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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.



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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Taranaki

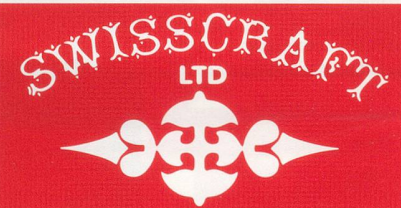
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