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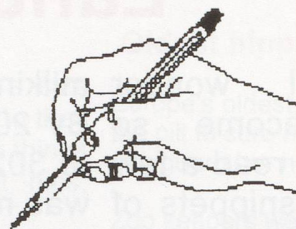
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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

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Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch



Past Events

Our card afternoons have been reasonably well patronised, but if there are some of you out there who are unsure about coming ... please do come along ... it is a lot of fun!!! It was great to see some of our younger competitors taking part last month ... congratulations on participating Andrea and Martin Hebler ... and I hear that you play cards very well ... is it mum and dad's teaching? ... or grandma and grandad who are here on holiday from Switzerland? Come on you other juniors who play cards ... come along and enjoy the fun!!! It's good practice for the Swiss Society Competitions coming up shortly.

17 April Results of the Card Afternoons

Jassen

1st Berta Sidler
2nd Josie Gillbanks
3rd Ruedi Benkert
Booby Erna Zimmermann

Euchre

Unfortunately there were only four players

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1st= John and Bertha Kuriger
Sadly John Hermann wasn't feeling well, and had to be taken away by ambulance. We hope you are feeling a little better, John.

Raffle

1st Marlies Hebler
2nd Lisette Benkert

1 May

Jassen

1st Margrit Dudli
2nd Paul Suter
3rd Heidi Seifert
Booby Berta Buhler

Euchre

Two full tables this week ... it was great!

1st Adrian Drummond
2nd Audrey Meuli
3rd Eric Meuli - just pipped by your wife, eh Eric??!!
Booby Albert

Raffle

1st Daniel Drummond - thank you Meme and Pepe, I loved the goodies!!!
2nd Eric Meuli

Forthcoming Events.

May 29 The Swiss Society Competitions will be held on this day from 10.00am. Please remember there is a separate section for the juniors, so parents please bring your children along. This year ... a BONUS ... we have medals available to all juniors who compete ... one of our members has very kindly donated medals that she has collected over the years ... and the Taranaki Swiss Club committee thought it would be nice to reward our juniors who take part.

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Grateful thanks to the donor of these medals, who would like to remain anonymous, as I am sure that the children will enjoy their reward!!! The various disciplines in the Swiss Society Competitions are shotput, shooting, keglen (nine-pin bowling) and jassen ... so there is something for everyone ... the more that participate, the more medal winners there will be. Please support this day ... for although there is a competitive edge ... it is always held in friendly rivalry ... and there is certainly plenty of time to catch up with old friends, and make new ones. The committee looks forward to your participation in this competition ... which is also good practice for the Cowbell competition a week later.

June 4 - 6 Remember we are going to Hamilton to be fiercely competitive in the final of the Cowbell Competitions ... if you haven't booked ... do so immediately ... we may still have room for you!!! Please ring Othmar, Heidi or Marianne.

June 11 The fun Preiskeglen will be held on this day ... come along and enjoy the fun ... four people play in a round, with the winner taking home (if not eaten before) a delicious sausage. We would appreciate a little more support for this function, so please come early ... you can then enjoy a game of cards in between your efforts to win a sausage!!! For some of us, it would be cheaper to buy the sausages ... but the enjoyment makes up for the expensive delicacy!!!

Then from 6.00pm to 8.00pm the delicious fondue will be served ... for those of you who don't like fondue (or if you are still a little hungry after the fondue!!) there are sausages and salads available. This is always a great social day ... so come and bring some friends if you wish. Please book your table(s) with Lisette (06 7628718), Erna (06 2726438) or Marianne (06 7628757) and we will look forward to seeing you there.

June 19 Final of the Championship Shoot at 11.00am ... please give Mark your support ... the more participants, the better Mark likes it!!!

June 19 & 26 Cards will be held at

1.15pm ... enjoy a few rounds of cards, a delicious afternoon tea, and then for some a few more games of cards.

