

New Zealand's Swiss Club news

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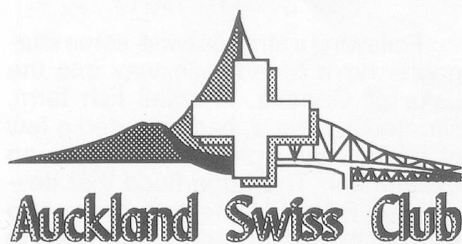
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New Zealand's Swiss Club News



Auckland
Christchurch
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington



PIC-NIC

We had a fine but cloudy day for our annual pic-nic at our farm in Kaukapakapa. Perhaps the attendance wasn't quite as good as on a sunny day. We just hope, that everybody enjoyed the company, BBQ and the games. Many thanks to our hard working committee and spouses for an enjoyable day. Special thanks go to Hans Iten, Yvonne and Markus Bühler and Kurt Leutenegger for making such a professional lucky wheel. It will serve the club for many years to come. A.W.

FARM EXTENSION OF OUR LITTLE SWISS FARM IN KAUKAPAKAPA

By the time you read this we have already started with the big job up at the little Swiss farm. The donation received so far has made us very confident to go ahead and start with the extension. The first job is to do the foundation and move heaps of dirt to different locations. Very soon we should get the building permit so we can continue with the construction work. Please don't hesitate to come up the farm and take a look for your self.



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CHRIS & CHRISTINE HOCHULI

This is a small report on work done up the Swiss farm from 1985 to 1995 compiled by the Farm Trustee. All the working bees endured by club members, the farm trustee and some work-a-holics in that time required a lot of organization and management and of course hard work to create the result. Work which was done and completed up to now:

MAIN ACCESS ROAD

The main access road (Rapson Road) leading up to the parking area and the hut was bulldozed and covered with gravel. A road drainage system was installed at the same time. Ongoing maintenance made sure that the road kept in good shape.

HUT AND GROUND MAINTENANCE

A new goat fence with five gates was installed around the hut area to keep the grazing cows outside. The B.B.Q. area and the toilet also went through a major revamp. The still basic toilet was upgraded with a septic tank. This made it possible to install a proper flush toilet and a hand basin with tap water. The hut it self was re-roofed with colour steel and a rotating chimney cap was installed. Being proud of our flag(s) prompted us to plant a big, galvanised flag pole. A twenty foot steel container was purchased, reconditioned and equipped with shelves and cupboards. It is situated close to the hut and serves as a lockable storage for tools, the cocking utensils and much more. A small two target air rifle range for picnic fun shooting was built. Seven big and very solid picnic tables sponsored by club members were built and brought up to the farm. A flying fox was installed for our young members. The retaining wall replacing the temporary tea-tree construction was drilled and concreted in place. Also the little dirt track to the toilet was widened. Just a little up the hill a small bush hut for the kids turned up one weekend. General maintenance in and around the farm hut takes place many times a year by members who like to spend family weekends away from home in a more quiet and pleasing environment.

SHOOTING RANGE RENOVATION AND UPGRADING

The shooting house received a new roof and wall paint job. New gutters and down pipes were installed to feed the water into the newly commissioned water tank. New doors and heavy window shutters were assembled and bolted on the house. Around the range a fence with gate was built. Inside the house a sleeping bunk for approx. 20 people was built. The toilet was also fixed and a bit improved. To get to the butts a new road was constructed over the creek down the valley and up the

other hill. The changeable target frames are now housed in a very save and solid wooden construction.

GORSE

Our team of 7 to 15 young and old has and still is cutting and spraying gorse as its growth is never ending. Nearly every working bee in the last ten years called for this dying breed of volunteers to look after the horrible gorse. We all hope sincerely to win at least this battle against mother nature.

All work was always done with the best materials available for the money we could spend. The idea was and still is to put our labour into something which will please you and last for many years to come. Once more we would like to invite you to support our friendly and steadily increasing family club. Your money is surely well invested for now and future generations. To finish the present project, the extension, we still need more sponsors. Please don't hesitate to show your support now by sending a couple of dollars to the:

Auckland Swiss Club

P.O. Box 40-152, Auckland 10

Last but not least many, many thanks to all the keen helpers and sponsors.
Willi Pfenniger and the Farm Trustee

DATES 1996

March 15 Society Jassen
March 17 Society Shooting
March 31 Kindertag Long Bay
May AGM
June AGM Swiss Society

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB SHOOTING SECTION.

