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Swiss Club News

Auckland Swiss Club

Past Events

November Working Bee's

Many thanks to all those to a whole bunch of Club members, Shooting Section, and farm committee for all the hard work during November. We had a highly successful three weekends in a row where people have offered up their time and energy to complete a significant piece of work around our toilet facilities. The area now sports new handrails, replaced and upgraded retaining walls, and a refurbished gravelled surface to all the footpaths in those areas.

Christmas Crafts

Lots of beautiful wreaths and beautiful Christmas decorations were made by a keen bunch of young ladies at Edith's place. We had a lovely, relaxing and successful afternoon.

Samichlaus

What a fabulous turn out we had on a glorious Summer's day.

As usual Samichlaus arrived in style all the way from the North pole to have a chat to each individual child and hand out some goodies.

Lots of fun had by many kids and adults alike. Great to meet and see new families too, and of course the oldies. Thanks to all the elves and helpers who make this special day happen.

We are looking for more committee members to keep this heart warming tradition rolling over the coming years, please don't be shy!

Stille Nacht – on a happy afternoon

Our Christmas Carol singing on Saturday 14 December was well liked by the young and not quite so young. Apart from many Swiss, it was great to see members from the Austrian and the German clubs participating. Our friend Trudi who now lives in Wellington even made the trip up to Auckland to sing with us, thank you so much Trudi. More special guests joined us: two guide dogs sat in, they behaved ever so well, seemed to enjoy it too. The Danish club hall looked splendid, with Edith's original decorations – how do you do it Edith, something so special and different every year - and the Danish Christmas tree.

Our program included a mixture of well known carols, for everyone to join in, and some I had thought were less popular, for people to listen to mainly. I was delighted to hear many guests participate even in those. It sounded really good, made us feel nostalgic about those Christmases back home.

The afternoon had started with a lovely 'punch' drink, and concluded with ever so delicious genuine Swiss Christmas biscuits. A big thank you to my singing friends for their enthusiasm and their wonderful baking. Thank you also to our supporting musicians, the two Christines, who have been accompanying us for several years now with piano and flute, we really appreciate you!

Did you miss out? No more cookies left, but you can hear some of our carols. Go to the Auckland Swiss Club website. Look forward to seeing you next year!
Nelly Steinemann for the Auckland Swiss Women's choir

Forthcoming Events

14 February, Monthly Jass

at the Danish Hall. Join us for the first Jass of the year. Newcomers welcome!

300m Target Range Starting Again

In Mid February the Shooting Section begins again this year. The club has operated a range on the Swiss farm now for more than 50 years, and we again welcome all those that wish to participate in this Swiss national pastime.

Please make contact with the committee if you are a new shooter and wish to join us this year for the whole program, or just to see what it's like.

Due to recent events and a tightening of all aspects related to the range, only financial members of the club are permitted to use this facility, and only at the invitation of the Rifle Master. Any contacts made will be copied to our rifle master, and invitations sent to those interested a couple of weeks before the events. Make sure you let Henry know you're coming so all the planning can be done well.

At present there is one weekend in February, March, and April scheduled. There will also be an opportunity to finish the four competitions we contest in two weekends in June.

Society Shooting

Each year the four North Island Swiss Clubs contest for the title of best sporting Club in the Swiss Society.

On Saturday, 29th February, it's our turn to post our competitive scores for the 50m Rifle section of the competition. Henry and the team will have the range open in the morning for those that wish to participate.

Attached is an image of the fine medal that we all competed for last year. There are competitions for men, women, and juniors, all with a chance to win one of these. Come join us and help your Club towards overall supremacy.



Working bees for February and April

The Club will be undertaking a general cleanup of the Clubhouse area on the morning of Saturday, 9th February in preparation for our Picnic ChillBe day on the 8th March. An invitation will be issued via email just before with activities starting at 10:00am.



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The Club also has a very special gathering on Sunday the 5th of April to build the 1st August Bonfire. We'll be working while the ground is still hard to make a spectacular one for this year. One which the whole Club will be able to see at our evening activities on Saturday, 1st August.

7 March, ChillBe, Swiss Farm

2pm - late

Join us for a relaxed & fun Summer's soiree on our little piece of paradise. All welcome!

