

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 73 (2007)
Heft: [10]

Rubrik: Swiss Club news from around New Zealand

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AUCKLAND

Future Events:

- Samichlaus:
Sunday, 9 December 07
- Christmas Party:
Saturday, 15 December 07
- Working Bee/ Society Shoot:
Saturday, 2 February 08
- Picnic-Waldfest:
Saturday, 9/10 February 08
- Open Day for New Members:
Sunday, 2 March 08

Here are some details you might like to know:

Samichlaus (Santa Claus)

9 December from 10.00 a.m.

Entry

Members: free.

Non-Members: \$20.00 per family.

11.00 a.m. Kasperlitheater begins.

12.00 a.m. Lunch available.

Please let us know in advance two good things and one naughty thing about each Child to give Santa something to talk about.

(There will be a form you can fill in on our website: www.swiss.org.nz/auckland and go to Samichlaus where you will find a form to fill in & that will be sent to you by email as well).

This is one of the best occasions in our calendar to mix and mingle, get to know people, chat with old friends in a relaxed atmosphere.

Christmas Party and

Swiss Carol Singing: 15 December at Rothesay Bay Ratepayers' Hall from 2.30pm-4.30pm

The Christmas Carol Singing will be led by the Swiss Ladies' Choir.

You can all sing along of course and it will remind you of your Christmases in Switzerland!

There will be tea, coffee and cake, great company and a special Christmas spirit in sunny, summery Rothesay Bay.

Address: Rothesay Bay Ratepayers' Hall, Corner Rothesay Bay Road and Beulah Ave, Rothesay Bay.

Entry: \$5.00 per person.
We hope to see you there. Bring a friend or a family member!

Please keep this section for future reference! We hope to see many of you at these pre-Christmas events.

Jassen

Here are the results of the Schuepbach Cup Competition

1. Winner of the Schuepbach Cup:
Lynne Dunphy 23 730 points
2. Nelly Steinemann 23 588 points
3. Andrew Iten 23 116 points
4. Syd Melville 22 875 points
5. Verena Ruedi 22 875 points
6. Marcel Ruedi 22 800 points
7. Adrian Blaser 22 634 points
8. Louis Wallimann 22 361 points
9. Hans Iten 22 333 points
10. Marie Theres Melville 22 176 points
11. Heidi Wilson 21 901 points
12. Hilda Iten 21 645 points

Congratulations, Lynne!

IMPORTANT!

Please send me your postal code or Postleitzahl as soon as possible (per email or post). The Swiss Society needs them to send out the Helvetias.

Your postal code is now a four digit number. Ask the Post Office if you do not know it. Heidi

Well, as you can see, lots of functions to go to! We hope to see many of you there.

WELLINGTON

Past Events:

Garage sale 3 November. The Wellington Swiss Club had another successful garage sale with lots of interesting items for sale. There was also a lot of bargaining going on this year, but then, that is what garage sales are for.....Thank you to Heinz, Peter and the team for displaying the items in the clubhouse and being there. Also a big thank you to everyone for all the donations.

Future Events:

Carol singing

Sunday 2 December, 7pm at the Botanical Gardens Sound Shell. Entrance Glenmore Street. In support of the NZ Red Cross. For further information, please contact Vreni on 526 9841. If the carol singing is cancelled it will be announced on radio 2ZB Sunday 2 Dec at 9am.

Samichlaus

Sunday 2 December, 2pm at the Clubhouse, 21 Moores Valley Road, Wainuiomata. Samichlaus will be happy to hear a poem or a song from the children. Parents please bring a plate for the afternoon tea.

Please let Samichlaus' secretaries Vreni 526 9841 or Isabelle 384 7373 know by 27 November if you intend to come and give some info for Samichlaus.

Christmas Party

Saturday, 8 December, from 6.30pm onwards at the Clubhouse, 21 Moores Valley Road, Wainuiomata.

The Christmas tree will be decorated to set the atmosphere. We will hear a Christmas story and sing some well-known Christmas carols.

Please come and join us for a glass of sangria and enjoy our sumptuous buffet dinner, followed by coffee and biscuits, BYO drinks. \$22 members, \$25 non-members. Please book by Tuesday 4 December with Vreni 525 9841 or Barbara 478 5093.

Steinstossen, Jassen, BBQ

Sunday 27 January 2008, 12noon onwards at the Clubhouse, 21 Moores Valley Road, Wainuiomata. The Steinstossen will be in practice for the Cowbell competition in February, and for \$5 you can register and maybe win a medal.

