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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

Web page - <http://www.swiss.org.nz>
E-mail - society@swiss.org.nz



**Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch**

Hamilton Swiss Club

Past Events...

The Annual General Meeting was held on Friday 20th April at Swisscraft premises in Frankton. This coincided with the first visit to Hamilton by the Ambassador, Mr Beat Nobs. Herbert Staheli, the president, welcomed the Ambassador to Hamilton and also welcomed all members to the meeting. The Ambassador then addressed the group and in particular emphasised his opinion why everyone here should make an effort to cast their votes in Switzerland. Some other questions were then answered and Herbert encouraged people to approach Mr Nobs on a one-on-one basis after the meeting for more personal queries. The meeting proceedings then got underway and we can report that there have been no changes to any of the office holders or the committee, except we can welcome back Hanspeter Burch to the committee. Hanspeter was on the committee a few years ago and has agreed to re-join. There were

no major issues raised from the 38 attending members, so the meeting concluded about 9.30pm and was followed by a delicious supper provided by the committee. Everyone appreciated meeting and listening to the Ambassador. His visit also included travelling to Putaruru to speak to the Rotary club members, a meeting with the Mayor of Hamilton and also a visit to Ngaruawahia to meet the Maori King. Of course we put on perfect weather for his visit and hope to see Mr Nobs again in the near future.

The Semi-final of the Cowbell competition was held on Sunday 22nd April. The Auckland contingent arrived early and ready to enjoy coffee and biscuits before the locals turned up. The activities got underway promptly with lots of keen competitors lining up at the kegelbahn. The Hamilton team won this event and then it was down to the shotput which Auckland managed to win with some of their strong men. The shooting had already been decided earlier, going the way of Auckland so it was down to the Hamilton card players to make it a draw, which is exactly what happened. So another round of jass took place and this time it went Auckland's way so we can now only say good luck to Auckland and put up a great fight when you go down to Wellington on Queen's Birthday weekend. Everyone enjoyed a lovely lunch of grilled Bratwurst and Cervelats as well as lots of other treats and drinks. A great day enjoyed by all.

On the same day after a hard day playing cards, a group of about 30 went out to the movies to watch a film by the name of "Vitus". This was a lovely swiss film all in swiss dialect and a real treat to see such a film in Hamilton. Thanks to our own Vitus, we all got a discount. Hope we get to see more of these films in the future.

Forthcoming Events...

Fourth Card Evening to be held on 8th June in Matamata, 7.30pm sharp.

Fifth Card Evening to be held on 22nd June in Cambridge, 7.30pm sharp.

Sixth and Final Card Evening to be held on 6th July in Matamata, 7.30pm sharp.

The First of August celebration will this year take place on the actual day of Wednesday, 1st August. The venue is to be confirmed but will probably be at a Restaurant or function centre in Hamilton. Details of this will be in the next Helvetia as well as in a newsletter that will be posted out to members. Bookings and payment will be required in advance. Please mark your calendar now and tell your friends about it.

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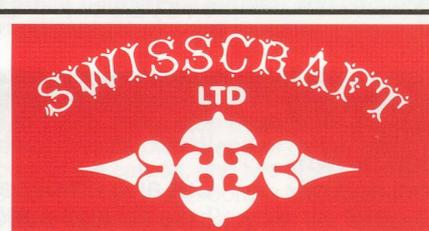
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AZ

Annual General Meeting 2007

The Swiss Society of New Zealand



Upcoming event:

**2/3/4
June
2007**

The Committee would like to invite all our members to our traditional

Cowbell Competition, the Swiss Society Annual General Meeting and the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Wellington Swiss Club.

Please find enclosed a programme which will inform you of the location and times of the different events.

Saturday, 2 June 2007

Clubhouse Wainuiomata, 21 Moore Valley Road

3pm onwards:

Our guests from Auckland, Hamilton and Taranaki will arrive at the Clubhouse

6:30pm:

Dinner and Entertainment at the Clubhouse; Everybody is welcome; you will enjoy a "gemuettliches" Beisammensein, adults \$10

Billeting: Please inquire with Roland Schuetz 04/568 67 72

Sunday, 3rd June 2007

From 8:30am:

Breakfast will be provided at the Clubhouse

9:30am:

Competition for Jassen and Steinstossen at the Clubhouse

10am:

Competition for 10-Pin-Bowling in Petone

12:30pm:

Lunch will be provided

2pm:

Swiss Society Annual General Meeting at the Clubhouse
(See the details of Meeting Agenda in red text to the right)

6pm:

50 Years Wellington Swiss Club Celebration

at the Petone Working Men's Club, 47 Udy Street, Petone

Adults \$45.- / \$1.10 times age of children for children up to 12 years
(e.g. 5 years old costs \$5.50); 12-16 years: \$25.

