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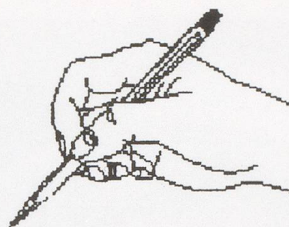
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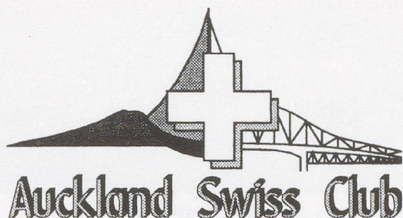
New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

Web page - <http://www.swiss.org.nz>

E-mail - society@swiss.org.nz



Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch



auckland@swiss.org.nz

Dear Aucklanders with Swiss Connections!

The America's Cup euphoria. Is it finally coming to an ebb? I'll be glad, as it is a bit tricky living with two loyalty flags, Alinghi vs Team New Zealand. It's a tough call, marriages are strained, friendships on the line, identities come into crisis over it, masts crack. This is serious soul searching material! The only advantage is that we have reason to celebrate, no matter who wins. Thank God, by the time this is printed, it is all decided, and if it is lost to us, we Aucklanders will have to think of something else to put on at the Viaduct. I'm sure we'll find something. Congratulations to the winner!

Up at the farm we had a lovely picnic on the 4th February and though not so many people could tear themselves away from the beaches, we had a good gathering of about 100 people. The Keglen and the air rifle shooting were held all day on the newly built shooting range and the freshly polished bowling

alley. We had Cervelat Salad for lunch and wonderful dessert, as well as the choice of Nussgipfel or Cremeschnitten with coffee. The handful of kids guided by various adults (thank you so much for bringing them back safely) successfully completed the orienteering course and were awarded with a soft drink.

The Society Games Steinstossen was carried out in the afternoon.

It was good to catch up with everyone, and thank you all for coming, and to all for contributing to such a lovely day.

A Special Event is coming up shortly at the farm:

The New Zealand Yodel Group invites you to The **ALPINE PARTY On Saturday 8 March 2003**. Starting at 4pm, and going well into the night with a 60s/70s disco, games, fun, lamb/pork on the spit. Price: \$35 with dinner included. Limited tickets available, Call Peter Arnold now, if you are interested. Tel. 09 479 4487. This is a fundraising effort to participate in the Yodel Festival once again. Your support is greatly appreciated, and you won't regret it.

Club Activities coming up

The **Society Games Auckland** only were scheduled to be held on Sunday 9 March 2003, but now as all disciplines have been competed in, this event has been cancelled. However, we will require a doubly strong team for the Steinstossen and all other disciplines

in Hamilton on Sunday 27 April 2003, as this day will decide who takes on the Southern North Islanders at the final on Queen's Birthday.

Shooting

Feldschiessen Saturday/Sunday 22/23 March 2003, 10am sharp, at the farm. If you have an interest in or want to learn this ancient traditional art, come up and have a go. You will be awarded the finest of instruction. For further information, call the Riflemaster Henry, Tel. 410 3476.

Jassen

Don't forget that the season begins this month already, on Friday 21 March 03, 7.30pm at 224 Hobson St, Auckland (Prosthetic Processes, 1st floor). We look forward to seeing everyone again, and would also welcome new people. All you need to bring is a small entry fee and some supper, limited card playing skills and lots of humour. Call Hans Iten if you are not sure about something. Tel. 620 9208.

Stammtisch

Next one will be Saturday 29 March 2003, afternoon, evening. Bring your barbeque meal and drinks, make a night of it. All welcome.

Craft Day

Easter Decorations can be made on Saturday 12 April 2003, 10am to 4pm, at Edith's place, 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield.

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Taranaki Swiss Club Picnic



Barbecuing is a fine art...and these guys did a terrific job!



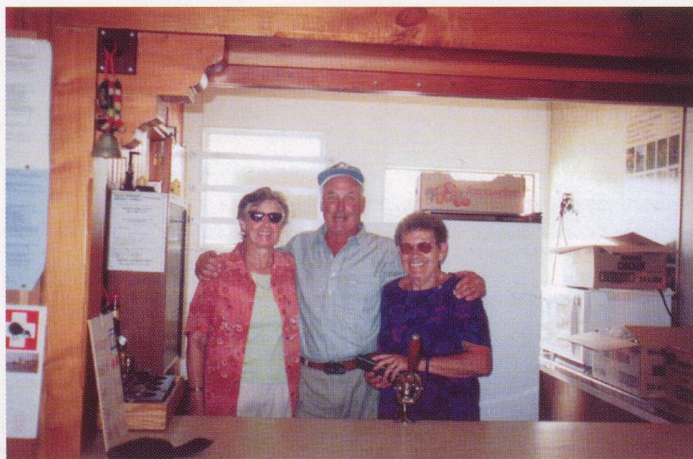
Our beautiful mountain at dusk, from Stratford.



Our talented musician, Peter Canziani...Sorry this photo doesn't look flattering, but he's in ACTION! Thanks, Peter, you played beautifully and everyone enjoyed listening to you.



