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# REGIONAL EDITION

## OCEANIA

### OSA: Impressions from Centenary Celebrations in Bern

This year, the CSA meeting and OSA congress was particularly interesting. The OSA was celebrating its centenary with a remarkable program. There were concerts on Friday evening and the whole Bundesplatz was dressed in OSA colours. Many information stands and lots of happy people enjoyed what the expat community had on offer. Different groups were presenting themselves and sharing their experience and knowledge. The speech of Bundesrat Didier Burkhalter was also very inspiring.



100 years ASO celebration with concerts and activities on the Bundesplatz in Bern

### CSA: Meeting Report from 4.8.2016 in Bern

As part of the OSA congress, we had our yearly meeting of the CSA in the Bundeshaus - what an honour to have a full day session in the Nationalratssaal. Also for the first time, the Aussie-Delegation attended in its full glory - all 4 Delegates attended ...!

AU-Delegates (left to right): Marc Godat, Roland Isler, Beat Knoblauch, Carmen Trochsler



As every year, some budget cuts have to be dealt with; this time, it hit again the Swiss Review, as the printing and delivery costs are substantial. Therefore, I urge all of you to switch to the Email-Version if that is acceptable to you; all the info is on our website [www.revue.ch](http://www.revue.ch)

If only 10% more of you switch, then we can continue delivering 6 issues per year, otherwise it will get cuts.

Many reports came in about banks not offering credit cards anymore to expats; this does not affect pre-paid credit cards though.

If you want to keep updated about the politics in parliament, I can recommend you the website [www.parlament.ch](http://www.parlament.ch), which shows live session and also has lots of other info. That's it for now, keep informed.

*Marc Godat, CSA Delegate*



Roland Isler introducing and promoting his new book in Bern

voting procedure @ the CSA



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Victoria: Events

- 9/10 Swiss Festival @ Southbank
- 22/10 Swiss Italian Festa, Hebburn Sp.
- 9/11 Mystery trip (Trachtengr)
- 27/11 Concerts @ Senior Citizens Homes (Matterhorn)



**Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn**  
 A glorious winter Sunday brought a large section of the Swiss community in Victoria together to celebrate our National Day. The youngest members of the community seemed to really enjoy the day, especially the Swiss folkloristic entertainment. Part of this was the first public performance of the 'reborn' Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn that now features five enthusiastic women singers, including two yodellers.

**Trachtengruppe Schwyzergruess.**  
 The Trachtengruppe, Australian/Swiss cultural Society had the Kaffeeklatsch on 14.8. It was a fantastic afternoon for the seniors and great atmosphere .

We have the mystery trip coming up on Wednesday November 9. Cost per Person is \$35.

Book with Sylvia Hochuli on 95316575 or hochuli@tpg.com.au

Editorial: Swiss Society of Victoria

The Swiss Society of Victoria, bound by its constitution, has been helping Swiss citizens living in Victoria since 1879.

We would like to support Swiss who have moderate means and cannot afford certain expenses. These can include expenses for:

- items which can improve mobility like wheelchairs, solid walking frames, emergency call buttons or medical devices
- long distance trips to doctor appointments or hospitals
- assistance in getting your legal/financial affairs in order
- other urgent matters which should be attended to

If these expenses stretch your budget to the extent that they prevent you spending the money to improve your quality of life, do not hesitate to contact us, as we are here to assist those in need who are financially limited. We are here to help others, so give us the opportunity to assist you or fellow Swiss you know. All enquiries and requests are treated confidentially.

The Swiss Society of Victoria is a non-for profit organisation and funds its activities through bequests, donations and small membership contributions.

Please contact: Patrick Albert Mob: 0449 999 645  
 Email: [patalbertaus@gmail.com](mailto:patalbertaus@gmail.com)




Matterhorn: New faces at the Swiss National Day celebration in Melbourne

Trachtengruppe Schwyzergruess

Matterhorn: youngest members of the community enjoying the day





Supporting the Swiss Community of Victoria since 1879

**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.**

**Patrick Albert – M: 0449 999 645 – E: [patalbertaus@gmail.com](mailto:patalbertaus@gmail.com)**

**ACT: Canberra Swiss Club**

The wet and cool Canberra winter was warmed up by a successful Fondue Night, the heart-warming film Heidi and a very enjoyable National Day celebration. For the Fondue we had a full house with more than 130 people forking in a perfect Fondue. Our compliment to the cooks and all the helpers involved.

