

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 73 (2007)
Heft: [6]

Rubrik: [Impressum]

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Editorial

Well!!! It's already five days since our return from our "rip-roaring" weekend in Wellington.

Christine seemed to be fully recovered by Wednesday morning but myself? ..., well, ... I'm not even sure I've recovered yet!!! But one thing I am sure of, and everyone on the "Taranaki Express" agreed unanimously, we all had a "ball" in Wellington over this long weekend, thanks almost exclusively to President Roland and his hard-working Wellington Club Team. They know that when the "Taranaki Mob" arrives, they come by the Bus load!!! So they plan accordingly!!! Roland, we must all take our caps off and salute you and your Club for your tremendous hospitality to all of us visitors. I'm sure I speak for all of us visitors from all over the North Island in saying, "a million thanks"!!! Sadly, I did not hear of any South Island delegates being there, those "Mainlanders" don't know what they're missing!!! Also a big "thank you" to our very own "Captain Othmar" who piloted our Bus so efficiently to and from Wellington and hither and thither while there!!! He can easily match his bus-driving skills against the best of other chauffeurs!!!

Now, briefly about the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Sunday afternoon. As you are all aware, the

"Taranaki" administration executive of the Society has just completed its' current five year term and a new executive from the Wellington Swiss Club takes over with this issue of "Helvetia", for the next five years. Our new Society President is Roland Schuetz and the new Editor for "Helvetia" is Trudi Bruhlmann. See the next "Society Panel" for more details!!! I won't bore you further with more details about the AGM as I'm sure retiring President Marianne and Secretary Silvia will cover these broadly in their reports in this issue of "Helvetia".

By the way, in last Months' issue, did you read the poem on page three about the cow? As a dairy-farmer for 90% of my working life, I could not help laughing at this little "corker". And who reckoned recently that the Wallabies ... er ... Australians had no sense of humour????!! Of course, that may have been true up to 45 years ago but, since then Australia has benefited by an influx of some 300,000 New Zealanders into its' continent. These immigrants have undoubtedly injected a whopping dollop of dry, wicked Kiwi humour into the Ozzie psyche, hence the vast improvement to their humour????!! Oh well, be that as it may, it is a cracking good poem!!!

So, now I hand over to Trudi, Editors' thinking cap and all, figuratively speaking, and wish her the best of success as our new Editor. I thank everyone for their support, especially the tremendous team I had the honour to be a part of; Marianne, Walter, Silvia, and the great team of volunteer monthly packers, and Adrian, Ruedi and Lisette.

"Auf Wiedersehen, see you all again sometime!!!

Cheerio everyone, from Paul.



Swiss Society of New Zealand

PATRON: PRESIDENT:

Mr Beat Nobs Ambassador of Switzerland
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, Auroa Road, RD 28, Manaia.
Phone 06 274 5058. 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: c/o Beatrice Leuenberger, PO Box 24 061, Hamilton.
Phone 07 843 7971. E-mail: bea.leun@xtra.co.nz

Taranaki

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

Wellington

Secretary: Isabelle Richter, 404-131 Brougham Street, Mt Victoria, Wellington.
Phone 04 934 1549. E-mail: partymonster@gmx.net.

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



Membership

Further to the discussion at the recent AGM regarding the maximum age for children to be included in their parents subscription, please note what was discussed at the 2006 AGM (and printed in the May 2007 issue of the Helvetia):

"Membership : People 18 years and under can be included under their parents' membership, but once they reach 19 years of age they must pay their own subscription to the Swiss Society."

Would all club secretaries please ensure that any person participating in the Medals Competition or the Cowbell Competition who is 19 years and over has paid their membership fee? Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

Marianne



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