The queues waiting for the delicious sausages.



Barman Ruedi sharing a joke with Emmi and Ros.

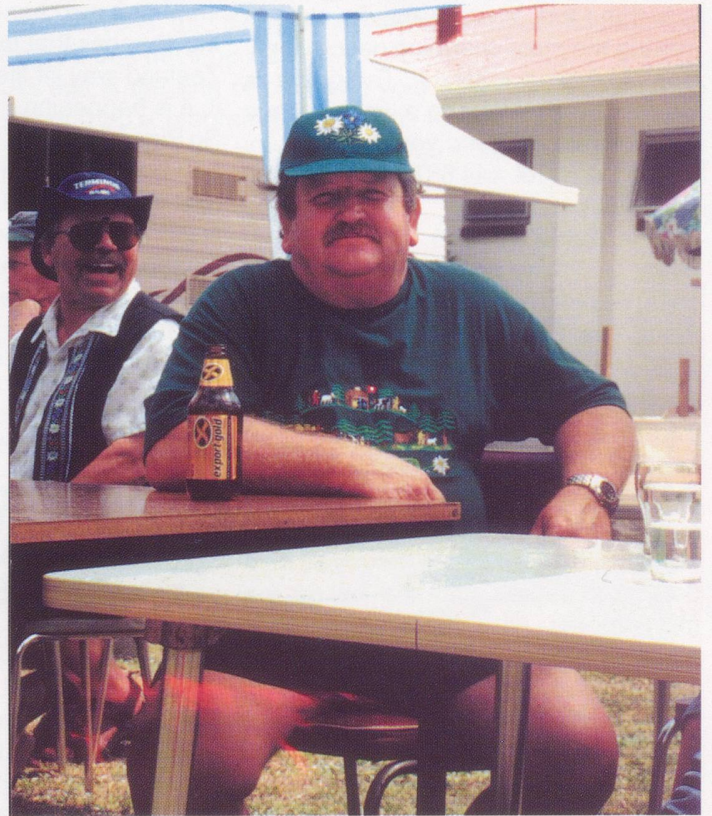


Our friends from Hamilton, Max and Vitus, share a joke with barman Mathias.

Taranaki Swiss Club Picnic



People milling around outside the clubhouse on a beautiful, sunny day on February 9, 2003.



Walter taking a break and enjoying an 'Export'!



The finalists of the juniors...Thomas Werder and Erwin Hebler in action. Thomas took out the title...Well done to all participants.



Don is well endowed with helpers to return the hay to his haybarn. Thanks guys!



Janick Ruchti taking on Andreas Krebs in the senior final. Andreas, a schwinger back home in Switzerland, took out the title but Janick gave it his all!



The three wise men of Schwingen? Nic explaining a finer detail to Garry and Leo.

Continued from page 5

This is following the motto: Getting there is half the fun. You will acquire skills in making the most charming decorations. Cost \$10 plus material. Everyone is welcome. Again, due to a limit in space at the venue we need your booking, by calling Edith (Tel. 444 6972) or Trudi (Tel. 376 4923).

Jggele (Table Soccer)

Every 1st Friday of the month (next one being April 4th) at 8pm, at 5 Glen Vista Place, Glenfield. BYO Drink.

From the Correspondence

Peter Deutschle has begun work on the Chronicles of the club. He is short of quite a number of years' minutes and files. May he appeal to anyone who has ever had any executive involvement in the club to turn their house upside down and search high and low for the missing files. All material turned in is highly appreciated...and no names will be mentioned and no penalties will be incurred, promise.

Thank you to all those who made the effort to reply to the survey which was put out through the internet and via the recent picnic. A draft proposal will be put to the AGM following evaluation of this. With the AGM on 3rd May 2003, please consider a more active involvement in the club, and nominate yourself as a committee member. These are very exciting years, not only for New

Zealand as a whole, but also for our club. Our identity, our activities and our emphasis are changing, keeping up with the changes that take place in the New Zealand way of life...and like it or hate it, it is happening.

So Please take this opportunity and have a turn at the steering wheel. Write or e-mail or call any of us on the committee, if this interests you, or if you know of someone who would be happy to join us, on Tel. Ueli (president) 09 427 5309, or Trudi (secretary) 376 4923, or Edith (vice president) 444 6972.

TF.



Forthcoming Events...

Family Walk - Sunday, 23rd March in the Karangahake Gorge (between Paeroa and Waihi). Please meet at 11am in the carpark opposite the Talisman Cafe. Bring your own lunch and drinks.

Annual General Meeting - Saturday, 12th April at Swiss-craft premises, Colombo Street, Frankton. Please come at 7.30pm for drinks or 8pm for the meeting. New committee members are most welcome or just come along and show the club your support.

First Card Evening and Medal Jass - Saturday 26th April, 7.30pm, Matamata.

Cowbell Competition, Hamilton vs Auckland - Sunday, 27th April at Swiss-craft premises, Frankton.

All club members should have received a newsletter last month with details about the year's calendar of events and directions of how to get to the new venues for the card evenings. If you did not receive one, please ring Beatrice Phone 843-7971.



