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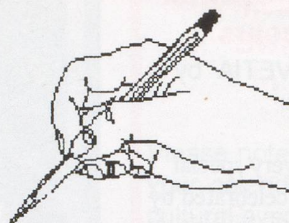
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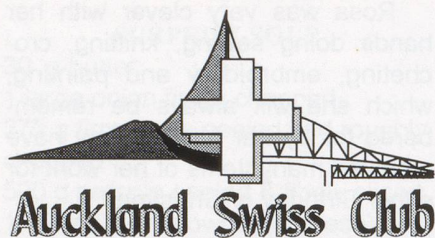
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New Zealand Swiss Club News & Happenings

Web-page - <http://www.swiss.org.nz>
E-Mail - society@swiss.org.nz



Auckland
Hamilton
Taranaki
Wellington
Christchurch



auckland@swiss.org.nz

Past Events...

Jassen:

Jassen started again in May. As usual, the games take place on the third Friday of the month, therefore the next game will be Friday 16 June 2000. Following that, Friday 21 July 2000. Same place (224 Hobson St. Auckland Central) Same time (7.30pm) The donations from all the sponsors are greatly appreciated, thank you very much. For further information please call our Jassmeister, Hans Iten, 620 9208.

AGM:

We had the honour to have as guest at our AGM on May 8, 2000, Ms Bernadette Hunkeler, representing the Swiss Embassy, from Wellington. She introduced herself and also announced that our new Ambassador has now taken up her position and will be attending the AGM of the Swiss Society in her function as its patron, on Queens Birthday Weekend, 4 June 2000, in Auckland.

The AGM brought about a few changes in the committee:

The President remains:
Ernst Gfeller Tel. 483 3940

The Vice President, new:
Ueli Kipfer Tel. 444 3167

The Treasurer, (now legitimately elected);
Heinz Matysik Tel. 620 1589

The secretary, new;
Trudi Fill Tel. 376 4923

The Riflemaster remains;
Henry Werffeli Tel. 410 3476

A few new ladies have been elected to the Committee:

Edith Hess (Delighted to welcome you! - Edith is merely formalising a longstanding loyalty to the club and committee, and we look forward to her ongoing contribution)
Tel. 4446972

Maria Hillensbeck (a relative newcomer to the club, the daughter of a well known Swiss, the late Adolf Imlig) Tel. 836 6853

Lillian Iten (daughter of Hans Iten, the Jassmeister, returning to live in New Zealand after a long stay in Switzerland. Welcome back)
Tel. C/O 620 9208

The loyal Committee who have been serving before:
Vreni Pfenniger Tel. 09420 8517
Albert Ryter Tel. 478 8547
Hans Iten Tel. 620 9208
Rolf Bertschi Tel. 444 2970
Regretfully, Werner Willi has stepped back from the committee, and we will certainly miss his cheerful dedicated input. Our thanks go to him and Mere for their great help over the years, and we hope to still see a lot of you frequently at the club activities.

The Farm Committee will be announced at a later date.

Some legal requirements were missing regarding some farm business, and an Extraordinary General Meeting will be called for 31 July 2000 to resolve the issue. Individual notices will be sent out in due course.

For the PROCRASTINATORS: the hesitant ones.....

If you've still not bought a ticket for the SOCIETY-AGM evening function at Alexandra Park on 4 June, make up your mind immediately, and try us on 376 4923 (Trudi) or 444 2970 (Rolf)

You never know, there might be one waiting just for you....

Looking ahead....

*) **1st August Celebrations** to be held on Saturday 5 August 2000 at the farm.

*) **Preceding** the above will be a **Working Bee** on Saturday 29 July 2000.



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*) **Fondue Night:** Saturday 30
September 2000.
Details will appear in HELVETIA
closer to the date.

STAMMTISCH:

Every last Saturday of the month we gather at the farm for an informal gettogether. Stay the night, cook your dinner on the barbie, play games, walk around the section, enjoy the tranquility of our "Alp". The next Stammtisch will be 24 June 2000. In charge: Markus Bühler Tel. 832 3334.

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Hamilton Swiss Club

hamilton@swiss.org.nz

Past Events....

