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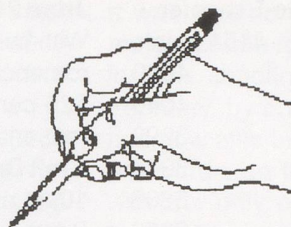
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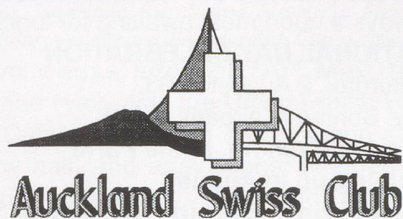
# New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

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

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Hamilton  
Taranaki  
Wellington  
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## PAST EVENTS

The **Annual General Meeting** reinstated most of the committee, and only a few changes were made in the ranks of the "Action Group":

Maria Hillensbeck, Markus Schwarz and Barbara Ashton-Egli did not wish to be re-elected, and to offset their departure were the new election of Ursula Nixon and Fritz Scheidegger, the latter having had involvement with the club in its earlier times. Welcome back. Ms Karin Ruger, attache to the ambassador Ms Matteuci, graced us with her presence with greetings from the ambassador. Thank you for your visit and the fine chocolates.

Thank you to the 30-odd people who gave us the honour of attending the meeting, and to all the members thank you for the trust you place in this committee.

We will do our best to do the club justice.

The farm is becoming the main centre of activity and thanks to constant improvement of facilities and access, gaining in attraction, with the shooting



*Making Easter crafts with the expert are from left Ruth Kralicek, Yvonne Buhler, Edith Hess, Annegret Wolf, Renate Meier-Knecht.*

as the central part of it. We are indeed privileged to be in possession of such a precious piece of land.

We, the committee, look forward to another year filled with many happy moments with the club.

A delegation of a dozen travelled to **Hamilton for the Semi Final** of the Cowbell Competition on Sunday 27 April 2003. We were greeted very warmly by the Hamilton club at their HQ at Swisscraft, where we were looked after splendidly.

We dominated the Jassen, the Steinstossen, but somehow the Bowling went decidedly their way, which goes to prove that a little bit more practice probably would have worked (No, it had nothing to do with better knowledge of the Kegelbahn, I'm sure). But we, Auckland,

won the overall competition and are now faced with the big bear, Taranaki, in the final, at the Society AGM, which by now will have been decided.

What was clarified was that there is only one small cowbell to be held by a club at any year, and it goes to the runner-up to the big Cowbell winner, not to both finalists. So the winner of this small bell is decided only at the final competition. Taranaki here we come!

## Crafts:

As you can see on the photo, a few women got together before Easter and learned to make some exquisite Easter decorations, of course also how to decorate eggs in a very elegant manner.

This was done under the supervision of Edith Hess who is a well of beautiful ideas for any kind of craft. Edith is an active member of the Takapuna Floral Art Club and is routinely exposing herself to the toughest competitions with success. She is a woman of many talents!!! And we are lucky to have her in our committee. The interest in the craft class was so great that she is planning another such craft day. See under 'Future Events'.

## Jassen:

The last meeting on 24 April 2003, was well attended. The ranking was topped

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by women.... (watch out!)

1. Marie-Therese Melville-Schopfer	4151 points
2. Heidi Wilson	4099
3. Lynne Danphy	4040
4. Hansruedi Wolf	3999
5. Fidel Good	3946
6. Andre Iten	3868
7. Louis Wallimann	3862
8. Edith Hess	3826
9. Emil Tellenbach	3798
10. Hans Iten	3784
11. Toni Manser	3730
12. Hans Fitzi	3680
13. Syd Melville	3622
14. Hilda Iten	3554
15. Tony Mathys	3532
16. Annagret Wolf	3515
17. Kurt Binder	3341

Thank you for making the evening so lively and for all the donations.

As always the Card Evening is held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, at Oski's lab, Prosthetic Processes, 224 Hobson St. Auckland, at 7.30pm.

Many thanks to the Wellington Swiss Club for their hospitality during the Society Annual General Meeting. Details (ie. gossip!) in the next issue.

