

Swiss Club news from around New Zealand

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Taranaki

Past Events:

22 May: Cards results

Jassen

1st Berta Sidler
2nd Robert Buhler
3rd= Marlies Hebler and Heidi Seifert
Booby Berta Hughes

The lucky raffle winners were Erna Zimmermann, Marlies Hebler and Heidi Seifert.

12 June: Cards results

Jassen

1st Tilly Riddick
2nd Maya Stutz
3rd Walter Seifert
Booby - Robert Buhler

Euchre

1st= husband and wife shared the spoils ... well done Edi and Jean Fuglistaller!!!
3rd Irene Cruikshank
Booby - Johnny Bishop

The raffle winners were Berta Sidler, Maya Stutz and Agnes Buhler.

4th-6th June: Swiss Society Annual General Meeting in Wellington

A happy group of 23 Taranakians went by bus to Wellington for the Final in the Cowbell competition and of course the AGM. Happy they were but not so successful. With great enthusiasm we went to the Ten Pin Bowling only to be out-mastered by the well-chosen Hamilton skittlers. Nor were we a match for the muscly lads from the Waikato in shot-put. But the card playing changed our odds, we won 5-3. This together with our points from shooting gave us a draw. Even the delicious lunch couldn't give us enough strength to win the play-offs with the cards. Well done Hamilton; you deserved it

after such a long thirsty period. Then we were all ears for the AGM. Roland and his team did a great job. Happy hour with "Glühwein" and the fine nibbles were a great start to the evening, followed by a very well prepared meal "Bernerplatte" and topped off with a delightful dessert. Albert Ryter and Othmar teamed up to an Alphorn duet. Then our accordion players Leo Zehnder and Othmar entertained with well-known pieces of music and everyone joining in, singing, clapping, etc. Heidi even got the broom out and showed us her hidden talents. The good atmosphere carried on till late. Like always we got spoilt to two fine breakfasts, and too soon it was time to leave our friends from Wellington. The long trip down got shortened by a quiz that was won by Margaret Bishop. Sepp Bühler was very smart to guess how many items were in various jars, all painstakingly counted by Heidi. And clever lady Margaret Bishop won the third quiz as well, she must be well travelled to match so many capitals with the right countries, well done. Lou Butler also was tireless in providing us with an ever changing assortment of lollies, thanks heaps. A detour to Palmerston North allowed Kathy Appert to catch up with her granddaughter. Luckily the bus got stopped to be weighed on the way down and not on the way home, after eating so much over the weekend we might have had trouble.

Thanks Othmar again for driving us all safely all the way to Wellington and back. We are all looking forward to the next trip!

Heidi and Marlies

Forthcoming Events

July 2: The very popular Anniversary Shoot will be held on the 2nd July, with people able to shoot or skittle from 1.00pm to 3.00pm. **Please note that due to school holidays changing this year, the Anniversary Shoot is on a Saturday.** The delicious

Sauerkraut and Pork meal will be served at 5.30pm. Mark puts a great deal of effort into this day, so please come along and support him!!!

July 10 & 17: Cards for the last time this winter. So please go along and support Walter. Games start at 1.15pm.

July 30: We will be celebrating our **Swiss National Day** on the 30th July this year. Some of our dedicated committee will be contacting all members (if you're not rung, please contact Marianne) during July. Please make their job easier by making a decision ... it's certainly not an easy job to ring everyone, but it's worse when people are indecisive or don't ring back!!!

We appreciate your help with this, and look forward to another big crowd!!!

August and September are very quiet months at the Taranaki Swiss Club as many of our members are farmers and are very busy with cows and calves. Let's hope the weather is kind to us, and we don't have the 335mm of rain we had in May!!! Surely the rain must leave us soon, with the sun being a welcome change!!!

October 6 & 20: Keglen recommences under the wonderful leadership of Johnny ... please go along and support him. They always have lots of fun and a delicious supper is always had.

October 16: Mark is our totally dedicated small bore rifle master, and today the **Trudi Ott Belt Shoot** will be held, together with the **Championship Shoot** from 1.00pm. Please go along and support him, as I'm sure that he would love to see you. *MD*

Es Grosi täpelet näbem Fuessgängerstreife über d Strass. Rüeft de Polizischt: "Sie müend uf de Schtrich" Druf abe s Grosi: "Nei nei d AHV langed mir!"



