

# New Zealand's Swiss Club news & happenings

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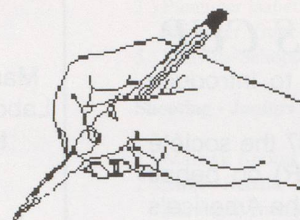
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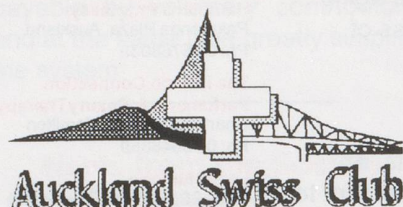
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# New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings



Auckland  
Hamilton  
Taranaki  
Wellington



## Forthcoming events

20. Sept., **Fondue evening**, at the Holland house, 123 Rockfield Rd. Penrose, at 7 pm. - We can only cater for a limited number of people, therefore reservation is essential. Please ring Julia Moors, 416 48 58 or Sandra Hess, 444 69 72. Please bring your own "Pfännli" and forks. Adults \$ 15.-, Children (5 - 14 years) \$ 7.--.

11. Oct. **Games evening**; I am planning a games evening with table soccer available. Ring me and let me know that you are coming and what kind of game you can bring. Sandra Hess, Ph. 444-6972.

18. Oct. **Fastnacht**. Freeman's Bay Community Hall.

29. - 30. Nov. **Working bee**, at Swiss Farm, Kaukapakapa.

6. Dec. **Santa**, at the Swiss Farm..

15. Feb. **Picnic**, at the Swiss Farm.

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15. March, **Wandertag**.

4. May, **AGM**.

## Jassen

Every 3rd. Friday at Oski's, 224 Hobson street, 7.30 start.

Results from 18. July:

1. Hansruedi Wolf	4126
2. Jakob Preisig	4022
3. Dominic Hess	3997
4. M-Th. Melville-Schöpfer	3917
5. Syd. Melville	3843

**NB.** Sauerkraut is always available during winter months, ring Hans Iten, (09) 620-9208.

## 1. August Celebration

This was held at the Croation Hall, Te Atatu. Early arrivals were greeted and welcomed into a beautifully decorated hall, all set for the occasion. By 7 pm the hall was full and the evening started with a hearty meal: Vegetable soup - Fleischkäs - Carrots and potatoes - salad - coleslaw - Swiss bread - and dessert, all yummy!

During the address by the President of the Swiss confederation, we were reminded that difficult times have beset our native country.

- The Children-dance-group again won the hearts of the people. They have become regular performers at these events. The sound of 4 Alphorns must have stirred the blood in every Swiss heart present! Also it is hard to imagine 1. August without the Jodelers, so again they sang for the occasion and rose up to it, despite 5 members being absent, visiting Switzerland. A large hamper was 1. prize in a raffle. Also the medals of the Society games were presented. We all enjoyed a happy evening. Even the hard-working cooks and the dedicated committee members and other helpers shared that feeling. A good 150 adults and 30 children attendet. Thank you for your support! A.R.

## Obituary ✝

**Kurt Leutenegger,  
5. Aug.1935 - 6. August 1997.**

Kurt passed away peacefully at home with his family, after bravely fighting a brain tumour for 8 months. Kurt was born in Zürich and worked as a sheetmetal worker there after finishing his apprenticeship. He arrived in Wellington in 1958 with Swiss friends to initially work in New Zealand for 2 years. However he moved to Auckland, married Jennifer, and together they raised two Children, Helen and Peter. Kurt remained in Auckland all his life, but returned many times to Switzerland for holidays.

He enjoyed being part of the Swiss Community and served as treasurer of the Auckland Swiss Club for several years.

Kurt's family wish to thank the many people who have given support to Kurt and themselves during his illness and since his passing.

Deepest condolences to Jennifer and her Family on behalf of the Swiss community!

