

Local news : Great Britain

Objektyp: **Appendix**

Zeitschrift: **Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad**

Band (Jahr): **13 (1986)**

Heft 3

PDF erstellt am: **09.08.2024**

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Local News – Great Britain

Switzerland in Britain's cultural life

MUSIC

Marian Rosefeld – Piano

David Josefowitz – Conductor

Marian Rosefeld was a finalist and prize winner in the Eurovision Young Musician of the Year Competition in Copenhagen this year. The conductor David Josefowitz himself an established name in the London musical world, has now given her the unique chance to make her London debut with the London Soloists Chamber Orchestra on:

Sept. 26th Friday 7.45 p.m.

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Programme:

Mozart Piano Concerto K.271

"Jeune Homme"

with Marian Rosefeld as soloist as well as Schubert's Symphony No. 5. Beethoven's Romance for Violin and Orchestra, and Mahler

It seems a must to hear this promising musician, for it is not every day that we can see a talent grow almost in front of our eyes. I do hope that readers of this Bulletin will make a point of being there.

Booking: South Bank Concerts Box

Office: Tel: 01-928 3191

JAZZ

Jazz fans will be delighted to learn that the

Red Twist & Tuned Arrow

will be touring England and Scotland from October 6th-19th.

For details phone 01-723 0701 ext. 248 252.

Architecture

Luigi Snozzi – Architect

After Mario Botta's very successful exhibition in 1983, another of our renowned architects from the Italian part of Switzerland will introduce his work to the British public under the title.

"Urban Renewal at Montecarrasso"

From Sept. 19th – Oct. 10th at the 9H Gallery 26-28 Cramer Street, London W1.

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CRAFTS

Ursula Sturzinger – Quilter

Verena Sieber-Fuchs – Textile Sculptures

The Suffolk Craft Society has invited Ms.

Ursula Sturzinger and Ms. Verena Sieber-

Fuchs to participate in this year's

International Festival of Textiles,

"Threads", which will be held from:

Oct. 20th – Nov. 2nd in Aldeburgh, Suffolk

More information in the next bulletin.

If you wish to enquire already about

details, please contact: Ms. Mona

Thomson, Reedling, Gorse Road,

Reydon, Southwold, Suffolk. Tel:

Southwold 722 893.

1st August Speech to the Swiss Colony in London by Monsieur le Ministre Willy Hold, from the Swiss Embassy

Ladies and Gentlemen, first of all I wish to thank very warmly the members of the 1st August Committee. We all are grateful to them, and especially to their President, Mr. Berti, for the excellent way they have organised the evening. I should also like to thank the Consistoire of the Swiss Church, which has again most kindly agreed to play the host.

1st August is a landmark in the life of the Swiss communities in London. We get together in order to remember our origins and to renew our commitment to the fatherland, mindful at the same time of the hospitality and friendly welcome we have found in this country.

Unlike most countries, we in Switzerland do not celebrate, on our national day, our accession to independence, or the birthday of a sovereign. We commemorate a very ancient event, soon to be 700 years old, which was only the beginning of the long process that led through many centuries to the creation of modern Switzerland.

We thus recall that our country has been built, step by step and stone by stone, as an alliance of free communities which in the course of many centuries decided to unite their strengths. What brought them together was, of course, the realization that despite differences in language or even religion they had much more in common with one another than with any of their more powerful and more prosperous neighbours. For them it was the only way to keep their freedom and to maintain their identity.

Thus the existence of Switzerland resting, and still rests, on the will of all the Confederates. It is that will, that determination to stick together, which we express again tonight, as well as our readiness to adapt and adjust to the needs of modern times. The creation of a new Canton, 10 years ago, was an expression at home of that will and adaptability.

