

# New Zealand Swiss Club news & happenings

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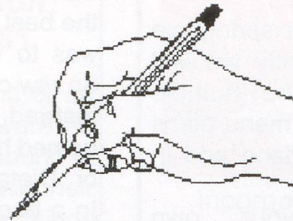
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# New Zealand Swiss Club

## News & Happenings

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Auckland  
Hamilton  
Taranaki  
Wellington  
Christchurch



[auckland@swiss.org.nz](mailto:auckland@swiss.org.nz)

### Past Events

#### Romantic Dinner 7 July 2001

Last year's "Dinner by Candlelight" had set the standard. Last week's "Romantic Dinner" again was right up to it. To prove a point, a relatively small attendance of thirty or so is no barrier to having a great club activity. And that was certainly the case. Our little Chalet lends itself well for these events. It felt real "heimelig" - cozy and warm - and beautifully decorated with myriads of tiny lights on the tables, walls and ceiling, stunning floral art displays on all the tables, a sheer delight! The perfect setting for our romantic evening. And so was the food: Tasty vege soup, everyone was hungry, seconds and thirds available, followed by "Rahmschnitzel, Spätzli" and veges. No shortage this time... Serving went like a charm, fast and efficient. The waiting personnel was highly trained, so were the chefs, decorative designer, lighting specialists, barman and not least our dishwashing crew. Dessert - Tiramisu... yummm... As it happened, there were six Kiwi Yodlers present, lead singer Peter Arnold among them, and all the four supporting voices. They rendered two items, followed by the Alphorn quartet. Then another surprise, Gingerbread hearts displayed on the tables. Each one inscribed with a different proverb, very humorous, also pure words of wisdom. The men were to buy them for their partners, and they searched very seriously for the right inscription. All too soon it was time to go home. Thank you for coming, thank you helpers, thank

you, Edith for putting it all together.

A.R.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> August Celebration

This was held on Saturday 4th August 2001, later afternoon, and going by the pre bookings (thank you all who booked) it looked like a busy evening coming up.

And lo and behold, around 170 of us Swissies trooped up to the farm, enjoyed the ever so unique sunset at our farm. The children played as long as the light allowed them on the playground. And as it got cooler, all came in to warm up with a glass of 'glühwein' as we rightfully call it in German. The closed-in "hall" was nicely decorated with flags and balloons, with our country colours and candles on the tables. The hearty meal of vegetable soup, Riz Casimir and Crème brulee was well received by all. We were reminded of our origin by the beautiful sounds of the yodlers and the alphorns, which underlined beautifully the speech of the head of the federal council back in our homeland, and we proudly joined in in the singing of the National Hymn. The children with the colourful lanterns lead the way down to the bonfire which was lit and its glow warmed up body and soul. And after all the raffle tickets were sold and drawn, and people were almost ready to go home, the singing circle

gathered in the centre and presented some songs well remembered from school days.

It was great to see some new faces and we hope that you enjoyed the evening. I want to thank you all for coming up and making this evening so joyful and lively.

Some of the newer committee members and all the partners really shone with their wonderful dedication and hard working contributions during the night and a big thank you goes out to you this time. It meant that in between we could all sit down and enjoy the company of our fellow Swiss, and get to know some of the newcomers. Thank you. Once again, a wonderful evening which made all the effort worthwhile.

T.F.

### Forthcoming Events:

#### Shooting Ball

1 September 2001

Les jeux sont faits and I hope many will attend.

#### Fondue Evening

Saturday 6 October 2001

#### Mystery Tour

Sunday 18 November 2001

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## Samichlaus

Sunday 9 December 2001

With Spring Working Bee preceding this event.

## Visit by Ambassador Walter

**Thurnherr**, Head of the Section for the Swiss Abroad in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Berne. An Information Evening for all the issues around being a Swiss Abroad. Wednesday 5 December 2001.

Please mark these dates in your diary and look out for further details in the next issues of the Helvetia.

## Jassen

Hans sends his regards from his hometown of Unterägeri,

The next Jass-Evening takes place as usual,

Friday 21 September 2001, same time, same place.

