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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

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

E-mail - society@swiss.org.nz

Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch



Cards

Results from July 13

Jassen - 1st Margrit Suter
2nd Margrit Dudli
3rd Charlie Schuler
Booby - Bertha Sidler

Euchre - 1st Tilly Riddick
2nd Jean Fuglistaller
3rd Eric Meuli

Raffle - Johnny Bishop & Walter Seifert

Results from July 27

Jassen - 1st Peter Gillbanks
2nd Josie Gillbanks
3rd Heidi Seifert
Booby - Paul Suter

Euchre - 1st Albert
2nd Werner Suter
3rd Jean Fuglistaller

Raffle - Paul Suter & Peter Gillbanks

Cup Winners

Zurcher Cup for Jassen

First was Margrit Suter with runner-up Josie Gillbanks, and Paul Suter third.

Don Luond Cup for Euchre

First was Werner Suter with runner-up Jean Fuglistaller, and Eric Meuli third.

Congratulations to all the winners, and grateful thanks to all those attending the card afternoons over the winter months.

August 1 celebrations

This year we held the August 1 celebrations on August 1!!! We had a wonderful crowd of approximately 140

adults and children...we can tell you that the hall was packed!!! The committee had great pleasure in seeing some new faces, some faces we hadn't seen for a while, and also many regulars. We sold all the first of August badges, which were rather nice this year, to patrons supporting the restoration of bridges in Switzerland. Firstly we listened to the address of the President of the Confederation, Mr Pascal Couchepin and the National Anthem. The Swiss Singing Group also sang the National Anthem, followed by some further Swiss folk songs. Othmar Hebler then blew the alphorn...you have certainly been practising regularly, Othmar...I guess the cows in the Ohangai neighbourhood have got used to your musical talent! You played beautifully!!! The Swiss Society medals were then distributed to worthy recipients, who had showed their skill at Kegeln, Jassen, Shooting or Shotput earlier in the year. Zeno accompanied by Aaron Bosch and Maria Nolly played lovely music 'til the wee hours of the morning, and the audience certainly enjoyed their music. Tombola tickets were as popular as ever - and sold like hot cakes!!! Thanks Erna for organising such lovely prizes, and to all those who gave generous donations to the tombola. A delicious supper was served, and people stayed to enjoy a few more Swiss tunes on the accordions. It was a wonderful night, with good entertainment and great company. We enjoyed the company of Joe Krummencher from Shannon (who had been a member of the Taranaki Swiss Club many, many moons ago and who caught up with many old

friends!!!) and Gary and Linda Hodel from the Waikato who have been loyal members of the Taranaki Swiss Club even since their departure from our province. Thank you for coming, and we hope to see you again at one of our functions. On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank all the people who sold tickets...many of you aren't committee members and we are grateful for the time it takes you to contact our members. To everyone who attended the function, many thanks...for without your loyalty and support we wouldn't have the club we have today!!!

Second August 1 celebration at the Mountain House

On August 10, 29 of us went to the Mountain House as a second August 1 celebration!!! Most of the singing group attended, plus hangers-on!!! Leo and Zeno entertained us with music, and many took the opportunity to dance. Several members of the singing group, with a few extra helpers, gave a few items and Othmar played the alphorn. It was a lovely evening, where many people took the opportunity of catching up with each other over a glass or two of wine. Several of the group stayed overnight, and enjoyed breakfast with each other. Thanks Berta for a lovely meal, and the great atmosphere that the Mountain House provides.

Forthcoming Events

October 2: Kegeln recommences from 8pm. Johnny can't wait to see you all again, hoping that you have enticed a few mates



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to play. Jassers are always abundant...so come and try your hand at both games. There are some lovely medals at stake for the Kegeln championship, so come and give it your all.

October 16: Kegeln again...join the fun.

October 19: Trudi Ott Belt Shoot and Championship Shoot from 1pm. Mark has his loyal band of supporters, but would love to see some new faces. Make his day and turn up!!!

October 30: Singing practice at the hall...get your vocal cords ready for a healthy sing-along.

October 31: We will be hosting a group from the European Dancing Union (their members are from Germany, Austria and Switzerland), and they will be giving a performance of various folk dances from the regions in traditional costumes, as well as instrumental and vocal items. We are looking for people to host them, so please contact Lisette Benkert on 06 762 8718 if you are able to help. A pot-luck tea will be held at the Swiss Club Hall in Kaponga at 7pm, and we will then be privileged to see a performance from this group of multi-nationals. All Taranaki Swiss Club members are welcome to attend. Please contact a committee member for further details.

November 6 & November 20: Kegeln on our great alley...come along and participate.

November 16: Ted Napflin Memorial Shield and Championship Shoot from 1pm. Do come and try out our rifle range...always plenty of people available to help you out.

