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March  
2007

# HELVETIA

Do you know  
the name  
of this  
nice  
town?



Often described as the jewel of the Swiss Riviera, **VEVEY** is an upmarket resort that is renowned for its annual jazz festival. The town began to develop as an international tourist resort in about 1815, and its golden age lasted until the outbreak of World War I in 1914. In the 19th century the charm of the area captivated artists, writers and musicians, including Lord Byron and Mary Shelley, Leo Tolstoy and Hans Christian Andersen. It has many Belle Epoque hotels. The most famous of them is the **VEVEY** Palace on Grand'Rue, west of the town centre. Opposite this hotel is the Centre des Congres, a modern conference centre. The metalframed market hall in Place du Marche was built in 1890 with funds donated by Henri Nestle, founder of the powdered milk company.

At the end of the square, on the lakeshore, is a statue of Freddie Mercury, vocalist in the band Queen. **VEVEY** was his second home and it was here that he died, in 1991. East of the statue, on the lakeshore promenade, is a casino rebuilt after a fire that has entered into rock legend. On the 4 December 1971, during a concert given by Frank Zappa and the Mothers of Invention, a rocket flare was fired into the ceiling and the building was suddenly engulfed by flames. As clouds of smoke soared above the waters of the lake, Ian Gillian, of the band Deep Purple, who was watching from his hotel room, was inspired by the sight to write Smoke on the Water.



HELVETIA is  
proudly in its  
**73rd  
Year**

Correct answer to the  
February Issue was:  
"Bad Ragaz"

The winner was:  
Hans-Peter Stoffel, Auckland

Notice to Secretaries  
Please send in all your notices  
for the April edition of  
HELVETIA  
by March 15, 2007  
Thank you

The winner of this competition will receive a \$10 voucher, and will be announced in the following issue of HELVETIA. If there are a number of correct answers there will be a draw. The judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Please send your answers printed clearly together with your name and address on the back of an envelope to: HELVETIA competition, Silvia Schuler, 536 Ahipaipa Road, RD11, Hawera, by the 15th of the month.

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