

Local news : Great Britain

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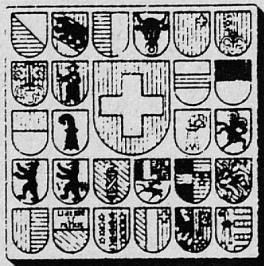
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Local News – Great Britain

National Day Message

by our Ambassador M.F.Ch. Pictet,
Dear Compatriots,
On the occasion of the first of August, I should like to join you all in expressing many hopes for the future of our country. I know how strongly you feel about your ties with our homeland. I thank you for supporting it and for everything you do to maintain and enhance its good image and reputation in the United Kingdom.



SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

Thursday 1st August 1985 at Swiss Church 79, Endell Street.

Soirée Familiale

Official Address by the Swiss Ambassador. M. François-Charles Pictet.

Entertainment by the Bernard Kolly Folklore Trio (Accordeon, Yodelling and Flag Throwing).

Typical Swiss Food and drink available. Admission Free but limited. Doors open 6pm.

The Swiss Embassy has the pleasure to inform our compatriots living in Scotland that the Federal Department for Foreign Affairs has appointed

Mrs. Gertrud Drysdale

as Honorary Consular Agent in Glasgow with the personal rank and title of Honorary Consul. Mrs. Drysdale succeeds Dr. Hansjörg Wirz, who was Swiss Consular Agent in Edinburgh and resigned on 30th April 1984.

The nomination of Mrs Drysdale came into effect on 10th April 1985 when the Foreign and Commonwealth Office officially recognized her as Consular Agent.

Administratively, the Consular Agency at Glasgow is linked with the Swiss Consulate General in Manchester.

address:

Swiss Consular Agency
4 Victoria Crescent
Clarkston
Glasgow G76 8BP
Tel: 041-644 1645

Switzerland in Britain's cultural life

Music

Erich Schmid, conductor

Erich Schmid will conduct the Britten-Pears Orchestra during the 38th Aldeburgh Festival on:

June 23 Sun 8.00pm

at The Maltings, Snape (Aldeburgh)

Programme: Frank Martin - Petite symphonie, concertante also Mozart and Dutilleux

Tickets: Box Office Tel: (072 885) 3543

Silvio Varviso, born in Zurich and educated at that city's Music Conservatoire, has conducted most great operas at major opera houses all over Europe and in the USA, including Glyndebourne Festival Opera and Bayreuth Wagner Festival.

Yves Savary, cello,

Yves Savary, from Reinach (BL), has been invited to participate in

The International Young Concert Artists Competition of Royal Tunbridge Wells, which will take place over the weekend of June 28-30.

For information, tickets etc.

please contact the organizers direct, Mr. H. J. Hives, Tel: (0892 83) 3609

Matthias Bamert, conductor

Matthias Bamert has been appointed principal guest conductor of the Scottish National Orchestra (SNO) for 3 years, beginning in August of this year.

He will conduct the SNO in the London Proms on the following date: Aug 7 Wed 7.30pm

Royal Albert Hall

Programme: Haydn, Elliott Carter, Brahms

The concert will be broadcast live on Radio 4.

The Fricktaler Kammerchor

will be staying in London, giving concerts at St. Michael's Church (Cornhill, EC3) among others, from October 6-13

HELP !!

The organizers of the Fricktaler Kammerchor are looking for accommodation possibilities.

Would you be able to help by taking in one or more artists during the period? There will be about 30 persons in all. Please contact:

Mr Murray Stewart
25 Tregothnan Road
London SW9 9LD
Tel: 01-737 2855

1985 - INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

Hello UK!

In order to promote a better understanding between young people during International Youth Year, the British Department of Education and Sciences is inviting 250 young people, aged 15-19, from the 22 states which take part in the Council of Europe's work in the fields of education and culture. The invitation follows the examples set by Greece, Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany. Four young people will represent Switzerland and will be staying in Wales.

(information received from the Central Bureau for Educational Visits & Exchanges London.)

