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# Taranaki Swiss Club

## PAST EVENTS

On July 11, Johnny and Margaret Bishop, with Adrian and Marianne Drummond, attended the AGM of the Swiss Society held in Hamilton. It was good to have all clubs represented and a total of 30 people were present.

Our thanks to Ambassador Michael Winzap who kindly paid for our lunches and provided a goodie bag. The main priority of the meeting was to transfer office holders of the Swiss Society to Taranaki Swiss Club. Mr Winzap gave an interesting speech, Peter Ehrler provided details of happenings around the Swiss Abroad and AHV (pension) and clubs gave a small report of their years' activities.

Thanks to the Hamilton Swiss Club for hosting the AGM and for their work over the past four years. We look forward to a 'normal' AGM next year (same venue as Hamilton intends hosting the Oceania Jass Tournament at Queen's Birthday Weekend 2021).

On July 26 we put our first issue of the Helvetia magazine in envelopes, ready for posting. An hour later we had the job done. While some of us did this another small group rolled up the tombola tickets... I know which job I would prefer! Thanks to all the members who helped with these tasks, and our grateful thanks to Terese and Amanda for their great work with our first issue; we have received many positive comments, and we hope that we can continue the challenge of producing a quality magazine for another 23 issues!

Our 1st of August celebrations at the clubhouse had the biggest crowd in many years: 141 adults and five children! It was wonderful to have a representative from the Swiss embassy in our midst; thank you so much for coming Beatrice; we all enjoyed meeting you and having a chat! Many thanks to the embassy for donating some beautiful wine from Passage Rock Winery for the occasion, who together with the Swiss Deli were big contributors to our tombola prizes; we appreciate your support.

It was great to see many new faces (as well as our regulars), mingling and chatting with friends and making new acquaintances. We were again spoiled with singing and music. The singing group sang superbly and created an amazing atmosphere, especially with the medley and the polonaise. Thanks to Peter, Zeno, Aaron, Lynley, Othmar, Berni and new member Gerhardt for sharing their musical talents. Resident musical genius Heidi even made another verse for our

'Kaponga' song... well done, Heidi! Thanks to Erna and Heidi who organised the fabulous tombola prizes – 1260 tickets were quickly sold by Jasmine, Justine, Kaylen, Alena, Hollie and Richard; we really appreciated your help.

A delicious supper of cold cuts, cervelas, cheese platters, sandwiches and a fantastic selection of sweets was enjoyed – grateful thanks to all the ladies for their culinary delights. Many praised the mouth-watering supper and the incredible amount of food devoured was a testament to that. The committee loved the terrific attendance and we look forward to hosting you all again.

The next day committee members came to clean up, hold our last meeting for a few months and enjoy lunch. Othmar thanked everyone for their help organising the night's celebrations, including those who rang so many members to sell tickets (Vreni, Walter, Zeno, Othmar and Mark, thank you so much, from Marianne) and the great atmosphere that was created for another successful function.

A big welcome to the following new members – we hope that you enjoy what our clubs have to offer: Judy Waldvogel, Tauranga, originally from Taranaki; Neil and Margaret Fleming, Hawera; Mary Purser, Hawera; Louise Bishop (daughter of Johnny and Margie) who returned home from the UK; Gerhardt van der Hulst, Manaia (he's Dutch, but we won't hold that against him! Gerhardt loves European culture and is a wonderful mandolin player whose music we thoroughly enjoyed at the 1st of August celebrations); it was great to see you all at the 1st of August and we look forward to seeing you at future functions.

**Photo journal:** Richard Wagner is creating a photo journal for our members, so that photos he takes at club functions can be viewed by us all. Should you wish to see these too, please email richard.wagner@swiss.org.nz and he will put you on his list. This is a great way of promoting our club, as members can then forward the photo journal to their friends. Thank you Richard; we look forward to viewing your great photos.

