

New Zealand Swiss Club news & happenings

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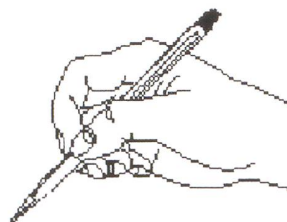
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New Zealand Swiss Club

News & Happenings

Web-page - <http://www.swiss.org.nz>

E-Mail - society@swiss.org.nz



Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch



auckland@swiss.org.nz

Forthcoming Events..

- 24. & 25. July 99, - Workingbee
- 31. July 99, - 1. August celebration
- 18. Sept. 99, - Fondue night
- 27. & 28. Nov. 99, - Workingbee
- 5. Dec. 99, - Santa Claus
- 13. Feb. 00, - Picnic
- 5. March 00, - Jassen / Kegeln
- 26. March 00, - Wandertag

JASSEN

16. July / 20. Aug. / 17. Sept. / 15. Oct.
at 224, Hobson St., 7.30 pm.

1. AUGUST CELEBRATION

at the Swiss Farm, Kaukapakapa

2 pm. Start

4.15 pm. President's Welcome,
followed by distribution of
Society medals.

4.30 pm. Children's Dance group

5 pm. Dinner

6.30 pm. Broadcast from Swiss Pres.

7 pm. Bonfire

Dinner \$ 15.— for members

\$ 8.— for children 5 - 14

\$ 20.— for non-members

PS. Please book in advance to
avoid the situation we had last
year. - Phone Renate.....

Trudi - 376 4923

H.Jten - 620 9208

Lost property:

Clothes have been left on the farm.

Phone Vreni Pfenniger 09 420 8517

Past Events....

Jassen - Results - from 21. May

1. Othmar Wyss 4236
2. Hansruedi Wolf 4009
3. Hans Fitz 3988
4. Erwin Steiner 3932
5. Annagret Wolf 3924
6. Syd Melville 3809
7. Jakob Preisig 3790
8. Toni Manser 3749
9. Jakob Glauser 3748
10. Marie-Th. Schöpfer-Melville 3733
11. Luis Wallimann 3697
12. Hilda Jten 3646
13. Nelly Steinemann 3629
14. Molly Gianotti 3505
15. Hans Jten 3492
16. Paul Steinemann 3479

17 Card players turned up, so one had to miss out ! Max Bachmann volunteered to keep an eye on all the players and was willing to forego playing himself. Many thanks for the sponsored prizes, also special thanks to the ladies for the lovely supper.

Hans Jten, ph. 620 9208

SWISS KIWI YODELERS AT THE SOCIETY AGM, WELLINGTON

6 am, Saturday morning, June 5th, our bus was ready to leave. With the usual few late ones, Peter Arnold our driver and organizer set us off on our long trip. The forecast was bad and it rained as we left. More pick-ups in the City - more pick-ups in Hamilton and Putaruru. By then our 26 seater bus was well packed with one empty seat only. The weather turned fine, spirits were high as happy as children going to the annual Sunday school picnic!

- Lunch in Taupo in the 'Restaurant Velino' ! The owner, Alex, is well known to the 'Sound of Switzerland

Band'. Alex, a Bavarian Chef, used to cook in the 'Schnitzel-Inn' before opening his own Restaurant in Taupo. It turned out to be a happy 2 hour-lunch with songs and laughter.

- But we had a long way to go yet. It was getting dark as we arrived in Wellington. Beatrice Leuenberger met us there and guided us to the Wellington Club house. - That's where it all began ! - What a reception; what a great time we had amongst our Wellington, Hamilton and Taranaki compatriots.!

A good wholesome meal was enjoyed. Music and dancing till late. A big thankyou to the Wellington club members. They also organized our sleeping arrangements among their members.

- Sunday morning, those not involved with the Society AGM, (that meant the Yodelers) got to see the Te Papa Museum. - Very impressive! There we surprised the Wellingtonian public with the sounds of 6 Alphorns and some Yodel-songs. - Then off to the "Petone Working man's Club" to prepare for the evening function. This turned out to be the highlight of the trip.!

