

**Zeitschrift:** Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad  
**Herausgeber:** Organisation of the Swiss Abroad  
**Band:** 17 (1990)  
**Heft:** 2

**Anhang:** [Local news : Great Britain]

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

**Download PDF:** 15.03.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**



## Who Cares 2 the sequel

Perhaps in future I should feature my editorial comments at the BACK of this supplement in order that you can read my colleague Mariann Meier's feature first and THEN read mine. I will not apologise for disagreeing with Mariann any more than I would expect her to stop taking me to task when she feels I am in the wrong. If I didn't respect my critics she would not be featured in this magazine, would she?

Mariann seems very concerned whenever I take issue over a particular individual or organisation. Recently I appeared to criticise various institutions - Britain's Swiss Clubs, FOSSUK (Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK) and even the Swiss Embassy! In fact, to deal with each individually, I merely offer an objective view through the eyes of the great majority of Swiss in the UK and not as one of the privileged few who can attend Embassy banquets.

I commented that poorly attended Swiss Clubs tended to be run by committees who appointed more committees to appoint more committees. My mother's club, in Surrey, on the other hand has over 100 members and virtually no rules. They just enjoy themselves and the young members are not there out of a sense of duty. For Mariann's reference my company makes anonymous donations to the organisations she thinks I ignore. As for missing engagements, I simply cannot AFFORD to travel the length and breadth of the UK to attend functions such as I am flattered to be asked. And I AM, as regular readers will know, gradually visiting every Swiss club in turn.

I had no criticism as such to make of FOSSUK. I only opined that very few people know what it is, let alone what the hell it does. It does concern me when Swiss club members' funds contribute to FOSSUK Commissioners' trips abroad if there is no printed record of results. As it happens I have made FOSSUK President Jeff Long an offer of substantial publicity support. All will be revealed next issue.

As for the Embassy, again I made no damning judgement. I only fear that most Swiss citizens are too scared to use the services of the Embassy and offered to be a sounding board if they were not satisfied with any Embassy staff or officials. As to all three institutions, Mariann, quite frankly I couldn't give a stuff what they HAVE achieved. As a representative of reader interest I am interested in what they WILL achieve. I, unlike you, am not bent on deification for its own sake. (*Why is it that the best piece Mariann has written is reserved to reply to my comments? Controversy rules, OK!*).

## L'etat Fouineur

Gordon Martin, The Sunday Telegraph's Geneva correspondent, caused something of a stir in a recent article which suggests that he must spend most of his day looking over his shoulder and jumping nervously every time the door bell rings. Whether or not the publication date of April 1st played a part I know not, but the feature suggested that some likened Switzerland's *Apparat* special police force to the dreaded, now defunct, East German *Stasi*, and asked whether Switzerland itself could be regarded as Europe's only remaining police state?

Recently Justice Minister Elisabeth Kopp was forced to resign after tipping off her businessman husband that a company of which he was vice-chairman was to be investigated in a drug money scandal. This caused a paranoiac raising of eyebrows nationwide. The Parliamentary Commission set up to look into the so-called 'Koppgate Affair' has produced a 250-page report that has triggered a far bigger row. "*It discovered*" says Mr Martin "*that the Federal 'political police' held a staggering 900,000 index cards and files on individuals and organisations.*"

One local council employee had his phone tapped for several months "*because his marriage brought him into contact with foreign nationals. Though there was no proof of any subversive activity, he was sacked*". The Lausanne weekly *L'Hebdo* has had a field day, claiming that many organisations, such as Swiss Telecom, had been active collaborators. "*One man who received a telegram from Cuba was visited soon afterwards by a police inspector, armed with a copy of the telegram, thoughtfully provided by the Post Office*".

Apparently in a true flash-back to America's McCarthy era, zealous concierges in blocks of flats are keeping a vigilant eye on your mail box, lest anyone should dare be found to subscribe to a left-wing news sheet.

Parliament has rejected by two-to-one the proposal to abolish the political police but its head, Mr Peter Huber, has been sent on indefinite leave while the chorus of disapproval dies down.

It seems a little naive of Mr Martin to assume that every country does not have some similar ways of playing 'big brother'. The Swiss Government can hardly be likened to the evil East German Honnecher regime, but perhaps next time I walk through 'Nothing to Declare' I'd better keep my copy of the Sunday Telegraph well hidden in my suitcase.