1996 Shooting Programme.

09 March 1996: Training and Prize Giving Day at Kaukapakapa. **14 April 1996:** Small Bore Shooting Day at Ardmore. **28 April 1996:** General Shooting Day at Kaukapakapa. **11 May 1996:** Last Auckland Shooting Day at Kaukapakapa. **12 May 1996:** Hamilton Shooting Day at Kaukapakapa.

All shooting days start at 9.00 o'clock sharp.

The Riflemaster Werner Werffeli
The secretary Mrs. Virginia Amstutz.

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HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Card Evenings: Saturday 4 May: 7.30pm - Tirau Memorial Hall, Tirau (plus medal competition). Saturday 18 May: 7.30pm - Eureka Hall, Eureka (plus medal competition). Saturday 8 June: 7.30pm - Tirau Saturday 15 June: 7.30pm - Eureka Saturday 29 June: 7.30pm - Tirau Saturday 13 July: 7.30pm - Eureka

Hamilton Swiss Club AGM: Saturday 20th April, 8.00pm. Swiss Craft premises, Frankton.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION This year is the **40th anniversary** of the founding of the Hamilton Swiss Club, and we will be celebrating this occasion with a 40th Jubilee function on **Saturday 23 March 1996 at the Cambridge Raceway**, Taylor Street, Cambridge. We would be delighted to see as many people as possible and welcome members and friends of all the Clubs to join us in this celebration. The evening will consist of a delicious smorgasbord dinner, as well as a full programme of entertainment, including the Swiss Kiwi Yodel Group,

Fahnenschwingen, traditional music and dancing and an exciting raffle and spot prizes. (Wearing of costumes welcome).

The cost for the evening is **\$25** per person, and **\$10** for children up to thirteen years. Tickets are available from: Beatrice Leuenberger **Ph. 07 843-7971** Heidi Fransen **Ph. 07 847-1353** Doris Rust **Ph. 07 872-2636** We would appreciate bookings as soon as possible, but no later than **18th March** as numbers will need to be confirmed to the caterers.

As a souvenir of our jubilee, a booklet will be available, recounting special events and memories of the past forty years of the Hamilton Swiss Club. Once again, we look forward to your support and company for a very enjoyable and memorable evening.

The Jubilee Committee.

CHRISTCHURCH SWISS CLUB

This club year is rapidly drawing to a close. There are now only very few events left before our next AGM in May, but anyway here it goes:

PROGRAMME

Sun. 24 March. Wine trail. We will meet outside the old Christchurch Railway Station (Moorhouse Ave) at 10.30am. By bus we will visit probably about three different vineyards, incl. maybe a cider place, and have lunch at one of the nicer ones. At the time of writing, we had not decided yet where exactly we will be heading, but this promises again to be a very enjoyable outing for all! You will be contacted by phone prior to the event to confirm your participation. Just in case we missed you, please call **Johanna Cunningham (ph Chch 358-8666)** to register your interest. The price is \$10 per adult (children free) to cover transport costs. Food and drink will be at your own expense.

Easter Sun. 7 April. "Eiertütsch"

picnic and walk in Victoria Park on the Port Hills! Something different, believe me! We will meet in the area around the car park at 11.30am and will then find ourselves a lovely spot for a picnic, some "Eiertütschen", the search for the chocolate eggs hidden by the Swiss Easter Bunny and of course having a good chat with old and new friends. Bring plenty of colourful boiled eggs (there will be a prize for the most beautifully coloured egg!), a picnic for your family and some good shoes, just in case you feel energetic enough for a walk after the festivities. I am sure this will be a very enjoyable afternoon for the whole family!

Mon. 6 May 7.30pm Christchurch Swiss Club AGM. We are trying to lighten-up the evening a bit and are thinking of showing a video on something Swiss. There is a new and apparently very interesting film on the Glacier Express we are trying to obtain! You will just have to come along...

APPEAL

Both your club's President (Johanna Cunningham) and Secretary (myself) will be standing down at the AGM in May. So if you are keen for the Swiss Club to continue and prosper, please start thinking about putting your name forward for either of these two roles. The club will benefit greatly from your active participation and we need some new blood! Feel free to call Johanna or me to discuss any queries or concerns you may have.

We would love to hear from you!

HOUSE-SITTING

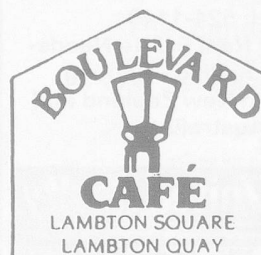
Looking for some accommodation in Christchurch for relatives or friends coming out from Switzerland (or for that matter from anywhere else)? Well your secretary will be in Europe with his family during July, August and September of this year. We are willing to make our house in Cashmere available for this period. If you are interested, just



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give me a call. Also Norbert G. is offering his house in Lyttelton with harbour view (!) during April, May and June (I believe). If you are interested, please contact him directly. Ph. (03) 328-7646.

