

Snippets...

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Very entertaining was the Dutch auction of a beautiful quilt, designed and sewn by Trudi Bruehlmann. A substantial sum was raised for the club in this delightful way.

Forthcoming events...

3 November:
Fritz Adams Cup Jassen

10 November: GARAGE SALE
Last year's garage sale was a huge success. Think Feng Shui and unclutter your home for a good cause! Bring anything you no longer need or want to the Clubhouse on any Friday afternoon (and stay for coffee and cake) or ring a Committee Member to arrange for the items to be collected. This is our main fundraiser for the year, please support it.

11 November: Brunch
Now that Spring is here, how about a walk in the Rimutaka Forest Park or a drive down to the wild and beautiful Wainuiomata coast. Start the day with an energy boosting brunch at the Clubhouse from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Ring Lotti Napp (972 12 15) if you intend coming, so we do get enough bacon and eggs, home baked bread and Zuepfe to feed you all!

And please mark the following dates in your calendar:

2 December: Samichlaus
8 December: Christmas Party
9 December: Carol singing in the Botanical Garden

A detailed invitation will be sent to all Club members nearer the time.

And do visit the Clubhouse for coffee, cake and company on Friday afternoons! Ln



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Snippets...

Lausanne researchers find trigger for cocaine addiction

Scientists from the University of Lausanne may have found the genetic key to cocaine addiction. Their work, which is financed by a major pharmaceutical company, could lead to practical applications in a few years time.

Zürich lawyer unleashes canine party

A Zürich solicitor, Andreas von Albertini, has created the first political party for dogs in Switzerland. Its

aim is to abolish the use of dog leashes.

This is a campaign against the authorities, who are good talkers but don't do anything," said Albertini. The party was founded recently by 120 members from Switzerland and abroad. It also includes 30 supporters whose funds will finance the party's election campaign in Zürich's municipal elections next spring. Albertini said that the Swiss Dogs Party would remain neutral. He explained that membership in the Dogs party was compatible with other political engagements.

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Zug killings trigger debate about gun laws

The killing of 14 people by a lone gunman in the Zug cantonal parliament has forced the authorities to reassess the security needs of public buildings and officials, and is likely to spark debate about the nation's gun laws, which are among the most liberal in the world.

Basel fair a "must" for serious art collectors

About 85 art dealers and traders took part in this year's fair. A bust of an "Isis priest" dating from the first or second century was just one of the jewels to be displayed this northern autumn at "Cultura", the annual international art and antiques fair in Basel.

The fair has become a key event on the calendar of serious European and North American collectors, even though it is only in its third year. It ran from October 13 to October 21.

Organisers boast that it has become the pre-eminent fair for classical antiquities and Egyptian works of art, such as the Isis priest, which carries a hefty price tag of SF94,000. While the fair is known for antiquities, three special exhibitions this year were putting the accent on modern art and design. Art déco objects from five well-known designers were displayed in an office, a salon and a bedroom. The office was decorated with wall panels by Jean Dunand, a "block screen" by Eileen Gray and Jacques-Emile Ruhlmanns "Maharajah" deck chair, which the organisers say makes the transition between traditional and modern. Furniture designed by Pierre Chareau decorated the salon and bedroom. Chareau was considered one of the most influential members of the Art Déco movement, who helped pave the way for modern interior design.

Zurich exhibition shows how a lost paradise is being reinvented

Despite its modest size, a new exhibition in Zurich is taking an ambitious look at three radical changes which have shaped people's lives over the past 10,000 years. "Paradise Lost", at the Swiss na-

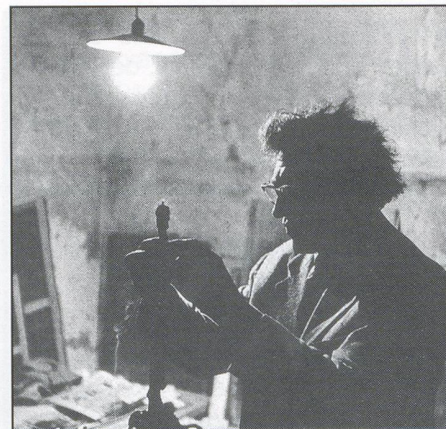
tional museum, poses fundamental questions about the Neolithic, the Industrial, and the Communication revolutions

Alberto Giacometti's sculptures are on show at the Museum of Modern Art in New York

Alberto Giacometti, the sculptor and painter who was born 100 years ago in Canton Graubunden, uncompromisingly depicted what he saw, and has emerged as one of the most significant artists of the century.

