**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia: magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand

Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand

**Band:** 69 (2003)

**Heft:** [10]

Rubrik: Snippets from Switzerland

### Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Mehr erfahren

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. En savoir plus

#### Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. Find out more

**Download PDF:** 08.12.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, https://www.e-periodica.ch

# Snippets from Switzerland

# Consumers less pessimistic

The Swiss consumer is a little more optimistic than last summer. A recent poll of eleven hundred households showed an increase of seven points compared to last July.

Also the Swiss economy is picking up. Above all, industry and banking are optimistic.

#### **Zurich Insurance**

Zurich Insurance has greatly reduced its shares in the opposition company, Baloise. Zurich Financial Services sold 10 million Baloise shares. The transaction was worth 540 million francs. Zurich now holds 2% of Baloise shares.

### **Tennis**

Marc Rosset from Geneva (ATP 131) won a great battle against the Dutchman John van Lottum (ATP 85) to reach the final of the ATP Challenger tournament in Bratislava, 2-6, 6-3, 6-0.

Wimbledon champion Roger Federer needed just 22 minutes to beat world number one Andy Roddick 7-6, 6-2 to reach the final for the ATP Masters Cup. He will play Andre Agassi in the final.

# Contribution by one of our members

# **Voluntary AHV and NZ** Superannuation

After 30 year careers in New Zealand we are having trouble getting our New Zealand Superannuation payments, because our parents started paying our "Freiwillige AHV" in 1985 and we then kept payments up till we were 60 and 65 respectively. Now (and in spite of my lengthy explanations) Work and Income (NZ) say to us: thank you, but you receive just enough with your "Swiss pension" for us to stop NZ Super payments. This is a problem not only for ourselves, but probably for a number of other voluntary AHV recipients in New Zealand and elsewhere, and means losses of easily tens of thousands of dollars for each individual.

Part of the difficulty may lie in the Swiss insistence to include even almost entirely voluntary-based payments in what they call "Ordentliche einfache Altersrente". In fact, of course, these pensions are in no way "simple"! The voluntary-based part of these pensions is essentially similar to (for example) the New Zealand Government Super, which is voluntary, and no one in New Zealand would consider withholding NZ Super payments from recipients of Government Super. This would actually be unlawful.

It appears that this legal problem for recipients of predominantly

voluntary-based Swiss AHV pensions needs a thorough going over, in the interests of potentially very many Swiss abroad. We would therefore be grateful for comments and expressions of interest from compatriots who have experience in this area or simply find themselves in a similar situation. Thank you!

> Peter and Regine Blattner-Gsell 52. Rona St. Lower Hutt-Eastbourne 6008

# Pass the Peanuts...

A man visits his aunt in the nursing home. It turns out that she is taking a nap, so he sits down in a chair in her room, flips through a few magazines, and munches on some peanuts, sitting in a bowl on the table. Eventually, the aunt wakes up and her nephew realises absentmindedly, that he has eaten the entire contents of the bowl.

'I'm so sorry, aunty, I've eaten all of your peanuts."

"That's OK dearie", the aunt replies. "After I've sucked the chocolate off, I don't care for them anyway."



The very latest from 'Jura' of Switzerland All-new model F50 @ \$1750 + GST

Available now from the importers

# Euroespresso Ltd

11 Ryan Place Manukau City Phone (09) 262 3332 Email: lance@ecoffee.co.nz

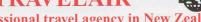
Please contact us for information on all models, brochures, spare parts or repairs.

'JURA' of Switzerland is acknowledged worldwide as the ultimate fully automatic espresso machine

# For your next overseas trip try



### TRAVELAIR



...the most professional travel agency in New Zealand

We offer you: The best tariffs and prices An excellent and rapid service A long term knowledge of the travel business (more than 45 years of experience) Travel arrangements to all destinations Our speciality:

Long distance travel to Europe Do try us

Contact

**Henry SIGERIST TRAVELAIR International Ltd** 

347 Parnell Rd, Auckland Office Ph (09) 377 3285 • Fax (09) 302 1099 Email henry@travelair.co.nz

**Evenings & Weekends** 

Ph (09) 473 9011 • Fax (09) 473 2966 Email henry.s@ihug.co.nz