- For us, the Kiwi-Yodelers it was sheer pleasure to perform to such an attentive audience. Also our Band rose to the occasion. the dance floor was never empty, till the early hours of the morning. - All too soon and we were back on the bus on our long way home. - Lots of jokes, songs, and music kept us awake. - **Our talented Peter Arnold got us home safely.!** Thankyou Peter, it was well worth the effort.!

Thanks go to our Wellington friends, who offered us the tremendous hospitality !

A.R.



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Only one more **Card Evening** remains for this year, so come along to Tirau on Saturday **10 July, 7.30 pm**, for an evening of cards, supper, and the presentation of overall prizes.

First of August Celebration, on Saturday, 31st July, at 8.00 pm, at the Eureka Hall. Come along and celebrate our National Day - enjoy an evening complete with superb dinner and dance, with traditional Swiss entertainment, and including a performance by our very own singing group. The **"Woodchopper Band"** from Auckland will be joining us once again to provide great music and entertainment for this function - so a night not to be missed!!

Fondue Evening, on Saturday, 25th September, at the Eureka Hall. Mark the date on your calendar now. Further details in the next issue.

PAST EVENTS

Trip to Wellington for the Society AGM and Cowbell Finals

A contingency of Hamilton Club members, 22 adults and five children of diverse ages, made their way to

Wellington at Queen's Birthday Weekend. All were intent on winning the last Interclub Final for this millennium. We had already lost the shooting during the summer, and we soon realised that Wellington had practised too hard at the shot-put for us to match or beat. The card players returned to the Clubhouse with bad news as well - but on the positive side, we did manage a draw in the bowling!! So the very best efforts and intentions from the competitors and supporters were not enough to secure the much coveted Cowbell, and we will just have to be content with the small bell for another year. Our sincere congratulations go to the Wellington Club on their well deserved win - after twelve years of never giving up. Never-the-less, we will be back! Our members chose various modes of transport, arriving in Wellington by car, plane and bus. Many travelling by air or car took the opportunity to extend their stay in the Capital for a few extra days, so several more of the Waikato population have now passed through the doors of the much professed Te Papa Museum. This, and visits to some other interesting Wellington sights, were much enjoyed. And even the weather offered by our 'windy' Capital was unlike its usually nasty reputation. Six of our Hamilton members joined the 'Auckland Bus', comprising

mainly of the Yodel Group, with Peter Arnold yodelling in the driver's seat. And what an entertaining trip these people had - with much music, yodelling and singing (along with some unrepeatable jokes) the whole way. Had there been a bit more space on the bus, there may even have been dancing in the aisles!

Our lodgings were dispersed around Wellington - about half stayed at the same Motel as the Taranaki Club, near Johnsonville; several stayed in the city; whilst the rest spent time with local family or friends.

Many of us met up at the Clubhouse in Ohariu Valley on the Saturday evening, where we were able to catch up with long unseen members from other areas. But at the Clubhouse, there was a long wait for one group of people to arrive! Peter and his bus load from Auckland and Hamilton were unhurried in their trip south, ensuring a plentiful number of comfort stops on the way, including 2 hours for a relaxing lunch in Taupo. When finally arriving in Johnsonville, the directions to the Ohariu Valley also had to be clarified before continuing. Meanwhile, time was ticking on, and eventually a search party was sent out to locate the errant bus. The two met just a short distance from the Clubhouse.

But following the arrival of this last group, and a glass of Glühwein, we all sat down to a delicious dinner of

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Hirschpfeffer (Venison), potatoes and vegetables; dessert and coffee; accompanied by music and dancing, together with much talking and laughter. The scene had been set for a great weekend!

On Sunday morning the serious task of Cowbell competitions ended in Hamilton Club having to return home with the same small second-place cowbell we were hoping to leave in Wellington, intending to exchange it for the big one. Perhaps next year? After lunch, the Clubhouse became our meeting venue, and our Hamilton 'Society Committee' conducted a very successful two hour Society AGM. Club Presidents had been invited to speak and Herbert Stäheli talked about our Club's events and activities held throughout the year.

