

Swiss Club news from around New Zealand

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Taranaki

Past Events:

On the 7th March we held our 59th Annual General Meeting with 31 people attending. Othmar gave a full report on the year's activities, with most functions being well attended. During the year Emmi Kiser resigned from the committee, and Leo Zehnder also decided to end his time on the committee. On behalf of all members, Othmar thanked Emmi and Leo very much for their valuable contribution to our club over many years. We know that they will continue to support and help us when required. We were fortunate to have two new nominations for the committee ... Tracey McKenna (Tim Bishop's better half!!! ... sorry about that, Tim!!!) and Bryce Kaiser. Both have been actively involved in our club for many years, and we welcome you to our committee. Bryce's father, Joe, was a founding member of the Taranaki Swiss Club, and I am sure that he would be very proud to know that his son is now on the committee. We thank you both for your support, and hope that you enjoy your time on our committee. Othmar thanked the entire committee for their great support, and was appreciative of the great turnout at the AGM. Everyone then enjoyed a delicious supper.

Future Events:

April: By the beginning of the month you should have received the new calendar of events and newsletter for the coming year. If for some reason you don't receive one, please call Marianne.

April 7 & 21: Keglen will be held from 8.00pm. Come along and enjoy some good Company, the odd drink, a good supper and of course ... keglen!!!

April 9: Our Fondue Evening will be held to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the opening of our Clubhouse. Preiskeglen will be held from 2.00pm with dinner of fondue / sausages served from 6.00pm to 8.00pm. We look forward to seeing you, as this is a wonderful milestone for our Club. A tombola with excellent prizes is being organised, plus a few lucky chairs will receive a prize. Please help make this a memorable occasion and come along to a delicious meal with good company. Members of other clubs and friends are most welcome to attend. Please ring Marianne on 06 7628757, Lisette on 06 7628718 or Erna on 06 2726438 to book.

April 17: Jassen and Euchre will start for the season. Please come along and support Walter ... he enjoys seeing the regulars, but would welcome some new faces!!! Please be ready to play by 1.15pm. Good fun, bring a plate for afternoon tea and enjoy a few games afterwards!!!

On the same day, Mark will be holding the Society / Championship Shoots from 1.00pm. Come along and support Mark. Juniors are most welcome, and Mark will even assist in some coaching.

May 1 & 22: Cards again ... be there by 1.15pm and have some fun!!!

May 5 & 19: Keglen again ... heaps of fun too!!!

May 15: The Swiss Society competitions will be held from 10.00am. If you participate in at least three of the four competitions (shooting, shot put, jassen and keglen) you will be in the draw for a good prize!!! Children under 16 are in a separate competition ... so come along and bring your children too!!! Keen shooters can take part in the Championship Shoot from 1.00pm. A pot-luck tea will be held at 6.00pm ... so come and make a day of it!!! Great social day, with a bit of keen rivalry!!!

June: From the 4th to the 6th June we will be heading to Wellington to take part in the final of the Cowbell Competition and to attend the AGM of the Swiss Society of New Zealand. We will, once again, be travelling by bus, so if you are keen to go, please ring Othmar on 06 2786878 or Marianne on 06 7628757. It's always a good, fun time and we look forward to seeing friends and members from other clubs. Please book your seat early!!!

MD

Hamilton

Past Events:

The **Shooting competition** was held at Elmiger's place on Saturday 19th February with a very good turnout and everyone keen to get their medal shooting completed promptly. It was a very hot summery day and most people brought along a picnic



The guys enjoying the lovely setting for the shooting competition

lunch to enjoy together with their competitors. Congratulations to Hans Vetsch for achieving the top score with 73 points. Medals for this competition will be presented at the Fondue Evening in September. Many thanks to Ueli and Erika Elmiger for again letting the club use their property as a shooting range.

