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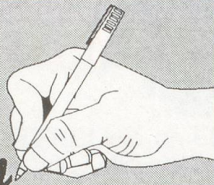
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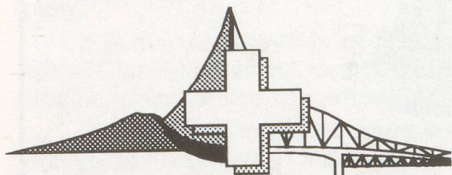
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New Zealand's Swiss Club News



Auckland
Christchurch
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington



Auckland Swiss Club

A NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to say thank you to all Andre friends, who donated so generously towards his head stone.

Beatrice, Darren, Anni, Fila

DATES 1997

9. Feb Annual Pic Nic

BBQ, Salads, Swiss Patisserie, Beverages available. Lucky Wheel, Lolly Scramble, etc.

2. March Kindertag at Long Bay from 10.30am onwards. Games for children. BYO food and drinks. You can BBQ your steaks and sausages.

6. April Wandertag. Details to be announced.

5. May AGM

NOTE TO SECRETARIES

Next issue of the Helvetia magazine: MARCH 1997. All contributions must be in by 15 February. Many thanks for your kind cooperation.

SAMICHLAUS 1996

We had a most beautiful day for Santa to see the Swiss children. And again plenty of families turned up for the event on the Swiss Farm. We hope that everybody had a good time.

Most of us were very surprised to

MINISTER THOMAS FUGLISTER

Head of the unit for the Swiss abroad in our Federal Department for Foreign Affairs in Bern will visit Auckland & Wellington in March 1997.

He is here to address the Swiss Clubs on current Swiss affairs and on the rights & duties of the Swiss abroad. He will also answer questions on these subjects.

The meeting in Auckland will take place on March 9th 1997 at 7.30 p.m. at
OSCAR ROGGEN (workshop)

The meeting in Wellington will be on March 10th 1997 at 7.30 p.m. at the
Swiss Club House.

Please bring a plate. This is a rather unique opportunity of meeting a specialist on these matters. For further information, please consult the President of the respective Swiss Club or the

Embassy of Switzerland
in Wellington

(Mr. F. Schneider, Tel. 0-4-4721 593)

see all the work been done on the roof extension. The structure is all there and it looks good and solid. Thanks to all the volunteers for their work, a job well done.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Fleur and Ulrich Hess to the safe arrival of their son Oliver Jacob on December 12th, 1996, a brother for Martin and Rene.

Mathys Valerie Janice (levett)
Passed away 4th Jan. 1997

Tony, Calvin & Heidi would like to heartfully thank for all your kindness and expression of sympathy Born at Auckland in 1944 Valerie met Tony in Norfolk Island in 1967, married a few months later and (together with Tony) was the Founder of

"SWISS HOUSE"

Norfolk Island where Calvin & Heidi were born. The family moved to Auckland in 1985 after a years stay in Switzerland. Again Valerie was the driving force when the family bought the "Blackberry Patch" at Massey (West Auckland) which they successfully ran until the third venture was started

"SWISS IMPORT LTD"

of which Valerie was the Director-Secretary.
"To short a life of adventure and excitement"

Gift of a Wife

(Written for Valerie by Tony)

*You have been giv'n me in trust,
The Lord then heard my pleading.
As he is faithful, always just -
And charged me with the leading.*

*A family to raise He said -
The two of you must do.
Not worry how to get your bread -
Just use My gifts to you!*

*My dearest wife you have done well -
In honouring His charge.
But for myself, how can I tell -
What part of me was large?*

*You have been faithful, honest, humble -
No hurdle was too high!
Preventing me from many a stumble -
You pointed to His sky!*

*The time has come now, early though -
When He has called you home.
So I say thank you, deep I bow -
And pray I won't be lone!*

Thank You (Poem by Heidi)

*I just want to thank you Lord
for being who you are (a cool awesome God)
I just want to thank you Lord
for my Ma and Pa
I just want to thank you Lord
for putting me right here
We should be thankful for everything we see.*



EUGEN WALTER HÜBSCHER

Eugen passed away peacefully on Monday 23.12.96 at the Sunset Home Auckland where he was in residence since 1994.

Eugen was born in Zurich on 9.1.14, where he lived until 1961 when he came to New Zealand.