**Best wishes, Nick Miller**

swiss  
review  
UK

←  
NICK  
MILLER  
editor's  
comment

→  
BILL  
BUDDLE  
reports

published  
in the UK  
by MGB  
071-701 6662

## 100 not out !

The Swiss Review extends its heartiest congratulations to Mrs Ethel Golay who, on March 8th 1990, became one hundred years old! Congratulations, we may add, that are amongst a gala of best wishes sent by The Queen, Ambassador Franz Muheim, Mr Tony Newton M.P. as well as friends and family. It has been a whirl of flowers, photographs and visitors, including tea with the Mayoress of Maidstone who arrived with a beautiful basket of flowers.

Mrs Golay herself is a native of Devonshire and met her husband there in 1909 when he came over from from Switzerland to study English for a year. He fell for his 'English Rose' and they married three years later. He took his new wife home to Switzerland for a few years and although she fell in love with it Mr Golay was keen to return to England to work and to pursue his knowledge of English. They lived in London for many years before retiring to Maidstone 32 years ago where Mrs Golay still lives today. They naturally maintained a close relationship with Switzerland, returning for frequent visits and holidays, hence Mrs Golay's delight at receiving from the Swiss authorities a beautifully illustrated book 'Pays au Coeur, la vallee de Joux' by Gabrielle Reymond sent from Chenit where her husbands family, the Golays, originated. His mother's side of the family came from the Lausanne region.

When we arrived at Mrs Golay's bungalow we were treated to coffee and cakes and met her very close friend and neighbour, Doreen Giovannelli. We had to ask the both active and bright Mrs Golay the six million dollar question "What is the secret of living to 100 years old?" The spritely pensioner suggested that maybe it was keeping busy, looking after the house, managing the odd bit of weeding in the garden ... and a brisk walk each day!! "I've lived through three wars", said she, pausing with a smile whilst we frantically searched our memories to find out where the third one came from. Of course ... the Boer War!!



Ethel Golay, 100 years young.



## Is price the only consideration when you fly to Switzerland ?

We are aware you can sometimes save a few pounds if you travel on a Charter flight, but at some cost to your peace of mind.

More often than not the cheaper flight leaves at an awkward time or, just when *you* want to go, the fare is higher than the one advertised.

The Swissair alternative gives you a genuine choice of up to 13 flights every day to Switzerland - from London, Birmingham, and Manchester. There are inexpensively priced Super Apex seats on every one of these flights.

During the summer months, until September 30th, return fares are £132 from London; £154 from Birmingham and £160 from Manchester. From October 1st these prices are all reduced by £18.

Our modern comfortable aircraft and excellent in-flight service make Swissair the natural choice for travel to Switzerland. This is why we were chosen "Airline of the Year" and "Best Airline in Europe" by readers of Executive Travel magazine.

You won't find a better way to travel inexpensively to Switzerland.

We believe in charging a fair price for a good product. Isn't that the most persuasive argument for you to choose Swissair next time ?

**swissair** 



## Embassy Tips

Courtesy of Ambassador Franz Muheim. I have first word on the 'Main Event' in the UK in celebration of the 700th Anniversary of Switzerland in 1991. This is to be held on **Saturday 29th June** at **London's Battersea Park** and the programme will consist of:

*Meeting points for young and old including a get together for members of VEGSIL, former SMS students and former and present au-pair girls*  
(Editor's note: I'll be there!)

**Swiss food and drinks**

**Prominent guests from Switzerland**

**A famous Swiss folklore group**

**Games and fun for children**

**Activities of Swiss societies in UK**

**Tombola and other competitions**

... more will be revealed in the next issue of Swiss Review (don't forget the date).

## Swissair

My friend Peter Nutt of Swissair would like it to be known that prices quoted in their advertisement in the last edition were actually out-of-date by the time this magazine reached you. This was due (a) to us running an out-of-date advert and (b) to the Swiss Embassy having teething troubles with their new mailing machines causing a TWO MONTH delay. For these, and numerous other sins we would like to have taken into consideration, we sincerely apologise. I certainly hope it didn't cause Swissair or their customers too much inconvenience.

Meanwhile, on the subject of our recent Swissair competition, Mrs R.H. Smith of Nottingham writes to voice an opinion, perhaps, of many ...

*"Enthusiastic I entered your competition in September issue 'Fly Free to Switzerland with Swissair'. I did not win, but I was disappointed to find nothing come in the post for me. It stated that there was a 'prize for every entry'." ... fair comment. Not only are Swissair considering providing a small concession for all runners up but we, the publishers of the Green Pages, have a gift for you which is probably worth in excess of £20. We will be writing to you all soon with details and will reveal more in the next issue.*

## Schwitzerdutsch

Following my recent appeal for German tuition for readers, Katharina Chapman-Zurcher has written to tell me she is keen to offer lessons in Schwitzerdutsch, Business German and various dialects. She can be contacted at her East Sussex home on **0323-870160**.

