

Swiss Club news from around New Zealand

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Taranaki

Past Events

On Valentine's Day, February 14, we held our **Annual Picnic** ... well, we were truly blessed with the weather ... sunny and warm, with no hint of rain ... the previous day had been wet, and the following day ended up being wet too!!! So we were very, very lucky!!! By the time we arrived (and I thought we were early!!) the big Canton Flags were fluttering in the wind, and people were organising various stalls. During the day we had many of our own members, visitors from the Waikato and also Switzerland ... thank you all very much for coming, and we hope that you enjoyed yourselves!!!

The smell of barbecued cervelas and bratwurst was filling the air ... and did we go through some kilos of the delectable



Part of the team preparing the sausages which were enjoyed by all

Swiss sausages ... you better believe it!!! Just when we thought "that's it" another lot of people arrived, and we grilled a few more kilos. It really did seem that the queue was endless!!! Many thanks to all those who helped with preparing, barbecuing and selling the sausages ... you did a great job!!! Many thanks also to the Swiss Deli for your great service in delivering these delicious sausages to us ... we certainly had no complaints about them; just great remarks ... and they disappeared at a great rate of knots!!!

Mathias and Adrian were busy selling beverages and ice creams ... and this was the first year we actually ran out of ice creams ... all 160 of them sold in a few hours!!!



Our patron, Sepp Kiser, enjoying a chat with Walter Zumbuhl

A HUGE BIG thank you to Mark Kiser for bringing along his big gazebos ... they were great, and gave a lot more shade than our smaller ones. Many people appreciated sitting under them, enjoying their food and drinks.

During the entire afternoon we were entertained by Peter Canziani and Zeno von Hospenthal on their accordions ... we really enjoy and appreciate your talent, guys ... thank you for your big effort.

Markus had the shot put under control ... and we were amazed at the number of people who gave this a go. Well done to all participants, and congratulations to the winners. In the juniors Andrew Huesser was a little stronger than Toni Hess ... well done boys; with the winning throw being 4.4m. In the ladies section Karen Angell, once again, won with Marlies Hebler second ... we will have to find stiffer competition for Karen, as she is currently the only person to have her name engraved on this trophy!!! Antoni Sherman was far too strong in the men's field, winning the competition with a throw of 7.95m!!! What a shame you couldn't go to Wellington ... but, yes, the cows have to be milked ... don't we know it!!! Thomas Werder did his best and was runner-up ... I guess this was the warm up for the Schwingen, eh Thomas????!!!

We had helicopter rides advertised in the last issue of the Hel-

vetia, but unfortunately due to the rain on the previous day, Richard and Jolanda from Heliview had commitments to fulfil from the Saturday and were unable to come. They apologised profusely and sincerely hope that they will be able to come next year. We look forward to it already!!!

Mark had the fishing under control ... as always ... and did a roaring trade!!! We were also fortunate to have Reg and Rose Tefcofsky again with Kiddies Amusements ... and many children loved the Merry-Go-Round and Bouncy Castle ... our grateful thanks Reg and Rose, for continuing to support the Swiss Picnic. We know that the children absolutely love your activities, and we hope that they were all polite to you!!! This year Dani and Jacqui Meier came with two ponies ... and did the children enjoy this? You bet!!! Some were hesitant, but others just loved it!!! Many thanks Dani and Jacqui for donating your time to our club. We are just so lucky to have so many activities available for the children to do, and we hope that you all enjoy and appreciate it!!!

Once again, we had tombola tickets for sale, which also disappeared like hot cakes. Thank you to Lisette and Erna for organising the prizes, together with all the people who sold the tickets. However the biggest thanks must go to everyone who purchased the tickets ... THANK YOU very much for your support!!! Eventually all the prizes were uplifted, and many people were well-satisfied with their winnings!!!

However, as always, the Schwingen (Swiss wrestling) is the highlight of the day ... and this year we were spoiled with twenty-six participants ... four midgets, twelve juniors and ten seniors!!! Excellent work ... and thank you all very much for participating and making a great spectacle for everyone watching!!! There were certainly some tough bouts!!! None tougher than the Werder brothers doing battle ...



initially having a five minute bout in section play to end up with a draw!!! We hope that you all enjoyed the wrestling and that you will all take part again next year. The winner of the juniors was Toni Hess who beat Gian Padrutt ... well done Toni. In the seniors the Werder brothers met again in the final, and this time Thomas was the winner. Hard luck Sami, but I'm sure that you'll be back to do battle again next year!!! Congratulations Thomas!!! Thank you to Franz, Martin and team for refereeing and score-taking and to Othmar for organising the prizes. We really appreciate your time and effort!!!



