

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 30 (1967)
Heft: [11]

Rubrik: News of the colony

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News of the Colony

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

On October 21st the Hamilton Swiss Club held a social dance evening, which was quite well patronised.

The evening got off to a good start with music supplied by the Te Aroha Band, which kept the dancers busy throughout the evening. Aufschnitt was served for supper.

The guests from Wellington, Mr and Mrs K. Bischof, Mr and Mrs A. Tresch, Mrs R. Messmer and Mrs L. Napp, were welcomed by our President, Mr John Villiger. We hope that they enjoyed our company as much as we did theirs.

—M.T.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

SPRING WALK

'To go or not to go', that was a hard decision to make early on Sunday morning, November 5th. Heaven was on the side of the gamblers and the weather behaved itself — just. Quite a respectable number of cars drove round the bays to Eastbourne beautiful native bush to Butterfly Creek. The first ones there started the fire and soon the taste buds were activated by the delectable smell of roasting servelat — a smell that brought an instant nostalgia; in the middle of ferns and cabbage trees I had and after an initial mix-up about who was going to take the long way and who the short, big and small and tiny walked through to think of the happy "Knabenschiessen" and "Zueri-Festli" of my youth!

The children enjoyed themselves too; the spot where we had our picnic was a perfect stage set for dam-builders, red indians, fugitives, ferocious jungle animals and soccer players. One little chap took a swim — fully clad — and it was a real community effort to get him into enough dry clothes so he could make his way back to the car in comfort.

Eventually the weather started to pack up, so the people packed up too and made for home. It was a nice satisfactory kind of Sunday.

WINDFALL ?

Our Treasurer, Mrs Messmer, has received \$2.00 in cash sent on October 26th from Manaia without name or address. As there are several subscribers in Manaia, would the previous owner of those two dollars please write to Mrs Messmer, 15 Fortification Road, Wellington.

CAMERATA BERN

On October 18th, to New Zealand and Swiss audiences alike, the recognised high quality products of Switzerland were yet again demonstrated, this time in the field of applied art.

Hamilton was one of the favoured cities included in the itinerary of the world concert tour of the "Camerata Bern". This string chamber orchestra, consisting of twelve players — although domiciled in various Swiss cities — all have the distinction of having been the most gifted students at Max Rostal's master classes at the Conservatorium of Bern. No wonder then, that they bewitch concertgoers the world over with their absolutely impeccable playing and musicianship.

Some private local Swiss saw to it that their compatriots found a welcome in their hotel rooms in the form of flowers and Swiss magazines, and after the concert they entertained them to a substantial hot meal at Mr and Mrs Fluhler's "Swiss Chalet" restaurant. Chamber music society committee members and some other Swiss and New Zealand friends interested in music, kept the musicians company with a glass of sherry, coffee and delicious snacks.

The players of the "Camerata Bern" were unanimously touched by the warmhearted welcome in Hamilton.

INTENDING GROUP TRAVELLERS FOR 1968

Would all intending travellers for next year (1968) who have not yet contacted me, please do so.

I would like to finalise my list before Christmas in order to co-ordinate the wishes of all concerned.

Arnold Biland.

CONGRATULATIONS !

The Swiss community of New Zealand is delighted that Brian Muller, of Taranaki, was selected to join the exclusive ranks of the "All Blacks", who are at present having such a successful tour of Britain and France.

—The Press Committee

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NEWS from the Embassy:

The Committee of the Solidarity Fund for the Swiss living abroad has now decided that each new member of the Fund shall receive, free of charge, the monthly publication for the Swiss abroad, "Echo," during one half year. This concession may be an additional incentive for all those who would like to take up membership with the Solidarity Fund in the near future.