## Tour de Suisse

No 'Tour de Suisse' in this issue, I'm afraid, due to a mix up over dates between myself and the organiser of the Surrey Swiss Club, Mrs Heidi Miller (I recognise that name!). Look out for the next installment in the next issue. So, in the interim, here is a selection of gossip from around the regions ...

**Manchester Swiss Club** has a novel idea to canvass the opinions of its members. A 'Programme Questionnaire' is sent to all concerned to allow Messrs Illi and Simon to gauge the popularity of such proposed events as a Bowling and Barbecue day, a walk on the moors and even a Ladies Outing to which gents ARE invited (can't quite see the logic!). All completed questionnaires go into a hat and the winner receives a bottle of kirsch (myself and my 423 identical brothers have already entered!).

A similar survey conducted by the **Midlands Swiss Society** has enabled Eric and co. to plan their 1990 agenda which includes a romantic meal for dozens of members at a French restaurant in May. This may be logistically tricky for newest member James Raffaele Tracey, who weighed in at 3.9 kilos on 13th February. Mother and baby are both well. Congratulations.

The impressively active **Yorkshire Swiss Club** must be run by insurance underwriters! On May 19th they tackle fun, games, barbecues and GLIDING in Pocklington, and then meet at the Harrogate Ski Centre for more breathless exercise on June 23rd.

Ruth Johnson of Oxford writes to tell me of the Swiss travels of Messrs William Beattie MD and W.H. Bartlett. Ruth discovered detailed accounts of their early 19th century exploits in magazines gathering dust amongst a pile of her aunt's papers and was so impressed she wants to know if I'd consider retracing their steps for my 'Tour de Suisse' feature. If I can find a sponsor with more money than sense I'm certainly game! (*Can you help? ... see Page 8*)

Finally, a most amusing letter from Regula Sharp of the **Swiss Benevolent Society** requesting my presence at the Annual General Meeting on Monday 14th 1990 ... any chance of telling me what month you had in mind?

←  
**YOUR  
VIEW  
readers  
letters**

## "And to my children I leave an enormous tax bill."

One day, your family may have to pay a tax they've probably never heard of, never thought about and almost certainly never planned for. But it's a tax that could cost them many thousands of pounds. It's called **Inheritance Tax** – and it's no respecter of boundaries or nationalities.

**Inheritance Tax** reaches and affects Britons resident abroad and it applies to people of all nationalities – regardless of where they live – who have assets in the UK.

If you own a house here, the chances are your family will be liable.

Allied Dunbar can help ease the burden – and we can show you how.

The first step is to ask for a **FREE** copy of the Allied Dunbar Guide to Inheritance Tax. Then we'll contact you to discuss Allied Dunbar's solutions in more detail.

Write to us at the addresses below or telephone us on **021-631 4050**.



**ALLIED  
DUNBAR**

PERSONAL FINANCIAL GUIDANCE  
Member of LAUTRO

**Michael Westacott**  
Financial Planning Consultant  
representing Allied Dunbar Assurance plc  
1st and 2nd Floor, Burnell House  
8 Stanmore Hill, Stanmore  
Middlesex HA7 3BQ

or **Eric Westacott**  
Financial Planning Consultant  
representing Allied Dunbar Assurance plc  
2nd Floor, Centre City Podium  
5 Hill Street, Birmingham B5 4UA



## Water, Water, Everywhere

Despite being a land-locked country Switzerland has an abundance of water - nearly 600 square miles. And that's not including streams, waterfalls, glaciers and minor ponds and pools. It is not surprising that with 26,000 miles of flowing water to carry goods to shops, animals from farm to farm and raw materials for industry, and 1,600 lakes with scheduled boat services to carry commuters to work, housewives to market and occasionally brides to their weddings and coffins to church, the SNTO has aptly named the official theme for 1990: Lakes and Rivers - Pearls of Switzerland.

It's not only for the more serious things in life that the Swiss turn to water; there are fewer than 15 different water sports freely available ranging from swimming to wildwater canoeing, from pedalos to paddle steamers and from rafting down rivers to skiing across lakes. There are also 250 known medicinal springs, many of which supply spas for therapeutic treatments and bottled drinks.

## Matterhorn

... not only a lot of water, but also a lot of mountains which held a special fascination for the English during Victorian times. Thus, a hundred and twenty-five years ago, on 14th July 1865, the Englishman, Edward Whymper, conquered the Matterhorn for the first time with his British-French and Swiss roped party in an historic race against the Italian guide, Jean Antoine Carrel. This ended in tragedy. Only Whymper and his two Swiss mountain guides survived.