- Good old fashioned Swiss fun on an alp
- Meet old and new friends
- Fun shooting • Steinstossen • Kegeln
- Raffle prizes • Compete for club trophies & society medals or join in just for fun
- Delicious Swiss baking & Swiss sausages on sale
- BBQ available for BYO picnic dinner
- Roast Swiss sausages marshmallows on a stick
- Bar open till late (Beer, Wine & Kafi Schnapps)
- Sunset, moon & stargazing • Free camping or sleep under the stars
- Flying fox • Ping Pong

Committee Positions

After many years of great service our Treasurer, Tobias Egli, has advised us that he will not be standing for this position at the next AGM. This role is one that is best 'passed on' correctly and it would be good for the Club to have someone come forward before April to allow that person to shadow Tobias as he closes out the year. Can anyone who would be willing to take up this role please contact

Neil Kaiser (President) via the website email so that contact may be made and a discussion had.

The Club currently has a small but extremely hard working group of people within the committee. There have been a number of roles unfilled for at least two years now, and also a slow reduction in Committee numbers over that time. Some of the activities we organise through the year can see a handful of people putting on events for up to 200 club members at a time. The Committee asks that anyone who is considering applying a small amount of their valuable time to the Club, contact Neil Kaiser (President) through the club website, to discuss how best that effort may be channelled to help the Club as a whole.

New Committee members are always welcome, as are those that come out of the woodwork on the day and give us so much unexpected help.

Card Evening - 8 November

1st	Berta Good	4115
2nd	Franz Krieger	4026
3rd	Nelly Steinemann	4021
4th	Adrian Blaser	4016
5th	Heidi Wilson	3949
6th	Neil Kaiser	3877
7th	Andrew Iten	3833
8th	Emil Tellenbach	3825
9th	Erwin Steiner	3781
10th	Edith Hess	3767
11th	Hans Iten	3741
12th	Fidel Good	3615
13th	Henry Werffeli	3574
14th	Louis Wallimann	3537
15th	Ian Gordon	3524
16th	Carmen Gordon	3508
17th	Hilde Iten	3347

Schuepbach Cup

1st	Nelly Steinemann	27,423
2nd	Adrian Blaser	27,340
3rd	Heidi Wilson	27,244
4th	Fidel Good	27,230
5th	Emil Tellenbach	27,205
6th	Andrew Iten	27,018
7th	Berta Good	26,930
8th	Heinz Frei	26,679
9th	Louis Wallimann	26,629
10th	Henry Werffeli	26,614
11th	Franz Krieger	26,207
12th	Lynn Dunphy	26,197
13th	Hilde Iten	26,099
14th	Hans Iten	25,904
15th	Edith Hess	25,786

Congratulations to Nelly Steinemann for winning the cup in 2019 !



Past Events

Family Walk was held Sunday 3rd November at Pukemiro and Glen Afton. About 18 of the Hamilton Club gathered at the Glen Afton Railway Station for the vintage bush excursion. Most of us took the first available ride of about half an hour. It was a gorgeous day with plenty of sun, so the rusty old steam loco helped to put on a bit more heat. On completion we had a picnic lunch behind the station where there was a bit of shade. After lunch most of us proceeded to the Puketirini



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Lake back in the Huntly direction where some circled the lake and others just did part way around with the kiddies and back. A very enjoyable fine November Sunday. HJS

Family Christmas Function was held on Sunday 1st December at the Newstead School. This year a lovely warm summer's day – not like some of the previous years when it was still quite cold and rainy. Many families turned up promptly and soon the children were busy inside decorating biscuits and making cards and some Christmas crafts.

Thanks to Kathy we ended up getting lots of lovely photos to choose from. Soon the guys from the committee had the sausages ready to enjoy – always very popular especially whilst they are free!

After lunch it was time for Santa's arrival – he was very quiet this year and didn't have much to say. He must have had a cold but thanks to Vreni's help presents were handed out, starting with the very smallest ones and gradually even the older ones received a present. Before Santa left Heidi accompanied us on her clarinet so we were able to sing a few Christmas carols. Many thanks Heidi – does always sound much better to music. Once again everyone generously donated raffle prizes so it wasn't hard to sell raffle tickets and lots of people had a chance to go up and pick a prize – some even more than once while others missed out altogether.

