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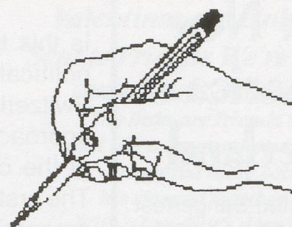


# New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

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

E-mail - [society@swiss.org.nz](mailto:society@swiss.org.nz)

Auckland  
Hamilton  
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## Past Events

### Christmas Shoot

This popular event was held on 30 November with a good number of participants. People had the choice to shoot or skittle and as everyone had brought a prize with a minimum value of \$10.00 so all participants received a prize in return. The variety in prizes was terrific. During the morning Erna and Heidi had organised an activity for the children ... they had sewed lovely Christmas stockings for the children to decorate ... and they looked wonderful with all the trimmings ... they were then filled with goodies. Well done to all the children who decorated the lovely stockings and grateful thanks to Erna and Heidi for their creative ability!!!

Many children also took part in the Christmas Shoot ... it was great to see your enthusiastic participation, and we look forward to your continued support in the years to come.



*The children busy decorating their stockings.*

A big THANK YOU to Mark and his team for organising this fun day which everyone enjoyed.

MD



*One of our younger generation being welcomed by our president Walter to the Christmas Shoot.*

**43 people took part in the competition, 24 shooters and 19 skittlers.**

### Results : Shooting

Top Score of 50 points - Emma Kiser  
Runners up with 48 points - Regi Mathys; Remigi Zimmermann; Mark Kiser  
Third place with 47 points - Anna Riebli; Walter Seifert

### Results : Skittlers

Top score with 34 points - Peter Mulholland  
Runners up with 33 points - Ruedi Benkert; Marlies Hebler  
Third place with 32 points - Adrian Drummond; Beni Noetzli

### Lucky Number prize draw winners :

1 - Anna Riebli; 2 - Charlie Schuler;  
3 - Maya Stutz; 4 - Martin Hebler; 5 - Remigi Zimmermann; 6 - Paul Amstalden; 7 - Holdi Mathys; 8 - Joe Kiser; 9 - Veronica Noetzli; 10 - Emmi Kiser; 11 - Ruedi Benkert.

The Trudi Ott Belt Shoot was held on October 19, 2003 with the winner being Helen Freiman with 100 points (19 bulls' eyes) with runner up

Mark Kiser also on 100 points (8 bulls' eyes, 2 handicap).

The Ted Napflin Memorial Shield Shoot was held on 16 November 2003. The winner was Mark Kiser 98 points (5 bulls' eyes plus 4 x 9s) with runner up Lou Butler also 98 points (5 bulls' eyes plus 2 x 9s).

Congratulations to all the place getters and thanks to all participants for supporting our shooting club. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year 2004.

**Mark Kiser**  
Riflemaster, Smallbore

### Committee Barbeque

Mid-December the committee enjoyed a barbecue at the Swiss Club. It is a great way for the committee members to mingle while not having to organise a function!!!



*Johnny looking dashing in his Swiss apron barbecuing the meat for the committee BBQ.*

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This year Ruedi Benkert had a year off doing the barbecue, and Johnny took over the responsibility. He did a great job, and everyone devoured sausages and steaks cooked to perfection. Members brought salads and there was a terrific selection. There followed icecream, and fruit salad with coffee and the endless supply of schnaps!!! It was a lovely evening, which our committee really enjoys. We're already looking forward to the next one!!!

#### New Year's Eve

Ruedi, Lisette, Leo and Doreen have for the past ????? years organised this day ... and what a success it is!!! As the number of Swissies had dwindled, the day has been combined with the Campervan Club for several years. Campervans started turning up at lunch time until their numbers had reached 39 by evening!!! They looked great spread over the beautifully manicured grounds ... thanks to our wonderful groundsman Don and Johnny. Happy hour was well attended

### Anna-Katharina Danz 'Kathy' 1959-2003

Anna-Katharina Danz, nee Weyrich was born on February 16, 1959 in Thal, St. Gallen, Switzerland. After finishing high school Anna-Kathi began a three year long apprenticeship in horticulture at a horticulture school in Hunibach, Bern. On completion Anna-Kathi worked for a few years in a landscaping business in Winterthur. In October 1982 Anna-Kathi came to New Zealand on a working holiday, staying at Max and Hanni Padrutt's dairy farm in Kaponga, Taranaki. There Anna-Kathi met Leo Danz to whom she later on got engaged: they married in June 1983. They went sharemilking for a number of years during which they won the Taranaki Sharemilker of the Year award in 1985. They then bought their dairy farm at Awatuna, Taranaki, where Anna-Kathi worked alongside husband Leo. Community involvement was one of the many things that Anna-Kathi enjoyed and she served on the board of trustees at the local primary schools, as well as teaching the Bible in Schools programme. She also taught German at Opunake High School. Anna-Kathi was a member of the Swiss Club in Kaponga right from the time of her first arrival in New Zealand. Anna-Kathi



was the instigator of the popular soup day at the Co-operating Parish in Kaponga, where Leo and Anna-Kathi have been worshipping all their married life. Her love for God was beautifully expressed through her music, either playing piano or the recorder at church and other places.