## Card afternoon results

**July 12** 1st Ruedi Benkert  
2nd Lisette Benkert  
3rd Frieda Meier  
Booby Jean Fuglistaller

Raffle winners: Jean Fuglistaller, Ruedi Benkert, Zeno Hospenthal, Walter Seifert.

**July 19** 1st Heidi Werder  
2nd Jean Fuglistaller  
3rd Robert Buhler  
Booby Ann Dombroski

Raffle winners: Heidi Werder, Johnny Bishop, Marianne Drummond, Ruedi Benkert.  
Wonderful to see Richard and Lynley Wagner and

Aaron Bosch having another jass practice before singing and music practice.

**Aug 9** 1st= Walter Seifert, Robert Buhler, Edi Fuglistaller (17pts each).

The prize money was pooled and split equally... don't spend it all at once!

Booby Othmar Hebler

Raffle winners: Jean Fuglistaller twice, Ann Dombroski, Robert Buhler. Many thanks to Ruedi Benkert for helping Neil and Margaret Fleming and Mary Purser get back into the swing of Jass. It's wonderful to see new people coming along! *Due to Covid-19, all other games were postponed. Walter will contact all players when new dates are set. Let's hope we get back to normal soon!*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### OCTOBER

**1 & 15: Keglen** recommences after a big hiatus. Come along and enjoy great camaraderie, fun, laughter, some keglen and supper. A great time to be had and Heidi looks forward to seeing you.

**11: Gun Safety Course**, 1pm. Mark, our smallbore rifle master (aided by club president, Othmar), is organising a Gun Safety Course for anyone over eight years old. This would also serve as a refresher for those who attended the course two years ago. It will be subsidised by the club. The second day is November 8. Come and learn about the importance of firearm safety.

**18:** The Trudi Ott Belt will be contested today, together with the Championship Shoot from 1pm. Juniors are welcome to participate too...so come along and shooting a go! Mark is happy to give coaching too.

### NOVEMBER

**5 & 19:** Keglen again... Come along and give 10-pin bowling a go; you'll enjoy the friendship and banter.

**8:** Firearm safety session #2, at 1pm. Please come along, especially our junior shooters. Mark and Othmar look forward to seeing you.

**15:** The Ted Napflin Memorial Shield will be contested today, as well as the Championship Shoot from 1pm. See how accurate you are, and give this "Swiss" sport a go. Mark is waiting to greet you!

*This is the last day to order your Christmas fine meats. Please contact: Marianne on 06 762 8757 or email marianne.drummond@swiss.org.nz or Lisette on 06 762 8718.*

**29:** The Christmas Shoot/Keglen is a great social day. The pot-luck lunch always offers an amazing array of food delights. Parents/grandparents please bring a wrapped, named present for your child(ren); Christmas activities will be organised and Father Christmas will make an appearance. For the adults, please all bring a wrapped prize worth at least \$10 and a \$5 entry fee will go towards the mystery prizes up for grabs.

## Club News | Clubnachrichten

# Wellington Swiss Club

Welcome to new members who have joined us recently: Steffi Plimmer-Blattner and family and Rahel Brandenberger. We hope you can take part at our club activities.

At the same time we farewelled longstanding and loyal member Lutzia Keller, who passed away June 13, 2020. We will miss her in our midst and our condolences go to her family.

### PAST EVENTS

**July 19: Family walk.** A sunny day and the three of us gathered at the Turakirae carpark and meandered along the path towards the seal colony. The fascinating landscape scattered with small and large rocks and at the same time is a grazing paddock for sheep, offered the perfect playground for the Press and Stotzer children who were with us.

**1st of August and Club AGM:** A delicious meal of Zürigschnätzlets with Ovenröschi was prepared by Rahel and Mark Williams for the occasion and during the dessert, our AGM was held. This was a more or less formality-driven affair where reports were read and accepted, and the committee was mostly re-elected. Odile kindly offered her help by re-joining, and a new person, Natasha Beddie, has generously put up her hand and offered her help. Thank you Bernie, for staying as president, Oliver as vice-president, Anne-Claire for remaining as treasurer, to Rahel and Mark for their help with catering and activities, and to all the members who attended the meeting, for your trust in and support in us.

