

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 71 (2005)
Heft: [8]

Vorwort: Editorial
Autor: Amstalden, Paul

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: 18.08.2025

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

Editorial

I'm sitting at my desk pondering over my many thoughts swirling around how to get this Editorial started and I suddenly realised the general election is less than a week away! I also realised that, probably like most of my readers, during the last three weeks most of my 'leisure' thinking had been about politics, politicians and the various political parties vying feverishly for our votes to get at least some of their candidates into Parliament so they don't disappear into almost certain political oblivion! Isn't it amazing how, just before a general election, the chief candidates from all parties are suddenly fully aware of all the main concerns of the majority of voters and promise to put these right as soon as possible after they are elected! And then conveniently forget about them

for as long as possible after they are elected! I don't know about you, but speaking for myself, what I enjoy the most about a general election campaign is the antics many candidates get up to to get 'one across' the opposition, whether about a supposedly real or perceived misdemeanour! Just look at the furore of the Exclusive Brethren - Don Brash episode and the 'leaked' National Party emails! And no sooner had these fiascos petered out, when -Booohm-, Winston Peters dropped a bomb on his most dangerous opponent for 'his' Tauranga Seat, Bob 'the Builder' Clarkson! We will find out on Election day what, if any, 'fallout' this fiasco may have on the Tauranga result!

Don't you just love it? I do! I just love watching a general election! Almost as

good as watching a three-ring Circus, except for the very serious decision each one of us has to make at the grand Finale!!!

I guess maybe I've got a small, fiendish, political streak in me, hence my gleeful enjoyment watching the candidates, especially the Party Leaders, being 'grilled' by the Media during an election campaign! I just love it! I love having two votes under MMP. In my opinion it's the best thing that's happened in NZ politics since we won the right from the Crown, to have our own Parliament and manage our own affairs, over 100 years ago. Under MMP the smaller parties at least get a chance to get a few MP's into Parliament and occasionally can even put the brakes on some Government excessive intentions! Good show, I say!

Look at our old Homeland! Switzerland has been ruled by coalition governments for nearly 150 years, as far as I know, and for all that time has been the most stable and peaceful democracy in the World! The Federal Council (Cabinet) is made up of Ministers from three, and more often four, Political Parties, who all know they had better learn how to work together, fast, if they want to keep their jobs!!! Our NZ MP's also had better get used to the idea of coalition governance, because I feel MMP is here to stay. I feel more and more of my follow-kiwis are beginning to see, like me, the advantages of a twin-vote!! I love it, don't you?

Even if the Media Polls over recent weeks are only half-right, we could see some interesting results on Saturday evening! Roll on 17th, I'm looking forward to it!

Cheerio for now, Paul.

SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

PATRON: Mrs Sylvie Matteucci-Keller Ambassador of Switzerland

PRESIDENT: Marianne Drummond, Salisbury Road, RD 24, Stratford.

Phone 06 762 8757. Fax 06 762 8753.

Email: littleacres@xtra.co.nz

VICE PRESIDENT/TREASURER: Walter Seifert, Denbigh Road, RD 24,

Stratford. Phone 06 762 8559.

Fax 06 762 8590.

Email: walterseifert@xtra.co.nz

SECRETARY: Silvia Schuler, 536 Ahipaipa Road, RD11, Hawera.

Phone 06 272 6707. Fax 06 272 6706.

Email: frank.silvia@xtra.co.nz

RIFLEMASTER: Mark Kiser, 140 Pukengahu Rd, RD 23, Stratford

Ph 06 762 2922.

DELEGATES TO THE SWISS ABROAD CONFERENCE IN SWITZERLAND

DELEGATE: Heinz Leuenberger, 33 Russell Terrace, Putaruru.

Phone/Fax (07) 883 8537, Email heileun@xtra.co.nz

DEPUTY DELEGATES: Beno Noetzli, State Highway 50, RD1, Hastings.

Phone 06 874 9677.

Roland Schutz, 35 East St, Petone, Wellington.

Phone 04 568 6772.

EDITOR: Paul Amstalden, 421 Wortley Rd, RD 9, Inglewood

Phone 06 756 7064.

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

Auckland

Secretary: Heidi Wilson, 53 Rothesay Bay Road, Rothesay Bay, Auckland.

Phone/Fax (09) 478 9751, Email heidi_wilson@xtra.co.nz

Hamilton

Secretary: Anita Zuber, PO Box 11-026, Hamilton. Phone (07) 856 2414.

Email: zuber@xtra.co.nz

Taranaki

Secretary: Paul Amstalden, Wortley Rd, RD 9, Inglewood. Phone 06 756 7064.

Wellington

Secretary: G Bruhlmann, 401 Marine Drive, Mahina Bay, Eastbourne, Wellington.

Phone 04 562 8019.

Embassy of Switzerland: Panama House, 22 Panama St, PO Box 25004, Wellington.

Phone (04) 472 1593 or (04) 472 1594 • Fax (04) 499 6302.

Honorary Consul: Peter Deutschle, PO Box 90-209, Auckland Mail Centre.

Phone (09) 366 0403. Email deutschle@clear.net.nz

*Congratulations
to our Editor
who reached 75
years young on
21st July this
year!*