

New Zealand's Swiss Club news & happenings

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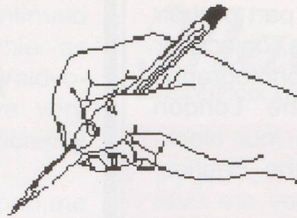
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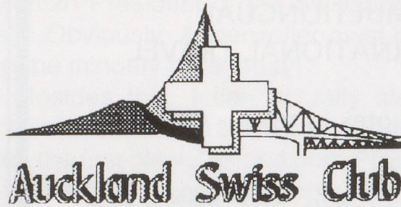
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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings



Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington



Forthcoming events

1st August Celebration: 2nd August at the Croation Hall, McLeod Rd. Te Atatu.

Shooting at the Swiss Farm:
Kaukapakapa, 21. - 22. June
13. - 14. Sept.
22. - 23. Nov.

Card evenings: Don't forget our Jass-abig at Oski's, 224 Hobson St., every 3rd Friday of the month. 7.30 pm start. 18. July, 15. August, 19 Sept., 17. Oct.

New member: Welcome to Verena Luggen.

Jodelball: The Swiss Kiwi 30th. anniversary Jodelball was a great success. Sadly some members had to miss out as the hall was booked-out weeks before the event. Almost 400 people gathered at the ocean city Restaurant. With the guest

choir "Edelweiss" from Korea performing and delicious Chinese-food served, the setting was definitely Asian, But to no detrimental effect. Sitting around circular tables, 12 per table, helps to create a happy mood. Everybody talks and laughs. So much easier to make conversation. The Koreans sang beautifully. In Seoul alone there exist 5 Jodel choirs. The Swiss Kiwi-Jodelers offer such a variety of entertainment of Folklore. From the serious to the real fun-songs. After their recent South Island tour they had plenty up their sleeve. Edith Hess, who for so many years lavished us with her cooking has dispensed with her apron and replaced it with her newfound talent in floral art. The decorations on the stage and on every one of the 33 tables bore witness to that.

N.B. **Plea !!** Please return the golden (golden-colored) metal stands to Edith Hess or any Committee member, without the flowers! We'll need them again, thank you!

Auckland Shootingdates on Farm in Kaukapakapa

Swiss Shootingchampionship - last Date, Sun.17. August 1997, 10 a.m.

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Shootingdates organised by the Riflemaster H.Werffeli.

UIT-Shoot - 60 shot Match each day
21. + 22. 6. 97

UIT-Shoot - 60 shot Match each day
13. + 14. 9. 97

UIT-Shoot - 60 shot Match each day
22. + 23.11.97

OPEN Shoot, any sights, any Rifle,
on 31.7.97 and 28.9.97.

If you want 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 and in some cases I'm able to help, please contact me on 09-4103476 home, or 09-6222800,

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For more information, contact:
Peter SCHUEPBACH Phone 09 309 5824 or
Henry SIGERIST at TRAVELAIR
phone 09 377 3285 (office) or 09 473 9011 (home)

work.

Important note: Do not use the Auckland Swiss Shooting Range without notification.

The Rifle Master; H. Werffeli.

Dancing

The Swiss Children's Folklore Group is still active and meets every two to three weeks in West Harbour.

Alex, Aroha, Jakob, Nevada, Cheyenne, Leonie, Karl, Angela, Sarah, Tessa, Rebecca and Patrick are looking for more children (Gspänli).

They are a happy group and have always lots of fun learning and performing those traditional Swiss songs and dances that were and still are dear to the parents and the Swiss Community abroad. The group performs on various occasions during the year, e.g. cultural festivals, schools, parades and even for sponsored events.

Note: Open Day

If this is of interest to you, please come and see us at our next practice on the 5th. of July 1997 at 3 p.m. at 3 Cherub Place, West Harbour. - Coffee, Tea and something yummy to eat are awaiting you. For further information call Julia at 416-4858 or Werner at 412-7934.



Forthcoming events

Final card evening - 12 July, 7.30 pm, Tirau.

1st August - 26. July 8 pm, Eureka.

Fondue Evening - 11 October 8 pm -Eureka.

