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"Festival of Switzerland in Britain 1991"



Next year will see the 700th anniversary of our country's birth. This anniversary falls at a time when Switzerland is facing choices which will be crucial for her future in Europe. It is therefore of paramount importance for Switzerland to demonstrate her presence among her European partners, of which Britain is one of the closest.

That is the reason for holding, on the initiative and under the auspices of the Swiss Embassy, the "Festival of Switzerland in Britain 1991". The Festival has the honour to be under the patronage of HRH the Prince of Wales and the President of the Swiss Confederation.

This project has aroused great

enthusiasm and received support from many quarters. I should like to mention in particular Mr Gilbert de Botton, who chairs the fundraising effort, and Mr George Whyte, Chairman of Cultural Events. Mr David Stone is the Executive Director of the Festival. The Festival will take place throughout the year and all over the country. It will feature three kinds of event: some for the Swiss community, others demonstrating our country's cultural

creativity and, finally, official events. The Battersea Fair on June 29 in Battersea Park will be the highlight of the community events. Federal Councillor Adolf Ogi will address the audience. Not only Swiss citizens but also British friends of our country will have the opportunity to enjoy Swiss folklore and Swiss food and to meet in friendship.

A 700th anniversary ball organized by the City Swiss Club, in co-operation with the Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom, the Anglo-Swiss Society and the Sherlock Holmes Society will take place at the London Hilton on Saturday, March 9, 1991. For the Swiss living in the north of Britain special events will be held at the Moorside Hotel in Manchester on August 3 and at Hopetoun House near Edinburgh on September 28.

In the cultural field, the events planned will include music, films, dance, drama and exhibitions of paintings, sculpture, photography, Helveticae etc. A lecture series and a seminar will cover topics as diverse as neutrality, literature, mountaineering, architecture and science.

The official event for the British

authorities will be a gala concert by the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande under its principal conductor, Armin Jordan, which, for the first time ever, will tour Britain in the autumn.

The detailed programme of events will be published in several broadsheets, the first of which will appear in December. In addition, a festival brochure, containing messages from the patrons as well as articles about various aspects of Switzerland, is planned to commemorate the Festival as a whole. Such an ambitious project would never have been possible without the generosity of private sponsors and the support of official bodies like the Pro Helvetia Foundation and the Coordinating Commission for the Swiss Presence Abroad (COCO). To all of them I express my gratitude. Let me conclude by inviting every Swiss and all friends of Switzerland in Britain to take part enthusiastically in this celebration, which I hope will forge lasting links between our two countries.

Franz E. Muheim

As we near the end of the year, it is my pleasure to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

My special thanks go to all the hardworking officers, committee members and others who assist in the running of the various Swiss Societies. Please give them your support by attending the events which are organised especially for you, and, if not already a member of a Society, why not join? You'll be made very welcome. The coming year, 1991, is of course, a very special one, being the 700th anniversary of the formation of the Swiss Confederation, and I trust, it will be a special year for you also, indeed a year to remember.

I hope that everyone will be able to attend

one or more of the many celebratory events staged throughout the year. Everyone is very welcome at all the events whether a member of a Swiss Society or not, as are non Swiss friends of Switzerland.

Should you have difficulty in getting to a desired event please let the organisers, the nearest Swiss Society or myself know, and someone may be able to help you.

I look forward to meeting as many members of the community as possible during the course of the forthcoming celebrations.

> With Best Wishes Jeffrey Long PRESIDENT **FOSSUK**



Swiss clubs and **Other Useful Numbers**

Aberdeen Tel: 0224-732261 (Antoinette Wright) Bristol Tel: 0454-775042 (Mrs Trudi Soper)

City Swiss Club 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 (J. Illi)

Midlands Tel: 021-631 4050

(Erich Westacott)

N. Ireland Tel: 0232-648239 (Hans Egli) Swiss Rifle Assoc. Write to: Urs Schaerer, 143 Greenvale Road, Eltham Park, London SE9 1PG

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) Anglo Swiss Society Write to: Mrs F. R. Cobb, 2 The Mill Yard, Wickhambreaux, Canterbury

"La Causerie" Tel: 081-673 4955

(Annette Yucottier)

Cercle Genevois Tel: 0923-221704

(Mrs S. Allan)

Swiss Church Tel: 081-340 9740 (Rev P. Von Orelli)

Commission of the Swiss Abroad: South of Britain Tel: 081-741 4224 (Joe Broggini)

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 GT6 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. Deutschle c/o