(7.30 sharp, 224 Hobson St, Auckland City)

**Stammtisch:** Every last Saturday of the month, evening, at the farm

## Rifle Section

Henry Werffeli is designing a new Cup for the shooting competitions, and offers the opportunity to anyone, private or company, to sponsor this cup. Please ring him on Tel. 410 3476 if you would like to take up this opportunity.

# Hamilton Swiss Club

hamilton@swiss.org.nz

## Past Events...

### 5th and 6th Card Evenings

Once again, our final two card evenings were very well attended to complete another very successful year of competition.

46 players came to Tirau for the fifth card evening, where we were also treated to some musical entertainment by Kurt Hess with his accordion. The supper - Frankfurters and potato salad, together with Heidi Leuenberger's "famous" home-made bread, followed by cakes and coffee, was enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to Annamarie and Lydia for your help with the suppers at our Tirau evenings.

The sixth and final evening for the Winter was attended by 42 people - many keen to gain as many points as possible for the overall prizes. Anita and Helen treated us to a delicious supper with a selection of

home-made savories, followed of course, by cakes and coffee.

At the conclusion of playing, Beatrice was kept busy tallying the final scores, and very soon a winner could be announced - congratulations to Rösli Schürmann, our "Jass Champion" of 2001.

In all, 32 card players came to at least five of our six card evenings and could therefore compete in the overall prize competition.

The highest score for an evening goes to Heidi Santner (4275), followed by Rösli Schürmann (4240) and Lina Rufer (4224). Of course, someone has to come last, and the lowest score, recorded at the second evening, was a total of 3050 !!

Many thanks go to Werner Fässler for preparing the meat prizes, and also to all those people who donated extra prizes for both the overall and evening competitions.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone for coming along. We hope you all enjoyed yourselves and we look forward to another successful Winter of card evenings in 2002 !! BL

### First of August Celebration

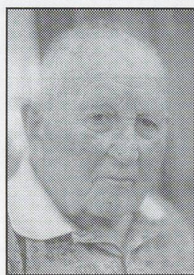
Our Club's 1st of August Celebration was held on Saturday 28th July at Eureka. Thanks to some willing helpers, the hall was nicely decorated with Canton flags and lampions, and tables set invitingly in red and white, with printed serviettes which were brought out from Switzerland.

We were again lucky to have the "Holzhacker Band" from Auckland to entertain us and it wasn't long before we had people on the dance floor.

Unfortunately, attendance was on the low side, and many regular faces were missing for various reasons. A lot of our members were away overseas, mostly in Switzerland, and a lot of the farmers were too busy with their early calving season on what was also a very cold night!! However, this didn't stop those who came from enjoying themselves.

## Dolfi R i s i

3. 1. 1912 - 24. 6. 2001



Christian Adolf (Dolfi) Risi was born in Buochs, Nidwalden on 3rd January 1912. As a young man he became a Cheese Maker and in the summer seasons took to the Alps to tend stock and make cheese.

After the war he spent time in the Black Forest where he met his future wife, Annaliese.

On 13th August 1949, he arrived in New Zealand to start a new life Dairy Farming in Taranaki. Dolfi's passion was animals and he had always dreamed of having a farm. Coming to New Zealand he was able to fulfill his dream. After sending for his Fiancée, they married in New Zealand and set up home first Share Milking in Taupiri, Matamata, and finally realizing their dream with their own farm in Galatea.

Having spent 17 years on the farm in Galatea, Dolfi and Annaliese retired in 1979 and moved to a small four-hectare farmlet in Puketaha, Hamilton, where he could still have a few animals around to keep him occupied. Dolfi's wife died in 1990, and Dolfi decided to spend the last few years of his life in a Retirement home in Hamilton. He died peacefully on the evening of the 24th June 2001. Dolfi is survived by four children and six grand children.

He's gone to heaven to feed his animals !

*The Hamilton Swiss Club and the Swiss Society extend sincere condolences to Dolfi's family. - May he rest in God's peace!*

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After a brief speech by the President, Herbert Staheli, we were treated to some singing by our club singing group and then Herbert gave us a fine display of "Fahnechwingen" with our new flag.