The **Annual Picnic** was held on Sunday 20th February and an-



Everyone queuing up at the food stall at the picnic

other scorching hot summer's day. The committee arrived early to set everything up, including two bowling alleys and the food tables and BBQ. To start with it didn't look like many people were coming and suddenly there was a huge influx of members, non-members, families and friends from near and far. Again the Schuler family delivered a big order of Zwetschge that are always popular. The food stall was



The lovely selection of home-made baking

busy all day long selling grilled sausages, lots of cold drinks and of course a great selection of home-made baking. You wouldn't find a better selection at the local café (see photo). The bowling alleys were busy all day for either medal, trophy or prizes. Many also gave Shot Put a try (see results below). Congratulations to all the winners - young and not so young.

During the afternoon Vitus and Rae organised some sack races and a lolly scramble for the children and everyone received an ice-block. These went down a treat on this very hot afternoon. A lot of children also enjoyed the playground and the pool. Many thanks to everyone who offered to help out on the day. This is always a really big day for the committee members and it's great if we get offers of extra help.

Shot Put Cup

Peter Staheli 23.10m

Shooting Cup

Hans Vetsch 73 pts

Bowling Trophies

Cup

Peter Rust 23 pts

Ladies Teapot

Willetta Staheli 20 pts

Junior Trophy 13-16 years

Mitchell Studer 19 pts

Junior Trophy 12 years and under

Toby Haefliger 17 pts

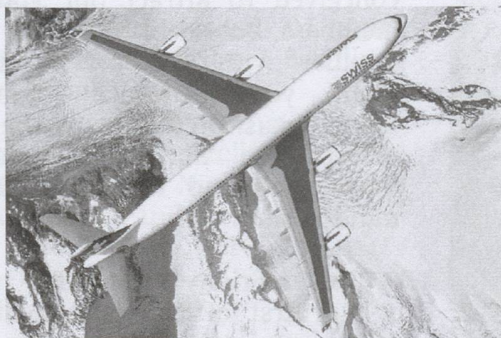
Future Events:

Friday, 29th April - Annual General Meeting - 8.00pm, at Swisscraft premises, Colombo Street, Frankton.

If you would like to come at 7.15pm and have a bowling practice (especially if you are able to participate on the Sunday competing against Auckland for the Cowbell Competition) then we would love to see you early. Otherwise if you would like to arrive about 7.30pm for a drink before the meeting starts at 8pm. The committee would really appreciate your feedback on both past and future events, as well as any other suggestions or comments, so please come along. We would also like to discuss the topic of the Club making a substantial donation to the Earthquake fund, so please come along and have your say. Supper will be served at the conclusion of the meeting. The Ambassador is now planning to come to our fondue evening in September.

Sunday, 1st May - Cowbell Semi-final Competition, Hamil-

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ton vs Auckland to be held at Swisscraft premises, Colombo Street, Frankton. It will be a 10am start. The Hamilton Club will this year be hosting this event. If you would like 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.

Weekend 14th/15th May - 300 metre Shooting for Hamilton Club members at the Auckland Swiss Farm Clubhouse, Kaukapakapa. Hans is hoping not to have to write separate letters about the shooting, so shooters, 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.

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, 6th May - First Card Evening and Medal Jass. Please be prompt to start at 7.30pm.

Friday, 20th May - Second Card Evening

Friday, 3rd June - Third Card Evening

Friday, 17th June - Fourth Card Evening

Friday, 1st 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

Auckland

Past Events:

Beach Party, Sunday 27 February. For us this was an excellent



Chefs at work - Cora teaches Peter and Paul



The future of the club



A well-deserved rest

reason to drive a little further to Long Bay, rather than swim at the local beach. And it was worthwhile! We were most impressed to see some 45 fellow Swiss and families there, swimming, playing games, and having a good chat. The Swiss corner was easy to find, well described, thank you very much Swiss and Knusprig Team.

