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## Taranaki

### Past Events:

Recently I was made aware that a fellow Swiss citizen living in New Plymouth is hosting a **Swiss Music Show on 104.4AM** (Axis Radio Taranaki), interviewing different musicians from Switzerland. This programme is on air for half an hour on Saturdays at 6.00pm and Sundays at 11.00pm. So have a listen, and see what you think!!!

**Puke Ariki Museum in New Plymouth is promoting Switzerland from mid July to the end of August.** If anyone is willing to help or contribute to this theme, please contact Jocelyn Millard (phone number is 06 7590893).

**Cards** - Walter has these organised to perfection. The afternoons have been pretty well-attended, but we could always do with more participants. Come along and give Jassen a go. To make up four at each table, we had a young Swiss tourist give jassen a go, one Sunday. He enjoyed himself, and most card players were very tolerant, and happy that someone was prepared to give it a go!!! So, come along ... don't be scared!!! Here are the results of the first three afternoons (and sorry we made a blue when organising the club calendar and held cards on Mothers' Day!!! We'll try and get it right next year!!!).

15 April

#### Jassen:

1st Othmar Hebler  
2nd Ruedi Benkert  
3rd Heidi Werder  
Booby Zeno von Hospenthal

#### Euchre:

1st Fred Kalin  
Booby Jean Fuglistaller

The lucky raffle winners were

Frieda Meier, Edi Fuglistaller and Othmar Hebler.

29 April

#### Jassen:

1st Berta Sidler  
2nd Robert Buhler  
3rd Joe Buhler  
Booby Myrtha Seifert

#### Euchre:

1st Jean Fuglistaller  
Booby Kath Zehnder

Lucky raffle winners were Edi Fuglistaller, Berta Hughes and Berta Sidler.

13 May

#### Jassen:

1st Walter Seifert  
2nd Ruedi Benkert  
3rd Lisette Benkert  
Booby Othmar Hebler and Josie Gillbanks, with Josie winning the toss.

#### Euchre:

No players

The fortunate raffle winners were Bertha Hughes, Josie Gillbanks, Margrit Dudli and Ruedi Benkert.

### Future Events:

**June 2 - 4:** Some of our members will be attending the Swiss Society AGM in Auckland, and unfortunately *watching* the final of the Cowbell competition which will be fiercely contested between the Wellington and Auckland Swiss Clubs.

**June 17:** One of our members thought that a demonstration of Swiss baking would interest some of you. So, the committee is seeking "expressions of interest" from members or friends who would be keen to come along on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June from 10.00am and learn how to bake some of our traditional cookies and cakes. This will only be held if we have sufficient interest, so anyone keen to attend is asked to ring Heidi on 06 273 4286, Marlies on

06 278 6878 or Marianne on 06 7628757 (Marianne is away from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of June) by the 14<sup>th</sup> of June to register their interest. And then why not stay to learn the art of Jassen (Swiss cards), or try small bore shooting, and finally stay for the potluck tea ... make a day of it!!!

**Cards ... that is Jassen and Euchre** ... will be held from 1.15pm. Please come along and support Walter. The more competitors playing, the more fun it is for everyone. See you there!!! On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, Mark will also be holding the final Championship Shoot ... so come along and have a shoot as well ... starting from 1.00pm. Just to make a day of it, join us for a few drinks at 5.00pm, followed by a potluck tea at 6.00pm.

If you don't wish to play cards or shoot, just turn up for the potluck tea ... they're always great with a huge variety of food to choose from.

**June 20: Should you wish to order any sausages,** please ring Walter Seifert on 06 7628559 before the 20<sup>th</sup> of June. The next order will only be done at the end of November.

**June 24: Jassen and Euchre** will be held from 1.15pm. Please come along and enjoy the cards and delicious afternoon tea. Perhaps a few games of cards after ...

**Saturday June 30: The popular Anniversary Shoot** will be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, with shooting / keglen being played from 1.00pm, to 3.00pm. Come along and play one of the sports, then enjoy the delicious meal of Sauerkraut and Pork (also potatoes, peas, and Swiss sausages) served at 5.30pm. Mark will then have the spinning wheel going, with plenty of raffles to be sold!!!

**July 8 & 15: Cards** will be held for the last time in July, so come along and support Walter ... he would love to see you!!!



