

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: - (1983)
Heft: 1805

Artikel: Baton belles from Switzerland make a big impression
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-689449>

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: 15.09.2025

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



Despite that Tower, this is Crystal Palace, not Paris

Baton belles make a big

INTERNATIONAL travel is something which top class athletes must take in their stride these days. But a visit to England was still an exciting event for 15 young ladies from Meyrin who came to represent their home town at Crystal Palace this summer.

The girls were members of the Meyribelles, a majorette and baton twirling team, who came to compete in the European Baton Twirling Championships.

Baton twirling is well established as an international event, and there were teams from seven countries taking part.

The home of the sport (or is it an art?) is the United States, but Meyrin is important enough to have hosted the European championships in 1981.

The girls, with their chaperone and supporters, were hosted by an English majorette team, the Maids of Kent. Bill Sims, public relations officer for the Maids, told *Swiss Observer* just what an impression the girls had created.

"They were so charming", he said, "and even when it was only a rehearsal they carried the Swiss national flag with such pride. Their bearing, their neatness and physical fitness were



Time for a meal and relaxation after the marching

from Switzerland impression

a credit to the Swiss nation”.

Before the girls appeared in the competition, there was a chance to do a little sightseeing – and some bargain hunting.

Their hosts had arranged visits to the Tower of London and Westminster Abbey but these bright eyed Swiss misses also found time to pick up bargains which astounded their English friends.

“They seemed to have a mixture of charm and self-reliance”, said Bill Sims. “Those girls must have done more for Anglo-Swiss relationships than a dozen diplomats”.

Unfortunately, although the Meyribelles won many friends, they did not win as many competition points as they had hoped for.

“They performed with tremendous grace, skill and physical effort”, reported Bill Sims, “but although they got a good reception from the audience the scores weren’t quite high enough”.

The girls remained cheerful though. As the coach carried the two teams back to Kent, the Meyribelles were still singing.



The Meyribelles at Crystal Palace



Another Swiss team, the Majorettes of Bienne, took part in the group section of the competition