November 30: The ever popular Christmas Shoot commences from 10am,

followed by the delicious pot-luck lunch. Participants may either shoot or skittle, and with everyone bringing a wrapped prize worth at least \$10, you will get a prize back!!! This day is a wonderful social day, with many children also taking part. Santa may also make an appearance. See you there!!!

MD

CHRISTCHURCH SWISS CLUB NEWS

August 1, 2003 - Swiss National Day

We set up the Old Stone House for 107 people on Friday morning August 1. There was a great feeling of anticipation within the committee, plenty of tables to lug around, chairs to put out, and mountains of food to prepare. Gluhwein to make, salads to wash and slice, soup to cook, Gluhwein to taste, potatoes to clean, Raclette cheese to hacksaw in half, dessert to sample...we were very busy troopers.

Then you arrived. The Cashmere High School Band 'Subtle Undertones' played mellow background music most of the night, and as highlights on two occasions a Circo Arts act juggled, clowning about and played at acrobats. They even juggled fire, late, outside, in the dark. Everyone mingled and drank Gluhwein, and then it was Tombola time.

The tickets sold f-a-s-t!!! I almost missed out!!! Helena gave out the lucky big prizes and there were a lot of smiley people around.

The food was typical of a lovely night out, the service was great, the atmosphere wonderful. Just as well you were there!!!

Would you like something different next year? Somewhere different? Different food? Put your thinking cap on, brainstorm and

suggest anything you like to a committee member. Do you want to have the same, or have a change? Best take this opportunity to comment now.

Forthcoming Events

Stammtisch

Tuesday November 4 from 7.30pm at Wunderbar (above the supermarket at 19 London Street, Lyttelton.

Samichlaus

Saturday 6 December 2003 - This year we have planned something for everyone. Home visits by the big man 'Himself' - between 10am and 2pm.

Over the past two years we've got a lot of positive feedback about the home visits from Samichlaus. The children feel more at ease and take a lot of time, imagination and care to prepare for the special visitor.

Samichlaus will visit the child/ren of members at home who live or stay that day within the Christchurch Metropolitan area. It is a very time consuming operation and we are not able to travel beyond the city boundaries. Please contact Jessica Bagge (ph 332 2412) by December 2, with all the details about the child/ren so Samichlaus can prepare himself.

There will be a charge of \$5 per family which includes a sackli and a meaningful talk with the bag man. Please note this is only for members.

Christmas party with Jazz Band KITCHEN SINK at the 'Boatsheds Cafe'

2 Cambridge Terrace (next to the Public Hospital) from 8pm.

Let's have a Samichlaus Party for us adults. We've organised a wonderful venue on the banks of the Avon, a groovy band, tasty

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nibbles and all you need to bring is your festive spirit. A definite recipe for a successful party!!!

A cover charge of \$5 per person for venue, band and nibbles. Wine, beer and other refreshments will be on sale at the Boatshed Cafe at their standard price.

Please phone Helena (942 6702) by December 2 if you can join us, as we need numbers for catering purposes.

HD



**Greetings
from
August
1, 2003 in
Paihia.
Sent in
by Marion
Groth.**

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Past Events

First of August Function

This was celebrated a bit earlier this year on July 19 in the hope that more farmers could attend. This however was not the case and the attendance was not very good but even so, all the people who attended I'm sure enjoyed themselves. It wasn't long before the Holzhacker Band began to play and many people got up to dance. The music was very enjoyable and the atmosphere was very relaxed. At 8.30pm President Herbert Staheli welcomed everybody and the meal was served. There was a huge selection of home-made salads, many done in the traditional Swiss way, plenty of hot ham and frankfurters and also home-made bread. Many people had commented on what a lovely meal it was. After dinner there was plenty more dancing and also some singing. Many thanks to the people who made the evening so colourful by wearing their traditional Swiss costumes. A lovely selection of baking was served with coffee and schnapps and everyone seemed satisfied with the evening. Many thanks to the Holzhacker Band for your wonderful entertainment. We always enjoy

having you and look forward to you coming again next year. Also many thanks to all the helpers, especially those doing dishes which is always such a thankless task.