Thomas Werder being crowned 'Schwingen-König' by Andrea Hebler, and congratulated by club president Othmar

As it drew close to milking time and cars started departing, the barbeques got cranked up again, for people to enjoy a bite on their way home. This is the first time ever that we ran out of sausages!!! That is just how popular these delectable items are!!! Usually we sell several fresh packets to keen purchasers but this year we weren't able to do that ... sorry to everyone who hoped to purchase a few packets, but please remember that you can place an order with Lisette or Marianne and thus guarantee yourselves of having some sausages. Many people then gathered under the gazebos to enjoy a glass of wine or beer after a

hectic, but enjoyable day. It was great to see so many people staying a little longer, and before we knew it a few dark clouds had gathered and the odd drop of rain was felt. We started packing everything away, before things got wet!!! Fridges were shifted, barbeques put away etc. Someone went to Mathias to purchase a bottle of wine, and he turned around to get a bottle out of the fridge, but hadn't realised that they had been taken away!!! Good one, Mathias!!! The hot weather must have got to you!!!

About forty people enjoyed a pot-luck tea with everyone chatting about the day's activities amongst other small talk. It was a really enjoyable way to end a great day. Many thanks to everyone who came to the picnic, and we hope to see you all again next year. Thank you to the committee for their tireless work in making the picnic so successful. It was brilliant!!! MD

27/28 February: Bus Trip to Wellington - Othmar started collecting us 27 Taranakites from Eltham south, with Heidi Werder being the last one joining us in Manutahi. We made a morning tea stop in Bulls and everyone found something to their liking. Sunshine accompanied us all the way to Wellington and we got a great welcome from Roland Schuetz and his team, and a wonderful lunch was already awaiting us. Then we split into teams for the competition. The shooters went with the van to Paul Scherrer's beautiful place and again we got spoiled with fresh home baking, coffee and tea. The competition was fierce, we didn't know till the last shooter finished who was going to win. The Wellington shooters were simply the better shots on the day. In the meantime the rest of us went to the bowling alley in Petone, either as a competitor or a supporter. The Taranaki skittlers really did us proud with a good effort to win this one. Back with the bus and all the card players were next to put their skills to

the test. Unfortunately Wellington was the clear winner here, which meant we really had to win the Steinstossen to have any chance of reaching the finals and retain the coveted bell. It was a matter of "young against old", the strong, young Wellingtonians showed no mercy right from the start in this discipline!!! With a well deserved win, Wellington will be heading to the final, which will be held in Taranaki in June. After all this hard work most of us went to refresh at the motel before returning to a three course meal; many thanks for the great effort to the helpers in the kitchen!!! Peter Canziani entertained us on the accordion, with Leo Zehnder and Othmar Hebler joining in at times. The evening went fast with some dancing, and others just relaxing with a glass of wine or two, and a good old chat.

As if we hadn't indulged enough!!! A wonderful breakfast was ready for us in the hall the next morning. Around 11 o'clock it was time for us to head home. With a 'Tsunami' warning along the coast, Othmar took the inland route, just in case!!! As stewardesses we were told that we were doing a great job, however the dress code was inappropriate!!! To rectify this, at our stop in Otaki, we found ourselves a very stylish outfit, which Doreen Zehnder topped off with a classy hat!!! Everyone enjoyed being helped on or off the bus by our professional services - well, we hope so anyway ...

To shorten our lengthy drive everybody's IQ got tested by a challenging quiz, where Maya Stutz was the outstanding winner. Ernst and Barbara Denzler proved to be the most knowledgeable when it comes to knowing which flags belong to which country. Well done!!! Near Bulls we were all ready for an ice cream!!!

Our trip slowly came to an end, as Othmar dropped everyone off. Thank you very much Othmar for getting us to Wellington and back safely, and for a



well-organised weekend!!! Now we look forward to Hastings, Whakatane and the East Coast!!!