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## Shooting on Farm at Kaukapakapa

Shooting dates organised by the Riflemaster. Henry Werffeli

### UIT - SHOOT

60 - shot match each day, Saturdays and Sundays:

- 13. + 14. Sept 1997, at 9.00 am -  
22. + 23. Nov 1997, at 9.00 am

### OPEN SHOOT

Using any sights, any rifle.

- Sunday, 28. Sept 1997, 9.00 am

If you wish to participate in any of these Shoots, please contact the Auckland Riflemaster, H. Werffeli, as there are some rules regarding equipment and who supplies the ammunition. But everyone is more than welcome to come and in some cases, I am able to help. Please contact me on 09-410 3476 (home) or 09 622 2800 (work). Important Note: Please do not use the Auckland Swiss Shooting Range without prior notification.

The Riflemaster - H. Werffeli

## Hamilton Swiss Club

### Forthcoming Event

Fondue Evening; - 11 October 8pm - Eureka Hall. The club has fondue sets, but still requires more. Please bring a fondue set if you have one. Medal presentation will also be on this evening

### 1ST AUGUST CELEBRATION

The Hamilton Swiss Club's 1st August celebration was once again held in the Eureka Hall on 26 July. It was good to see the evening well patronised, with numbers being around 100.

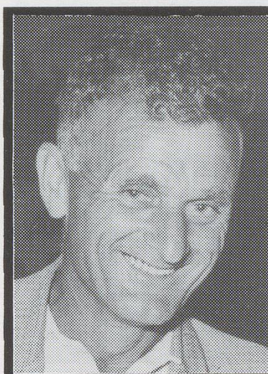
The committee, with the help of some others, arrived early to decorate the hall, which enhanced the venue and helped bring the country

of our origin a little closer on the night.

Three groups provided entertainment. The first group was a singing group which had many practises together under the guidance of Josie Flühler. They had rehearsed several songs with the accompaniment of the piano, but unfortunately Eureka hall didn't have a piano. Josie lead an outstanding role in conducting the group, and dare I say it, without the piano the singing was more easily heard and appreciated. The harmonising between the men and women was very nice, and I'm sure everyone enjoyed the selection of songs which were sung.

The second group entertaining on the evening was a dance group. This group also had many practises prior to the 26 July. Two of the

Continued on page 8



### Obituary ✝

Our one and only Joe Weber was born on 20. July 1919 at Arth, Canton of Schwyz, Switzerland, in the shadow of Rigi mountain. - He died after a long battle with Alzheimer's illness at Hamilton, on our National Day, 1. August 1997.

- Joe came to NewZealand as a 33 year old, after having been employed by the Rigi mountain railway for a good number of years. His qualities as an excellent farm worker were soon recognised by Willy Müller, his Broher-in-law and John Villiger, husband-to-be of his Niece Violanta, giving him employment on a farm at Hinuera for the first year of his life in the adopted Country. Joe spent the next 9 years with John Villiger, sharemilking at Springdale and it was during those years that Joe also worked for a period on the portable saw mill of John Stucki. The next 25 years saw Joe as part of the "John Villiger family farm enterprise" at Kiwitahi, near Morrinsville. Little wonder that Joe became a much loved Uncle to the Villiger Children and an integral part of the family.

- Joe's Requiem Mass to celebrate his life in the Catholic Church of Morrinsville was attended by Family and lots of Swiss friends.

- Joe was a down-to-earth Swiss-Kiwi. He will be remembered as a humble character fond of socialising, preferably with a good deck of Swiss cards, his pipe filled with his favourite tobacco, a can of beer or two and if possible a "Bratwurst" followed by "Coffee with fortification".

- The families of the late Joe Weber and the Swiss Community of the Waikato have lost a warm hearted identity! Our sympathy goes to his Brother and Sister in Switzerland and to the Müller and Villiger families in Morrinsville.

May He rest in God's peace!

## THANK YOU

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dances were old favourites, though even they were new for a number of performers. The third dance was a new one sent from Switzerland which proved to be a bit of a challenge to the team. The dance group performed well on the night, once again for the enjoyment of the people present.