Pub Night, Friday 04 March. Another venture to a place we had never been before, the Bricklane Bar in New Lynn. Despite the rainy night, some forty people made it and enjoyed the nice company. Well chosen venue, I particularly appreciated the fact that one could talk without shouting, there was no music trying to stop all conversation. What always surprises me at these Pub Nights, and other Swiss and Knusprig events too: They were conceived to attract our young members, but seem to be just as popular with the older ones. Thank you once again, Tanja, Erika, Lukas. Do join us on the 1st of April, in Albany, see below. You are bound to find a like minded soul.

Jassen Friday 11 March

Our first 'official' jass evening of the year started with a bang - a record 27 card player attended. Next time we may have to move into the big hall. And the winner



was ... the luckiest man of them all, Fidel Good. Fondest congratulations, Fidel and Berta, and best wishes for your wedding on 2nd of April. Welcome to the Auckland Swiss Club Berta, looking forward to seeing more of you.

Our 'coaching table' was well received. There will be another chance for a 'Jass without pressure', where you can learn the secrets, on our Jass on 08 April. See below also for other ways of training.

Results:

1st	Fidel Good	4123
2nd	Hansruedi Wolf	4044
3rd	Erwin Knechtle	3986
4th	Neil Kaiser	3985
5th	C. Fitz-Gordon	3980
6th	Heinz Frei	3953
7th	Andrew Buentner	3930
8th	Berta Anderson	3872
9th	Christine Sheppard	3846
10th	Emil Tellenbach	3795
11th	Walter Haller	3775
12th	Nelly Steinemann	3768
13th	Nicholas Sheppard	3768
14th	Ulrika Haller	3768
15th	Annagret Wolf	3766
16th	Ian Gordon	3729
17th	Marcel Ruedi	3722
18th	ranz Krieger	3714
19th	Matthew Kaiser	3692
20th	Louis Wallimann	3690
21st	Edith Hess	3662
22nd	Hilda Iten	3652
23rd	Adrian Blaser	3602
24th	Andrew Iten	3585
25th	Heidi Wilson	3513
26th	Lynne Dunphy	3458
27th	Hans Iten	3358

Future Events:

Pub night, Friday 01 April from 8pm: Barafrica, 1 B William Pickering Drive, Albany

Easy to find - five minutes only from Constellation Drive motorway exit. Nice outdoor and indoor area, and no music!

Check it out: <http://www.barafrica.co.nz/albany/index.php>

Jassen, Friday 08 April, 7.30pm, Danish Club, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose.

We look forward to seeing you there. If you are a beginner, or have forgotten most, join us at the coaching table, where you get your chance to learn some secrets of this fascinating game. If you like to refresh your memory about it right now: Have a look at the Swiss Club Website www.swiss.org.nz/auckland, under 'Jassen' you will find a PDF 'read some hints if you are new'. Did you know you can also play on line, go to: www.sf.tv and look for jassen, Samschtig Jass. It is in German. You can choose between playing against computers at any time (no need to register), or against real people all around the globe (you will have to register). I am not sure whether to thank Adrian for this hint, or to resent it - as I have a new addiction now!

Tree adventure, Sunday 10 April, 12.30pm, Woodhill Forest, 35 minutes from Auckland City.

The good thing about belonging to the Swiss Club is that you can try something you have always wanted to do, but it's far more exciting in a larger group. This tree adventure sounds fascinating. Check it out under: <http://treeadventures.co.nz> There is a course for the anxious ones like me - I will definitely choose 1-4. If you are a bit more brave, go for 5-8. Who is going to do 9?

We meet at 11.00 to start our courses which last up to 2 hours, and sit down for a picnic lunch afterwards (BYO). If you have not done so yet, it is essential that you book NOW with Erika or Lukas Lanz: lukas@mcdunnie.net, 479 6503. As per website, the cost per person depends on the numbers we get; it's between \$31 and 34 for courses 1-4, between \$36 and 40 for courses 5-8.

Shooting: Einzelwettschies-sen, April 16-17.

