

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1960)
Heft: 1370

Rubrik: Swiss Club Manchester

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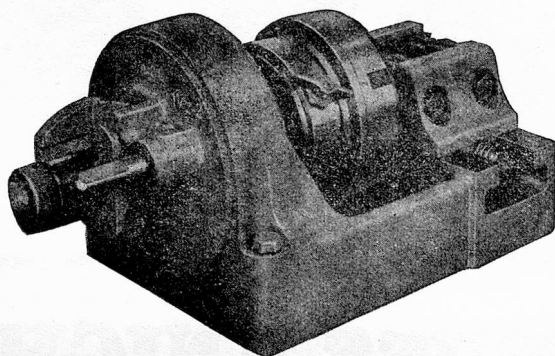
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SWISS CLUB MANCHESTER.

On Sunday, 14th August 1960, my husband and I were privileged to join a party of members of the Manchester Swiss Club, along with our friends, Mr. and Mrs. S. Hanna, on a delightful walk from Hope in Derbyshire to Win Hill and the Ladybower Dam.

Under the capable leadership of Mr. H. Monney, we started our walk at Hope Station, passing through pleasant meadows and pastures, climbing all the time towards Win Hill, which, to those of us more accustomed to strolling than real walking, seemed to tower far above the valley. However, we made good progress and soon we were enjoying a picnic lunch on a grassy slope, with wonderful views of the Derbyshire Hills all around.

Across the valley, to the left, we could see the Roman Road climbing steeply up the mountainside, and away to the right were the cliffs of Winat Pass. The tall chimney of the Cement Works in the Hope Valley seemed out of place in the lovely scene, but one must remember that the Cement Industry provides much employment in the area.

After lunch the younger members of our party sang Swiss songs. Whenever I hear Swiss voices singing I am reminded of happy holidays in Switzerland, the clear air of the mountains, Alpine meadows, lakes and rivers, pine forests and snow-capped peaks. The Swiss have so many happy-sounding songs and they seem to sing naturally and without effort.

The day was warm, but the sun was often hidden behind a cloudy sky. The photographers of our party took advantage of a spell of sunshine to take photographs before we continued our uphill walk.

We reached the ridge of the hill and followed a path through the purple heather to the summit. There, standing on the rocks in the cool breeze, we could see a wide panorama of hills and far below us the Ladybower Dam, where the River Ashop and the River Derwent form a long, curved reservoir.

We began our descent to the Ladybower Dam, first by a narrow track through the heather and then through one of the loveliest plantations of young pines and fir trees I have ever seen. It was such a pleasant walk along the path of pine-needles with the green depths of the growing forest on either side.

As we reached the Ladybower Dam the rain came, so we curtailed our walk and for a time we followed the old grass-covered railway track which had been used when the Dam was being built. We continued along a country road until we came to a café where we had a welcome cup of tea or a fruit drink, according to our taste. Refreshed, we continued along the very busy main road to Hope Station.

The young people who come from Switzerland to stay for a time in and around Manchester, by joining Mr. Monney's monthly walks, see some of the varied beauty of the English countryside. I myself have visited Derbyshire several times, but have never been so impressed by its loveliness as on this walk with the Manchester Swiss Club.

Ida Lord.