After some rather wet weeks the rain stopped just in time and we had a mild and dry day for the National Day celebration. Thanks to the dedication of Margrit (Walma's in Melbourne), Hans Brüngger and Kerry Kourpanidis a sausage delivery problem was solved last minute. As always the sausages from Walma's were delicious. The generous donation of the bread from Bruno Ehrensberger (Bruno's Trüffels), Gerstensusuppe, Glühwein and the cakes brought by the members and friends gave us a warm Swiss feeling. The choir made the anthem sound great and many comments were made that it was a special atmosphere when the choir later sung to the play of two guitars at the bonfire. This year Anthony Lustenberger placed three little fire places outside the shed – much appreciated and loved by the people. Many thanks go the Lustenberger Family for allowing us to celebrate at their farm and to all helpers who made the event so pleasant.

Canberra Swiss Club: Choir and guitar performance @ National Day Celebration Photo by Vijai Koul



Canberra Swiss Club: Fondue night Photos by Richards Conan Davies

With Daniel Haener (charge d'affair ai) having a speech, his wife Lola and many staff members, the Embassy was well represented at the event.

Beginning of July the Crem-schnittechörli gave a concert at Isabella Gardens retirement village. Robert Schmidli contributed with playing the piano and Geoff Roberts performed solo songs. A big audience thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and so did all the singers, Shirley our lovely accompanist, Robert and Geoff. Singing at retirement villages has become a bit of a highlight for the choir. Everybody who loves singing is invited to join the choir. Rehearsals are held every last Tuesday of the month.

Welcome to Mirjam Herzog who has joined the Swiss Radio team. Every second Monday Mirjam presents an interesting contribution. The Swiss radio Program is on air every Monday between 6 and 8 pm on 91.1FM. Everybody is welcome to

be a guest and talk about her or his life or anything of interest. Just get in contact with the broadcasters.

End of August Helmut Jerjen enlightens us with a speech about Einstein, Gravitation Waves and Astronomy.

As Swiss's we are excited to have a Mövenpick outlet at Kingston Foreshore. One of our next events will be an ice cream tasting at Mövenpick. And just on a similar note: end of August a Lindt chocolate shop opens its doors at the DFO in Fyshwick.

Another Film night, the annual Jass Tournament and the visit from Samichlaus are upcoming events where we hope to see many members and friends. The Annual General Meeting will be held in November. Details of all events will be announced in the newsletter.

On the 1st of September our new Ambassador Pedro Zwahlen arrives in Canberra with his son Linus. His wife Ambassador Yasmin Chatila Zwahlen and their daughter Soraya follow in December. To the whole family a very warm welcome. We hope to have the pleasure to meet them at many of our events.

**Queensland: Events**

- 1-3/10 Camping weekend
- 29-30/10 Springbrook weekend
- 5/11 AGM
- 27/11 Gold coast Pic Nic
- 30/11 Movie Night
- 3/12 AGM & Xmas Lunch (SCCS)
- 3/12 Samichlaus (Fraser C)
- 4/12 Samichlaus

Congratulations: The Fraser Coast Swiss Group celebrated 15 years



**New Zealand: Taranaki Swiss Club**

- 14/10** Pot-luck tea at 7.00pm to present Swiss Society and Karabiner Shooting medals.
- 6&20/10** Keglen recommences from 7.30pm with a Swiss baking demonstration also being held on the 20th ... probably a tasting session too.
- 16/10** Trudi Ott Belt Shoot at the small bore shooting range from 1.00pm

Our 1st of August celebrations were held at the Club house in Ka-ponga with a good attendance. After the formalities, the Singing Group sang beautifully, the alphorn and tahlerschwingen excellent (great to see Yvonne Werder participating too ... and then several members took the opportunity of giving these musical instruments a go, and some were very successful), tremendous music by Conrad, Bernhard, Aaron and Zeno, a wonderful tombola, a delicious "Swiss" supper ... what more could anyone want?!?! The following trophies were awarded to worthy winners: Len and Molly Chamberlain Memorial Trophy for literacy to Noeline van der Poel and Lynette Barnard (for their great effort with the Kuriger Story), Jas-sen Cup to Mathias Seifert, The Dettling Memorial Trophy for Karabiner Shooting to Peter Arnold and the Keglen trophies to Othmar Hebler and Heidi Werder. Well done to you all. Thank you to everyone for attending this function and we look forward to you attending future activities and events!

**Hamilton Swiss Club**

Hamilton's National Day Celebrations were held in conjunction with the 60th Jubilee Celebrations. 200 people helped celebrate this wonderful occasion at the Lake Karapiro Domain. It was great to see so many new faces – a lot of people who had connections to Swiss descendants from many years ago. The Swiss-Kiwi Yodel group treated us to some beautiful yodelling and alphorn playing and the Ambassador gave a very informative speech. There was an amazing selection of prizes on the raffle table and everyone was treated to a nice buffet lunch and dessert.

Alphorn players Hamilton



Please check out the new website of Council of Swiss Abroad: [www.csa-oceania.org](http://www.csa-oceania.org)

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