Union Bank of Switzerland) Mothers Group Tel: 0992-46687

(Marlies Davies)

Swiss National Tourist Office

Tel: 071-734 1921 Swiss Relief Society:

Liverpool Tel: 051-486 1168 (Mrs Stevens) Manchester Write to: P. Senn, Cloud Park Farm, Dial Lane, Congleton, Cheshire

CW12 3QJ

Swiss Welfare Office Tel: 071-387 3806

(Mrs M. Lyster) or 081-458 3859

(Mrs A. Ficker)

Swiss Youth Club Tel: 081-340 9740

(Monika Faes)

Union Ticinese Tel: 081-568 3916

(Mr Berti)

Embassy News

Counsellor Heinz Hofer, in charge of Commodities and Agriculture, returned to Switzerland in September. His successor is Dr Max Schnellmann, Second Secretary of Embassy.

Consul General Albert Mehr has been appointed Chargé d'Affaires in Bangladesh and will leave London in March 1991. He will be replaced by Mr Eduard Jaun, at present Counsul at the Swiss Consulate General in Sydney.

At the Consulate General in Manchester, Consul Felix Naef is the successor of Consul Bruno Ritter, who left Great Britain for Damascus last autumn.

New Editor of the Green Pages

We are pleased to announce that from now Dr David Ditchburn will be looking after your interests in the green pages. He will be pleased to receive your contributions, articles, comments and proposals and can be contacted at Department of History, University of Aberdeen, Kings College, Old Aberdeen AB2 94B.

(Telephone 0224-272999)





Festival of Switzerland In Britain 1991

700th Anniversary Celebration

Invitation to Banquet and Ball

The City Swiss Club, in cooperation with the Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom, the Anglo-Swiss Society and the Sherlock Holmes Society, invites all Swiss and Friends of Switzerland to celebrate Switzerland's 700th Birthday with a Banquet and Ball at the

LONDON HILTON ON PARK LANE

on Saturday 9th March 1991 at 7.00 for 7.45 p.m.

We shall be honoured to welcome the Swiss Ambassador, His Excellency Mr Franz Muheim; Dr Fritz Leutwiler, the President of Asea Brown Boveri and former President of the Swiss National Bank and a special British Guest whose name will be announced later.

Join us with your friends and dance the night away to the orchestra of the GRENADIER GUARDS and the Swiss folk music band ALDER from Appenzell. Amongst other entertainment, the Sherlock Holmes Society of London will perform a special interlude. Carriages at 2 a.m.

The ticket price is £40.00 per person, excluding drinks. You are advised to apply early since numbers are strictly limited.

On behalf of the Committee

Dr R Duttweiler

President, City Swiss Club



1291 and all that

by Mariann Meier

And the "all that" covers 700 years of history, turbulent and impressive, the making of a state, a nation, the Swiss Confederation, a country that loves and practises unity, but rejects uniformity at all times. This unity in diversity will be mirrored over 12 months in next year's celebrations at home and expressed in the United Kingdom by a variety of events.

Festival of Switzerland 1991

The gracious patronage of HRH The Prince of Wales and the President of the Confederation (who, next year, will be Federal Councillor Flavio Cotti) reflects the friendship which has existed between the two countries. The British and the Swiss share the love of freedom and value the rights of the individual. Many are the links that have been forged over the centuries.

The Festival will be a panorama of Swiss achievements in every field of culture, the performing and the visual arts, literature and science, philosophy and philanthropy, not forgetting folklore.

The special Swiss Fair at Battersea Park on 29th June has already been publicised. But many more individual functions, exhibitions, displays and performances up and down the country have been scheduled.

The Festival Steering Committee is headed by the Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur Franz Muheim, and includes the Cultural Attaché, Monsieur Livio Hürzeler. In order to benefit from tax reliefs as donors and the Festival as recipient, a Charitable Trust has been established. The directors include Dr R. Duttweiler (President City Swiss Club, organiser of the big ball at the Hilton Hotel in London on 9th March), the Earl of Limerick (President Anglo-Swiss Society), Jeffrey Long (President Federation of Swiss Societies in the U.K. — FOSSUK), Mariann Meier (Hon. Vice-President New Helvetic Society).

A country-wide presentation of events

At the first meeting of the Trust in September, a most impressive progress report was presented. Space will not allow to give details. The final programme will be published in due course, and its wide scope will enable you to make your choice. Suffice it to say that the geographic dimen-

sion will reach from Scotland to the South of England, from Wales to the East Coast. Exhibitions, drama, concerts by British and Swiss orchestras and ensembles, groups of every description, aimed at young and old and every taste and interest. Broadcasting will be involved, the cinema, young Swiss artists, architects and authors, folklore and tourism — every facet of the diverse structure of Switzerland's heritage.