Marlies and Heidi

On 1st March we held the 58th **Annual General Meeting** of the Taranaki Swiss Club with thirty-two people attending. Thank you all very much for coming; it was a pleasure to see so many people interested in what is happening in our club. The formalities were undertaken with all committee members happy to be re-elected, and there being only a little general business the meeting was closed ... a very short meeting ... the way we like them!!! A delicious supper was served with people happy to have a chat and a laugh.

Therefore your committee for the coming year is:

Patron: Sepp Kiser
President: Othmar Hebler
Vice President:
 Zeno von Hospenthal
Secretary / Treasurer:
 Marianne Drummond
Ladies: Emmi Kiser,
 Doreen Zehnder, Marlies Hebler,
 Lisette Benkert,
 Erna Zimmermann, Heidi Werder
Men: Franz Schuler, Leo Zehnder,
 Johnny Bishop, Mark Kiser,
 Mathias Seifert, Markus Rufer,
 Remigi Zimmermann and
 Walter Seifert.

Should you require any information or details about our activities, please ring one of the committee members who will be only too happy to help you.

You should all have received a calendar of events and newsletter by now; if for some reason you haven't received it please ring Marianne. Thank you for supporting our club, and we look forward to seeing you at one of our functions.

Forthcoming Events:

April 1 & 15 - Keglen from 8.00pm. Come along and have

some fun, a chat with friends and bring a plate for supper. A wonderful and fun evening!!!

April 11 & 25 - The card season is upon us again. This year Walter has taken over the reigns from Erna and Heidi ... and he is looking forward to seeing you. Please support him!!! **Jassen and Euchre** starts at 1.15pm sharp, and please bring a plate for afternoon tea. Many members stay a little longer and play a few more games of cards. Don't be shy ... come and take part!!!

April 17 - This will be a big day ... **we will be bidding a fond farewell to our Ambassador, Dr Beat Nobs, his wife Irene and Christian** (as the older two boys are already in Switzerland undertaking military training) ... so please come along to some part of the day ... or preferably all of it!!! Karabiner Shooting at the 300 metre range will start at 10.00am, so give Remigi a call if you would like to know more. From 2.00pm the Preiskeglen will commence ... groups of four people compete against each other, with the highest score taking away a salametti.

Come along and support Johnny and his team ... it is very social ... but fiercely competitive ... no just kidding ... come along and enjoy this great event!!! From 6.00pm to 8.00pm the delicious fondue / sausages and salads will be served ... this really is a wonderful meal ... but we would like to know numbers, so please ring Marianne on 06 7628757, Lisette on 06 7628718 or Othmar on 06 278 6878 by 10th April. We would love to see another big crowd!!!

April 25 - Society / Championship Shoot at 1.00pm. Go and give shooting a try ... Mark would love to see you, and is quite happy to give some coaching.

May 2 & 23 - Cards at 1.15pm. Come along and have some fun ... if you don't play jassen, then euchre is played too.

May 6 & 20 - Keglen ... again ... lots of fun, a bit of sport, and much chatting!!!

May 16 - The Swiss Society Competitions will be held from 10.00am. The cost this year is \$5.00 per discipline ... which consists of shooting, shot put, keglen (9 pin bowling) and jassen. Juniors (under 16) are in a separate section, so come along parents and grandparents bring those youngsters along!!! Should you take part in at least three of the four sports, you will go in the draw to win two dinners at the Swiss Club (Fondue Evening, Anniversary Shoot or 1st August) ... so compete in as many disciplines as possible!!! Championship Shoot will also be taking place from 1.00pm. Thereafter everyone can take part in a potluck tea at 6.00pm ... just bring sufficient food for you / your family and you will enjoy a delicious meal!!! *MD*

Programme for the Swiss Society of New Zealand Annual General Meeting Queen's Birthday Weekend, 5th and 6th June 2010 at our clubhouse in Kaponga

Saturday 5th June, an informal gathering of members of all the clubs at our clubhouse in Kaponga from 5.00pm onwards.

Sunday 6th June, at our clubhouse, the finals of the Cowbell-competition will be held between Wellington and either Auckland or Hamilton at 10.00am. Everyone is most welcome to join us even if you aren't taking part in the competition. Lunch will be served around 12 noon. At 2.00pm the AGM of the Swiss Society of New Zealand will be held followed by afternoon tea. Dinner will be served at 6.30pm.

