

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

Nachruf: Obituary : Ernst Denzler
Autor: [s.n.]

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](#)

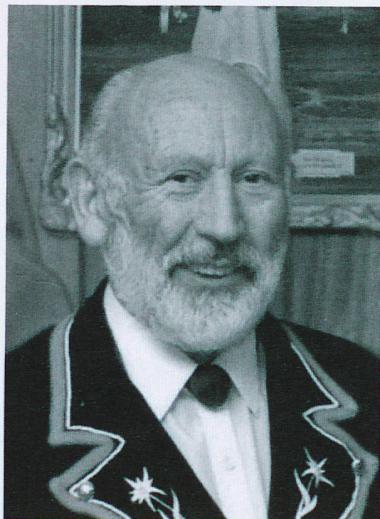
Terms of use

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: 23.01.2026

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

Obituary



Ernst Denzler

1927 – 2018

Ernst Denzler was born in Rapperswil, Switzerland on the 19th June, 1927. He was the youngest of three children and did his apprenticeship as a blacksmith and was a (hufschmied) in the army.

At the age of 24, he was eager to see what the world had to offer and planned to emigrate to Sydney, Australia, with a friend, but before he left he met a young Swiss woman by the name of Barbara (Babette). He was quite taken with her, and she with him! They dated briefly & got to know each other a little better before Ernst left for Australia.

Ernst sailed to Australia in 1951, where he landed with 5 pounds in his pocket. By the end of the first week he had a job, somewhere to live and a community to belong to thanks to his sponsor family and life continued on.

A year later in 1952, a young woman named Barbara followed him to Australia, they became naturalised Aussies and they were married on the 25th October, 1952. Ernst always valued his Swiss roots and traditions and became active in the Swiss community becoming a member of the Swiss Yodlers of Sydney, where he served as Vice President among many other roles over the years. Ernst spent the following years growing a family with Barbara having three children, Ernest, Chris & Jacqui.

Ernst & Barbara started their own business with a small milk run which soon exploded into something huge when the Sydney Markets were built as this became included in their run, so were very busy working hard in a lucrative business for many years. During these years they made many trips back to Switzerland to catch up with family and friends and also participating in Jodler Fests.

Ernst was a keen gardener and his backyard was full of beautiful flowering plants and bonsais

In 2007, they again decided to emigrate, to New Zealand with a bit more than 5 pounds in their pocket where their daughter Jacqui, husband Dani & daughter Maddy lived. Here at the age of 79 they built a new house and once again lived happily for 10 years.

Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc.

Patron	David Vogelsanger, Ambassador
President	Hans Vetsch Ph 07 855-3294 or 021 658-733. Email: Hans.vetsch@swiss.org.nz
Secretary	Anita Zuber, PO Box 24061, Hamilton 3253 Mobile 027 498 5170. Email: Anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz
Vice President	Othmar Hebler Phone 06 278 6878. Email: Othmar.hebler@swiss.org.nz
Editor	Heidi Wehrle Phone 07 834 9286. Email: Editor@swiss.org.nz
Treasurer	Sandrine Smith Ph 021 418 695. Email: treasurer@swiss.org.nz
Riflemaster	Manuela Epp Phone 07 210 0982 or 0210 8483029. Email: Manuela.epp@swiss.org.nz

Delegates to the Swiss Abroad Conference in Switzerland

Delegate	Peter Ehrler, 46 Wesley Ave, Frankleigh Park, New Plymouth 4310 Ph 06 753 3441. Email: peter.ehrler@swissonline.ch
Deputy Delegate	Peter Canziani, 30 Herekiekie St, Turangi 3334 Ph 07 386 7775. Email: canziape@gmail.com

Secretaries of the Swiss Clubs

Auckland	Daniela Bossard, 3C/28 Stanwell Street, Parnell, Auckland 1052 Ph 027 527 5835, Email: daniela.bossard@swiss.org.nz
Hamilton	Anita Zuber, PO Box 24061, Hamilton 3253 Mobile 027 498 5170. Email: Anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz
Taranaki	Marianne Drummond, 508 Salisbury Road, RD24, Stratford 4394 Ph 06 7628 757. Email: littleacres@xtra.co.nz
Wellington	Trudi Fill-Weidmann, 36B Chamberlain Road, Karori, Wellington 6012 Ph 021 565617. Email: wellingtonswissclub@gmail.com
Christchurch contact	Matthias Damm. Email: mn.damm45@gmail.com

Swiss Government Representatives

Embassy of Switzerland	Level 12, Maritime Towers, 10 Custom House Quay, Wellington 6140 Email: wellington@eda.admin.ch Website: www.eda.admin.ch/wellington . Phone 04 472 1593
Consulate of Switzerland	Adrian Blaser, 157B Colwill Road, Massey, Auckland 0614 Ph 09 281 3272 or 021 232 79 98. Email: auckland@honrep.ch

During this time Ernst enjoyed being a member of the Taranaki Swiss Club where he spent many a night having fun with all the Swissies there and keeping up traditions.

With his health failing, reluctantly the decision was made to sell the beautiful home overlooking Mount Taranaki & move into Jean Sandel Retirement Village in New Plymouth. He lived there together with Barbara for just over a year before he sadly passed away on 16th June, 2018. He is sadly missed by Barbara, and all his family.

Thank you to the Taranaki Swiss Club for your attendance and in particular to Othmar Hebler for playing the alphorn and Martin & Toni Hess for ushering Ernst into the funeral with the cowbells.

Members of the Taranaki Swiss Club and the Swiss Society of New Zealand extend their sincere sympathy to Ernst's family.