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# Taranaki

On behalf of the Taranaki Swiss Club I would like to extend our sincere condolences to Walter and Myrtha Seifert and Peter, Gabi, Tyler and Allie Mulholland on the sad loss of their son, brother and uncle in a car accident recently. We are all thinking of you, and hope that the good memories you hold will help you through the difficult times ahead.

#### Past Events:

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of October at 6.30am ... yes that's right ... bright and very early ... fifteen of our members were at the plateau dressed in their costumes so that members attending the Stratford Camera Club's convention could take photos. It was very cold, but at least there was no rain!!! The sun wasn't out, but the mountain did show its face, and hopefully the photographers were able to take some lovely photos. I would like to thank all our members very much who made the effort to travel to the plateau in costume ... the photographers were very grateful and appreciative of your time and effort. Most of the group then had breakfast at the Benkerts, and were grateful to be able to thaw out!!! The Stratford Camera Club has made a very generous donation to our club, and we thank them very much. Let's hope we see some of the photos!!!

#### Future Events:

**November 3 & 17: Keglen** once again ... lots of fun with a great bunch of people. Starts at 8.00pm until ...

**November 20: Ted Napflin Memorial Shield and Championship Shoot** from 1.00pm. Please make an effort to attend; Mark

would love to see you. Great to see a few juniors participating ... so come along parents and bring your children to give shooting a go!!!

**November 27:** Mark Kiser organises the **Christmas Shoot/Keglen** wonderfully. The competition starts at 10.00am, with a pot-luck lunch held around noon. All competitors need to bring a wrapped prize worth at least \$10.00, and will of course receive one back at prize giving. Father Christmas makes an appearance and parents/grandparents are asked to bring a wrapped, named prize for their children/grandchildren. This is a wonderful social day before the hectic Christmas rush starts ... so come along and support Mark.

**December 31: New Year's Eve** ... once again the time is upon us to farewell the Old year and welcome the New one!!! The club house gates will be open by 4.00pm, with a BYO BBQ at 6.00pm. The evening is always full of fun and laughter ... so if you are able to provide any skits, music or other entertainment, please let Ruedi and Lisette Benkert or Leo and Doreen Zehnder know ... they would love to hear from you!!!

**February 2 & 16:** Johnny is awaiting you at the Swiss Club for **Keglen** ... please make his night and turn up!!! This group of people have much fun and laughter, and enjoy a delicious supper too. I think that they might play skittles, in between chats!!!

**February 2:** Our very popular and social **annual picnic** will be held on this day. There is plenty of entertainment at your disposal ... of course the highlight is the Schwingen (for juniors and adults), children's activities, shot put, live accordion music, a great tombola (raffle) ... there will be barbequed Swiss sausages, beverages, and ice creams for your taste buds ... so come along and

enjoy a great day. All we need is fine weather!!!

MD

Dear friends and colleagues,

Michael, Remigi, Erna and family would like to thank you all very much for your thoughts and support. Very kindly appreciated. Michael is doing very well, and will soon be discharged from Burwood Hospital and looks forward to returning home, seeing friends and embracing the challenges ahead.

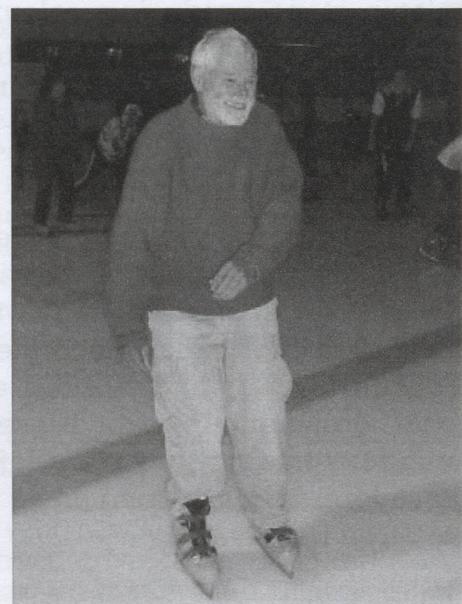
With love  
Erna, Remigi and Michael

# Auckland

#### Past Events:

**Ice Skating: Sunday 18 September.**

In the middle of September we hit the ice for the second time already. As this common pastime in Switzerland is such a special occasion in New Zealand we had



