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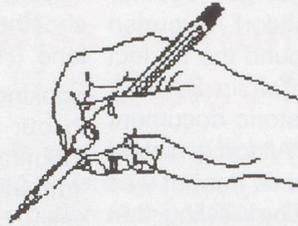
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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

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Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch



The Swiss Singing Group entertained for several clubs and organisations during the winter months. One was held in the Norfolk Hall, where the Rural Women had made various "Swiss" dishes, and between each course the Singing Group entertained. It was a wonderful way of combining a meal with entertainment ... and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the variety of entertainment they had to offer.

A lady even tried to blow the alphorn with a little success!!! It's wonderful to see the singing group perform for various organisations, and we wish them luck in entertaining three times in a week in November!!! It's that time of year again, when Christmas functions start to happen!!!



The Singing Group in action at the Norfolk Hall which had been decorated 'Swiss style'.



Leo, Othmar, Erna and Silvia about to enjoy the delicious meal the Rural Women had made.

Forthcoming Events

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 7628718 if you are able to help. A pot-luck tea will be held at the Swiss Club hall in Kaponga at 7.00pm, 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 is in full force ... new members always welcome. The medals are beautiful, so give it a go and you may be a lucky winner!!!

November 16: The Ted Napflin Memorial Shield is

up for grabs in the smallbore shooting, together with the Championship Shoot being played for. Starting time is 1.00pm.



A comical picture of the Singing Group!

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November 30: The ever popular Christmas Shoot commences from 10.00am, followed by the delicious pot-luck lunch. Participants may either shoot or skittle, and with everyone bringing a wrapped prize worth at least \$ 10.00, you will get a prize in return. This day is a wonderful social day, with many children also taking part. Santa may also make an appearance. See you there!!!

December 31: New Years' Eve ... of course. A great way of seeing the old year out and the New Year in is by coming to the Swiss Club ... this event is held in conjunction with the campervan club. Great entertainment is always guaranteed, so come along and join in the fun. A BYO BBQ is held from 6.00pm.



Silvia and Erna placing the lovely camelias on the tables as part of our August 1 celebrations.



Thalerschwingen... audiences always love to see how this beautiful sound is made... Walter always making it quite clear that the bowls are not collection plates!

CHRISTCHURCH SWISS CLUB NEWS

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



Obituary, Marjorie Mary Butler



Marg, as she was known to us, was born on 28 August 1929. In 1951 she married Colin Butler and they had a family of three girls - Angela, Carolyn and Rosemary. Her big love was her family which grew to include six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



Colin and Marg enjoyed dancing, and were part of the "trachtengruppe" for many years, until Colin passed away. Marg

particularly enjoyed the August 1 celebrations, the fondue evenings and annual Swiss picnics which she regularly attended. She appreciated Swiss traditions, although not Swiss herself, and loved the company of people.

The Taranaki Swiss Club and The Swiss Society of New Zealand extend their deepest sympathy to her family.

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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 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.

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Past Events...

The Fondue Evening was this year held on the 20th September at the Eureka Hall. We were very fortunate to again have a band from Auckland, that of the Sound of Switzerland. As the people arrived, the band was already playing some lovely music which set a pleasant tone for the evening. Herbert welcomed everyone at 8.30pm and then the fondue

was served. There were a few tense moments in the kitchen due to the master chef Walter being held up at the airport in Sydney. Nonetheless the show had to go on and Anita quickly instructed two new apprentices, Hans and Max, who didn't take long to get the hang of stirring the cheese with huge wooden spoons. Everyone said the fondue was good so we will take that as a compliment to the new chefs. A delicious platter of cold meats was served together with home-made bread. Many thanks must go to Vitus who grated all the cheese before-hand, making the task that much easier.

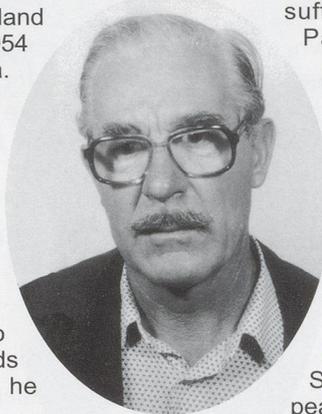
After the fondue and following some more real entertainment, the medals



Obituary, Hans Graf 29 May 1918 - 6 September 2003



Hans arrived in New Zealand from Switzerland in May 1954 with his wife to be, Klara. He spent his working life at the Kinleith Paper Mill, Tokoroa, until his retirement in 1983 at the age of 65 years. Klara and Hans had three children - Urs, Richard and Linda. Hans was a keen fisherman and hunter, and he also liked to play a game of Swiss cards (Jass). In his later years he



suffered progressively from Parkinson's Disease, and in May 2003 he had to be transferred to the Cantabria Resthome in Rotorua, where he died peacefully in his sleep. He is survived by his wife, children, and eight grandchildren.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Klara and family from the Hamilton Swiss Club. May he rest in peace.



