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Swiss Club News

TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

Past Events

On the 22nd of November, many of our members arrived at the Benkerts to pick up their order of delicious sausages and fine meats from the Swiss Deli. One little hiccup ... Erna arrived a day early, so had to come the following day to pick up her quota!!! When she did arrive, Ruedi nearly forgot to give Erna one of her boxes of sausages ... imagine if you had had to come three days in a row Erna!!!

All ended well, with everyone hopefully enjoying their delicious goodies. Many thanks to Ruedi and Lisette for sorting out all the sausages and then working out the prices ... you do a terrific job ... especially when the order is in excess of 600kg!!! Thank you to everyone for submitting their orders early ... please do look at the Helvetia's forthcoming events to ensure you order your sausages on time.

On the 24th of November, the committee held its annual barbeque, inviting our life members too. Our President Othmar took the opportunity to hone his barbequing skills ... we look forward to your help at the picnic!!! No, just kidding ... very nice of you to cook for us all.

We all enjoyed a relaxing evening, amid good company and delicious food. Thank you to everyone who helped with cooking, dishes and cleaning up ... it's great to have a wonderful team.

On the 25th of November we held our Christmas Shoot / Keglen with Mark, who once again organised this day. Everyone brought a wrapped prize worth at least \$10.00 and at the completion of the competition everyone received a prize.

We were lucky to have the creative Yvonne Buhler and Yvonne Arnold showing the children how to make lovely Christmas stars and decorated pine cones ... the adult members were keen to see how these were made, too.

Thank you both very much for your time and effort ... the children loved making these decorations and it's always great to get new ideas.

Father Christmas then made an appearance, giving the children their little presents before the adults' prizes were distributed. Winners of the shooting were Emmi Kiser with 47 points (great to have a son who shoots well, isn't it Emmi??!!) followed by Peter Arnold (senior) with 45 points, Marianne Werder, Lisette Benkert, Adrian Drummond, Bryce Kaiser and Mark Kiser, all on 43 points. Shooting well was also our junior member Peter Arnold ... well done on competing and doing so well, Peter!!!

Leaders in the Keglen were Johnny Bishop with 33 points, Heidi Werder and Ruedi Kull on 32 points and Marianne Drummond on 31 points. The prize draws were then handed out. Mark also awarded two shooting trophies – the Ted Napflin Memorial Shield which has been competed for since 1978 to Daniel Fitzgerald with 99 points (runners up were Emma Fitzgerald and Johnny Bishop on 98 points) ... this is a handicap shoot open to all our members.

Another handicap shoot is the Trudi Ott Belt which Mark also handed out. The winner of this was Susie Kiser with 99 points, with the runner up being Bryce Kaiser on 98 points.

On 6th December the Singing Group took part in a different event. The South Taranaki District Council was wishing to thank its volunteers who help different organisations during the year, and asked us to entertain for ten minutes ... with our varied repertoire we struggled to fit everything in in ten minutes and had to cut some items short and miss out some too!!!

Everyone seemed to enjoy our little performance and it was a pleasure to entertain in the lovely old Eltham Town Hall in front of a receptive audience. Heidi Werder had made the trip to Eltham twice ... coming on the 5th and finding no-one around, she returned home to see that she had written the engagement up on the 6th!!! Thanks for turning up on the 6th too, Heidi!!!

You must all be thinking that Taranaki Swiss Club members are afflicted with a disease ... both Erna and Heidi attending functions on the wrong day!!!

But I assure you, we're otherwise in great form!!!

On New Year's Eve, the campervanners joined us, once again, at the Swiss Club for a night of wonderful entertainment. Thirty-three of the campervanners joined a few Swissies. Campervans started arriving at noon, parking in the beautifully manicured grounds that our wonderful Johnny tends (many thanks, Johnny, for your dedication ... not even any clippings around!!! You're great!!!). Happy hour commenced at 4.00ish, followed by people enjoying a BYO BBQ around 6.00pm. The entertainment commenced at 8.00pm. ... and we're so very lucky to have Trevor Sharpe, and Alan and Pam Southey join us ... thanks guys for coming along and playing and singing so very well. Everyone thoroughly enjoys your music and we hope that you, too, enjoyed yourselves.

