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TARANAKI

On the 16th June we held the Preiskegeln and fondue evening. Teams of four competed for two cervelats during the afternoon, with several keen jassers also taking the opportunity to have a game or two. The lucky or skilled players managed to take home several delicious sausages, but for some of us the sausages proved expensive ... however the fun was worth it!!! From 6.00pm the fondue / sausages and salads were served to a good crowd ... the fondue, once again, was delicious and the cervelats and salads also went down well. Everyone seemed to enjoy their meals and many favourable comments were heard. We were delighted to have Roland and Trudi from Wellington, who combined this social event with taking home all the Swiss Society matters. We really enjoyed your company ... and were grateful that you took all the Society papers etc to give us more room in our offices!!!

The raffles were quickly sold, with several lucky winners taking home nice prizes. A small supper was held before people slowly made their way home.

Many thanks to all the members who assisted in any way to make this popular evening so pleasant ... from food to entertainment ... to just good company. It was good to see so many of you there, and we look forward to your attendance at the remaining functions during the next few months.

On the 8th July the very popular Anniversary Shoot was held. Ninety-seven adults and children enjoyed a meal of sauerkraut which was truly delicious (made, once again, by Joe Kaiser), pork, potatoes, peas and wienerli. Many thanks to all the ladies who helped prepare the meal, which was enjoyed by all. During the afternoon people either shot or skittled with everyone participating winning a

prize of cervelats or a bottle of wine ... needless to say the sausages seemed to take priority!!! Many thanks to Lou Butler who, as usual, donated the ammunition for the shooting ... we really appreciate your generous nature, Lou. The spinning wheel raffle was popular, with many people lucky to take home a prize or two or three!!! The Mystery Prize Winners were Regi Mathys (2), Emmi Kiser (2), Lou Butler (2), Charlie Schuler, Tony Hess, Richard Drummond, Bryce Kaiser, Mark Kiser and Anton Scherrer. Mark also handed out the shooting cups and trophies which were won during the year, with results as follows:

Men's Presidents' Challenge Cup
Winner Mark Kiser with Runner-up Othmar Hebler.

Self-handicap Challenge Cup
Winners Lou Butler and Mark Kiser with Runner-up Johnny Bishop.

Erwin Kiser B Grade Cup
Winner Remigi Zimmermann

Fuglistaller C Grade Trophy
Winner Alfred Scherrer

Ladies Ashleigh Lodge Presidents' Cup
Winner Erna Zimmermann with Runner-up Kate Fitzgerald.

Engelberger Memorial Cup (self-handicap)
Winner Erna Zimmermann with Runner-up Kate Fitzgerald.

Lou Nolly Junior Boys Cup
Winner Luke Scherrer

Walter and Myrtha Seifert Junior Girls Trophy
Winner Ann-Marie Scherrer.

Well done to all the winners, and many thanks to all the participants who regularly attend the shooting events. We all wish to thank Mark Kiser very much for his dedication to the shooting section of our club, and for organising the Anniversary Shoot ... you do a wonderful job, Mark, and we really

appreciate your efforts!!!

The Anniversary Shoot was held a few days after the tornado hit our province, and when talking to people we realised how lucky we all were that no-one got killed. So many of our members are cleaning up huge amounts of trees which were uprooted or damaged during this storm, or even hay sheds which have blown away leaving iron all over the farms. Good luck to everyone that was affected with your cleaning up ... let's say there will be heaps of firewood around!!!

Forthcoming Events

July 28 We are celebrating the Swiss National Day with plenty of Swiss culture and traditions for everyone to enjoy. The 1st August badges will be for sale, as will be the new fridge magnets which Leo and Doreen Zehnder and Ruedi and Lisette Benker have donated. The very popular tombola tickets will also be for sale. Please remember that, for catering purposes, we are selling tickets, so don't just turn up!!! All members will be contacted, but if for some reason you are not rung, please contact a committee member who will help you. Tickets are only \$15 for adults.

September

As always this month is very quiet within the Swiss Club, as our farmers are very busy!!!

October 4 & 18

Keglen recommences ... this group have heaps of fun, and would love to see you there to join them. Our keglen master is Johnny Bishop, so if you would like to know more, please give him a ring. The evening commences at 8.00pm.

October 21

The smallbore rifle section will be holding the Trudi Ott Belt Shoot and Championship Shoot from 1.00pm. Please support Mark Kiser, who is the smallbore rifle master, and if you would like to know a little more contact him.