Hans Scherrer kindly accepted the position as the new patron of the club, and we all feel in good hands with him. Our former patron, Rosina Fuhrer, wished to be released from the role and we thank her for her guidance in the past years.

The greeting from the head of Swiss government and the brassiere fires lit outside the clubhouse, adorned by the lanterns illuminating our solemn gathering in the cold and dark night, and of course singing the national anthem, culminated this event. A hot cup of tea back inside was enjoyed by those who weren't rushing away.

Our thanks go to all who came to celebrate with us and show their support for the committee, to Rahel for cooking up a feast for us, and for everyone who helped prepare. Also to the embassy, for relaying the message from our home country and their generous donations. Thanks to everyone who helped clean up afterwards.

**August 8: Swiss Nest.** We met at the clubhouse and put our hands to Scherenschnitt – a Swiss tradition that depicts scenes from the Alpine life

with cows and sheep roaming the meadows of the mountains with shepherds guarding them and milking them and making cheese during the summer. It was a way to pass the time by cutting these very intricate pictures out of black paper on white background. As the image (right) illustrates (thank you pinterest, art by Elisabeth Beutler), it is a craft that requires a good imagination, fine cutting skill and special tools. Olivia Napp showed promising talent.



Our gatherings are not just for the young. The older generation is needed to pass down skills and stories so feel free to join in.

### Jassen

**July 26:** For various reasons we had only one table of cards players. The seasoned card players were extremely patient with me; thank you!

**Aug 30:** Again we had only one table of players, but this time we had five players, so they took turns in being the Chnaecht. As every player only had seven cards, big Wiises were rare, but Matches were surprisingly frequent, and some games came to a quick end. It was a relaxed afternoon. We hope next month all our usual players are back on board and we can play at least on two tables again.

Our next cards afternoons will probably be on September 27 and October 25. Usual players will be contacted. For further information contact Trudi Brühlmann, 04 562 8019.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### OCTOBER

**10: Swiss Nest,** 2pm at the clubhouse.

**17: Canton evening - dual Aargau/Thurgau** with a meal that combines the two canton's staple produce. And a quiz of course. Will be fun! Mark

## Welcome!

Herzlich willkommen

The Swiss Society welcomes new members from the South Island:  
**Hugh and Ruth Bradley and Christoph and Wendy Schacherer.**

We hope that you will enjoy the Helvetia magazine, and extend an invitation – if you're near one of the Swiss groups around our country, please make contact.

If you have any questions regarding Swiss Society matters please feel free to contact our President Othmar Hebler at othmar.hebler@swiss.org.nz

Once again, a big welcome!

it in your calendar. Anyone from either of those two cantons please let us know, and perhaps share a recipe or custom from your home.

#### NOVEMBER

**14: Working bee** at the Clubhouse. Some trimming around the building, a few repair jobs, weeding on the patio by the bowling alley and general tidying up and dusting. A barbecue lunch awaits the loyal helpers. We start around 9.30am.

**14: Swiss Nest,** 2pm at the clubhouse. We may hold a card workshop or game of bowls after.

**28: Christmas dinner.** We planned this a bit earlier this year so it doesn't clash with all the other Christmas activities. As usual a lovely dinner with singing of a few favourite Christmas carols.

#### DECEMBER

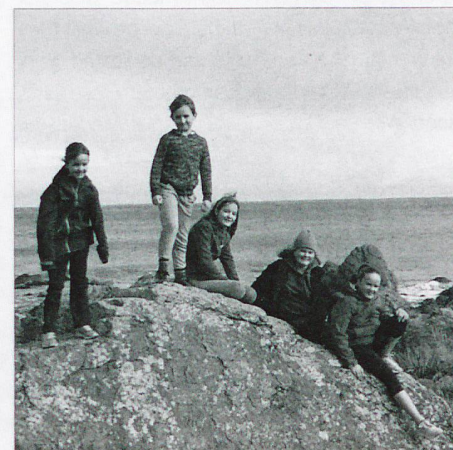
**6: Samichlaus/St. Nicholas visit.** We make Gritibaenz for Santa to take home to his helpers and await his arrival with the goodies.