Auckland

Past Events:

Pub Night -Friday 03 June - Iguacu Bar & Restaurant

After plenty of very successful pub nights in the past, this one was a bit different. Many of us were away, a lot else was happening, and the evening was very stormy (I know it well; I landed in Auckland that night, and got rather scared!). David and Marcel enjoyed their blokes' chat over a glass of wine in the bar, and that was it!

We are having our Fondue evening instead of the pub night in July, and look forward to our next pub gathering in Ellerslie on 05 August.

AGM Swiss Society of NZ: 04 to 06 June, Wellington.

Five of us ventured down to Wellington for the Society AGM. The social evening on Saturday was a time to catch up with friends we don't see too often. The meal was yummy and we thank the Wellington Club for their hospitality.

Sunday morning was stress free for us as we didn't take part

in the Cowbell competition. While Taranaki and Hamilton fought for each pin, card point and centimeter with the stone, we just had a good time bowling in the new facility in Lower Hutt, talking with friends and catching up. Then lunch was served to prepare us for the AGM. The arrival of the ambassador meant that the start of the AGM was imminent. After a few words from the president, Roland Schuetz, the ambassador talked about political trends and news from Switzerland. The main change for us Swiss abroad will be that more and more people will be able to vote electronically for referenda, votes and elections. But not all cantons have implemented the new system yet.

The rest of the AGM went smoothly and Auckland is now on track to take over the Swiss Society helm next year until 2017. After an afternoon cuppa and scrummy cakes we had some time to go back to the motel and get changed. The evening on the Sunday was a relaxed affair with Berner Platte for the main course. The ambassador was a bit sad that she missed the Zuercher Gschnaetzlets on Saturday, but the nice mix on Sunday meant there was something yummy for everyone. Albert Ryter and Othmar Hebler played the Alphorns,

and after a relaxed Jass we went back to the motel and continued playing Jass.

Monday morning we were treated again with a delicious Zmorge. We all made our way back with various modes of transport and different schedules.

Thanks Wellington for all the hard work. It is very much appreciated.
Adrian Blaser

Jassen: Friday 10 June

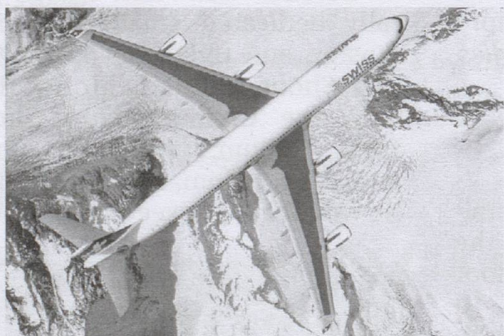
Despite several of the keen Jassers being in Switzerland, we got a good turnout and enjoyed a very friendly card evening. Fidel Good was very good once again; I wonder how he does it!



Lively discussion after the games

1st	Fidel Good	4083
2nd	Erwin Steiner	4047
3rd	Walter Haller	4031
4th	Andrew Iten	3971

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5th	Amelia Fitzi	3916
6th	Hilda Iten	3911
7th	Carmen Gordon	3907
8th	Louis Wallimann	3858
9th	Nelly Steinemann	3827
10th	Andrew Buentner	3813
11th	Marcel Ruedi	3742
12th	Hans Fitzi	3691
13th	Marie Theres Melville	3675
14th	Franz Krieger	3613
15th	Edith Hess	3569
16th	Adrian Blaser	3536
17th	Lynne Dunphy	3480
18th	Hans Iten	3469
19th	Anton Good	3453

Future Events:

Fondue with Swiss Kiwi Games and Quiz, Friday 01 July

You will have registered by now, we look forward to seeing you there!

Jassen: Friday 08 July, 7.30pm, Danish Club, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose

Have a go at our national card game. Newcomers always welcome.

Swiss National Day Celebration, Saturday 30 July, at the Danish Club.

For many NZ Swiss, this is THE event they do not want to miss. Get those warm fuzzy feelings with a glass of Glühwein to welcome you, Swiss entertainment, lampion parade, president's speech, national anthem, and a wonderful meal: An antipasto plate (cold cuts, gherkins, olives, Feta etc) , followed

by Saffron Risotto, Vegetables and Chicken, and to top it off, Edith's wonderful Tiramisu. You won't be disappointed.

Cost: Members \$ 25, non members \$ 35, children up to 18: \$ 1 per year. Book now to avoid **d i s a p p o i n t m e n t !** Ruedi@orcon.net.nz or (09) 5515830 or 0274901836 .

Swiss National Day bonfire: Monday 01 August, Swiss farm, from 6pm.