Annual General Meeting

The Hamilton Club AGM was held on Saturday 15th April with a fairly good attendance of 26 people, and several apologies had also been received from people who were away. The only resignation received came from Bill Miles, our Riflemaster. Many thanks to Bill for his time spent on the committee, as well as for his great efforts with baking - not bad for a non-Swiss, and a male!! Bill has agreed to remain as Auditor of the annual accounts. A new Riflemaster will be nominated at the next committee meeting. The rest of the committee remains the same, with one additional nomination for a new member - Kurt Hess of Hamilton was nominated and gladly accepted.

Club President, Herbert Staheli, thanked the committee and members for their support throughout the year, but mentioned the fact that attendance at most functions had been down. This created some discussion, but the general feeling was that we should be happy and just try to encourage members and friends to attend.

As usual, the meeting concluded with a delicious supper being served, and a relaxing chance for people to catch up with friends and have a chat. Many thanks to those who supplied a tasty variety of home baking.

Card Evenings

The Club's annual Card Evenings, always a sign that the Winter months are upon us, commenced this year at the Events Centre in Tirau on 29 April. We were delighted to welcome a large crowd of 50 avid card players, many of whom tried their luck in the Society Medal Jass first, while the rest played a few practise rounds. Halfway through the competition, everyone was sustained with a delicious supper - home baking, of course - and at the end of the second half eight lucky people were also able to take home a prize. To end the evening, Helen

Staheli was not only presented with the Booby Prize, but also a chorus of "Happy Birthday" being sung to her!

Two weeks later, we met again at the Eureka Hall, this time with an even higher attendance of 58 players. Those who hadn't yet competed in the Medal Jass played first, and then with this completed, the usual six rounds of Club competitions could commence. Once again, a tasty supper was served and enjoyed, and finally the eight winners were called up to collect their prizes. Many thanks to the committee members and helpers alike for providing the lovely suppers which are so much enjoyed by everyone.

A big thank you also to the card players for coming along to enjoy a game of cards and making these evenings so successful.

First Card Evening, 29 April

1. Heinz Leuenberger	4421
2. Albert Schweizer	4194
3. Margaret Hayward	4073
4. Theresa Fitz	4049
5. Gritli Rust	4044
6. Max Schwitzer	3994
7. Patricia Gillon	3988
8. Martha Schefer	3978
Booby Prize: Helen Staheli	3294

Second Card Evening, 13 May

1. Walter Steiner	4187
2. Peter Rust	4131
3. Heinz Leuenberger	4080
4. Vitus Achermann	4049
5. Edward Steiner	4028
6. Jack Dünner	4043
7. George Russenberger	4027
8. Bert Flühler	3991
B. Prize: Heidi Leuenberger	3241

Further Card Evenings:

10 June - Eureka

24 June - Tirau

8 July - Eureka

- All commencing at 7.30 pm, sharp.

And a reminder to our card players - if you attend at least five evenings, you are eligible to win an "overall Prize" with the total of your five highest scores. Increase your chances by coming along every time, so your lowest score can be dropped. We look forward to seeing you there!

Forthcoming Events....

First of August Celebration - this will take place on **Saturday, 29 July** at the Eureka Hall.

Further details will be in the next issue, but please mark the date on your calendars now!!

Shooting on the Swiss Farm at Kaukapakapa

Hamilton Day, 2000:

10 June - Training (to be confirmed)
11 June - Shooting Day

Shooters should all have been advised of this event personally by letter. Anyone who has not been contacted but would be interested in participating, please contact either:

Heinz Leuenberger, Ph (07) 883 8537,
or, the Auckland Riflemaster, Henry Werffeli Ph. 09 410 3476,
or Fax. 09 410 3448

Important: For safety reasons, the Shooting Range may not be used without prior notification to the Riflemaster.



taranaki@swiss.org.nz

Past Events....

Cards; Numbers attending these afternoons have been down a little..., please give us your support..., it's a fun afternoon, with more cards played after the competitions.

Swiss Society Competitions;

These were held on Sunday 7th May..., once again the weather wasn't terrific, but none-the-less we didn't get soaked. Numbers were also down a little. Competition was fierce, but very friendly..., thanks to all those who competed..., especially in events that they knew they wouldn't be able to get a medal in.