He was a hairdresser by trade but also a great entertainer. He loved performing on stage and in his younger years showed his talent with great flair, not only in various Theatres in Zurich, but also in Auckland at functions held by the Swiss club.

Eugen had a wide circle of pen friends spread world wide. Some he managed to visit on his 4 trips back to Switzerland.

In 1994 Eugen suffered a stroke from which he never fully recovered. He greatly appreciated the visits from his friends and the loving care from the staff at the Sunset Home.

Lieber Eugen, ich sag's ganz ungeniert
Du spieltest ganz gerne Klavier
Und hast sogar Stücke komponiert.

Auch spieltest Du gerne den Joggi
Vorgezogen hast Du aber immer noch
Minestrone Suppe und Schweizer
Schoggi.

Du hattest Freude Dein Haus neu zu
gestalten,
Ganz besoners gefiel Dir Dein neuer
Wintergarten
Da genossest Du die Sonne und der
freie Blick aufs Meer
Na, was wollte man noch mehr?

Aenderungen und krumme Wege
Waren Dir gar nicht gelegen.
Du suchtest immer das Direkte
Und nicht das Geflechte.

Du sangest oft das Lied vom "Rio
Grande"

Dann warst Du glücklich im neuen
Heimatlande
Deine Fröhlichkeit und Güte
Liessest Du nie erkalten,
Und so werden Dich Deine Freunde
Immer in guter Erinnerung halten.

(Leny und Röby)

OPEN LETTER TO ALL AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB MEMBERS

Dear Members,

Since 1991 we had the privilege to receive through the Swiss Embassy in Wellington the "Master-Tape" of "Swiss-World" at no costs.

The time for editing the copies and the postage for returning the tapes to Wellington were borne by AVA Swiss Watch Co. The time for storing and circulating approx. 60 tapes was borne by Fred Tobler. The tapes were paid by the Auckland Swiss Club.

To take advantage of the remaining recording time on the existing copies, Fred was asking the missing tapes back!

Result: Approx 1/3 of the tapes are missing or there is no reply from the borrowers. The tapes received back were in a very sorry state, to say the least. Some "ondulated" due to excessive heat, some in a mechanical state as if they had been used as "door stoppers", some even garnished with mildew. Summa-Summarum, a blatant display of disrespect for the efforts invested.

As I am not prepared to abuse expensive tech. equipments, we are sorry to inform you that the copy of Dec. 96 will be the last one in the series which started in 1991.

For the interested members, the Master-Tape will still be available from Wellington by sending a self addressed Post-Couriers bag to the Embassy.

Signed: Fred Tobler and Adolf Amstutz.

cc. Swiss Embassy, Wellington.

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 1997

Single: \$30.00

Couple/Family: \$35.00 (incl. children under 18 years)

It would be appreciated if payment could be made at an upcoming function or, alternatively, sent to the Treasurer: Beatrice Leuenberger, 44 Montgomery Crescent, Hamilton.

Thank you for your continued support and looking forward to seeing you soon: The Committee.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

For the first time in many years, the committee organised a family Christmas party. We are very pleased to say that the day was a huge success. It was well supported and the venue was ideal and added to the enjoyment of the day. The children were entertained by a magician dressed as a clown and later



Everyone seemed to enjoy the facilities at our Christmas party.



The sausages were delicious thanks to one of our cooks, Hans-Peter Burch.



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Both children and adults alike were entertained by the clown.

Santa found time in his busy schedule to come and visit. Sausages were barbecued for lunch, later followed by Christmas biscuits baked by committee members. The weather, unreliable at times, was perfect on the day, allowing children to enjoy the swimming pool. Thanks to everyone who turned up on the day - it was lovely to see so many adults and children. Thank you also for supporting our raffles. Perhaps this will be the first of many more Christmas parties!

PICNIC DATE

Please note **Sunday 23 February** as the date for the picnic at Villiger's farm in KIWITAHU. We look forward to seeing many people and hope many will participate in bowling and shot-put. The competition for shooting will be on **Saturday 22 February**.

TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

9 February: Annual picnic at the Club grounds starting 10.00am until... late! Schwingen is the highlight of the day where young and old can participate. Ice creams, sausages and beverages available. Games for the kids and the big kids! Great day for socialising, so come along and enjoy the entertainment.

16 February: Championship/Society Shoot commencing at 1.00pm.

22-23 February: Cowbell competition against Wellington. We are looking to organise a bus. Please let Walter Seifert on 06-762 8559 or Remigi Zimmermann on 06-764 6438 know. A good time guaranteed!!!

