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A Maori Living in Klosters

Te-Huia Hemopo only wanted to travel Europe. However, because he fell in love with Deta, the New Zealander now drives holiday-makers and guests through snowy mountain villages by horse and carriage.

Fifty-six year old Te-Huia Hemopo grew up in a small village in the north island of New Zealand. He wanted to see something of the world, so twenty-seven years ago he headed for Europe. By chance he landed in Klosters in the Prättigau. As fate would have it, he fell in love with Deta Flutsch.

His father-in-law to-be owned a carpentry business and in the winter he operated a horse and carriage business, driving guests through the region. As Hemopo had learned the carpentry trade, he soon had a job with his father-in-law.

From the very beginning he was accepted by the villagers. "I never thought that I would have stayed. At that time I didn't speak a word of German, only English and a little

Maori, the language of my ancestors". Now he not only speaks German perfectly, he has also mastered the art of skiing.



Stolzer kutscher: Te-Huia Hemopo unterwegs mit Gästen, gezogen von den Wallachen Frankie und Frisco.

tugs at his "Burechutteli", then says in "Prättigauerisch": "Hargott-sacknomal, das weiss i numma!!!" Te-Huia, as his mother-in-law says, is "aina vo unsch" (one of us)!!!

Hemopo owns two horses, Frankie and Frisco, and has been driving people around the district for twenty-six years. He has driven Prince Charles and Lady Di, Fergie, and the Swedish Royal Family with bodyguards along the scenic routes. In this respect, his knowledge of the English language has been a great asset.

No, he hasn't been homesick of his native country New Zealand, which has a warmer climate. However, he regularly visits his family at the other end of the globe.

Te-Huia is asked how one says "horse" in Maori. He

Ozeania Reisen AG

"The founders of Ozeania Reisen AG, Bruno and Ursula Boeckli, wish to advise their many clients and friends downunder that their assistant manager of many years, Clare Walker, has acquired a majority shareholding in our well-known travel company and will accordingly take over as new Managing Director from 1 January 2006. With this long-planned buyout, Management has ensured a youthful and dynamic leadership continuation, ensuring our high standards of client-service will continue."

The editing team of the Helvetia wishes you well, Clare, and hopes to meet you in New Zealand one day!!



Clare Walker, new Managing Director of Ozeania Reisen.

Latest News from the Secretariat

To celebrate the 100,000 registered voters abroad, the Spring Meeting of the Swiss Abroad Council will be reported LIVE on the internet: swissinfo/ SRI (Swiss Radio International) on 1 April 2006 from 09.00 until 17.00 swiss time. According to my calculation this translates to 31 March 2006 from 20.00 to 04.00.

*Regards
Heinz Leuenberger*