#### JANUARY 2021

**30: Sports Day** – our first club event for 2021. We look forward to welcoming lots of you at our gatherings.



Wellington | The Press and Stotzer families enjoy the family walk (left). Leah, Helen and Rebeca Press and Zoe and Clem conquer the rock (right).



# Auckland Swiss Club

## PAST EVENTS

AGM: Earlier this year it seemed that everything was being derailed by Covid-19. We were all making plans and having them disrupted at every turn. It was particularly gratifying for the club that we ended up having a full AGM and 1st of August celebration.

The committee was especially affected as two long-standing and one newer member stepped down, but we enjoyed the chance to celebrate them and their achievements. After many years of service, treasurer Tobias Egli and Tanja Latham-Zurbrugg stepped down. We also farewelled Isabelle Cacciamani.

This left the committee with the challenge of trying to out-do Henry Werffeli, who for many years has been trying to make the numbers committed to the farm committee larger than those at club level. At this time, we would have to concede that Henry has achieved his goal.

This year's AGM saw a significant reshuffle in the main committee. You will see a lot of familiar names but most in new positions.

Neil Kaiser has been re-elected as president. Former committee members have stepped up to take on new roles – Pia Knarston is now our vice-president and Lisa Tobler is the new secretary, taking over from Daniela Bossard. We're lucky that Daniela is a talented lady and is staying on to take over from Tobi as our new treasurer.

We also welcome two new committee members: Nadia Behenna and Jacqueline Ziegler.

This year also saw the re-election of our Farm Committee. We were again blessed in having our experienced members choosing to remain in these roles, and also for a number of new members committing themselves to being involved. We have to acknowledge that our facilities at Kaukapakapa would not be what they are without the significant, and dedicated work of these people. Farm committee: Ernst Lanz, Henry Werffeli, Dominic Hess, Daniel Wiederkehr, Caleb Rosamond, Lukas Lanz, Michael Dance. As can be seen, Henry has succeeded this year.

At this time the committee acknowledges all those that have made our year a success. The committee plans to run all our events per the calendar, and to be as active as possible, in spite of Covid-19. This commitment allowed us to have one of the best fondue evenings we could have hoped for, and we hope that the rest of the year proves just as positive. There are a number of dedicated 'helpers' who always seem to come to the fore when the events are on. We couldn't

really have those great times without you, so thank you again.

On the 1st of August, the Swiss Farm looked ready for a party! The flags with all the different cantons were up, tables were decorated and by 5pm the first guests arrived. Soon after the alhorn players spoiled us with some lovely tunes that reminded us of our home country. We enjoyed the traditional songs and the yodellers sang beautifully. Everyone enjoyed the atmosphere with a cup of glühwein in their hand, while listening to Emil's accordion playing.

In the meantime, the kitchen crew was busy, carefully stirring the fondue in two huge pots. Just after 6pm the fondue was served with a platter of fresh vegetables, fruit and of course plenty of bread. President Neil Kaiser welcomed just over 100 guests, including 18 children. Trophies and medals were handed out for the yearly competitions in shooting, Steinstossen and Jassen. Well done everyone!

By now it was dark enough and with great excitement we ventured outside to see the huge 1st of August fire. Thanks to the farm committee and some helpers, the fire was built in June so the wood had time to dry. It was a blazing fire! The Alhorn players surprised us with some more tunes outside, which really transported us back to the Swiss mountains. New, old and non-members happily chatted and new friendships were formed. Then everyone ventured back inside for dessert.

The night ended with a big thank you to all the helpers, musicians, and yodellers and of course everybody who attended and made the evening special.

