

**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:** - (1972)  
**Heft:** 1637  
  
**Artikel:** The 50th assembly of Swiss abroad  
**Autor:** [s.n.]  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-686806>

### **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:** 13.08.2025

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

open so that City Swiss Club peers could see them at work, the President asked the Secretary to make note of this suggestion.

Mr. H. Keller, the Treasurer, very rapidly ran through the Accounts. They showed a total income of £879.78 (membership fees, interest and dividends and Summer Dance profit) and an excess over expenditure of £142.80. The Charity Fund, instituted two years ago, had received £562.60 in proceeds from the Tombola of the Annual Dinner and Ball. An original item of the Ordinary Income and Expenditure Account was the item headed "purchase of ashtrays" for which a sum of £56.34 had been set. The Treasurer explained that these were "City Swiss Club" Ashtrays, bearing its emblem and date of foundation, which were to be sold to willing members. Many were indeed bought after the official part of the evening and the sale was expected to make a handsome profit.

The next three items on the Agenda, the Auditor's Report, Subscriptions for 1972-73 and the election of the Committee were speedily handled. Subscriptions remain unchanged. The Committee was re-elected by acclamation. The only change noted was Mr. Brunner's succession to Mr. P. Gut as one of the two Auditors.

The question of Donations, which was the next item on the Agenda, took the best part of the evening. The point at issue was the same as at the two previous AGM's, namely, whether or not to allocate the totality of Tombola proceeds to the four Swiss charitable organisations of London: The Swiss Benevolent Society and the three Churches. The Committee had proposed a £50 increase in donations to each of the Churches, and a £25 increase to the Swiss Benevolent Society, bringing contributions to each of them at £100. This, as Mr. L. Chappuis immediately pointed out, would leave £262.60 of excess income on the Charity Fund. What was going to be done with this money? Why should it be hoarded? Mr. Chappuis, who in previous years had already proved himself the champion of unstinting

attribution of Tombola proceeds to Charity, demanded an answer.

The President recalled that one had to provide for the lean years and quoted Father Bosshard's statement of last year, when he said that the Churches were grateful for the present level of City Swiss Club donations and would rather ask for more when a serious reason arose. Mr. Brunner suggested that donations should be raised to £125, thereby exhausting most of the excess income. Mr. P. Gut thereupon intervened with the suggestion that the Tombola's decreased profits (from £691.71 in 1971) were due to the shabbiness of the prizes, the intolerable boredom of the speeches, the expense of Tombola tickets, the sickening croon of the entertainers, the antiquity of the band and the indifference of the Menu at the Annual Dinner and Ball.

Mr. Gut intimated that if the City Swiss Club hoped to raise more with its Tombolas, it had better improve the standard of its Annual Dinner and Ball. *"Every year I ask my wife, shall we go to the City Swiss Club Annual Dance this year? I finally go there, invite several guests and spend a tremendous amount of money. But I'm afraid that it's not money well spent"*.

We were then to witness a series of heartfelt Swiss exchanges. Mr. Eddie Tobler, Member of the Committee and chief organiser of the Dinner Dance, somewhat peeved at the reference to the skimpiness of the prizes, cried out that if members were not satisfied with the prizes they won at the Tombola, they could jolly well contribute towards acquiring them. It was always the same people who paid for the prizes. Mr. Tobler said that he was "insulted" every year by people complaining that they hadn't won a Tombola prize. Mr. Gut jumped up from his chair with a flushed face and shouted "Well then, take £50!", and promptly signed a cheque for the said amount, which was joyously carried by Mr. F. Fraefel to the Treasurer before a startled audience.

Mr. Chappuis reverted to the subject by suggesting that all the proceeds of the Tombola should be given to

charity since the reserves, currently at nearly £1,200, were sufficient to allay the President's worst fears about the Club lacking emergency funds. Mr. Chappuis therefore suggested that reserves should be frozen at £1,000 and every income bringing the fund above that level spent on Swiss charity.