**SAUERKRAUT is available from Hans Iten Tel. 620 9208.**

#### **FUTURE EVENTS:**

This is very short notice but if you are free it would be worth you coming as it is almost becoming a traditional offering by our very talented host Edith Hess:

#### **Dinner by Candlelight Saturday 14 June 2003, 7pm, at the farm.**

With her flair she will create an evening of romance and culinary delight. Promise. \$25 per person, bar available and very reasonable.

**Craft Day Saturday 21 June 2003**, from 10am at 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield. Bring some lunch and all your creativity. \$10 plus materials. Learn how to make stylish decorations for around the home. Please book your place as there is a limit to the numbers: Call Edith 444 6972 or Trudi 376 4923.

**Games Night Saturday 12 July 7.30pm prompt**, at the Farm at Rapson Rd, Kaukapakapa.

#### **TRIVIAL PURSUIT COMPETITION**

Come and test your general knowledge skills. Come as a team of six (or make one up on the night). Prize for the team with the highest score.

Light supper provided and the bar is open. The fire will be burning so it will be warm and cosy. \$10 per person. Booking essential. Call Sandra on 09 420 4340 or Edith 444 6972.

#### **Regular Events:**

**Jassen**, Friday 20 June, 7.30pm, 224 Hobson St. (Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday)

**Table Soccer – "Joggele"**, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2003, 8pm on, BYOB. (Every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday)

**Stammtisch** – Saturday 28 June 2003, 4pm on, (every last weekend) bring your dinner and sleeping bag.

#### **Further into the year:**

**After all the fun times it is down to a bit of serious business.**

**WORKING BEE Saturday 26 July 2003, from 9am onwards.**

This is a very rewarding input that every member can make and helps keep the farm facility tidy, and of course is a good way to get to know people. All those who have helped in the past know that there is always a good meal awaiting for lunch.

#### **NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION**

Saturday 2 August 2003.

The Bonfire is already there!

**Fondue Evening, at the Farm**

**Coming up in August**

**Prizegiving Evening Saturday 18 October 2003**, at Serento, One (Tree) Hill.

This is our main City Event and will be a fine evening, with dinner and dance.

#### **Mystery Tour:**

Sunday 16 November 2003.

**Samichlaus**

Sunday 7 December 2003.

Preceded by

**Working Bee coming up in November 2003.**

The **Goethe Society** offers some cultural events:

**July:** (exact time to be advised: Talk on Thuringen

**19-23 August 2003:** Annual German play. By the German Drama Group of the University.

**Late September 2003:** Annual Music Evening.

**October 2003:** Talk about Post-Socialist Germany.

For more details contact Dr James Braund, 09 373 7599, ext. 87295

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#### **Past Events....**

##### **Card Evenings**

Our First Card Evening of the winter in Matamata was held on 26<sup>th</sup> April with an impressive attendance of 46 card players. It was our first time at this new venue, and it seems that most people didn't have too many problems finding the hall by the map we provided. But for Anna and Bruno it was a good thing the evening started with the medal competitions, as they did a detour to check out the Cambridge hall first. And yes, they did get to Matamata in time for the first round !!





*There's always plenty of help at hand for 'kitchen duties' - from left Helen Staheli, Gritli Rust, Gabriella Burch and Margreth Meyer, helping out during the Interclub Competitions.*

Two weeks later, on 10<sup>th</sup> May, the venue really was the Union Parish Hall in Cambridge, again the first time at a new hall, and again, most seemed to find it quite easily. Apparently though, a few people couldn't see the hall because it wasn't 'lit up' and it didn't seem like anyone was there. But we were only doing our little bit to save power! Unfortunately, due to a bit of a mix-up, we didn't use the room that had originally been seen when we chose the venue. With a turnout of 50 players, it did become rather like 'sardines in a can', and at times, as everyone tried to talk above everybody else, it did become quite loud, and stifling hot! No heaters were required, despite the chilly temperatures outside. However, from now on we will be using a larger and far more comfortable room for our card evenings.

As always, we could enjoy some delicious suppers on both evenings, and a big thank you goes to all those involved in the catering on both evenings.

Thank you also to the 48 players who took part in the Swiss Society Medal Jass competition.

