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# REGIONAL EDITION

## OCEANIA



### Editorial:

From a very warm and green Switzerland, I wish our readers all the best for 2016. Hope to see many of you at the Auslandschweizerkongress to celebrate the ASO's 100th anniversary.

MARC GODAT, REGIONAL EDITOR «OCEANIA»

### Consulate/Embassy: Mobile Passport Station 2016

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Sydney informs: In 2016 the mobile passport station will operate in the following cities:

- |                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| ■ Darwin NT      | (second half of May)     |
| ■ Canberra ACT   | (second half of May)     |
| ■ Brisbane QLD   | (second half of October) |
| ■ Townsville QLD | (second half of October) |
| ■ Cairns QLD     | (second half of October) |

Registered citizens will be contacted by e-mail or letter two months prior to the visit with detailed information regarding dates, venues and procedures. If funding and staffing levels are not cut, we hope to provide this service in all capital cities every second year.



# SWISS

## Culture Caf

### Thursday 3rd March

10am till 12 Noon

Hervey Bay Community Centre  
22 Charles Street, Pialba

**\$3 per person**

ph 4194 3070

A Taste of Switzerland at the Culture Caf in Hervey Bay, Queensland  
Helpers wanted! Contact Cecile from the Fraser Coast Swiss Group

Samichlaus id  
Swiss Society  
of Queensland

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**Victoria: Events**

- 4/2 Kapelle Gruezi Mitenand
- 17/2 Swiss Club Movie Night
- 24/2 Social Jass - all levels
- 27/2 Jassabend, Horticulture Centre Forest Hill (Matterhorn)
- 2/3 Ladies Luncheon
- 5/3 Kapelle Gruezi Mitenand
- 16/3 AGM (SCV members)
- 19/3 Jass Night / Competition
- 23/3 Mar Social Jass - all levels

**Swiss Club of Victoria**

The Swiss Club of Victoria is the center for Swissness in Melbourne. We offer a club restaurant and year round various Swiss activities and events. Wed and Thur are club nights with social Jass, live Swiss Music on the 1st Thurs of the Month, regular Swiss Movie nights and much more.

**Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn**

After a difficult 2015 for the Choir, with insufficient singers to continue practice sessions and performances, 2016 looks very positive. We will start practicing on the first Wednesday in February and hope to be performing again later in the year. New singers are very welcome .

**Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose / Trachtengruppe Schwyzerguess, / Australian/Swiss Cultural Society**

The very best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year. The Seniors had a fantastic afternoon at the Kaffeeklatsch in the Swiss Club.

The mystery trip in November was attended by over 100 guests. The weather gods made sure, that we could leave the umbrellas at home. A fantastic day for all.

The Swiss Folk Dance Group and



Victoria: Companion Singers and the Swiss Folk Dance group together at the nursing homes

the Companion Singers performed in nursing homes in November as an early Christmas present.

**Western Australia: Events**

- 6/2 Fasnacht, Rhein Donau Club &
  - 7/2 Kinder-Fasnacht (Guggeburras)
  - 20-21/2 Bickley Dam Summer Splash
  - 28/2 General Assembly
  - 27/3 Easter Picnic, Gidgegannup
- Early announcement:  
12/6 Australian Jass tournament, Perth [www.jasstournament.com](http://www.jasstournament.com)

**Australian Capital Territory: Events**

- (tba) Film night
- 12-14/2 Multicultural Festival
- 12-14/3 weekend @ the coast

**Canberra Swiss Club**

The last event from the Canberra Swiss Club was the visit from “Samichlaus” and “Schmutzli”. Many families came for the picnic to see the two visitors. “Samichlaus” spoke to children from all ages – and he also called some adults. Amazing to hear he had to say much the same as


he did when we adults were children. “Schmutzli” could give all the children a “Grittibänz” and a bag with goodies.

The Swiss Choir was again singing at a nursing home. This performance became one of the very special events bringing joy to all, the listeners and the singers.

Hopefully you all had a good start into the New Year. Our first event will be a Film night in February. For several years we have been privileged to join the Swiss Jodlers of Sydney on their harbour cruise, so hopefully this year too. Also in February, the Multicultural Festival takes place in Canberra. Usually on Saturday the Swiss and German Radio Programs have a time slot where they broadcast live from the Festival. In March traditionally the Club spends the weekend at the coast.