On Sunday evening, 230 people - members of the Swiss Clubs and other guests - were treated to a tremendous night out in Petone. Following a delicious meal, we were all well entertained by the Swiss-Kiwi Yodel Group, along with several moving performances from both Taranaki Swiss Club members and a Maori group from Wanganui.

It was great to catch up with all our Swiss Club friends from around the country, but as usual the weekend was over far too quickly - all too soon we were saying goodbye.

From us all up here in the Waikato, many thanks to the Wellington Swiss Club Committee and members for hosting a most enjoyable weekend - for making your Clubhouse available for sports' competitions; breakfasts, lunch and dinner; as well as for all the many, many hours of hard work over the past several months to make the weekend such a memorable success. Thanks also to the Yodel Group for the extensive entertainment programme. We send you our very best wishes and good luck for a successful "Jodlerfest" in Switzerland.

AZ & BL

CALLING FOR DANCERS !

The Hamilton Swiss Club is looking for members keen to be part of a **folk-dance group** with the intention to perform at the first of August celebration.

- We depend on your support, so please contact;

Heidi Fransen
07 847-1353

CARD EVENINGS

As winter progresses, so do our six annual card evenings. Attendance at the second two has once again been high - at these popular evenings, it seems people love to come as much for playing cards as to enjoy delicious suppers provided at "half-time". It's always pleasing to see so many members, friends and even visitors come along regularly for a fun game of cards and good company. Further lucky winners are:

29 May, at Eureka

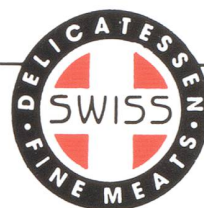
1. Seri Odermatt	4170
2. Marianne Rust	4164
3. Erika Bolli	4131
4. Lina Rufer	4115
5. Vitus Achermann	4045
6. Heidi Leuenberger	4021
7. Beatrice Leuenberger	3990
8. Kurt Hess	3974
9. Julia Meyer	3972
10. Uli Elmiger	3958
Arthur Matti - Booby Prize	3303

12 June, at Tirau

1. Michael Fitzi	4169
2. Vitus Achermann	4168
3. Ruedi Wernli	4164
4. Robert Blättler	4078
5. Patricia Gillon	4035
6. Anna Rufer	4015
7. Hanna Frischknecht	3990
8. Erica Clarkin	3985
9= Joe Arnold	3948
9= Julia Meyer	3948
Ariana Odermatt - Booby Prize	3294

An apology goes to players at the second card evening in Tirau on 15th May - unfortunately, due to an oversight, two of the larger prizes did not reach Tirau, resulting in only seven prizes being awarded.

A big thank you to Hans and Vreni Vetsch for providing some chocolate prizes, as well as to Julia Meyer for donating the fruit basket, all for the third card evening. Several people benefited here, as together with one of the prizes omitted from the previous evening as well, ten lucky winners were able to take home a prize. Thanks also to Lina Rufer for the donation of home-made jam as a prize at the following card evening. As fate would have it, her kind offering resulted in having to toss a coin to decide who would be able to take home the ninth prize, as these two scores were equal, leaving the one last prize to share between two!! But then Julia kindly forfeited her prize, and was happy to see Joe Arnold take it home. Don't forget the last evening on the 10th July - a last chance to be in for an overall prize. **BL**



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Note to Secretaries

Our next issue of **HELVETIA** will be a combined issue for **August & September**. Please hand in all your notices for the two months by the 15th of July.



Taranaki Singing Group in action at the AGM-End of Millennium Celebration



taranaki@swiss.org.nz

Forthcoming Events....

July 4.

Anniversary/Championship Shoot
11.00 am. to 3.00 pm.
followed by Sauerkraut meal commencing
at 6.30 pm.

July 11.

Cards 1.15 pm.

July 25.

Cards 1.15 pm.

July 31.

National Day Celebration.
Committee members will contact all members closer to the time.
Good Music, good entertainment and delicious Supper.

August 8.

Cards 1.15 pm.

August 15.