Winners of the first two card evenings are as follows:

#### First Card Evening, 26 April

- |                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| 1. Heidi Leuenberger | 4269 |
| 2. Helen Staheli     | 4233 |
| 3. Kurt Hess         | 4175 |
| 4. Anna Rufer        | 4123 |
| 5. Arthur Matti      | 4065 |

- |                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| 6= Agnes Gaemperle | 4027 |
| Joe Kennel         | 4027 |
| 8. Heidi Santner   | 4016 |
| 9. Joe Staheli     | 4015 |

#### Booby Prize:

- |                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Beatrice Leuenberger | 3269 |
|----------------------|------|

#### Second Card Evening, 10 May

- |                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| 1. Heinz Leuenberger   | 4238 |
| 2. Patricia Gillon     | 4234 |
| 3. Margarete Poppe     | 4189 |
| 4. Hilda Schicker      | 4115 |
| 5. Arthur Matti        | 4114 |
| 6. Theresa Fitz        | 4056 |
| 7. Robert Frischknecht | 4038 |
| 7. Otto Fitz           | 4033 |
| 9. Heidi Hurschler     | 4004 |
| 10. David Fitz         | 3967 |

#### Booby Prize:

- |                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Rosli Schurmann | 3206 |
|-----------------|------|

#### Interclub Cowbell Semifinals

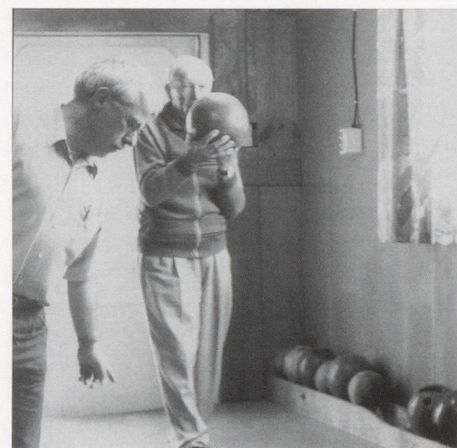
About 18 Auckland Club members came to the Swiss Craft premises in Hamilton to compete in the semifinal and a chance to win the Cowbell at the forthcoming final in Wellington. Following morning tea and a chance for an initial catch-up with our northern friends, it was time to get down to business, commencing with bowling. Once the card players had finished bowling, they took their places at the card tables for the first round. Soon it was time for lunch - hot soup, barbecued Fleischkase and home-made bread - and another chance for a chat. After lunch, the second round of cards was played, and the strongest of the men did their best to throw the 15kg stone as far as possible in the shot put.



*Auckland Club president, Uli Kipfer, measures Hamilton Club member Uli Elmigers shot put throw at the Interclub Competitions, outside Swiss Craft premises in Frankton*

With all the sporting activities completed, it was time for afternoon tea, and to announce the results. We had already lost the shooting, which took place in February, by only five points. Auckland had now also beaten us in the shot put and cards, so the bowling competition was the only one our Club was able to win. This means the Auckland Club will now be competing for the cowbell in Wellington. We wish them all the best of luck in bringing the cowbell northwards.

Our thanks to everyone who helped with the catering and organising for this day, and also to Herbert and Willetta for the use of the factory premises.



*Hamilton member, Joe Staheli, prepares to bowl, under the watchful eye of Club Riflemaster, Hans Vetsch*

#### Forthcoming Events...

##### Fourth Card Evening

**Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30 pm**, at the Union Parish Church, Queen Street, Cambridge.

##### Fifth Card Evening

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 7.30 pm**, at the St. John Ambulance Hall, Rawhiti Street, Matamata.

##### Sixth and Final Card Evening

**Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30 pm**, at the Union Parish Church, Queen Street, Cambridge.

##### First Of August Celebration

**Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> July, 8.00 pm**, at the Eureka Hall. (please note early July date)

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### Past events:

#### Schi Hutte Fondue.

Old wooden skis with leather bindings and leather boots decorated the room and gave the cozy atmosphere for the fondue evening. It was wonderful to see so many old and new friends and may be, some new members?

The evening started with a short address from the Ambassador Madame and Mr. Matteucci.