**July 28: National Day Celebration**

There will be plenty of tradition and culture for you at this function ... music, singing, dancing (by those present, not 'trachtentanz'!!!) and the popular play is making a return ... so come along and enjoy. Tickets must be purchased for this event, as we provide a delicious supper. All members should be rung, but if for some reason you aren't rung, please call a committee member who will steer you in the right direction!!! Your attendance would be greatly appreciated by your hardworking committee!!!

MD

# Wellington

**Past Events:**

**22 April 2012: AGM**

We were greeted at the clubhouse with tea and coffee and yummy cakes, thanks to all the home bakers! Trudi Brühlmann stepped down after almost one year of presidency, as announced when she was elected last year. We really appreciate all the new initiatives she introduced and her contributions to the club.



Murray Simons in East Timor – but now firmly back and our new president

We elected a new president: Murray Simons! Congratulations – and thank you!

Sandie Simons left the committee. With four committee

members reelected and our new president, we have now at least one vacancy. Any application to join the committee will be very welcome.

Trudi thanked all club members (and there were many!) who have contributed during the year, offering them giant smileys (we'll miss you Trudi!)

We discussed possible improvements to the clubhouse, which include wishes as well as necessary expenses.

The AGM closed before 9pm and we were able to eat more cakes and pies. OS

**29 April: Jass afternoon**

Some of our keen Jassers are migratory birds and have already left for warmer regions, so we had only one table of four jassers, and two Rummikub players. It was a pleasant afternoon nevertheless.

You might have noticed the transformation of our back yard. Hans Scherrer, Peter Hynes, Hans Glauser, Heinz Jaeggi have been busy; Hans Scherrer was over there shortly after seven one morning and has been busy there ever since. We might not be able to bowl yet, but what about a game of Pétanque, Swiss style?

tb

**Future Events:**

**24 June: Jass afternoon at the clubhouse**

If you are interested, please ring Trudi (562 8019).

**Krabbelgruppe**

Sometime during the school holidays we will have a Krabbelgruppe (our coffee group). There will be more info on FaceBook (Wellington Swiss Club group)

**22 July: Cookie baking**

We'll bake cookies with the kids. This event will be held at Mark's and Rahel's house, in Johnsonville.

Please call Mark (461 7118) for more information and to register.

**1 August: Swiss National Day Celebration**

We will have the traditional National Day dinner on Saturday 4th August, and the bonfire on Petone Beach (if weather permits) on 1st August.

More details in the next Helvetia - and check out the website ([www.swiss.org.nz/wellington](http://www.swiss.org.nz/wellington)) and join us on Facebook for live updates! OS

# Hamilton

**Past Events:**

**Cowbell Semi-Final** - Auckland versus Hamilton in Auckland on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. We had three cars from the Hamilton Club venture to Auckland, meeting at the Takapuna Ten Pin Bowling. We put up our best, or what we thought was our best team and managed to lose by 150 points – never mind. We then made our way to the farm for refreshments. Realising that we had lost the Shooting by 4 points, we set up the card players and much to our dismay, managed to lose that competition as well. It was quite unnecessary to do the Shotgun, however we wanted to show our Auckland colleagues that we were good at something – so four competitors from each team took part, and Hamilton won by four metres approximately. We then enjoyed beautiful soups from the Edith Hess Kitchen, grilled sausages, bread, sweets, and of course the coffee schnapps. It was a very pleasant day in Auckland and we certainly wish you well for the competition final in June. HJS

**Annual General Meeting** was held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 8pm at Swisscraft Premises in Frankton. Herbert had his showroom beautifully set out ready for the meeting and we had 22 people attend,



3 less than last year. Heinz did a brief presentation about the Ambassador's visit to Putaruru (further details below) and then the formal meeting got underway. Several members who



A very comfortable AGM meeting

passed away during the past year were remembered with a moment's silence. All the reports were read and adopted and then it was election of officers. There were no resignations and no changes to the committee so you can all look forward to more of the same in the coming year.

### Future Events:

**Card Evenings** - The first two card evenings have been and gone. Thanks for arriving promptly.

**Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> June - Third Card Evening**

**Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Fourth Card Evening**

**Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July - Fifth and Final Card Evening**, with Overall Prize and Trophy Presentation.