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Obituary, Martha Wenk - Frischknecht

2 July 1920 - 11 August 2003



Martha Wenk, nee Frischknecht, was born in Adliswil, Zürich, on 2. July 1920. She worked in a paper factory for 20 years. Marriage to Georg Wenk, from St. Gallen, followed, and in early 1961 the couple emigrated to New Zealand. They started out in Taranaki, where Georg drove a truck, but they wanted to farm, and were offered a job by another Swiss at Tauhel, near Matamata. They then moved to a sharemilking position near Cambridge, before progressing to their own farm on Maiseys Road, Matamata. When the farm was later sold, Martha and Georg retired together to Matamata. Martha



loved to garden and cook. Roger and the Grandchildren were her love and joy, and fulfilled her life. She and Georg had been married for 55 years when he passed away a few years ago. Martha then once more travelled back to her homeland in Switzerland. Her health began to deteriorate, so she moved into a pensioner flat, and finally to Country Lodge Rest Home. After a few years of poor health, Martha gave up her struggle to live and passed away peacefully. Her funeral was well attended by her Swiss friends. The Hamilton Swiss Club express deepest sympathy to the family. May she rest in God's peace.



On the last Fridays of the month, our Committee has held Technology and Food evenings for people to gain better and wider control of computer usage, and to serve a simple meal for those who have not had time to eat before. So far we have had two such evenings. The aim of these evenings is for people to acquire more computer knowledge. Everyone who knows a little about computers also knows that a computer offers an untold amount of tasks or operations and stored information, and in most cases only a small number of it is being used. - We have been very fortunate to have had Fabian Hugi and Walter Hartmann to lead us in these evenings.

The first evening was led by Fabian, who showed us the various short cut keys to speedy computer operation and also other helpful tasks.

On the second night, Walter, with his very good computer skills, led us in a positive and easy understandable way, to desktop property, C: Drive, Window Explorer and file mangement.

Thank you, Fabian and Walter, for your great help. On both nights we were served a tasty spagetti dish.

Next Events:

Saturday, 8th November:

Garage Sale

Sunday, 16th November:

Jass Afternoon at the Clubhouse

Sunday 30th November: Singing at the Botanical Garden, Our choir consisting of Swiss, German and Austrian people who will be singing at the "Sound Shell" four Christmas Carols in German. This is an evening organised by the European

AZ

were presented to all the lucky winners of jass, shotput, kegel and shooting. Congratulations to all the recipients. It was soon time for coffee and cakes, as always home-made by the committee. Many thanks to everyone who helped, especially the dish washers. This is always a very thankless task and carried out by a few very dedicated people. The turnout once again was a bit disappointing but it was still a lovely evening and enjoyed by all who attended. Many thanks to "The Sound of Switzerland" for providing superb entertainment.

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 11am with walk starting at 11.15 am. 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, 11am at the Newstead School.

Please note new venue as the Tamahere School is undergoing major alterations and additions. Newstead School is just past the cemetery on the main road heading from Hamilton to Morrinsville. The pool may or may not be available depending on weather and whether the school has it ready, but there will be plenty of other activities or bring some balls, rackets etc to organise your own games. Santa will be coming so if your children would like to receive something, please wrap a present for them to the value of about \$10 and name clearly and leave with someone from the committee. There will again be a great selection of raffle prizes, so remember to bring some money. The club will provide sausages, bread and drinks as well as coffee and cakes. Please bring any other snacks your family may enjoy.



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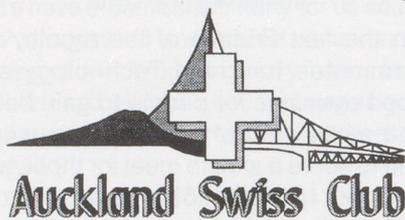
Forum, where one can hear Christmas Carols sung in the languages of the different European Countries,

Saturday, 6th December:

Christmas Party

Sunday, 7th December:

Children's Christmas Party



auckland@swiss.org.nz

Meine Lieben,

The Fondue was delicious! Enjoyed by about 40 people at the farm, of whom there were many young and new faces. And welcome to you all, it was fantastic to see you there, and we hope you can come again soon. We had light background music provided by Natalie Hess (recorder) and Oscar Roggen (recorder and alp-horn) – thank you very much. Thank you to Vreni for preparing this delicious feast once again to perfection. And to you who took part and made the evening so special, thank you all for coming.