Results from Jassen

1. Card Evening Eureka, 3. May, 55 Jasser

- | | |
|-------------------|------|
| 1 Steiner Bert | 4153 |
| 2. Whitehead Anna | 4067 |

- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| 3. Blattler Robert | 4064 |
| 4. Hayward Margaret | 4054 |
| 5. Reichmuth Oskar | 4017 |
| 6. Hinton-Bösch Michele | 4013 |
| 7. Forsythe Angus | 3987 |
| 8. Steiner Alois | 3968 |

2. Card Evening Tirau, 17. May - 50 Jasser

- | | |
|-----------------------|------|
| 1. Matti Arthur | 4332 |
| 2. Russenberger Pia | 4159 |
| 3. Vetsch Hans | 4158 |
| 4. Frischknecht Hanna | 4091 |
| 5. Clarkin Erica | 4029 |
| 6. Reichmuth Oskar | 4000 |
| 7. Nussberger Max | 3998 |
| 8. Acherman Vitus | 3959 |
| 9. Fässler Werner | 3945 |

3. Card Evening, Eureka 7. June - 44 Jasser

- | | |
|-----------------------|------|
| 1. Frischknecht Hanna | 4250 |
| 2. Rufer Bruno | 4236 |
| 3. Häsli Fritz | 4164 |
| 4. Staheli Helen | 4131 |
| 5. Imlig Adolf | 4111 |
| 6. Meyer Julia | 4106 |
| 7. Hickey Eileen | 4041 |
| 8. Staheli Joe | 4015 |

Thanks go to Pat Gillon for donating a Prize on the second card evening.

Thanks go to Ruth Waldvogel for donating a Prize on the third card evening.

Hamilton Club News

Society AGM

On Queen's Birthday weekend Hamilton hosted the Society AGM. The weekend began with a "Gemütlicher Abend" at Swiss Craft on Saturday night, with a bus load of Taranaki people arriving for dinner consisting of "Fleischkäse and salads".

A number of Hamilton people were also present, and everyone later enjoyed a good "Jass" together.

The following day the final cowbell competition between Hamilton and Taranaki began at 10 am. By lunchtime Hamilton had won the

"Jassen" and "Steinstossen", Taranaki having won the Shooting and bowling. It was decided that the clubs would "Aus.jassen" after the AGM in the afternoon.

After a lovely lunch of Wienerli and Schübli with homemade bread, everyone travelled to the Glenview Motor Hotel for the AGM starting at 2 pm. The meeting lasted just over one hour, and all four clubs in NZ were represented. At the AGM the Hamilton Club took over the running of the Society, putting forward new officers and Committee. It is now also Hamilton's job to produce the HELVETIA for the next five years, with Rinaldo Rust being the new editor. Rinaldo has an editing Team to help him with the workload. The new Society president is Beatrice Leuenberger, with Bert Flühler being the Vice/president. Ruth Waldvogel was elected secretary, so it looks as if the Society will be in good hands over the next five years!

It was with great pleasure and happiness that Hamilton beat Taranaki at Jassen. We were very excited to receive the Cowbell and the club will definitely enjoy keeping it for the year!

The day was concluded with a smorgasbord-dinner at the Glenview. After dinner a raffle had been organised with many prizes being donated by clubmembers. Many thanks to those donating the prizes - they were much appreciated.

At 8 pm. various items of entertainment were provided. A dance group in national costume and singing group performed, as well as guest Ruedi Dudli, from Taranaki playing the "Alphorn" and our own president, Herbert, doing some "Fahnenschwingen". The Jay Es -Band also provided music for those who wanted to dance. Thank you to the band for the lovely music. Thank you also to the dance group and singing group who had put in many hours of practice over the previous few month - it was worth the effort. It is intended that these groups perform at the 1st August celebration. The rest of our club now has something to look forward to.



Another successful jass evening of the Hamilton Swiss Club at Eureka. They all want a medal!



Members of the Hamilton Swiss Club folk dancing in national costume as part of the entertainment at Society AGM, 1/6/97.

The popularity of the Jass

It is estimated that in Switzerland more than three million people partake of the national cultural activity of jassen at least once per week. Jassen enjoys the widest popularity of all cultural gaming activities in Switzerland. Some jass competitions are even broadcast on Swiss TV.