## Monthly Jass results

<b>July 12</b>	1st	Adrian Blaser, 4024
	2nd	Andrew Iten, 4016
	3rd	Pia Knarston, 3946

## Shooting season results

The Auckland Club Shooting section has had a good year and the competitions are all sorted for 2020. Henry Werffeli and the range team have again put on a wonderful set of weekends. That is in spite of the lockdowns and all the other disruptions they faced.

Our club is so fortunate to have such a dedicated team to take us through the paces on the range. The championship results for the shooting season 2020 are:

1. Neil Kaiser, 368 Points, Auckland
2. Bruno Epp, 359 Points, Hamilton
3. Caleb Rosamond, 358 Points, Auckland

Once again, a completely new guard in the top three. The second and third positions were a close competition. All three shooters have been with the club for quite a few years, always scored

quite well, but this year it was their time to shine. Congratulations on a great achievement.

## Ladies competition

1. Jennifer Kaiser, 330 points
2. Claire Vordermann, 319 points
3. Andrea Matysik, 292 points

This year's competition was taken out by Jennifer Kaiser, followed by last year's third placed Claire Vordermann and Andrea Matysik again was in the top three. Congratulations not only to the top three, I would like to extend my appreciation to all seven competitors. Thank you all for participating and standing your ground on the range.

## Junior competition

1. Jennifer Kaiser, 330 points
2. Joshua Kaiser, 242 points
3. Maxim Zurflueh, 106 points (2 comps only)

Jennifer Kaiser took out the top honour, followed by her brother and a new shooter who recently moved to New Zealand. Not only did Jennifer Kaiser win the ladies, she also followed suit with the junior competition. Over the years many different juniors have been at the top, which shows that the competition is wide open each year. We are looking forward to some more juniors to come and face the challenge.

We are pleased to announce that considering the pandemic and its level 4, 3 and 2 lockdown we had a rather good year with some new shooters joining in to add to the energy in the competition.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Jassen online:** With Covid having disrupted our monthly Jass, some of our players have been enjoying a few games via [www.schieber.ch](http://www.schieber.ch)

We are still playing twice a month, on the first and fourth Friday, from 7pm, usually two or three games, up to two hours. You are welcome to put your name onto our list, it does not mean you are committed to play. Anyone welcome, Swiss Club members or not, experienced player or not.

For more information contact Nelly 021 892 727, email [nsteinemann@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nsteinemann@xtra.co.nz)

**December 12: Christmas carols:** The Auckland Swiss Club Ladies' Choir invites you to our annual Christmas Carols Concert and sing-along at the Danish Hall in Penrose. As usual attendees will enjoy homemade traditional Christmas cookies and refreshments.

**Samichlaus:** We invite you and your family to meet Santa at the Swiss Farm. He will bring his big book, and a bag of goodies for the children. As usual he will arrive in style. Share a lunch and a good time with other Swiss families. Bookings essential.

## Club News | Clubnachrichten

# Hamilton Swiss Club

### PAST EVENTS

The Swiss Society AGM was held in Hamilton on Saturday 11th July at 1pm. At the time of planning we thought we might only be able to have 10 people and have to 'Zoom' in the various clubs from around the country, but luckily things relaxed and we ended up having over 30 people attend. We were very happy to host Ambassador Michael Winzap for this occasion and were fortunate to put on a lovely winter's weekend to show him what Hamilton has to offer.

The Hamilton AGM followed the Society AGM with an attendance of 19 people. Apologies to those members who missed out. Due to Covid-19 restrictions at the time of planning we were only able to notify some members via the committee. We received resignations from Vitus and

Hanspeter who had each served about 20 years on the committee. We now welcome Pia and George Russenberger to our committee and look forward to their participation and outlook from a slightly younger perspective.

