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Swiss Club News

Taranaki Swiss Club

Past events

Hopefully all our farming members had a good calving, albeit a bit wet!!! Now we can put more energy into organising functions and activities at the Swiss Club!!!

Keglen was recommenced with Heidi doing her utmost to get more participants thus ensuring a better competition. If you haven't tried 9-pin bowling, now is the time to give it a go. We may find a hidden talent that would be useful during our interclub competitions!!!

On the 14th of October we held a pot-luck tea, mainly to distribute the Swiss Society medals and the Karabiner Shooting medals. A smallish number of people turned up who all enjoyed the company of fellow members, an absolutely delicious meal and the awarding of the medals. Mark Kiser presented the Swiss Society medals and Bryce Kaiser the Karabiner Shooting medals with Sonja and Yvonne Werder pinning on the beautiful medals. A big thank you to all participants in these events, as without you there wouldn't be a competition. Congratulations to all the winners. Young Charlie Werder stole the show ... showing us how Grandma has fostered Swiss culture and traditions by shaking hands with everyone and looking at them ... what a gorgeous little man ... and was he proud to wear a medal??? You bet!!! Nice to see you make the extra effort to come Thomas and Courtney (from Manutahi, just north of Patea!!). Even though the crowd was small, we had a lovely evening, with plenty of fun and laughter. Many thanks to Mark and Bryce for all the work they do running the shooting events. We really appreciate it!!!

Our dedicated 'cooking teachers' Erna, Marlies, Silvia and Heidi were prepared and ready to present the finer art of Swiss cooking to an eager group of ladies ... and Zeno!!! Good to see a male amongst the ladies!!! Thank you to Martin Hess for doing the dishes, ensuring the ladies didn't have a mess to clean up after their big effort!!! Savoury

dishes like fondue, zopf, knoffli and "swiss salad dressing" were introduced to those present, together with apple strudel and zwetschgenucken ... sounds delicious!!! Everyone was able to taste the dishes and we now hope that you will all try these at home!!! Thank you ladies for your tremendous efforts and perhaps another session can be held some time in the future.

Members of the Swiss Singing and Entertainment Group have been very busy. We hosted the Hawera Probus and the New Plymouth Widow and Widowers Clubs in October, with lunch of barbequed bratwurst, cervelats and a great variety of salads being provided for seventy people, followed by our varied entertainment. An afternoon tea with various delicious sweets was offered before they departed. Later in October we visited and entertained at two rest homes in New Plymouth, and also an Autotrail Campervan group in the Club house. A campervanning group was provided with lunch and entertainment in early November and at the end of November we're off to Patea and Waverly to entertain!!! Quite a busy schedule, but it's so gratifying when people listen to and enjoy the entertainment we provide.

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.

December

31 New Years' Eve ... seems we have just got over one, and it's upon us again!!! Ruedi and Lisette organise this fun afternoon and evening, which is combined with the Taranaki Campervan Association. Everyone is welcome, just bring along a good mood ... a skit or musical item or two ... and it's just great fun!!! Happy Hour is at 4.00pm with BYO drinks ... cheese and crackers are provided ... let's hope for a fine day so we can sit outside (on dry seats this year!!!). Dinner is around 6.00pm with the barbeque available to those who wish to use it. Entertainment will commence around 8.00pm ... so come along and have some fun!!!

January

25 Final day for sausage orders. Ring Lisette on 06 762 8718 or Marianne on 06 762 8757. Please be timely with your orders as this has become a VERY BIG JOB !!!

February

2& 16 Keglen recommences under the watchful eye of Heidi ... bring a bigger smile to her face by turning up!!!

11 This year we will be hosting the Wellington Swiss Club for the semi-final of the Cowbell competition ... so come along and support YOUR club ... we need strong men for the shot put, skilful keglen players, lucky and skilful jassers and accurate shooters ... now that's not asking for much!!! Lunch will be provided to all participants. We will also be hosting (and billeting) a Swiss Tour Group, so if you are able to billet some people, please give Othmar a ring on 06 278 6878.