The campervanners also provided excellent entertainment, and the Swiss singing group chimed in with a few tunes, too. Warren from the campervanners organised a "Men's bra fashion parade" which was very well received ... how glamorous they all looked ... all shapes and sizes!!! Several funnies were read out, and then the tombola tickets were sold.

There were great grocery parcels to be won ... and many people were lucky to win an excellent prize. A delicious supper was held before the countdown began ... and then we were all wishing each other a Happy New Year. It was a great function, well-organised by Leo and Doreen Zehnder (thank goodness it didn't rain this year, Leo!!!) and Ruedi and Lisette Benkert ... many thanks for your great effort!!!

As usual on New Years' Night, we descend on the Stratford Club for dinner and a catch up ... mainly on the previous evening's happenings!!! We all enjoyed a delicious smorgasbord and a drink or two, and had much fun and laughter. Thank you to everyone for attending one or both nights, and we hope that you had a terrific time!!!



Swiss Club News

Future Events

February

- 1 This will be the last day for ordering Swiss sausages, so please be timely in ringing Lisette on 06 7628718 or Marianne on 06 7628757. The next order will only be in May, so ring if you don't want to run out!!!
- 7&21 Please go along and join Johnny and his team for a fun night of chatter, keglen and supper. They always have lots of fun and laughter and would love to have a few more members participating!!! Go on, give it a go!!!
- 9 Our friendly Wellington Swiss Club members will be venturing North to compete against us in shooting, shot put, keglen and jassen in the semi-final of the Cowbell competition. So all you strong men, come along for the shot put; we need all the accurate shooters to join us, as well as the skilled skittlers and jassers ... the more participants, the greater the fun!!! The Wellingtonians will be here for lunch, so all competitors and supporters are welcome to join us. Tea will be provided at night for a small cover charge ... if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a committee member. We look forward to a fun-filled day with our wonderful friends from Wellington. See you there!!!
- 10 Our annual picnic will be held on the 10th of February ... as always we hope for a warm and sunny day. There are plenty of activities for you to participate in ... shot put, fishing, the favourite for many children - the bouncy castle and merry-go-round (many thanks to our wonderful members Reg and Rose Tecofsky who bring these great amusements along) and of course, the day wouldn't be the picnic without the "Schwingen"!!! The "young" and "young at heart" participate in this Swiss style wrestling, and much fun is had by all. A BBQ, ice creams and liquid refreshments are available ... so come along and have a wonderful time catching

up with friends and acquaintances and make new connections too!!! This year, weather permitting, Heliview will be attending, so that people may take a helicopter ride (length of ride, scenic destination and price varies), so please take up the opportunity and enjoy a great view from up above. We are honoured to have the Ambassador of Switzerland, Dr Marion Weichelt Krupski and her family attend our picnic this year ... so please come and make them all feel welcome in our great province. We do look forward to meeting you all and hope that you will enjoy a day amongst fellow Swiss!!! We've had record crowds in the past few years, so let's make this another one to remember!!! See you there!!!

March

- 4 **AGM of the Taranaki Swiss Club** at 8.00pm. Come and hear how the functions were patronised and enjoyed by members in the past year, and let's look forward to the coming year. Come and have your say, and bring new ideas for the Committee to consider. We would love to see you!!!
- 7&21 Keglen again. If you enjoyed the February nights, the March ones will be no different ... so make Johnny's day and turn up!!!
- 17 Mark has the shooting events well organised. Today the Championship and Society shoots can be shot from 1.00pm. Young and not-so-young are more than welcome to participate ... so come along and make Mark's day!!! As the saying goes "the more, the merrier"!!!

The new club year commences after this ... and a new programme and newsletter will be out shortly. Your committee works hard at trying to please you all with the functions and events we organise, so please attend as many as you can. If you have an idea for a new function, please don't hesitate to ring a committee member who will share your ideas/views at our next meeting. MD

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

Past Events

25 November: Extraordinary Meeting

The club held an extraordinary meeting that Sunday to discuss the future of the club. We did reach our quorum, thanks to the many members who were present and to those who could not come but provided proxy votes. One of the main outcomes was that we will look into options to raise more revenue for the club. At the end of the meeting, we also had the pleasure to elect a new committee member: Pitsch, who is back in Wellington.