If the Saturday celebration was not patriotic enough, come to the farm on 1st August, bring your picnic, and celebrate around a real fire. In case of doubtful weather contact Marcel at (09) 5515830 or 0274901836

Looking forward to August and beyond - mark your diary!

Pub night Friday 05 August, 8pm, Union Post Brewbar, 124 Main Highway, Ellerslie. Check it out at: http://www.macs.co.nz/brewbars/brewbar/union_post/

Jassen: Friday 12 August

Ice Skating: Sunday 18 September, Paradise Ice rink, Avondale.

Waitakere Rain Forest Express: Sunday 2 October

Remember to visit our website for all events, and for the Auckland Swiss Club Calendar. Our Vice President Adrian keeps it up to date very reliably.

www.swiss.org.nz/auckland

We are looking forward to seeing you at these events.

Please contact any of the committee members with any of your suggestions, criticism, and if you have a talent that you might want to share with us in one way or another. *Nelly Steinemann*

Welche Sprache spricht man in der Sauna?
Schwitzerdeutsch.

Hamilton

Past Events:

Card Evenings

The 6th of May signalled the start of another winter of card evenings - now, is it just me, or does it come round faster every year...??!!

For our first evening, 42 people came along to the Union Parish Church, Cambridge, where well practiced helpers soon had tables and chairs set up so that the Society Medal Jass Competition could get quickly underway, with 28 players participating. Straight after this, the Club competition was able to commence. After three rounds, a delicious Wurstsalat was served for supper, with baking and coffee to follow, before completing the final three rounds of competition. Then the room was speedily cleared and tidied, the prize-winners were announced, and it was close to midnight when we all headed home.

After the first evening, quite a few people had already headed off overseas, and a lower attendance was expected from now on. So we were all quite surprised to have 48 card players turn up a fortnight later for our second card evening. It was great to see so many people, among them some Swiss visitors. After a delayed start to set up extra tables, three rounds of cards were played before serving supper - which had to be 'stretched' a bit! - of barbequed Fleischkäse and home baked bread. Some cold cervelas were even passed around to ensure those who were still a little hungry had enough to eat. Cake and coffee completed the supper, before the next three rounds of card playing commenced. Once finished, tables and chairs were very quickly packed up, winners selected their prizes, and it was once again close to midnight before everyone headed home.

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The halfway stage of this year's card evenings was already reached on the 3rd of June, with 36 people attending the third evening. Everyone arrived on time, and the first three rounds of the competition were quickly underway.

This time, for supper, we were treated to some tasty hot Kabano sausages, together with freshly baked bread and rolls, followed by baking and coffee. After the last three rounds, the room was soon cleared of tables, and score sheets were collated.

Prior to announcing the winners, Club president, Herbert Stäheli, passed on the thanks of Rösli Schurmann to all those who attended Hans' funeral service earlier that day. A minute's silence was then held for three recent bereavements - Hans Schurmann, Franz Arnold and Bert Steiner. Our condolences go to all three families.

Prizewinners were then announced and prizes were selected before loading up and heading home.

After a number of errors on the score sheets at the first two evenings, it was great to see that scores were recorded absolutely correctly the third time around. Considering last year's overall first and second placings were

only one point apart, accuracy is very important, and correct score sheets save a whole lot of re-counting and searching for errors afterwards!!

A big thank you to Heidi W, Vreni V, Ruth W, Annamarie S, Margreth M, and Hanni F for all the delicious baking, preparing, and serving of the three suppers, which are always enjoyed so much by our card players. Thank you also to those people who have donated extra prizes. We look forward to seeing you all again at the final two evenings.

BL

Prize-winners of the first three card evenings are as follows:

First Card Evening, 6th May

1	Theresa Fitzi	4269
2	Pia Russenberger	4197
3	Rosli Schurmann	4158
4	Rita Braem	4020
5=	Hans Fitzi	3997
	Angus Forsythe	3997
7	Lina Rufer	3987
8	Beatrice Leuenberger	3957
9	Manuella Windlin	3952
10=	Michelle Fitzi	3935
	Uli Elmiger	3935
	Booby Prize	
	Anna Rufer	3142

Second Card Evening, 20th May

1	Beatrice Leuenberger	4304
2	Pia Russenberger	4125
3	Therese Risi	4093
4	Walter Unternahrer	4068
5	Werner Fassler	4001
6	Markus Ruegger	3999
7	George Russenberger	3982
8	Rosli Schurmann	3952
9	Helen Stäheli	3909
10	Fritz Hasli	3898
11	Ruth Waldvogel	3894
	Booby Prize	
	Jonathan Hofer	3327