12 This is the day of our Annual Picnic ... and it promises to be a good one!!! Let's hope the weather plays ball!!! This is the busiest day of the Club year with people arriving from 10.30am. All things Swiss will be available ... music, sausages, tombola (swiss raffle) shot put, schwingen (swiss wrestling) so come along and enjoy what the day has to offer. Anyone interested in wrestling needs to register by 12.00 noon ... juniors and adults are in separate divisions, with everyone winning a prize. Johnny always has the grounds looking superb and there is plenty of parking. Come and enjoy a wonderful social day seeing old friends and making new acquaintances. A light dinner is served at a small cost. We look forward to seeing a great crowd!!!

March

2 & 16 Keglen again ... lots of fun and laughter and a little sport!!! What better mix could you get!!!

6 AGM of the Taranaki Swiss Club at 7.30pm. Hear all about the past year and look forward to the new one. We look forward to a good crowd and your valuable input into what activities and functions you would like to see in YOUR club!!!

19 Championship and Society Shoots from 1.00pm. Come along and support Mark in his bid to increase the numbers participating in the small bore shoots. It has been great seeing so many juniors taking part ... let's keep the momentum going!!!
MD

Swiss Club News

Wellington Swiss Club

Barbecue with the Chief of the Swiss Defense Force at the Wellington Swiss Club



Many of us Swiss living in New Zealand have served in our militia army in younger years. After the end of the Cold War, this Army, with many others in Europe, has undergone profound changes and down-sizing. Where we once had 750,000 men, the next reduction will see an army of only 100,000. It is sometimes difficult to follow and understand these changes from 20,000 km away.

Lieutenant General – Korpskommandant for those of us still familiar with the Swiss ranks or also three-star general – André Blattmann has been Chief of the Swiss Armed Forces for the past eight years and will leave this function on 31 December 2016. Soon after that date, he will travel with his wife to New Zealand and stay for a few days also in Wellington with our Ambassador who has enjoyed some army command training under him.

General Blattmann has kindly accepted to talk to his fellow-citizens in New Zealand at a very informal gathering about the security of our country, its challenges in an unsafe world and the present and future of our Armed Forces. All members of other Swiss Clubs and all Swiss in New Zealand are most welcome. Please announce your participation to: wellingtonswissclub@gmail.com. Contribution NZ\$ 10.- per person.

The Swiss Club of Wellington is happy to welcome General and Mrs. Blattmann for a barbecue at its Wainuiomata Clubhouse on Saturday, 21 January 2017. Drinks as from 6 p.m., arrival of guests at 7 p.m. The Swiss wine will be offered by the Ambassador.

Past events

Sunday 4th September: Jassen

Some of our Jassers were still overseas, but the ones who were here and could come enjoyed a cosy afternoon. Winter isn't my favourite season, but a warm 'Stube' has definitely its charms, too!

Sunday 2 October: Jassen

Things were looking up: We had enough Jassers for two whole tables, and we all had a good time, with lots of laughs - and lots of surprises, good 'wiises', some matches and some almost-matches. In the end, it was time to go home without having clear winners - but then winning doesn't seem to be what it is all about on our Sunday afternoons!

Saturday 15 October: Fondue

We had the pleasure of seeing many familiar faces and also a few new guests. For this fondue we had real Swiss cheese again: Gruyere and Emmentaler, that was a hit! This fondue was Andy's last Wellington Club event before going back to Switzerland. Roland told us why we were not seeing the familiar smile of our Austrian friend Thomas that night: he was to be transferred to Wellington Hospital after a very serious skiing accident.

Unfortunately Thomas passed away on 18 October. He was a valued friend of our club. We will miss you Thomas; our thoughts are with your family.

Sunday 30 October: small bore shooting

The weather started a little damp before turning into a beautiful afternoon. We had 10 senior, including one new member, and 2 junior shooters. Our Ambassador David Vogelsanger was the range officer for the day and gave a range briefing at the beginning so everyone knew what the commands were and what was expected. A special thanks to our Ambassador for making the range available.