Albert before it happened

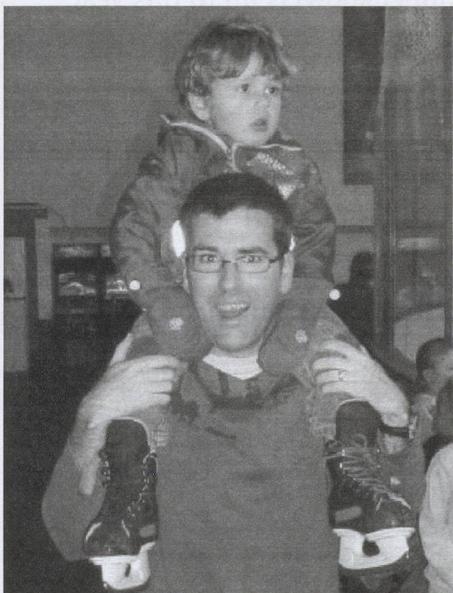
a great crowd turning up at the Paradice Ice Rink in Avondale. Everybody liked to move on the unfamiliar surface although un-



fortunately it proved to be a little too slippery for some of us. Due



A safe place!



Sascha got it sussed

to some involuntary pirouettes we kept the St. John's base just around the corner far busier than we would have liked to. We hope that all involved get well soon!

Although everybody had a good time and loads of fun we are probably looking for some less risky adventures for next year's calendar. *Lukas Lanz*

### Pub night: Friday 07 October: Bricklane Restaurant

The October Pub night at Bricklane Bar and Restaurant was attended by nine people. Since there were no Rugby games on that night we expected a few more people but many seemed just to enjoy a "night off".

Even the next generation of Swiss pub-goers was represented by Tobi Blaser. *Lukas Lanz*

### Jassen: Friday 14 October 7.30pm Danish Club, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose.

#### Results:

1st	Franz Krieger	4100
2nd	Walter Haller	4020
3rd	Fidel Good	4002
4th	Lynne Dunphy	3973
5th	Nelly Steinemann	3940
6th	Hansruedi Wolf	3933
7th	Andrew Iten	3914
8th	Heidi Wilson	3896
9th	Hans Iten	3883
10th	Erwin Steiner	3859

11th	Annagret Wolf	3799
12th	Dieter Baumgartner	3759
13th	Lorenz Good	3749
14th	Edith Hess	3673
15th	Berta Good	3643
16th	Hilda Iten	3597
17th	Paul Steinemann	3512
18th	Louis Wallimann	3493
19th	Anton Good	3431
20th	Marcel Ruedi	3184

### Future Events:

### Pub night: Friday 04 November, from 8 pm: Bar Africa, 1 B William Pickering Dve, Albany

Very easy to get to, close to Constellation Drive motorway exit, pleasant venue - try it out!

### Waitakere Rain Forest Express: Sunday 06 November, meet at 4.45pm, return by 9pm.

In case you have not received your invitation yet:

Just 40 minutes from central Auckland, embark on a wilderness adventure aboard Watercare's Rain Forest Express, a narrow-gauge railway located deep in the heart of the Waitakere Ranges. Travel over wooden bridges that span valleys lined with ancient forest and pass through tunnels lit at night with a multitude of glow-worms (along with the odd cave weta!). Your adventure culminates in a visit to

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one of Auckland's hidden treasures, the Upper Nihotupu Dam, where the silence of the bush belies the closeness of the city. During the journey your train driver will tell the story of the Rain Forest Express from its role in building the dams which now help to sustain Auckland, through to its use today.

Meet at 4.45pm, at Jacobson's Depot, 280 Scenic Drive (the gates will open at 4.30pm; drive carefully on gravel road entrance)

Cost: \$25 per person, \$60 for family of 2 adults and 2 children,

Bring: Picnic dinner (BBQ facilities provided), a warm jacket, a raincoat if weather does look that way.