"What I want is to reproduce my vision of things as accurately as possible", he told Radio della Svizzera Italiana in 1956. "Nothing more, nothing less."

He was born on **October 10, 1901** at Borgonovo, in Val Bregaglia. His father was the painter Giovanni Giacometti, his mother, Annetta. Encouraged by his family, he began to draw and sculpt at a very young age, demonstrating a precocious talent. After some years at the Protestant college in Schiers, in Canton Graubunden, he decided to study art, first in Geneva, then in Paris. Paris became his second home, though the bond with his family –



The sculptor Alberto Giacometti

especially his mother – and his native valley remained a powerful factor in his life. He returned regularly to Stampa, the village to which his parents had moved a few years after his birth.

In Paris, he soon came into contact with the major artists and intellectuals of the period. He experimented with Cubism, flirted for some years with Surrealism, and then in the mid-1930s rekindled his interest in drawing the human figure. He intensely researched his craft. In the years from 1937 to 1947, his sculptures became smaller and smaller, to the point that he could carry some in match-boxes.



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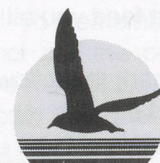
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Magnificent Mikaelian

Lausanne teenager Marie-Gaïané Mikaelian has kept Swiss hopes alive at the Swisscom Challenge tennis tournament in Kloten, pulling off the biggest upset of the opening round with a straight sets win over Russian world number 13 Elena Dementieva. (16.10.2001)

Liestal discovery pushes back date of first settlement

A team of archaeologists from canton Basel Country has discovered what could be the earliest signs of permanent habitation in central Europe. The researchers found 7,500-year-old pottery shards and stone tools at a construction site near Liestal.

Corruption report praises Swiss actions on money laundering

Transparency International, a non-governmental organisation (NGO) founded to fight global corruption, has praised Switzerland's efforts to combat money laundering, in its first published report on corruption.

Swiss Centre in Italy marks anniversary

The Swiss Centre in Milan is celebrating its 50th anniversary as a towering presence in the heart of the northern Italian city and the biggest complex of its kind representing Switzerland abroad.

Thousands protest in Bern against Afghanistan air strikes

Thousands of people took to the streets of Bern to protest against US-led strikes on Afghanistan. At least 5000 protesters marched through the Swiss capital, Bern, on Saturday (14.10.001) to denounce terrorism and call for an end to United States-led air strikes on Afghanistan

Praise for organic farming

Swiss consumers are prepared to pay a higher price for organic products

A team of international scientists, invited by the federal government to study the impact of organic farming in Switzerland, has praised Swiss farmers for their commitment to ecological practices.

Their findings came as the Federal Agriculture Office announced that nearly ten per cent of agricultural land in Switzerland is now farmed organically, compared to a European Union average of four per cent.

Jost Haar, chairman of the Swiss Agricultural Research Council, an independent body funded by the Swiss government, said the team of scientists had made their assessment after visiting six organic farming research stations around the country.

"Organic farming is of significant importance to the Swiss government," Haar told swissinfo. "Nearly 10 per cent of Swiss farms are now purely organic and the public at large is inclined to see an increase in this amount."

Swiss farmers are awarded incentives by the government to encourage them to focus their efforts on organic farming and abandon use of fertilisers and pesticides. But, Haar argues, the government alone cannot convince farmers to shift production from conventional or integrated farming – which still accounts for 90 per cent of the country's agricultural output – to organic production.



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