UNIONE TICINESE

A new Hon Secretary

At the AGM held at Ristorante Valchera, Richmond-upon-Thames, on 10th March 1985 all Officers of the Society were re-elected, with one exception: Mr. Diego Poggia, who will shortly move to Newmarket for reasons of work, resigned from the post of Hon Secretary, and the undersigned was elected in his place. The Acting Chairman of the Meeting thanked Diego on behalf of the Committee and the entire Membership for all his hard work for the Society during the last several years and wished him success in his new position. He also thanked his wife Elizabeth for her invaluable help with all the typing and mailing of circulars, etc. Happily, now that the new M1 link is completed, Newmarket is not that far away and Diego has agreed to stay on as a Committee Member for 1985.

Birthdays

On 20th March, in the Casa di Riposo, Corzoneso, Signora Ida Millie nee Polti celebrated her 90th birthday, while her sister Claudia Polti, here in London, will be 82 on 22nd June. The Society's very best wishes to both sisters.

Barbecue

This will be held as usual at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Parrott, Hurstpierpoint, on Sunday 23rd June - full details from the Secretary, Telephone: 01-937 6631.

Valeria Ossola.



AGM City Swiss Club

On 23rd April 1985, 25 members, honorary members and guests met at the Dorchester Hotel for the Annual General Meeting of the City Swiss Club. The President, Mr. F. Koch, outlined in his annual report all the events which took place over the past year and thanked the members present for their continuing support, particularly for the main events. The Treasurer's reports showed a healthy financial situation, and, backed by the Auditor's statement, were approved unanimously. From the annual Banquet and Ball's tombola £2,700 were available for distribution and the assembly decided on the following repartition.

- £500 - each to Swiss Benevolent Society
Swiss Welfare Office
German Protestant Church
French Protestant Church
Swiss Mother's Group
- £200 - each to Swiss Air Rescue

Since Mr. Koch will be returning to Switzerland later this year, the meeting elected Mr. F. Niklaus as new President of the club.

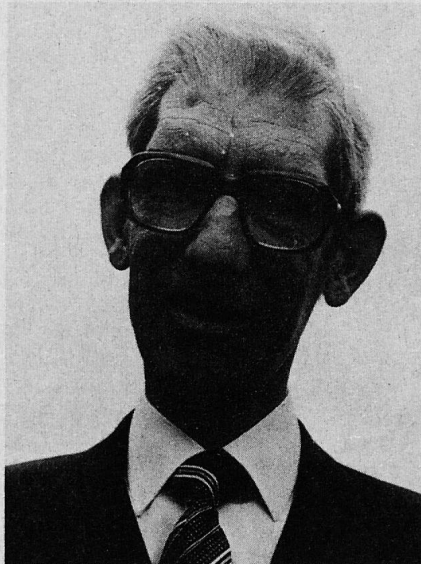
BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

- Mr. E. P. Tangemann on 27 June
- Miss Martha Oswald on 30 June
- Mrs. Trudi Senn on 9 Aug.
- Mrs. Mariann Meier on 10 Aug.
- Mr. Bernhard Simon on 23 Aug.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- Congratulations to:
- Mr. & Mrs. J. W.
 - Bonjour-Collet on 10 June
 - Mr. & Mrs. W. Renz on 30 July
 - Mr. & Mrs. Kaluza on 5 Aug.
 - Mr. & Mrs. W. Burren on 23 Aug.

After Mr. H. Jauslin, Honorary member, had thanked the outgoing president and the other members of committee for their work, the session closed at 11.15pm.



Best wishes and a very successful term in office to the new President Mr. F. Niklaus.

Swiss Rifle Association

- Sunday 1st September (Surrey Match)
- Sunday 15th September
- Sunday 13th October

NOTICES

Maintained only by the enthusiasm and support of its members, new faces are always welcome (subject to certain rules and conditions) and applications to join should be sent to the Secretary:

Mr. U. Schaerer
143 Greenvale Road
Eltham Park
London SE9 1PG.

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Swiss Club Manchester

It gives me great pleasure to list below our programme for 1985/86. Please make a note in your diary now. Nearer the date of the actual event you will receive again, as in previous but not last year, individual invitation/application forms from the committee member in charge of the event.

Please note also that our Jass get-together on every first Thursday of the month will now take place here for the time being instead of the Deanwater - please join in whether a novice or professional. It is good fun and on occasions quite serious.

- Sun 16 Jun 1985 Treasure Hunt
- Thu 1 Aug 1985 Nat. Day Celebration
- Sun 15 Sep 1985 Bowling/Barbecue

Further events such as ladies' outings, coffee mornings etc to be announced and arranged separately.