July 3 Our very popular Anniversary Shoot will be held on this day ... shooting will be from 11.00am to 3.00pm, with the delicious pork and sauerkraut to be served at 5.30pm. Thereafter the spinning wheel raffles will be held ... so don't forget that wallet!!! The children love selling the tickets, and like to have willing buyers!!!

July 10 & 17 Cards again at 1.15pm.



Past Events

Annual General Meeting

On the Evening of Friday 15th April we held our Annual General Meeting at Swisscraft premises. During the first half hour, everyone had a chance to enjoy a drink and have a chat with friends before the meeting got underway. It was very pleasing to see an increased attendance this year of over thirty members. Once again, we had an Embassy representative at our meeting, and we thank Karin Ruegger for coming to Hamilton and joining us.

The meeting commenced with normal meeting matters and reports. Events and functions throughout the past year have all been well attended, in particular the First of August celebration held at Mellow Manor. The change of Hall facility from Eureka to Matangi has proved successful, and we will continue to use this venue in the future. The regular family walks have also become popular family events. Our Club finances are in a healthy state, and a modest profit was achieved for the year. A moment's silence was held in memory of Heiri Oetli, who passed away last October.

With the election of officers, Bert Fühler was asked to take the chair. He thanked and congratulated Herbert Staheli for his work as Club President. A brief discussion concluded that Herbert has held the President's position for approximately twenty years, for which we are all extremely grateful. Needless to say, Herbert was once again elected unopposed as President. All other officer holders and committee members were also re-elected, with the addition of Erika Elmiger returning to the committee.

They are:

Vice President:

Vitus Acherman

Secretary:

Anita Zuber

Treasurer:

Beatrice Leuenberger

Riflemaster:

Hans Vetsch

Committee:

Heidi Leuenberger, Vreni Vetsch, Erika Elmiger, Margreth Meier, Max Schwitzer, Kurt Hess

Thanks also go to the many people who have assisted the committee throughout the year, in particular for help with baking for card evenings and other functions.

In General Business, the main discussion revolved around card evenings, and it was decided that a separate table be made available for those people preferring a non-competitive game of cards. Beginners, especially, could then also come to card evenings to play a friendly game, and we would also try to have someone available for tuition.

The meeting was closed at about 9.30 pm, and was followed by a delicious supper, and another chance to catch up with friends.

Interclub Competitions

Following the AGM on Friday evening, we again descended on Swisscraft Premises on Sunday morning, April 17th, to welcome approx. 30 Auckland Members who came to compete against us for the annual cowbell semi-final competitions. Morning tea was provided for our visitors upon their arrival, and very soon the bowling was underway. The card players had their turns first, so that they could then move on to the card tables and settle in to their Jass. In the meantime, the strongest men each Club could muster gathered outside to throw the shot put stone. In the kitchen, several ladies were very busy preparing lunch to keep up the energy levels of all these sportspeople. Swisscraft had become a hive of activity.

As the bowling and card playing continued after lunch, results weren't looking too promising for us - we knew already that we'd lost the shooting event using results from February, and now we had also lost the shot put (due to bad backs, shoulder injuries, etc, etc.!!?). However, our hopes were restored when a win in the bowling was announced as now we still had a chance. But finally, with a further loss in cards, we once again had to concede defeat, and the

Auckland Club will go on to compete against Taranaki Club for the Cowbell. We thank you for the fair and friendly competition, and wish you well for June.

Following afternoon tea, our visitors departed northwards, and we now look forward to welcoming all Clubs to our wonderful city for the Society AGM.

Cards

Card Evenings for 2005 got underway on Friday, 29th April at Cambridge. All organised for the event, all turned to custard when more people arrived than we've seen for years, but the key to the cupboard containing the chairs and tables was not in its usual place! We tried every other key hanging, but to no avail. Apart from a few small tables, the only other surface was the floor, and the only contact phone number we had was to the locked office of the building we were in!! After we had scoured the Church noticeboard in the foyer, we finally discovered a home phone number of a Pastor. Thankfully he was home and able to contact the Receptionist, who in turn could let him know where to locate the key, which was mistakenly left on her desk (in a locked office) earlier that day!