Our fondue evening was planned for September 26, but at our recent committee meeting it was agreed that it would not be wise for us to organise a function while level 2 restrictions were in place. We are now planning to hold a lunchtime function on Sunday October 18 instead. Members have been sent a newsletter with further details.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### OCTOBER

**18: Medal/trophy presentation,** lunchtime function. Members will be sent further info.

**30: (to Nov1): Hiking Weekend** in Rotorua. We have booked the All Seasons Lodge at Hannah's Bay for a weekend of walks in the Rotorua vicinity – particularly suitable for families and varied abilities. Accommodation is \$35 per person/per

night in lodge-style bunk rooms. We will plan for communal meals (as done on previous hiking events) at minimal shared cost. We hope other members will join us for this weekend – there will be the option for members to join us for the day only and come on some of the walks. Contact Herbert 021 962 708 or Anita 027 495 170, email [anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz](mailto:anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz) if you need more information or would like to book – limited numbers.

#### DECEMBER

**6: Family Christmas Party** from 11am. Children will be able to decorate biscuits and do Christmas crafts, as well as enjoy the lovely adventure playground. Santa will visit on the day and have gifts for the younger children. BBQ lunch, raffles and lots of time for socialising for all ages.

Please keep updating us with your email addresses. In these times of constant change, it would be great if we can contact our members at short notice. *PS: We have a Kegelbahn for sale. Contact Herbert for information, 021 962 708.*

## We remember | Todesanzeige

### Arthur Adelrich Schuler 21.11.1928 – 04.03.2020

Arthur was born in Te Aroha to Marta and Alouis Schuler who were farming in Litchfield, Tokoroa.

Arthur married Marta Nyffeler in October 1959 and together had six children – Heidi, Charmaine, Peter, Michelle, Ruedi and Grant. He spent many years working as a fencing contractor until finally settling in Te Teko in 1974, where he and Marta established White Cross Orchard, which became an iconic business in the Whakatane district. Arthur and Marta grew a large range of beautiful fresh fruit and vegetables which they sold through their roadside store. Arthur will be remembered for propagating and growing the delicious prunes which were supplied to Swiss Clubs throughout New Zealand for many years. He was deeply

passionate about Switzerland and everything it stood for, visiting many times as a young man, before settling down and marrying. Later in life, after 'retirement', he worked as a conductor on the Rigi Bahn in Vitznau during the summer seasons. His other passions were hunting, fishing off the beach and he was also an excellent beekeeper.

Arthur's passing leaves a deep void in the hearts and lives of his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and will be forever loved and missed by all who loved him.



## We remember | Todesanzeige

### Lydia Lenggenhager-Spahn 17.11.1934 – 29.05.2020

Lydia was the oldest of six children. She grew up in Reutlingen, just outside of Oberwinterthur. Her parents had a small farm. Besides farming, her father also cared for the local forest for the council and was a beekeeper. Being the oldest she was kept busy looking after her siblings and helping in the household.

At age 18, Lydia went to Denmark with a friend, where she made her first acquaintance with Jakob Lenggenhager. In 1959 Lydia and Jakob married and lived in Dinhard; together farming on the family farm.

In 1967, having been blessed with three children, Christine, Markus and Kathy, they decided to look elsewhere for a better life. They considered Canada, but after Jakob read an article about New Zealand, they made contact with the embassy, and secured a dairy farm job near Stratford. On July 20, 1967, the family landed in New Zealand. Due to the Gulf War,

the Suez Canal was closed so they were without furniture when they first arrived. After working for a year in Stratford, they moved to Matangi; then two years later they were then able to purchase a farm in Tirau, where they stayed for the next 31 years.

As well as working together on the farm, Lydia also had a large vegetable garden, and sewed and knitted many of their clothes. Lydia was involved in many groups including a ladies choir, knitting group, the Centennial Drive Group, maintaining and planting the drive, and the local music appreciation group. She also enjoyed many trips to Australia, Canada, Pacific Islands and Switzerland; as well as enjoying visits from family and friends. She will be missed.



## Update your details

During Covid-19 a problem could have arisen around the printing/posting of Helvetia and the solution discussed at the AGM would be to send the magazine out via email. Updating your email details doesn't mean that you will automatically get all your issues online, but rather it would be an alternative in an emergency situation.