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Congratulations to: Wing Commander H. D. Archer DFC, RAF (rtd), on being elected President of the A.B.M.S.A.C. Best wishes for a very successful term of office. The Editor.

A.B.M.S.A.C. PRESIDENT

Wing Commander Harry Archer is the new President of the Association of British Members of the Swiss Alpine Club. He joined the Royal Air Force as a pilot during the Second World War and served until his retirement in 1975. He now works in industry. His climbing and mountaineering experience has been gained mainly in East Africa and in the British hills, and in regular visits to the Alps, mainly Switzerland, a country to which his family have been regular visitors since early this Century. His four children frequently join him for skiing and climbing holidays.



He is proud to be President of the A.B.M.S.A.C., an Association of people who love Switzerland and the mountains as he does.

Swiss Club Liverpool

Congratulations to Mrs. Rosemarie Abbott on becoming the new President of the Swiss Club Liverpool, wishing you a very successful term in office. The Editor.

Forthcoming events:

The first event will be a family gathering Saturday 13th July. Schüblig Party Friday 4th October. Fondue evening. Some of our members meet regularly for a Jass evening.

For further information please contact: Mrs. R. Abbott, 1 Longworth Way, Liverpool L25 6JJ. Tel: 051-428 5545

**Forthcoming events:
A.B.M.S.A.C. ALPINE MEET - AUGUST 1985**

from 9th August to 1st September

Each year the Association of British Members of the Swiss Alpine Club hold a climbing Meet in the Alps. This year the Meet will be based at Fischbiel, above Wiler in the Lotschental. Some fifty members and their guests are expected to attend. One weekend will be spent at the Orny Hut as guests of the Diablerets Section of the S.A.C.

After the festivities of the 75th Anniversary Meet at Saasfee last year, this year's Meet will be a quiet affair devoted to being out-and-about walking and climbing in the mountains. Hopefully the weather will be kind. Visitors welcome.

The Annual Buffet party will be held at the Patterdale Hut on 5th October. A joint Meet with the Alpine Club and the Climbers Club will be held at Grindelward from 27th July to 10th August.

A Members Evening primarily for those who attended the Alpine Meet will be held at the Alpine Club on 16th October. Any member of the S.A.C. will be very welcome at A.B.M.S.A.C. functions.

Harry Archer.

30 Ivinghoe Road, Bushey, Watford, Hertfordshire. WD2 3SW.

Swiss Review

Deadlines for your contributions and illustrations:

3/85 October, 3.8.85
4/85 December, 12.10.85

Editor's address:
Mrs M. E. Hall-Zeller
27 Redway Drive
Whitton TW2 7NT
Tel. 01-894 2114

**SOUTHERN AREA SWISS CLUB
PROGRAMME 1985/6**

Every first Friday of the month, 8pm - 11pm.
Special Meetings/Speakers start promptly at 8.30.

- 5. 7.85 Social & Barbara Graham's Holiday.
- 3. 8.85 Celebration at Erika & John Freeman's, Bentley
- 6. 9.85 Swiss Films
- 4.10.85 Fondue
- 1.11.85 Potato Marketing Board (Bring Friends!)
- 6.12.85 Christmas Party
- 3. 1.86 No Meeting
- 7. 2.86 A.G.M.
- 7. 3.86 Music Quiz (Heidi Williamson)

Congratulations to Mr. Marcel Gret on being elected the new President of the Southern Area Swiss Club.

Address:
28 Kent Road
Fleet, Hants.
Tel: Fleet 5149

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Farewell to Mr. and Mrs. René Baumann.

After having made their home in London for the past 23 years, Mr. and Mrs. R. Baumann are returning to Switzerland in July.

Mr. R. Baumann first came to work in England in 1958 as an employee of the George Fischer Group of Schaffhausen. He soon became Commercial Manager of their subsidiary Le Bas Tube Co. Ltd. and eventually rose to become Managing Director of George Fischer (Great Britain) Ltd. On his return to Switzerland he will take up responsibility for all European Sales subsidiaries, whilst retaining a seat on the Board of all the UK subsidiaries. All who know him well wish him success in his new work.