The Swiss people have the very rare privilege of having a say in the shaping of their country's foreign relations. We have the right to vote on issues of foreign policy. We exercised that right a few months ago when we decided not to join the United Nations. That vote has been interpreted in some places as a manifestation of isolationism. It is not true, Switzerland has certainly never lived in isolation. We are compelled to communicate. Our country has, after all, been built along and around major roads through the Alps, between North and South or East and West. Never in the course of our long history have we been self-sufficient. History has taught us that

co-operation with our neighbours is a necessity, indeed a matter of survival. In present conditions, that co-operation must be extended to the whole world. Switzerland will continue to take its fair share, and when possible more than its fair share, in the search for solutions to the many world-wide problems which affect mankind. The Federal Council knows that in that respect, too, it can rely on the support of the Swiss abroad, who know from first-hand experience how interdependent countries have become.

I thank you very warmly for everything you are doing in Britain to promote the good name of Switzerland and to develop further the bonds of friendship which unite the two countries.

Dear Editor,

We have read with great interest your latest issue of the Swiss Review and in particular your postscript that the very first of August Badge was introduced in 1923.

Your readers may like to know that the complete set of badges has been very kindly lent to us by Schweizerisch Museum fuer Volkskunde Basle, and is on permanent display in our Banking Hall in 99 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2BR.

Yours sincerely,

Swiss Bank Corporation

SECRETARY NEEDED

Do you speak Schwyzerdütsch and are you interested in becoming the third member of our team? The Swiss Benevolent Society and the Swiss Welfare Office for Young People need a Secretary/Audio Typist from 1st October 1986. Other languages required: English and French.

For details please ring:

Mrs. A. R. Sharp 01-387 2173 or

Mrs. M. Lyster 01-387 3608

Swiss Church - Eglise Suisse 79 Endell Street, London WC2

Bazaar

Official opening at 11.30 a.m.

by our Ambassador

Monsieur François-Charles Pictet.

Saturday 22nd November 1986
from 11 am.

Donations will be gratefully accepted

Gifts may be delivered to:

Rev Ph. Von Orelli, 1 Womersley Rd
London N8 9AE. Tel: 01-340 9740

**1st August 1986
At the Swiss Church in London**

At 6 o'clock sharp the blue doors of the Swiss Church opened and the waiting crowd surged in to secure a place at the tables where they could enjoy a welcome supper of the famous Bartholdi sausages and a delicious Raclette, prepared expertly by our "Super-Racletteur" Mr. Duboulet!

Inside the church a huge Swiss flag dominated the scene and the walls were decorated with lovely pictures from home and colourful Cantons flags. Vases full of red and white carnations were placed in each corner and the "Toni Gehrig Laendler kapelle" from Steinhausen in their Swiss costumes created a perfect atmosphere.

The mighty sound of Church Bells from Switzerland – which we all miss so much – announced the beginning of our National Day Celebration, and what a celebration that was! We all joined in heartily as the band played the National Anthem and afterwards listened to the message for the Swiss Abroad from the President of the Swiss Confederation. This was followed by a well delivered speech by a leading member of the Embassy staff. The Rev. Marcel Dietler captivated the audience with his very special way of putting over his own words and then joined us in the Lords Prayer said by everyone in their own language – Swiss/German-French-Italian and Romantsch.

But now the band blared out some jazzy tunes and the fun began! In a lovely gesture, Mr. Berti handed out flags to all the children and some of them spontaneously placed themselves in front of the band waving their own particular Cantons-flag to the sound of music and for the very first time the children were with us as New Citizens of Switzerland!

Of course "Es Buurebuebli" and "Vo Luzern uf Weggis zue" got everybody going and soon the young and not so young – but equally enthusiastic – started singing, yodelling, clapping and dancing and there was no stopping them. A steadily growing snake of the ever popular Polonaise wound itself round and round the tables and up and down the stairs collecting more and more happy people all the way.

To crown it all, an Alphorn blasted its "Moo-oo" sounds from the gallery pretending it was on a mountain top! All that was missing was a bonfire and our families from home. Somebody was astonished just how Swiss we all still feel – and he got the right answer:

"ONCE A SWISS – ALWAYS A SWISS!"

A very big thank you from all of us who were there to the organisers – it was a fantastic evening!

H.M.

Paignton Swiss Club

Torquay lived up to its Riviera reputation on 2nd August, when a belated celebration of the Swiss National Day took place.

