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This and That Corner



Schaffhausen Around the Rhine

The city of St Gallen, the largest in eastern Switzerland, can be reached quickly and easily from Zurich by motorway on the N1, or by inter-city train, but anyone with time to spare would do well to make their way into eastern Swiss territory via either Rapperswil on Lake Zurich, or the Toggenburg. Alternatively go via the Linth Plain, Lake Walenstadt and the Rhein Valley. Yet, probably the most delightful route is the one that starts off in the north, following the course of the Rhein, and then describes a huge curve before entering the depths of eastern Switzerland. Travellers choosing this route will become acquainted with the magnificent landscape, and can travel through many historic little towns before the broad basin of Lake Constance finally opens up before them.

The first stop on this route is Neuhausen, an industrial suburb of Schaffhausen as well as the starting-point for a descent to the Rhein Falls, considered to be one of the most spectacular natural sights in the country. The falls so inspired William Wordsworth in 1821

that he immortalised them in verse ... " The waters of the Rhein ... Fretting and whitening, keener and more keen; Till madness seizes on the whole wide Flood, Turned to a fearful Thing whose nostrils breathe Blasts of tempestuous smoke ... ".

This grand spectacle of crashing water and flying spray can be enjoyed from many different observation points at the foot of the falls. However, anyone who wants a real close-up of the thundering mass of water - at peak times it can reach 1,250 cubic metres/sec as it crashes over the 150-metre wide cliffs - can travel by ferry either to the rock in the middle of the falls or to Worth Castle, which used to be the customs house for Rhein shipping.

Just a few kilometres northeast of Neuhausen is Schaffhausen, also called the Rheinfallstadt, because of the waterfall, or Munotstadt, because of the Munot Fortress that towers above the city.

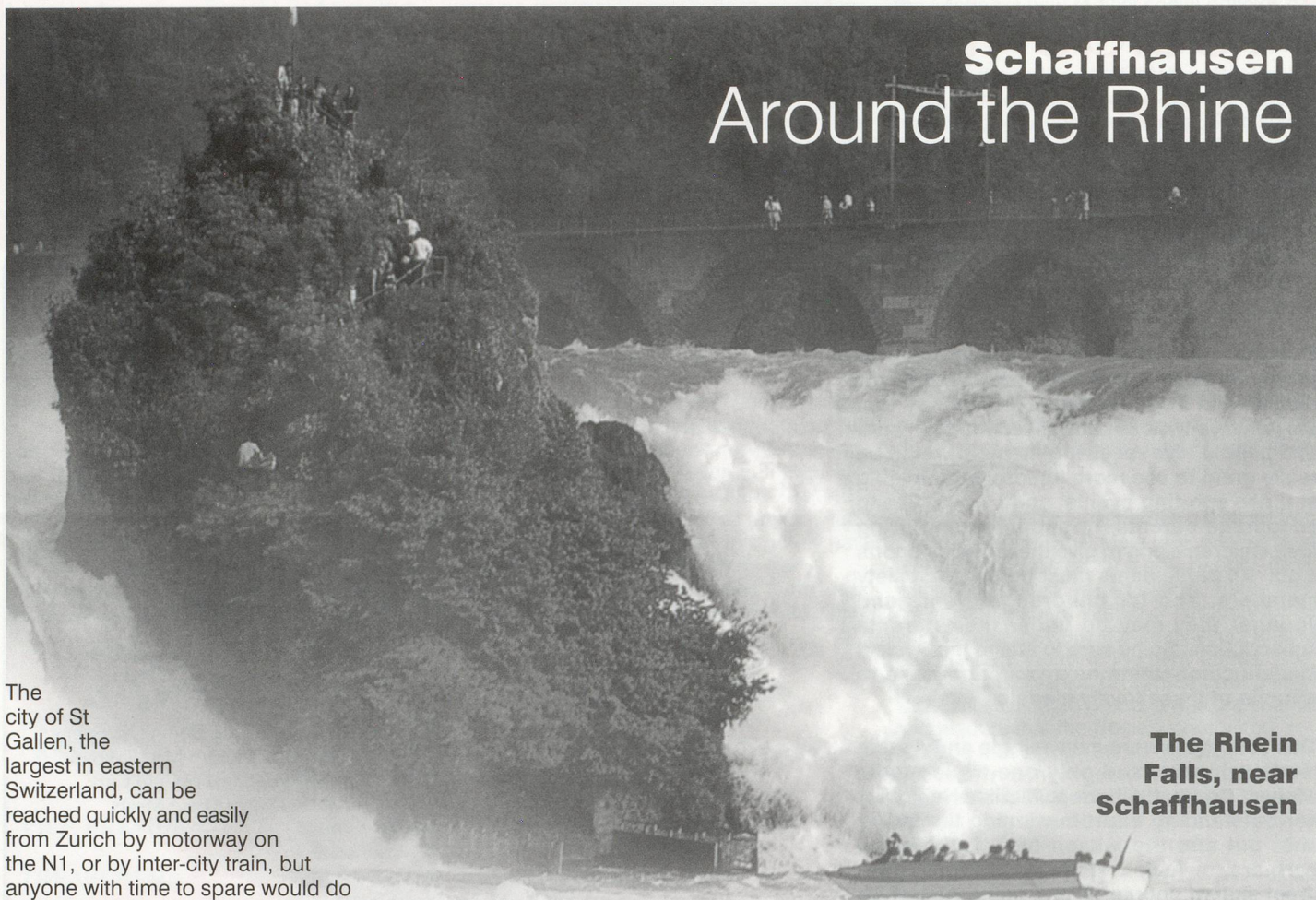
A stroll through Schaffhausen reveals that, despite industrialisation (watches, textiles and machinery), it has managed to retain many of its historic buildings. The "old town" is relatively new: a fire almost destroyed the medieval section in 1372, but it is one of the best-preserved townscapes in Switzerland.

