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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

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KARORI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY TOUR 31 MARCH 2007

There was a small turnout for the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary tour which replaced the previously planned Kiwi spotting trip to Kapiti Island. It was a blustery night but stayed dry and warm. The group was rewarded with great views of Kaka, Tuatara and Weta, the sound of Kiwi, and a passing glimpse of a Kiwi hurtling down the track dodging the group's tramping boots. There were also numerous glow worms, interesting plants and great commentary. The Sanctuary is making wonderful progress and it is a great feeling being within its perimeter knowing that the surrounding native flora and fauna are thriving in safety. It is also wonderful to see that the Sanctuary is prospering based on the hard work of volunteers.

EASTER EGG DECORATING 6 APRIL 2007 (GOOD FRIDAY)

The young members of the Keller, Press, Simons and Williams families got together to decorate Easter eggs on Good Friday. It was an enjoyable time creating a range of designs. Some eggs were adorned in bright paint and others had more delicate designs and imprints. This later group of eggs owed their appearance to boiled onion peel, stockings and fern leaves (a real Swiss brew). After a period in the studio many of the budding artists transferred to playing with the great range of toys on hand. The parents also enjoyed themselves catching up in each others' company. Thanks to Rahel for hosting and organising a very enjoyable event.





On Saturday the 31st of March, Upper Hutt celebrated the International Festival. The Wellington Swiss Club together with the Swiss Embassy had a stall and a display table.

The embassy handed out many leaflets, information booklets and freebies, with many people showing interest in our country, while Sandy, Murray, Erika [a swiss visitor] and Vreni melted cheese and put it on boiled potatoes what we all know as raclette. There were many different nationalities that had stalls and some performed cultural dances. It was a very successful day and we were told that at least 2000 people attended the event. Thank you to all the helpers and supporters and I hope we will get your support again for the next International Festival. V.M.

Little Bits...

Experience is a hard teacher. It gives the test first, the lesson afterward.

Lack of direction, not lack of time, is the problem. We all have twenty-four hour days.

All of us are shaped by what others expect of and from us. We live either up to or down to what others believe about us and what we can do. Actually, what other people think of us is frequently more crucial and influential than what we think of ourselves.

Humble people don't think less of themselves; they just think of themselves less.

Life is much like Christmas. You're more apt to get what you expect than what you want.

Some people find fault as if there were a reward for it. Others see good in every difficulty.

The real reward for a thing well done is to have done it.

If people aren't responsible in their personal life, there is a good chance they are also irresponsible at work. Stephen F Arterburn.

Your past is important, but it is not important enough to control your future.

Do not end a meeting until a who and when to each problem have been assigned to a specific individual with an appropriate solution. A decision without a deadline is a meaningless discussion.

Bring ideas in and entertain them royally, for one of them may be king. Martin Van Doren.

Little Bits...

Our future would be assured if we did as much today as we expect to do tomorrow.

Good news - you CAN change; make sure it's for the better.

A person is not greater than his or her dreams, ideals, hopes, and plans. A person dreams the dream and dreams of fulfilling it. It's the dream that makes the person.

False humility is an escape from responsibility. Fred Smith.

The ladder of life is full of splinters, but you never realise it until you slide down.

There is a lot of difference between a wise man and a smart guy.

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Annual General Meeting and Film Evening

The AGM and film evening will be held on 14 May at 7.00pm at the Old Stone House, 30 Shalamar Drive, Christchurch.

This promises to be another one of those very efficient and fun AGMs we have been having over the last few years.

So please join us and have your say about the future of your club. After the AGM we will show one of the most famous, successful AND funniest Swiss films of all times - "Die Schweizermacher" (1978)!!! With Emil Steinberger and Walo Luond.

We look forward to seeing you there!!!



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Past Events

Since the Annual General Meeting held in early March the only activities have been in the shooting and keglen clubs. Remigi has recommenced the Karabiner Shoots, so if you are interested in giving this a go, please don't hesitate to contact him on 06 2726438.

He'll be pleased to hear from you!!! In the Karabiner Shooting, they undertake the Swiss Army programmes on the 300 metre range on Opunake Road. Our shooters have consistently achieved excellent results, and there are many people who would be willing to help any new members ... so come and give it a go!!!

The Keglen competition is in full force ... the people attending have a lot of fun ... in either the keglen competition or chatting. Do join them, as Johnny would love to see some new faces ... not much wrong with the old ones, but the more the merrier!!!

Mark Kiser is head of the smallbore shooting, and in recent times has been saddened by the lack of support ... so please try and make his day, and turn up!!! If you would like to know more, please don't hesitate to ring him on 06 7622922.

Forthcoming Events

A sub-committee has organised the programme for the following year, and by now you should all have received the Clubs' newsletter and calendar of events. Please do try to attend as many functions as possible, as this helps to motivate your hard-working committee!!!

May

3 & 17 Keglen ... give it a go!!! Get some practice in before our trip to Wellington to contest the final of the Cowbell Competition. We will need all the help that we can get!!!

6 & 20 Cards at 1.15pm. Both Jassen and Euchre are played; we're not all experts, but like to have some fun!!! Erna and Heidi will be waiting with open arms!!! Please bring a plate for afternoon tea, and perhaps you would like to stay a little longer, and have another few rounds of cards.