In brilliant sunshine the members of the Paignton and South Devon Swiss Club met at Torre Abbey for a civic reception by the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. & Mrs. James Mason, our Consul, Monsieur C. Duboulet and Mme. Duboulet, paying their first visit to the area.

Later, a barbecue was enjoyed by 25 South Devon Swiss, and their families on the terrace of Lupton Park, overlooking the sparkling lights of Torbay on one side and the lush green rolling countryside and woods on the other.

From the main road to the house, Swiss flags showed the way and the festive atmosphere was enhanced by lampions

and flares lit as darkness fell. Our hosts, Mr. Vernon Duker and Mr. Max Singer and family produced a fabulous buffet to accompany the bratwurst.

M. and Mme. Duboulet received a great welcome and were much in demand from the younger members of the party. The recording of the bells of Luzern and the message of the President of the Confederation M. Alfons Egli were followed by a few words from M. Duboulet on the most recent and forthcoming legislation concerning citizenship for children and spouses of Swiss.

Organiser of the Club, Mrs. Katrin Owen expressed the feelings of all present, in thanking the Consul and Mme. Duboulet for coming, and to the hosts for a highly memorable and successful day.

Harry Buckland



Courtesy, Herald Express, Torquay.

West of Scotland Swiss Club

May 16th '86 was our AGM followed by a Cheese & Wine Party.

Our Summer Outing took us to Lake of Menteith with a visit to Inchmahao Priory. Afternoon tea was enjoyed at the Aizle Inn. 1st August National Day Celebrations will take place in the lovely grounds of Chryston Garden Cottage, the home of Mr. & Mrs. Hogarth.

Forthcoming Events:

- 25.10.86 3 p.m. Scottish Swiss Clubs meet their Consul.
- 14.11.86 Swiss Films.
- 12.12.86 Christmas Party.

NOTICE

Retired Swiss couple, visiting the Cotswolds frequently, would like to hear from Swiss people living in the Cheltenham/Stroud region. Please let us know where you are. Maertel & Walter Moor, 3 Oakland Road, Liverpool L19 9DU Telephone: 051-427 1816.

Yorkshire Swiss Club

We celebrated the Swiss National Day and Yorkshire Day on the evening of August 2nd. Mr. & Mrs. Kägi kindly invited us to their home in the lovely village of Silsden, between Keighley and Skipton on the way out to the Yorkshire Dales. The Swiss flags were waving with gusts in the strong Yorkshire gales, the bonfire was neatly piled up in true Swiss style, the kitchen was buzzing with food preparation in good old Yorkshire style. What a great day! We would like to thank everyone concerned, especially Mr. & Mrs. Kägi.

The weekend of September 26th – Frank Page is organising a trip to the Isle of Iona to look up some Swiss History there.

October 11th is our annual luncheon at Sandal Farm Restaurant above Bradford. Novembr 8th we plan to visit "Automobilia" – a vintage car museum in Hebden Bridge.

We end the year with a Christmas Party on the 13th of December at the Foreign Language Circle, Eldon Place, Bradford.

**Congratulations to
Dr. Rudolf Duttweiler**

on being elected President of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom (FOSSUK), and also President of the City Swiss Club.



Dr. Duttweiler was born in Zurich on 2nd September, 1944. He spent his early years in Chur and St. Gallen. It was at the Hochschule, St. Gallen, that he obtained his Doctorate in Economics. He is married with two children.

He first joined the Swiss Bank Corporation in 1978. Five years later (1983) he moved with his family to London, where he is Head of the Bank's Foreign Exchange and Money Market Department, with the rank of Vice President.

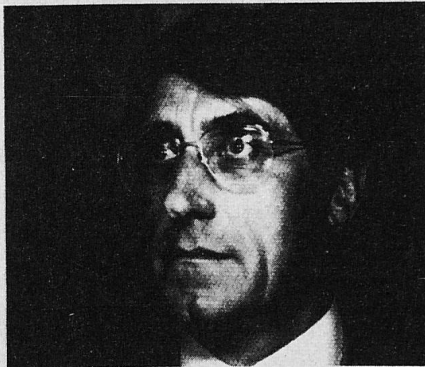
Dr. Duttweiler is a captain in the Swiss Army, and commands a Company. From 1978-1983, he was both the President of the Europa-Union, Zurich, and a member of the Executive Board of the Europa-Union Schweiz.