A paved path leads up to the Munot Fortress. This circular fortress was built between 1564 and 1589 as a bastion against Germany, to defend Schaffhausen, the only estate on the right bank of the Rhein held by the Confederation. It was built according to the

principles outlined in Albrecht Durer's theory of fortification on 1527. The fortress is 49 metres in diameter, with a panoramic view of the town from the battlements; at their foot lies a fragrant rose garden.

Source :
Insight Guides
Switzerland.

The Rhein Falls, near Schaffhausen



The Munot Fortress in Schaffhausen

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500gr tripes but in small pieces
2 tbsp flour
1 small tin Tomato Paste
1 glass white wine
1 cup beef stock
Caraway seed, nutmet, salt, pepper
2 onions
10 mls cream
1/2 lemon juice
30gr butter or oil
Try tripes flour and onions together in hot butter or oil
Add tomato paste, spices, wine and stock. Add a bit of water to cover the meat. Cook for 45 minutes on low heat. At the end add lemon juice and cream. Serve with boiled potatoes or rosti.

Eierrosti

300gr white bread
250 mls milk
3 tbsp butter
4 eggs
1/2 tspn salt
Cut bread in fine slices. Bring 1/2 milk to the boil and pour on bread. Heat butter and fry bread mixture until golden brown. Mix left over of milk, eggs and salt and add to bread mixture. Stir well and add a bit of butter to pan and cover until the mixture is well fried. Serve with boiled fruit. This is a good way to use up stale white bread.

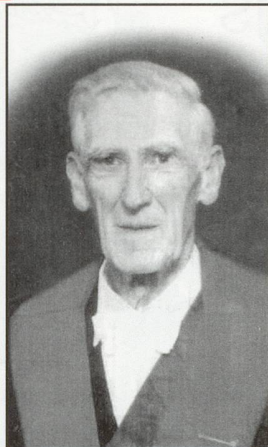
Fotzelschnitten

250 mls milk
8 slices of bread
4 eggs
pinch of salt
nutmeg
butter
Boil milk and pour in a dish. Mix eggs, salt and nutmeg. Dip slices of bread in milk, then in egg mixture and fry both sides in the butter. Serve with cooked fruits. Can add grated almonds to egg mixture.

