

# Engelberger reunion, 13 March 2000

Autor(en): **[s.n.]**

Objektyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand**

Band (Jahr): **66 (2000)**

Heft [6]

PDF erstellt am: **09.08.2024**

Persistenter Link: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-944574>

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## ENGELBERGER REUNION, 13 MARCH 2000

**Arnold Josef Engelberger** was born in Stansstad, Switzerland, on 10 January 1891 - the youngest of five brothers and two sisters.

He lived in Engelberg until 1913 when, at the age of 21, he immigrated to New Zealand, together with 16 other Swiss on the boat 'Shunhurst'.

On arrival in New Zealand, he soon took up employment at the Kaupokanui main dairy factory.

In 1904, **Anna Rosa Sattler** (known as Rosa), her mother, and two sisters, immigrated to New Zealand to join her brother and two sisters who had immigrated earlier from Baar, Canton Zug.

Arnold and Anna Rosa were married at Manaia in 1918. Together they farmed at Kapuni and raised a family of four daughters and one son.

Arnold was a gifted Schwyzerörgeli musician and Rosa a very competent organiser, so together they organised many Swiss dances and family gatherings.

Two of these were the "Swiss Fancy Dress Ball" held in 1932, and the "Swiss Debutante Ball" in 1939, when the 17 Swiss debutante girls were presented to the Swiss Consul, Dr Schmidt.

During this time, the first Taranaki Swiss Orchestra was formed, with Mrs. J. Gopperth-Schicker on the piano and Arnold, Alf Meier and Franz Schuler on Schwyzerörgeli.

Arnold's greatest pleasure was to play and entertain with his Schwyzerörgeli and in 1963, was rewarded by the Taranaki Swiss Club when he was presented with a Gold Watch for his 50 years of playing music.

Arnold continued to play and in 1977 attended the Club's 25th Jubilee celebrations in Kaponga aboard a family float playing his accordion. He was later joined that day by an old friend, Joe Chamberlain, these two being the last surviving immigrants of their group in 1913.

Arnold passed away on 16 April, 1977, aged 86 years.

The descendants of Arnold and Rosa celebrated their heritage with a Family Reunion at the Swiss Club, Kaponga, on 13 March, 2000.

This was attended by their five children - Rosa Bishop, Ottilia Walker, Freda von Hospenthal, Dorin FitzGerald, and Arnold Engelberger - and their families. Unfortunately, not all descendants could be present, but sent warm wishes from as far as Switzerland and Australia.

The day was celebrated with family photos; a luncheon; cutting of the cake and viewing of many old family photos, videos and movies. Swiss music, provided by Maria Nolly on the piano, Zeno von Hospenthal and Peter Canziani on accordians, and Rudi Dudli on the alphorn, was also thoroughly enjoyed by everyone until the early hours of the morning.



Arnold Josef and Anna Rosa Engelberger-Sattler



Descendants of Arnold and Rosa Engelberger who attended the family reunion at the Swiss Club, Kaponga, on 13 March, 2000 (Unfortunately approx. 40 descendants were unable to attend, with some living in Australia and Switzerland)

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### Bauernregel...

*Im Sommer such ein Liebchen dir  
in Garten und Gefild!  
Da sind die Tage lang genug,  
da sind die Nächte mild.*

*Im Winter muss der süsse Bund  
schon fest geschlossen sein,  
so musst' nicht lange  
stehn im Schnee  
bei kaltem Mondenschein*

Ludwig Uhland.