Please contact Riflemaster Henry Werffeli for further information: werffeli@orcon.net.nz or ph 09 4103476.

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Looking forward to May, mark your diary now:

Swiss Society Cowbell Competition Semifinal in Hamilton, Sunday 01 May. Please contact Marcel Ruedi if you can lend us a hand, an arm, a brain, for the stone throwing, jassen, bowling: ruedi@orcon.net.nz or 5515830, 0274901836.

The finals will be in Wellington at the Society AGM on Queen's Birthday weekend.

AGM Auckland Swiss Club: Monday 02 May 7.30pm at the Danish Club, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose Your chance to have a say what direction you would like your club to go to. We need your input and your voice to have a quorum. Not to be missed!

Film evening, Friday 06 May, 7.30pm at the Danish Club in Penrose. Enjoy a Wähe (Dünne, Flade) for dinner, followed by a movie, then coffee.

Swiss Market Day, Saturday 07 May, 8am to 3pm, at the Danish Club in Penrose

This year's market will be even bigger and better! We are looking forward to wonderful Swiss and European products, food and entertainment. After last year's success we are now going to have a "Festhütte" - a party tent for your lunch and entertainment to give it even more of a Swiss atmosphere!

Every Market is only as good as the products offered! Many tables are booked already, but there are still some available. We are looking for any kind of interesting, traditional or not, Swiss or European style products to offer at the market. It doesn't have to be Swiss nor does the exhibitor have to be Swiss - if you have anything in mind, even if it's your friend or relative, please get in touch with us, we would love to hear from you. You don't even have to be from Auckland to exhibit, Hamiltonians, Northerners and all others are most welcome.

Please contact Tanja on: swiss@zurbruegg.co.nz or 09 627 8777 or 0211 014432

Other notices:

Take the family out for a weekend treat at the farm: You are invited to use the farm for a night or two with your family. Get away from the city and enjoy peace and quiet - or let the kids run wild. BYO bedding, tents (or sleep in the hut), food. It is essential that you book with Marcel ruedi@orcon.net.nz or 5515830, 0274901836.

There is no cost for club members and their families. For larger groups we ask for a donation; discuss with Marcel.

Wanted: Your ideas. Your club is as good as its members. We sometimes get it right, sometimes we could do things differently. Please give us your suggestions any time. We do like constructive criticism!

Swiss Kiwi Yodel Ball (dress code informal!) **Saturday 09 April, 6.30pm** (dinner at 7.30) Pt. Chevalier RSA, 1136 Gt. North Rd, Pt. Chevalier

Price: \$45.00 p.p. incl. Dinner & entertainment, dancing to the 60's/70's music with DJ Martin Van Doorn.

There are a few tickets left: Contact the Swiss Bakery at 489 9737, or Ursula and Peter Arnold 4794487, petula2005@gmail.com

This is a fundraiser for our Yodlers, who again will compete in the Swiss Yodelfest this year, held in Interlaken in June.

Nelly Steinemann

*Cat motto:
No matter what's gone wrong,
try to make it look like the dog did it.*



Wellington

Past Events:

Sunday, 20th February. Again the **Family Day**, at Heinz and Trix Jaeggi's, was a success. The



What is there to see?

sun was shining and many families had come; we even had guests from Scotland this time!



An attentive audience

There was a new twist to the treasure hunt that made the children run around the fairy tale like property before ending up in the sandpit, where they were able to dig yummy lollipops.



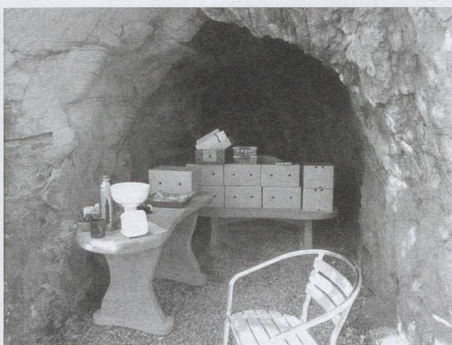
It's not easy!