After the raffle draw it was time for coffee and biscuits that were brought along by families to share. Always a good selection but they seemed to disappear in no time. Many thanks to everyone who helped on the day and we hope you all had a chance to catch up with fellow Swiss, young and old alike and were able to spread a bit of Christmas cheer for another year. AZ

Forthcoming Events

Reminder from the Riflemaster:

22nd February 2020 - Don't forget the club's medal shooting event. The 50metre competition will be shot at Elmiger's place at 618/12 Maungatautari Road - this is at the end of the Karapiro rowing event centre on the other side of the road. From 9 am to noon. It's open to ALL club members from 14 years upwards. I hope to see a good crowd. Don't forget there is plenty of help for newcomers to make this a safe place and give you a great experience. Please bring your own drinks and snacks. For further information please call Hans Vetsch on 021 658 733.

Advance notice of 300 metre shooting weekend:

The 300metre shooting weekend is scheduled for 23rd and 24th May 2020. Please mark these days for a relaxed weekend away. The competition is open to club members and friends. Minimum age here is 16. Anybody interested in this event and has not been before, give me a call for more information. All others, I just hope that you will set this date aside and I see you up there. More news later, but I do need your emails or contact details so please email me on vhvetsch@gmail.com or call me on 021658733.

23rd February 2020 – Family picnic commencing 11am at Newstead Country School, Morrinsville Road, Hamilton (just past the cemetery). Please bring along your own tables and chairs or picnic rugs and enjoy the shade provided by some lovely big trees. Grilled sausages and a selection of drinks will be available around lunchtime and from 1pm there will be our usual selection of home-made baking.

There will be an opportunity for all Hamilton Club members to participate in medal bowling and shot-put, with subsi-

dies for juniors aged 15 years and under. There will be games for the children and the opportunity to use the adventure playground and swimming pool under strict parental supervision.

3rd to 5th April – Hiking weekend, venue to be confirmed. For bookings or queries please ring Herbert 021 962 708.

Next newsletter with 2020 calendar dates - you should receive your next club newsletter with calendar dates for functions for 2020 some time in February prior to the shooting competition and picnic.

For further club queries please contact Anita 027 498 5170 or email anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz or Beatrice 07 8437971 or email bea.leun@xtra.co.nz AZ



Past Events

We held the Christmas Shoot / Keglen on the 24th of November, but unfortunately, due to Mark not being well, we decided to only do the keglen. The competition started at 10.00am, with 31 participants enjoying friendly rivalry!!! Erna organised the childrens' activities which the kiddies all enjoyed ... glitter glue, cards, stickers and other small Christmas decorations to put on pre-cut bells, stars and trees ... the children did a great job and the decorations were really appreciated by Father Christmas. Everyone enjoyed the pot luck lunch, and soon we could hear a bell ringing, and Father Christmas made an appearance to our Clubhouse. The

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children, and it was great to see several more than last year, sang beautifully with the accompaniment of Lynley on the accordion. Then the much-anticipated presents were distributed with all the wide-eyed children accepting a present from Santa. Soon it was time for Santa to go to his next event and we all said goodbye, after Joe Zimmermann thanked Santa and gave him a small present on behalf of the Taranaki Swiss Club for visiting us and being so very generous!! Thanks so much for calling in on us Father Christmas; we really appreciated seeing you!!! Next we were privileged to have Annette, the daughter of the late Ted Napflin, present the Ted Napflin Memorial Shield to Remigi Zimmermann who had scored a perfect 100 in the shoot!!! Well done, Remigi!!! This shield was in memory of Ted Napflin who was an avid shooter, and on whose Riverlea shooting range the Swiss Club shot for many years ... it was great to have Annette and her mum, Kathleen, attend this function and we appreciated you making the effort. Second equal in this shoot were Tyrese Olliver and Richard Drummond, both with 96 points, however Tyrese scored five tens compared to Richards' three ... well done boys; it's great to see our youth participating in these shoots and doing well!!! The Trudi Ott Belt was then presented to Richard Drummond; this belt was first presented in 1977 and is a coveted trophy. The adults' keglen prizes were then presented, with Bryce Kaiser and Heidi Werder achieving the great total of 30 points, followed by ... Christine Amstalden with 27 points (done