Come and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere at the Clubhouse and a game of Jassen. Coffee and cake will be provided, but you need to bring your own things to put on the BBQ. BYO.



For more information ring Roland 568 6772 or Vreni 526 9841.

Swiss Society Medal Shooting Competition at Mangaroa Valley. Sunday 3 February 2008, starting at 2pm at 146 Mangaroa Valley Road, Upper Hutt.

After some practice it is competition time. Pay \$5 and you can win a medal.

Come, participate and join us in the beautiful Mangaroa Valley. Any enquiries please contact Hans Scherrer 528 7698.

Cowbell Competition in Taranaki. Weekend of 9/10 February. Arrival time is in the Kapinga Swiss Clubrooms at 12noon on Saturday. Come and help us win the Cowbell Competition in Taranaki. We would like to win this time!

It is always a fabulous weekend and the Taranaki-Swiss are excellent hosts.

It would be great to see a good number of Wellingtonians travelling to Taranaki. Children are welcome.

We might be able to organise Swiss Backpackers accommodation or camping at the Clubhouse. Enquiries also for transport and accommodation please contact Roland 568 6772. *Isabelle*

HAMILTON

Past Events:

Family Walk at Lake Arapuni 26.10.07 The weather gods were certainly on our side. What a lovely day to go for a casual stroll. After some confusion on where to meet, we got all 18 adults and 5 children together and left for the walk just after 11. The walk took us along the southern end of Lake Arapuni for about 45minutes and it offered ever changing views of the lake, the cliffs, bushes and farmland.

Most of us made it up to the lookout point where we enjoyed more of the same plus views further afield to Mt Maungatautari.

Some stayed back at the lookout while others went back down and carried on to the landing to have lunch there. After a relaxing lunch it was back along the trail again. We enjoyed a communal cup of coffee back at the car park and by 2.30pm most of us were on the way home again.

Thank you to the weatherman, the organiser and the participants. See you next time. *Hans Vetsch*

Future Events:

The Family Christmas Party will be held on Sunday 2nd December, at Newstead School, commencing at 11.00am. Although this function is particularly held for families and children, anyone is welcome to come along to enjoy a relaxed pre-Christmas Sunday afternoon with Swiss friends. The Club will provide barbequed sausages and bread, cold drinks, baking and coffee. Please bring along your spare change and generously support our raffle. Donations for the raffle table will be gratefully appreciated – the more prizes we have, the more chances of winning.

For the children, there will be some form of entertainment, as well as a visit from Santa, who will be bringing a special present for each child. As well, the school's playground is available to help entertain our younger members, but the swimming pool will not be open.

In case of wet weather, shelter is available in the school hall. Hopefully though, it will be a lovely day, so bring your own picnic rugs, seats, umbrellas etc.

For further details, please call Beatrice (07) 843-7971 or Anita 0274 985 170 or you can email zuber@xtra.co.nz

Shooting News

Our 50 metre shooting competition will be held on 23rd Feb 2008 from 9 to noon on Ueli Elmigers place, 618 /12 Maugatautari Road, Cambridge. A practice session is planned for Saturday 16th Feb at the same place. I hope to see you there.

The 300 meter shooting weekend has been pencilled in for the weekend 24th and 25th May 2008 in Kaukapakapa. More on this later. Please mark these dates on your calendar now.

For more info call Hans on 07 855-3294 or by email verenavetsch@hotmail.com See you then. *Hans*

The Annual Picnic will be held at the Newstead School on Sunday 24th February

The calendar for 2008 will be posted out to all members in February about a week before the picnic.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas, an enjoyable holiday break and all the best in the New Year. *A Z*

TARANAKI

Keglen has recommenced under the leadership of Johnny ... attendance has been good, but as always we would love to see some new faces. You will enjoy the company of a fun-loving crowd!!! Recently we decided to purchase a second-hand skittle alley to lay on top of our existing one, thereby hopefully reducing the noise that is currently created on our alley. Our very grateful thanks to Sepp, Emmi and Mark Kiser for donating this alley; we really appreciate your generosity. In the next few months we will get down to the task of laying the alley. During November your committee has undertaken cleaning and maintenance on the interior and exterior of the clubhouse, and also the grounds ... many thanks to our loyal members for giving their time so freely to keep our clubhouse looking great.