It was good to see children participating in these events..., and achieving good results. Winner in the cards was Paul Suter...,

well done..., followed closely by Heidi & Mathias Seifert..., must've spent all your holidays in the South Island practicing cards!! Mark Kiser achieved an unbeatable score in the shooting..., congratulations Mark..., becoming riflemaster must have encouraged you to achieve higher results!!! The Kegeln was won by Remigi Zimmermann..., he must have been popping down for practice sessions regularly to get such a good result!! The shot put winners..., well, now I'm not so sure as I've sent the results away..., but I'm pretty sure were Markus Rufer and Heidi Werder..., great result folks..., must've been flexing those muscles during the past few weeks!!! All in all an enjoyable day. Sorry you got a thrashing in table soccer, Johnny..., no medals at stake here !! If there was a booby prize it would have gone to..., Maya..., those results in kegeln were as good with the right hand as the left!! Keep up the good work..., someone has to get second..., or last !!! Good to see you giving it a go..., and we'll see you at preiskegeln..., I bet you'll go after the 'landjäger' rather than a medal!! Thanks to all the helpers on the day..., for keeping the scores, measuring the shotput throws, etc. Your help is greatly appreciated.

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Forthcoming events...

June 3 - 5; AGM of the Society in Auckland. I'm sure an excellent time will be had.

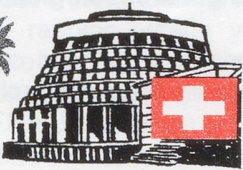
June 11 : Cards at 1-15 pm.

June 18 ; Championship Shoot at 1-00 pm. - Shooting committee members remember you have a meeting afterwards.

June 25 ; Cards again..., at 1-15 pm

July 2 ; Anniversary Shoot, Great meal of sauerkraut and sausages. Excellent day..., come and give the Shooting Club your support.

July 9 ; Cards at 1-15 pm.



Wellington Swiss Club

wellington@swiss.org.nz

SHORT NEWS = GOOD NEWS

Work on our new Club house is in progress.....!

A detailed report will follow in next month's issue of HELVETIA

Forthcoming Events...

People belonging to the European Forum are again organizing the popular **Variety Show and Dance Evening.**

Members of the Swiss Community who attended last year, had great fun and enjoyed them-selves. Get organized and make up a party to book a table!!!!

The evening is on **Saturday 10 June 2000 at 7pm** in the Lower Hutt Town Hall.

Tickets adults \$12.- children under 14 years \$6.-

Supper will be provided, BYO Drinks Great raffle prizes

All proceedings go to the **Mary Potter Hospice.**

Contribution from M. Sørensen

News from Switzerland Snippets... May 2000

No increase in post office prices

Sending letters or parcels will not get more expensive for the time being. The communications ministry rejected a request by the Post Office for a sharp price increase from July. The ministry said further consultations were needed before a final decision on a possible price hike is taken. The Post Office expressed disappointment and said it expected a loss in revenue of up to 100 million francs.

Security committee votes to purchase Swedish tanks

The security committee of the upper house of the Swiss parliament has come out in favour of buying 186 Swedish tanks, and of channeling nearly two billion francs into this year's armaments programme. Speaking after late-evening vote, the president of the security commission, Pierre Paupe, said an army without weapons would cease to be an army. The committee's decision to boost military spending falls in line with the Swiss army reforms being pushed by the defence minister and president, Adolf Ogi.

Company founded for four-nation high-speed rail link

The railways of Switzerland, France, Germany and Luxemburg have announced the creation of a joint-stock company aimed at linking the four countries via high-speed trains. The project's goal is to shorten the train-ride from Basel to Paris from five to three and a half hours, and to knock more than two hours off a Paris-Frankfurt trip by 2006.

New Hodler painting to be auctioned

A new painting attributed to the renowned Swiss artist, Ferdinand Hodler, has been discovered in Germany. Experts said the work of art, which shows the Mönch mountain in the Bernese Oberland, was kept in a private collection. It was apparently done in 1911 as part of a series depicting mountain landscapes. The work was to be on auction in Zurich later in May.

Two in five people pray every day

A new survey shows that two in five people say prayers every day. Ten per cent of those questioned said they never pray. The survey also shows that just over 70 per cent of people believe in God, but that the number of attending worship has been decreasing over the past three decades.



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