Cost of both meals will be advised in the next issue.



Hamilton

Past Events:

50 Metre Shoot was held on Saturday 13th February and what a fantastic day for outdoor shooting. Thank you to Erika and Ueli for having us. They are just great hosts.

We had a good turnout on the day with 19 participants. Whilst the top shooters had good success, across the board we should have done better. Total top 4 scores came to 271 points. I do apologise for the muck-up with the ammo. This will not happen again. I did ask for advice in the shop and I still was given a mixture of bullets, unbelievable.

Thank you all for coming. I look forward to seeing you at the 300 metre shoot in Kaukapakapa in May.

Hans Vetsch, Riflemaster

Annual Picnic was held on Sunday 21st February at the Newstead School and again what an amazing day. Due to the bigger adventure playground, we decided to set up further back than usual and also tried to make the most of the shade as we were expecting a rather warm day. We were not disappointed and I think the temperature reached about 28°C mid afternoon. We had our usual excellent turnout and lots of new as well as not-so new faces were seen.

The bowling alleys were busy throughout the day as well as the shot put. See results below.

Bowling

Adult Trophy:
Joe Kennel and Willetta Staheli
25 points each

Ladies Teapot:
Willetta Staheli 25 points

Junior, 12 and under
Anton Rufer 17 points

Junior, 13 - 16
Daniel Rust 20 points

Shooting

Trophy
Peter Rust 70 points

Shot Put

Trophy
Peter Rust 24.7 metres

Congratulations to all the trophy winners. These will be handed out at the Fondue Evening in September together with the medals. Many thanks to all the participants. Without your great enthusiasm we would not have such a good competition.

Throughout the day the food and drink stand was busy and everyone enjoyed the lovely grilled sausages as well as a great selection of home-made baking. Many thanks to all the extra helpers, especially those not on the committee.

There were a great number of children and I think there was plenty for all of them to do. Many enjoyed a turn on the bowling alleys, the adventure playground and the pool. On top of that, Vitus and Rae organised some sack races and a lolly scramble.

A great day all round.

Future Events:

Friday, 30th April - Annual General Meeting - 7.30pm for drinks and 8.00pm for the meeting, at Swisscraft premises, Colombo Street, Frankton. The club has had a very successful year and has had great numbers at all of our events. The committee would really appreciate your feedback and support on both past and future events, as well as any other thoughts or comments, so please come along.

Supper will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

Sunday, 2nd May - Cowbell Semi-final Competition, Hamilton vs Auckland. The Auckland Club will this year be hosting this event. If you would like to travel

to Auckland to participate in the bowling, cards and/or shot-put (where we would appreciate some strong participants!), or for further information, please contact Herbert Staheli (07) 847-7220 daytime or 021 962708.

Card Evenings

Venue: all five card evenings will be held at the Union Parish Church, Queen St, Cambridge, commencing promptly at 7.30pm. The four top scores will count towards the overall prize.

Attendance at last year's card evenings was encouragingly higher than the previous few years, so we hope that this trend will continue. We look forward to seeing you again at these popular evenings. (To avoid delays starting the Medal Jass, no sub payments will be accepted at the First Card Evening. Sub notices will be issued for payment on subsequent evenings. Thank you for your co-operation).

Friday, 14th May - First Card Evening and Medal Jass.

Please be prompt to start at 7.30pm.

Friday, 28th May - Second Card Evening.

Friday, 11th June - Third Card Evening.

Friday, 25th June - Fourth Card Evening.

Friday, 9th July - Fifth and Final Card Evening.

If you are able to assist with baking or help in the kitchen to prepare supper, please ring Beatrice on (07) 843-7971 or e-mail bea.leun@xtra.co.nz

300 metre Shooting will be held on the weekend of 22nd and 23rd May. This event is for Hamilton Club Members at the Auckland Swiss Farm Clubhouse in Kaukapakapa. Hans is hoping not to have to write separate letters about the shooting, so shoot-

HAMILTON



Richard Wehrle concentrating on his target



Vreni Vetsch, Gabriella Burch and Hanni Frischknecht busy serving sausages

AUCKLAND



Our presi won gold



Beach party group

WELLINGTON



The wonderful playground at Jäggi Park



Treasure hunt in the sandpit. Heinz helping the children dig up the box.