As far as the origins of this much loved game goes, it is thought that the word jass has its root in the Dutch word **jos**, meaning "Bauer" or farmer in the English language. It is also thought that the game of jass came to Switzerland from Holland and was introduced by mercenary soldiers hundreds of years ago. Jass is played with 36 cards and slightly differing rules in different cantons of Switzerland. The inhabitants of canton Ticino as well as those of French speaking cantons in western Switzerland as well as in Basel, Solothurn and Aargau are playing the jass with different cards to those in central and eastern Switzerland. They play with so-called French cards while the Swiss Germans in general play with the same cards as the neighboring Austrians in western Austria.



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Note to Secretaries

Next issue of the Helvetia magazine: August 1997. All contributions must be in by 15 JULY. Many thanks for your kind cooperation.

Au pair wanted!

young Hamilton family seeking child-loving person for home help & working with a special needs child of 5 years.
Phone Nicola (07) 849-4585

Albina Fässler



On Saturday 21. June the death has occurred of Albina Fässler, Wife of Werner Fässler and Mother of her two Daughters and her two Sons. At 56 years of age she died suddenly in the presence of her husband during the Hamilton Club's card-evening at Tirau.

Albina will be sadly missed by all who knew her and our sincere sympathy goes to Werner and Family. May She rest in God's peace!

PS. An Obituary will follow in next month's issue of Helvetia.



**Championship Shoot -
Preiskegeln - Fondue Evening**

On May 24th we held this fun-filled afternoon and evening. At approximately 11.00am the shooters held their championship shoot, with the Preiskegeln commencing at 1.00pm. Our Kegeln master, Ruedi Benkert, was nearly stressing out with the quick influx of competitors. Four people made up a team, with the winner receiving a pair of "landjäger". Many had a good success rate, while others' landjäger were pretty expensive ... eh, Maya and Paul! Friendly rivalry was flavour of the day, with cheering becoming very noisy! Paul Suter wanted to be sure of getting one pair ... and made up a group of Paul, Paul, Paul ... and PAUL!!! At least you won a pair!!! Great to see some children participating and ... immediately eating the landjäger... eh Gerard!!! A most enjoyable way to spend the afternoon; with the winners being: men, Ruedi Dudli, runner-up Mathias Seifert, and ladies: Myrtha Seifert and runner-up Heidi Seifert. The booby prizes went to Jacob Muggerridge and Rös Monti ... at least you won something!!! Fondue and a beautiful plate of salads and sausages were served between 6.00pm and 7.30pm. Many thanks to all the ladies who made the delicious salads and to all who prepared and served these meals ... you did a wonderful job!! The pot scrubbers ... Mark and Markus did a splendid job ... you will make great husbands!!! The Barmen, did a great job too, and were kept busy. I heard many compliments about the meals ... we will definitely keep you on. The kegel prizes were then distributed to worthy winners. raffle tickets were then sold and we were most appreciative of your loyal and generous support. The children were kept busy with the pool table, soccer table and other organised games, you really were most well-behaved. Thanks to Zeno, Bert and Maria for the lovely music, and to the

singing group for their items. Once again thanks to all those who helped in any way to make the evening a great success, and to you, our supporters, for your attendance.

One of our young competitors in action, trying to win a "Landjäger"!

Our famous cooks..... and what are they doing there, Mathias? (definitely not a cook)



Some of the hundred odd crowd enjoying themselves!

Taranaki Swiss Club trip to the Society AGM

We started our annual pilgrimage to

the AGM, this year being held in Hamilton. We had a late start ... by our standards ... 10.00am!! Had a lovely lunch at Otorohanga, where the avid rugby followers were glued to the television ... then tried to listen to the radio commentary amid a bit of noise on the bus!! eh, Bertha!!! Bought our lotto tickets, and started

to make plans for our bus trip to Wellington to pick up the winnings!! Dreamers eh??!!! (Eventually won \$21.00 after investing \$70.00!!! tremendous odds!!!). Proceeded to our motel, where some continued to watch the rugby, others played cards (getting in some much needed practice- didn't help you Maya and Heidi!!!) while the remainder chatted. we were invited to the Swiss Craft premises for a dinner of barbecued "fleischkäse" and a beautiful array of salads ... these were absolutely delicious; and the Taranaki members thoroughly enjoyed their meal. The rest of the evening was taken up with cards ... to get a bit more practice for the competitions!!!

