

Editorial

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When I tried to find articles about Schaffhausen for this Helvetia, memories floated back, and I'd like to share some with you.

When I was a teacher at a school for the deaf in Switzerland we were allowed to spend a whole week somewhere in Switzerland, instead of the Schulreise; it was a kind of week-long school trip.

So one late August we had a whole week in Schaffhausen. We slept in the Youth Hostel Laufen am Rheinfall and went on day excursions from there.

One day we drew the tracery of the Allerheiligen cloister; each window had a different design, and the children enjoyed lying there, drawing the details. Many years later, when I was already in New Zealand, one of my students wrote to me that she and her sister had gone to Schaffhausen, and she had shown her sister the cloister and pointed out the different design.

Another day we went to the Weinmuseum in Hallau. Of course we walked part of the way, as you do on a Schulreise. It was a hot day, and the children and I were glad we found a row of trees to sit in their shade. Well, the trees did not just stand there; they flanked a driveway, but as I had only six students, I thought we would probably be allowed to; we sat in the grass, ate our lunch, drank our tea and wriggled our toes. A car drove past us, the driver saw us, smiled and nodded, and we waved and nodded back. A short while later he reappeared, still smiling. I got up to explain that we were hot, and we thought that the shade... But he didn't want to listen to my explanation. He said: "Of course you are welcome. I thought you might be thirsty" - and he produced two bottles of cold, sparkling Rimuss, and plastic 'glasses' for all! It was the best bottle of champagne we could imagine, and it was one of the highlights of our week - and it was good advertising for Rimuss - in whose driveway we sat.

Trudi



Your extraordinary Helvetia Folding Team (from left to right: Frieda Schütz, Trudi Brühlmann, Heidi Amelung) at work! One of our usual folding team members, Sibylle Sharma-Schwarz, was busy with overseas visitors - or was it the other way round? Her parents visited and decided to get busy with Sibylle's and Ankit's garden. It sounded like a complete makeover. Luckily our president's mother decided Roland's garden could not be improved any further and was willing to replace Sibylle in our team.

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