Mrs. Doris Baumann, a qualified Primary School teacher, also trained in Psychotherapy at the Westminster Pastoral Foundation and the holder of an Open University B.A. degree, came to London in 1961, primarily to learn the language. It was here that she met her future husband and they were married in Switzerland the following Spring. They have three grown-up daughters. For the past 2 years Mrs. D. Baumann has worked part time as a councillor and supervisor at Guy's Hospital, she hopes to continue this work in Switzerland.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Baumann were very active members of the Swiss community in London. Mr Baumann was a member of The Nouvelle Société Helvétique, the City Swiss Club and the Consistoire of the Eglise Suisse, whilst Mrs. D. Baumann was a founder member of the Swiss Mother's Group. A very big thank you goes to her for all the help, hard work and time she devoluted to this group.

On behalf of our readers, I would like to wish Mr. and Mrs. R. Baumann good health, happiness and success in their new home in Schaffhausen.

The Editor.

Marianne Straub

A retrospective Exhibition 1939-1984

Whitworth Art
Gallery Manchester 17th-22nd June 85
Industrial Museum
Swansea 1st July-11th Aug. 85
The Minorities
Colchester 7th Sept.-6th Oct. 85

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Miss Marianne Straub, weaver extraordinary, was born 75 years ago in Amriswil Ct. Thurgau, and developed an early, lasting interest in the crafts, an interest that deepened as a result of her studies at the Zurich Art College. However it was a time when few women achieved admission to Technical Training for the textile industry, as demonstrated

by the only two Swiss Textile Colleges of the day. Neither of which admitted female students. Undeterred and after a short period as a Technician's assistant at the small weaving mill in Amriswil, Miss Straub enrolled for a course at Bradford Technical College, the only woman of her year.

Since those early days her many faceted, distinguished career as a weaver, designer, teacher, consultant and administrator within the textile industry has deservedly earned her an international reputation. Space does not permit a detailed description of her career, but it has included such varied work as designer for the Rural Industry Bureau, Design Director and later Managing Director of Helios, a subsidiary of the Lancashire cotton-spinning firm of Barlow and Jones, and teaching posts at both the Royal College of Art and the Central School of Art and Design.

There can be very few people who have not come in contact with her work-exaggeration? - Well amongst other things she did design the orange curtains of British Rail, the Trident Aircraft seat covers, and the blue, purple and green cloth seat covers for London Underground trains.

Apart from her own work Marianne Straub was a source of encouragement to several generations of textile students. Many of them will have cause to thank her for her critical insights, her insistence on originality and above all her infectious enthusiasm.

It is with great pleasure that we are able to congratulate such a distinguished Swiss on her award of the O.B.E. in the last New Years Honours list.

The Editor.

Notice

An alle Deutsch Schweizer in der Kent Gegend: wären sie daran interessiert andere Schweizer einmal im Monat zum Kafi: zu treffen? Rufen sie mich doch an oder.

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Swiss Club Bristol

On Saturday 23rd March we had our Social get-together, and what a lovely afternoon we had!

There was a Spring/Easter flavour to it, with snowdrops and daffodils on the tables and decorated Easter eggs on the Bring and Buy Stall. The Bring and Buy Stall is always well supported and a much liked feature at our social events and it is our main fund raiser.

During the afternoon Elsa Huntley and her husband Reg showed us some slides from Switzerland, it was very exciting to recognize places and quite fascinating to see some that one has never been to or never even heard of.

We had a Buffet-Style "Z'Vieri/Z'Nacht", which was quite a feast, with home made goodies, like: Fruchtwähen, Rouladen (not Swiss Roll!!!), Kirschtorte, Emmentaler Chäs-Chüechli, to mention but a few. Of course, we all had a "good old natter", it was so nice meeting old and new friends!

We are now looking forward to a Barbecue at the home of one of our members on Saturday 22nd June, and, 1st August celebrations on Saturday 3rd August.

Swiss Club Edinburgh

The Summer Programme is as follows:

Monday June 17, 7.30pm, "Der Besuch der alten Dame". play by Friedrich Dürrenmatt performed in German at Daniel Stewart's and Mellville College, Queensferry Road, Edinburgh.

Monday July 1, 8pm, Our "Annual Barbecue". at Society Beach, South Queensferry. Bratwürste will be provided (costs to be shared), bring your bread and drinks.

1st August, "National Day Celebration". Meet at 19.30h at the bottom of the ski-road, Hillend for a walk. Afterwards we are invited by Suzanne Henderson for refreshments and a friendly get-together at her house: 10 Frogston Road West. Please let Mrs. Henderson know if you can come.

