

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 85 (2019)
Heft: [5]

Titelseiten

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: 22.02.2026

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



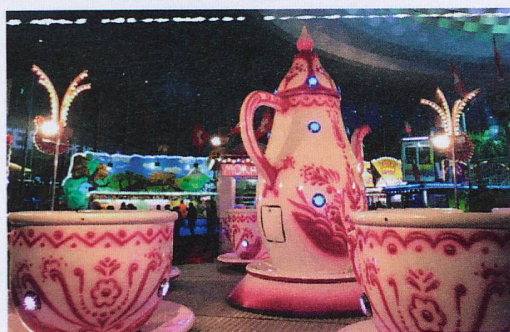
Highlights

- Basel Fair
- Walter's Story
- Amy's School Experience
- Swiss Wine

Inside

Words from President and Editor	2
Council of Swiss Abroad	3
Medal Results	4
Visit to Fribourg	5
Walter's Story	6-7
This in Switzerland	8
Toblerone	8
Amy's Swiss Experience	9
Swiss Wine	10-11
Swiss En/Exclaves	12-13
Club News	14-18
Obituaries and List of Officers	19
Photo Gallery	20

Basel Autumn Fair



Fairs have enjoyed a long tradition in Basel, since The Middle Ages in fact. The right to hold the Basel Autumn Fair "in perpetuity" was bestowed upon the Mayor of Basel, Herr Hannsen von Berenfels, by Emperor Frederick III on 11 July 1471 when the mayor travelled to the Imperial Diet in Regensburg. With this imperial privilege, Basel developed into a true trade fair city and, right up until the present it remains the biggest and most important trade fair and congress venue in Switzerland, and one of the most significant in Europe. That permission in 1471 did not come cheap. The city had to pay 1759 guilders (in today's money, about CHF 220,560), which was raised by the mayor, merchants and others. Not a bad deal when amortized over 548 years.

Today the Basel Autumn Fair, or "d'Mäss" as it is known in Swiss German, is Switzerland's biggest and oldest funfair and, with its long tradition and special customs, forms part of the city's living heritage. It is rung in at precisely 12 noon on the last Saturday of October by the bell of St. Martin's church and lasts 15 days. As a traditional inner-city fair that spreads itself through Barfüsserplatz, Petersplatz, Münsterplatz, Messeplatz, Rosental, Claraplatz and Kaserne and beyond reaching into the



surrounding region, where France, Germany and Switzerland all meet attracting around a million people to Basel each time. Games, rides, amusements and food stalls are all located side by side. In addition to the offerings in the exhibition halls.

As previously stated The Basel Fair offers many different forms of entertainment including a Medieval playground (swords and shields provided) which allows kids to take flights of fancy while their parents go gift-shopping. A children's theatre run by the Anthroposophical Society provides messages with a meaning.

The atmosphere in the City Lounge, which forms part of the hall complex designed by Basel architects Herzog & de Meuron, is unmatched anywhere in the world. Its location in central Basel and its perfect public transport links make Basel's trade fair ground into a popular meeting point for young and old alike, and not just during the Autumn Fair but throughout the year as a whole. Ultimately, it is thanks to the good and successful working relationship enjoyed with the public authorities that major events attracting several hundred thousand visitors can be held on Exhibition Square every year.

<https://www.exhibitionworld.co.uk/LE-NEWS/www.cupcakentifflop.com>