We always appreciate some extra help with baking or a hand in the kitchen to prepare supper, so if you can assist, please ring Beatrice on 07 843 7971 or email [bea.leun@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bea.leun@xtra.co.nz)

**Queen's Birthday Weekend, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> June** - Swiss Society Annual General Meeting in Auckland. Information about this event is on page 18. Everyone should have registered for this event by now but if you have any

further queries please contact Anita Zuber - 0274 985 170 or email [zuber@xtra.co.nz](mailto:zuber@xtra.co.nz)

**Swiss National Day Celebrations** will again be a lunchtime function to be held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July at the Matangi Hall. This seems to suit both young and old and the last couple of years has been very popular and we will again be serving homemade Sauerkraut as well as all the other usual favourites. Pre-bookings will need to be made and all club members will be sent an invitation a few weeks beforehand. AZ

Recently the Putaruru Rotary Club invited the Swiss Ambassador Dr. Marion Weichelt Krupski as Guest Speaker. The occasion was turned into an open meeting, inviting local business and political leaders and of course members of the Hamilton Swiss Club.

The Ambassador's topic was "Politics Swiss Style". The Ambassador explained in some detail the workings of Switzerland's "Total Democratic System", and the intricacies of the referendum and the initiative. Judging by the many questions put to the Ambassador and the private discussions at the conclusion of the meeting, Kiwis are very interested to hear how an alternative political system can be put to work successfully.

The evening concluded with the presentation of Rotary International Paul Harris Awards to two local recipients.

This was the fourth occasion a Swiss Ambassador was invited to Putaruru. This must surely be some sort of a record!

*Heinz Leuenberger*

*A black cat crossing your path signifies she is going somewhere.*

## Auckland

### Past Events:

**Cowbell Semi-Final, Sunday, 22 April**

This year it was Hamilton's turn to travel to Auckland for the Cowbell Semi-Final. A few carloads of Hamiltonians met the Auckland group at the Takapuna Bowling Alley. An even number of players played it out over 2 rounds. Auckland came out on top of that. Everyone then drove up to the Swiss Farm where a nice morning tea was waiting. After a cuppa and a chat, the Jassers disappeared into the hut to battle it out. We had 3 tables, and after 2 rounds (6 games total) we had 3 wins each! So now we had to count the total amount of points and believe it or not, Auckland won by just 6 points. The shooting results are taken from the Society Shooting, and there Auckland had been on top as well.

After a yummy lunch, we had to do the Steinstossen, where Hamilton showed off their skills. But Auckland ended up the overall winner of the semifinals. We now need all the Steinstoss, Bowling and Jass skills to try to win the Cowbell back on the finals, on Queen's Birthday weekend, against the Wellingtonians. Keep the day free (Sunday 3 June) and come and support the Auckland group. We can do it!

**Monday, 23<sup>th</sup> April: Auckland Swiss Club AGM**

28 members met for our AGM. It was good to see some new faces amidst the well-known ones. Marcel our president ran the meeting in his usual efficient way. We were happy to look back on a good club year, with many varied activities, mostly well attended.

The president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer were all standing for re-election, and so



was the rest of the committee. We would not miss the fun we have! A new farm committee was elected; thank you for volunteering - and in one case, being volunteered. Ernst Lanz, Henry Werffeli, Heinz Matysik and Daniel Wiederkehr will manage the farm in the next four years. Henry Werffeli has also been confirmed as the riflemaster. Lenore Bryner is retiring after many years doing an excellent job as honorary auditor. Thank you Lenore for all your work. We have not elected a successor yet.

The AGM was followed by a fine supper, appreciated by all.

## Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> May: Film evening and Wähe

Edith spoiled us again with her selection of delicious sweet and savoury and ever so Swiss Wähen, very much enjoyed by a relatively small group. Thank you so much. The film 'Hoselupf' was certainly different - we don't hear so much about the Swiss sport of Schwingen, the Swiss variety of wrestling. I must admit I have become much more aware and fond of Swiss traditions since I have been living in New Zealand.

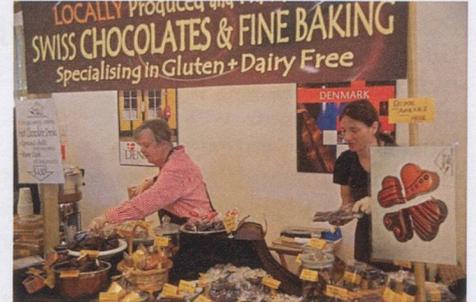
## Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> May: Swiss Market Day

Tanja has excelled once more in organising a very successful day. It was great to have made more use of the outdoor spaces, with stands on part of the car-park, and a marquee / restaurant in the patio. There was a fantastic variety of goods and goodies, hard to choose where to spend my dollars. We have many clever Swiss artists, craftspeople, food experts etc. here. And of course there were the Swiss manufactured goods - Victorinox, Sigg, not to mention chocolate, cheeses, Spätzli, Fondue, sausages and much more. The atmosphere was very happy, made even better by the Swiss Alphorn players.

