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Swiss Club News

Taranaki Swiss Club

Past Events

On the 7th of March we held the Taranaki Swiss Club Annual General Meeting with a very good attendance of members. Remigi Zimmermann resigned and was thanked for all the work he did for the club, especially with the Karabiner Shooting. It was a great pleasure to welcome Sonja Werder and Andrea Hebler to our committee ... this certainly gives us a rejuvenated look!!! Some youth at last!!! We really look forward to your contribution and hope you enjoy your time on our committee. Othmar outlined what had happened in the past year, what we were looking forward to and especially thanked everyone who had helped our club in any way. If anyone has any ideas on functions or activities we could organise, please talk to a committee member. Our new calendar of events and newsletter has been posted and Othmar encouraged

everyone to attend as many functions as possible. If you haven't received our newsletter, please contact Marianne on 06 7628757.

On the 12th of March we participated in the Multi-ethnic parade in New Plymouth and also took part in the Kaponga Primary School 125th jubilee parade on Easter Sunday. We were overjoyed to have members of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club with us. Needless to say the dogs looked stunning, the handmade carts were absolutely beautiful and their handlers were dressed in lovely "Swiss" costumes to really look the part. The dogs, together with the young children duly dressed as little "Swissies", stole the show, and we were really thankful that they contributed so much to our float. A huge thanks to everyone who participated in the parades, and we were really sorry to miss the Auroa jubilee as we had already committed to the Multi-ethnic parade. Thanks to Zeno for decorating the trailer; the flowers looked fabulous. We really were a colourful bunch!!!

On the 15th of April we entertained at the Stratford Catholic Church hall for the older members of the Stratford community. It was great to see such a huge gathering of people who all appeared to enjoy our musical variety. It was amazing how many of the audience had a smidgeon of Swiss blood!!! And were proud of it!!! Then on the 17th of April we entertained at the Hollard Gardens Garden Festival ... which had a variety of stalls and entertainment on offer. Many children took up Othmars offer to try and blow the alphorn and some of them did very well. The 17th was also small bore shooting which had a very good attendance ... a queue of shooters, isn't that great Mark?!!! Jassen was also held with a relatively good attendance ... thanks so much Remigi for filling in and making an even number ... you're a legend ... and you even won 50c!!! We won't say what for!!!!????!!!

Jassen results: 10 April

| | |
|-------|-----------------|
| 1st | Walter Seifert |
| 2nd | Mathias Seifert |
| 3rd | Heidi Seifert |
| Booby | Alby Schuler |

Raffle winners were Alby Schuler, Tilly Riddick twice, and Frieda Meier.

17 April

| | |
|-------|-------------------|
| 1st | Marlies Hebler |
| 2nd | Franz Weinberger |
| 3rd | Marcus Rufer |
| Booby | Remigi Zimmermann |

Raffle winners were Heidi Werder twice and Walter Seifert twice.

Belatedly, I would like to thank Erna Zimmermann very much for donating ten packs of Swiss cards and Edi Fuglistaller for his continuous supply of score cards to the Club.

Keglen is still going. Heidi would really love to see a few more people to make the competition that much more interesting ... so come along on a Thursday evening and give it a go ... if you're not great at keglen, you will still have many laughs and heaps of fun.

On the 7th of May, Othmar took a bus load of 36 people to Hamilton and then up to the Swiss Market in Auckland. By all accounts, everyone really enjoyed themselves, and made sounds of eating too much!!! How unusual!!! Good food is always a treat, and we, Swiss especially from Taranaki, seem to enjoy our food!!! Thanks Othmar for organising the trip and ensuring that everyone was happy!!!

Welcome to new members:

We welcome Sinda Ruzio-Saban to our Club and we look forward to meeting you at one of our future functions ... actually at the Fondue as you've already booked in!!! Also a big welcome to Charlotte Riedweg - we look forward to meeting you too. We extend a huge welcome to two new members from the South Island ... Marianne Patterson (daughter of Heidi Werder) and Joel Schuler (grandson of Alby Schuler) ... we hope to see you at some of our functions when you're up next!!! Thank you all for becoming members of our club and we look forward to meeting you and hope that you also enjoy reading the *Helvetia* magazine.

If anyone wishes to join our club, please ring Marianne on 06 7628757 or Othmar on 06 2786878. We always look forward to meeting new members and please remember to look up your calendar of events or the website to ensure that you attend as many functions as possible. If you haven't received the new Calendar of Events and Newsletter, please contact Marianne on 06 7628757 or littleacres@xtra.co.nz. Please keep the programme handy so that you attend as many functions as possible.