We all re-assembled at the premises for the final of the Cowbell Competitions firstly we were served a cuppa and scrumptious cookies ... then the competition was underway. We started with kegeln ... with varied results on both sides. The jassers retreated to a corner to do their job ... and what a thrashing we got, they only let us win one game out of SIX! No mercy was shown at all! Having already won the shooting. Grateful thanks to our formidable team of Lou Nolly, Lou Butler, Paul Kuriger and Helen Freiman ... you seem unbeatable ... what an asset we have!!!), we were now drawn. Although we appreciated the effort one of our best shotputters, Arni Fitzgerald, made in coming to Hamilton, we were unable to combat their superior strength!! I'm sure Peter Rust must have used a smaller stone to achieve 7,00metres plus!!! We were, however, impressed with the skill and strength of our senior citizen... Ruedi Benkert... still got fourth out of eight!!! Well done, dad! So now we were down 2-1, and we had to win the kegeln to have a chance of retaining the cowbell. We had a good start with Arni getting 47 points out of six shoots... what a hero! then our second-to-last bowler, Mathias Seifert made 46. Lucky the nerves didn't get to you this time!! Your great result came just at the right time!!! Other top scorers were Sepp Kiser (42) that's your score, not your age!!! and Hans-Ruedi Baumann (40). Our president tried his very best and achieved nineteen!!! The nerves must have got to you, Walter!! ... Never mind better luck or skill next

time! Best you start practice for next year, eh!! we look forward to an improved result!!! All eyes were on Herbert Staehli, the last Hamilton bowler, to see if he could get an excellent result on his own alley!! We were all breathless as we watched and let out a sigh as he wasn't able to get the Hamiltonians an outright win! Sigh...

It was now two all, and down to another round of jass to find the winners. Just to make us really nervous ... the Jass was to be played after the AGM!!! We had lunch of sausages and delicious home-made bread, then left to attend the AGM. This was a short and sweet affair, the way we like it. Another cuppa and afternoon tea, then down to business in an effort to achieve a successful end result! would it be Hamilton or would it be Taranaki??? The newcomers to the jass team, Margrit Dudli and Marianne won by a small margin and we waited in anticipation for the other results only to find that the two other teams lost!!!... quite handsomely!!! All of our tremendous effort gone to waste, Margrit, how disappointing ... however we must say that Maya, Heidi, Margrit, Suter and Lisette have won the competition for us on numerous occasions and we will forgive them this time!!! Our congratulations to the

Hamiltonian card players for their win ... it was a real pleasure to play against you all and we certainly are looking forward to the next time!!! To all the Hamilton competitors and their supporters, our heartiest congratulations for your win in the competitive but friendly atmosphere. We then had a beautifully presented dinner, followed by an entertainment-filled evening. We were privileged to be able to watch and listen to "trachtentanz", singing, talented piano accordionists, flag-throwing and our very own Ruedi Dudli on the alphorn. We all really appreciated the tremendous effort you put into this polished performance. Congratulations on a job very well done!!! ... now the pressure is on us to provide you with such quality entertainment next year!!! On behalf of the Taranaki Swiss Club, I would like to thank the Hamilton Swiss Club most sincerely and appreciatively for their generous hospitality. We all thoroughly enjoyed our weekend, and always look

forward to our next trip. Titbits from the weekend ... no names will be published ... maybe....

One lady decided to hang up her husband's trousers while talking to her room-mate... only she opened the outside door instead of the wardrobe!! Couldn't possibly imagine who that would be!!!

Had a game of pass-the-parcel in the bus, and one lady had to look for the man with blue underwear. One gentleman asked "Mummy what coloured underpants have I got on???" Guess who that was???

One of our members was so very noisy ... the motel owner had to come and tell him to stop playing the alphorn ... at 5.00pm!!!! Everyone else enjoyed the entertainment!!!

Three ladies decided to go shopping instead of supporting their team (no wonder we lost the cowbell!!!!) ... they even missed the AGM because they couldn't find a taxi!!! Lift that skirt a little higher next time, Bertha

We wanted Walter and Frances to sing a duet on the way home... only nothing came out of the microphone!!! Happens when you talk too much!!!