Anna-Kathi was an avid gardener and a great cook. When visiting she often brought along produce from the garden or some of her culinary delights. Anna-Kathi had a great love for people and in her 21 years in New Zealand she had touched a lot of lives and made a huge number of friends. Subsequently, the whole community was shocked and deeply saddened at her sudden death from a heart attack on October 3, 2003. Her funeral was held in the Kaponga Town Hall, where hundreds of people came to say their goodbyes to Anna-Kathi. Anna-Kathi is survived by her husband Leo and their three children, Tracey 19, Andreas 18 and Kim 14.

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

and most people returned to their vans for tea. The Swissies had a BBQ tea together and enjoyed catching up with each other after the hectic days leading up to and including Christmas. The entertainment started about 8.30pm, when the crowd had reached over 100. The best attendance in years!!! Leo and Doreen put on a few skits, told stories and music completed the entertainment for the evening. A lovely raffle had been organised by Lisette and tickets sold rapidly. A delicious supper was held with the food disappearing quickly ... campervanners must be like the Swiss ... they like their food!!! All too soon it was nearly midnight ... and then the New Year was toasted with a glass of wine. The last stragglers left around 2.00am, after having had a great evening. Many thanks for organising this function which is always such fun, and thank you to all our loyal club supporters who come along.

#### New Year's Day

Tradition has it that we go to the Stratford Club for a meal on this day ... and guess what? ... we did it again!!! Approximately 85 people (once again Swissies and campervanners) descended on the Club and enjoyed a lovely atmosphere with good food and drink (thanks to our Dutch friends who run the bistro and Grant behind the bar). It was great to see people mingling and catching up with the latest news ... this is a New Year's tradition which is enjoyed by many of us!!!

### Forthcoming events

**February 5 & February 19** - Kegeln recommences after the Christmas break... keep practising so that your skill is ready for the Society Competitions in April or May.

**February 7** - On this day members of the Wellington Swiss Club will be heading north to take part in the semi-final of the Cowbell Competition. We will require competitors to help in the shooting, skittles, shot put and jassen, so please come along to help our club win against our friendly city neighbours... they are such a happy bunch and rivalry is all in fun!!! Lunch will be provided to all, so come and enjoy the company of people you don't see very often... and also of friends you see regularly. Meat will be provided for tea, so Taranaki members please bring a salad and come and enjoy a lovely evening.

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**February 8** - Our annual picnic is held at the Club house from 10.00am. Come and enjoy the activities that will be organised. Food (cervelats and bratwurst ice creams), and drink (beer, wine, non-alcoholic beverages) available. Children's activities will be organised, and of course the highlight for most people, the schwingen will be contested - this is for midgits, juniors and adults. Come along guys - get those muscles flexed and give it a go at the picnic.

Othmar, Nic, Paul and their team would love to see you!!! This day is a wonderful social day, with many people catching up with friends they haven't seen for a while. Do make the effort to go, as I am sure you won't be disappointed that you attended.

PS - I forgot to mention the great tombola that is always held on this day... so ... don't forget your wallet ... there are some wonderful prizes up for grabs ... as the saying goes ... you have to be in to win!!! For those people wishing to stay for tea, please bring your own and enjoy it in the company of people who have made a day of it!

**March 1** - The Annual General Meeting will be held at 8.00pm. Let's see what happened last year through Walter's detailed report, and look forward to the new club year ahead.

MD

The Sunday School Teacher asks, "Now Johnny, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?"  
 "'No sir," little Johnny replies, "I don't have to. My Mom is a good cook!!!"

# Hamilton Swiss Club hamilton@swiss.org.nz

## Forthcoming Events

### Shooting and Annual Picnic

The annual Swiss Society 50m Medal shooting competition will be held, as usual, on the day before the picnic, on Saturday, 21st February, commencing 9am through to 2 pm or until all participants complete their programme. The venue is at the Elmigers' farm, Chudleigh Road, Te Aroha. Please bring your own lunch and drinks. We would love to see some new faces as well as all the regulars. If you have any questions or you are looking for transport, don't hesitate to call me on 07 855 3294 in the evening. See you all there on the day.