On behalf of the Taranaki Swiss Club I would like to thank members of the Auckland Swiss Club, so ably led by



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Swiss Club News

Tanja, for the magnificent job they have done holding office of the Swiss Society of New Zealand. It has been a pleasure reading the Helvetia issues, and we wish members of the Hamilton Swiss Club all the best with compiling the magazine; changing office means readers get a different slant on the Helvetia which is interesting and good too!!! All too soon, it will be our turn again!!!

Forthcoming Events

Please note: The Taranaki Swiss Club applies for special licences to sell liquor for most functions and when we hold a licence people may not bring their own alcohol. However when we don't have a special licence (only New Years' Eve and very small functions), the function then becomes a BYO.

June

4 – 6 We will be attending the AGM of the Swiss Society (yippee Auckland say as they can hand over the reins to Hamilton) and we'll be in the final of the Cowbell Competition. This is always a great trip mixing with Swiss from the other clubs in New Zealand, and all host clubs try their best at organising a varied programme and entertainment. Once again, your early bookings will assist Othmar and Marlies in organising this trip ... don't dilly dally ... pick up that phone NOW and ring them on 06 278 6878 or if you can't get hold of them try Heidi on 06 273 4286.

12&19 Jassen again!!! Show Walter that you support him!!!

19 The final Championship Shoot will start at 1.00pm, so give your support to Mark and then stay for a pot-luck tea ... always a feast!!!

July

2 Our very popular Anniversary Shoot will be held with its delicious meal of Sauerkraut, red cabbage, potatoes and pork / sausages. A meal not to be missed!!! Try shooting or keglen from 1.00pm to 3.00pm and win some sausages. Dinner will be served at 5.30pm sharp with prize giving and spinning wheel raffles to follow. This is always a great social function.

10&17 Jassen will be held from 1.15pm. Come and join some fun-loving card players.

20 Sausage orders are due by today to

Marianne on 06 7628757.

Please note that we're away from approximately 9 – 17 July so please ring beforehand or send me an e-mail to littleacres@xtra.co.nz.

Thank you so much

30 The Swiss National Day celebrations will be held with wonderful entertainment showcasing Swiss culture and traditions. Our wonderful tombola and deliciously fantastic "Swiss" supper are always a feature!!! Our great team of salespeople will be ringing to promote this function, so please be very helpful to them and make up your mind straight away or kindly return their calls ... some of the lists are very lengthy and ringing the same person twice or three times is very time-consuming!! We look forward to a great crowd!!!

After this, the Clubs' activities will be quiet for a while to allow farmers time to get through the busy time of calving and the spring months.

MD

Wellington Swiss Club

Past Events

20 March: Easter Egg Decorating

This year we also used some coloured egg paint received from Switzerland, thanks to Marc's mother. It took us some time to get a grip on it, but once we understood how to use the special pen (that removes the paint and makes white pictures on the egg) we had some fun. Of course we also made some beautiful traditional onion skin colouring with leaf and herb patterns. Lots of eggs got broken in the process, but we were careful not to drip egg white on the table or onto the floor (we had learned the hard way in previous years about how strong a glue egg white can be!). Some friends of Bernie visited and had a go at egg painting with us.

Added bonus to the event: we were the first ones able to taste Bernie's delicious torta ti pane, that he was testing before the Serata Ticinese.

3 April: Jassen

The Clubhouse was 'otherwise occupied', so we played cards at Trudi's

place. Everybody found her house, and we had a good afternoon, playing, reminiscing, playing some more – and of course we had one of Lotti's fantastic Zwetschgewähe!

9 April: Serata Ticinese

Thanks to Bernie Napp and two new club members from Ticino, Gloria Giugno and Tamara Winkler, we had - after many many years without one - a Serata Ticinese! An authentic one, like Ticinese mothers and grandmothers back in Switzerland with their hands in it. Along with recipes and advice, the Ticinese tourist board offered posters, and Chicco d'oro offered authentic coffee – well, not grown in Ticino, but almost.

Cooking started at the clubhouse the Sunday before, and on Saturday it was all on deck, with a great Antipasto, and then Polenta and Spezzatino di manzo and plenty of mushrooms, and Torta di pane and (cheated) vermicelles for dessert. Well, and with the coffee came grappa – the best grappa ever.

Live music added to the atmosphere; thank you, Bernie and your band! It was a very successful evening – and next year it will be a breeze – now we know how to do it. A big thank you to all who contributed and worried and worked so hard!