The Jubilee year 1990 will be a year of friendship amongst the mountain countries of the world. Lectures and talks as well as simultaneous ascents of the Matterhorn by different routes on 14th July will express solidarity among mountain people. For the first time ever, special permission will be required to climb the Matterhorn. Only special international teams from different mountain countries together with journalists and guests will be allowed to make the ascent.

## Zurich Rail

In the future we will continue to be dependent on both public transport and private vehicles. Only a sensible combination of the two forms can continue to ensure the mobility we need, while at the same time helping to reduce the financial burden borne by the air. The new suburban railway will go into operation on the 27th May 1990, with considerable improvements to the entire public transport network coming into effect on the same day. Passengers will appreciate the denser network of services, their increased frequency, the excellent connections between the suburban railway and bus timetables, the shorter travel and waiting times and the increased space offered by a large number of modern and more comfortable vehicles.

## Summer Events

There are many reasons for visiting Lugano, in itself a picturesque small town successfully combining Italian charm with Swiss efficiency. Don't miss the exhibition on Impressionism and Post-Impressionism from the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection at the Villa Favorita which will cover art

in France from the 1870's to the early 1990's, a period of astonishing artistic vitality whose influence on the art of our century cannot be over-estimated. The collection includes some of the most celebrated pictures of the period such as Degas' "Chezla Modiste" and "Danseuse Verte"; Cezanne's late "Portrait du Paysan", Gauguin's Tahitian masterpiece "Mata Mua" and one of the last paintings of Van Gogh, "Les Vessenots a Auvers".

**From April 1st to July 8th 1990:**

Other special events include ... on **14th and 15th July**, the 3rd "Festival of Jugglers, Acrobats and Musicians".

**21st July** ... "Great Firework Display on the Lake of Lugano".

**4th to 7th October** ... "Festival of the Grape Harvest in Lugano" - a three day festival with folklore and music groups on all places in Lugano and the final Parade on Sunday.

## Folklore

Did you know that the swinging of cow bells is a special art? Well, join the forthcoming Swiss Rally of "Trychler" with parade which will meet from 31st August to 2nd September 1990 in Interlaken. Yes, believe it or not, more than 70 Swiss Clubs with 2000 active members are expected to attend. As a matter of fact, the art of "Trychlen" is a very old tradition and derived from peasantry. The meeting had to be scheduled for early autumn, as most of the bells are actively in use during summer time in Switzerland's Alpine world.

*Joseph Buehler is the Director of the Swiss National Tourist Office in London. For further information on subjects discussed in any of our travel features please telephone 071-734 1921.*

←  
**JOSEPH  
BUEHLER**  
travel

# GOING HOME ?

Save time, trouble and expense and make your flight arrangements with

## HAMILTON TRAVEL

3 Heddon Street, London W1R 7LE - Tel: **071-439 3199** (10 lines) Telex: 229176  
Mansfield Chambers, 17 St Ann's Square, Manchester M2 7PW - Tel: **061-834 6364**  
OR PRESTEL 20261

Air Tour  
Organisers  
Licence 1489

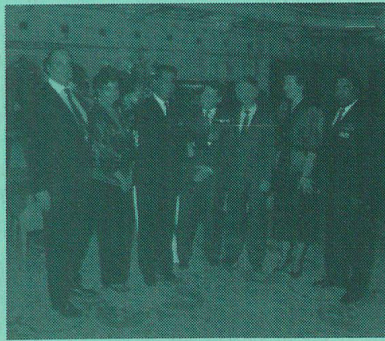
*Fourteen years' experience in providing low cost, reliable scheduled flights to Switzerland plus many other European destinations.*



Twenty one years ago a small travel operator began offering reduced rate flights between Switzerland and England. Recently we made a reservation for **John Chapman** to investigate the secret of the success of Airtour Swiss.

## Fair air fares.

Traditionally, to the average Swiss resident in the UK wishing to return to the homeland, an Alpine-bound flight has been prohibitively expensive. However, for the last 21 years Airtour Swiss has been at the forefront in providing reduced-rate flights between London and Switzerland.