Booking essential: call/text Tanja on 09 627 8777 or 021 101 4432, or email :

[swiss@zurbruegg.co.nz](mailto:swiss@zurbruegg.co.nz)

More information and maps: See Swiss Club Website: [www.swiss.org.nz/auckland](http://www.swiss.org.nz/auckland)

**Jassen including Society Games:** Jass with a slight difference: The first two rounds are played as part of the NZ Swiss Society games. You could be the proud winner of a Swiss Society medal - with just a bit of luck. 99% of the Jass results are luck anyway, 1% skill, or is it? After that we will have four rounds of our ordinary games.

**Läbkuchen Decorating:** Sunday 20 November 11am to 3pm, Danish Hall, 6 Rockridge Avenue, Penrose, Auckland



Amazing talents

Läbkueche are a yummy Swiss version of Gingerbread.

With Christmas approaching soon it is the time of the year to get creative...

Edith from the Swiss - Bliss chocolate factory is going to organize another Läbkueche decorating.

The new location in Penrose should be much more convenient for everyone.

If you would like a very special decoration for your Christmas tree or table or just a unique gift, join us and create your own Läbkueche. A pot full of melted chocolate, marzipan, flowers and hearts made out of sugar as well as boxes and decoration material will be provided.

Prices: 10 pieces: 12.50

15 pieces: 18.00

And if you wish, you will have the chance to buy some of Edith's goodies.

You will get an invitation with all the details and prices shortly before the event. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

**Yodelling for a cause:** Sunday 20 November, Danish Club Hall, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose

Pia Wittwer (Adrian Blaser's wife), her Mum from Switzerland, the Swiss Kiwi Yodlers and Alphorn players will entertain you after a Swiss dinner. All the funds raised will be going to the CatWalk spinal cord injury trust; see Pia's article "Yodelling for a cause" and the advertisement "Jodelling for a cause" on the opposite page.

**Working Bee:** Saturday 26 November, 10am, at the farm.

You are invited to enjoy stimulating company and a delicious lunch, and will barely notice that you do some cleaning, weeding, handyman jobs etc.

**Santa: Sunday 04 December 11am at the Swiss farm.**

Make sure you keep the day free for our most popular function. Our very own special Santa is planning to arrive at 11am from the sky again (weather permitting) to delight the children and us oldies, as he has done for well over 30 years. Enjoy a barbecue afterwards, and see what adventures Kasper (the hero of the puppet show) is up to this year.

Check out our website for details [www.swiss.org.nz/auckland](http://www.swiss.org.nz/auckland) .

**Christmas Carol Singing: Saturday afternoon 10 December 2.30pm to about 4.30pm at the Danish Club Hall, 6 Rockridge Ave Penrose**

Join us to sing your favourite Swiss Christmas carols, listen to some musical items, and share a cuppa and some delicious baking. We can organise a ride for you if you like; please phone me, Nelly

Nelly Steinemann 4794038



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## Yodelling for a cause

Sunday, 20 November 2011

from 5pm

at the Danish House, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose



Join us for an evening filled with Swiss Entertainment:

Swiss Kiwi Yodlers, the sounds of Alphorns  
and Yodel Duett with Pia & Ursula Wittwer

Entry: Adults \$30, children under 10yrs \$10, youth 10-20yrs \$20

Dinner: Potato salad, Swiss sausage, Salad and yummy Dessert



All the funds raised will be going to the CatWalk spinal cord injury trust.

Please support CatWalk (Spinal Cord Injury Trust) via my NY Marathon effort:  
<http://www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/PiaWittwer/>

We will also be selling Swiss sausages:

Bratwurst, Cervelats and Kabanos: each pack (~500 gm): \$10  
Please preorder to avoid disappointment and bring cash on the evening if you want to purchase some.

To book your evening of entertainment please contact Pia:  
[pia.wittwer@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:pia.wittwer@slingshot.co.nz) / [adrian.blaser@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:adrian.blaser@slingshot.co.nz)  
Phone +64 9 832 0366 / Mobile +64 28 258 00 771

## The CatWalk Trust

In the last Helvetia we mentioned to keep the Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> of November free for a special event. Now we can reveal what this is all about.

In New Zealand alone, we have one new Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) every five days resulting in long lasting impairment. Whilst there are a number of organisations providing valuable rehabilitative support to those with SCI; The CatWalk Trust aims to challenge the current boundaries of research, enabling those suffering from a SCI to walk again.