28 February: Singing practice (they need it!?) at 7.30pm.

3 March: AGM of Taranaki Swiss Club. Please come and have your say.

CHRISTMAS SHOOT

This was held on December 8th and we had good support for this function. Competitors had the option of shooting or skittling, while the children had their own games. Every adult brought a wrapped prize and in return everyone received a wrapped prize. A pot-luck lunch was held at 1.00pm with an excellent assortment of food. Once everyone had received their prizes, some people were fortunate enough to have their name drawn out of the lucky dip. The children had their own selection of presents and many enjoyed playing table soccer for the remainder of the afternoon. Many thanks to Erna for making lovely little Christmas goodies for the children - you really did a great job!!! Thanks to Walter for organising the day, everyone seemed to enjoy a lovely, warm day with Swiss friends.

HOSTING SWISS GROUP

From *December 1st to 3rd* we hosted a group of 24 farmers from all over the German speaking part of Switzerland. They arrived on Sunday, on the way visiting Kiwi Dairies in Hawera, before having a social drink with hosts at the Club house. All members of the touring group went home with their Swiss-Kiwi hosts and remained with them until the next afternoon when they visited a further two farms. A pot-luck tea was held on Monday. Our visitors are always amazed at the variety, the quantity and the quality of the food available. Our grateful thanks to all the ladies who worked so hard to provide such a delicious meal. Our visitors really appreciated and enjoyed this social gathering. Many thanks to all the hosts for their time and effort in hosting these new friends. A great thanks to all those who helped organise this part of the tour and who arranged the billeting.

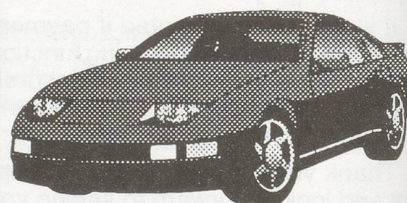
MB

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Once again this function was held in conjunction with the movanners....20 vans and thirty Swissies!!! Vans started arriving at 2.00pm and happy hour commenced at 4.00pm with both vanners and Swissies!!! What a combination...fortunately I could not go to happy hour and get into trouble!!! Doreen once again organised a pass-the-parcel which created a wonderful atmosphere and many laughs!!! Well done, and many thanks. Several members shared in an enjoyable barbeque tea, with the evening starting at 9.00pm. Several games were shared... Marcus you looked great in women's togs!!! You should try it more often!!! Leo and Marianne played the accordions for various games...hopefully nobody noticed the few mistakes!!! Bruno came along with an excellent item... a contraption whereby by blowing into it, a small wheel turned... however if you did not blow correctly, you would end up with flour all over!!! Leo, thinking you needed to blow with all your might (like he always does), ended up with flour everywhere!!! What an improvement!!! Several members tried very hard, but all in vain!!! One colourful character, won't name him eh Ruedi D, decided the trick might be to suck in!!! Well...he got redder and redder and my goodness must have tasted great!!! Another game was done by seven gentlemen... the first to eat a weetbix (without liquid) and whistle won!!! Our president Walter decided that the best bet was to put the whole lot in his mouth and go for it!!!!... I think he is still going!!! Great tasting stuff, eh Walter!!! Don't try very hard too... but needed a beer for assistance!!! And still did not finish first!!! Top of the dry weetbix eaters was our Hamilton-Swiss, Bruno!!! Must breed them differently up there!!! Used to it, Bruno!!!

A delicious supper was held before midnight and on the hour, with the chime of the bells, we kissed the old year goodbye and welcomed the New

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We will not be beaten.

Year. Dancing and singing continued until the wee hours. Only the vigilant card players continued past this hour... and made a horrific noise when leaving!!! No, just kidding!!!

A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all and we thank all those who contributed to make the evening a success.

**REPORT: CHRISTMAS-SHOOT
1996 (8/12/96)**

We had 34 people taking part (21 shooters + 13 skittlers). The kids section was well attended! They all enjoyed themselves. I would like to thank Erna, Lisette and Marianne for organising and running the children's games. Well done!

Also many thanks to Mark, Emmi, Regi, Markus and Lou and all the helpers behind the scene! After a nice pot-luck lunch and a good "cuppa", we handed out the Trophies for past shooting events.