After this, dinner was served - hot ham and frankfurters, together with a good variety of home-made salads and breads.

Following dinner, there was time for more dancing, and even some singing along to a number of familiar songs. A little later it was time for coffee (and Schnapps) and a delicious selection of home-made cakes and biscuits.

The evening passed by very quickly and was enjoyed by everyone.

A big thank you goes to the small committee (those not overseas at the time) who worked hard before, during, and after the function. And many thanks also to those people who helped to prepare the hall, and to everyone who offered to help in the kitchen and do baking. As a result, we all enjoyed celebrating our national day together. AZ

### Forthcoming Events..

#### Fondue Evening

The Fondue Evening will this year be held on **Saturday, 22 September, 8pm at the Eureka Hall.**

This year we have organised the "Sound of Switzerland", with Peter Arnold, to entertain us, so please encourage friends and neighbours to come along with you and enjoy a

great evening of Swiss food and entertainment.

Please remember to bring your marked fondue pans and forks.

During this evening we will also be presenting the medal and trophy winners for the past season.

Children are also encouraged to attend - school-age children are half price. We look forward to seeing you all there !!

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#### A Swiss prayer:

"God give me patience, but  
quickli!"



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**Note:** Ambassador Walter Thurnherr (not our previous Ambassador), Head of the Section for the Swiss Abroad in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Berne, will be in Hamilton on **Tuesday, 4th December**, as part of his visit to Australia and NZ. Please note this date in your calendar - more details next month.

#### Winners at 5th card evening:

1) Heidi Santner	4275
2) Hanna Frischknecht	4185
3) Hilda Schicker	4151
4) Bert Steiner	4170
5) Uli Elmiger	4077
6) Hans Schürmann	4015
7) Martha Schefer	3989
8) Rösli Schürmann	3974
9) Ruth Waldvogel	3938
Booby Prize:	
Ernst Rust	3158

#### Winners at 6th card evening:

1) Lina Rufer	4068
2) Bert Flühler	4052
3) Hilda Schicker	4037
4) Margaret Hayward	4030
5) Rösli Schürmann	4013
6) Heinz Leuenberger	4009
7) Hanna Frischknecht	4002
8) Helen Staheli	3989
Booby Prize:	
Marco Knaus	3226

#### OVERALL PRIZEWINNERS

1. Rösli Schürmann	20,343
2. Margaret Hayward	20,202
3. Helen Staheli	20,167
4. Heidi Santner	20,077
5. Bert Flühler	19,867
6. Heinz Leuenberger	19,821
7. Ruth Waldvogel	19,532
8. Robert Frischknecht	19,503
9. Hanna Frischknecht	19,431
10. Hilda Schicker	19,368
11. Fritz Häsli	19,344

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### Past events ...

#### First Of August Celebration

We held this at the Club House on 28th July, with a good crowd attending - the hall looked lovely and colourful. We listened to the taped speech from the "Bundespräsident", with many of us disappointed at the content.

We then distributed the Society medals to our lucky winners, and were then all entertained with lovely traditional Swiss music; the choir; the folkdancers; the alphorns and flag-thrower. We're very lucky to have such a talented bunch of people in our club, who enjoy entertaining our audiences, and were lucky to have Peter Canziani come down and entertain too !!

A beautiful tombola was organised by Erna and Lisette, with tickets selling like hot cakes. Many thanks to all those who donated prizes to our tombola. We really appreciate your generosity, together with the many people who buy heaps of tickets... but I did notice two tickets rolled up together every so often, Zeno !! Grateful thanks to all the entertainers for their great effort and beautiful sounds, and to everyone for attending our function. It's great to see some new faces among our old faces !!

#### Second 1st of August Celebration

As you all know, we Taranaki-ites like to celebrate, so several of us went to the Mountain House on 1st August. We had a wonderful time... delicious food, good entertainment, great company - all the right ingredients for a terrific night. Thank you very much, Keith and Bertha, for your great hospitality and such a lovely evening. We're all looking forward to another one !!