MD



HAMILTON

Past Events ...

Card Evenings

Having barely commenced, it seems to most, our six card evenings for 2007 already came to an end in early July. Although still reasonably well attended, with many people away and for various other reasons, numbers were down for the final three evenings compared to other years. However, 22 card players came along to all of the six evenings, with a further seven missing only once, so that a total of 29 people were eligible for the overall trophy and prizes.

Our fourth card evening took place in Matamata on 8th June attended by 34 players. This was followed by the fifth evening in Cambridge on 22nd June with 38 players, and then the final evening in Matamata on 6th July, attended by 32. As usual, at each card evening we were treated to delicious suppers - this time including sausages and open sandwiches (both accompanied with home made bread or Zopf); and a variety of pastry savouries. Most sausages and meats this year were sourced from the Swiss Deli in Auckland, and their superb quality was enjoyed by all. Each supper was followed by a selection of baking and coffee. Again, we would like to thank everyone who helped with preparing, baking and catering the suppers, and others who came along to help out in the kitchen. It is undoubtedly true that a number of people are attracted to our card evenings as much for the half-time suppers as for the card playing.

Once again, we also had a great selection of prizes this year. Along with the eight provided by the Club, we also received a number of extra donated prizes, which is why, as can be seen below, we have such a large number of prize winners. Many thanks to everyone who brought along these extra items.

Competition for the overall section was fierce this year, with scores so close that it came down to the last evening to eventually re-

veal the 'Jass-Champion' and other prizewinners - in the end, only 425 points separated the first ten places. But with a high score on the final evening, Oskar Reichmuth came up from previously being in the eighth place to win the Overall competition for 2007 and was presented with the Club's 'Jass-Trophy' and a ham for his efforts. Our congratulations go to Oskar, as well as the nine further players who were able to choose from a selection of meat prizes for their overall results.

As well, we would like to thank all card players, whether you came only once or on all six evenings, for your attendance, and helping to make our card evenings the success they have been for many years now.

Prize winners are as follows:

Fourth Card Evening

1. Oskar Reichmuth 4373
2. Bruno Rufer 4077
3. Bert Steiner 4073
4. Heinz Leuenberger 4053
5. Margarethe Poppe 4043
6. Heidi Santner 3990
7. Robert Frischknecht 3989
8. Elisabeth Gaemperle 3981
9. Werner Fässler 3930
10. Karl Waldvogel 3926
11. Eileen Hickey 3925
12. Rita Braem 3891
13. Pia Russenberger 3852

Booby Prize:

Anna Blaettler 3325

Fifth Card Evening

1. Joe Staheli 4191
2. Richard Wehrle 4167
3. Margaret Poppe 4121
4. Anna Rufer 4117
5. Theresa Fitzi 4068
6. Heinz Feller 4053
7. Eileen Hickey 4020
8. Erika Bolli 3982
9. Heidi Leuenberger 3973
10. Hanna Frischknecht 3948
11. Beatrice Leuenberger 3934
12. Karl Waldvogel 3920
13. Elisabeth Gaemperle 3894
14. Arthur Matti 3894
15. Lina Rufer 3874

Booby Prize:

Margreth Meier 3309

Sixth Card Evening

1. George Russenberger 4334
2. Oskar Reichmuth 4213
3. Theresa Fitzi 4199
4. Theresa Kennel 4170
5. Elisabeth Gaemperle 4119
6. Beatrice Leuenberger 4006
7. Margaret Hayward 3996
8. Anna Rufer 3917
9. Heidi Santner 3885
10. Karl Waldvogel 3875
11. Margaret Poppe 3866
12. Eileen Hickey 3855
13. Fritz Haesli 3894

Booby Prize:

Joe Staheli 3111

Overall Prizewinners (in bold) and Scores:

1. **Oskar Reichmuth** 20,018
2. Heidi Santner 19,841
3. Karl Waldvogel 19,775
4. Margaret Hayward 19,737
5. Margarethe Poppe 19,679
6. Eileen Hickey 19,675
7. Robert Frischknecht 19,668
8. Heinz Leuenberger 19,645
9. Theresa Fitzi 19,641
10. **Bruno Rufer** 19,593
11. Heidi Leuenberger 19,578
12. Elisabeth Gaemperle 19,497
13. Hanna Frischknecht 19,375
14. Werner Fässler 19,262
15. Fritz Haesli 19,214
16. Bert Steiner 19,175
17. Richard Wehrle 19,152
18. Pia Russenberger 19,144
19. Arthur Matti 19,106
20. Ruth Waldvogel 18,983
21. Joe Staheli 18,953
22. Angus Forsythe 18,902
23. Anna Rufer 18,609
24. Rita Braem 18,609
25. Helen Staheli 18,582
26. George Russenberger 18,505
27. Ruedi Meier 18,305
28. Mary Flueler 18,048
29. Peter Weiss 17,470

Forthcoming Events ...