Past Events

February 2: Swiss Society Jassen and Steinstossen Competitions

This is a difficult time of the year to get members to join club activities. The card players, all eight of them, had a good time. The event was won by Hans Buess, ahead of Hans Scherrer. Four of us stayed on to play all afternoon.

The Steinstossen, on the other hand suffered somewhat from lack of participants. Three men and one very brave woman were the only ones competing.

Forthcoming Events

April 12 AGM



Our big day...annual picnic at the Swiss Club...was held on 9 February in beautiful Taranaki sunshine. We were very pleased to see so many visitors from Switzerland and also from our neighbouring Swiss Clubs. Max and Vitus didn't look the worse for wear having tramped around Mt Egmont for the past four days ... they must breed them fit in the Waikato!!! It was great having so many visitors, and we certainly hope that you enjoyed your time with us.

It wasn't long before the cervelats and bratwurst were being barbequed, and the queues started to form to eat these

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delectable fresh sausages. I was asked numerous times by children for tomato sauce, but unfortunately we don't have it available at the picnic...as I say to my husband, "You kill the taste by adding tomato sauce!" There were also refreshments available and the ice creams went down a treat!

Soon the "Schwingen" got underway, with young and not so young participating...eh, Paul? Someone has to keep them honest, eh? It is always a joy to watch this Swiss sport, and this year we had an increase in participants which was great. It was tremendous to see some "Schwingers" of yesteryear watching...eh Garry, Nic, Paul etc...maybe next year you could have a bout of the veterans! Doesn't seem so long ago that I was watching you guys wrestle! Showing my age too! The senior event was won by a Swiss visitor, Andreas Krebs (who obviously has some great talent, and competes in Schwingen events in Switzerland) who beat Janick Ruchti...you gave it all you had too, Janick...well done! The final of the juniors was between two local lads, Thomas Werder and Erwin Hebler...they had a good contest, with Thomas the conqueror...well done, Thomas. The committee would like to thank all those who helped with the "Schwingen", and also the participants, for without you there would be no sport of "Schwingen" held. All the spectators enjoyed the "Schwingen" and it is most certainly a popular activity at the picnic. Mark was kept busy with the children at the fishing and quoits, and did a terrific job...I'm sure you couldn't wait until you had given away ALL the prizes!

Erna and Lisette, once again, organised a wonderful tombola...there were some great prizes for the winners, and tickets sold like hot cakes!!! I'm certain that most of the containers of blueberries didn't make it home intact! Thanks for organising this ladies, and thank you to everyone who purchased tickets. The grounds, as always, looked lovely, and it was great to see so many people using the shade of the trees until well into the evening. People dwindled away...but the diehards stayed for a potluck tea...this was most enjoyable...being able to sit down and relax for a while, and reminisce about the day.

Thank you to everyone for coming...we did miss seeing some faces...but on the other hand we enjoyed seeing some new ones. Here's to a great picnic!

Forthcoming Events

March 4th The Annual General Meeting of the Taranaki Swiss Club will be held at 8.00pm. Here we can reminisce about the past year, and look forward to the new one. We look forward to your attendance. Your committee would welcome any ideas you may have for social functions. Tell us what you want from your committee!!!

March 16th Championship / Society Shoot. This commences at 1.00pm, with Mark Kiser the riflemaster. If you would like to know more about what the smallbore rifle

club gets up to, please don't hesitate to contact him. There are lovely cups, trophies and medals to be won in these competitions, and there are ALWAYS plenty of people willing to help you out if necessary.

As this is the end of our year, your new committee will be making up a programme of events for the year 2003-2004, and a calendar will be sent out to you in March.

M D

Blast from the Past - 1952

From the book by Heinz Helbling
"Als Kaser in Neuseeland"



Swiss Picnic

Last Friday the newly founded Taranaki Swiss Club organised their first function, the 1st August celebrations. Two hundred and twenty people (Swiss and New Zealanders) were present. A top Landler Kapelle (Music) was quickly put together and entertained us for the whole evening. The Swiss flag was flowing happily beside the New Zealand one. We were busy saying "good luck to our homeland" with a glass in our hand. President Walter Risi read the message from our "Bundes President" to the Swiss abroad. The singing, yodelling and dancing amused our New Zealand guests very much.

It was well into the second of August before the last ones left with their cars. Well, the old homeland is not forgotten, especially on the first of August.

Donations

On behalf of the Swiss Society of New Zealand, I would like to thank the New Zealand Community Trust and the Taranaki Electricity Trust very much for their generous donations towards compiling our magazine, the Helvetia. It is hoped that in the near future we will run a competition for our younger members as an educational programme. As a non-profit organisation, we are very grateful for any donations.

For those of you who don't know, The Taranaki Electricity Trust is a Charitable Trust which was formed in 1993. The Trust receives dividend income from Powerco Limited. The dividend income is distributed by way of grants to suitable applicants from the area previously supplied by the Taranaki Electric Power Board. The policy of the Trust is to distribute all of its net income to suitable applicants by way of discretionary grants. By distributing funds to as wide a range of applicants as possible, it is hoped that the income will be returned to the community which originally built the power company.

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