrete business which he ran for over 60 years!!!

Charlie, with his wife Doreen, has been back to Switzerland seven times and they have enjoyed every minute of their holidays!!!

Charlie has been an active Taranaki

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Swiss Club member for many years, and a committee member for over 25 years!!! He was instrumental in the building of our club house and spent many, many hours working towards its completion. He now undertakes most of the maintenance of the building and is our fix-it man!!!

One of our most loyal members, we all congratulate him on becoming patron!!!

Multi-Ethnic Parade in New Plymouth on 1st March.

On this beautiful, sunny Saturday at 10am, about 25 members of the Taranaki Swiss Club took part in the Multi-Ethnic Parade walking from the bottom of Gover Street to the new Yarrows Stadium. Many different ethnic groups took part, and many sold food at the stalls at the stadium. In the sweltering heat, which of course is par for the course in Taranaki, much water was drunk ... not wine or beer as would be the norm!!! Many thanks to all who took part in the parade, and everyone is now looking forward to the parade in Stratford commemorating 125 years of Stratford!!! Here we think...wow...but in Switzerland??? many, many more years than that would be celebrated!!!

Forthcoming Events

Your committee has been working hard since the AGM and has already put together a calendar of events for the coming year. Taranaki Swiss Club members should all have received a newsletter and programme by now - failure to receive one means that Marianne has had a lapse of memory, so please let her know!!! Please keep the calendar of events handy, and make every effort to attend as many functions as possible.

April 3 and 17

Kegeln starts again in the new club year. Johnny Bishop is now Kegelmater, so PLEASE come along and support him. The

more the merrier!! His deputy is John Hermann, together with Walter Seifert and Mark Kiser helping out. Jassen is played as well ... so you can even play two sports at once!!!

April 6

Cards start again. Both jassen and euchre are played, starting at 1.15pm. The games are fun, and an afternoon tea is served after the games (everyone to bring a plate please). Many people stay on and play several more games, and even stay long enough to partake in a potluck tea!!! Come along and join in. Thanks to Charlie and Doreen Schuler for organising these afternoons, and to John Hermann, their able assistant.

April 27

Championship and Society Shoots take place from 12pm. Riflemaster is still Mark Kiser, and he too would love to see some new faces ... there are always plenty of people available to help you. There are beautiful medals to be won in the Society Shoot, so come along and give it a go!!!

Cards are played from 1.15pm, so give shooting a go, then come and take aim with the cards!!!

May 1

Kegeln again.

May 4

Jassen and Euchre again ... fun for all!!!

On behalf of the Taranaki Swiss Club, I would like to thank Ruedi Dudli very much for writing the obituaries in the Helvetia over the past years. The time and effort you put into these were greatly appreciated.

MD



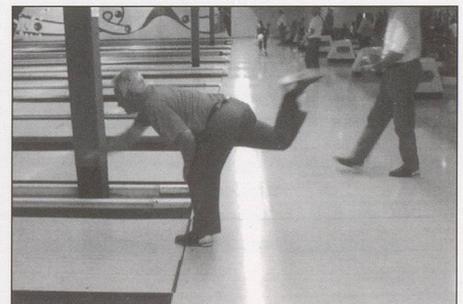
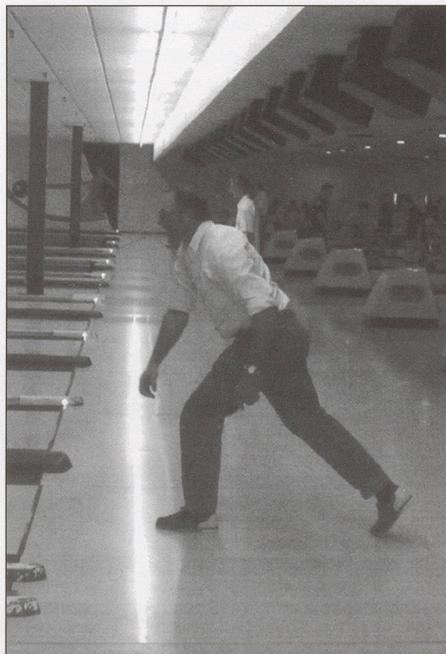
Participants getting ready for the Multi-Ethnic Parade in New Plymouth. We had a young flag-thrower, Thomas Werder, who did a terrific job. Keep it up, Thomas.