Family Walk to the Taitua Arboretum is planned for Sunday, **26th August**, at 11.00 am (please note: this was incorrectly stated as **26th July** in the recent newsletter to Club members).

Meet at the top of Melva Street, Dinsdale (the last street on the left off Whatawhata Road, heading towards Raglan). For those not able to do the walk, either meet in



Melva Street at 11.00 am, where limited transport will be available, or drive directly to the Arboretum for lunch at approx. 12.00 noon. For further details, or uncertainty in bad weather, please contact Kurt, 07 858 3306.

Fondue Evening will be held on **22 September**, commencing at 7.00 pm at the Matangi Hall. Remember to note this date in your calendar now. Further details will follow in next month's *Helvetia*.

CHRISTCHURCH

Winter is approaching fast ... there is snow in the air! Winter time in New Zealand means that the 1st of August is not far away ...

When: Friday, 3 Aug 2007, 7pm onwards.

Where: Old Stone House, 30 Shalamar Drive, Christchurch

Dress Code: Show us your traditional Swiss fashion! There will be a prize for the best Swiss dress on display.

Menu: Apero – 'Glühwein', 'Bratwurst mit Nudeln und Salat', 'Kuchen mit Rahm, BYO drinks.

Entry:
Adults - Club members: \$30
Adults - Non members: \$35
Children - 14 yrs and younger: \$15
Children - 5 yrs and younger: free

Tickets: Can be purchased at: Hamco Auto Shop Car Accessories 200 Montreal St, Christchurch, Ph 366 3667

Please note: To be able to get the special \$30 offer for members, tickets must be ordered / purchased before Saturday, 28 July 2007. Cash or cheque only!

RSVP: Jürg Hönger via email: webmaster@swissclub.org.nz or ph 942 6211.

WELLINGTON

19 August:

Küchlein backen

Do you need a brush up in your Swiss style baking skills? This is the opportunity! Theres Scherrer, the backing guru, will introduce you to her secrets to make every baking attempt a success!

For enquiries and bookings please call Isabelle 934 15 49 or Vreni 526 98 41 or send an email to wellington@swiss.org.nz.

8 September:

Bernese Evening

Come to the clubhouse to enjoy a classic Bernese dinner! More details will be communicated later in August.

For bookings, contact Vreni 526 98 41.

AUCKLAND

Past Events

Fondue

It was warm inside, full of happy people, a real success.

The Candlelight Dinner

This event had to be cancelled the second time for lack of interest.

The National Day Celebrations

At the Danish Club in Penrose will be written about next time.

Future Events

Schützenball: 29 September 2007.

No details available yet.

Language War

The Nationalrat has approved a new language law that forces schools to teach a second national language before English. The Conference of Cantonal Education Directors has already criticised parliament's decision, saying it goes against an agreement that allows cantons to decide how languages are taught.

The final vote in the Nationalrat saw 87 members approve the legislation and 68 oppose it. The rightwing People's Party had demanded unsuccessfully that no debate take place, citing fears that the cantons would lose some of their sovereignty in educational matters if the law were accepted, or that it would increase government spending.

The centre-left Social Democrats said a second national language should have priority over English, but they were also backed by some members of the People's Party who said that it was important for national cohesion. A Centre-right Christian Democrat warned it was necessary "to stop the invasion of English". A Social Democrat said it was time to send

a clear signal to the cantons before they cut a second national language out of the school curriculum. It was pointed out that Zürich and most cantons in eastern Switzerland had already introduced English instead of French in second and third years in primary schools and that it was not possible to go back to the old system where French had priority.

The cantonal education ministers complained after the parliament vote that the decision threatened the compromise they had put together and approved, which stated that the cantons could decide alone which was the second language, either English or a national one, to be taught in their schools. In their statement they said that years of talks had shown that no consensus could be reached between the country's different regions, and that leaving the decision in the hands of each canton was not just the best strategy, but also the only one.

The Ständerat will now have to approve the legislation before it can be implemented.

from swissinfo