**Hans Vetsch** (Riflemaster)

### The Picnic

**Sunday, 22nd February 2004, commencing**

**at 11.00am, at Newstead**

(Newstead School is just past the cemetery (on the left) on the main road from Hamilton heading towards Morrinsville.)

Sadly, after three successful picnics held at Eureka School, it is very unfortunate that this school was among a number of schools closed by the Ministry of Education at the end of last year. So our new venue will now be Newstead School, which is only a few kilometres west of Eureka, and where we also held our recent Christmas function.

There is some shade in the school grounds, but please remember to bring your own sun umbrellas, etc, along with chairs and rugs. The school pool will be available for the children, (**Note:** parents are reminded that they are fully responsible for their child/children whenever in and around the swimming pool area) and there will be the usual activities of Kegeln and Shotput competitions. Plenty of grilled Bratwurst and Cervelas will be on sale, as well as Swiss baking, coffee, and a selection of cold drinks.

This is our biggest annual family event for all ages, a great opportunity to catch up with Swiss friends.

For any further information, please feel



*The youngsters and the 'young at heart' gather to be entertained by Presto the Clown at the Hamilton Club Christmas function, 2003.*



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We look forward to seeing you all there.

### Past Events...

#### Christmas Function

This was held on 7th December, on a mild but windy day, at Newstead School. With the help of a few children, the Christmas tree was quickly decorated - ready to greet people as they arrived. The cooks were soon working at the barbecue to provide sausages and bread for lunch. Soon afterwards, the children gathered on the lawn to be entertained by our first visitor, Presto the Clown, who then made balloon animals for each child to keep. And whilst Presto was busy with the children, others were busy selling raffle tickets, with everyone hoping to collect one of the lovely prizes.

A short time later, it was time for our second visitor and Guest of Honour - Santa arrived carrying two bags bulging with presents. Santa took his place by the Christmas tree and the children all sat around him on the floor, eagerly waiting for their names to be called for a present. Following Santa's departure it was time for afternoon tea - coffee and a large selection of Swiss Christmas cookies, along with the raffle draw. Several lucky people were able to take home prizes including a chocolate Santa, Zopf, quilted blanket, gift basket, Schnapps and wine. A big thank you to everyone involved in organising and preparing for this day in any way - your help is much appreciated, and a very enjoyable day was had by all.

BL



### Past Events...

#### Jass Nachmittag November 16.

On November 16th we had a Jass afternoon in the clubhouse. We were in luck to get 4 groups of 4 keen players together. When the groups were formed player number 16 was missing. It appears that he got astray in Raumati. A new "Schieber" was tried by 7 players. Roaring laughter proved that they had lots of fun... must be repeated again. We all enjoyed a very pleasant time.

R.M.

### Christmas Carols at the Botanical Gardens November 30

A wonderful warm evening greeted the choirs at the Botanical Gardens. There were more ethnic groups singing this year. The candles gave a festive atmosphere to the venue and the ethnic backings soled very quickly. Many people arrived early and enjoyed a picnic in the park before the carol singing started. As it got late some families with children started on their way home before the end of the carols. However it was a wonderful evening and awakened real Christmas spirit.

#### Christmas Party December 6

The evening started with a glass of Sangria. With a glass in the hand it makes it easier to chat with old friends and get to know new ones. Where would Christmas be without a suitable story? There was a Christmas story provided which was beautifully read by Rainer. Then we all sang "Stille Nacht Heilige Nacht" accompanied by Carolyn who agreed to play the piano last minute. Thank you Theresa, Rainer and Carolyn. Dinner was of the usual high standard. Roland cooked the ham which just about melted in your mouth and the committee, under Theresa's guidance, prepared the salads and cold meats. You can't have Christmas dinner without Strawberries, Cream and Meringues, or can you? Then came some special "Thank-Yous". A big bouquet of flowers for Oris Keller, for all the designing work she has done for the club. A bottle of wine for Franz Rempfler for looking after the garden and good luck for his move to a new house in Petone. Two very different sized bottles of wine went to Heinz Jaeggi and Peter Hynes. I am sure the recipients understood the meaning????? Kaffee and Guetzli were served after Orsi's parents from overseas were welcomed and wished a happy time in New Zealand.