AZ

Family Walk

On August 24 we all met at Ann Street in Hamilton for our walk along the Waikato River. The recently completed entire walkway begins at the Hamilton Gardens in the south, and runs for several kilometres along the riverbank through to the northern suburbs. At 11am, about 25 adults and 10 children, some still in pushchairs, and others on their bikes, headed northwards



Augustfeier 2003, Eureka.

along the west bank. After an extremely wet and stormy Saturday, we were very relieved to have a lovely sunny day for our walk, and we made the most of this early show of spring weather. Another group of people was also out to enjoy the weather - we watched many water skiers going up and down the river. About an hour after setting out, we reached our destination

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point under the Pukete foot bridge, where we sat on whatever dry surface we could find to eat our picnic lunches, before heading back along the same route. Many thanks to all those who provided the Thermoses of coffee, and the cakes and biscuits we enjoyed for afternoon tea when we returned to the cars. By 2.30pm, most people were ready to head home - except for one person who unfortunately locked her keys in her car, and had to wait a further hour for the AA mechanic to come and open the car before she could go home!! However, all ended well, and the day was enjoyed by everyone who came. We now look forward to seeing everyone again at the next planned walk in November.

BL

Forthcoming Events...

Sunday, November 2 will be the date for the next family walk. This time it will be in the Waiorongomai Valley, meeting time 11 am with walk starting at 11.15am. Head into Te Aroha and at the town centre turn right heading south. Take the next road left which is the Waiorongomai Loop Road. This is about 2kms out of town. Bring your own picnic lunch preferably in a back pack

so you can take it into the bush. Also be prepared for wet or cold weather. See you there!

Christmas Function will take place on Sunday, December 7, 11 am at the Newstead School. Please note new venue as the Tamahere School is undergoing major alterations and additions. Newstead



Augustfeier 2003, Eureka.

School is just past the cemetery on the main road heading from Hamilton to Morrinsville. Further details in the next issue of the Helvetia.

AZ



Past Events

1st of August

The sun was shining and we all were looking forward to our annual bonfire on the beach. However in the middle of the afternoon the wind came up and it turned to a very fierce southerly. The truck with the wood was at the beach waiting to be built up into the bonfire when the wind got so strong and it got so cold, that the first of August celebration had to be cancelled. Apologies to those people who went to the beach to find no-one there. We tried to ring but some people had already left home. Next year will be OK again!!!!

National Day Celebration

We gathered in the clubhouse as usual for the National Day celebration. We listened to the tape with the news from home and sang the National Anthem. It was lovely to be greeted with a glass of Gluehwein and then that delicious smell of roasts, but there was pumpkin soup with bread and August Wegge first. (Thank you Trudi). Roland is doing us proud with his culinary expertise. For those people who didn't like roast beef there was roast pork or of course you could have a taste of both and it was delicious. Theres organised a beautiful and tasty vegetable platter with cauliflower, broccoli, carrots and lots of mashed potatoes to soak up that gravy. Trifle with cream and coffee fertig finished the meal. All during the meal Heinz made sure that the background music reminded us of home. It was a wonderful evening, thank you committee!

September 6 Berner Abend

What an exquisite smell welcomed our



Obituary, Elise Oettli - Schweizer



Elise Schweizer was born in Weinfelden, Switzerland, on February 8, 1912. Her father worked for the railways, the Mittel Thurgau Bahn.

In 1924, Elise's father was killed in a railway accident. Her mother had to manage, bringing up two children on a tiny pension and taking in boarders. Elise's great aspiration was to be a teacher, but her mother couldn't afford to pay the tuition fees. So Elise, generally called Lisi or Liseli, did a secretarial course. She joined the local Chamber of Commerce evening classes for shorthand; this is where she met her future husband, Hans Oettli.

They married on the March 1, 1938. Their first son, Peter, was born, on the March 9, 1940. A daughter, Heidi, followed in 1941, and then two boys, Erich and Max, in 1945 and 1947.

In the years after the war, Elise was a busy mother and housewife and Hans was manager



of a mortgage guarantee company.

In 1956, the family emigrated to New Zealand to go farming. Elise exchanged her comfortable position of well-to-do lady engaged in her community, with that of a farmer's wife living in the then comparatively isolated community of Whatawhata near Hamilton, where she joined several local welfare groups, including the Maori Women's Welfare League.

Hans and Elise retired from farming in 1973. They bought a house in Hamilton where they planned to enjoy their retirement. But then Hans passed away in 1974.

Elise moved to the house at 6 Olympia Place, Hamilton, which she was destined not to leave until a few months before her death. Over the years she was involved in serving her community, participating in the activities of the Swiss Club, and regularly playing Jass.

Elise is survived by four children, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



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members and guests as they entered the clubhouse. Was it the Gluhwein or the Sauerkraut?? It did not matter as we soon found out. Roland welcomed all our guests and even found a couple of 'Berner Witz' to tell. The meal was superb as usual. The Sauerkraut, Speck und Bohnen tasted just as we remembered from long ago in the old country. The musicians from Auckland entertained us well all evening. Some couples even managed a bit of a digestive dance. The Sound of Switzerland had especially composed and presented a song for Roland and those from Bern. Everyone was invited to join in, and many did. Hans Scherrer with the help from Petra handed out the medals. To finish the evening Heinz served Kaffee fertig and the committee poured coffee and tea with biscuits and cake. As usual it was a most enjoyable evening and the committee did their best in cooking a delicious meal. Thank you to all.