20 Society / Championship Shoots from 1.00pm.

27 We will be holding the Swiss Society Competitions from 10.00am. There will be a separate section for the juniors, so come along parents / grandparents and bring the younger generation along to participate in "swiss" sports. The top 20% in each discipline will receive beautiful medals. All competitors must be members of the Swiss Society of New Zealand to participate (or in the case of

juniors, parents must be members). This year, the Taranaki Swiss Club has provided another incentive ... every competitor who participates in at least three of the four sporting codes will have the chance of winning a \$50.00 voucher ... so come on, give it a go!!!

June

2 - 4 We will be organising a bus for the trip down to Wellington for the final of the Cowbell Competition and the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society of New Zealand. Come down and try to help us win the Cowbell, and also see your Taranaki members hand over the reins of the Swiss Society to Wellington!!! The Wellington Swiss Club is also celebrating their 50th jubilee ... so what an action packed weekend ... one you can't afford to miss!!! Please ring Othmar on 06 2722878 or Heidi on 06 2734286 and book now!!!

10 Jassen and Euchre at 1.15pm.

16 This is a BIG day ... and make the most of it!!! Preiskeglen starts at 1.00pm where four people compete against each other for a sausage ... and is the competition fierce???!!! Come and see ... and, of course, participate!!! Then from 6.00pm to 8.00pm fondue / sausages and salads will be served ... some prefer one ... some like a bit of both ... whatever you like!!! Please make bookings to help with catering by ringing the following : Lisette on 06 7628718, Marianne on 06 7628757 or Heidi on 06 2734286. This delicious meal should not be missed!!!

24 Final Championship Shoot at 1.00pm with **cards at 1.15pm**. Two sports in a day ... not quite (unless you're very fast at shooting!!!) ... but at least give one a go!!!

MD

Little Bits...

Problems produce patience; patience produces persistence; persistence produces character; character produces hope; hope produces power.

You can finish school and even make it easy. However, you will never finish your education and it is seldom easy.

To change your friends, family and lifestyle, you must first change yourself.

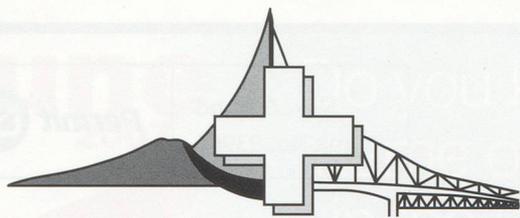
Every problem carries the seed of an equivalent or greater benefit.

Tact is the art of building a fire under people without making their blood boil.

Total effort, fully expended, in quest of a worthy ideal is the key to maximum performance.

No one has so many friends he or she can afford to squander even one.

If you believe - really believe - you will persist.



Auckland Swiss Club

Dear friends,

Here are the Jass results from 16.03. 2007

1	Annagret Wolf	4163	points
2	Tony Manser	4013	
3	Andrew Iten	4011	
4	Vreni Ruedi	3955	
5	Hansruedi Wolf	3944	
6	Lynne Dunphy	3919	
7	Louis Wallimann	3826	
8	Marie Theres Melville	3806	
9	Heidi Wilson	3746	
10	Molly Gianotti	3716	
11	Hans Iten	3653	
12	Syd Melville	3635	
13	Hilda Iten	3551	
14	Nelly Steinemann	3405	
15	Marcel Ruedi	3293	
16	Adrian Blaser	3278	

Thank you all for coming and for bringing items for supper and prizes.
Hans Iten,
Convener.

Coming Events

Saturday, 5 May: Candlelight Dinner at the Farm. Please book in advance with Edith. Ph. 444 6972.
Dinner will be served at 7.00 p.m., no doubt it will be delicious.
Cost: \$30 per person.

Friday, 18 May Jassen at Ponsonby. 7.30 p.m. We hope to see you all there.

19 & 20 May Hamilton Shooting Week-end at the Swiss Farm. (Auckland).

Saturday, 26 May Stammtisch at the Farm.

Monday, 28 May Committee Meeting at 7.30p.m. at Edith's, 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield.

2,3&4 June (Queen's Birthday Weekend), Swiss Society AGM in Wellington and the Wellington Club's 50th Anniversary! Let Heidi Wilson know if you will go there and want to travel with others, maybe on a bus. Let us know early, also if you need accommodation.

Friday, 15 June Jassen at Ponsonby, 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, 16 June Fondue at the Swiss Farm.

Saturday, 30 June Stammtisch at the Farm.
Auslandschweizer-Kongress in Genf vom 17.-19. August 2007

If you wish to attend, contact me as soon as possible. I have the forms for the Kongress, the Hotel reservation and the Children's Programme during that time (if required), it is for children aged 8-14 years. You would have to register by July 6, 2007.

Heidi Wilson, Secretary.

Musings on the English language

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted, but if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

Why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, two geese. One index, two indices?

Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend, that you comb through annals of history but not a single annal? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why don't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? If you wrote a letter, perhaps you bote your tongue?

Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? Park on driveways and drive on parkways?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and wise guy are opposites? How can overlook and oversee be opposites, while quite a lot and quite a few are alike? How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell another?

Have you noticed that we talk about certain things only when they are absent? Have you ever seen a horseful carriage or a strapful gown? Met a sung hero or experienced requited love? Have you ever run into someone who was combobulated, grunted, ruly or peccable? And where are all those people who ARE spring chickens or who would ACTUALLY hurt a fly?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm clock goes off by going on!!!

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which, of course, isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it?!!!

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