#### Samichlaus Party December 7 at the Clubhouse

The Samichlaus was called away overseas at the very last minute. It proved quite difficult to find a replacement. However, Roland put his thinking cap on. Paul Scherrer came to the rescue and filled the gap and an excellent Samichlaus he was too. While waiting, the children played with the toys and Lego but for some it got unbearable and one little fellow came to ask, "Waenn chunt daenn dae Samichlaus?" 14 children were waiting, some confident and some hesitant to perform a song or say a "Versli" for Samichlaus to be rewarded with a little bag of goodies. Schmutzli (Peter Hynes) carried the sack as well as the "Ruete". Thank you Theresa and

Hans for helping with the afternoon tea.

### Forthcoming Events...

**Swiss Society Indoor Shooting January 25**  
The Indoor Shooting 25m will start at Wainuiomata at 8am on the 25th of January. There is always a need for more keen shooters.

Please get in contact with Hans Glauser at 478 9899 or 478 7455 w or Hans Scherrer at 528 7698

#### Swiss Society Jassen and Steinstossen January 25 and Family Afternoon

These activities will start at Lunch in the Clubhouse as well as a Family Afternoon. Bring your lunch and use the Club's BBQ.

#### Computer Evening January 30

The computer evenings have been a great success. You are never too old to learn!! The evening starts at 7.30 pm in the clubhouse. Come and see what the experts can teach you.

#### Shooting at Trentham February 1

Shooting practice in Trentham for 50m. Dante Street starting at 11am. The venue has to be confirmed. Please ring Hans Glauser 478 9899 or 478 7455 work or Hans Scherrer 528 7698

#### Taranaki Cowbell Competition February 7/8

Cowbell Competition Weekend in Taranaki. We always have great fun and sometimes the mountain will show itself in its beauty. Have an enjoyable weekend and support your Taranaki and Wellington friends competing for the Cowbell. Please ring Roland Schutz for Details at 568 5737 or 568 6772

V.M.

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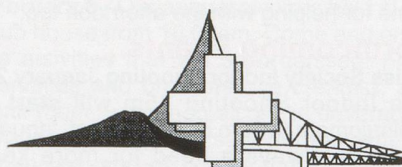
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## OH WHAT A SUMMER!

I hope that wherever you are you can enjoy the sunshine and the water and all that the New Zealand Summer offers in such abundance! I also wish for you that the new year holds many good surprises!

January has a few fairly prominent **birthday** people in our club: Oscar Roggen, the alp-horn player. Sylvia Enzler, who is a pivotal founding member of this club and had a lot to do with the farm and its facilities. Edith Hess, who is our vice-president and chief caterer and organiser of events. She is a very special gifted and dedicated person. There are not many Swiss people who arrive on these shores without coming across Edith on their way to establishing themselves in the Auckland community. Edith reaches out to them all with her welcoming arms and her big heart and includes them all in her big family. We wish you all good health and happiness in the coming years.

To the **new members** who joined our club in the past few weeks, a big WELCOME.

Patrick & Andrea Hoerler; Heidi Wilson; Christof & Vreni Colpi (welcome back); Richard & Jolanda Foale; Stefan Neuschwander; Urs & Bernadette Meier; Hans and Alice Durrer (welcome back). I hope you can benefit from being a member and that you can take part in many of our events.

As every year, we celebrated Christmas on the occasion of **Samichlaus** on Sunday 7 December 2003. About 60 children were brought before the big generous man who arrived by helicopter and handed out the bags of goodies to them, before taking off into the woods. It was a rather windy day up at the farm and everyone huddled under the big roof until the clouds cleared, and enjoyed a simple lunch with the traditional strawberry tarts for dessert. We had a debut puppet show by Edith Hess and Kurt Hirzel, enjoyed by all the children as well as the adults. You never know where their career takes them from here... Thank you to all who helped, and above all thank you all for coming.

## Future Events:

### Our Annual Picnic

**Is held on Sunday 15 February 2004.**

Starting at 10am. Lunch and desserts and drinks are available for purchase. There will be games for children, Society games, Raffles and just plenty of time to share tales from the travels. Bring your visitors from far and wide with you to meet the Swiss community in New Zealand.

By the way: 2004 is a leap year, so happy birthday to all those celebrating on the 29th **A Special Shooting Event at the farm: Saturday 20 March 2004**

A group of Senior Shooters from Switzerland are on their world tour and want to match themselves with the Shooters from down under.

We are hosting them for the day and are planning a dinner and dance to complete the day. If You are interested in joining us on this special day please look up the details for this event which are being finalised as of now [www.swiss.org.nz](http://www.swiss.org.nz) and go to the shooting section: "special events". Or call Henry on Tel 410 3476 or Heinz Tel. 624 1589.