There ensued lengthy palavers, proposals and counter-proposals. The Committee's original suggestion and those of Mr. Chappuis and Mr. Brunner were put to the vote, but there was disagreement on the outcome. The suggestion which gathered the most "in favour" show of hands, actually nearly produced the most "no" votes. One member questioned whether the City Swiss Club shouldn't have a closer look at the way its donations were being used, whereupon the members representing the Swiss Catholics, the Swiss Benevolent Society and the Consistoire of the Protestant Churches spontaneously rose, telling the attendance that they had nothing to hide and that their expenses were published in the Annual Accounts, copies of which were regularly sent to the City Swiss Club.

Eventually, after much talking, the AGM resolved to give £140 to each of the charities, which more than used up the 1971 Tombola proceeds and left over £1,000 reserves in the Charity Account.

Mr. Bion, who was awarded a vote of thanks for the "admirable way" in which he had handled this verbal turmoil, reminded members of two forthcoming events, the Card Evening on 23rd May and the Summer Ball on 16th June (tentative date) at the Thatched Barn, north of London.

The Stanhope Room was deserted at about 10 p.m.

## THE 50th ASSEMBLY OF SWISS ABROAD

*The programme of the 50th Assembly of Swiss Abroad has been published and is available from the Official Tourist Office, Bundesgasse 20, 3011 Berne. The events that have*

Telegrams and Cables : TRANCOSMOS LONDON

TELEX 24777

Telephone : 01-407 4433 (8 Lines)

# COSMOS FREIGHTWAYS AGENCY LIMITED.

## INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARDERS

By Road, Rail, Sea and Air

1, CATHEDRAL STREET,  
LONDON BRIDGE, LONDON, S.E.1.

REGULAR GROUPAGE SERVICES WITH

# SWITZERLAND

ANGLO-SWISS CUSTOMS EXPERTS.

ALSO AT  
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER,  
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE  
HULL, BRISTOL, CARDIFF,  
SWANSEA, NEWPORT, Mon.,  
GLASGOW.

CONNECTED  
THROUGHOUT  
THE WORLD

OFFICIAL FREIGHT AND  
PASSENGER AGENTS FOR  
SWISSAIR AND ALL AIR LINES  
TO SWITZERLAND AND ALL  
PARTS OF THE WORLD

Agents: WELTIFURRER INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT CO. Ltd., Zurich, Basle, Schaffhausen, Geneva, St. Gall.

*[[A great man needs ample ground everywhere.]]*

Nathan. G.E. Lessing, Nathan der Weise, II. 5.



## To all sufferers from claustrophobia **Swissair** dedicates this advertisement and the newest **Swissair** planes.

**S**WISSAIR has remarked often enough, and at some length, what an enjoyment flying is. Not to mention that we go 17 times a week to New York, 3 times to Boston, 7 to Chicago, 4 to Montreal—facts by now sufficiently well known to connoisseurs.

Today, for once, we would like to address the people who have always read our splendid ads with a mixture of envy and regret (not because they can't afford the ticket or haven't the time for a holiday; not that at all).

We mean the people who simply can't bear to enter a lift, an underground train, or an aircraft, because they suffer from claustrophobia: a lift, an underground, or a plane is simply too confined for them. Anyone who doesn't know what it's like

should be grateful; anyone who does know, knows for sure.

Thousands of people do, which makes this a problem for Swissair too. Up until now, sufferers from claustrophobia have had only the option of not flying, or if there was no help for it, of taking a double whisky against the time they must spend in a confined space.

Now things have changed.

Swissair has planes you can sit down in even when you can't bear cramped quarters. We mean our jumbo jets. They are big enough not only to seat 353 passengers, but to

give each passenger ample space before, behind, around and above him. In a jumbo jet you have as much room as in a big hotel lobby, a res-

taurant, or a theatre.

The fact that Swissair can now fly, from the old world to the new, people who could never have flown before seems to us justification enough in itself for this advertisement.