SNIPPETS

Recently read in the "Tages-Anzeiger" on the Internet (www.tages-anzeiger.ch): The "Arbeiter Bundesrat" Moritz Leuenberger has just spent SFR170,000 (approx NZ\$200,000) to upgrade his office at the Bundeshaus in Berne! Apparently this was considered as extremely modest - even the Swiss are now into reduced Government spending - as only a few years ago when "Bundesrat" Ogi did the same, he had a budget of SFR500,000 and ended up actually spending SFR700,000. The government at the time commented that an absolutely modest and inexpensive approach had been chosen! Some people just live on a different planet, but I am sure will get a rude shock when they crash back onto ours in the not too distant future!

Well that's all for now. For any suggestions, comments or contributions, contact your Secretary of the Christchurch Swiss Club, Jürg Hönger, 58 Hackthorne Rd. Christchurch 2, Ph. (03) 332-6211.

TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

6/3/96: Swiss visitors (Marti Gruppe).
Pot luck dinner: 7.00pm 7/3/96: Kegeln:
8.00pm (competition start!) 21/3/96:
Kegeln: 8.00pm 29/3/96: Singing practice:
7.30pm.

COWBELL COMPETITION: TARANAKI VS. WELLINGTON

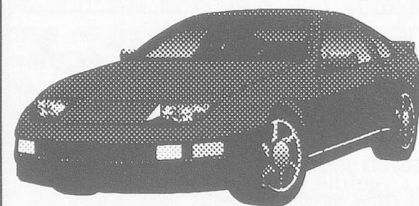
On the 10/2/96 we competed against Wellington for the Cowbell. By lunch-time, Walter Hartmann, the President from the Wellington Club had arrived with his team. After welcoming them, we gathered in the hall for a lovely B.B.Q. lunch which had been prepared in front of the clubhouse by our B.B.Q. Chefs, Lisette and Ruedi Benkert. After a relaxing "Cuppa" the more serious part of the day started to unfold. The competition finished about 4.30pm.

The Results are as follows

Taranaki		Wellington;
Shooting	296 Pts	249 Pts
Steinstossen	96.13m	76.16m
Kegeln	200 Pts	175 Pts
Jassen	won 7 games	1 game out of 8
Final Score	4	0

I would like to congratulate our team for their win, but I must say that our

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We will not be beaten.

friends from Wellington were at a disadvantage because they had only a very small team (8 people) and we also had the advantage of playing on our "home turf". I would like to thank all the participants from both clubs for their fair sportsmanship and I wish the Wellington team better luck next time! W.S.

ANNUAL PICNIC:

The next day, we held our picnic. A report of that will be in the next issue of the Helvetia (with some fotos which were not ready for the publishing deadline!).

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WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

March 9: Bicultural Day. We are very fortunate that the Indian President has agreed to show the Swiss Club Members plus families and friends the Indian temple in Kilbirnie. Meet at 1.45pm at 48 Kemp St. Kilbirnie. This event will last max. 2 hours.

April 13: AGM. 7.30pm at the Club-house. Everybody welcome. Docomo and, although we need more people on the committee, there won't be any pressure on anybody! Supper will be provided.

COWBELL COMPETITION IN TARANAKI

For some of us it was the first time that we could participate in the legendary Cowbell Competition and Picnic in



Margrit Dudli showing us keen Wellingtonians her dream Begonia Garden.



Our team member Walter Hensch being admired by many.

Taranaki. The Wellington City Slickers had a great time and learnt such a lot including how to loose big. We were received with such open arms that even for the first timers, it felt like going home. Thank you Taranaki friends for such a wonderful weekend!!

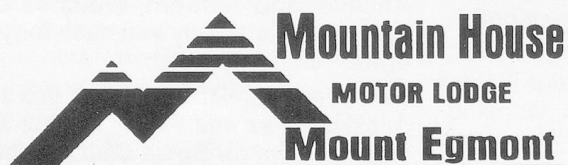
GENEVA,

HAMBURGER CAPITAL

Geneva is in the process of becoming the Swiss city with the largest number of McDonald outlets. Geneva has so far 6 McDonalds or Macdo as they have been nicknamed, with the seventh being under construction as a drive-in restaurant. With this seventh Macdo, Geneva will have surpassed Zurich in number of outlets although Zurich is more than twice as big as Geneva. It is not often that Geneva can top Zurich in anything so they are very proud of being able to win the Macdo war against their big rival.

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