Honoured guest of Holidaymaker, HRH Princess Katrina of Yugoslavia (2nd right) pictured with (l to r) Desmond de Silva QC, Ms Mazina Sulaiman (Director), Reza Sulaiman (Managing Director), John Evans (Manager, Swiss Air), Peter Das (Chairman), and Faisal Sulaiman (Director and Financial Director, Air Travel Advisory Bureau UK)

It all began in Geneva, 1969, when enterprising businessmen Eric Harsch and William Staines launched a series of chartered weekend budget flights to London under the name 'London Air Tours'. These proved to be so popular that a daily flight schedule was introduced using British Caledonian aircraft. The London end of the operation began in 1975 with the opening of an office to service the stopover clients' requirements from Switzerland.

However, as a result of economy measures the Geneva operation was taken over by British Caledonian in 1980

although the London office remained an independent bureau under the now familiar name **Holidaymaker**.

Of course, things have changed somewhat. Today 99% of Airtour Swiss business involves scheduled flights and the seasoned business traveller is increasingly being replaced with, as their name suggests, the 'holidaymaker' en route for Geneva, Zurich or Basle.

From their Head Quarters in London's Paddington area, Holidaymaker has the role of both a travel agent and a major telesales company. 800 calls a day are taken, many of which are referrals from the **Air Travel Advisory Bureau**. To meet the challenges of the nineties Airtour Swiss is now fully computerised, hence clients are noticing greatly improving ticketing, booking and invoicing systems.

To mark Holidaymaker's 21 years in the business, an anniversary celebration was held towards the end of 1989 at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London's super-rich MayFair. The evening was supported by both Swissair and Dan Air, and, by all accounts, was a resounding success.

Now the company is looking forward to the nineties with major plans for expansion. Things will come full circle with the planned opening of a Geneva office. This will further augment Holidaymaker's investment into 'long haul' services to meet the growing demands of its clientele. **Faisal Sulaiman**, director of the Holidaymaker group, assured me that Swiss Review readers show a great deal of patriotism judging by the numbers that continue to fly to their three Swiss destinations on a regular basis. Forgive the pun, but ... things are certainly looking up for Airtour Swiss!

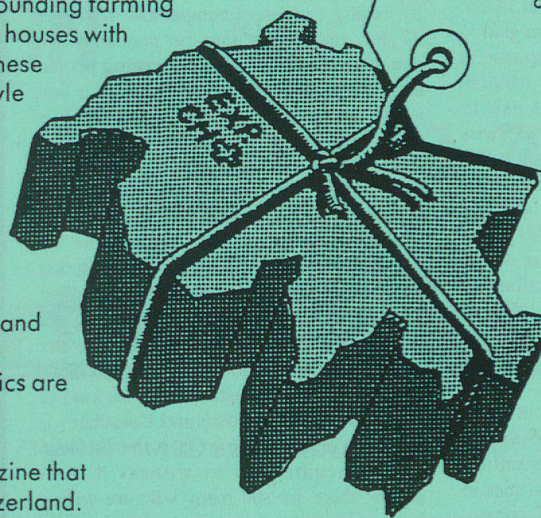
←  
**JOHN  
CHAPMAN**  
reports

# Switzerland by post

Regularly, every month. So many memories and discoveries. Things familiar and things new. 60 pages of carefully researched articles in English, French, German and Italian, with an impressive range of photographic illustrations.

This month, for example, we discover Appenzell. Where peasant traditions and heathen customs are still fascinatingly interwoven. Where, every New Year, local mummer groups enact ancient traditional entertainments for the surrounding farming community. Where behind the rows of houses with neat façades and spotless windows, these highly individual townfolk live a lifestyle unchanged by the passage of time.

In future months, we'll visit Delémont, Switzerland's newest cantonal capital. The streets of olde Berne with their many arcades and picturesque fountains ... and the Lötschberg, featuring the well-known railway line and the not-so-well known mountain pass. These and many other fascinating topics are all discussed in forthcoming issues of SCHWEIZ SUISSE SVIZZERA SVIZRA SWITZERLAND. An illuminating magazine that captures the many splendours of Switzerland.



Yes, I would like to discover (or rediscover) Appenzell. Please send me this issue as a free sample copy.  
 I would like to get to know the whole of Switzerland better and wish to subscribe to your magazine for one year @ Sfr.55.- (12 issues, including postage). I will then receive a free copy of your Appenzell issue.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Simply cut out the coupon and return it to:

Swiss National  
Tourist Office (SNTO)  
The Swiss Centre  
New Coventry Street  
London W1V 8EE



## Gottfried Keller in London

The Swiss writer **Gottfried Keller** was born in 1919, and this year his death is marked in many ways. One of the main commemorations will take place at the Gottfried Keller Centre in Glattfelden, the Gottfried Keller Village between Zurich and Schaffhausen. The Centre was inaugurated 5 years ago and is well worth a visit. The celebrations will take place from 7th to 9th September, and information may be had from the Gottfried Keller Zentrum, 8192 Glattfelden.