And of course it's another opportunity to emphasize how splendid flying is (this time for everybody). And an opportunity to say that the jumbos fly 14 times a week from Switzerland to New York and 14 times from New York to Switzerland.

For all the people who feel cramped in Switzerland or even in enormous New York or wherever it may be.





been organised for this festive occasion are listed below. There could be no better proof that Switzerland cares for her children abroad.

The 50th Annual Assembly will take place in Berne on 25th-27th August, but several exhibitions and contests will be staged during the preceding weeks to mark the event.

The following is the official list: 12th August to 24th September at the Art Gallery, Berne: Comprehensive exhibition of the works of Fritz Glarner, a Swiss artist abroad born in 1899 and living in New York. He is a leading exponent of Constructivism.

13th to 27th August: Various art galleries in Berne display the works of Swiss artists abroad in collective exhibitions.

18th to 27th August at the Kramgasse, Berne: Swiss enterprises, institutions and foreign aid organisations will reflect their activities in an all-encompassing window display under the arcades of an ancient street market. (The Swiss of the North of Britain will display a model of the Hebden Bridge Landsgemeinde.—Ed.)

Tuesday, 22nd August at the Berne Cathedral at 8.15 p.m.: Organ concert with the participation of the Swiss bass-baritone Mathias Vogel from Brussels.

Wednesday, 23rd August, 2.30 p.m. at "Sand" near Schönbühl (7 km. north of Berne): Large-scale mock battle. A combination of infantry, special troops and tank units impart an idea of our army's power of deterrence. Bus transportation from Berne.

Thursday, 24th August, starting at 8 a.m. at Lyss (20 km. north of Berne): Shooting competition organised for the Swiss Abroad, practised in the carbine or new automatic rifle. Competitors will get acquainted with the latest refinements of shooting stands and "enjoy" Swiss military foods. Wives are invited. Bus transportation from Berne and details enclosed in leaflet obtainable from the aforementioned address.

Thursday, 25th August, 5 p.m. at the Casino, Berne: Official opening of the Assembly of the Swiss Abroad with greetings by the State authorities. Aperitifs.

8.15 p.m. at the Casino. The Swiss born conductor Peter Maag, Berlin, and the Swiss pianist Karl Engel, Hanover, perform in a concert with the Berne Symphony Orchestra. Programmed are works by Frank Martin, Mozart and Dvorjak.

Friday, 25th August at the Rathaus, 9 a.m.: Session of the Commission for the Swiss Abroad of the New Helvetic Society. Afternoon, also at the Rathaus: Various workshops and information sessions regarding matters concerning the Swiss Abroad. In the evening, at the Kramgasse: Street festival. Dancing, presentations and folklore "under the stars".

Saturday, 26th August, 9 a.m. at the Kursaal: First part of the plenary

session of the Assembly. Main topic: "The political rights of the Swiss abroad". Luncheon for the participants at the Kursaal, 2.30 p.m.: Second part of the plenary session with an address by the President of the Confederation.

Saturday, 26th August: Afternoon at the Restaurant Froheim, Berne: Bowling competition among a selection of the Swiss "Bowling King's" abroad. (Details available).

Saturday, 26th August, 7.30 p.m. at the Stadttheater: Performance of "Die Zauberflöte". Peter Maag conducting and Swiss cast.

Sunday, 27th August: Trip to Interlaken. Lunch at the Casino. Folklore.

Monday, 28th August: Departure for 3 to 4 day tours through Switzerland organised by the Berne Tourist Office (details available). Various additional excursions and events taking place during August and September can be found in the Events Programme of the Berne Tourist Office.

*The Jubilee Assembly of Swiss Abroad will be commemorated by a special issue of 40c postal stamps and by a commemorative medal designed by Hans Erni.*

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

The following couples are celebrating wedding anniversaries: on 16th May: Mr. and Mrs. W. Flory (36th); on 18th: Mr. and Mrs. R. Senn; on 16th June: Mr. and Mrs. A. Schmid of Glendower fame (56th).