Practical involvement in events in the Swiss Community

The aim is not only to foster Anglo-Swiss friendship and to put Switzerland on the map, but also to promote comradeship in the Swiss community. If you have no Swiss group near you, but have ideas about possible functions in your neighbourhood, please get in touch with Mr Jeffrey Long, President of FOSSUK, 115 Ladbroke Road, London W11 3PR.

You may wish to sponsor an individual event in the Swiss community like the big Swiss Fair in Battersea Park on 29th June, or the Raffle planned for the day, or the concert and get-together organised by the Swiss in Scotland at Hopetoun House on 28th September, or the events by the Manchester Swiss or any other unspecified Swiss function in general.

Any donation, large or small, will be gratefully received and should go to the Hon. Treasurer, FOSSUK, c/o Swiss National Tourist Office, Swiss Centre, 10 Wardour Street, London W1V 3HG, cheques to be made out to "FOSSUK Festival Account."

Readers in and around London may be able to offer hospitality to compatriots who have to travel to the metropolis in order to attend functions like the ball (9.3), the Fair in Battersea Park (29.6), the special Swiss Church Service (30.6) or the Swiss Church Bazaar (16.11). Please get in touch with the hospitality co-ordinator, Mrs Edith Crack, 45 Church Crescent, London N3 1BL.

Looking for Festival funds

It stands to reason that an undertaking like the whole Festival of Switzerland costs money. It is gratifying that a great many companies, British and Swiss, as well as individuals have already responded with handsome contributions, both in cash and kind. But more is needed. Donations by businesses or individuals, large and small, to go towards the general costs of the Festival, may be sent to the Sponsorship Chairman, Festival of Switzerland, 12, St James's Place, London SW1A 1NX. Cheques to be made out to "Festival of Switzerland, Charitable Trust." Donations above £600 are tax-deductable.

A superb chance

Many readers of the "Review" have only recently acquired Swiss nationality. This is our opportunity of letting them experience what Swiss citizenship means. It is a precious gift which we accept with both pride and humble gratitude. The share our heritage with our British friends and other friends within Britain will be a great privilege and provide us with a chance to do more than just pay lipservice to our attachment to Switzerland.

Mariann Meier

Youth Exchange

On page 21 of the Swiss Review 3/90 as well as in previous issues, you will have read of the "Getting to know Switzerland" scheme. This scheme is intended to help young Swiss and dual Nationals between the ages of 14 and 20 to familiarise themselves with various aspects of life in Switzerland, i.e. the people, their ways of living, their habits, customs, languages, education and apprenticeships.

To find out how much interest there was in such a scheme, the Swiss Welfare Office together with the Swiss Embassy conducted a Survey amongst 250 young Swiss people in this country which revealed considerable interest.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who responded to the Survey by returning the completed questionnaire. If you are interested in this exchange programme please do get in touch with me and I will be glad to give you details and dates of the summer 1991 programme. By participating in the summer 1991 programme you will of course enjoy the additional advantage of being in Switzerland for the 700th Anniversary celebration.

Margrit Lyster Socialarbeiterin Swiss Welfare Office



Events

29th June 1991





Battersea Swiss Fair

Your programme will include:

- Entertainment for all ages: Competitions, parade, jazz, dancing, folk music, community singing, theatre
- Sport (fun sport and more serious)
- Meeting points: Au pair girls, SMS-students, etc.
- Swiss food and drinks (We will be supported by Hürlimann Beer, Wander and Cheeses from Switzerland)
- Expositions: Artists, children's paintings, Swiss Railways Society

Children's Painting Competition

sponsored by CARAN D'ACHE and SWISSAIR

This is a competition for all children of Swiss parentage resident in the U.K. in three age groups. If you have not already received details and wish to enter, please contact:

FOSSUK, Mr Jeffrey Long, 115 Ladbroke Road, London W11 3PR Tel. 071-727 4113

The competition will end on 31st March 1991.

ONE OF OUR MAIN ATTRACTIONS



The Swissair Brass Band (70 musicians)



Tree of Friendship for London

A new 'tree' will be blossoming in London's Leicester Square next year to serve as a colourful reminder of the strong links between the people of Switzerland and Great Britain.

The Swiss Cantonal Tree, which will be unveiled in April, is a tall oak pole decorated with enamelled shields representing all 26 Swiss cantons.

