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Well, the new year is not quite so new anymore; routine has settled in again, even though I'm still nibbling on the last few, slightly soggy Mailänderli of my third batch.

So it is back to the usual chores. And what about the projects and resolutions for the new year? One twelfth of the new year is over by the time you read this, and consequently I should have realized one twelfth of my new year's projects.

I made a list of the projects I set out to realize this year. It is quite an ambitious list. In a few months I won't say that 'I set out to' realize these projects; the wording will have become more modest, and it will be more along the line of 'I'd like to'.

Would you like to know what is on my list? I'm not going to tell you. However, I let you in on one secret: My list is written in my favourite 6B pencil, which means that I can easily 'modify' the list, come December 2010, with an eraser, but until then I'm trying to work hard on it.

From time to time I consult my list - not only to eliminate projects, but also to add tasks that crop up out of the blue and eat away my time, so that there is less energy for the original projects. I usually add these tasks when they are accomplished, so I can cross them out as soon as I have written them down. Why write them down when they are already achieved, you might ask. Well, it gives me some satisfaction to see that I have achieved something, even if the items were not on the original list.

As to proper new year's resolutions, such as to become a better person, be tidier, more diligent, more patient, more tolerant - I have given up and have resigned to the fact that I'm very imperfect. The only resolution would be to try and accept my imperfection. I'm working on it.

Trudi

Greetings! I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas and New Year break, it's a time to generally chill out. During the lead-up to December 2009, I thought we might have a white Christmas in Wellington, but thankfully there were intermittent appearances of a New Zealand summer. We envy those residing along the eastern and northern coasts of the country, and sympathise with our relatives living in Switzerland, where the winter started early and it is still a lot colder than in Wellington.

This is the time of the year however, when the Swiss Society Cowbell Competition takes centre stage, with the preparation and training in full swing. I encourage all members of all the Swiss clubs to participate in their local competitions and summer activities; these are usually accessible for all age groups. These events are

opportunities to bring us closer together, and a great bonding experience.

The Swiss Society's challenge for the year is to grow our Swiss Clubs and share our cultural diversity with the wider community. It is important that we move with the changing times, acknowledging the different needs of our members and encouraging individuals to take up roles and responsibilities within the clubs.

Swiss - Wi mee Häng wo häufe umso eifacher isch d Arbit

Kiwi - Many hands make light work

Māori -Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou ka ora te manuhiri' - With your food basket and my food basket the guests will have enough (May each contribute).

Uf Wiederluege

Roland

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