#### Anniversary Shoot - 2001

This was held on 1st July. A nice Winter day kept a few competitors away with 65 competing, nine less than last year. But by tea time, peo-

ple came flooding in with a total of 95 enjoying a delicious meal of Rippeli and Sauerkraut. After dinner and a nice cup of coffee and Schnapps, we got into the swing of things ! First we handed out the cups, medals and trophies for the 2001 smallbore shooting. Then the scores from the day's competitions, where everyone gets a prize for either shooting or skittles, were announced - 37 shooters and 28 skittlers.

The evening continued with the more favourite part, for the children at least, with the spinning wheel and the mystery prize draw and name prize draws, topped off with a lollie scramble. It then ended with some lovely music from Zeno and a small supper. **A separate sheet with a complete list of all winners; and cup, medal and trophy recipients; is included in this issue.**

I would like to thank all the supporters, sponsors and helpers who made everything possible. We, the

shooting committee, hope that you had an enjoyable weekend and look forward to seeing you again at next year's Anniversary Shoot.

Regards,  
Mark Kiser, *Smallbore Riflemaster*  
(Ph. 06 764 8993)

### Forthcoming events...

#### 6th September

- Kegeln recommences. It would be lovely to see some new faces. We have some lovely medals to win, so do come along !!

#### 21st October

- Trudi Ott Belt shoot and championship shoot ... here, too, Mark would love to see some new faces so do join in. Starts at 1.00 pm.

#### 18th November

- Ted Naepflin Memorial Shield and championship shoot at 1.00 pm.

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### Past Events....

#### Fondue Evening, 23 June

80 members and friends had the pleasure of dunking their pieces of bread into one of the best Fondues ever. According to our very own Master Cheesemaker, Max Fuhrer, the secret of a superb fondue lies mainly in the storage of the cheeses chosen. On this occasion the mixture was 90 % Gruyere and 10 % Vintage cheddar, and the Gruyere was stored for two months at room temperature. To counteract the cholesterol overload of the main dish, a mixed salad was served as entree and fruit as dessert.

The **Club Evening** scheduled for the 14 July was transformed into a **Film Weekend** starting on Friday night with the screening of **Demokrat Läppli**, followed over the next two days by **Emil** (one-man comical sketches), **Es Dach überem Chopf**, **Die Besteigung der Eiger-nordwand** (1999 Schweizer Fernsehen Spektakel), **Hinter den sieben Geleisen**, und

**Chäserei in der Vefreude**. Especially the nostalgically inclined over 60s enjoyed the old Swiss dialect films with cherished actors like Alfred Rasser, Ruedi Walter, Zarli Carigiet, Emil, etc.

For the projection of the films onto a big screen expensive equipment had to be hired. This was sponsored by a very generous club member to whom the Committee and all those who took advantage of this unique occasion to see these films are very grateful.

The **First of August** was, as has become customary, celebrated with a bonfire on Petone beach. About 15 children and as many adults braved the calm, dry but cold conditions and were rewarded with the heart-warming sight of red flames engulfing the big pile of wood, fireworks shooting into the night sky and children carrying candle lit lampons. Strengthened by hot sausages and coffee, the assembly

then formed an ad hoc choir and sang the old well known songs with enthusiasm and in some cases even in tune.

#### First of August Celebration

4th August, in the clubhouse. About 50 members and friends accepted the invitation to share a meal to mark our National Day. Tables decorated with candles and red and white camelias created the appropriate festive ambience. With a welcoming glass of Glühwein in the hand, people mingled and eventually everybody sat down to an entree of mixed salad, cold cuts, cheeses and a First of August bun especially baked for the occasion by our secretary.

This was followed by pastry cases filled with chicken, mushrooms and Brät and mixed vegetables, cooked by the two male committee members (with considerable help from Therese and Hans Scherrer). The meal was rounded off with fresh fruit salad, coffee and cake.

### Forthcoming Events...

#### September 8, Berner Platte

This is going to be the premier event of the year, don't miss it! The food will be superb, but the highlight of the evening will be provided by members of the very talented Auckland based "Swiss Kiwi Yodel Group".

L.N.

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