2nd December: Samichlaus

Samichlaus and Schmutzli visited our club house to talk to our younger members and friends. About 30 people attended. The pair were very well informed about the behaviour of the children in attendance, both good and bad, and there were numerous promises of improved behaviour in 2013. Samichlaus and Schmutzli generously gave some fruit, nuts and other goodies to all the children. Prior to their arrival, we spent some time decorating a gingerbread house for Samichlaus and Schmutzli, who gladly took it back to the Black Forest to stave off the munchies during the cold winter nights. Petra had the good idea to bring waaaaay too many lollies for the decoration, so that the kids could eat the leftovers. We might need some architectural advice for next year as the gingerbread house collapsed like an Ikea packing box before it made it out the door. The children also enjoyed putting decorations on the gorgeous Christmas tree that Peter and Heinz had prepared. Thanks to Barbara, Bruce, Craig and Petra for a great day!
CP

8th December: Christmas Dinner

We had a strong turn out to our Christmas Dinner on 8 December with over 60 people attending, including several invited guests and members returning to their first club event for some time.

Swiss Club News

Peter and his kitchen hands prepared two wonderful hams (I am so upset I lost the beautiful picture I took of it!). Rahel cooked some delicious salads and desserts (strawberries and homemade meringues!) and read the traditional Christmas story. Batches of Zopf were contributed by Petra and Trudi.

After some very tuneful renditions of selected carols, thanks to Theres, who had prepared the lyrics (next year, I'll make sure we have some French songs too!) our president, Murray, distributed presents in appreciation of particular members' contributions during the year. Our donation box also enjoyed the spirit of the season. It was a positive and energised conclusion to a challenging year.

We also had the pleasure to elect a new member to the committee: Nathalie. OS

6th January: Jass Afternoon at the clubhouse

Eight keen Jassers turned up. Well, were they all keen on Jassen? Some were even keener on trying out our new kegelbahn. The official opening will be on 27th, but there is no harm in having an unofficial pre-opening KegelIn...

Then we settled down to serious (or not so serious) Jassen and had a great time. Half way through, we enjoyed our usual cup of coffee, with a great assortment of baking; thank you, Lotti, Rosina, Ruth and Trudi. As it was Epiphany, we even had a traditional Königsuchen. The lucky winner of the hazelnut and therefore Queen was Ruth; congratulations! tb

Future Events

9th February: Cowbell competition

This semi-final will be at the Taranaki club. See you there!

24th February: Family Day and Camping

Our annual Family Day at the Jaggi's domain. Not to be missed! We have always enjoyed good weather in the past years, so let's hope this year will be just as good. Thanks to the Jaggis for hosting this again!

For those interested in spending the Saturday night in a tent (yes! the weather will be good!), please contact Mark (Ph 461 7118).

3rd March: Jassen

In the clubhouse. Contact Trudi if you intend to come.

24th March: Kids' Easter Eggs at the clubhouse.

Odile will show us how to colour Easter eggs the traditional way. Please call Odile (ph. 586 3095) if you intend to come. Bring some eggs (raw!). As they have a tendency to break, it is good to bring more than one per person.

7th April: Jassen

At the clubhouse. Contact Trudi if you intend to come.

20th April: AGM

Do not miss this Annual General Meeting! OS

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

Past Events

The Family Christmas Party was held on Sunday 2nd December at the Newstead School. The committee was all set up and ready from about 11am, when the first few families arrived.

We had various crafts set up inside and children were able to decorate gingerbread men and other Swiss biscuits, as well as help decorate the gingerbread house.

At one stage, we had over 20 children inside trying to get their Christmas goodies ready, as well as some children playing outside on the adventure playground.

Lots of grilled Bratwurst were served around lunchtime and after lunch, everyone had the opportunity to buy raffle tickets for a chance to pick from the selection of mostly donated prizes.

Everyone sang Christmas carols and welcomed Santa who had gifts for all the children. Ice blocks were also enjoyed before the raffles were drawn and Afternoon Tea was served.