Must have been peaceful at home, Myrtha!

-Margrit couldn't sleep, as she was afraid of Ruedi, who was in the same unit!! Don't blame you ... we'll find you better accommodation next time!!!

On behalf of everyone on the bus, I would like to thank Walter for organising this thoroughly enjoyable weekend. We really appreciated all the time and effort that you put in! Thanks heaps!

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CARDS

The afternoons have been going well. The competition has now finished, but the games will continue for pleasure. Our secretary does a truly wonderful job...but being true scotch ... upon winning first prize one afternoon, Reudi Benkert received an envelope... only it was EMPTY!!!

Good way to make money, Doreen!!! Then the raffle was drawn ... Werner Suter won the prize,,, and where was it???... still in Doreen's car!!! And all this in one day!!! Couldn't let-, this opportunity go by, Doreen!!!

A POEM

-There was once a man named Walter who was full of joy and laughter, with his merry band he wished to return the bell to our sweet land.

-He tried to skittle at his best, but his nerves were put to the test. Fortunately he is not moody for he only got the BOOBY!!!

-Then the card players were put under stress and also tried very hard to do their best, but those Hamiltonian folk well were playing, and only wished to give us a great, big thrashing!!!

-So the bell to the Waikato went, and packing we were sent. we enjoyed our stay, and next time harder will play!!

Forthcoming Events

July : 6: Anniversary Shoot ... commences at 11.00am, followed by a delicious Sauerkraut meal. Everyone wins a prize... come as a family and enjoy the meal and entertainment ... it's a great day, come evening.

13: Cards at 1.15pm

27: Cards ... again ... at 1.15pm.

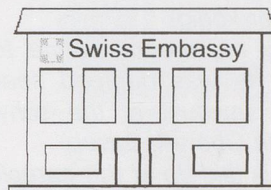
August:1: Swiss national Day to be held on the DAY at the SwissClub. All members will be contacted. Please wear your costume. Entertainment will be as great as always!

10: Cards at 1.15pm

17: Cards ... once again ... when??? at 1.15pm of course!

Sept.: 4: Kegeln recommences... also table soccer... and I assumecard playing!! Just for all those madly keen jassers!!!

MB



Wellington Swiss Club

Forthcoming Events

Sunday, June 29: 10.30 am Family walk. Meeting point upper end of Majoribanks Street (off Courtenay Place).

In case of doubtful weather or questions, call Franz Schneider 746 7805.

Saturday, July 26: 7.00 pm. European Forum organizes a variety Evening. The Wellington Swiss Club participates with a production. Polish Club, 257 Riddiford Street. Newtown. For reservations and tickets (\$8-- /person) contact Mrs Linda Bevan-Smith, Phone 389 4644. Please come along and meet the members of other Clubs in Wellington and give the Swiss Club support, too.

Friday, 1st August: 6.00 pm: Bon-

fire on Petone Beach. Hot sausages and drinks provided.

CHANGE OF DATE! (instead of July 26)

Saturday, August 2: 7.30 pm: National Day Dinner will be held at Marcel Jäggi's place (Ferryman). The exact location is not yet known since Mr Jäggi may change his premises, so please contact Maja Beddie-Geiser (478 2324) or Elisabeth Hynes (236 6921)

Reminder: Memberships are due by July 31st, 1997. Single \$ 35.--, family \$ 45.--. Send cheque to Treasurer: Mrs Ruth Messmer, 15 Fortification Road. Seatoun.

The Wellington Swiss Club thanks the past Editor, Henry Sigerist for an

Emil Flepp
1916 - 1997



The Wellington Swiss Club recently farewelled a long standing member Emil Flepp.

A man of strengths, compassion and fun.

We will miss him.

Our sympathy goes to his wife Helga and daughter Efra

outstanding job well done. We are wishing him well in his retirement!

A great thank you to the Hamilton Swiss club for a well organised AGM and the warm hospitality. We especially loved the singing and the folklore dancing. The special Swiss cakes were superb.

MBG

Humour

A chap goes to see his Doctor "I'm in real trouble Doctor" he says

"If I touch my head, it hurts

If I touch my leg it hurts

If I touch my arm it hurts

If I touch my chest it hurts"

The Doctor looked at him and said

"You've got a broken finger"