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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

After publishing my last letter in the July edition, I had a keen response and therefore was able to start this very happy new Swiss Club in the South West. Would you be so kind and publish this little report about our first meeting, so that we can get to know many more "hidden" Swiss out here in the country.

Thank you.

Yours,
Ruth Cole
34 Dillons Road,
Creech St. Michael,
Taunton.

We publish the report with great pleasure! – Editor

Dear Editor

Ref: Foundation of our Swiss Club in the S.W.

On Saturday, 2nd December, we German Swiss here in the South West met in my home to start our own very informal Swiss Club. It was an ideal opportunity to create a complete Swiss atmosphere with a cheese

fondue, wine, kirsch with Basler lecherli, Swiss chocolates, but above all we enjoyed talking in Schwyzerdütsch and exchanged experiences about our exciting double-lives as "anglicized Swiss". The older generation told us how well they integrated into the English community, yet how they all manage to spend more and more time in Switzerland, now their children have grown up. We exchanged many thoughts about family life, holidays, work, about our cooking, our Swiss traditions — and how we keep them up. Some of us remembered the days of the war here, and how they had to hand in their Swiss passports!

Later in the afternoon, we looked at 50 Swiss slides, and once again we expressed our affection for the mountains, cities and rivers of Switzerland.

Our aim is to meet like this twice a year, next time in the summer when we hope to see some new faces. Do write to us if you would like to join us. In the meantime: Ein glückliches neues Jahr und uf wiederluege in Sommer!

ON YOUR COVER

By courtesy of Swissair and The Swiss National Tourist Office your covers this month offer you a mini tour of our beautiful country. Among the spots on display are Titlis, Piz Corvatsch, Jakobshorn, Trinn Digg and Arosa.



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Inflation in Britain in recent years has been among the highest in the world. Few, if any of us, has escaped its unpleasant effects. Among the more fortunate who have, at least in one minor respect, been cushioned are the subscribers to the *Swiss Observer*!

In 1973 the annual subscription rate was £2.40. The only increase since then occurred in 1975 when 50p PER YEAR was added to the rate to cover increased postal charges. So, for almost six years, the publishers of our Colony's own newspaper have absorbed increases in paper, printing, distribution and a myriad of other costs. Today, postage alone accounts for 12p per issue!

Regretfully, the time has now come when at least some of the increased costs must be passed on to our readers. We are sure that you will agree that the new rates, displayed in the box above, mean that your paper is still good value! Thank you for your understanding.

The increases will take effect from your next Renewal Date.

Publisher