The Rev. and Mrs. H. Spoerri of Nidelbadstrasse 64, 8803 Rueschlikon, will be celebrating their Silver Wedding on 19th May.

The following readers will be having their birthdays: on 15th May: Mrs. A. Sommer and on 19th May: Mr. A. Haenggi (81). Mr. W. Schedler will be 68 on 24th May. The Swiss Ambassador in London, Dr. A. Weitnauer, will have his birthday on 30th May, and on the same day Mr. A. Zullig will be 65. Mr. E. Gysin (Basle) will be 82 on 9th June; Miss R. Preiswerk (Basle) will be celebrating her 67th birthday on 11th June, and Mr. P. Buechler will be 71 on 16th June.

We send best wishes and congratulations to all these and any other readers who will be celebrating an important anniversary within the next month.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

*City Swiss Club Summer Dance:* 16th June at the "Thatched Barn".

*Schweizerbund Dinner and AGM:* 12th May (6 for 6.15 p.m.) at the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorgate.

Swiss Club Manchester: Boat trip on the Manchester Ship Canal, 13th May.

## SWISS CHURCH

SERVICES EN FRANCAIS: à l'Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, tous les dimanches à 11h15 et 19h00.

SAINTE-CENE: le premier et troisième dimanche du mois, matin et soir.

PERMANENCE: chaque jeudi de 15h00 à 18h00.

REUNION DE QUARTIER: huit veillées en automne et au printemps: voir "Le Messager".

CLUB DES JEUNES: tous les dimanches de 12h00 à 22h30, tous les jeudis de 15h00 à 22h30.

REUNION DE COUTURE: le 2e mardi du mois.

LUNCH: tous les dimanches à 13h00.

VISITES: sur demande.

PASTEUR: A. Nicdo, 7 Park View Road, London, N.3. Téléphone 01-346 5281.

\* \* \*

SERVICES IN GERMAN: at Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, at 10 a.m. At John Southworth Centre, 48 Gt. Peter Street, S.W.1 at 6.30 p.m.

HOLY COMMUNION: every first Sunday of the month at evening service only. On major feasts at morning and evening services.

CONSULTATIONS: every Wednesday 4-6 p.m. at Eglise Suisse.

DISTRICT GROUPS W.4 and S.E.21, and SERVICES OUTSIDE LONDON: see "Stimme".

SERVICES IN ENGLISH: every fourth Sunday at 7.30 p.m.

"KONTAKT" (Youth Group): every Wednesday 4-10 p.m. at Eglise Suisse. Supper at 6.30 p.m. Programme at 8 p.m.

SWISS Y.M.C.A.: see Forthcoming Events.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE: every first Tuesday of the Month.

MOTHERS' REUNION: 3rd Wednesday in the month, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

VISITS: by request.

MINISTER: Pfr. M. Dietler, 1 Womersley Road, N.8. Telephone 01-340 6018.

SWISS CATHOLIC MISSION: John Southworth Centre, 48 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 2HA.

Sundays: Holy Mass at 6.30 p.m. with sermon in German, in the Club hall, ground floor.

(2nd floor at the same time, Protestant service in German).

CONSULTATIONS AND CONFESSIONS: by appointment.

SERVICES EN FRANCAIS: Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, W.C.2, on Sundays, 10.00, 11.00, 12.15 and 6.30 p.m.

SWISS CATHOLIC YOUTH CLUB: Open every Sunday from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. (48 Great Peter Street). Discussions, dance, lectures (with members of other denominations), Sunday services and refreshments. See programme "Die Stimme".

During the week: open according to programme of the English Youth Club.

RESIDENCE OF CHAPLAIN: Paul Bossard, Swiss Catholic Mission, 48 Great Peter Street, (2nd floor), London SW1P 2HA. Telephone: 01-222 2895.