Future Events

December 31

This is the day that we all celebrate the end of a year and also look forward to the year ahead ... why not come to the Swiss Club to see the new year in with a bunch of



fun-loving campervanners. I am sure that the entertainment will be out-of-this world!!! If you have a skit or musical item that you could provide, please don't be shy ... the more varied the entertainment, the better people like it!!!

February 7 & 21

Keglen recommences after the summer break. If you would like to know more about it, please ring Johnny on 06 274 8764, and he will be more than happy to tell you all about their antics!!!

February 10

The second Sunday in February is the date set down for the Taranaki Swiss Club annual picnic, and we always hope for a beautiful, sunny day. This day is great for socialising, as many members (and non-members) only attend this one function ... come along and reminisce with some old friends, and make some new acquaintances. Everyone is welcome, and barbecued cervelats and bratwurst, together with liquid refreshments

are available for purchase. Top your lunch off with an ice-cream, and watch the entertaining schwingen ... with young and not-so-young giving their best efforts in this typical 'Swiss' sport. Other activities are organised for your enjoyment, and as always, there will be a terrific tombola ... just waiting for you to purchase tickets in an effort to win some lovely prizes. The committee make a lot of effort in organising this wonderful day, so please make their day by attending this event with family and friends. Swiss music is always provided 'live' by our talented Zeno, aided by his terrific selection of CDs. We look forward to seeing you there. *MD*

SAUSAGES SAUSAGES

Club members, please be reminded that if you wish to purchase some sausages with our next order to the Swiss Deli, you must ring by the end of January either Ruedi or Lisette Benkert 06 7628 718 or Adrian or Marianne Drummond 06 7628 757. *MD*

CHRISTCHURCH

Future Events:

9 December: Samichlaus

Let's pencil this date in your diaries - Rumours are going around that Father Christmas will make it to NZ again this year!

When: Sunday, 9. December 2007, 2 pm onwards.

Where: The Groynes (Area 1A), off Johns Road, on the way to Belfast. For more information phone Jürg Hönger.

12 Februar: Stammtisch

Let's meet for the first Swiss Club event in 2008 at the popular Café Torenhof for a chat and a drink, hopefully outside enjoying a warm summer's night!

When: Tuesday, 12 February 2008, 7:30pm onwards (date / time to be confirmed).

Where: Belgian Beer Café Torenhof, 88 Armagh St, Christchurch.

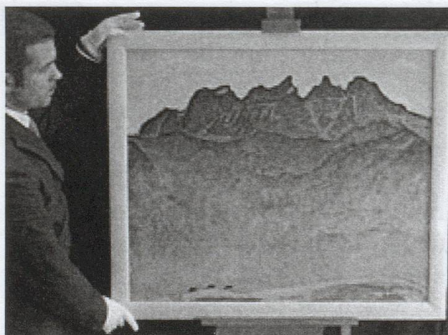
NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

Hodler climbs to new heights

Ferdinand Hodler, one of Switzerland's best-known and most widely admired artists, continues his inexorable rise among collectors of 20th century art. Over the past few years there has been a surge of interest for the Bernese artist whose figurative landscapes have repeatedly smashed Swiss auction records. Last week Sotheby's unveiled his latest masterpiece to go under the hammer on November 27. "Les Dents-du-Midi" is a view of the spectacular, jagged chain of mountains that Hodler painted in Champéry, canton Valais, in 1916. And it's a mere snip - with an estimated price of SFr5-7 million.

Hodler is regarded as the most important painter in 20th-century Swiss art. Hodler's prices were always high - even during his life-

time - but now there is a bigger market with new buyers so prices are going up.



Hodler painted over 700 landscapes during his long career, drawing inspiration from the Bernese Oberland and Lake Geneva. He developed a unique approach to landscape painting through his knowledge of nature, mineralogy and geology, which he studied at

university, and by making thousands of sketches, which he then developed in his studio using his memory and imagination.

Why has this particular painting, which remained in the hands of the same Swiss family for around 90 years, suddenly surfaced? No doubt the anonymous owner has been watching the rising market for Hodler with great interest. In June 2007 a Hodler oil painting of Lake Geneva, "Lac Léman vu de Saint-Prex", sold for SFr10.9 million at an auction in Zurich, a record price for the artist. The painting had been expected to fetch SFr4-6 million. The previous Hodler record was SFr5.7 million, set by "Thunersee mit Stockhornkette" also in Zurich in December 2006. "Les Dents-du-Midi" belongs to a series of four paintings of the mountain range but is said to be the most accomplished.

from swissinfo