Bon Appetit,
Lisette



Obituaries



John Hunger of Patea
1920 - 2006

John Hunger's grandfather Rudolph Hunger came to New Zealand at the age of 20 in 1875 on the Halcione with 23 other Swiss immigrants. They came from Safien Platz. Rudolph Hunger in partnership with John McCarty established in Patea the Blacksmith, Farriers and Wheelwrights business of McCarty & Hunger in 1878. John's father before him, and now his son John runs the business. John and his wife Gwen visited Switzerland after John's retirement and visited the area where his grandfather Rudolph came from and met some of his relations.

John and Gwen lived in retirement in Patea and John had failing health over recent times. He was cared for at home and went in to the Hawera hospital the day before he died. John's funeral service was at St Luke's Church in Patea and is buried in the RSA section of the Patea Cemetery.

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

-M Dwyer



Holdi Mathys
1926 - 2006

Reinhold Walter Mathys (Holdi to us) was born on 13 April 1926 in Weggis, canton Luzern, where he was the middle child of three boys. When he was three, the family moved to Morgarten, canton Schwyz, to take over a cheese factory. Holdi did an apprenticeship as cheesemaker, and then worked with his father. He continued to work in this father's business until he left for New Zealand in 1952. Through an advertisement in a Swiss newspaper, he noticed that they were looking for a cheesemaker in Kaponga, Taranaki, and he made the long trip to New Zealand. In 1952, when the Taranaki Swiss Club was founded, Holdi met Regi at the National Day celebrations, and in 1955 they were married in Stratford.

Holdi continued working in the cheesemaking industry for five years after his arrival, until together with Regi, they started their farming career, sharemilking in Riverlea. They progressed to farm ownership in 1959 when they purchased their Pungarehu farm, where they lived until Holdi passed away. Holdi and Regi have three sons, Peter, Eric and Willy, seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Holdi and Regi have been tremendously active, loyal and supportive members of the Taranaki Swiss Club, and attended our functions whenever possible (nearly always!!). Holdi, in his earlier years, was on the Taranaki Swiss Club committee, and both he and Regi have contributed very much to our club over many years. They have been regular supporters of our many bus trips away, with Holdi also loyally taking part in both the smallbore and karabiner shooting clubs. Holdi was a "Zeiger" at the Karabiner Rifle Range, and this is where he spent his last few hours on 7 May 2006.

Hold was an active member of the Rahotu Lions Club for over 25 years. His love of fishing was well-known, and he generously gave others of the trout he had caught. Since 1963 he travelled regularly, with Regi, to Turangi for Holdi to undertake his passion of fly fishing.

After immigrating to New Zealand, Holdi together with Regi, returned to Switzerland six times, visiting family and friends. They also visited Ecuador three times, where Regi had grown up. They always thoroughly enjoyed their trips away, but appreciated returning home to New Zealand.

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

-LB

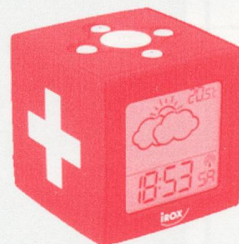
Successful Swiss mountain bikers in NZ

The world elite of mountain bikers met in Rotorua NZ in August to compete for world champion ship titles in different mountain bike categories. The Swiss did extremely well; they won a total of 10 medals (4 gold, 3 silver, 3 bronze). The Swiss have never been so successful at MTB world championships. But best of all, they have been the most successful nation overall, how often does that happen in sports? A huge promise for the upcoming Olympic games in Peking in 2008.

One of the gold medal winners, Nino Schurter (U23 Cross Country) on the climb to the top of mount Ngongotha in Rotorua.



Nino Schurter goes for Gold!



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