On a personal note, my second hand bookstand gave me many opportunities to chat to



What a choice!



Chocolate galore, Organic Delights



They look and sound good



Ernst and Marcel in action



Sausages from Adrian, vice president



Mouthwatering pastries and breads



Chestnuts anyone with Ursula



A happy team, Erika and Ursula



Viva la Svizzera!



people. The demand for pre-read German books was not exactly overwhelming, but the social side of the exercise was more than worthwhile. Interestingly, the books that sold best were the thrillers! And in case you feel like reading - we still have many German books available. We will compile a list - ask!

Thank you so much Tanja, you are the heart and brain of the event, it would never have happened without you. I hope you have enjoyed it as much as we did! And thank you everyone who contributed; what a great team you are.

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May: Jassen at the Danish Club**

21 of us attended - and as it happened before, a newcomer won and took home Fidel's famous cheese. Good on you Florian, we trust you and Jasmine will come again!

And just to prove it's luck mainly and not skill - last month's winner came last this time. It goes in swings and roundabouts, doesn't it!

1st	Florian Senn	4184
2nd	Nelly Steinemann	4091
3rd	Andrew Iten	4066
4th	Heidi Wilson	4020
5th	Fidel Good	4015
6th	Berta Good	3914
7th	Louis Wallimann	3878
8th	Hilda Iten	3848
9th	Jasmine Zahno	3830
10th	Neil Kaiser	3804
11th	Edith Hess	3741
12th	Othmar Wyss	3710
13th	Hans Iten	3706
14th	Marcel Ruedi	3650
15th	Heinz Frei	3607
16th	Ian Gordon	3554
17th	Matthew Kaiser	3546
18th	Franz Krieger	3530
19th	Lynne Dunphy	3497
20th	Emil Tellenbach	3473
21st	Carmen Gordon	3464

*If cats could talk,  
they wouldn't.*

**Future Events:**

**2-3 June, Queen's Birthday Weekend: NZ Swiss Society AGM in Auckland**

In case you have not registered yet, this is your last chance. Just a brief reminder:

**Saturday 02 June** at the Danish Club, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose: From 4pm, informal get together with our friends from Waikato, Taranaki and Wellington. Even if you have not met any of them, please come along, they are actually all very nice people. Have a chat, even a game of Jass may be on the cards for the keen ones!

Dinner (Edith's special) will be served at 6.30pm, cost \$10.

**Sunday 03 June: a day in West Auckland with our friends**

Morning: Final of the Cowbell Competition. Auckland against Taranaki - see the invitation on page 18!

At the time of writing this there are still a few seats left for the dinner at the Falls Restaurant: book with Marcel Ruedi: Ruedi@orcon.net.nz or 09 551 5830, 0274 90 1836.

**Friday 08 June, 7.30pm ; Jassen at the Danish Club**

Enjoy a friendly card evening, meet other Swiss and their card-playing family members.

**Sunday 17 June: Chocolate Factory, hands on - Waitoki.**

Sounds just so yummy! Keep the day free; more details to follow. Edith Müller from Organic Delights (organicdelights.co.nz) will share some of her secrets. You may have met Edith and tasted her delicacies at the market day - have a look at the photos!

We decided to have a chocolate event in winter, rather than before Christmas, which we had done for the last two years. The heat had not agreed so well with the chocolate!

**JULY AND BEYOND**

**Saturday 28 July: Swiss National Day Celebration at the Danish Club in Penrose.**

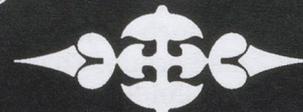
**Wednesday 01 August: Bonfire at the farm - weather permitting!**

**Sunday 19 August: Cooking class** - Marcel, our multi-talented president, will give us an insight into Swiss cooking. Hope he will show me how to do his wonderful risotto!

For complete list and details check out the website: [www.swiss.org.nz/auckland](http://www.swiss.org.nz/auckland)

*Nelly Steinemann*

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