CatWalk's Patrons include some of New Zealand's most famous stars: Richie McCaw, Sir Brian Lochore, Mark Todd and Dion Nash among others as well as the queen's granddaughter Zara Phillips (who was visiting New Zealand during the Rugby World Cup).

New Zealand's first Spinal Cord Injury Research Unit, dedicated to gaining a better understanding of the causes of disability following injury and to developing new treatments towards a cure, was launched at The University of Auckland in August this year. The research unit is based in the University's Centre for Brain Research and was established through a generous half million-dollar donation by the CatWalk Spinal Cord Injury Trust!

CatWalk was founded in 2005 by Catriona Williams, formerly one of New Zealand's leading international equestrian riders; she is now confined to a wheelchair following a riding accident in 2002. Catriona is an amazing woman who completed the New York marathon last year with her handcycle in just over 4 hours!

CatWalk's  
New York  
Marathon 2011



As part of their fundraising, CatWalk puts together a team of volunteers to run the ING New York Marathon. These people sign up to train for and run 42 kilometres; paying their own way to New York and raising a minimum of \$5000 each for CatWalk all wrapped up in one Marathon effort! This year the NZ team consists of 20 members, and Pia is one of them! She will be running the New York Marathon on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November even though she has never run a Marathon before. So far the Blaser family has raised over \$3000 and in order to reach the fundraising target of \$5000 they are organising this evening with the help of the Swiss Kiwi Yodlers and Alphorn players. So get on board and treat yourself to a great evening.

If you can't make the 20<sup>th</sup> you can donate towards the cause at Pia's fundraising account (all money goes directly to CatWalk and is tax deductible):

<http://www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/PiaWittwer/>

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# Hamilton

## Past Events:

**The Fondu Evening** was held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September at the Matangi Hall and this coincided with a visit from our Ambassador, Dr Marion Weichelt Krupski who flew up from Wellington that afternoon to be with us. Herbert welcomed the group of members, friends and families - about 125 in total and it wasn't long before the fondu was served. Everyone was served their pot of fondu together with baskets of home-made bread made by Beatrice and Hanni as well as plates of delicious cold meats. Most people had second and third helpings and we certainly didn't run out of anything.



The traditional fondu is enjoyed by all

The Ambassador then had a speech and introduced herself and shared a lot of interesting information. Following this we had the medal and trophy presentations - congratulations to all the winners. Please keep your trophy for a year and do not bring it to the picnic.

The lucky number draw then took place and thanks to several people donating prizes we were able to call out many luck numbers. Congratulations to all those winners as well.

Soon it was time for supper and again the committee provided a wonderful selection of fresh fruit salad, meringues and lots of other home-made goodies.

Throughout the evening we were treated to some lovely Swiss music played by Bruno and his cousin from Switzerland. Many thanks - this was much appreciated by everyone.

After supper many people had a chance to chat to the Ambassador in smaller groups and had lots of questions and comments to make.



Animated discussion with the ambassador

Many thanks to everyone who helped throughout the evening - especially the dishwashers and driers. This is never an easy job with lots of cheesy pots and forks to clean.

Many thanks also to the Ambassador for visiting our club and we hope that next time you might have a bit more time in our area so that we can show you and your family some of the beautiful Waikato.

AZ

## Future Events:

**Family Walk - Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October:** 11am - please note the meeting place is now at the **Information Centre by the Te Aroha Domain on Whitaker St.** There is plenty of parking there. The group will then split and some can drive to Tui Road and others will walk. This will be sorted on the day depending on numbers and levels of fitness. There is also a mountain-bike trail nearby so if older children or energetic adults wish to bring their mountain bikes, then bring your bikes and give it a go. Please bring a picnic lunch or there are cafes nearby. There is also the option of visiting the hot pools after the walk.

**Family Christmas Party** will be held on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December** at the Newstead School, Morrinsville Road, Hamilton with an 11am start. Please bring along some outdoor games/balls to share with others and we will try and arrange some other activities similar to the last few years. We will also have some indoor crafts to do and biscuits to decorate so if you have anything you wish to share, please feel free to come along. The club will provide sausages and drink for lunch. Please bring a plate of baking to share for afternoon tea. We will again be having a raffle table so don't forget to bring some cash and/or some donated items for the table. Santa might even have a chance to visit so it would be great if some of the children had a poem or a song for Santa.