"This beautiful tree will be clearly visible from both Piccadilly Circus and Leicester Square," said Mr Joseph Buehler, director of the Swiss National Tourist Office in London. "It is a symbol of the centuries-old close friendship between our nations — a bond that was instrumental in gaining permission for the Swiss Centre to be built in one of London's most prestigious squares 25 years ago."

Over the years a tradition has developed of the Swiss nation presenting gifts to mark a special occasion. In 1977 the Queen's Silver Jubilee was honoured by the gift of an historic inn sign, a golden crown from the city of Solothurn, which now hangs

outside the Swiss Centre in Leicester Square.

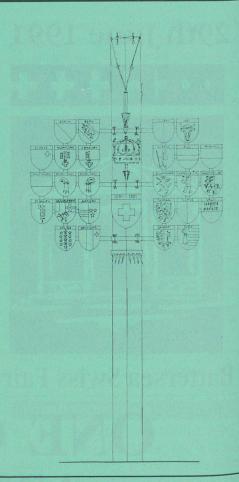
During the 400th anniversary of the City of Westminster in 1987 the Swiss gave the people of London the glockenspiel decorated with a procession of herdsmen that adorns the facade of the Swiss centre. Each bell on the glockenspiel is inscribed with the shield of a Swiss canton and the name of one of the wards of the City of Westminster, and its chimes have made it a popular attraction for both tourists and locals.

The tradition will be continued by the inauguration of the Cantonal Tree on April 15 by the Lord Mayor of the City of Westminster. Cantonal Presidents from each of the four language areas of Switzerland will be present, along with the Swiss Ambassador to Great Britain. Said Mr Buehler: "We hope the Swiss tree will remind the thousands of British peo-

ple and the tourists who pass by every day

of the close ties of friendship between our

two countries."



Switzerland 700 in the British Library

Next spring, as its contribution to Switzerland's seven hundredth birthday celebrations, you will be able to get an idea of the wealth of the British Library's holdings of Swiss and Swiss-related treasures. Most have rarely, if ever, been seen before — and certainly never in this context: an exhibition 'Switzerland 700', generously sponsored by Shell (Switzerland).

As visitors wander through the Library's galleries in the British Museum building in Bloomsbury they will see the earliest dated book to be printed in Switzerland (in 1470) and hitherto virtually unknown manuscript description of Switzerland of 1607, decorated with depictions of Swiss knights, Swiss heraldry and Swiss towns by some of the leading Swiss artists of the day. Autograph manuscripts written by famous Swiss such as Rousseau and Cardinal Matthäus Schinner will be coupled with those of famous visitors or refugees such as Calvin and Stravinsky. Merian's handsome bird's eye view of his hometown

Basle in 1615 will be seen with the noble Scheuchzer map of Switzerland of 1712. All four cultures of Switzerland will be well represented with rare and beautiful treasures, but the stars of the exhibition for many will be Turner's watercolour view of the Chateau de Chillon of 1806 and the manuscript of Lord Byron's famous poem, 'The Prisoner of Chillon' which will be brought together for the first time. Less expected and just as intriguing may be the important English royal letter drafted by a citizen of Basle, the watercolour of Tahiti drawn by the Swiss who accompanied Captain Cook on one of his voyages to the South Seas, or the letter sent to the Duke of Marlborough in 1707 which he left unopened. Nor will be the long-established Swiss community in this country be forgotten!

Accompanying the main exhibition will be other displays. Thus you will have the chance to see part of the British Library's almost unequalled collection of Swiss stamps, including many early cantonal

issues. Colleagues in the British Museum will be mounting displays of Swiss print-making, featuring the work of Holbein, Urs Graf, Fuseli, and, more recently, Klee and Lill Tschudi, while exhibitions of gold, silver and bronze coins and medals and, it is hoped, of Swiss watches, will add further dimensions to the 'Swiss spring' in Bloomsbury.

The separate displays will be linked by single Swiss items, such as an ornate lamp dating from Roman times and the famous 'Moutier-Grandval Bible', a masterpiece of European book painting created in about 850 A.D., in a 'Swiss Trail' through the Museum building. All the items will be brought together and integrated in an illustrated catalogue which, it is hoped, will be more than a simple souvenir.

The exhibition will be opening on 3 May 1991.