Win a prize for the best 1950's outfit or a prize for the best national costume.

Monday, 4th June 2007

9:00am:

Breakfast for our guests at the Clubhouse

Please let the secretary of your club know of your attendance to any of these functions or contact Roland Schuetz 04/568 67 72

The Swiss Society invites all members and friends to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held on June 3, 2007 at 2.00pm at the Wellington Clubhouse, Wainuiomata.

AGENDA

1. Welcome by President
2. Apologies
3. Address by the Patron of the Society, the Ambassador of Switzerland, Mr Beat Nobs
4. Appointment of Scrutineers
5. Minutes of the previous AGM (held on 4 June 2006) and matters arising (See Minutes, printed on this page.)
6. Obituaries
7. President's Report and matters arising
8. Editor's Report and matters arising
9. Financial Report and matters arising
10. Delegate for Swiss Abroad's Report and matters arising
11. Riflemaster's Report and matters arising
12. Setting of subscriptions 2007 / 2008
13. Election of Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Riflemaster)
14. Election of committee
15. General business including club reports
16. Set date and venue for Society AGM 2008
17. Meeting closure

Past event: 21 April 2007

Wellington Swiss Club AGM

The meeting took place at the clubhouse in the evening. A new club committee as well as the Helvetia magazine committee was elected. New in the committee are Sandy Simon and Barbara Jessop. Welcome on board!

At the same time, Rahel Williams, Peter Hynes and Trudi Bruehlmann have left the committee. Thanks a lot to Trudi for the

many years of her engagement! And thanks as well to Rahel and Peter for giving a hand on many occasions! Isabelle Richter has taken over the secretary's job, while Trudi bravely moved on to the Helvetia team. Not to forget to mention of course the gratefulness of all club members and club event participants to the committee and the many other helping people who keep the club's activity thriving.
- Cheers, Isabelle



Auckland Swiss Club

Dear Club Members,

A lot has happened lately. The latest event was the Auckland Club's AGM. Six members left the Committee, including our President, Fritz Scheidegger. We would once again like to sincerely thank those who have left the Committee for the contributions they have made over the years. I would like to mention Trudi Fill, Heinz Matysik, Henry Werffeli (who remains the Riflemaster), Ernst Gfeller, Albert Ryter. Edith Hess is giving up the job of Vice-President, but remains in the Committee.

The New Committee is:

Marcel Ruedi,	President
Pascal Sigrist,	Vice-President
Carmen Fitz-Gordon,	Treasurer
Heidi Wilson	Secretary
Hans Iten	
Edith Hess	
Ursula Nixon	
Nelly Steinemann	
Adrian Blaser	

The Farm Committee is:

Markus Buehler
Peter Arnold
Heinz Matysik
Dominic Hess (new)

The Riflemaster:

Henry Werffeli

The Honorary Auditor:

Lorly Bryner

We would like to thank the outgoing Farm Committee Member Willi Pfenninger and the departing Honorary Auditor, Syd Melville for their outstanding contributions to the Club.

The Cowbell Semi-Final in Hamilton

It went very well indeed. We won thanks to the Steinstosser Martin Good, Peter Arnold Marcel Ruedi and Dominic Hess and the Shooters. In the end our Jasser won us the little bell at the Ausjassen. We had a great time with the Hamilton people. The food, and especially the confiserie was delicious, better than in any café anywhere. It was good that in the end a sizeable crowd from Auckland decided to make their way to the Waikato. We already have a group of 11-13 members ready to take on Taranaki at the Swiss Society AGM in Wellington at Queen's Birthday Week-End. We are already looking forward to the Games and festivities there.

Coming Events:

Fondue: 16 June at the Farm. \$25 for Non-Members, \$20 for Members. From 6.30 p.m. The steaming hot fondue will be served at 7.00 p.m. Please bring your rechauds, caquelons and forks as usual. Come and enjoy yourselves with your friends. Book with Edith by 13 June. Ph.444 6972.

CANDLELIGHT DINNER RE-SCHEDULED!!!!!!

Candlelight Dinner: Now on 7 July, Dinner is served at 7.00 p.m. at the Farm Please book with Edith (444-6972) for this exquisite, mouth-watering meal by 4 July to avoid disappointment. The ambiance will be just perfect. Prices: \$30 for Non-Members, \$25 for Members. There will be drinks from the bar. Come and enjoy this mid-winter dinner, which has been postponed to Saturday, July 7 at 7.00 p.m.

Jass Results 20.04.07

1.	Annagret Wolf	4326
2.	Fidel Good	4248
3.	Nelly Steinemann	4041
4.	Verena Ruedi	3857
5.	Louis Wallimann	3842
6.	Hilda Iten	3821
7.	Hansruedi Wolf	3681
8.	Syd Melville	3673
9.	Marcel Ruedi	3653
10.	Edith Hess	3461
11.	Marie Theres Melville	3441
12.	Heidi Wilson	3434
13.	Hans Iten	3307

Hans Iten, the Convenor, would like to thank everyone for coming to the Friday night Jass, especially those who bring something for supper and prizes for the winners.