The third group entertaining was the Jay Es band who provided dance music for the rest of the evening. Many thanks to the people involved in all three groups who committed themselves to practises, and above all who were willing and courageous to perform on the night. Well done!

It was also very pleasant seeing so many people in national costumes. A club member, Agnes Gämperle made numerous posies which she pinned on the costumes of the ladies. These posies would have taken Agnes a great deal of time to make, and the committee thanks her for her thoughtfulness.

As with other years, a meal was provided by the committee, consisting of wienerli, ham, home-made bread and buns, as well as a large selection of salads. It was a wonderful meal, and I'm sure everyone had more than required due to everything being so nice! The meal was followed by coffee and a selection of cakes baked by members of the committee. The rare speciality of Vermicelli was made by Gabrielle and Hans Peter Burch.

Overall, the evening was very enjoyable and successful, thanks to the many people who attended, and of course thanks to those who helped in any way. Thank you to the committee members for their time in the kitchen on the night, as well as for preparing such wonderful food for the evening. Many others not in the committee also helped with baking and clearing up after the function. This help was very much appreciated.

HF.

### Hazelnuts for sale

1.5 kg bags - \$17.30

These can be repackaged into smaller quantities if you wish. All proceeds go to the Club. Please contact Beatrice, phone (07) 843-7971

### Jass Results 1997

Overall winners Nr. 1 - 14

1 ) Rufer Bruno	20024
2 ) Reichmuth Oskar	19989
3 ) Hayward Margaret	19870
4 ) Forsythe Angus	19845
5 ) Nussberger Max	19637
6 ) Imlig Adolf	19572
7 ) Frischknecht Robert	19521
8 ) Elmiger Uli	19488
9 ) Fitzi Michael	19441
10) Frischknecht Hanna	19414
11) Kennel Josef	19413
12) Flüeler Bert	19403
13) Schwitzer Max	19261
14) Meyer Julia	19231
15) Fässler Werner	19094
16) Gillon Patricia	19035
17) Rufer Lina	19034
18) Steiner Alois	19023
19) Fitzi Theresa	19019
20) Stäheli Helen	18993
21) Waldvogel Ruth	18967
22) Stäheli Joe	18965
23) Kennel Teres	18932
24) Waldvogel Karl	18829
25) Blättler Robert	18793
26) Gämperle Elisabeth	18771
27) Häslä Fritz	18699
28) Leuenberger Heidi	18635
29) Steiner Bert	18524
30) Schicker Hilda	18515
31) Knaus Marco	18387
32) Rufer Anna	18238
33) Weiss Peter	18094



'Schuler' girls and cousin Bert Steiner are solid Jass supporters.



### Forthcoming Events

- 4. Sept. - Kegeln recommences, Jassen too.
- 18. Sept. - Kegeln
- 26. Sept. - Singing practice
- 2. Oct. - Kegeln, also table soccer is played
- 16. Oct. - Kegeln
- 19. Oct. - Trudi Ott Belt Shoot and Championship
- 31. Oct. - Singing practice

### First of August Celebration

This year we celebrated the Swiss National Day on the 1st of August and enjoyed a very good attendance. Many thanks to all members who sold tickets...your efforts are very much appreciated. Mrs. Dorfliinger did very well, having fourteen children and grandchildren in attendance- great seeing you all and I hope that you enjoyed yourselves. Also great to see five Kuriger brothers there!

