

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 79 (2013)
Heft: [4]

Rubrik: From the Embassy

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 09.02.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

From the Embassy

Ambassador's speech continued

Swiss love New Zealand, not only to come here and set up a new life, but also for tourism. On a per capita basis, there are two and a half times more Swiss tourists coming to NZ than from Germany or Italy, and two times as many compared to France.

This love for New Zealand is reflected when we look at investments: Switzerland constantly ranks among the top ten investors in New Zealand.

[There are about 45 Swiss companies in New Zealand. These Swiss companies create about 5,000 jobs, mainly for skilled workers.]

Switzerland is – you might be surprised to hear this – a big country. Why big? It is certainly a big country when we talk finances: Switzerland is the seventh largest financial centre worldwide. But Switzerland is also a medium-sized country. Medium-sized, if we talk about the economy: Switzerland, with its population of 8 million is the 19th biggest economy worldwide, only a few places away from Indonesia with its 240 million people. But Switzerland is above all a small country. Small in size, both in geography and population, but also small with regards to political influence.

New Zealand is a big country, too. It has the 5th biggest EEZ in the world. But above all, like Switzerland, it is a small country.

As small countries, we have much in common. For small countries, the rule of law is extremely important, as we cannot engage in power play. It is therefore crucial for both our countries that there is a legal system that is binding to all, and this is what both our countries fight for.

It will therefore not come as a surprise when I tell you that both New Zealand and Switzerland would like to see a UN Security Council that is more effective, more transparent, and more democratic. That both our countries would like to see a world with less weapons in the wrong hands. Just a few weeks ago, on 3 June, New Zealand and Switzerland signed the Arms Trade Treaty; a treaty that was incredibly hard to negotiate. Both our countries also want to see nuclear weapons delegitimised, and we work hand-in-hand to decrease the level of alertness of nuclear weapons.

I could mention many more initiatives and topics, in which our two countries work together, [the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases, the Friends of the Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform, the Nansen Initiative on disaster induced cross-border migration, and so on.]

But let me finish with a topic that I had started with: multiculturalism. Both New Zealand and Switzerland are, as the greetings have shown, multilingual countries. And to showcase

this multiculturalism as well as to celebrate our 50th anniversary, the Embassy together with the Victoria University did a translation of the opening paragraph of Margaret Mahy's "The Three Legged Cat" into the four official Swiss and the two official New Zealand written languages. You will find a sample of the booklet in your goodie bag on your way out and I hope you enjoy it.

I would now like to propose a toast to Her Majesty Elizabeth the Second, Queen of New Zealand. To the Queen!

By Marion Weichelt Krupski, Swiss Ambassador

Swiss Kiwi Stories

A celebration of outstanding personalities

The Swiss Embassy in Wellington has begun production of a series of YouTube videos on the occasion of this year's anniversary of 50 years of diplomatic relations between New Zealand and Switzerland. The videos showcase outstanding Swiss Kiwis in the fields of the arts, sport, design and business.

Our first video about Oceania player of the Century, Wynton Rufer, is proving a big hit, with over 700 people already watching it. So if you too would like to find out about Wynton's Swiss dad and Maori mum and watch those incredible goals that secured the All Whites a World Cup spot, please follow the link below.

Please put your YouTube settings to HD (high definition) to see the video's full effect.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGgSs3osK-o>

By Sarah Bradley, Event Manager, Embassy of Switzerland

SWISS CHOCOLATES
& gluten / dairy free baking

phone: 09 420 3387, email: edith@swissbliss.co.nz

Special Offer: choose between

- **Mohrenkoepfli** (MussKuss) 1 Dozen
- or - **Basler Laekerli** with or without chocolate, 1/2kg

only \$36.- each pack, incl courier NZ wide

for a complete pricelist, please phone or email us

VISIT & CONTACT US

- At the factory in **WAITOKI**, open day every Fri 9am - 6pm
- At the **MATAKANA** village farmers market Sat 8am - 1pm
- and at the new **GULF HARBOUR** market Sun 10am-2pm
- Order **ONLINE**, www.swissbliss.co.nz
- MAIL ORDERS available

OUR LOCATION

867 Kahikatea Flat Road
Waitoki, RD1 Kaukapakapa 0871
10min west of the Silverdale Motorway off ramp

Swiss Bliss

Harcourts

COOPER & CO REAL ESTATE LTD MIRENZI LICENSED AGENT REIAA 2008

Nadine Loetscher
Sales & Marketing Consultant

p 09 481 9048
m 021 121 2461
e nadine.loetscher@harcourts.co.nz

facsimile 09 483 4768
37-339 Rangatira Road,
Beach Haven, Auckland, New Zealand
www.harcourts.co.nz