Third Card Evening, 3rd June

1	Fritz Hasli	4188
2	Ruth Waldvogel	4124
3	Pia Russenberger	4054
4	Karl Waldvogel	4034
5	Peter Weiss	3926

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6	Erika Bolli	3924
7	Eileen Hickey	3921
8	Walter Unternahrer	3917
9	Heinz Leuenberger	3915
10	David Fitzi	3885
	Booby Prize	
	Max Schwitzer	3345

Society AGM, Wellington

Following the third card evening on Friday night, several Club members then headed off to Wellington on the Saturday morning to attend this year's Society AGM. A few people had already headed down the day before, and in all, the Club was represented by 15 members to challenge Taranaki for the treasured Cowbell.

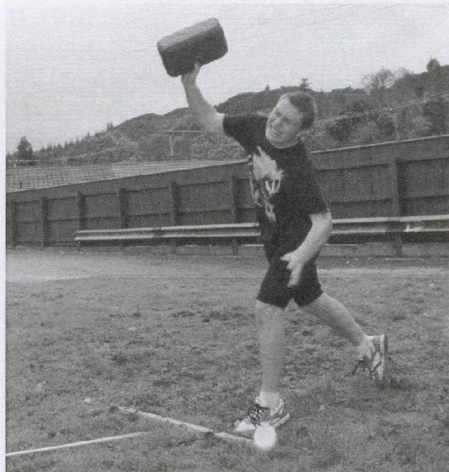
The weather was better than the forecast and all arrived happy but a little tired by late afternoon. After a "cuppa" and rest, everyone headed to the Wellington clubhouse. It was dark and drizzly, with lots of roadworks, and not sure of the way, we had to turn around about three times, when all of a sudden red and blue lights flashed behind us. Herbert had "attempted to evade" a check point and was chased by a cop, who then asked him to count to ten for a breath test. Herbert told him he had only turned to find the way to Wainuiomata, but the cop did not want to know and walked away. When finally we were on the right track, we came upon another check point. When Herbert was asked to wind the window down, it was the same cop who said, "not you again!!" The comment

kept us amused all weekend!!

The warm and welcoming atmosphere when we reached the Clubhouse was fantastic. Soon we had a hot meal of "Gschnaetzlets", mash and veges, a warm dessert, and coffee and cake. It was nice to greet old and new friends.

At 10am on Sunday morning, we met at the Petone 10 Pin Bowling alley. What a bowling it was! At the end of the rounds, Paul had bowled four strikes in a row, and together with our other strong bowlers, we won by a long shot!! Back at the clubhouse, it was time for the cards, which the "Nackis" won, together with the shooting from earlier in the year. Finally, at the shotput, Hamilton succeeded by approx. 16 meters, so then we were even. To decide the winner, we had to do another Jass round, which Hamilton won. So, after 14 years, the Cowbell is in the green Wai-kato again!

Following a lunch of tasty hot soup and Wienerli, our members



The Hamiltonians gave it their best

a further \$5000 donation will be made by the Society. Further details of the meeting will be well covered in other reports in this magazine.

After the meeting, the afternoon was spent with more friendly card playing, until we were served a delicious hot mulled wine and nibbles, a lovely Sauerkraut meal with all the trimmings for dinner, followed by dessert, coffee, and cakes. As the wine and beer flowed, it was an evening with lots of laughter, singing, alphorn, accordion and dancing. It was nice to see a few youngsters trying their lungs on the alphorn! Happy and tired, we found our way back to the motel - and hoped for a Federer win during the night - but sadly, it was not to be! On Monday we had a good trip back, arriving safe and sound - and without another dog incident, Ueli!!

So many thanks, Wellington, for a perfect A.G.M. meeting and weekend. *R.E.W.*

Future Events:

Friday, 1st July - Fifth and Final Card Evening - Union Parish Church, Cambridge, commencing 7.30pm. Competition is tense and scores are close for those great overall meat prizes, so we hope to see lots of card players again for the final evening of this year's round of cards. Following the presentation of evening prizes, the overall winners will be announced and the new trophy winner will be revealed!