Many thanks to everyone who brought prizes and baking for Afternoon Tea and to all families who supported this event. Also many thanks to the committee for all the work done before and during the function. AZ



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Swiss Club News

Forthcoming Events

Practice Shoot – Saturday 16 February at Elmiger's property from 9am to 11am.

50 Metre Shooting, Saturday 23 February – again this function will be held at the Elmiger's property at Maungatutari Road in Karapiro from 9am to 1pm. Bring your own lunch if you plan to be there around midday.

This is the Swiss Society Medal Competition and we hope to get great participation. The more participants the more medals! For further information or car pooling, please contact the Riflemaster Hans Vetsch on 07 855 3294 or 021 658 733.

Family Picnic, Sunday 24 February at the Newstead School – 11am start. Please arrive promptly, in particular if you wish to participate in the bowling competition, as there is always a bit of a queue later on.

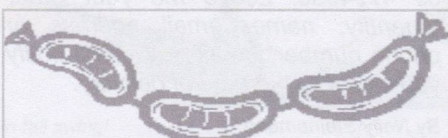
We will again be serving grilled sausages around lunch time, as well as the usual delicious selection of home-made baking, coffee and cold drinks.

As well as the bowling, we will be doing shot-put for the Swiss Society medal competitions. The pool should be available for the children to have a swim, but all children must be supervised by an adult at all times, as well as on the adventure playground. The club or school cannot take any responsibility for injuries or accidents.

If anyone can help out for an hour or two on the day, either taking scores or selling cakes etc., please contact Vreni 07 855 3294. Any help would be gratefully appreciated.

Further details of these events, as well as the calendar for the rest of the year will be sent out to members in the first week or two of February. If you have changed your address recently, please notify Beatrice immediately – email bea.leun@xtra.co.nz or phone 07 8437971. Any other queries, you can contact Anita 0274 985 170 or email zuber@xtra.co.nz.

AZ



AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

Past Events

It seems a long time since we had all these Christmassy celebrations, so writing about them brings back nice memories:

Saturday 01 December: Working bee

What a great turnout, 25 people worked hard inside and outside, a lot got done. We all admired the new kitchen. Special thanks to everyone involved in this project, for all the brains and the hard work they had put in.

But the kitchen was not the only thing new: Edith had a family wedding to attend and we had new chefs. Of course, it needs more than one person to replace Edith. Melissa Lanz and Pia Wittwer took over the task. And an excellent job they did, delicious meal, all hot at the same time, well done.

Sunday 09 December: SANTA

Three days after the tornado had struck, we were lucky to have beautiful weather for our traditional Santa celebration. Santa managed to come to the farm straight from the sky.

To see the anticipation and the joy in the faces of the children after the helicopter had made a circle above us and re-appeared was heart-warming.

Some 45 youngsters were greeted by Santa, and wondered how on earth he knew all their secrets. It was neat to see many adults too, quite a social occasion with a great atmosphere.

Our thanks go to Oski, who could not make it this year due to ill health, and very kindly still sponsored the helicopter for us. Also many thanks to Adrian for you-know-what, you did a great job. Mind you, you had been trained for many years, by the best!

There was a lot of catching up between friends and meeting some new ones.

Saturday 15 December Swiss Carol Singing at the Danish House

Our carols don't quite attract the crowds like the Santa celebration does. Nevertheless, we were some 40 people who thoroughly enjoyed the singing and the cakes afterwards.

Shooting Prize giving December 2012

The shooters have had a great year, have a look at the Swiss Club website for details (also on page 20). The Lanz family (Melissa, Ernst and their son Marcel) have done exceptionally well. The photo of Melissa and Marcel with their trophies in this issue is proof!

Sunday 13 January 2013: Committee meeting and New Members Day at the Swiss Farm

It was great to catch up with a few new and not so new members. We were treated to yet another Edith Special, three different kinds of homemade ravioli this time (all vegetarian, just what I like!).

Future Events

Friday 01 February 2013 from 8pm: Pub night in Takapuna

Blankenberge Beer Café, 136 Hurstmere Rd, Takapuna

A casual get-together, come and go as you please and have a chat with some like-minded people. And you can drink wine or juice too, or order your dinner.

