

Editorial : postcard from Switzerland...

Autor(en): **Rust, Rinaldo**

Objektyp: **Preface**

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

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

Heft [8]

PDF erstellt am: **09.08.2024**

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Inhalten der Zeitschriften. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern.

Die auf der Plattform e-periodica veröffentlichten Dokumente stehen für nicht-kommerzielle Zwecke in Lehre und Forschung sowie für die private Nutzung frei zur Verfügung. Einzelne Dateien oder Ausdrucke aus diesem Angebot können zusammen mit diesen Nutzungsbedingungen und den korrekten Herkunftsbezeichnungen weitergegeben werden.

Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Die systematische Speicherung von Teilen des elektronischen Angebots auf anderen Servern bedarf ebenfalls des schriftlichen Einverständnisses der Rechteinhaber.

Haftungsausschluss

Alle Angaben erfolgen ohne Gewähr für Vollständigkeit oder Richtigkeit. Es wird keine Haftung übernommen für Schäden durch die Verwendung von Informationen aus diesem Online-Angebot oder durch das Fehlen von Informationen. Dies gilt auch für Inhalte Dritter, die über dieses Angebot zugänglich sind.

EDITORIAL

Postcard From Switzerland.....

I think selecting and purchasing postcards from such an immense variety seems to be the hobby of tourists wherever they are to be found, including Switzerland. And what a handy invention these colourful postal greeting cards can be. I can think of a number of reasons why people might send them - they could be a straight forward greeting; or does the sender want to remind the addressee that he is not home for a while? Perhaps the reason is to create some envy because the sender is on holiday when everyone else is working hard, or does the traveller want to apologise for his tardiness in writing letters? Whatever the reason, the postcard seems to serve a purpose and has done so for many a generation.

I don't know how many postcards we have sent since our arrival in Switzerland from New Zealand in mid-August, but I do know that we have been enjoying the most exciting time. So many impressions causing emotions to oscillate from 'very excited to exuberent....'

Let me describe some impressions of this present visit to Switzerland after 44 years of Kiwi life, with three prior visits in 1981, 1988 and 1994.

Arrival in Zürich-Kloten with grateful heart for a safe flight and soft landing. Lots of Swiss relatives, friends and acquaintances to greet us. After sharing some breakfast, guided to the money dispenser (Bankomat) - to be reminded of the very fragile value of our NZ currency!

Base: initially a holiday apartment in Lungern, Canton Obwalden, Central Switzerland, later Krummenau, in Toggenburg, Canton St.Gall.

Lungern is a most picturesque village with lots of tourist attractions. For us, nostalgic walks retracing holiday ventures of 1960; meeting relations and friends; paying respects to those since passed away by visiting cemetery; attending church services, complete with mighty sound of church bells ringing at beginning and end.

Swiss efficiency: evident everywhere, with lots of technology and very punctual, especially the SBB rail system with marvellous new rolling stock with double-decker coaches on some Intercity lines - running most comfortably and almost silent as though running on rubber wheels! The Swiss Rail Pass is very handy as there is no need to purchase individual tickets.

Swiss working day starts early (7 - 7.30am) with late finish (6 - 6.30pm) and with inevitable two hour lunch break (from midday to 2pm) only of nuisance value for tourists in my opinion.

Cleanliness evident everywhere in accord with long established reputation, but also some breakdowns showing with occasional litter and graffiti in public places.

Emotions: on call all the time! People friendly, with few exceptions. Memories of earlier days growing up awakened - the mountains are as majestic as ever. Nostalgia inevitable retracing steps of boyhood times - with continuous Swiss folk-music playing on Radio MW530, and church bells ringing...!

Swiss food: as good as memory promised! - enjoying Nussgipfel, Birnenweggen, fresh Weggli for breakfast, Bratwurst from St.Gall, Mettwurst, and lots of chocolate of immense variety.

Convention for Swiss Abroad in Zug, 19 August 2000: Very interesting discussions regarding Swiss School system of higher education, but of little value for Swiss-Kiwis, I think. Some negative thinking evident with anxiety expressed regarding future ability to compete with other highly specialised exporting countries. Some indication that the Swiss Government is considering electronic voting to be introduced for Swiss abroad, but consent from 26 Cantons and 3000 communes (Gemeinden) is needed.

With great excitement and joy we met our official representative of the

SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

PATRON: Mrs Sylvie Matteucci-Keller, Ambassador of Switzerland

PRESIDENT/TREASURER: Beatrice Leuenberger, 44 Montgomery Crescent, Hamilton, Ph.(07) 843 7971 Fax (07) 843 7941; bea.leun.rachel@xtra.co.nz

VICE PRESIDENT: Bert Flühler, 1 Bettina Rd. Hamilton, Ph. (07) 855 4308

SECRETARY: Ruth Waldvogel, 89 Crosby Rd. Hamilton, Ph. (07) 855 3417

RIFLEMASTER: Peter Rust, 4202 Pepepe Rd Naike, RD2, Huntly, 07 826 6711

DELEGATES TO SWISS ABROAD CONFERENCE IN SWITZERLAND

DELEGATE: Heinz Leuenberger, 33 Russell Terrace, Putaruru
Ph/Fax (07) 883 8537

DEPUTY DELEGATE: Marie-Therese Melville-Schöpfer, P.O Box 79-294,
Royal Heights, Auckland 1230, Ph. (09) 833-4029

COORDINATOR IN NZ FOR THE SWISS ABROAD YOUTH EXCHANGE SCHEME

Nicole Helsdon, 58 A Marellen Dr, Red Beach, Orewa, Ph.(09) 426 0927

EDITOR: Rinaldo Rust, 242 Te Pahu Rd. RD 5, Hamilton

Ph/Fax (07) 871 9946, e-mail: rinaldorust@xtra.co.nz

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

AUCKLAND

SECRETARY: Trudi Fill, 51 Clifotn Rd, Herne Bay, PObox 40 152, Glenfield, Auckland. Ph/Fax (09) 376 4923, e-mail: weidfill@win.co.nz