Sunday 6 November: Jassen

As the deadline for this Helvetia was the 5th November, the report on our November Jassen didn't make it into this Helvetia; you will read about it in February...

Forthcoming Events

Jassen: 4th December, 8th January, 5th February, 5th March, 2nd April are our next dates. The usual players will be

contacted. If you want to join us, ring Trudi 56 28 019; we'll be delighted to have more seasoned players!

Saturday 10 December Christmas Dinner

Sunday 15 January Swiss Society Medal Competition

Saturday 21 January Barbecue with General and Mrs. Blattmann

Sunday 29 January Small bore shooting

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Swiss Club News

Hamilton Swiss Club

Past events

Fondue Evening – our annual function was held on Saturday 24th September in our beautifully decorated Matangi Hall. Again this year we had to set up extra tables as we had over 140 people booked. On this occasion we were also pleased to welcome Juerg Bono from the Embassy together with his wife and son. By 7.30 the hall was packed and Herbert briefly welcomed everyone and the fondue had been ready to be served. The fondue had been cooking away for a while in two big pots in the kitchen while the ladies were busy getting the cold meats and bread ready. Thanks to preparing lots of extra of everything there was plenty to go around for second and even third helpings. There were lots of comments that the fondue was delicious – you never quite know how it's all going to come together.

Following dinner Juerg made a brief speech and then helped with handing out medals and trophies. Congratulations to all the winners and above all the participants. Hamilton Club can always be very proud of the medal participation. There were also quite a few spot prizes to be given away to some lucky winners. While this was going on there were always a few dedicated helpers in the kitchen making sure the large number of pots and plates were washed and the rest of the ladies were busy preparing the dessert buffet. This consisted of the usual fresh fruit salad, home-made meringues and cream as well as a great selection of home-made baking. Going by the queues of people this part of the evening is also very popular. I don't think anyone went home hungry – maybe just the opposite! Soon it was time to pack up and thanks to the many helpers who always do this. Also many thanks to Hanni, Pia and Richi for baking the bread and to everyone else for their contributions!

Heidi Film – on Sunday 16th October this film was screened at the Tivoli Cinema in Cambridge to a very large crowd of nearly 140 people. Hamilton Club had originally missed out on the opportunity

to see this film but the Embassy was very obliging and came on board and sponsored this film. We had three smaller cinemas and on the day it was decided to start one cinema at a time and this avoided too many people enjoying the baking and coffees at the same time as there was limited space. It was a great film that brought back many memories for most of the people attending. We had lots of great feedback, in particular from Swiss people travelling from further afield and who don't normally come to club functions. They enjoyed listening to all the Swiss people speaking in their dialects.

Forthcoming Events

Family Christmas Party – This will be held on Sunday 4th December, 11.30am at the Newstead School. There will be crafts and biscuit decorating for the children followed by a BBQ lunch, Santa, raffle sales and afternoon tea. This is a function for young and old alike so come along and spread a bit of Christmas cheer with family and friends. Donations for the raffle table will be kindly welcomed as well as some baking for afternoon tea. Lunch, drinks and presents will be provided by the club.

2017 Functions – a few dates have been set so please write these in your diary. The club will send out a newsletter in February or check the February issue of the Helvetia for further details.
Saturday 18th February 9am – 50 metre Medal Shooting competition (practice date to be confirmed)
Sunday 19th February 11am – Family Picnic at Newstead School

New Club Members: Family Greg and Bridgit Bray, Hamilton; Joseph and Sandra Hiestand, Cambridge; Family Jurg and Rahel Maurer, Matamata; Anton and Jacky Meier, Cambridge; Tiki Mossop, Hamilton; Karl and Manuela Schwitzer, Cambridge; Renata and David Stent, Cambridge; Naldo and Tara Zryd, Cambridge. Welcome to all our new members and we look forward to meeting you at our forthcoming events. Please introduce yourselves to our existing members.

For further information please contact Beatrice 07 843 7971, email bea.leun@xtra.co.nz or Anita on 0274 985 170 (phone or text) or email anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz

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Swiss Club News

Auckland Swiss Club

We need you!