Saturday 02 February 2013, 09.30am: Working bee at the farm

A delicious free lunch awaits you for putting in a few hours, to make our farm spic and span for the coming picnic. This is also your chance to participate in the Society Shooting (50m) where the top 20% of shooters in each category (Men, Women, Juniors) get a fabulous medal. See on the new website about the history of the Society Games.

Friday 08 February 7.30pm sharp: Jass, Danish House, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose

Some of us have been suffering withdrawal symptoms over summer and look forward to our first card evening.

Swiss Club News

Give it a go, we are happy to coach you along. If you feel a bit rusty, have a look on our website under Jass Results. We have added a pdf of "Jass Basics" for you.

Saturday 09 February: Sleep-over at the farm before the Swiss Day Out:

Since we had such a great time at our last sleep-over event at the farm, we thought we'll have another one! So if you're planning to attend our Swiss Day out on Sunday, come up the night before for a fun filled evening out in the bush – play hide and seek in the darkness, enjoy a lovely dinner with us and then admire the stars!!

What to bring: everything you need for a sleep over incl. sleeping bag etc. your own drinks and breakfast. If you don't want to sleep in the hut you can also bring your own tent or van. Cost: \$5 per adult

RSVP: until 5th Feb 2013 to tanja.latham@swiss.org.nz

(Space in the hut is limited so first come first served basis or bring your own tent, van etc.).

Sunday 10 February from 10.30: Swiss Day Out – enjoy the farm with the family.

Our annual picnic day, combined with the Swiss Society games of the Auckland Club. Come and have a go at Kegeln (9-pin bowling), shot put (Steinstossen and now also Kugelstossen). There is also the last chance to participate in the Society Shooting (50m). In these Society Games, the top 20% in each category receive a medal. There are separate categories for men, women and juniors. It costs \$5.00 to participate in each discipline. We subsidise the cost for juniors and they only pay \$2.50. There will also be other games, some fun for all, and delicious Swiss sausages plus Cremeschnitten. Yummy!!

Sunday 24 February from 11.00: Beach Party at Long Bay

Join us for a day at the beach, take family and friends, or come on your own. Drive to the end of Beach Rd Long Bay, over the little bridge, and park anywhere near car park No 5. You will see the Swiss flag from the car park.

We will be somewhere in the shade, near the toilet block. Bring your own food and drinks, swimming gear, sunscreen, hat and any games that we can play together. There are barbeques provided in the park which we'll be able to use for our lunch so bring your sausages / meat etc. to fry. In case of doubtful weather, see website, or contact Tanja: 09 627 8777 or 021 101 4432 or email:

tanja.latham@swiss.org.nz

Friday 01 March 2013 from 8pm: Pub night in Mt Eden

C.A.C Bar 26 Normandy Rd Mt Eden
<http://www.cacbar.co.nz/>

Why not make it a night out and have your dinner there, too? Have a look at their mouthwatering menu!

Friday 08 March 7.30pm sharp: Jass, Danish House, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose

Weekend 22 – 24 March: Outdoor weekend together with Hamilton Club in Whatipu, Waitakeres

The Whatipu lodge is in a great setting and remote, although only 45k from the Auckland CBD. There will be something to enjoy for the adventurous, the sporty and the sedentary ones, as well as the families. You have the option of staying in a small bedroom (single, twin or double) at \$60.00 per person for the two nights, or at the campground for a much lesser price.

Check out the Auckland Swiss Club Website for details: www.swiss.org.nz/auckland. Places are limited; book now to avoid disappointment. Contact Tanja on 09 627 8777 or 021 101 4432 or email: tanja.latham@swiss.org.nz

Looking ahead further into the year – mark your calendar

Friday 12 April and every second Friday of the month after: Jassen

Monday 29 April: AGM Auckland Swiss Club at the Danish House

Friday 03 May: Film evening at the Danish House

Saturday 11 May: SWISS MARKET DAY

Switzerland in the heart of Penrose! Don't miss this highlight of the Swiss year.

This will be the fourth time, it has been getting better every year. Stalls are being booked up fast, book yours now! See website or contact Tanja (above) for details.

Saturday 06 July: Fondue Night at the Danish House

Saturday 27 July: Swiss National Day celebration at the Danish House

NEW MEMBERS

We are happy to welcome several new members to our Club:

- ◇ Jackie and Lukas Ziegler with son Aran
- ◇ Balz Schaerer and Jenny Herzog
- ◇ Nadine and David Fossati.