Cards 1.15 pm.

September 2.

Kegeln recommences.

Past events....

Preiskegeln and Fondue

Preiskegeln commenced at 1-00 pm with groups of four competing for a salametti... competition was fierce...

Some people pay very expensively for their salametti (me included).

Maya Stutz was a very talented Kegler... ZERO from two shots !!!...

must remember to leave you out of the interclub cowbell competition in kegeln..., might be able to use you at jassen... maybe !!! Winners were Ruedi Benkert and Frieda Meier.

Everyone enjoyed the competition for the

delicious salametti. From 6-00 pm fondue and sausages with salads were served. With over 100 people in attendance, the cooks did a wonderful job with many compliments heard..., congratulations and thanks to Erna and Lisette, for making the fondues, and to the ladies who made delicious salads (Erna, Emmi, Heidi, Josie, Rös and Lisette)..., they were truly appreciated by all. Coffee was then served with Brätzeli which were beautiful. Children had a guessing game with lollies which they appreciated and then music was played which everyone enjoyed and soon the dance floor was full..., thanks to Zeno & Leo for their excellent music. All too soon the evening was at an end, with only the hardy card players still there at 2-00 am !!!

- Did you hear about Helen Freimann turning up on Sunday to participate in the Shooting event held the day before ?!!! **Good one Helen.....**

Kegeln - Medals

Competition for these beautiful medals finished in May and the lucky winners were;

Men: Johnny with runners up Mathias and Mark and Mathias being the tinny one in the auskegeln.

Women: Heidi and runner-up Myrtha. Congratulations to you all, and also many thanks to all those who participated in this competition, for without you there would be no competition. A big, big thankyou to John Hermann who collects the money and writes down the scores..., you do a wonderful job.!

Cards

These afternoons have been well attended with both jassen and euchre being played. Although a bit noisy from time to time, everyone enjoys participating and socialising afterwards. Many stay on for a pot-luck tea and several further games of cards..., many stay 'til the wee hours of the morning..., no wonder we appear to have shares in Pow-erco !!!

Karabiner Shooting

Remigi has had several days of Karabiner Shooting with good attendances and equally good results. Should anyone

be interested in this, please ring Remigi. The range is in Schuler's quarry on Op-unaki Rd. in lovely surroundings. Many Swiss tourists think it's absolutely great..., far better than what they have at home !!

Queens' Birthday Weekend

On Saturday 5th June, 41 of us headed south on our journey to Wellington to attend the Society AGM. We left at a more decent hour of 10-00 am, where several members boarded the bus at Midhurst... with the supplies Walter had, we thought he was going away for a fortnight !!! We picked up more people in Stratford, Eltham and finally a big contingent in Hawera. Talking was the major entertainment until we reached Woodlands Lodge in Sanson, where we all enjoyed a delicious lunch. We then continued our trip south, completing a game of 'guess the faces'..., heard many people say 'gosh, should know him, can't remember his name though' !!! - Eventual winners, Maya and Heidi... with help from ???... no, just kidding...!! We duly arrived at our Motel, the Manor Inn, in time to get changed and to take off again to the social evening at the Swiss Clubhouse in Ohariu Valley. Took the Achermanns and Waldvogels from Hamilton with us, Charlie asking when we would be coming back..., our reputation as night owls must have reached their ears !!

- We were served a delicious meal of venison and sausages, carrots cabbage and potatoes with fruit salad and cream to follow. It was truly scrumptuous. Auckland obviously had a slower bus, or their driver took a wrong turn, as they arrived much later than us !!! ..., they were fortunate to find that there was some mullwine left, once Taranaki had taken to it !!! There followed great entertainment provided by Auckland and Taranaki... excellent to see people from different clubs mingling and enjoying each others' company. Had a bit of a sleep in the next day... except for those who had noisy neighbours... won't mention any names. Some chose to go to church and paid expensive taxi fares... must have taken them half way to Taranaki again !! We left at 10-30 to see how the final of the Cowbell compe-