The committee is looking for a new Vice President and new committee members. The position of Vice President has opened up in the Committee due to our current Vice President moving to Nelson. The committee is run by a 'good bunch' of people and we look forward to welcoming you! If you are interested in the position please contact Adrian Blaser on adrian.blaser@swiss.org.nz or 021 232 7998 or Daniela Bossard on daniela.bossard@swiss.org.nz

Jass Results for 2016

Congratulations to Andrew Iten for winning the 2016 Jass!

1st	Andrew Iten	27,935
2nd	Lynne Dunphy	27,790
3rd	Adrian Blaser	27,550
4th	Heidi Wilson	27,391
5th	Heinz Frei	26,536
6th	Hans Iten	26,232
7th	Emil Tellenbach	26,000
8th	Louis Wallimann	25,793
9th	Hilda Iten	24,924
10th	Fidel Good	23,161

Past events

Jass, Friday 9 September, Danish Hall

1st	Adrian Blaser	4162
2nd	Walter Haller	4124
3rd	Carmen Gordon	3951
4th	Lynne Dunphy	3946
5th	Fidel Good	3913
6th	Nelly Steinemann	3899
7th	Berta Good	3790
8th	Franz Krieger	3764
9th	Ian Gordon	3753
10th	Heidi Wilson	3670
11th	Edith Hess	3668
12th	Andrew Iten	3667
13th	Hans Iten	3527
14th	Emil Tellenbach	3472
15th	Heinz Frei	3467
16th	Hilda Iten	3458
17th	Zoe Coughlan	1313

Zoe Coughlan joined for her first Jass and played two rounds with her mum Jane. Well done Zoe!

Jass, Friday, 14 October, Danish Hall

1st	Lynne Dunphy	4028
2nd	Trudi Fill-Weidmann	3997
3rd	Heidi Wilson	3979
4th	Emil Tellenbach	3805
5th	Carmen Fitz Gordon	3771
6th	Edith Hess	3755
7th	Walter Haller	3745
8th	Ian Gordon	3722
9th	Hans Iten	3688
10th	Andrew Iten	3682
11th	Heinz Frei	3628
12th	Nelly Steinemann	3569
13th	Hilde Iten	3434

Forthcoming Events

Samichlaus, Sunday 4 December, Swiss Farm

Farm open from 10 am

Many consider this THE event of the Swiss Club. Don't miss it, even if you have no children – the atmosphere, the company, the food is just so special and Swiss.

Make sure you are on time. Santa will make his special arrival from the sky (weather permitting) at 11am. He will talk to the children individually, and they all are given a goody bag, courtesy of the Auckland Swiss Club (cost for children of non club-members: \$10). Lunch follows – you can buy barbequed Swiss sausages or a vegetarian option, salads, Swiss bakery treats, and of course drinks. Entertainment for children is planned after lunch. Keep fingers crossed for a sunny day!

Santa does know a lot – but needs to have a little more information about your child(ren). It is essential that we have the numbers, and some details about your darlings NOW. Please send email with 2 good things and 1 to improve per child to adrian.blaser@swiss.org.nz. There will only be a very limited amount of Santa bags for registrations on the day. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Share a Swiss Style Christmas Celebration with us on Saturday afternoon 17 December 2016, 2pm, at the Danish House.

Doors open at 2pm for a drink and a chat, programme starts at 2.30. Join in the singing of your favourite Christmas Carols, including some newer ones, interspersed with a bit of traditional Swiss craft - please bring a pair of smallish

scissors, to cut paper. Then we have afternoon coffee / tea and savour our traditional Swiss biscuits. If we are inundated with lots of them there might even be a few for sale to take home.

Free entry if you bring a batch (some 2 dozen) of just one sort of your home-made Christmas cookies for the 'Guetzli-teller'.