As relaxation from his active business life, he enjoys a visit to the Opera or a Musical and appreciates a good game of Tennis. On behalf of all our readers, I wish him a very successful and happy period of office in both of his new roles.

The Editor

**Congratulations to the new
Vice-President of FOSSUK**

Jeffrey Long, although born in Bradford in Yorkshire is able to trace his Swiss ancestry through his mother back to 1565. Educated in England and gaining a



Fellowship of the Institute of Sales and Marketing management, he went on to become a Company Director in the Textile industry. However in 1982 he decided upon a change of direction and returned to full-time education. His studies have included, Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy, Community Health and Business Studies, and have taken him from Bradford to Boston Massachusetts U.S.A. Having recently obtained a Diploma in Management Studies he is now looking for a new career.

His interests include, preservation of the environment, walking, music and badminton. These apart from an abiding interest in the Swiss community which has led him to be a member of the Yorkshire Swiss Club for the past 30 years and its President since 1982. Best wishes for a successful term in office.

The Editor

Swiss Rifle Association

The Annual Dinner-Dance and Prizegiving takes place Saturday, 22nd November 1986 at the Portmann Intercontinental Hotel, 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. Anyone interested, please contact: The Secretary Mr. Urs Schaefer, Tel: 01-850 4117.

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SWISS REVIEW

Deadline for your contributions and illustrations

4/86 December 13.10.86

Please remember these dates, it is very important for your articles to arrive on time. Please send very clear bright photos preferably black and white otherwise the final reproduction may not be satisfactory. The Swiss Review goes to print two months before the publishing date.

Editors Address:

**Mrs. M. E. Hall-Zeller 27 Redway Drive
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Sunday 11th May – Basildon Park

This year the Spring Outing was organised in conjunction with our friends from Cercle Genevois, and it turned out to be a most enjoyable and successful day, attended by nearly 40 adults and children. It was rather a windy and cool day, but the sun was out most of the time and we were actually able to eat our picnics in the open. After lunch Mr. Peter Barber gave us a short talk on the history of the House and background of the personages and families associated with it, by way of introduction to visiting the House itself. It is a beautiful but much smaller construction than one had imagined, and only a few people at a time are allowed to wander through it (it is feared that the floors might not take the strain otherwise), but it is definitely worth a visit. As for the setting, and the park surrounding the house, it is quite idyllic.

Sunday 6th July – West Wycombe Park

In a way this was the most perfect outing of the year. The weather was sunny and warm (no fears of rain on that day!), the spot chosen for our picnic was on a grassy slope with a lovely view (about 25 of us shared this experience), so that we all lingered a little longer than planned before climbing the steep hill to the Church and Mausoleum, led by Mr. Peter Barber. Several more members joined us at the top, for a visit to this truly

remarkable building (the Church). But the most interesting part of our visit was going through the House: not very large, but with some spectacular frescoes particularly on the ceilings, mostly the work of Giuseppe Mattia Borgnis from the Val Vigezzo (just across the border from Ticino) and his son. The House is beautifully set in a truly magnificent park, complete with a vast artificial lake and several elegant small temples surrounded by woods and clearings. The village of West Wycombe is also most attractive, and later we had tea in one of the quaint little old houses, where various local ladies were serving delicious home-made cakes in aid of the Church.

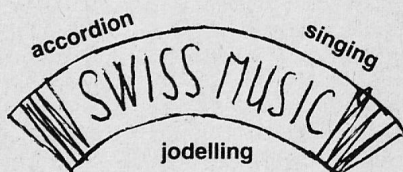
Valeria Ossola

Swiss Club!