Parents had a great time catching up with each other under the sun shades, and trying out the children's toys too (hula-hoop or stilt walking anyone? have you tried keeping these plates turning on a stick over your head?)

OS

Saturday 26th February/Sunday 27th February: **Zwetschgen Feast.** Othmar Hebler was so kind as to bring us our share of Zwetschgen down. He loaded off 230kg at



Trudi's Zwetschgenhöhle

Flemming and Monika Sörensen's place and another 200kg at Trudi's place - and then there was a constant stream of Wellington Swiss who came to pick up their Zwetschgen. Zwetschgen jam, Zwetschgen compote, Zwetschgenwähe, frozen Zwetschgen for more Zwetschgenwähen all through winter - thank you very much, Othmar, for giving us those treats! *tb*

Saturday, 12th March: **Medal Jassen** at the Clubhouse. We had four tables of keen jassers to compete for the Jass Medals. Actually, there were only 15 keen Jassers, and one who had very generously offered to come if an additional jasser was needed to make up the numbers. Thank you very much for giving up your time and competing, too!

Halfway through the competition we had supper, and it was gmütlech, so gmütlech that we almost forgot to go back to business, i.e. card tables. But we did get back, and numbers were added and the winners estab-

lished. Some then went home, and some stayed and had another game of "richtig" jassen. I'd like to know when the lights went out in the clubhouse... *tb*

Future Events:

- Please mark **April 16**, date of the club **AGM**, in your agendas!

- The first **fondue** of the year will be held on **14 May** at the clubhouse.

To keep updated with the Swiss Club events, go to: <http://www.swiss.org.nz/events> OS

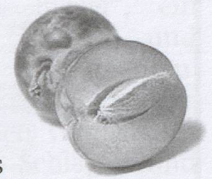
Programme for the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc on Queen's Birthday weekend 4th/5th June 2011 at our clubhouse in Wainuiomata

Saturday, 4th June: The clubhouse will be open on Saturday afternoon for an informal gathering and afternoon tea. An informal meal is served from 6.30pm onwards.

Sunday, 5th June: Breakfast for our guests from the other clubs will be served at 8.30am, and then the Cowbell Final will be held between Taranaki and either Hamilton or Auckland. Lunch will be served around 12 noon. At 2pm the AGM of the Swiss Society of New Zealand will be held, followed by afternoon tea.

More details about Sunday night will be advised in the next Helvetia; detailed information will also be sent to the secretaries of the clubs.

Fellenberg-Zwetschgen, Swiss Plums



It is late summer, and it's time for plums. We are blessed with Swiss plums from the White Cross Orchard in Te Teko Whakatane, where Arthur and Martha Schuler had their orchard, and now their son Peter and his wife Diz own the orchard. This year like all other years Othmar and Marlies Hebler from Taranaki organised the plums for Taranaki and offered to get the Wellingtonians some Zwetschgen, too. For the two clubs alone the order was over 1.2t.

We will have to get the story about the plums from Arthur Schuler himself in another issue of the Helvetia.

Marlies Hebler shares her recipe:

Zwetschgenwähe

For an oven roasting dish

- 150g flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 150g cold butter, mix all into a dough, add
- 8 Tbs cold water, mix gently but fast, cover and let it stand for around 30 minutes.

Roll out the dough, line an oven dish, poke little holes into the pastry with a fork, then thinly sprinkle grated almonds or hazelnuts on the pastry and lay the halved plums into dish.

Pour custard mixture over the plums and bake in the bottom half of the oven at 180° - 220° C for 20-30 minutes.

Enjoy!

En guete!

Custard mixture:

- 600 ml milk or ½ milk ½ cream
- 2 eggs
- 2 Tbs custard powder
- 1 Tbs cornflour
- add sugar to your liking.