We hope you enjoy the variety of people and events, and look forward to catching up with those we have not met yet. If you have ideas for the Club, you are most welcome to share them with us.

Zwetschgen anyone?

Nothing like this Swiss variety of plums: purple outside, yellow inside, can be halved like apricots and the kernel separates easily. I tried to find an English translation and came up with prune plums, Damask plums and Damsons. They are great to eat, make desserts, Wähe (Tünne, Flade, fruit pie) or jam. They freeze very well and you can also dry them.

Peter Schuler from Whakatane grows them; the crop looks good so far this year. Weather permitting, they will be ripe around mid- to end of February.

Peter will deliver them if we can get an order of 400kg together. They come in 10kg lots, at \$4 per kg. You will have to pick them up from Edith Hess in Glenfield. We are not able to sell smaller amounts; you have to share with your friends. Ask other Europeans too, I found that my Serbian friend adores them.

To order please contact me now, Nelly Steinemann, at nsteinemann@xtra.co.nz or 09 4794038. Leave me your order (quantity, name, email address or phone number) please. We will notify you closer to the date of delivery.

By Nelly Steinemann

Swiss Club News

Dear Auckland Shooting Club Members! Newsletter 2012 / 2013 (Extract)

Now that all the shooting is over, it is time to reflect on the past shooting season and put the findings on paper. The Auckland Swiss Club's shooting section membership presents itself as follow.

♦ Obligatorisch :	54 Shooters	- 2 Shooters
♦ Feldschiessen:	54 Shooters	- 2 Shooters
♦ Einzelwettschiessen:	44 Shooters	+4 Shooters
♦ Swiss Abroad:	44 Shooters	+4 Shooters
♦ Swiss Abroad Nachdoppel:	44 Shooters	+25 Shooters
♦ Completed Competitions:	44 Shooters	+4 Shooters

I am very pleased with this year's participation, even though I had great hopes to stabilise the declining numbers in the compulsory Swiss Army program. Good indications are the increased activities in the Einzelwettschiessen and the Swiss Abroad Competition.

A Competition also produces winners. The 2012 trophies winners are:

Main Competition:

1. Marcel Lanz 373 Points Winner of Gold Medal / V and T Mason Trophy
2. Ernst Lanz 370 Points Winner of the Silver Medal
3. Christian Neubauer 368 Points Winner of the Bronze Medal

After Luke Schmutz (2008) and Gerhard Lanz (2010), it was now Marcel Lanz's turn as a junior shooter to outscore all of us. It was a great internal family battle, as on the very last shooting opportunity of the year, Marcel kept his nerves to push his Dad off the throne.

Ladies' Competition:

1. Andrea Matysik 366 Points Winner of the Ladies' Trophy
2. Selina Storchenegger 358 Points
3. Lorraine Vine-Belami 346 Points

This year's ladies' competition was not as close as last year's one and Andrea seems to have a firm grip on the trophy. But every year, the competition starts at zero again, so it will be interesting to see who is able to challenge Andrea for the title.

Junior Competition:

1. Marcel Lanz 373 Points Winner of H and H Leuenberger Junior Trophy
2. Orlando Werffeli 360 Points
3. Philip Morgenthaler 352 Points

All three top junior shooters scored higher than last year which is certainly a very encouraging sign. I also would like to mention Orlando's achievement: In his last year of junior shooting, he shot his whole program with the K-31's big caliber. Well done.

By Henry Werffeli

Visit by Dora Andres

Dora Andres, who is the President of Swiss Shooting (Schweizer Schiesssportverband SSV) travelled to New Zealand for a holiday. She was very interested in visiting our Swiss Farm and to view our shooting arrangements. On 6th December last year, a couple of hours after the tornado hit West Auckland, we hosted a small function for her up at the Swiss farm in true kiwi style: Lamb, kumara, roast veggies and kiwifruit pavlova. She was very impressed with everything and we were delighted to have her hand out some of the shooting medals.

By Tanja Latham-Zurbrugg



Dora Andres and Melissa Lanz,
winner of the end of year
Round Robin Trophy

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