### Wandertag

**Sunday 7 March 2004.**

We will walk the boundaries again (so called "Bannumgang"), since we would like all the people in our club to know about the beauty and the extent of our farm. It is about a 3-hour walk, with a sweeping view to both the Kaipara and Waitemata Harbours from its highest point. Meet at the farm at 10am, wear good shoes, a hat and bring drink and picnic lunch.

### Cowbell Competition

**Auckland versus Hamilton**

At The Farm.

(This date is to be confirmed yet) Sunday 28 March 2004. We are hosting the Hamilton Club, and putting on lunch for them. So please bring a cake and let's win the Cowbell this year!

### Craft Day

**Saturday 3 April, 2004, 10am**

At Edith's place - 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield. Tel. 444 6972. Learn about Easter Baking. Cost \$10 plus material. Booking is essential.

**AGM** of the Auckland Swiss Club Saturday May 1, 2004, at the farm.

### Next Stammtisch

Saturday February 28, 2004.

Farm Ranger Markus Buhler

Tel. 832 3334

### Next Shooting:

21/22 February 2004: Obligatorisch / Feldschiessen. Starts 10am, Riflemaster Henry Werffelli Tel. 410 3476

**The Card Evenings** begin again on

Friday March 19, 2004, 7.30pm

**New Venue:** Good Shephard Church Hall.

Telford Ave, off Dominion Road when coming from the city, it is the fourth street to the right after the Balmoral Road intersection, and the hall is at the end of Telford St, to the left of the church itself. All other arrangements remain the same: bring a plate for supper and a prize if you have. Entry per player \$5.

Card Master Hans Iten Tel. 620 9208

*En Summer Gruess,  
Trudi Fill.*

# CHRISTCHURCH SWISS CLUB NEWS

## President's Report

Seasons Greetings from sunny Cashmere. It's springtime and the weekends are filled with outings and BBQs, while work is a hive of activity, also, planning our next club events.

We were delighted with the great response we received at the past two **Stammtisch** events.

It is always marvellous to come along to

one of our Stammtisch "happenings and experience some of Christchurch's hidden secret localities.

**Many thanks for supporting our events** - and us, the committee during the year. We have enjoyed your company and have met a lot of new people at our past events.

Also a warm **"Thank you"** to all of our affiliates (Swiss Embassy, Helvetia), the committee and "Ms Helena" for the ever so good newsletter.

Happy New Year and have a safe and happy holiday.

*Your President, Reto Oswald*

## Book Review - One-way Ticket to New Zealand

Swiss Immigration After the Second World War by Helen Baumer (Peter Lang, Europaischer Verlag der Wissenschaften)

Over the past decade more than 200 Swiss have settled in New Zealand each year, with the number of registered Swiss New Zealanders now totalling some 6000. Yet, to date, very little research has been done on Swiss migration to New Zealand.

*One-Way Ticket to New Zealand* presents the available material on early contacts between Switzerland and New Zealand. These include John Webber, Captain Cook's artist, who was almost certainly the first Swiss to set foot in New Zealand, in the year 1777, as well as early settlers like Felix Hunger, who established himself as a blacksmith in Taranaki and then returned to the Swiss canton of Graubunden to fetch further settlers.

The study focuses particularly on immigration after the Second World War, and tells the stories of individual Swiss who have settled in New Zealand during this period. They include a deer farmer, a successful novelist, a travel agent, a restaurant owner, a homesick Ticinese and a professional drummer.

Based on detailed interviews with Swiss living in New Zealand, it examines their reasons for leaving Switzerland and for choosing New Zealand, and explores the extent to which they have integrated into New Zealand society. It also presents and analyses data on immigration after the Second World War, taken from both census and Swiss Embassy sources.

## Past Events...

Stammtisch for Tennis Freaks was held on 21 January at Sammy's Jazz Review. The Swiss National Tennis Team for Paraplegics in Wheelchairs came to Christchurch from 20th January to 25th January 2004 and were invited to this event. Among this team are four people from Valais, one from Glarus and four from Aargau. They wished to find out more about Swiss people abroad. More about this event in a future issue of the Helvetia.

## Forthcoming Events

**Culture Galore - celebrating Canterbury's cultural diversity.**

The Christchurch City Council is organising this multi-cultural festival on Saturday 6th March (postponement date 13th March) from 12 noon to 4 pm at Ray Blank Park in Maidstone Road. Come and experience the food and music of the different cultures living within the Canterbury area. The Swiss Club will again have a stall selling delicious Swiss food. **HD**