After several months of "collecting" people who had no connections with other Swiss in the Surrey-Kent area, we decided to start off with a "getting-to-know-you" meeting at my house. Some of them could not come, but 14 turned up and after the usual introductions and address exchanges they all soon laughed and chatted together as if they had known each other for years – which some of them do of course. We met people who live only streets away and we didn't even know! We arranged to meet every three months and make it a special occasion. A family outing – Christmas or New Years Party – Fasnacht, Easter or even a birthday. Any excuse for a get-together will do. But that does not mean we can't see each other or phone each other at any other time and have a chat and a coffee. Our meetings can be held at different places to give everybody a chance to join, and in October we meet at Ursula Ocrofts house in Hinchley-Wood (Esher). For details ring me please. Telephone No: 01-647 9630. We would also like to find someone who is willing to teach the children our own language now that most of them are Swiss too, and if you know of such a person please let me know, and keep ringing if you would like to join, maybe we can arrange transport for anybody without a car.

H.M.

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Manchester SWISSAIR, John Dalton House,
12 John Dalton Street,
Tel: 061-832 8161

Glasgow SWISSAIR, Phoenix House,
78 St Vincent Street,
Tel: 041-248 6491/2

**Talk given to the NSH London Group,
by Mr. Hans B. Kunz, Cultural Attaché, on
8th July 1986 to The revolutionary
Tradition in Swiss History**

A personal view.

Revolutionary tradition is not a concept which readily comes to mind when referring to Swiss history. Because of events such as happened in France, in 1789, we have come to think of the word revolution as meaning bloodshed of the worst kind. This certainly did apply in the case of both French and Russian revolution. Revolution, however, can also mean a turning point. This Mr. Kunz brilliantly demonstrated, drawing from various sources to illustrate his argument. Revolution is a two-dimensional process: a domestic one, when the general structure of social, economic and political entity undergoes a dramatic change; an international one when perceived on international level, as a revolutionary process which, in the case of Switzerland, is of utmost importance. One of the most far-reaching events in our history was the foundation, 1291, of the Swiss Confédération resting on the progressive independent-mindedness of the authors of the Charter. Following Morgarten, the first Swiss military victory, the element of co-ordination and collective security was added to the initially purely legal alliance. This deliberate expression of self-assurance by the peoples of our mountain valleys is remarkable in its progressive character. Also the fact that, later on when cities joined the Confédération they were placed on an equal footing with rural cantons, by definition less-favoured economically, thus marking a historic movement of progress.

The French Revolution coincided with the liberal revolution of Switzerland. In 1789 many parts of Switzerland were ripe for a radical political change. Though, after the fall of Napoléon, the old régime was restored, liberation was gaining ground and so was the idea exacerbated by the 1830 Paris Revolution of transforming the Confédération of States into a Federal State. The event which triggered off the Sonderbund war was a relatively minor incident: the closing of convents in Aargau and the secret Alliance of the catholic cantons, both facts violating the 1815 Covenant. The conflict that followed was, in fact, the first victorious liberal revolution. Moderation prevailed however. Use of political other than purely military action was chosen; the result of this revolution was not the annihilation of submission of the defeated side, but the 1848 Constitution creating the Federal State. This was deemed highly revolutionary by the foreign powers. Count Metternich wrote: "Switzerland offers the most complete picture of a body politic in social unrest to revolt, a source of moral and material nuisance". Alexis de Tocqueville

"UBS Switzerland"