The evening started with the message of the Swiss President, followed by the National Anthem sung by the singing group. Walter then handed out the Swiss Society medals.....congratulations to all winners. Special mention must be made of our treble-medal winner, Michael Zimmermann. Well done, Michael, keep it up!! Following these presentations, the singing group gave a few items.... your practice is paying off; I heard many people comment that your performances are getting better and better, and that you now have a wide variety of beautiful songs. Ruedi Dudli gave another polished performance on the alphorn, which everyone enjoyed. Having seen the Hamilton "Trachtengruppe" in action over Queen's Birthday Weekend, it gave us motivation and enthusiasm to get our own "Trachtengruppe" out of recess!!!! Our talented musician, Zeno, had the tunes perfected before we even had our first practice. Some of our existing dance group members came out of the woodwork and were joined by some enthusiastic new members. During the second practice, three young members were watching and trying to imitate us, so we invited them to join in.... well done Christina, Maria and Kathryn Fitzgerald..... it was a pleasure to have you in our group and we certainly hope that you keep it up!!!

It was amazing to see how these young girls picked it up - I'm sure that some of the older members were envious of your good memory!

Our tombola tickets were then sold.... in fifteen minutes.. many apologies to those who didn't get tickets - sellers didn't get to go to all the tables as people were coming to us!! Thanks to everyone who helped organise this major raffle, the

display of prizes was terrific, no wonder the tickets sold so quickly! Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the raffle, especially the generous support of the following businesses: Stratford Mountain House, Campbell's World Travel, Taranaki Power Tools, Union Yamaha, Sayers Brothers., CB Norwood, Wrightsons, Kiwi Trading Store, Ewington Engineering, Taranaki Farmers, Union Foundries, Standard Timber, Cameron's Tyre Centre and BP Service Station Eltham. Please support our sponsors if you can.

A delicious supper was then served by Winmill Caterers.

Many thanks to our musicians who played during the evening - Zeno, Bert and Maria - your entertainment was superb. Thanks, Zeno, for the flowers used to decorate the tables, they made a beautiful display. Everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable evening and early morning.... eh, Don... 6.00am??!!

To all of you for your loyal support, our grateful thanks; and to everyone who helped in any way to make the evening such a success - THANK YOU VERY MUCH !!

MB.

### Swiss Singing Group Dinner

Having worked hard during the last few months, and entertaining a wide range of clubs and organisations, we thought that a dinner was a good way to end the season.

It was decided to go to the Stratford Club, where we were joined by other members of the Swiss Club, for a delicious meal. While many talked the night away, others supported the poker machines, and others started to sing!

A great night - we must do it again some time.

Our faithful Schnapps provider brought along a bottle; however, when it was empty, Ruedi refilled it.... with water! So another Café-Schnapps was made for Alf, John and Mathias - with water!! And guess what? They didn't even realise!! What a waste giving you the real stuff !!!!

LB.

### Humour

A guest exclaimed enthusiastically, "This pattern on the butter is charming!" The waiter, proudly: "Isn't it? I did it with my comb!"

MB.



*The Swiss Singing Group performing at the 1st of August celebration.*



*Ruedi Dudli giving it his all on the Alphorn.*



*Our flag-thrower Remigi Zimmermann also providing colourful entertainment, another swiss tradition that audiences enjoy.*



*Our folk-dancing group in action.*

### Obituary

#### John Steiner , 1908 - 1997



John Steiner passed away on July 19. at New Plymouth after a long illness.

- Born at Kaponga, he lived most of his Life at Mahoe, dairyfarming together with his Brother and running a very successful baling-contractor's business. When time allowed he also worked as a Master-builder. John served the Dairy Company as a director for some time.

- In 1960 as his health deteriorated he moved to New Plymouth where he worked as a Insurance salesman for 5 years and then taking up work as a barman for the following 20 years ,until retirement age.

- John always enjoyed the company of the Swiss and not only served as Taranaki Swiss Club President but also as President of the Swiss Society of NZ in 1964.

John was able to visit Switzerland on two different occasions and enjoyed the experience very much. 61 years of Marriage to his Wife Mary came to an end with John's death.

To Mary and all the Family and friends we offer our Sympathy in the sad loss.

May He rest in peace!

LK.



### Obituary

#### Paul Flühler , 1926 - 1997



Born in Ennetmoos as the youngest into a family of four Brothers and three Sisters.