The Taranaki Swiss Club contingent who journeyed south to take part in the semifinal of the cowbell competition.



Holdi keeping a watchful eye on the jassers. Obviously a good battle was had ... no scars though!



Mathias Seifert also in action in the ten-pin bowling...hope you were as successful as shown in your style!???

Left: Franz in action in the ten-pin bowling.

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Past events

February 22/23: Cowbell Competition

A bus load (23 people to be exact) arrived for barbecue lunch on Saturday. The competitors soon dispersed to go to the shooting range and the skittle alley. Jassen had to wait until enough had returned to form two teams of six people each. Steinstossen took place simultaneously. The result was a very mixed blessing, Taranaki won Shooting and Skittles (very narrowly, of course) and Wellington the Steinstossen and Jassen (hugely). So, the Card players had to return to the tables to determine the winner. Lady Luck deserted Wellington, and Taranaki, as they

usually do, retained the Cowbell. As is always the case, everybody was happy, and enjoyed the excellent dinner (sliced veal, mashed potatoes, beans, salad, ice cream, hot berry sauce, cake) and the social time afterwards.

Before being driven home next morning, our guests were served breakfast at the Clubhouse.

Forthcoming events:

April 12, AGM, 7.30pm at the Clubhouse. Please, try to attend. We need your input into planning for the next Club Year. Two people have resigned from the Committee, so there are at least two vacancies to be filled. Supper will be served after the meeting. There will also be time to play cards or talk.

A WINNER OR A LOSER - WHICH ARE YOU????

The winner is always part of the answer

The loser is always part of the problem.

The winner always has a programme

The loser always has an excuse.

The winner says : Let me do it for you

The loser says : That's not my job.

The winner sees an answer for every problem

The loser sees a problem in every answer.

The winner sees a green near every sandtrap

The loser sees two sandtraps near every green.

The winner says : It may be difficult but it's possible

The loser says : It may be possible but it's too difficult.

DO IT NOW

If ever you are going to love me, love me now while I know. All the warm and tender feelings from warm affection flow. Love while I am living, don't wait till I am gone; And then chisel it in marble - warm love words on icestone. If you have dear thoughts about me, why not whisper them to me? Surely they would make me happy and as glad as can be. If you wait till I am sleeping never more to wake again; There'll be walls of earth between us and I cannot hear you then. There's a tender heart right near you that is thirsting for your love. Why should you refuse to give it, since God sent it from above!!! You have flowers in your garden - some are white and some are red; Give them to me while I'm living, I can't see them when I'm dead. Let me feel your arms around me and your kisses on my face; I won't need your love and kisses in my last resting place. So if you are ever going to love me, if just a little bit, Won't you love me when I'm living so I can treasure it.

The Woodchopper Band

This band of seven Swiss members has been providing entertainment for the past five years, playing dance music throughout New Zealand. They play a wide variety of music including Swiss, Austrian, German and Oberkrainer. Among the musical instruments played are an accordion, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar and drums. They play lively music and provide great entertainment.

Should you wish to know more, please contact Emil on phone 09 834 8231 or fax 09 834 8237

When we walk to the edge of all the light we have and take a step into the darkness of the unknown, we must believe that one of two things will happen. There will be something solid for us to stand on, or we will be taught to fly!!!

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Real friends are those who, when you have made a fool of yourself, don't feel that you have made a permanent job.

☆☆☆☆

It's not the years in your life but the life in your years, that count.

It's fine to do brave deeds, it's fine to win success or fame;

But little acts of kindness may reward us much the same.

For doing unremembered things and kindnesses, though small Can somehow warm our hearts and bring the greatest joy of all.