Please provide your email (or any changes of email address), direct to the Society's treasurer, Marianne: [marianne.drummond@swiss.org.nz](mailto:marianne.drummond@swiss.org.nz)

## Webmaster

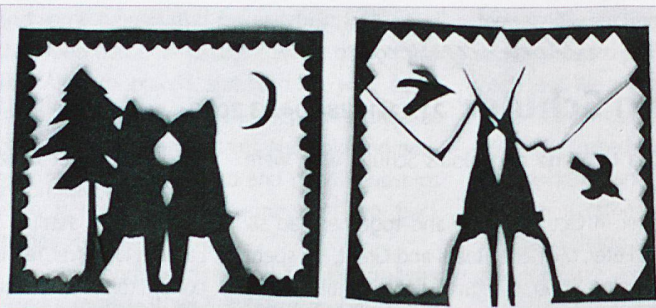
On behalf of the Swiss Society I would like to extend a huge thank you to David Latham for building and implementing a new website and online database that catered for the Society and the Swiss Clubs in New Zealand. Thank you David for looking after this for so many years; we really appreciate all that you have done.

A big welcome to Shaun Clarkin who has taken over this role, and we look forward to your support for many years to come. Thank you for ensuring that Taranaki were able to print the labels and send out the on-line version of the Helvetia on time. We thank you very much for offering your services and hope to see you at some club functions.

## Club News | Clubnachrichten



**Hamilton** | AGM attendees, from left: Sandrine Smith, outgoing treasurer; Adrian Blaser, Honorary Consul; Herbert Staheli, Hamilton president; Michael Winzap, Patron and Ambassador; and outgoing Hamilton committee member, Vitus Achermann.



**Wellington** | Olivia Napp showed real promise with her first attempts at Scherenschnitt.

## Kids' page answers

### Picture/word match:

From top, L-R: 8, 7, 4; 2, 1, 9; 3, 5, 6, 10.

- |                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8. Hund/Dog             | 3. Kuckucksuhr/<br>Cuckoo clock |
| 7. Käse/Cheese          | 5. Berg/Mountain                |
| 4. Chriesi/Cherries     | 6. Sack Messer/<br>Pocket Knife |
| 2. Schokolade/Chocolate | 10. Schii/Skis                  |
| 1. Fahne/Flag           |                                 |
| 9. Wurst/Sausage        |                                 |

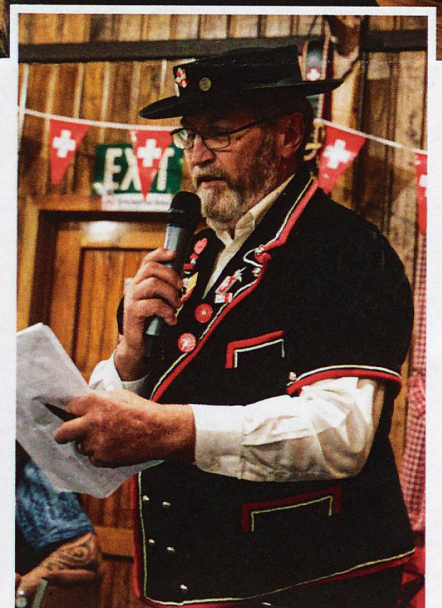


**Wellington** | Everyone enjoyed socialising by the 1st of August fire.

# Club News | Clubnachrichten



**Auckland** | Auckland members enjoyed a delicious fondue dinner at their party-ready Swiss Farm location.



**Taranaki** | The clubhouse was packed for the 1st of August celebration. Musicians entertaining everyone were (from left) Marianne Drummond, Lynley Wagner, Bernie Schmid (double bass), Zeno von Hospenthal, Aaron Bosch (back) and Peter Canziani. Othmar Hebler, Swiss Society and Taranaki president, welcomes everyone to the 1st of August celebrations in the clubhouse.