After quickly setting up some tables, 32 players could get started with the medal competitions, and then our regular competitions could finally get underway. Despite the initial chaos, we were still delighted to have such a large number of people come along. In total, there were 64 card players and 52 in the prize competition and 12 at the non-competitive tables.

After three rounds of cards, we enjoyed a delicious supper of Wurstsalat and bread, followed by baking and coffee, before completing the next three rounds of cards.

Two weeks later, on Friday, 13th May, we again met up for a Card Evening at Matamata. Thankfully it was not too cold as we congregated outside waiting for the keyholder to arrive. But this time, the evening got off to a less hectic start than the previous, and soon got underway with a further four players completing the medal competition. Once again this year, our Club has greatly supported this medal competition with a total of 32 competitors. Following this, 48 players present got down to the serious business of card playing, in anticipation of one of the many prizes. After three rounds, we were treated to a delicious supper of Wienerli and Heidi's famous home made bread; baking and coffee. Having replenished our strength, we continued with the final three rounds of cards.

Grateful thanks go to those involved in preparing and serving the suppers, and a big thank you also to people who

brought along extra prizes.

Prizewinners were as follows:

1st Card Evening

1 Roland Rufer	4376
2 Karl Waldvogel	4140
3 Erika Bolli	4109
4 Beatrice Leuenberger	4075
5 Rita Braem	4015
6 Hans Vetsch	4010
7 Willetta Staheli	3994
8 Theresa Fitzi	3964
9 Oskar Reichmuth	3953
10 Hanna Frischknecht	3932
Booby Prize:	
Heidi Fitzi	3442

2nd Card Evening

1 Werner Fassler	4226
2 Therese Fitzi	4221
3 Ruedi Wernli	4187
4 Fidel Good	4171
5 Heinz Leuenberger	4059
6 Hanna Frischknecht	4045
7 Margarete Poppe	4011
8 Therese Rust	3994
9 Heidi Hurschler	3990
10 Karl Waldvogel	3980
11 Uli Elmiger	3971
12 Oskar Reichmuth	3959
13 Erika Bolli	3945

Forthcoming Events

Further Card Evenings

We're now already half way through our six annual card evenings. Come along and take part in the regular competition, or if you're a beginner, or just prefer a friendly game, you can

join the non-competitive table and be eligible for a spot prize. Where possible, some tutoring will also be available.

Fourth Evening Friday 10th June, in Matamata, 7.30 pm

Fifth Evening Friday 24th June, in Cambridge, 7.30 pm

Sixth and Final Evening Friday 8th July, in Matamata, 7.30 pm

First of August Celebration

Our National Day Celebration will be held on Saturday 30th July, at the Matangi Hall. Further details will follow next month in the July Helvetia. Please reserve this date in your diaries now!

Family Walk

Another date to mark in the calendar is Sunday 21st August for a walk planned at Pukeatua. Details will follow next month.



Forthcomming Events

Saturday 28 May

Fondue evening 7pm.

This is a very enjoyable evening with an excellent Fondue. Please come along and join us.

Thankyou

The Swiss Society of New Zealand wish to thank all our advertisers over the past year. We all appreciate your loyal support which tremendously helps the Swiss Societys' financial position. Would all members please support our sponsors whenever possible.

Once again grateful thanks to our advertisers.

Swiss Abroad Congress

The 83rd Swiss Abroad Congress will be held in Interlaken from 1st to 4th September 2005 in conjunction with the 'Trachten und Alphirtenfest' celebrating it's 200th anniversary.

If anyone is interested in attending, please contact Marianne



Dear friends,

My name is Heidi Wilson and this is the first time I write this column since I was elected Secretary of the Auckland Swiss Club at the AGM 2005 at the Swiss farm.