16 April: Garage Sale

As usual, Heinz Jäggi and Peter Hynes camped at the clubhouse to get everything ready. A Garage Sale is always a bit of a lottery, with items you are sure will sell – and then they don't,



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Swiss Club News

and items you think nobody would want that do. Anyway, we are very happy with the results! A big thank you to Heinz and Peter and their crew for their dedication!

1 May: AGM

This year we had no trouble with the quorum, and everything ran smoothly. However, we have, at the time of writing this, still one big problem: we lost our secretary and, no wonder, couldn't find a replacement for her. It will be difficult to fill her shoes; Nathalie did such a great job: letters were written and notes sent out before others even thought of it – and always impeccably worded, with all the necessary information and all eventualities taken into account. We miss you, Nathalie, and hope you'll be back one day.

We had a short game of cards after the AGM – even with a new player! Let's hope he'll come to the next Sunday afternoons!

Forthcoming Events

The committee is working on a program for 2016/17; watch this space. Our club members will get the program before the next Helvetia is due, and you can always check our website.

Hamilton Swiss Club

Past Events

Hiking Weekend – On 1st-3rd April 14 members from the Hamilton Swiss Club set off to the Tokoroa Alpine Club at Mt Ruapehu for a weekend of planned tramps. Friday evening started with a dinner of Swiss Alpine Macaroni and apple sauce, all eaten up followed by Swiss baking/coffee/cards. On the Saturday, after a cooked breakfast we attempted to walk but the weather would not oblige, more coffee/cake/cards, but decided to walk in the rain in the afternoon, six braved the elements and walked the Taranaki Falls, always beautiful regardless of weather, returned and warmed up with hot showers. Happy Hour followed by dinner, we had speck/sausages, sauerkraut and potatoes, followed by Swiss baking/

coffee/cards again. Sunday morning, the weather was still not kind to us, but it was decided after breakfast that most of us would all walk somewhere in the rain, some did the part of the Whakapapaiti Track and others did a shorter walk on the Whakapapanui Track, returned to the lodge, had a late lunch, cleaned up the lodge and returned home again. The planned tramps will have to wait for another year! WS

Cowbell Semi-Final – on Sunday 17th April the Swiss farm at Kaukapakapa greeted 14 of us with not such kind weather either side of 10 o'clock. We were immediately treated to coffee, cakes and biscuits before commencing the card competition. Eight players competed from each club and at the same time others commenced the bowling competition in the drizzly rain. Hamilton was amazingly proficient in these weather conditions but we could not master the cards. The weather deteriorated and the Auckland Club studied the physiques of our four shotputters and thought it best that that task be conceded to us under the shocking weather conditions. We agreed – it meant not getting wet or dirty. Hamilton having lost the shooting as well agreed on a tie and after a delicious lunch all the card players took to the tables again for a play-off which luckily Hamilton won. Warmest thanks to the Auckland Club for their hospitality. We hope the farm will turn out better weather in June when we are in the final against the Taranaki Club.

HJS

AGM – was held at Swisscraft premises on Friday 29th April. Most people arrived at 7pm for drinks and a chat before the meeting got underway at 7.30pm. Attendance was very similar to most years with 26 people. The usual proceedings took place very promptly and efficiently and with no resignations or additions to the committee all office holders were re-elected to their positions – no changes there for many years! There was not a lot of general business so Herbert asked Rinaldo to reminisce on the early years of the club whilst this year we will celebrate 60 years of the Hamilton Swiss Club. Rinaldo enlightened us all with some stories as well as a few other members making contributions. The meeting concluded after 9pm and a delicious supper was enjoyed thanks to everyone bringing along a plate. AZ

Forthcoming Events

4/5th June, Queen's Birthday Weekend. The Swiss Society AGM will be hosted by the Auckland Club together with their 60th Jubilee celebrations. As you read this we will probably be part way through these proceedings and celebrations. Further details in last issue of the Helvetia.

Card Evenings

Venue: all five Card Evenings will be held at the Union Parish Church, Queen St, Cambridge, commencing promptly at 7.30pm. The four top scores will count towards the overall prize.

Friday, 10th June - Third Card Evening

Friday, 24th June - Fourth Card Evening

Friday, 8th July - Fifth and Final Card Evening, with Overall Prize and Trophy Presentation

Sunday 31st July – National Day Celebrations and Hamilton Club 60th Jubilee

Please put this date in your calendar. We have booked the Karapiro Function Centre for a lunch-time function and will send invitations to all our club members about a month before-hand. The cost will be \$50 per adult and children's prices yet to be finalised. The Swiss-Kiwi Yodel group from Auckland has been confirmed so we look forward to them performing, in particular listening to some great alphorn playing. This is a beautiful venue overlooking Lake Karapiro and with plenty of parking and



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Swiss Club News

a great central location we hope to have good numbers. We had 340 people at our 50th jubilee so it would be great to see all those faces once again. We would love to invite lots of past members or members who have moved out of the area so if you have contact details of any non-members please pass these onto Beatrice or Anita at one of our forthcoming functions, email to bea.leun@xtra.co.nz or call Beatrice on 07 843-7971.