Unfortunately they could not stay for the meal, however they donated a huge, gorgeous "Chocolate Bunny" for the Tombola on Queen's Birthday Weekend.

The meal was of its usual high standard starting with a colourful salad plate, Roland's superb cheese fondue and pears and chocolate cream for pudding. Heinz organized a few fun games and the evening continued until the early hours of Sunday with "Kaffee Fertig".

### Next events

**Queen's Birthday Weekend, 31st May to 2nd June.**

Wellington is hosting the A.G.M. Roland and the committee have worked hard to make it a fun weekend. We are looking forward to welcoming many of our friends from Taranaki, Hamilton, Auckland and of course our own Wellington club. The programme is coming together and it promises to be fabulous. Saturday: Everybody is most welcome. The club house opens at 5pm. Dinner will be served at 7pm. Taranaki's Peter Canziani will provide live entertainment and we all know it will be a great evening. Sunday morning Competition. Then at 2pm the A.G.M. at the clubhouse in Moores Valley Rd. Wainuiomata. The evening will be celebrated in the Petone Workingman's Club booked by Roland and if we go by other events organized by Roland it promises to be a fabulous evening. So please come along and see for yourself. The tickets will be \$38 per person (a bargain) and are available from the committee, please book.

#### Nutrimetics Party 8 June from 2pm-5pm

Angie Lorenz has offered to have a Nutrimetics Party in the clubhouse on Sunday the 8th of June. It is a fundraiser and Angie will donate 50% of the profit to the Wellington Swiss Club. Please support Angie and bring your neighbours and friends to see all the products available. Coffee and cakes will be served.

#### European Forum 26 July

A Hungarian Dinner will be organized by the Hungarian Club at the Polish Clubhouse, 257 Riddiford St. Newtown.

There will be a live band and the cost per person is \$35 BYO.

Book before 12th of July with Monika 478 5649

#### 1st of August.

Fire at Petone Beach

**2nd of August** National Day Celebration at the clubhouse.



### Clarification

Unfortunately in the May issue of the Helvetia I printed Walter's name as the contact for people wishing to book for the bus trip to Wellington, but put my phone number!!! I'm just clarifying that although Walter and I do see a lot of each other through being on both the Taranaki Swiss Club and Swiss Society executives, I don't live at his place, nor he at mine!!! Sorry if I inconvenienced anyone!!!

### Kegeln

The championship nights for Kegeln have now come to an end ... and the lucky winners .... sorry the skilful winners were as follows :

Ladies - 1st with 189 points was Frieda Meier with Ros Monti a close second on 184 points.

Men - 1st with 253 points was Mark Kiser (wow, you blew them away Mark ... hope you're as successful in Wellington with ten-pin bowling!!!) and second with 243 points was Johnny Bishop.

Well done folks ... your perseverance has paid off ... each winner and runner-up receives a beautiful medal ... so come along members give it a go for next year ... you never know where your talents may lie ... and revealing them in Kegeln may pay great rewards!!! Kegeln now takes a break until October, so Johnny and company look forward to seeing you then!!!

#### Preiskegeln and Fondue held on 17 May

The day started with shooting at 11am under the guidance of Mark ... both the Championship Shoot and the Society



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Shoot could be played for. They were kept relatively busy with a steady group of participants. There were plenty of people ready to help if required ... and I for one needed that help ... however all the help in the world won't get me a Society Medal in Shooting ... participation is the name of the game, so my participation will help someone else get a medal!!!

The Preiskegeln started at 1pm with, once again, a steady flow of regular participants ... it would have been nice to see a few more faces. However the competition was very friendly ... but having said that everyone was trying very hard to win a couple of cervelats!!! For some of us, the cervelats turned out very expensive, to others they were to have a great morning tea!!! Thank you John for taking the scores all day, and being patient with a rowdy bunch!!! After the three-and-a-half hours of constant skittling, the eventual winners were ... in the ladies Lisette Benkert (after having to play-off twice!!!) with runner-up Heidi Seifert ... in the men Adrian Drummond was the winner (with two tens ... but we won't say what some of his other scores were!!!) with a tie for runner-up between Sepp Kiser, Mark Kiser, Johnny Bishop and Ruedi Benkert ... the conqueror being Johnny Bishop!!! Style of the day went to Paul Suter ... and hopefully I will be able to show you his great style with a photo in the next issue of the Helvetia!!!