- In 1948 he emigrated to New Zealand and worked for a local Building contractor.

In 1959 he married Martha and together they started sharemilking on the Duthy Rd. Kaponga. In 1970 they sold the herd and went to live in New Plymouth.

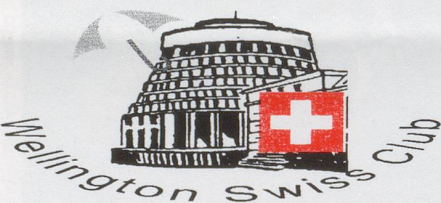
- As a active member of the Taranaki Swiss Club and the Swiss Society he was a real "Innerschwitzer".

- In his time he was a top Shooter of our Club and won many Championships. He was also a top Scorer in the Swiss Abroad Radio Shoot in 1969.

- To his Wife Martha and all the Families our deepest Sympathy.

Rest in peace, Paul!

R.D.



### Forthcoming Events

**Saturday, 20 September**, 7pm, Pot-Luck Dinner at the Clubhouse. Please ring Michèle Köppel Schneider on 476 7805.

**Sunday, 28th September**, Sunday Walk, 10.30 am. Please ring Franz Schneider on 476 7805.

**Saturday, 11th October**, 10 am. Working Bee at the Clubhouse. All Welcome! Free Lunch provided

**Saturday/Sunday, 25th/26th October**, 40th Anniversary Celebration. Please ring Maya Beddie-Geiser on 478 2324, or Christine Hughes on 232 3078.

### News from the Wellington Swiss Club

Hello everybody around New Zealand! We have been busy around Wellington to keep the winter blues away. The monthly walk took us on the famous "Northern Walk" where we explored the town belt around Mt. Victoria and Mt. Albert.

What great views we had! Soaking up the incredible sunshine of the

day. We picnicked just outside the Zoo, then we took the bus back to the city where our cars waited for us. On the 26th of July we celebrated the Mid Winter European Festival in the Polish Club in Newtown. What a feast of Music, Song and Folklore. It was the first appearance of the Wellington Swiss Club new formed group the "Basler Beppis". What a tremendous job they did with bringing the Basle Carnival to Wellington. A very talented Piccolo Player, Rosmarie, led the group - to my taste the mini drums were a little too small! The first of August was a clear crisp night, which saw us celebrating our 706th birthday on Petone's foreshore. Many families came with their children or grandchildren to enjoy that very special moment, when New Zealand was one of the first countries in the world to remember our National Day with a huge Bonfire. The many "Lanterns" made it feel just like home.

The next evening we came once more together for a Buffet Dinner at the Ferryman's in Wellington. It was a jolly but noisy night. Seven lucky people received their well deserved medals. And now we are all looking forward to our Pot-Luck-Party on the 20th September.

### Note to Secretaries

Please send in all your notices for the November edition of Helvetia by the 15th of October.  
Thank you.



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Having a rest during our Northern walk.

1st August: 6pm and the fire is up.

Mothers & Grandmothers & Children enjoying the celebration.

Peter Hynes & family bringing a truckload of wood for our 1st August fire.



### Swiss Quality

Swiss companies enjoy a reputation as reliable business partners with ethically responsible motives. That's according to a new study which shows Switzerland's businesses are top-of-the-list when it comes to trustworthiness in comparison with seven other industrialised countries. The Swiss watchmaking and pharmaceutical industries as well as the banks and the financial services sector are considered first-class. In stark contrast the telecommunication's industry ranks bottom of the list. Compared with a similar survey six years ago Swiss businesses rated lower in terms of innovation and value for money. Switzerland is in fourth place when it comes to the image of products and companies.

### Humour

Child asks Mum: "Mummy can I go outside and watch the sun-set" - Mum answers: "yes but don't get too close!"



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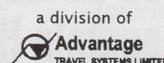
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Booking deadline may be extended beyond 31. August, but for a short time only, so contact the team at Dolphin Travel **NOW**.