tion was going.. as our southern neighbour hadn't won the bell for a good many years... we lent our support to them. After a close battle, Wellington beat their northern rivals, Hamilton. **Congratulations Wellington** for your great effort... you'll have to be on your toes come next February !!! A nice lunch of soup, sausages and bread was served and digestion was by way of lively discussions during the AGM !!! Yours truly was delegated the task of speaking on behalf of our club... the favour will be returned one day, Walter !!! This coming to an end at about 4-00 pm, we all left to get dressed up for the evening. What a transformation some people took... nice to see Carol in a Swiss costume... it really suited you !! The meal was scrumptuous... with Walter really enjoying the mustard so much that he had tears streaming down his face..., no, the meal was terrific.. then followed the entertainment..., well that was out of this world !... terrific... wonderful...superb !!! The Swiss Kiwi Yodlers from Auckland were excellent, and their entertainment was so varied. Kathi from Wellington also sang a well known tune which was appreciated, a Maori group sang beautifully with many enjoying the well known tune POKAREKARE, most.

- Our own little singing group also performed and were well received... they have come a long way from their humble beginning !!! Next the Swiss-Kiwi orchestra gave items, with the dance floor being packed regularly. Great to see Max and Rosina still dancing at 2-00 am... as Max said; *'It's been many years since I did that'* !!! - A truly memorable evening, with also a great tombola organised with many excellent prizes. The decoration in the function room was 'very Swiss', with beautiful flowers adorning all tables.

We were grateful and appreciative of the taxi service available to us, as we got home at 3-00 am !! Next morning we were treated to a delicious breakfast at the clubhouse and all too soon good-byes were being said.

- On behalf of all the members on our bus, a big **THANK YOU** to the **WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB** for their tireless efforts in making this weekend a truly memorable one. The delicious meals and the entertainment you organised were superb and those who missed this trip don't know what they missed out on !!!, a truly **GOOD TIME !!!**

- As we left a jogger passed the bus and someone challenged Walter to catch up with him..., well he took up this challenge and 'do or die' he was going to catch up !! Well done, Walter.... don't know how we would've picked you up, had you collapsed !!! Showed he's still pretty fit !!! Next we stopped at a supermarket to get supplies for a picnic lunch..., Lisette made sure the trolleys were out of sight when she took Walter to the supermarket !!!

- We then stopped at a rest area and

enjoyed a lovely meal, the gorgeous surroundings and the great weather. Bread, cheese, wine and chips were enjoyed, together with discussions about the weekend... hear about Rös..., she decided to give everyone a free wake-up call..., she didn't bargain on Ruedi throwing a glass of water at her !!! (the thanks you get, eh Rös!!!)

- During the entire trip we were served a variety of lollies by Lou..., I'm sure he has shares in several confectionary companies !! Thanks Lou, you really sweetened everyone !!especially before we took all their money for the costs of the trip !! Having left his girlfriend at home, Lou decided that there was no need to take a scarf on this trip... hope you didn't catch a cold... otherwise we'll have to take Doreen Z with us again next time !! Before we knew it, we were back in Midhurst... with all of Walter's supplies eaten or drunk... and feeling as though the weekend had come to an end all too quickly !!! Grateful thanks to you, Walter, for organising this trip... you did a tremendous job.

- Thanks to all the members who came on the bus trip... for without you we wouldn't have any fun... and we certainly hope that you all participate in the next one !!

- We were all privileged to have TVI reporter, Mark Kiser, with us... and loved watching part of the video on the bus... maybe you could take up a new apprenticeship..., the video was great !!

M.B.



The President of Wellington Swiss Club recognizing the services of French/German speaking Lisette Benkert, Taranaki, with a present.

<http://www.swiss.org.nz>

Looks like the Web Page tool for the Swiss Society and the clubs made one step further. Was a good time in Wellington, wasn't it? I really enjoyed their excellent hospitality. The time down there gave me a few moments to privately talk to a few members about the Internet and the club web pages. As expected some were against it, some didn't really know but many were in favour. One of the main reasons against it was a simple fact that they don't have and don't really want a computer to look at it! Some have told me that they have heard about the Internet via the (bad) news media... e.g. hackers, viruses, making bombs, pornography, children sex, etc. etc. Well I am not really surprised they don't want to take part in this! Unfortunately any new global information media tool with unlimited access will always have a small percentage of abuse. But as I mentioned when quickly addressing the members at the end of the meeting...