The Morrinsville Museum is holding an exhibition of Swiss artefacts, objects, memorabilia, stories etc of the Swiss people who have made Morrinsville and district their new home. The museum committee decided to celebrate one of our ethnic groups a year and started with a very popular Dutch exhibition last year and this year it is the Swiss. There will be a discussion/talk and exhibition opening on Sunday June 26th that is open to all. The Swiss exhibition will run until September 16th. The museum will endeavour to contact as many Morrinsville Swiss people as possible for their input into this exhibition to enable us to have as great a variety of Swiss articles and stories as possible. If you are in the Morrinsville district reading this and would like to be a part of this exhibition please contact Barbara at the Museum 07-889-9140 on Tuesday to Friday 12.30pm till 4.00pm or Joan Jenkin 07-889-6789. AZ

| | | |
|------|------------------|------|
| 15th | Nelly Steinemann | 3627 |
| 16th | Heinz Frei | 3622 |
| 17th | Louis Wallimann | 3588 |
| 18th | Berta Good | 3432 |
| 19th | Emil Tellenbach | 3298 |
| 20th | Hilda Iten | 3269 |
| 21st | Edith Hess | 3140 |

Walk, Sunday 24 April

Onehunga to Ambury Park

Due to bad weather the walk was cancelled. We hope to do it later.

Pub Night, Friday, 6 May

We enjoyed a well-deserved refreshing drink at the Zookeepers Inn following the set up of the Swiss Market Day. As always good conversation and great to catch up with everyone. We had Swiss visitors from Invercargill, Queenstown, Nelson, Melbourne, Hamilton and even tourists from Zurich joining us that evening, which was great fun!

Swiss Market Day, 7 May

We were greeted with an absolutely stunning day and the market stalls were buzzing. Many delicious Swiss delicacies were for sale, including the famous Spaetzli and the Bratwurst & Cervelat sausage sizzle. The Guggemusik and Joddlers provided great entertainment, and let's not forget the visit of the St Bernard dogs. Thank you to Tanja for organising such an awesome event and to all the helpers, it wouldn't be possible without you.

Loved by anyone young at heart. Swiss and German, with English Subtitles. Note early start, so the young ones can enjoy too. Followed by a cup of coffee and cake. \$ 5 for members, \$10 non members, up to 15 years free.

Jass, Friday, 8 July, Danish Hall

What better thing to do to start off the weekend than a bit of fun and competition.

National Day Event, Sunday 7 Aug

Further details to follow closer to the time.

New members

We welcome Walter & Marianne Fiechter and Diane Baer & Roger Harwood with Levon Tane to the Club.

Daniela Bossard

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Forthcoming Events

Society AGM

Queen's Birthday Weekend (4-5 June)

We are excited to host the Hamilton, Taranaki & Wellington Swiss Clubs in Auckland. We have a busy weekend planned, starting off with a casual dinner on Saturday at the Swiss Farm. On Sunday we are hosting the final of the Cowbell Competition (Kegeln, Steinstossen and Jassen) between Taranaki & Hamilton, followed by the Swiss Society AGM. In the evening we will have a dinner to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Auckland Swiss Club in Coatesville.

Jass, Friday, 10 June, Danish Hall

Join us for an evening of 'Jassen'. We look forward to catching up over a game or two.

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Auckland Swiss Club

Past Events

Jass, Friday, 8 April, Danish Hall

| | | |
|------|-----------------------|------|
| 1st | Andrew Iten | 4296 |
| 2nd | Hans Iten | 4206 |
| 3rd | Lynne Dunphy | 4186 |
| 4th | Hansruedi Wolf | 4118 |
| 5th | Adrian Blaser | 4066 |
| 6th | Robyn Henderson | 4008 |
| 7th | Othmar Wyss | 3946 |
| 8th | Fabienne Pislor | 3878 |
| 9th | Marie-Theres Melville | 3805 |
| 10th | Fidel Good | 3767 |
| 11th | Heidi Wilson | 3752 |
| 12th | Carmen Gordon | 3746 |
| 13th | Annagret Wolf | 3736 |
| 14th | Neil Kaiser | 3642 |