Santa in Canberra





**The Swiss Society of Victoria's purpose is to assist fellow Swiss in Victoria, old and young, who are in need of financial or social support. If you are experiencing difficulties, or you know of someone who does, please contact us. We are here to help.**

Franz Schellmann – M: 0412 203 893 – E: [schellmann@dodo.com.au](mailto:schellmann@dodo.com.au)  
 Patrick Albert – M: 0449 999 645 – E: [patalbertaus@gmail.com](mailto:patalbertaus@gmail.com)

Supporting the Swiss Community of Victoria since 1879



**New South Wales: Events**

- 27/2 Harbour cruise (Yodlers)
- 12/3 Senior Luncheon (SCCS)  
Il Bolognese, Gladesville
- 17/3 Senior Luncheon Central Coast (SCCS)

**Swiss Yodlers of Sydney**

We are pleased to announce the establishment of our own website: [www.swissyodlersofsydney.org](http://www.swissyodlersofsydney.org)

In November some of us linked up with the Melbourne yodlers in Wagga Wagga for a long weekend.

Once again Elizabeth Norrison

was instrumental in making our time there most enjoyable.

Our alphorn players and bell ringers took part in the promotion of the Readycare Swiss October Fest in its Alexandria HQ. We also sang recently, at the Swiss Community Care's annual Christmas luncheon.

The yodlers welcomed and joined a Swiss tour party for dinner in a private home, which gave the tourists the opportunity to talk with expats about life in Australia. The tour party were welcomed by the Consul General, Mr. Ernst



Swiss Yodlers of Sydney: tour party dinner

Steinmann. The evening buzzed with conversation and laughter.

Our annual harbour cruise will be held on Sat 27 February.

**Queensland: Events**

- 7/2 Bushwalk Noosa Heads NP
- 7/2 Carnival @ the beach or pool (Fraser Coast)
- 24/2 Movie Night "der Verdingbub" Anglican Church Hall, Ascot
- 3/3 A taste of Switzerland Culture Caf (Fraser Coast)
- 5/3 Bus Trip
- 9/3 Cinema Club: Clouds of Sils Maria, Maryborough (Fraser)
- 13/3 Easter Bunny Wellington Pt.
- 13/3 Family PicNic Gold Coast

**Swiss Club Sunshine Coast**

Monthly Lunch – held on the first Friday of the month. Other venues and details will be published on the Club's website and sent out by email.



Santa, Auckland style

**New Zealand: Events**

- 12/2 Jass @ Danish house
- 14/2 Picnic (Taranaki)
- 20/2 Field Shooting @ Swiss Farm
- 21/2 Family day (Wellington)
- 28/2 Beach party 2016
- 4/3 March Pub night
- 11/3 Jass @ Danish house
- 20/3 Egg decorating (Wellington)
- 28/3 Committee meeting
- 17/4 Shooting / Society games
- 23/4 Comp.shooting @ Swiss Farm

**Swiss Society of NZ**

The Battle of Morgarten (1315) and other anniversaries in Swiss history were celebrated in style on Saturday 14 November. Our Ambassador David Vogelsanger and his team, as well as the Wellington Swiss Club, put on a great day to remember not only Morgarten, but also the Conquest of Aargau (1415), the battle of

Marignano (1515) and the congress of Vienna confirming Swiss neutrality (1815). Over 500 Swiss and friends enjoyed the cultural and culinary experience in Lower Hutt / Wellington. The St. Bernard and Bernese Mountain Dogs were one of the many Swiss attractions. We thank all the organisers for making this day such a success.

'The First Swiss in New Zealand' – a fascinating history about the first wave of Swiss immigration in the 19th century, was compiled in 1967 by Irène Weber-de Candolles, wife of the then Chargé d'affaires. David Vogelsanger kindly got the booklet to be re-printed. The members of the NZ Swiss Society and clubs received a copy with their recent Helvetia Magazine. If interested in a spare copy, please contact the secretary of the NZ Swiss Society, [nelly.steinemann@swiss.org.nz](mailto:nelly.steinemann@swiss.org.nz).

COMING UP: AGM of the NZ Swiss Society, Queens Birthday Weekend Saturday/Sunday 4/5 June, in Auckland. This has traditionally been a fun weekend, with lots of socialising, competition between clubs, lovely food, and not to forget the purpose, reflecting on the past and deciding on the future direction