It may surprise many Swiss that a three-day symposium on Keller was organised at the Institute of Germanic Studies in London, supported by King's College, Cambridge; University College, London; Pro Helvetia and, of course, the Swiss Embassy. The programme comprised lectures on individual works like 'Der Gruene Heinrich', 'Die Leute von Seldwyla', 'Romeo and Juliet auf dem Dorfe', and various aspects of the great writer's works in general.

The first lecture was given at the Swiss Embassy on 28th March, by Prof. M.W. Swales, followed by reading of some of Keller's poems. The New Helvetic Society supported the evening, as it does most events organised by the Embassy's Cultural Section. The interest shown was great, and quite a number of younger members were present.

### ...and a word in the Editor's ear...

This brings me to my appeal in the last issue of the 'Review'. I am glad to say there has been some response in spite of the Editor's adverse comments. What I should like to reiterate is that sometimes at Swiss society meetings criticism is levelled at groups and individuals. The critics, too, are most welcome to come and help and bring new ideas. Yes .. you too, Mr Miller ! But you have so far ignored invitations to functions of some of the societies, so I fail to understand your comment that "little heed is paid to the younger generation".

Did you come to the largest event in the Community's life, the **Swiss Church Bazaar** last November, where several hundred Swiss met in the course of the day ? Of course, there were old compatriots who

enjoyed their day out to meet friends seldom seen. But there were families with children and young people, not only attending but working hard in the catering section and running stalls. Many Swiss companies had donated handsome gifts in cash and kind and splendid prizes for the tombola. The Embassy and the Consulate ran a stall, and their members generally supported the event.

The result was most encouraging. £7,200, and this money is helping the Church in carrying on its work, not only the Ministry but in the resident parish the Mothers' Group (mostly Young !) and the Youth Club. Yes, Mr Miller, you missed a great chance of witnessing Swiss solidarity.

Many compatriots have benefitted from work done in the Council of the Swiss Abroad. During the 22 years I represented the Swiss in GB South, the council was instrumental in getting the abolition of permits for Swiss to buy houses and land in Switzerland. It fought for the dropping of the Military Exemption Tax for Swiss born abroad and the elimination of the unjust tax of assets expected one day from one's parents. The Council fought for political rights, social welfare, easier access for young Swiss from abroad to Swiss Universities, sickness insurance after the age of 65 for ex-patriates. It fought for the nationality rights and protested against the injustice when wives of compulsorily insured Swiss under the AHV were suddenly deprived of their insurance protection. And one of the successes is the Swiss Review itself !

In order to participate, we have to find the right people, and this is where FOSSUK comes in. The Federation, thanks to financial support from its member societies all over the UK, is able to repay some of the expenses incurred by the delegates it selects.

So you see, it does all boil down to money. By joining a group of compatriots, whatever its aims and objects, one can play an active part, and this is why we need **young** people too. The Embassy and Consulates do a fine job in their support of the community. It is often forgotten that the Embassy's first job is to represent Switzerland with the British authorities. Yet, the Ambassador, the Minister, their colleagues and wives always find time to attend functions. The 60 members who attended the Annual Meeting and Dinner of the New Helvetic Society had a chance, for instance, of getting an excellent balanced view by Minister Faessler on the 'Stop State Snooping' demonstrations (ending in riots) in Switzerland. This kind of contact with the Embassy and Consulates is most welcome. But again, it is the privilege of the membership to witness it. And luckily, there are still many who are willing to pay annual subscriptions for this and much else. *(Editor's reply - Page One).*

PAGE SIX

## SECRETARY NEEDED

*Do you speak Schwyzerdutsch, and are you interested in becoming the third member of our team ?* **The Swiss Benevolent Society and the Swiss Welfare Office for Young People** need a secretary/Audio Typist as soon as possible. Other languages required are English and French.