TARANAKI



Brothers Sami and Thomas Werder wrestling their way to a draw in the preliminary rounds



Eventual junior winner Toni Hess in a tough tussle with Gian Padrutt (runner-up)



ers, please book for this weekend now (e-mail: hans@new-tech.co.nz, or phone 07 855 3294 home, 021 658733 mobile). Hans will then contact everyone who has booked regarding food and transport, and can answer any questions. A good crowd of "old" and new shooters are most welcome. AZ

Auckland

Past events:

Picnic Sunday 14 Feb: Mid February saw the return of the traditional annual picnic at the Swiss Farm. Although the weather treated us to the all too wellknown mix of sunshine and drizzle it couldn't dampen the enthusiasm for the shooting, air gun shooting and 'chegle' (nine pin bowling) which together with the opportunity to catch up with friends offered something for everybody. There was also a healthy appetite for all the lovely sausages, potato and kumara salads. The nussgipfel, schnägge and crèmeschnitte reminded us in a pleasant way what treats the Swiss kitchen has to offer in the dessert department as well. All in all the picnic was again a wonderful opportunity to chat, keep company and at least once a year to pretend to stay in shape.

Jass Clinic Friday 26 Feb was attended by five newcomers and several of the oldies. They had a good time, and we do hope they will enjoy many more games. By the time you get this, we will have had another evening coaching session, and we look forward to all these new players joining our regular Jass on the second Friday every month.

Beach Party Sunday 07 March : The Swiss & Knusprig Beach Party held at the beginning of March was already the second

one in a hopefully long lasting series. After the attendance at the first one was underwhelming due to the early season and the unstable weather, the turnout for this one was great. We occupied a lovely spot in beautiful Long Bay Park and installed our beach towels and the mandatory barbie. The opportunity for a cooling swim was also taken up gratefully by old and young. Later on father and son or husband and wife pairs got to shine at the summer Olympic games in such disciplines as three legged run or egg balancing and apart from gold medals there were lots of sweets to be won. So everybody turned out to be a winner on this lovely occasion.

Jass Friday 12 March: 16 of the old faithful players turned up for our first Jass; it feels like the year is in full swing again.

Here are the results:

March Jass Results 12 March

1st	Ernst Lanz	4018
2nd	Andrew Iten	3988
3rd	Verena Ruedi	3978
4th	Hans Iten	3972
5th	Emil Tellenbach	3862
6th	Othmar Wyss	3833
7th	Fidel Good	3830
8th	Heinz Matysik	3821
9th	Heidi Wilson	3756
10th	Hilda Iten	3721
11th	Louis Wallimann	3715
12th	Lynne Dunphy	3647
13th	Marcel Ruedi	3617
14th	Franz Krieger	3575
15th	Adrian Blaser	3564
16th	Anton Good	3391

Future events:

Please join us in April and beyond:

Friday 09 April 7.30pm: Jass, Danish Club, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose. We look forward to seeing many of the 'old' players, and the newly trained ones, and promise there will be only positive feedback!

Saturday/Sunday, 17/18 April - Shooting at the Swiss Farm. For information please contact Henry Werffeli werffeli@orcon.net.nz, 09 410-3476 , or Marcel Ruedi marcel@igrin.co.nz 09 4135338.

Saturday 24 April, late afternoon/evening - Clubnight (previously Stammtisch): You are welcome to come to the Swiss Farm, bring your food, your bedding, have a yarn with some fellow Swiss, play games, and spend the night away from the bustle of the city, breathing the healthy mountain air of our Kaukapakapa farm.

Monday 03 May 7.30pm - AGM of the Auckland Swiss Club. Finally you will get your say on how you would like your club run, and how your dollars should be spent. This year the AGM will be conveniently held at the Danish Club 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose. We hope to see many of you there. Our Presi Marcel (he is standing for re-election, hooray!) will make sure the meeting will be run efficiently. We will be electing new committee members . There are three very capable young applicants, who have done so much work already. More would be even better. After having had your say, you will be treated to a delicious supper.

Pub nights: The first Friday of April will be good Friday, so you are going to miss out in April. Next Pub night will be on **Friday 07 May**, at **Africa**, 495 Pakuranga Rd, Highland Park.