HAMILTON

SECRETARY: Anita Zuber, P.O. Box 11-026 Hamilton, Ph. (07) 856 2414

TARANAKI

SECRETARY: Doreen Schuler, Palmer Rd. Kaponga, Ph. (06) 764 6533

WELLINGTON

SECRETARY: Trudi Brühlmann, 1 Marine Drive, Mahina Bay, Eastbourne, Wellington. Ph. (04) 562 8019

EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND: Panama House, 22 Panama St. Wellington
Ph. (04) 472 1593 or (04) 472 1594 Fax (04) 499 6302

HONORARY CONSUL: Peter Deutschle, PO Box 90-209, Auckland Mail Centre
Ph./Fax (09) 366 0403. e-mail: deutschle@clear.net.nz

Marie-Therese Melville Schöpfer, with husband Sid, during conference. Marie-Therese indicated willingness to report separately and more extensively in a future edition of HELVETIA.

Weather in Switzerland: very hot and mostly fine during second half of August – drastic drop of temperature at beginning of September, appropriately announcing the beginning of autumn. Farmers busy harvesting second cut of hay; and also harvesting prunes (Zwetschgen), apples and pears - grapes as well by the time you are reading this...

Political scene in Switzerland at this time, mid-September heated discussions and uncertainty regarding voting on 24. September in view of initiative for limitations of foreigners to 18% of total population.

This *postcard* message comes to you by way of internet, thanks to today's modern communications technology.

Greetings to you all R.R.

President's Message

As you can see, our Editor is having a very enjoyable time in Switzerland, so I am grateful that he still took some time out to provide the Editorial for this edition!

Things seem to have been reasonably quiet in the clubs over the past month, but with Christmas coming up - yes, it's nearing that time of year again! - there will no doubt be several functions happening soon. However, Fondue seems to be the most popular event at the moment though, as the winter season draws to a close and the weather warms..

I'm really looking forward to seeing lots of entries for the Quiz on Switzerland - a real challenge for our young Swiss to find out a little bit about Switzerland's geography and history.

It's good to see some very interesting Swiss culture coming to New Zealand (*see article, above right*), and so I hope that as many people as possible can go along and support these cultural events. In addition, if anyone in Auckland is able to help out with billeting the quartet in early November, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Cultural Exhibition on Printmaking in Switzerland

(As advised by the Swiss Embassy)

Why make Prints ?

This Exhibition shows the development of printmaking in Switzerland, since 1960, in over 70 works by 51 artists. The works, grouped according to technique, document developments from screenprinting, to the experimental woodcut, engraving, lithography and, finally, the involvement of the computer. (*See also July / August Helvetia*)

Auckland 25 October - 17 November 2000

at University of Technology and University of Auckland, Fine Arts and Architecture Departments, 22 Symonds Street, Auckland.

Nelson 3 February - 4 March 2001

at The Bishop Suter Art Gallery, 208 Bridge Street, Nelson

Timaru 23 March - 29 April 2001

at Aigantighe Art Gallery, 49 Wai-iti Road, Timaru

Dunedin 14 May - 24 June 2001

at Otago Museum, 419 Great King Street, Dunedin

Festival of Europe - During the period 1-7 November 2000, the *Bazin Streichquartett* from Switzerland will be coming to New Zealand to take part in the **Festival of Europe** taking place in Auckland at that time, and also to perform in other main centres in New Zealand. Details of concerts will be advised by the Embassy and published in the *Helvetia* when they are known.

It is hoped members of the quartett can be billeted by members of the Swiss Community in Auckland and other centres. Ideally, the quartett would like to stay together (for rehearsal etc) - possibly a holiday home is available for them?? However, any offers of billeting for one or two days are welcome. If anyone is able to billet one or more of the quartett in Auckland, please contact the Swiss Honorary Consul, Peter Deutsche, (09) 366 0404. For other centres, contact the Embassy directly - Mrs Louise Beale, (04) 472 1593.

The Embassy greatly appreciates the co-operation of the Swiss Community.

lucky to have the support of many businesses and organisations with their advertising in the *Helvetia*, which we very much appreciate. However, we are also always on the lookout for new advertisers. Our magazine reaches over 550 households throughout New Zealand, and is also sent to a number of libraries, 'Swiss' businesses, the Embassy, and various cultural organisations and societies similar to our own.

I'm sure there are many businesses around the country which could benefit from an advertisement (at reasonable cost) targeted at 'Swiss' readers, and at the same time support the Society. For further details about rates and conditions, please give me a call on ph. 07 843 7971, of fax 07 843 7941. I look forward to hearing from you!

Welcome home to all those who travelled to Switzerland to visit relatives and friends - and escape the winter months here!

Finally, Good luck to all our young competition entrants - don't forget to get your entries in by 15th October.

Have a good month, everyone.
Regards from Beatrice.



NEW HORIZON
COLLEGE OF ENGLISH
Owned and Operated by New Horizon College Limited

Saletti zame!!

English Language
in Napier

Do you have friends or relations in Switzerland who would like to learn ENGLISH in the "Art Deco Capital of the World", Napier, New Zealand?

Contact me at
New Horizon College of English
for details about our courses.

Christine Schmidli
Phone: 06-835-6423
06-TEL-NHCE
Fax: 06-835-6523
Email: english.newhorizon@clear.net.nz
www.nhce.ac.nz

*Very competitive rates.
Excellent quality programmes.
Wonderful modern campus.*