Sunday, 31st July - Swiss National Day Celebration - Come along and celebrate Switzerland's birthday at the Matangi Hall. This will be a traditional lunch time family meal - Sauerkraut, Speck, ham, sausages and potatoes will be served, followed by a large selection of home baking and coffee. As we are celebrating the National Day, we hope to see as many as possible in Swiss costume.

represented the Club at the Society Annual General Meeting. It was very nice to meet the new Swiss Ambassador, Dr Marion Weichelt Krupski, and hear her speech about Switzerland now and in the future. The meeting went smoothly and it was pleasant to see all hands go up for approval for Hans Vetsch's proposal for a donation to the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal. Our Club has already donated \$3000 to the Red Cross, and now



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To assist with catering, bookings are required for this function - a newsletter with further function and booking details will be sent to all members in early July.

Sunday, 21st August - Family Walk - 11.00 Venue for this walk is yet to be set, and will be advised in the July Newsletter, as well as the next Helvetia. *BL*

Wellington

Past Events:

Wednesday 8th June: Krabbelgruppe

Usually during school holiday, the Swiss mums gather in somebody's house for a Krabbelgruppe. But this time we couldn't wait for the holidays. We gathered on Wednesday 8th June at my place for a Mums' workshop. Our very own Barbara and her fellow early childhood student Christine were holding a workshop for us about active movement and how that influences our children's development. We had a slow start chatting away eating all those yummy homemade cookies and brownies but



Clement chewing on DVDs

as soon as our tummies were filled and the kids were happily playing we went straight into the topic. We learnt that if basic movements like crawling, catching balls, balancing acts like walking on a wall, daddies throwing the child in the air (that's not

an excuse for crazily swinging your child around after meal time) or jumping on one leg are not taught before school, kids might struggle with learning how to read, write and participate in class. It is important to have basic instruction while playing. There were also some fantastic facts like by age of 2 a child's brain has 75% of its adult weight and by 4 years 90% of the volume. Fascinating! After all that information and a DVD we went straight into playing with our kids. My daughter Kira's favourite were the bubbles. She couldn't wait blowing them around and popping them. The boys' favourite was kicking around balloons. It was such a fun morning for all. Thanks to all the mums for coming and the yummy baking - and a big thanks to Barbara and Christine for holding the workshop for us. We really appreciated it and if you have another assignment we are more than happy to participate. Check out brainwave.org.nz or dyifather.com for some more info. If anyone is interested in joining our Krabbelgruppe don't hesitate to contact Sibylle on 027 201 47 29. Invitations for Krabbelgruppe will be sent out by mail or facebook; we do not post it in the Helvetia or the homepage. For all the mums in the Wellington region: I am going to have another DVD night in July at my place.

Sibylle Sharma

4th/5th/6th June: Swiss Society Annual General Meeting

At the Wellington Swiss Club the AGM started already on Friday night with the frying and precooking of 12kg of beef Schnitzel, under the watchful eye of Günter Amelung. Peter Hynes was busy sprucing up the Club House. With a 7 o'clock start there was no time for dinner; we had just a taste of Günter's home-made bread. We definitely congratulate him on his effort! Feierabend and Coffee break was at 11.30pm. We all needed a good night's sleep to stand up for the next 3 days. *RS*

Saturday: Many Wellington Club members came to help prepare the club house for the evening. It was a pleasure to see all our friends from Auckland, Hamilton and Taranaki, and to meet our guests and to put some faces to names we had seen in the Helvetia. Congratulations to the team in the kitchen for the delicious Geschnetzletes! We all have to thank Monika's expertise that we did not slip up with the quantities. Thank you all who helped with all the kitchen duties, or brought well appreciated cakes and cookies! *OS*

Sunday: Sunday began nice and early for Wellington's intrepid hosts, especially for Roland and Peter who had a short, hard night sleeping in the clubhouse. Breakfast was appreciated, especially Vreni's delicious Himbeergomfi and the great chunks of real cheese. Then it was off to the Cowbell final; you can read all about it in the Taranaki and Hamilton accounts in this Helvetia. Everybody enjoyed lunch, the homemade potato soup and the sausages, and soon it was time for the Swiss Society AGM. We had the pleasure of welcoming our Ambassador Dr Marion Weichelt Krupski to the AGM. We would like to thank her for the very informative address to the meeting. As we learnt over the years, politics never stand still, neither here nor in Switzerland. The AGM went smoothly; you will be able to read the minutes of the meeting in the Helvetia of May 2012.

After the AGM, the kitchen was a hive of activity. Monika, Peter, Roland and Sandie turned out a sumptuous meal: Glühwein, followed by Monika's Flädliuppe, and then a traditional 'Bärnerplatte' with more than enough for everybody, followed by a delicious dessert of caramelised pears. And then it was time for coffee and cake to round it off. Many thanks to the team at the kitchen sink who did dishes and dishes for hours, without grumbling. Othmar and