My address is 53 Rothesay Bay Road, Rothesay Bay, Auckland.

My phone number is 478 9751, email: Heidi_Wilson@xtra.co.nz

AGM: Election of New Committee

Trudi Fill, our long-standing Secretary, has retired from her job as Secretary, but not from the Committee, which is great, as she has so much to give to this committee and to the club. I would personally and for all of you thank her for having done such an excellent job for 10 years!

Henry Werffeli, an equally keen and hard working Committee member, has retired from this Committee. Thank you, Henry for your sterling effort.

The new Committee looks as follows:

President:

Fritz Scheidegger

Vice-President:

Edith Hess

Treasurer:

Heinz Matysik

Secretary:

Heidi Wilson

Action Group:

Hans Iten

Albert Ryter

Ursula Nixon

Ernst Gfeller

Sandra Hess

Egon Eberle

Barbara Ashton-Egli (new Committee member)

Past Events

Jassen

For the second Card Evening of the season, we again had very good attendance at our new venue in Ponsonby. Many thanks to the ladies who provided us with a very generous supper and to our sponsors of some lovely prizes.

Hans Iten, Tel. 6209208. P.S. I will also be overseas later this year.



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The Results for Friday 15 April 2005:

1. Monika Eggenschwiler	3955
2. Marie-Theres Melville-Schöpfer	3944
3. Paul Steinemann	3942
4. marcel Ruedi	3931
5. Lynne Dunphy	3922
6. Heidi Wilson	3882
7. Hansruedi Wolf	3816
8. Louis Wallimann	3815
9. Elisabeth Preisig	3799
10. Hans Fitzi	3774
11. Jakob Preisig	3767
12. Annagret Wolf	3743
13. Verena Ruedi	3728
14. Nelly Steinemann	3719
15. Molly Gianotti	3700
16. Toni Manser	3696
17. Hans Iten	3649
18. Lillian Iten	3627
19. Andre Iten	3617
20. Hilda Iten	3614
21. Adrian Blaser	3596

The Card Master had his 80th Birthday Wednesday 13 April.
Best wishes and congratulations to you from the committee.

Forthcoming Events

4/5/6 June Society AGM in Hamilton. Please let me know if you are going there as soon as possible and if you are staying for the week-end or just for the day. At present only one person has officially put her name down. We cannot win the cowbell this way.

7 July Film Evening organised by Trudi. Should be lots of fun. In the East Coast Bays: Rothesay Bay Residents' & Ratepayers' Hall, Corner Rothesay Bay Rd/ Beulah Ave.
Cost: \$10 per adult (over 20)
\$7 students.

30 July Gala Swiss National Day at the Danish Club, please book with Trudi. More info later.

We hope to see many of you at the above events and please let us know if you are going to attend.

Kind regards,

Heidi.

*The urgent is seldom
important
and the important
is seldom urgent.*

Trivia

1. In which country did Punch and Judy shows originate?
2. What was the original sport played at Wimbledon?
3. Which country is best known for producing Chinese gooseberries?
4. What's made from a mixture of linseed oil and powdered chalk?
5. Tenerife is famous as an island holiday resort - and notorious for what reason?
6. Where was Europe's first traffic light installed?
7. What prime minister spent two years singing with the rock band Ugly Rumours?
8. The offspring of a camel is called what?
9. According to the Bible, Jesus fed 5,000 people with five loaves of bread and how many fish?
10. A TIMELY question : what hit song made its debut half a century ago this year?

Answers

1. Italy.
2. Croquet.
3. New Zealand - hence the name kiwi fruit.
4. Putty.
5. It was the scene of the world's worst aviation disaster : 583 people killed when two Boeing 747s collided on the ground at the airport on March 27, 1977.
6. Berlin's Potsdamer Platz in 1924.
7. Britain's Tony Blair.
8. A calf.
9. Two.
10. Bill Haley's "Rock Around the Clock."

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