AZ

## LOOKING FOR WORK

My spouse and I would like to find full-time jobs in New Zealand or Australia for an approximate period of six to nine months. We live and work in Switzerland. I am a teacher of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Handicrafts. We are planning our trip for autumn 2012, by this time my wife will have graduated from Zurich University and acquired the title of Master of English and Spanish languages and literature. She teaches preparation courses for FCE, CAE, CPE at ZHAW (Institution of Higher Education) and also gives private classes of English, Spanish and Russian, her mother tongue.

I have CPE myself.

As for the job, although we are mostly experienced in teaching, it doesn't necessarily have to do with teaching at all. We are very flexible, ready for challenges, my wife is 24 and I am 30 years old. We would consider all types of jobs.

Roger Staub  
Langenmattstr. 18  
8617 Mönchaltorf  
Switzerland  
rstaub@gmx.ch

## AU-PAIR WANTED

from end Dec/early Jan for short or long term in Auckland to look after our two boys. We only want Swiss-German speakers as our kids are brought up bilingual. If you are available, we would love to hear from you. Please call Tanja on 09 627 8777 or email swiss@zurbruegg.co.nz



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# Wellington

#### *Past Events:*

Sunday 25th September: **Soup Lunch and Jass afternoon** at the clubhouse.

Many of our members seem to be still overseas, so numbers were not overwhelming. The soup was thick and warm and wintery, and thanks to an overseas visitor we had enough players for a game of cards and a game of rummikub.

At the beginning, communication with Sandra, Trudi's visitor from Switzerland, seemed to be a bit of a challenge, but we soon remembered what we had heard about how to talk with people who have a hearing impairment. And Sandra certainly knew how to play cards; she was half the winning team. "What counts is what is between the ears" is Sandra's motto.

**Concert and potluck dinner.** Unfortunately the Potluck dinner evening with the Upper Hutt Orchestra had to be postponed. Due to various unforeseen events, some of the orchestra members were unable to play on that day. However, we are hoping that you will be able to join us early next year when we are planning to reschedule. We are also looking forward to tasting some exciting pot-luck dishes that day.

**News from the building committee:** The toilets are not renovated quite yet, but they will be before too long - thanks to Hans Glauser, Hans Scherrer, Heinz Jäggi, and Peter Hynes. Thank you for your dedication and willingness to give so much of your time!

#### *Future Events:*

**Sunday 30 October: Soup Lunch at the Clubhouse.**

Jass afternoon from 1pm onwards.

There will be **no** quiz on that day, as it has been postponed to Sunday 27 November (see below).

#### **Saturday 5 November: Garage Sale at the Clubhouse**

Don't forget our Garage Sale on 5th November! It is a great fundraiser for the club. To grab a bargain come to the Clubhouse early Saturday morning. To contribute items contact Heinz Jaeggi on 526 35 51 or Peter Hynes on 236 69 21. All your contributions are welcome.

#### **Sunday 27 November: Soup Lunch at the Clubhouse and QUIZ**

Jass afternoon from 1pm onwards. There will also be a quiz in the afternoon. Please register with Odile for the quiz (ph. 586 3095). Bring a plate to share for the afternoon tea. Make teams of 2 to 4 players, or come alone and join a team there. Children are welcome, there will be DVDs and an opportunity for outdoor play if the weather permits. Cost per team \$10.

#### **Sunday 4 December: Samichlaus**

Samichlaus will come visit the children at the Clubhouse at 2pm. He will be happy to hear a song or a poem from the children. Parents please bring a plate to share for the afternoon tea.

Please ring Samichlaus' secretaries Trudi on 562 8019 or Odile on 586 3095 if you intend to come and tell them what your children did during the year (so that they can inform Samichlaus).

#### **Saturday 10 December: Christmas Dinner at the Clubhouse**

Come and join us for our last organised event in 2011. More details will follow.

**21-22 January: camping/hiking trip in Kaitoke.** Save the date! Camping, or just hanging around for the day if you prefer. More details will follow.



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