For further information please contact Peter Barber (071-323 7701)



National Events in Switzerland			
January 1991		12th-25th	International Festival in the Grisons
10th/11th	Official Opening in Bellinzona "Feu et lumière" Concert	20th-22nd	International Symposium, Disentis
May 1991		31st-1st Sept	Historical weapons exhibition, "Arena Helvetica", Stans
	Opening of the Festival of the	September 1991	
3rd	Four Cultures in French-speaking Switzerland	1st-6th	"Spiert aviert", Festival of Young
4th	Inauguration of the Path of Switzerland, Flüelen/Bauen		People in the Engadine
10th-27th Oct	"HEUREKA" exhibition Zurich	7th	Europe Day, Sils Maria Swiss National Day of Prayer,
June 1991		13th-15th	Sarnen
	"Humanitarian Switzerland",	21st	Army 2000 — Parade at Emmen Youth Session — Parliament,
lst	Geneva "Spectacle des arts"	25th	Berne
8th-13th Jul	Central Festival of the Four Cultures, Lausanne	October 1991	
14th	International Relations Day, Berne	15th	Symposium "The House of Europe", Eastern Switzerland
18th	Official Day "Spectacle des	30th-31st	"Switzerland on the threshold of a new century", Lugano
July 1991	arts'', Lausanne	November 1991	a new century , Lugano
	First night of "Mythenspiel",		
20th	Schwyz First night of "Tellspiele" in	3rd	Closing Ceremony, Basle
27th	Altdorf	For your Diary	
30th-31st	Youth Days, Rütli	OTHER EVENTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM 1991	
August 1991		1st August 1991 — Swiss National Day Celebration — Swiss Church, London. Toni Gehrig Folklore Group.	
March Anna Service and Service	National Day Celebration in	 3rd August 1991 — Special 700 Years Celebration in Manchester. Details to follow. 28th September 1991 — Concert and Gathering of the Swiss 	
1st	Lucerne, Rütli, Brunnen (Site of the Swiss abroad) and Schwyz		
2nd-4th	Popular Festival in Brunnen	community in Scotland. Hopetoun House, South Queensferry, near Edinburgh.	
The Festival Wine		denie n	between 6 and 1
A Fendant and a Dôle from the well known wine grower Michel Clavien, in Sion (Valais), have been selected for the 700th Anniversary celebration in Britain. The label features the Logo created specially by Jean Tinguely for the Festival.			
The Swiss community in the U.K. can buy these wines (whole cases only) at a very interesting special price.			
Order form to be sent to Mr Clavien's U.K. importer: INMEDIAS Limited, 109 Radwinter Road, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3HY			
Tel. 0799 25 673 — Fax 0799 28 456 I wish to order cases of Fendant at £72.00 + VAT cases of Dôle at £80.40 + VAT			
Address of customer:			
Audress of customer:			

(Day time phone number:)

Peter Bonetti's first match for Switzerland



In spite of the support of numerous tifosi from the Unione Ticinese, the Swiss Foreign Office team, reinforced by students from the Swiss Mercantile College and the Embassy, lost 3-4 to a young and very strong Foreign and Commonwealth Office eleven. The match was played at Battersea Park, where the excellent pitches will also be used on June 29th, 1991.

Papa Bonetti, still looking very fit at over 80, was delighted with the performance of his famous son (49), the former Chelsea and England goalkeeper. Thanks to Peter's magnificent saves, the Swiss ad hoc team (with several players over 40) obtained a very honourable result.

Party

Please come and have a celebratory drink with us at the

SWISS WELFARE OFFICE

on Wednesday 23rd January 1991 between 6 and 8 o'clock.

It is just over 40 years ago that the Welfare Office for Swiss girls in Great Britain opened its doors to the first young Swiss girls needing help and assistance. Since then thousands of young Swiss have been able to benefit from the services of the SWO.

SWO 31 Conway Street London W1P 5HL 071 387 3608 VIII

Family Christmas Celebration at the Swiss Church

You are invited to take part in our Christmas Celebrations for the whole family on December 23 in the Swiss Church, 79 Endell Street, WC2 at 4 p.m. We will celebrate a service with Carol singing, Christmas story, musical accompaniment. Father Christmas will bring a gift to all children. Children are invited to put a gift under the tree for children of Mill Grove Children's Home, South Woodford. (Please indicate content and age range on label) At the end, we will enjoy each others company over tea and biscuits.

Eglise Suisse de Londres Schweizerkirche in London 79 Endell Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2.

Who plays the Alpenhorn

Please contact: Anton Habermacher 165 Oak Farm Road Kings Norton Birmingham B30 1ET Tel. 021 459 5535

Anton will be at Battersea on June 29th 1991 and would be very happy indeed to form a trio or a quartet!