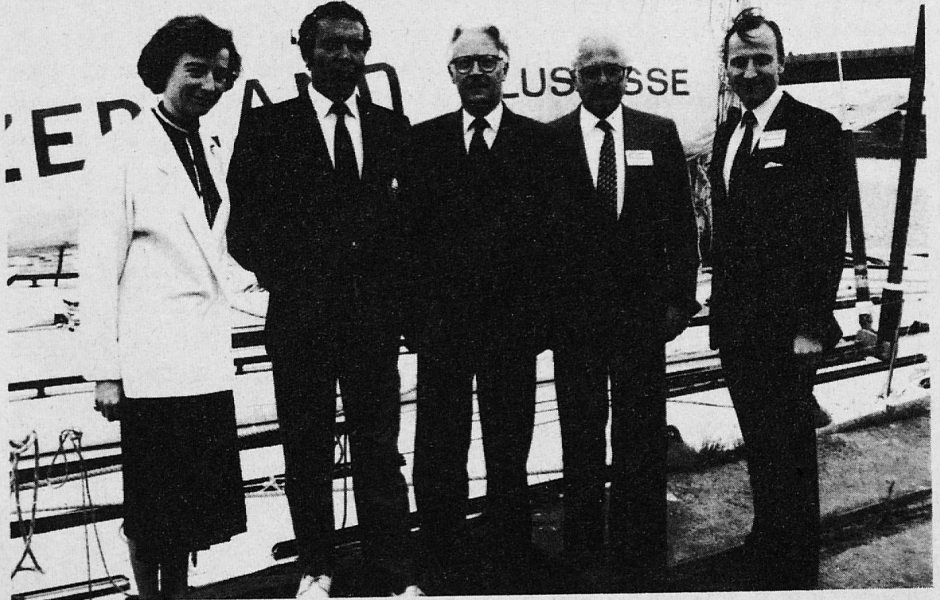
at anchor in London's Dockland

The news that the Swiss yacht "UBS Switzerland" had won the fourth Whitbread Round-the-World Sailing Race created quite a stir – a small country with no marine tradition beat not only great sea-faring nations after 8 months of tremendous experience and tribulations at sea, but knocked two days off the previous record.

Due admiration was expressed by expert sailors for the highly skilled and professional achievement by Skipper Pierre Fehlmann from Morges and his crew.

The London Office of the Union Bank of Switzerland gave a reception at the Canary Wharf on the Isle of Dogs on 9th June, hosted by the retiring Senior Vice-President, Mr. E. P. Tangemann, and his successor, Mr. B. L. Meier. Amongst the guests at the luncheon were the Swiss Ambassador and Madame François-Charles Pictet and the Mayor of Tower Hamlet.

The guests were able to go over the yacht and meet skipper Fehlmann and some of his crew. Three days later, HRH The Princess of Wales, presented the Long John Trophy to the Captain and crew at a ceremony at Whitbread's. M.M.



Madame Pictet, Skipper Fehlmann, Swiss Ambassador, Mr. E. P. Tangemann and his successor Mr. B. L. Meier.

declared that Switzerland had lived, for the past 15 years, in a state of revolution. The victory of the Swiss liberals inspired the Revolution of 1848 which was of truly European dimensions – i.e. the demise of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in Italy, the Communist Manifesto and the birth of the Socialist revolutionary movement. The links with the latter mark the climax of the end of what our guest speaker called the revolutionary tradition in Swiss history. Whether the call for a general strike in Novembr 1918 was an attempt to start a revolution is still a much disputed point. The Socialists have refuted this accusing the authorities of having over reacted to a basically reformist movement. At the time, however, it bore the hall-mark of an authentic and home-made revolution. Underlying this was the practice of generously granting asylum to political refugees of all kinds and of both sexes (Swiss universities being the first in Europe to accept female students). To the outside world Switzerland continued therefore to represent a constant source of unrest and revolt.

At the end of the first World War our

country's reputation was at its worst. President Wilson wrote: "Switzerland is saturated with every poisonous element and open to every hostile influence in Europe. This led to the unfortunate events of 1918 but happily also along a path towards urgent social reform and improvements of the conditions of the working class. By 1920 full rehabilitation had been achieved. Switzerland was by then not only a member of the anti-Bolchevik Alliance embodied in the League of Nations but also host country of this organisation.

From the Middle Ages to modern times Switzerland's path has been a fairly democratic and egalitarian one. Consequently there was little revolutionary potential. On the other hand the very existence of this egalitarian and fairly democratic society in the heart of Europe represented a threat to surrounding régimes. These regimes once overthrown, liberal democracy became a European phenomenon. Switzerland lost her uniqueness, her revolutionary tradition came to an end.

A.A.