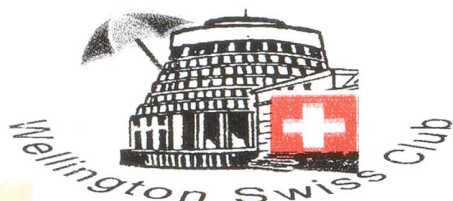
"Nobody is forced to look at bad pages. It's anybody's own choice even to turn off the TV or discard papers when bad and not suitable!" Therefore I would like to ask all the members still against it to spend a moment thinking and not judge an ethnic (Swiss society and club) Internet web site on such grounds.

With this world wide information tool we are closer to home and friends than ever before. Many of our page visitors log in from Switzerland and other countries... it might be your brother, sister, friend in Canada or even a new emigrant who would like to join a club!

If you can and have some time please go and take a good look at our pages

(<http://www.swiss.org.nz>). We invite you all to make constructive criticism and add your ideas or changes to these pages. One person alone is limited with ideas. The more interesting and fun we can make these pages the more visitors we can attract and the closer New Zealand gets to good old Switzerland and the world.

Thanks very much, your Web Master, Edi Brandli (edi@kcbbs.gen.nz)



wellington@swiss.org.nz

Forthcoming Events....

Our **National Day** will be celebrated one day early, on **Saturday 31st July** with a Fondue. Our Bonfire will be on Petone Beach on **1st August**. Invitations will be sent to all members of the Wellington Swiss Club.

Past Events...

It was our turn this year to host the **AGM** of the **Swiss Society**, and as it was the last AGM of the millennium and the last one in our clubhouse, we thought it should be a special one.

- The preparations started reasonably early, and we could write a book about all the discussions and details; - it might better stay unwritten though..!

- Anyway, we hope all our guests were as happy as we were.

Thank you all for coming and for contributing to the great weekend. Thank you, Taranaki Swiss, for your wonderful support - and a special thank you to **Hamilton** for letting

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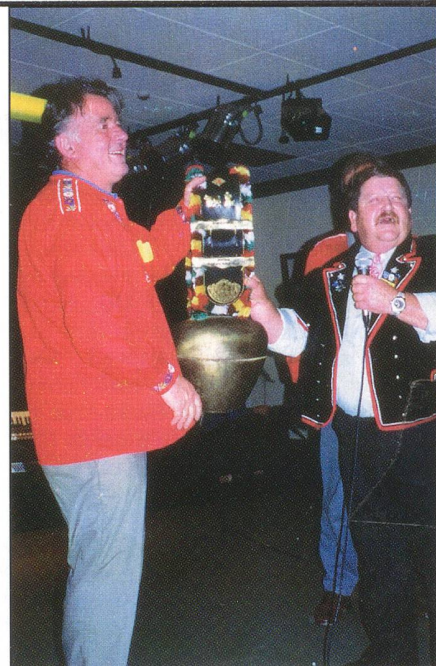
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Group New Zealand of the Helvetic Society

us have the cowbell.....!

We are most grateful to the **Auckland Swiss Kiwi Yodel Group** who made the evening possible. The travelling record, however, is held by Kuini Reedy who came all the way from Auckland to Gisborne and on to Wellington and had to go back to Auckland just to celebrate with us.!

tb.

*Last years 'holders' of
Competition-Cowbell, Taranaki
(Walter Seiffert, Pres.), handing
over the coveted trophy to
the Pres. of Wellington
Swiss Club, Roland Schütz.*



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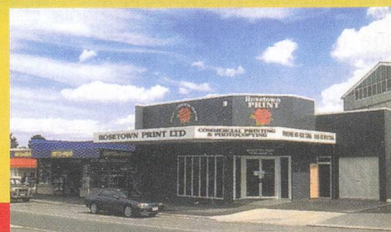
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