Swiss Market Day Saturday 19th June 2010

As previously mentioned we are organising the inaugural **SWISS MARKET DAY**, which is very exciting!

Our aim is to create a real "Swiss Märit" atmosphere (as much as that is possible within a hall...) with Marroni (chestnuts), Raclette, "Magebrot", Lebkuchen (Gingerbread) etc. but to do that we need your contribution. The



stalls have been selling fast so far but we have a few left. So if you want to sell your products or services, please book ASAP: swiss@zurbruegg.co.nz or Tel./ Fax. 09 627 8777. You might not necessarily have a business but maybe a creative hobby or any other interesting products that you might want to show and sell.

Otherwise don't forget to pencil this date in your diary to come and experience the Swiss market on the 19th June!

Nelly Steinemann

Wellington

Past Events:

Sunday 21 February: Family Day and Picnic at the Jäggi Park

- What a glorious day it was! The weather was perfect, and many families went for the drive to the



Parents watching their children play

Akatarawas and enjoyed the day - children, parents and grandparents alike. The tree house, the bushwalk, the paddling pool, bubbles, balloons, lollies, barbecue, - hard to say what was the greatest attraction. The boys loved digging for the treasure the pirates had hidden in the sandpit, but the pirates had been just a little bit too careful and in the end generously helped find the treasure again. Thank you very, very much, Heinz and Trix, for this very special day for all - and thank you also for the delicious coffee and cake!

Saturday 27 February: Cowbell Competition - In case you haven't heard the good news yet: We won the semi-final!

And now the details: The clubhouse was abuzz with activities in preparation of the meeting with our friends from Taranaki. Heinz Jäggi and Peter Hynes covered a good portion of our courtyard with a huge tarpaulin, creating a truly Swiss Gartenwirtschaftsatmosphäre. Then the Taranaki bus arrived. We had a de luxe barbeque and had a good time - and we almost forgot the serious side of the encounter. But in the end the shooters went shooting, the bowlers went bowling - and the remaining Taranakians helped with the dishes, helped peeling the spuds, helped cutting onions. As the afternoon progressed and the card players played and the shotputters threw the stones, we heard positive rumours about results...

A rich dinner, with soup, roasts, three vegetables and Händöpfelstock and salad was served, followed by refreshing orange salad and coffee and cake. The official results of the cowbell semi-final were announced: The Taranaki Swiss Club, after so many years of successfully defending the cowbell, had generously allowed us to win the semi-final. The Taranaki Swiss were very generous all the way: Thank you very much for your generous contribution to our get-together and to our new roof! And thank you also for the very hands-on help on the evening!

On Sunday morning we met again to a traditional breakfast with homemade bread and homemade jam and plenty of Milchkaffee, and then we waved goodbye to our friends; we look forward to see you again at the Cowbell final and the AGM of the Swiss Society in Kaponga. A sincere thank you to the Wellington club members who, with their commitment, made it such an enjoyable day.

Please, please mark your diary already now; we need as many

strong shooters, bowlers, jassers and shotputters as we can possibly get to win the Cowbell!

Saturday 13 March : Medal Jassen Competition - An encouraging number of card players turned up to compete for the Swiss Society Medal Jassen.

Some tables were faster than others; the fast ones were rewarded with pre-suppers all the way through the eight rounds. The healthy pears (minus their equally healthy inhabitants) from a friend's garden went down well, too - so that in the end, when the hard work was done and fun could start, many only wanted a cuppa. Four cards addicts hadn't had quite enough yet and played a game of 'real cards', i.e. doing a Schieber with all the trimmings. It was almost midnight when we locked the clubhouse.

Future Events:

Saturday 17 April - AGM 7pm at the Clubhouse at 21 Moores Valley Road, Wainuiomata.

All club members will get a formal invitation with the agenda.

Another eventful year has gone. We hope the renovations of the clubhouse are the beginning of a new era with increased participation of all members, young and old, oldtimers and newcomers. Come and have your say, and become involved in the running of the traditional events and new ones! It looks as if the committee has some vacancies, so that's your chance!

The new committee will work on an exciting program for the next year, so watch this space!

A light supper will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

tb

1st April is April Fool's Day - can you spot the April Fool's Day article in this Helvetia?