

President's message

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**SWISS SOCIETY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR
1 APRIL 1999 TO 31 MARCH 2000**

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31. MARCH 2000		
	<u>1999/2000</u>	<u>1998/1999</u>
Income	\$	\$
Subscriptions	12,720	12,375
Advertising	5,146	5,197
Interest received (Gross)	987	1,820
Donation received	10	~~
Miscellaneous	240	~~
(incl. "Ozeania Apero" at 1999 AGM)	19,103	19,392
Expenditure		
Helvetia - Printing & Typesetting	13,319	13,177
Packing and Postage	2,608	2,556
Stationery / Admin. Expenses	592	427
General Expenses	290	355
Miscellaneous (incl Apero) and Bank Expenses	245	~~
Income Tax Paid	~~	236
	17,054	16,751
Less: Net Income Tax Paid (RWT 1998, later refunded)	~~	244
	17,054	16,995
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	2,049	2,397
Accumulated Funds at beginning of Year	26,510	24,113
Excess Income at end of Year	2,049	2,397
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	28,559	26,510

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT AT 31. MARCH 2000		
	<u>1999/2000</u>	<u>1998/1999</u>
Current Assets	\$	\$
National Bank - cheque account	2,168	2,045
National Bank - savings account	26,778	23,595
Accounts Receivable (Debtors)	654	613
Payments in Advance (Expenditure for next year)	220	319
Resident Withholding Tax Rebate	192	364
	30,012	26,936
Less: Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable (Creditors)	1,278	376
Receipts in Advance (Income for next year)	175	50
	1,453	426
NET ASSETS	28,559	26,510
Represented by:		
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	28,559	26,510
	=====	=====
Hamilton, 20 May 2000		
Signed:	Beatrice Leuenberger Treasurer	Bill Miles Auditor
	Presented to Annual General Meeting on 4 June, 2000.	

and balances. According to this report, the Swiss Government believes that Democracy can only prosper if there is a broad knowledge about security issues in a population and that it is no good if only the Minister of Defence is the 'master of this information'!

We may well be proud of our 'Country of origin' to take such initiatives in search of world peace.



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President's Message

The Year 2000 Swiss Society AGM took place at the Swiss Farm, Auckland, with a good attendance of 68 members and guests.

We were privileged to have with us our new Ambassador, Mrs Sylvie Matteucci - the AGM was an excellent opportunity for us all to meet Mrs Matteucci, as well as for her to meet a large number of members.

Included in the apologies to the meeting were Arthur and Heidi Müller, who several years ago donated the cowbell for the interclub sports competitions. When Mrs Müller called me a few days earlier, she told me that she, and especially her husband, were delighted to see that these competitions were still so popular.

Congratulations to Taranaki Club

on their win this year, and also to Hamilton Club for their efforts.

Obituaries: Sadly, a number of Club and Society members and friends passed away over the past 12 months, and in most cases obituaries were printed in the Helvetia. These were: Michelle Köppel-Schneider, Willy Müller, Ueli Luginbühl, Adolf Imlig, Louis Steiner, Josef Föhn, Joseph Nolly, Dagmar Graf, Fritz Braem, Tony Gisler and Peter Weiss. Additional names from the floor were: Simi Hartmann, Victor Waldner, and Sonja Furer. A few moments of silence were observed in remembrance of these people.

In my President's Report I noted that the Society, in its 66th year, was entering the new century strong and active, with an increasing membership. This is thanks to Embassy assistance, the Society website, word of mouth and a pro-active approach.

Editor's Report: Rinaldo Rust asked for more people's profiles for publishing - it was preferable to profile our members whilst still alive, rather than eventually write their obituary! The monthly competition usually attracted 10 - 15 entries, and the clues were easy enough for our younger members to be able to participate.

Ambassador's Address: Mrs Matteucci explained why we did not have an Ambassador in New Zealand for four years - an increase in new Embassies, especially throughout the East Block countries, resulted in more positions to fill without an increase of existing diplomatic staff numbers. But the Swiss Government, aware of the importance of New Zealand and the South Pacific region, reappointed an Ambassador as soon as it was possible. She is now one of eight woman Ambassadors in Wellington.

Financial Report: This is printed on page 3 in this issue.

Swiss Abroad Delegate: The Swiss Revue keeps everyone well informed. It was stressed to register and vote in solidarity with Swiss Abroad living in Europe. Marie-Therese Melville-Schöpfer will represent New Zealand at this year's congress in Zug. Four yearly election of delegate and

deputy due next year for 2001 -2005

Riflemaster: Participation in competitions good. "Farmhouse" series continuing, with Jura, the youngest Canton, appearing on the Year 2000 medal. Discussed and felt that current \$4 participation cost to remain.

Subscriptions: Once again set at \$25 per household for 2000 / 01.

Election of Officers: All positions remain the same as the previous year (refer Minutes, May Helvetia), with the committee being able to co-opt new members.

General Business: The main item for discussion was the Society's receipt of \$1686 in late May.

Many members will recall the 1991 "roadshow" including the Alder family with Appenzell music and the Albert Manser display; accompanied by several political representatives. This group toured the North Island, including each Club, who contributed various amounts towards hosting them - with the financial guarantee being carried by past Ambassador, Dr Michael von Schenk. The final profit of \$3000 - which was less than the \$10,000 apparently anticipated - was used to create a "Cultural Fund". Various donations have since been made - including exhibitions such as the Werner Bischof exhibit; and the "Swiss Place" at the Wellington Botanic Gardens. The fund has now been wound up by its trustees, Walter Simmen and André Schleicher, who have forwarded the remainder to the Society as a donation.

I put to the meeting that this money be put into a separate account in the first instance, to give the Clubs, Society Committee, and Society members an opportunity to consider and hopefully come up with ideas as to how this money could be put to any special use, so that it can be discussed at the next AGM. This was agreed to, so all ideas and suggestion would be very welcome.

One further issue I brought up was a request that members include the Society when sending out change of address notices, so that your Helvetia still reaches you without delay.

Finally, I would like to thank the

Auckland Club Committee and members for hosting this year's AGM, and a most successful and all round enjoyable weekend.

The next meeting will take place in Hamilton on 3 June, 2001.

If anyone would like any further information about the AGM or Financial Statements, please feel free to contact me.

My thanks to everyone for your support over the past 12 months, and I look forward to the coming year as Swiss Society President.

Kindest regards, Beatrice.

Announcement from Coordinator Swiss Abroad Nicole Helsdon

These are the itineraries for the coming Winter 2001 youth exchange camps in Switzerland

27.12. - 5.1.2001

Ski- and Snowboardcamp Sedrun

3. - 10.3.2001

Ski- and Snowboardcamp Engelberg

8. - 18.4.2001

Ski- and Snowboardcamp

Hostfamilies, 1.1. - 3.3.2001, choose from 1 - 6 weeks.

Language courses German and French, 8. - 21.1.2001

An insight of a business world, 21.1. - 3.3.2001, choose 2 weeks

If interested, contact your coordinator, Nicole Helsdon Ph. 09 426 09 27

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