*If you are interested, please contact us on the following numbers:*

**Mrs A.R. Sharp Tel: 071-387 2173  
or Mrs M. Lyster Tel: 071-387 3608**

## Charles Wander BDS LDS RCS DENTAL SURGEON

8 Fisher Street  
Southampton Row  
London WC1

*All aspects of dental treatment undertaken including crown and bridge, cosmetic and preventive dentistry.*

**Tel: 071-405 7966**  
24 Hour Emergency Service Available

**JOHN F. KENNEDY**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
3792 Saanen - Gstaad, Switzerland

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Small, international, English-language boarding school would like to hear from Swiss nationals or persons with working permission for Switzerland, interested in full-time employment from September 1990. Qualified elementary school teachers for English-speaking children 6 to 14, or persons interested in serving as Housemother or household Assistant or cook should write to:

**William Lovell, Director.**  
or telephone: (030) 4.13.72

## SWISS LAWYER Mrs M. Scheurer, Avocat

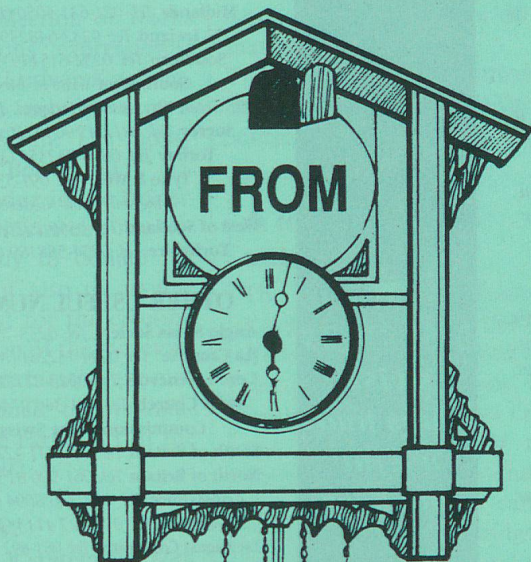
37 Longmeadow  
Cheadle Hulme  
Cheshire SK8 7ER  
Tel: 061-485 4388

*Now also at ...*  
123 Deansgate  
Manchester M3 2BU  
Tel: 061-832 3000

→  
**MARIANN  
MEIER**  
a  
personal  
view



# SWITZERLAND



£69

RETURN

HOW DOES A COMPANY CLAIM TO BE NO.1?

? more customers travel with us on scheduled flights to Switzerland than any other tour operator.

? the most efficient and pleasant service imaginable.

? the most competitive fares to Geneva and Zurich from £69 return.

? Choice - more flights and more departures than anyone else.

All these reasons and more, means Airtour Swiss is No.1!

Tel: 01-706 3737

**airtour swiss**  
part of the Holidaymaker Group plc

HOLIDAYMAKER GROUP PLC 157 PRAED ST LONDON W2 1RL ABTA 35724 ATOL 1796 IATA





## Ruth-less

Further to the comments of **Ruth Johnson** of Oxford (see letters - page 3) offering an appealing but expensive suggestion for a future 'Tour de Suisse', she herself has an appeal to make. Having come upon part of a series of magazines simply entitled 'Switzerland' (published by G.Virtue of 26 Ivy Lane, London between 1835-38). She is disappointed to note that Volume 3 of 4 is missing, as are several pages of the other editions. Does anyone possess this historic set of books or any idea where they can be found?

As I have previously mentioned, the Embassy would prefer that I do not answer technical questions in precis form so I will be attending to the following teasers personally by post, having researched the points raised in detail. Copies of the answers will be available upon request for those interested. Just call us at our office number ...

### 071-701 6662

**Roger Mistely** of Hemel Hempstead has overwhelmed me, somewhat, with questions about working en Suisse ...

1. How do I begin to find out about opportunities in the Swiss information technology market?
2. I understand that the individual is subject to income tax at a rate of 25-30% depending on the canton. What other compulsory taxes or insurances must be paid and at what rate?
3. I would consider working freelance. What are the necessary requirements for setting up a Swiss limited company and what are the charges involved?
4. What taxes are levied on a Swiss limited company?
5. Under what restrictions would my English wife find herself should she take

up residence in Switzerland?  
6. I would require instruction in one of the official languages. Are crash courses readily available?"

**Marta Walters** of Bury St Edmunds is Swiss born, with an English husband and a Swiss daughter-in-law. Some years ago she inherited some money from her father. It is still held on deposit in Switzerland. She asks ...

1. Can I stipulate in my will who is to inherit this money on my death, or must it be divided according to some Swiss rule?
2. Could I leave it all to my two grandchildren who will not be of age for several years? And in that case, how would their father's tax position (in Switzerland) be affected?"

**Paul Mondelli** from Neasden, North London, is keen to learn the implications, as an English born son of a Swiss mother, of his new found dual-nationality.

"I would like to know where I stand with regard to military service if I return to Switzerland after my 28th birthday. As far as I know I will be exempt, but is the cut off age 27 or 28?"

**Mark Baker** of Tooting, South London, has just received his Swiss passport and offers a property query ...

"... will I have exactly the same rights as Swiss national to purchase any property without restriction? Or are there restrictions for Swiss abroad?"

