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A month later, and still not much of a spring around here – only a new crop of healthy weeds. Well, they are allowed to live a bit longer, since I am ‘otherwise occupied’ - which is, in this case, a euphemistic way of saying ‘just too lazy’. Christmas is not even two months away, and I much prefer thinking about Christmas to weeding – and thinking about this year’s Christmas Cards. For me, Christmas is also a time of friendship and of catching up with neglected friends. For the last many years I have tried to make my own Christmas Cards. I find them more personal than the bought ones, and it seems my friends appreciate them and see them as tiny little presents almost. I belong to those people who are convinced they can’t draw and paint – but I can use glue and scissors. Maybe that is what our president meant when he suggested to include “other creative and recreational activities” to go with the Cowbell Competition? On the Children’s Page, the children are invited to create their own Christmas Cards. I should like to extend this invitation to all our members: Let’s have an exhibition of home-made Christmas cards at the next Swiss Society AGM. The AGM is in June, which is not Christmas time. But at least it is in winter – and it will give us ample time to ‘borrow’ ideas and develop them further for Christmas 2008! *Trudi*

Creative Activity:

## Christmas Cards

to be presented in an exhibition at the next Swiss Society AGM.

All techniques welcome as long as they fit into a regular envelope.

Please send your creations, size A6 (105x149mm) or 105x210mm, to the

Secretary of the Swiss Society

Es isch Früeligs Wätter übers “Labour Weekend” z Wellington, oni Pullover, me chas chum gloube, u itz hani gwüss no bau de letscht Termin verpasst mit mim Presidänts Report. I ha no äs Stückli Schwizer Video agluegt nach der Schwizer Fernseh-Sändig “Fäischer Platz” (Ä Reis durs Ämmital).

Under pressure from the Helvetia team to produce another President’s Report, I can’t postpone putting pen to paper, or should I say fingers to the key board, any more.

Since all the brilliant ideas for how to widen the appeal for the early Cowbell Competition are a bit slow to come forward, I would still like to ask if anybody is interested, or has particular ideas for adding another cultural dimension to our Society AGM?? I guess I just have to give that a bit more time, which comes reasonably easy to me if you know what I mean.

While I have the opportunity in this magazine, I would also like to ask the membership if there are still some Swiss trades people around with experience in some of the older trades such as “Wagner”, “Chüefer”, “Sattler”, “Zinngiesser”, “Schnitzer” and “Schmied” etc. It would be really interesting to know a bit more about these trades and the skills and knowledge behind them.

It may be of some interest to us all what happened in the past, keeping in mind the saying, if you know the past you are better prepared for the future.

I think there are opportunities to learn from each other, so please send me your views and suggestions and contact me by email (see contact details below).

Uf Wiederluage

*Roland*

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