Results

Hans Scherrer double winner in cards and shooting 2nd place
 Hans Buess Card
 Christine Hughes Shooting ladies
 Murry Hughes Shooting man
 Sonja Hughes Shooting jun. girls
 Heinz Jaggi Shot put man
 Mathew Jordan Shot put jun. boys
 Verena Madgwick Shot put ladies

Vreni

Next Events

October 18 Fondue Evening.

The Fondue evening is always a very popular evening and with our specialists at work the fondue is yummy and the atmosphere unbeatable. So please make up a party and come and join us. Please bring your marked Fondue Sets and Forks with you.

November 8 Garage Sale. Have you been collecting all those unwanted or not any longer used items ??? Well it is still not too late to start spring cleaning the garage, wardrobe and any other cupboards. All items are welcome or if you want us to pick them up that can be arranged too.

November 16 Jass Afternoon.

How long is it since you have played your last card game? Do you think you need a bit of a brush-up on your skills? Well here is your opportunity. Come along and enjoy a game.

VM



Auckland, wake up, start anew, the storm clouds will soon shed their last torrent, pink bloom is all around, and daylight saving is just about upon us. In the past two months we held our First of August Celebration at the farm, to which about 100 people came up for. A nicely decorated and cosily enclosed 'hall', as well as a warm drink of Ernst's famous Gluhwein served with charm by our committee, welcomed our guests on their arrival. Though the Yodel Group, so important a component for our regular events, were away in Singapore and sadly missed, especially the sounds of the alphorns, across the valley, it was nevertheless an evening filled with entertainment and joy. The speech by the President of the Federal Council was underlined by a few songs from the women's singing group, and the children with their lampions stood patiently and serenely and listened. A hearty meal prepared by the skills of Edith and helpers was served. The bonfire was - let's just say long in coming due to soaking wet and Henry was considering leaving it till next year when Barbara pulled out the Scout trick about the cooking oil SPECTACULAR!! (Of course we know you were just waiting to see if anyone else knew that!). We even had some fireworks which were pretty and noisy and frightened some of the children, but then that is what fireworks do. It was a lovely evening, and enjoyed by all, and it was great to see lots of young families. Thank you all for coming, and to all the helpers, especially in the fireworks department and to Marie-Therese and Renate for their special effort, many



Admirable patience and serenity shown by our youngest as they display the lanterns and listen to the traditional Swiss songs.

many thanks.

Jassen:

The results of the August Jass

evening are as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| 1. Emil Tellenbach | 4260 |
| 2. Hansruedi Wolf | 4154 |
| 3. Hans Fitzi | 4078 |
| 4. Othmar Wyss | 4044 |
| 5. Edith Hess | 3799 |
| 6. Louis Wallimann | 3762 |
| 7. Andrew Iten | 3702 |
| 8. Lynne Dunphy | 3679 |
| 9. Andrew Bunter | 3436 |
| 10. Tony Mathys | 3416 |
| 11. Annagret Wolf | 3319 |

Thank you all for coming and a special thank you to Edith Hess for the use of her house. We will continue to use this venue for the remainder of this year. The address is 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield. We hope to see you at our next Jass evening on Friday October 17.

COMING UP: SCHUTZENBALL

Saturday October 18, 2003



Yvonne Buhler, Willi Pfenniger, Claudia Buhler, Heinz Feller chatting, Christine Feller and Tatiana Hochstrasser (mainly hair) having a laugh.

Tickets are available now and I hope you can all come. It will be a very stylish evening with wonderful atmosphere. The Society Medals will be given out on this occasion. The Holzhacker Band will play and there'll be tombola and a lovely buffet dinner, on the slopes of One (Tree) Hill.

CRAFT DAY Saturday November 1, 2003. 10am till around 4pm. At Edith Hess's place, 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield. Under the skilful guidance of Edith, a piece of art will be created. Bring a plate to share (filled with food of course). Price \$10 plus a little for materials. Call Edith on 444 6972 for booking. Please do book, as space is limited.

MYSTERY TOUR Sunday November 16, 2003,

10am at a meeting point in the city. The price will be around \$20 which will include: Activity and lunch.

WORKING BEE Saturday November 29, 2003. At the farm. Reward offered.

SAMICHLAUS Sunday December 7, 2003, at the farm. Lunch for sale. This is our Christmas party.

PICNIC 2004 Sunday February 15, 2004.

We'll see you at either the Schutzenball Or the Mystery Tour. Look forward to it. **Trudi.**