

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 73 (2007)
Heft: [1]

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: 03.04.2026

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

Editorial

I hope, by now, we have all recovered from our Christmas and New Year festivities! I think I have, although at time of writing I am not quite sure on this point!!! Mind you, with the turmoil of moving to a new home just four weeks before Christmas, I could plausibly blame this event for my occasional mental confusion during recent weeks, rather than an excessive imbibing of the wonderful goodies of the Christmas / New Year season?!!! Be that as it may, I can report that we love our new home and as all except the eldest of our children live in or near New Plymouth, they think its marvellous being only five to ten minutes away by car, from Mum and Dad! And, you know what? I'm already quite fond of being a 'City slicker'! Me!! A 'country boy' all my life! Scary, isn't it?!!! Christine said just a few days ago, she felt as if we had already lived here nearly a year! So, with her obvious satisfaction with our new home makes for a double warm and fuzzy feeling for me!

But now on a different thought-train! I assume all our readers had a good look at the centre-fold of our December issue, the children's

Christmas-card picture competition. I had a long look at these beautiful pictures because I was so very impressed by the children's efforts! But two of them particularly caught my eyes, not only because they were nicely painted, there was something else about these two contrasting pictures! It took me quite a little while to realise why these two pictures had caught my attention so strongly. I perceived strong lateral thinking in these two pictures, but at two quite different angles. I refer to the paints by Sonja Bartschi (13) and Natalie Hess (10) first and third in the 10-14 years age group respectively.

First, to Natalie's picture; it brought back memories of long ago, for me! I well remember the little Advent wreaths our mothers made with Holly twigs with its' beautiful dark-green leaves and little red berries, the only plant tough enough to stand in all its' glory into the beginning of the Northern Hemisphere Winter! Mothers usually wove a few Pine twigs into these wreaths as well. If I recall correctly, one of these Holly rings was hung on the outside of the front door of houses in December, and

a few were hung on the graves of departed close relatives in the cemetery around the local church. Hence, for me, Natalie's picture gave me a sense of quiet and peaceful contemplation and memories of a spiritual nature!

Now, Sonja's picture caught my attention from a quite different angle, one immediately sees the humorous side obviously intended by the Artist! Here we see Santa Claus in colourful shorts and jandels sitting on a fold-up camping chair on a quiet beach on what appears to me a remote spot of the Australian Coast, complete with sunglasses and a large cup of?? Something in his right hand and a barbeque on his left, looking for all the world as if he intends to have a jolly good holiday Down under!

And why not? No-one deserves a good holiday more than Santa, straight after Christmas. After all, he has been one awfully busy person for eleven months of the year! So, January belongs to him, so he can have a jolly good Holiday!!! And for this he is not going close to his home in the Northern Hemisphere where it's usually freezing cold during January!! No, I have it from a very reliable source that Santa loves his Holidays in the warm Januaries Down under!!!

So, thank you very much, Sonja and Natalie, for your two great pictures. But many thanks to all the other children, also, who sent in all those beautiful drawings. This old Grandpa is delighted with all this artistic talent so obvious amongst the very youngest generation of the members of our Society! I think there might even be a future budding Michael Angelo amongst them!!! Too optimistic? Nah, no way, with all this talent!!!

I hope you are all well! Cheerio from Paul.

For Sale



Hohner Button Accordeon
Riviera III
chromatic, 5 different stops
(for diff. instrument sounds)
Price negotiable
Ph. 09 294 65 60



Swiss Society of New Zealand

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| PATRON: | Mr Beat Nobs 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 | Roland Schuetz , 35 East Street, Petone, Wellington. Phone 04 568 6772. |
| TREASURER: | Walter Seifert , Denbigh Road, RD 24, Stratford. Ph 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@clear.net.nz |
| DEPUTY DELEGATES: | Beno Noetzli, State Highway 50, RD1, Hastings. Phone 06 874 9677. Roland Schutz, 35 East St, Petone, Wellington. Ph 04 568 6772. Paul Amstalden, 21 Nugent Street, Bell Block, New Plymouth Phone 06 755 2870. |
| EDITOR: | |

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 24-061, Hamilton. Ph (07) 856 2414.
Email: zuber@xtra.co.nz

Taranaki

Secretary: Paul Amstalden, 21 Nugent St, Bell Block, New Plymouth. Phone 06 755 2870.

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 Deutsche, PO Box 302 239, North Harbour, North Shore 0751.
Phone (09) 366 0403. Email deutsche@clear.net.nz