Well done to all the winners, and thank you to all the loyal participants who spent most of their day watching or playing kegel. Everyone had heaps of fun ... and that is the main idea!!! Some will eat cervelats all week ... others ... well, they might just have to do with the bread that normally accompanies the cervelats!!!

After the kegel had finished, it was time to get ready for the ever-delicious dinner. Scrumptious fondue and / or delicious Cervelats and salads ... great choices ... and most ate of both varieties ... good on you!!! The fondues were once again prepared by our super chefs, Erna and Lisette ... and we certainly heard many compliments about the fondue and salads ... so thank you very much ladies for the superb food you prepared. Markus you did a sterling job as our scrubber of pots and dish washer extraordinaire ... I hope you don't have dish pan hands for TOO LONG!!! Thank you for your great effort. The trophies were then presented to worthy recipients. The children had a fun game of trying to figure out how many lollies were in various jars ... some did exceptionally well ... however all families received at least one jar of lollies so that the prizes were shared ... what a wonderful idea ... the children did very well organising this game and distributing the jars. The usual raffle was held, and very well supported ... thank you all very much. Thereafter, music was

played by Aaron, Zeno and Maria, which was terrific, and many enjoyed dancing or listening to you. The day was a great success, and we thank all the helpers and especially all the loyal members for supporting this event. A big day for the committee to organise and your attendance is always appreciated.

### Forthcoming Events

**June 8 & 22** Cards ... again!!! Wonderful pastime, so join in.

**June 15** Championship Shoot at 1pm ... give Mark your support. This is an enjoyable sport, and plenty of people on hand to help you.

**July 6** The annual Anniversary Shoot will be held, with shooting from 11am to 3pm. A scrumptious sauerkraut and pork meal is served at 5.30pm with raffles and music to follow. This is an excellent social day, with a delicious meal. All competitors receive a prize, so come along and give shooting a go!!!

**July 13 & 27** Organised cards for the last time this year. Great fun playing euchre or jassen. Participate in the fun and friendly rivalry.

**August 1** This year we will be celebrating the Swiss National Day on 1 August as it is a Friday. All members will be contacted closer to the time, so please make the committee's job easy and attend!!! Lots of traditional Swiss entertainment will be provided.

MD

## 2002 - What a Year For The Marine Insurance Industry

The expectation of a better year for the world marine insurance market was shattered, following a series of major losses.

Some of the high profile losses make interesting reading :

**"Hual Europe"**, a car carrier, grounded with full cargo - estimated loss US\$80.1m.

**"Diamond Princess"**, a newly built vessel. Severely damaged by fire in a Japanese shipyard - estimated loss US\$300m.

**"Tricolor"** carrying a cargo of vehicles sank in the English Channel after a collision with the "Kariba". Losses are estimated to be over US\$80m.

**"Limburg"** a super tanker, exploded off the Coast of Yemen, suspected terrorist attack - estimated loss US\$77m.

Other serious losses include the **"Prestige"** (with associated oil pollution along 200kms of coastline); the **"Jolly Rubino"**; the **"Hidir Bay"**; the **"Hual Troubadour"**; the **"Treasure Bay"**;

and the **"Alva Star"**.

In New Zealand of course, we had the Jody F Millennium grounding at Gisborne. Losses estimated at NZ\$42m.

This unprecedented run of casualties will mean increases in rates in the world marine market, as marine re-insurers will meet a large proportion of these claims.

Before the losses of the **"Prestige"** and **"Tricolor"**, Lloyd's were already estimating world marine market losses at US\$800 million!!! It is thought that the loss of the **"Diamond Princess"** alone would account for London's hull premium income for the year - OUCH!!!

**Source : McDonald Everest  
- Insurance Brokers Limited**

At a recent computer expo, Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If GM had kept up with the technology the computer industry has, we would be driving \$25 cars that got 1000 miles to the gallon!"



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