Monday September 9, 8pm, "Pub Night". at the Albany Hotel, 39 Albany Street, Edinburgh.

Wednesday October 16, We hope to join Dunfermline to hear a talk by Mrs. Mariann Meier.

Our Club will celebrate its 25th Anniversary later this year and we are already thinking of how to mark this occasion.

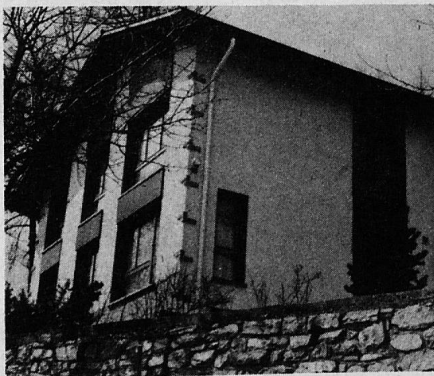
Remember: We also meet informally every 2nd Monday of the month at the Albany Hotel as above.

Our Raclette and Fondue Evenings had been very well attended and were most enjoyable.

Return to Valais

Born in Crans-sur-Sierre VS, the second youngest of ten children I grew up in the period when post-war tourism and development of the Station was beginning. I left Switzerland in 1951 to go as Au Pair to England to acquire a knowledge of the language before going to America. In the event my stay proved to be longer than anticipated. After a period with a family in Shrewsbury I moved to London and it was there at the Swiss Club in Charlotte Street that I met my future husband; a recently qualified Architect. We married shortly after he had established his practice and lived at Chigwell in Essex until 1983.

In 1982 my husband decided the time was opportune to dispose of his business interests and in March 1983 moved to a house in Crans we had built some years earlier. It took well over six months to recover from the tedious matters of furniture removal, building an extension and resolving the problems consequent on buying a tax free car in the UK. A year or so has passed since these have been dealt with and I can now sit back and look at the material and environmental changes we have experienced and the consequences for our life style.



Our first concern was our youngest child of 10 years for whom the change was most profound. The transition from St. Joseph's Convent School in Wanstead to the Centre Scolaire in Montana could have been very difficult. However we have been agreeably surprised at the way she has settled in and the enthusiasm she has for work. Additional french language tuition was provided by the school (a normal facility for non-Swiss) and her academic progress is now above average. We are both more than satisfied with the standard of education and the competence of the Teachers. Our two elder children are completing University and Professional studies in the UK but are hoping when the new nationality legislation is operative to acquire Swiss citizenship and make their careers in this country or as near as possible thereto.

I am very happy to be back amongst my family; all still living in the Crans area; and reviving old school friendships. Although we visited Crans regularly over the years it is only since living here that I

have come to realise how intensive is the building development that has taken place... not all for the best. The latest Hotel and Apartment block scheme intrudes on the ground adjoining the gentle slopes of Plans Mayens where our family mayen still exists.

Overall the cost of living is probably higher than the UK and being over 50 years of age we find medical insurance expensive. Although foodstuffs are a little dearer the abundance of fresh Valais fruits and vegetables are of excellent quality. Bread in all varieties, cheeses, dried meats and local wines are all to our liking. Fresh meat can be expensive but is of a good standard as also the poultry and fish, much imported from France.

We have always enjoyed the Valais and for the first time last summer were able to make many leisurely excursions to some of the unspoilt villages and valleys never tiring of the wonderful majestic scenery. At mid-term or other short school breaks we sometime make a weekend visit to Bern, a city we all like very much, often stopping in Lausanne on the return. My husband particularly enjoys browsing around the Payot bookshops and my little daughter afternoon tea in Manoels.

Now our life is more tranquil and the stress of London business activity has gone unmissed. I regret leaving London and our many dear friends but my heart has always been in the Valais and I count myself fortunate in having a husband and children who share my love for Switzerland.

My husband led a very active life in London, working in most areas of the UK and from time to time overseas. Whilst he initiated our move here it was he who had to give up the most but now he has time for watercolours, reading, writing and to continue his interest in Rifle and Pistol shooting. Welcomed as a member of a local shooting society he shoots regularly at meetings in Valais and elsewhere. Happy to live here he complains only that there are too many foreigners.

We made a decision after careful reflection and have no regrets, considering ourselves fortunate to have the means and opportunity to do so.

Augustine Kett-Rey.

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