Next Jass Evenings:

15 June 07
20 July 07
We hope to see you there!

Heidi Wilson, Secretary.



Past Events

To the time of writing we have already held three card afternoons which have been relatively well attended. I will print all the results in next months' issue of the Helvetia. I hear that our Past President Walter won first prize at the first afternoon, and the following time narrowly missed on getting the booby prize ... great consistency Walter!!! Remigi has also held several "Karabiner Shoots" which have been well attended, with good results achieved.

Forthcoming Events

May

27 We will be holding our 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 A bus has been organised for the trip to Wellington to attend the final of the Cowbell Competition, the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society and the 50th jubilee celebrations of the Wellington Swiss Club. I would like to thank Othmar Hebler and Heidi Werder for organising this trip, and I am certain that everyone will have a great time. Look out Wellington ... here we come!!!

10 Jassen and Euchre at 1.15pm. Please come along to support Erna and Heidi who do a wonderful job organising these afternoons for us to enjoy.

16 Come along to enjoy this huge day ... Preiskegeln to start with from 1.00pm ... in this event four competitors battle it out for a sausage ... all this fierce competition for one sausage??? Yes, you had better believe it ... the competition is very fierce, but boy those Swiss Deli sausages taste great!!! If you're lucky enough to win one, that is!!! Then from 6.00pm to 8.00pm fondue / sausages and salads will be served ... the fondue is always delicious, and man do those sausages and salads go down well!!! To help with catering, please ring Lisette on 06 7628718 or Heidi on 06 2734286 to advise them of numbers attending. This day should not be missed ... and of course chatting to old friends and new acquaintances is always a pleasure!!! We look forward to seeing you there!!!

24 Final Championship Shoot at 1.00pm and **cards at 1.15pm**. Then the participants of both sports get together for afternoon tea.

July

1 Cards at 1.15pm ... it's getting near the end of the season, so make sure you give it a go!!!

8 Anniversary Shoot will be held. This is another great day ... have a shoot or a skittle from 11.00am to 3.00pm with every competitor receiving a prize ... so come along and give it a go!!! The super delicious Sauerkraut and Pork meal will be served at 5.30pm ... don't miss this one ... it's a great day out, topped off with a scrumptuous meal ... and the spinning wheel raffles held thereafter!!! A good catch up with friends ... and what more could you want????!!!

15 Cards for the last time at 1.15pm ... so turn up ... even if you haven't been all year, you can still have a game and some fun!!!

28 We will be holding our 1st August celebrations at the Club House in Kaponga. All members will be contacted, but if for some reason you don't get rung, please call a committee member who can organise some tickets for you. This is a great cultural evening, and we look forward to an excellent turnout.

MD

Taranaki

As the Taranaki Swiss Club has nearly finished its' five year stint as the office holders of the Swiss Society, we thought that we would give you an insight into the history of our province.

Taranaki,

the Maori name for what is now called Mt Egmont or Mt Taranaki, is that region which protrudes into the Tasman Sea from the western side of the North Island, and was one of New Zealand's original provinces.

The first settlement was at New Plymouth in 1841, by the New Zealand Company. When the first six provinces were established in 1853, the region was called New Plymouth Province and covered about 800,000 ha surrounding the settlement, and was populated by fewer than 2,000 people. After two decades of settlement the province had the highest proportion of English-born citizens and the highest proportion of Wesleyan Methodists.

The land behind New Plymouth was heavily bushed except for the fertile plains of Waitara, which had been abandoned during the first third of the 19th century by the Ngati Awa

people who fled south to the Cook Strait region, fearing an attack by the numerous Waikato people. The attack did come but the Ngati Awa returned in the 1840s and the dispute over ownership of the Waitara Plains sparked the land wars in the province.

As the small landowners carved out clearings from the bush, they began by growing crops. During the last twenty years of the 19th century, however, the ring plane round Mt Egmont with its fertile volcanic soils and regular year-round rainfall became the first specialised dairying area in New Zealand. The province remains predominantly a dairy farming area, with sheep farming in the hills.

The name of the province was changed from New Plymouth to Taranaki in 1858. The climate and topography of the province are completely dominated by the central, volcanic cone of Mt Egmont/Taranaki (2518 m).

The North Taranaki Bight is the indentation in the coastline between the mouths of the Waitara and the Mokau Rivers. The South Taranaki Bight is the lesser indentation between the mouths of the Mangawhero and Patea Rivers.

Source: Bateman *New Zealand Encyclopedia* (2nd edition)