And just the weekend gone we enjoyed a most delightful evening – our Schützenball Prizегiving. We held this at the Sorrento which has One Tree Hill as its surroundings. The venue was very nicely set up with decorations made by Edith Hess. With all the late bookings there were in the end about 120 gathered, including people from the Austrian and German, as well as the Swiss and New Zealand community. The Holzacker Band was there to greet the guests. A fine buffet dinner was awaiting us. Henry the rifle master acted as MC for the night and held his speeches to a minimum. He gave out medals for Society Games, for "Obligatorisch" in which also some women featured, for 'Feldschiessen', for Auslandschweizer Competition and for the interclub competition between Hamilton and Auckland. The biggest attraction was of course the dancing which followed the prizегiving, and everyone enjoyed to the full, with the very strong Holzacker Band who seem to get better every year. In between dancing we heard a couple of songs from the yodel group, and the Austrian Dance group presented us with a most entertaining dance routine, all very impromptu. Thank you so much for this wonderful entertainment.

Tombola tickets were sold during the

night and the prizes were very tempting. A silent auction was held for a fabulous embroidery picture.

Thank you to all who made this evening possible, the musicians, the restaurant team, the committee for organising it and presenting it so smoothly, for the cooks who prepared the meal so lovingly, for Spectra Graphics for designing and printing the posters and tickets, and the numerous sponsors of all the lovely tombola prizes, especially our Swiss companies who always support us so loyally throughout the years – Swiss Delicatessen, Swiss Bakery in Milford. Thank you to Jennifer and Ueli Kipfer and Terry Mason for finding all the donations among the New Zealand business community. And thank you all for coming and joining in the celebrations, sharing with us one of the oldest traditions of Switzerland. And thank you to the Swiss government who supports us in keeping this tradition alive even for those of us who decide to set up home elsewhere.

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Welcome to the new members who joined us in the last few months:

Marcel and Vreni Rüedi with family, Thomas Früh, Stefan Dehmut and Amy Ravenscroft. We hope you enjoy being part of our club.

The Jass-Evening was held on Friday 19 September 2003 and the results were as follows:

1. Heidi Wilson	4173 points
2. Othmar Wyss	4027
3. Annagret Wolf	3960
4. Emil Tellenbach	3828
5. Marie-Theres Melville-Schöpfer	3763
6. Hans Iten	3759
7. Louis Wallimann	3729
8. Hansruedi Wolf	3688
9. Dominik Hess	3614
10. Monika Eggenschwiler	3592
11. Edith Hess	3541
12. Hans Fitz	3434

A few surprises in there. This goes to

show, joining the Swiss Club DOES make you a winner, Heidi. Welcome to our club. Thank you to all for coming and for the prizes. The next evening will be on Friday 21 November – Looks like this will be the last for the year! At 7.30pm, at 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield (Edith's house). Please bring a plate.

You may have noticed that the "Jöggele" has been abolished for the time being. We had one evening however, with Edi Brändli as the guest of honour during his short visit from Australia, and that was a very nice evening. And very well administered by Oscar Roggen who compiled the teams with great finesse. Thank you for that evening.

If anyone would like to join the Austrian Dance group – they train every second week on a Thursday, rotating in people's homes, and they are looking for additional couples to include in their group.

Please call Erich Schrey on Tel. 489 3880 or a.h. 444 4678 if you would like to take part in this fun activity.

Future Events:

The Craft Day is held on Saturday 1 November 2003. (I apologise if this reaches you after the event). From 10am to about 4pm. At Edith's place – 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield. Price \$10 plus materials. Call Edith 444 6972 for further information.

Please be prepared for our Mystery Tour: Sunday 16 November 2003. We meet at MacDonald's at Lynn mall. (New Lynn Shopping Centre) at 10am. The cost is \$30, and \$15 for children. Everything else is a complete mystery. Even we don't know what's going to happen..... But I can assure you, you will be amazed! Bookings are most essential for the special attraction. Please call Edith 444 6972, or Trudi 376 4923.

Working Bee: Saturday 29 November 2003, at the farm, from 9am. Lunch is always provided. We appreciate your contribution. It is not only hard work, it also offers the chance to get to know the people in the club. And how things work around the farm.

Samichlaus is our Christmas Party. Sunday 7 December 2003. This is especially for the families in our club, and we look forward to seeing you all there. Santa will bring his Xmas bags for you so please practice a little Christmas poem for him. This will start around 11am and lunch can be purchased from the BBQ. **Our Summer Picnic is the first gathering for 2004 and is scheduled for Sunday 15 February.**

Until next time
Trudi.