RESULTS:

The Trudi-Ott-Belt was won by Holdy Mathys with 99 points. The runners-up were Edi Füglistaller and Remigi

Zimmermann also both with 99 points. The Ted-Näpflin-Memorial-Shield went to Erwin Kiser with a top score of 100 points. The runners-up were Angela Kiser, Ruedi Dudli and Edi Füglistaller, all with 99 points.

Xmas-Shoot Results (34 competi-

tors). 21 shooters: top score: Edi Füglistaller with 50 points. Runner-up: Walter Seifert with 49 points (very fishy!).

13 skittlers. Highest score: Myrtha Seifert with 39 points. Runner-up: Ruedi Benkert with 37 points.



Everyone enjoying happy hour or hours...





Helpers having a laugh... the Swiss Club is a great place for campervanning weekends... plenty of room amongst the beautiful trees.



Measuring time... the men enjoying it!!!

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Kiwi Host Keith**
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LUCKY-NUMBER-PRIZE-DRAW WINNERS.

- 1st Prize (Mystery) Nr 18 Nick Werder
- 2nd Prize Nr 1 Josie Gillbanks
- 3rd Prize Nr 2 Markus Rufer
- 4th Prize Nr 23 Remigi Zimmermann
- 5th Prize Nr 17 Frida Meier
- 6th Prize Nr 5 Mark Kiser
- 7th Prize Nr 6 Emmi Kiser
- 8th Prize (Booby) Nr 25 Zeno Hospenthal.

Once again this concludes my report for the 1996 Christmas-Shoot.

I would like to congratulate all the winners. On behalf of the club committee, our most sincere thanks for your loyal support throughout the year! Have a happy 1997.

New Shooting Season Start will be 16/2/97 at 1.00pm. See you there.

R.M. Smallbore: W. Seifert Ph. 06 762 8559

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

Happy New Year to you all! Hope you all survived the Christmas Festivities! May 1997 bring you all the blessings you so richly deserve!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

22-23 Feb. Cowbell competition down in the Capital! Everybody welcome.

1 March: Fritz Adams Cup, 7.30pm Clubhouse.

You are cordially invited to the
Wellington Swiss Club's 40th Birthday Party
on Labour Weekend 25 - 27 October 1997

Read the details in the next Helvetia, but keep Labour Weekend 1997 free to celebrate with us!

22 March: Bicultural Event. More details next month.

12 April: AGM 7.30pm Clubhouse.

End of November saw us keen trampers tackling a long awaited Tramp: the Otaki Forks Walk. An overcast day did not hinder us to adventure into the Ranges. But the drizzles turned into an incredible downpour - our summery clothes turned into heavy rags! A special experience of a kind! Thank you Elisabeth and Denise for organising this last special walk of the year.

Our Christmas Party was as gorgeous as ever. Christine and her team managed a splendid Buffet. Thank you Christine for organising this special Dinner. With St. Claus and his helper making their traditional appearances, everybody felt the caring spirit of the Season.

And now with the summer in full swing, we are looking forward to the activities of the warmer months and all the visitors from Switzerland.

MBG

OBITUARY

WALTER KASPAR was a foundation member of the Wellington Swiss Club. Before this, he regularly attended the weekly meetings of the Swiss men at the St. George Hotel on Tuesday night.

Walter enjoyed the outdoors, his hobbies were gardening, tramping and sailing.

Walter arrived in New Zealand in 1939. Only a year later he started his own business as a plumber. In 1949 Walter visited Switzerland and returned with his new wife Hedy. In 1951 they were blessed with a daughter - Annabelle. Walter always lived in Wellington until 1986 when he followed his daughter to live in Mt. Maunganui. He had his own place again until he suffered a stroke 3 years later and had to move to Bernadette Home. Last year, Walter's health deteriorated, he had bad sight and hearing and the last few months stayed in Melrose Hospital.

Whenever some Wellington friends would be in the Bay of Plenty, Walter would get a surprise visit which he enjoyed tremendously.

Walter passed away on 24 November 1996, being 88 years old. We will always remember Walter as an honest and true friend. We would like to pass on our condolences to Annabelle and Barry (Babbage) and family. RM



Lotti and André admiring the local craft in Otaki.



GREAT NEWS FOR JASSER

If you find it increasingly difficult to hold your cards in your hand, here is the answer: a card holder. You do not even have to hold it in your hand, you can place it as is on the table right in front of you and yet no one else than yourself can read your cards.