by Daniel Drummond who only achieved 16 points for himself ... what a gentleman, eh Christine?!!) and Johnny Bishop and Peter Kaiser with 26 points. Well done to you all, and thanks to everyone who participated. The mystery prizes were won by Ryan Drummond, Zeno von Hospenthal, Erna Zimmermann, Bryce Kaiser, Thomas Werder, Johnny Bishop, Richard Drummond, Marianne Drummond, Christine Amstalden and Helen Drummond. This is always a wonderful, social day, and we thank everyone for coming and enjoying the friendly, fun atmosphere. Great to see our Turangi friends Peter and Monika Canziani bring Hans Krummenacher to the Swiss Club for an outing ... you're wonderful and we appreciate what you do for Hansie!!! We wish you a speedy recovery, Mark, and we look forward to you participating in our events again soon.

Forthcoming Events

The Taranaki Swiss Club is still in the process of finalising its' team to run the Swiss Society of New Zealand from the beginning of June 2020. We would really appreciate a few more members putting up their hands to help us out ... whether it would be to provide articles, proof-read, or being a part of the office holders, WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU SOON!!! If you would like further information about what this job entails, please ring Marianne on 06 7628757.

January

14 Sausage orders are due by today. The Benkerts / Drummonds will be away for several days from the 20th of January on with Swiss relatives, so please get your orders in early by ringing Marianne on 06 7628757 or Lisette on 06 7628718 or alternatively e-mail to littleacres@xtra.co.nz. Many thanks.

February

6&20 Keglen at 7.30pm ... come along and have some fun, a game or two of skittles, and a good supper with friends. The more participants, the better the competition.

8 As the Swiss Kiwi Yodel Group from Auckland will be down for our picnic, we have decided to invite them to dinner and drinks at the Swiss Club. This will be free for our friends from Auckland, but there will be a small cover charge for everyone else. If you would like to come along, please ring Marianne on 06 7628757, Heidi on 06 2734286 or Erna on 06 278 8476. We look forward to having a

fun evening with our guests, so why not come along????!!!

9 Our amazing picnic ... come along and enjoy the atmosphere with all things Swiss ... the cervelas and bratwurst, the schwingen (for the young and the young at heart), the music and special performances by the Swiss Kiwi Yodel Group from Auckland, shot put and many other activities. People start meandering in around 11.00am, and for those who want to stay longer, a light dinner is served for a small charge. A truly great, social day amid friends; and you may make new acquaintances too!!! Come along and be a part of this wonderful event.

March

2 The AGM of the Taranaki Swiss Club will be held at 7.30pm. How about giving up some of your time to help our club which has a membership of over 320?? As stated above, we are taking over the reins of the Swiss Society from the beginning of June and we would really like to have the input of a wider range of our members ... so why not come along and listen to what our club is all about, and see if there is something you could do to help?!!! No matter how small you think your contribution would be, any help would be greatly appreciated.

5&19 Keglen is on again at the Swiss Club from 7.30pm. Come along and have a chat, plenty of fun and try your best at skittles!!!

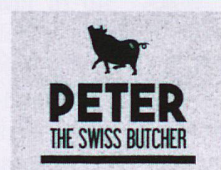
15 The Championship / Society Shoots will be held from 1.00pm. Come along and give it a go! Juniors are most welcome!

Wellington
Swiss Club

Past Events

Jassen 24th November

Some of our usual card players had other commitments or couldn't make it, so we were only six players. It is always a bit of a challenge to find ways of playing with the numbers that come. Some players would prefer to have a traditional game of two against two – but then how to keep everybody happy? Anyway: we had a pleasant afternoon and drowned



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the frustrations of having to play with two sets of cards in coffee and laughter. Thank you, Christine, for your exquisite selection of baking, and thank you, Lotti, for your delicious Wähe!

In December we didn't play cards, but we will resume our monthly Sunday afternoon games in the new year. The usual players will be contacted; if you are a seasoned player * and are interested in joining us, please ring Trudi on 56 28 019 for date and place of the next Jass afternoon. (Trudi Brühlmann)

At the November SwissNest* we made Christmas windows and Gritibaenz with dough pre-made by Rahel. I was very impressed by the lovely creations which decorated the windows of the clubhouse over the festive season. The piano chords from Jake Williams created a beautiful atmosphere. Thank you, Williams family, for your amazing input.