No space again, I am afraid, for many other enquiries received to date but ALL letters will be answered personally very soon by our panel of experts which includes **Mauricette Scheurer** (legal), **Beat Muller** and **Kevin Brown** MBA FCA (tax and investment) and sundry clever persons at the Swiss Embassy.

## ADVICE LINE

## DIRECTORY swiss clubs and useful numbers

### SWISS CLUBS

- Aberdeen** Tel: 0224-732261 (Antoinette Wright)  
**Bristol** Tel: 0454-775042 (Mrs Trudi Soper)  
**City of London** Tel: 071-975 6002 (Dr Duttweiler)  
**Dunfermline** Tel: 0383-723540 (Mrs U. Ditchburn)  
**Edinburgh** Tel: 031-334 2430 (Mrs U. Ross)  
**Guernsey** Tel: 0481-48188 (Mrs Ferbrache-Amman)  
**Liverpool** Tel: 051-427 1816 (Mrs M. Moor)  
**Manchester** Tel: 061-483 7727 (Jilli)  
**Midlands** Tel: 021-631 4050 (Eric Westacott)  
**N. Ireland** Tel: 0232-648239 (Hans Egli)  
**Southern** Tel: 0252-615149 (Marcel Gret)  
**South West** Write to: Mrs Guppy  
 101 Green Way, Bishops Lydeard, Taunton TA4 3DB  
**Surrey** Tel: 081-647 9630 (Mrs Heidi Miller)  
**Torbay** Tel: 0803-842355 (Max Singer)  
**Tyne & Wear** Tel: 091-536 1047  
 (Mrs Nelly Scott-Niederberger)  
**West of Scotland** Tel: 0360-22204 (Mr J. Sheffield)  
**Yorkshire** Tel: 0274-588189 (Jeffrey Long)

### OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS ...

- Anglo Swiss Society** Tel: 0233-75233 (Mrs Cobb)  
**"La Casuerie"** Tel: 0224-732261 (Antoinette Wright)  
**Cercle Genevois** Tel: 0923-221704 (Mrs S. Allan)  
**Swiss Church** Tel: 071-340 9740 (Rev P. Orelli)  
**Commission of the Swiss Abroad:**  
**South of Britain** Tel: 081-741 4224 (Joe Broggin)  
**North of Britain** Tel: 061-926 8153 (Berni Simon)  
**Consistoire** Tel: 081-346 8094 (Mrs E. Crack)  
**FOSSUK** Tel: 071-727 4113 (Jeffrey Long)  
**1st August Committee** Tel: 081-892 2512 (Mr V Berti)  
**Frauenverein** Tel: 081-422 3545 (Mrs Laskowski)  
**New Helvetic Society** Tel: 071-727 4113  
**Swiss Benevolent Fund - Scotland** (Mrs Drysdale)  
 4 Victoria Crescent, Clarkston, Glasgow G16 8BP  
**Swiss Benevolent Society**  
 Tel: 071-387 2173 (Mrs R Sharp)  
**Swiss Economic Council** Tel: 0952-502000 (Mr C.J. Pennington c/o British Brown-Boveri Ltd)  
**SWISS EMBASSY** Tel: 071-723 0701  
**Swiss Mercantile Society** Tel: 071-638 2800 (Mr K. Deutsche c/o Union Bank of Switzerland)  
**Mothers Group** Tel: 0992-46687 (Marlies Davies)  
**Swiss National Tourist Office** Tel: 071-734 1921  
**Swiss Relief Soc** Tel: 051-486 1168 (Mrs Stevens)  
**Swiss Welfare Office**  
 Tel: 081-458 3859 (Mrs G Ficker)  
**Swiss Youth Club** Tel: 071-836 1418 (Information)  
**Union Ticinese** Tel: 081-568 3916 (Mr Berti)

# SMS

SCHOOL OF ENGLISH  
 34/35 FITZROY SQUARE  
 LONDON W1P 6BP  
 TELEPHONE: 071-636 2892

The SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY COLLEGE is beautifully situated in a traffic free square in Central London between Regents Park and Oxford Street. We have been teaching English to Swiss people since 1923.

#### We can offer:

- Intensive English tuition daily at all levels
- Late afternoon and evening classes - Business English
- Translation (English - German, French, Italian)
- SMS Diploma (recognised in Switzerland)
- Preparation for Cambridge, BSCC, ARELS and other public examinations
- Accommodation service

Please write, telephone or come to see us for further information, or send us this coupon:

To: **SMS COLLEGE**, 34/35 FITZROY SQUARE, LONDON W1P 6BP

Please send me your prospectus

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....