Non-Bakers: Contribution to hall cost: \$ 10. Please let Nelly know if you intend to bring some Guetzli: nsteinemann@xtra.co.nz or 4794038

Walk, Sunday 15 January 2017

Join us for the first walk of the Year and reconnect with old (and new) friends after the hectic Christmas period. Hopefully we will be able to enjoy a stunning Auckland day. Keep your eyes peeled for further information in your inbox closer to the time or our facebook page.

Looking ahead further

Friday 10 February 2017 – Monthly Jass
Sunday 26 February 2017– Beach Day
Friday 3 March 2017 – Pub Night
Friday 10 March 2017 – Monthly Jass
Saturday 11 March 2017 – Working Bee
Sunday 19 March 2017 – Picnic at the Swiss Farm

New members

We welcome Mirjam Baumberger & Andy Egli with Mia and Finn; Mike Fisher & Lena Weissert; Darren & Elizabeth Dettling with Eveline and Henry; Mirjam & Stuart Grayson with Neal and Enya; and Vicky & Simon Evitt Tristram to the Club. We look forward to meeting you at one of our upcoming events.



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Swiss Club News

Kaffeekränzli and The Great Swiss Bake Off

25 September 2016

This new event of the Auckland Swiss Club was launched in 2015, creating an immediate fan base. Big expectations! But no problems with that: Emil Tellenbach and Peter Deutschle together pulled off another afternoon of excellent entertainment, a cake competition with wonderful prizes, as well as another surprise to be revealed.

The Danish Hall came to life way before the official starting time at 2.00 pm. Some 18 bakers arrived with their treats in store, to be received and registered in top-secret fashion by Fiona Blaser.

Soon, the afternoon took off in full swing with a wonderful music trio, consisting of Emil Tellenbach, Konrad Mittermeier and Erich Schrey. The Ladies' choir was called upon to sing a couple of tunes and then helped with the cutting of cakes into impossibly small pieces. At the same time, the judges Franz Müller and Markus Schwarz started with their quite difficult but evidently very professional task of tasting and judging the many cakes and also breads on offer.

And then the big surprise was revealed. Well-known Swiss Blues Singer Caroline Chevin serenaded the audience with her husky tunes. What a treat for us all! For those who don't know: Caroline now lives in New Zealand with her husband and baby boy, and has graciously not only joined the Auckland Swiss Club, but also the committee! Hence it was

perhaps not surprising to find her in the kitchen later on, helping with the dishes. The audience had been admiring the selection of cakes for quite a while: now it was finally time to taste all these culinary wonders. Adrian Blaser made real cups of coffee at amazing speed, and soon the audience settled into their chairs to savour their treats. Some plates did look rather heaped but no matter – the temptation was overwhelming and there was plenty for everyone. And the music trio kept on playing...

Finally, the winners of the competition were announced: Carol Birchler (1st), Isabel Ciacciamani (2nd) and Lynda Schrey (3rd). There were far more prizes than winners, in reflection of the fact that every baker was a winner, simply by putting all effort into her/his creation.

All in all, it was another very successful and fulfilling afternoon. People filed out of the Danish Hall with big smiles on their faces and somewhat extended bellies. They left behind a cake table that had mostly crumbs left on it, testament to their good time. A big thank you goes to Emil and Peter for all the work they put into this event, the Auckland Committee, the traditional music trio, the Ladies' choir, Caroline Chevin our singing star, Cedric on the piano, the professional judges and of course all the many bakers without whom we would have had only half of the fun! Lets do it again next year. Susie Wood

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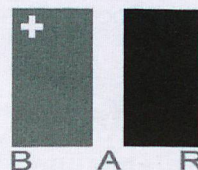
The Swiss Cafe and Bakery has been in operation since 1993 and specializes in all things Swiss. All our products are baked fresh daily without the use of premixes. We have a range of traditional **Swiss Christmas sweets** in store this December such as Christmas konfekt, gingerbread houses, christstollen as well as kiwi favourites Christmas fruit mince tarts and traditional fruit cake. We recommend ordering in advance and are taking orders now. The team at the Swiss Bakery wish all our customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please note, we will be closed from the 25th of December until the 3rd of January.



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