

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: - (1977)

Heft: 1727

Rubrik: Birthdays and anniversaires

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: 16.02.2026

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

The Swiss Observer

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SWISS COLONY IN THE U.K.

Founded in 1919 by Paul F. Boehringer

HON. PRESIDENT:

Gottfried Keller

EDITOR:

George Sommer

Advisory Council:

F. Burri (Chairman)

B. Simon (Vice-Chairman)

O. F. Boehringer, J.P. (Hon. Sec.)

J. Eusebio, A. Kunz, R. M. Suess

Mrs. M. Meier

Paul A. Ramsay

Editor's telephone: 01-892 5920

Published Monthly at
63/67 TABERNACLE STREET
LONDON EC2 4AH
Tel: 01-253 2321

Telegrams: Paperwyse London

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (POST FREE)
UNITED KINGDOM SWITZERLAND
and elsewhere
6 issues £1.50 Frs. 13—or £1.60
12 issues £2.90 Frs. 25—or £3.10
Swiss subscriptions may be paid into
Postcheck Konto Basle 40-5718

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

On 1st March, *Mr. F. G. Sommer*, of 3 The Chestnuts, 66 Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, Surrey, will have his 85th birthday.

On 9th March, *Mr. René Marchand*, of 16 Hochrain, 2500 Biel, Switzerland, will also celebrate his 85th birthday.

We wish both these old and faithful readers the best of health and many more years of happy retirement.

The following readers, too, are celebrating birthdays in the near future:

Mr. E. Hardmeier will be 89 on 3rd March, and Mr. L. Meier will have his 88th birthday on 5th March. Mrs. L. Gradmann will be 79 on the 8th of the month. Dr. H. W. Egli will be 78 and Mr. R. Chappuis 81 on 17th March. Mr. H. Vonwiller will have his 83rd birthday on the 20th of the month, and Mr. Albert Ferber will be 66 on the 29th. Mr. R. Senn will celebrate his 66th birthday on 30th March.

Many happy returns of birthdays and anniversaries to all concerned, including readers of whose birthdays we are not aware.

On the front page

Cross-country skiing will certainly give you a hearty appetite as the two people on the front cover have found out. A bowl of good soup will see them through until the next meal. Story and more pictures on pages 14 and 15. Photo by courtesy of SNTO.

PAUL BESSIRE, 80

On 20th March, Mr. Paul Bessire, of 28 Cumberland Road, SW13, will reach the grand age of 80, in very good health and spirits, we are glad to report.

Paul Bessire, one of six children, was born in Biel, where he went to school and later to the *Ecole de Commerce*. He came to this country 62 years ago, and some three years later he started his own business here and it has developed into a firm of general export and import of some standing. The supply of mica to the Continent was one of his successful lines. In the war he was completely bombed out and had to start all over again. He did this with courage and enterprise and worked up a fine business in industrial diamond tools and exports of electrical accessories. He is still active in his company.

Right from the early days in Great Britain, Paul Bessire took a lively interest in the Swiss Church and in the mid-thirties, as a member of the Consistoire, he was in charge of renovating the Foyer Suisse in Bedford Place, an offshoot of the Swiss Church. Many of our compatriots in London will recall that the Foyer, too, was bombed in the war. He became a member of the City Swiss Club in 1920, he is now an Honorary Member. He is a member of the Swiss Mercantile Society and supports the Swiss Rifle Association. He joined the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, of whose Council he was a valued member for many years.

At a City Swiss Club event in the early twenties he met Antoinette Schupbach of the Neuchâtel branch of the old Emmental family, whose father was General Manager of the Crédit Lyonnais in London and later President of the City Swiss Club. They were married in London in 1930. They have two married daughters and four grandchildren.

SWISS CHURCHES

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

PASTEUR: Frank Orna-Ornstein, 7 Park View Road, London N.3. Tel: 01-346 5281.

SERVICES IN GERMAN: at Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, every Sunday at 10.00 a.m. Sunday school takes place on the first and the third Sunday in the month for children of all age groups. Children assemble in the church with their parents who attend the normal Service. Liturgical Service takes place every second Sunday in the month. Services also at John Southworth Centre, 48 Great Peter Street, SW1P 2HA, every Sunday at 6.30 p.m.

MINISTER: Pastor Paul Jungi, 1 Womersley Road, N.8. Tel: 01-340 9740.

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

Sundays: Services at 6.30 p.m. for Catholics and Protestants. See notice-board in house for details and location.

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

For Information, Advice or Help contact the

SWISS WELFARE OFFICE for young people

31 Conway Street London W1P 5HL
telephone 01-387 3608

Underground Stations:
Great Portland Street
Warren Street

ARE YOU A YOUNG SWISS?

Do you know the biggest Swiss happening in town? The SWISS YOUTH CLUB, 48 GREAT PETER STREET, LONDON S.W. 1.

Every Sunday from 4 p.m. onwards the Swiss Youth Club under the auspices of the Swiss Churches in London is staging a "get-together" with a variety of happenings. From 4 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. "do-it-yourself" entertainment followed by an ecumenical Church service for those who wish to participate.

At 7.30 p.m. a communal dinner party opens a night of dancing and talking (In Schwizerdütsch). Refreshments are served at the bar by Club members.

Looking forward to seeing you!
Committee of the Swiss Youth Club.