* *The SwissNest also offers the opportunity to learn the art of Jassen. While enjoying a cup of tea, Odile and Anne-Claire are happy to take on apprentices and are very good at passing on their experience. In English or in French.*

Unfortunately I missed all the Christmas functions of our club as I was up in Auckland to sing with my women's group at their Christmas celebration. Bernie and Trudi B. will fill you in:

1 December 2019: Shooting day

More than 15 people turned up at Paul Scherrer's farm in Mangaroa Valley for a shooting day, reconvened after being postponed in March following the tragic event in Christchurch. The score to beat on the day was 72/80, which the Jordans and Scherrers landed, a challenge for everyone else. One more shooting day [date will be announced by e-mail], before Taranaki Swiss Club come down to Wellington for the Cowbell competition. Am keen to see this part of the Club supported, Bernie.

8th December: Samichlaus

Samichlaus and Schmutzli turned up 3pm sharp at the Clubhouse to 7 keenly waiting children and their parents. A Christmas tree decorated by the children and afternoon coffee and Guetzli was on offer, as always, and tales of the good and room for improvement told as each goodie bag was handed out. No lumps of coal this year.

14th December: Christmas Dinner

As every year, there weren't quite enough Saturdays in December – or too

many Christmas dinners and end-of-the-year celebrations to attend. We had around 40 guests and we all enjoyed coming together for Peter's ham, and salads contributed by the kitchen team, vegetarian options including halloumi cheese, as well as Trudi Brühlmann's Zopf, and strawberries, meringues and ice cream and whipped cream, as well as a selection of Christmas biscuits for dessert. All seated in front of the lovely Christmas tree decorated by the Samichlaus children. It wasn't quite warm enough for Sangria, so mulled wine it was, and we didn't have more than a glass or two left over.

The menu was advertised in our four Swiss languages, and in English. We had the great pleasure of welcoming our new ambassador, Michael Winzap, and his wife Marina, and we hope to see them at many of our functions in the coming years when they can spare the time. Michael, our new ambassador addressed us to begin with in Rumansch, underscoring his coming originally from Falera, Vorderrheintal in Graubünden. – a very nice gesture of inclusiveness and openness. We are now a four Swiss language club. Olivia Napp read the Christmas story, and Carolyn led us through a chain of few Christmas Carrolls, with definitive singing talent revealed by Nicoletta and Maya. Perhaps, a choir at WSC by next Christmas. The Committee is working on a plan. There are some lovely singing voices in our midst. (Thank you, Bernie Napp and Trudi B.)

Forthcoming Events

As many of the club members will be attending the Taranaki Picnic on 8 February, the next SwissNest will take place on Saturday 14th March. 2pm at the clubhouse. Tea and coffee and nibbles provided. Bring your Swissness and friends.

23 February - Williams Family Picnic.

A family gathering with BBQ, games and good company.

29 February-1 March

Cowbell Competition Semi-Final between Taranaki and Wellington. Hosted by Wellington club. Please come up and make sure we have a strong team ready to take on the guest teams.

Sunday 15 March

Film and Baking Day at the Clubhouse

Sunday 19 April

AGM Wellington Swiss Club

Saturday 16 May - Fondue

For any enquiries/comments please feel free to contact us. Wishing you all a wonderful year 2020.

Trudi Fill-Weidmann

"Mutter, ich bin sehr froh, dass ich nicht dein viertes Kind bin! - Wieso denn?"
"Der Lehrer sagte heute, jedes vierte Kind sei ein Chinese."



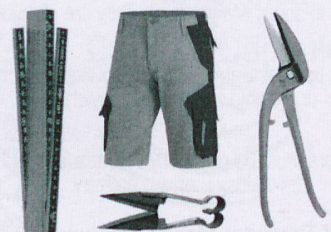
"Mein Onkel hat fünfhundert Leute unter sich." "Was für eine wichtige Person ist er denn?" „Friedhofgärtner."



Christian Stucki celebrates his victory in the final round of the Federal Schwingen Festival in Zug in August.

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