

New Zealand Swiss Club news & happenings

Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand**

Band (Jahr): **68 (2002)**

Heft [4]

PDF erstellt am: **22.07.2024**

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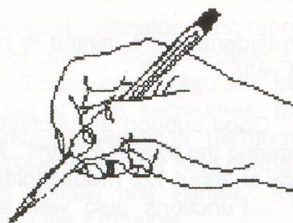
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New Zealand Swiss Club

News & Happenings

Web-page - <http://www.swiss.org.nz>

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auckland@swiss.org.nz

Dear members,
I trust you are all coming to the AGM this coming Saturday, May 4th, 4 pm, at the farm.

The opportunity is there again for all those who haven't had a turn at running this club.

I came close to handing over the 'writing-job', but on consideration I realised that I hadn't quite finished with the objectives I had wanted to work on, one of which being to walk along the boundaries of the farm and get an idea of how big it is and what we have there.

I did it on Saturday 13 April, with Heinz and Thomas Matysik.

Heinz knows where every peg is or should be, and is overseeing the pine plantation programme on the club's behalf. He introduced me to our prominent neighbour with whom we have the good fortune to be able to combine the clearing, planting, pruning and felling of the trees and thus making sure we get the full benefit of our investment. Mr. Groome is a very notable and extremely knowledgeable forestry consultant. He proudly showed us his plantation including a patch of native bush through which he is establishing a blind track and other attractions as well as his RAM pump, before we could set out on our walk.

- It is a 2½ hour trek, with beautiful views toward the Kaipara Harbour in the west and the Waitemata to the east. Someone is believed to have

seen Mt. Taranaki from the top of the section.

There are some beautiful stands of native bush in the second and third blocks, and the path back through the (north-eastern) neighbour's land took us past some charming landscape where the goats also seem to love it, down into an almost entirely closed-circle "kettle" surrounded by steep bush covered banks of the old quarry - from which one can haul oneself via rope back up and over to the club's property. From there we crossed through Tim's farm, (the farmer who keeps the grass down with his grazing cattle) and came back at the top of the carpark. The long walk left me tired but full of happiness and gratitude for being granted temporary part ownership (by way of membership to the club) of such a tranquil piece of paradise.

- I believe that no member should leave the club without having done that walk at least once.

TF

□ □
□ Farewell □
□ to our helper Lillian Iten, □
□ who has set off back to □
□ Switzerland again. □
□ □

Forthcoming Events...
May 4 - AGM, 4 pm at the farm

May 17 - 7-30 pm Jassen at 224 Hobson St. (and every 3rd Friday) New Players most welcome.

May 18/19 - Shooting - Hamilton day for Swiss Abroad competition

May 25 - Stammtisch at the farm, take dinner and a sleeping bag.

June 15/16 - Shooting Swiss Abroad competition.

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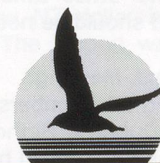
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Past Events

The Family Walk was held on Sunday 7th April, but unfortunately the weather wasn't that kind, so consequently the turnout was not that great. We all met at the Pirongia Lodge car park at 10am and we had a group of about nine keen trampers who headed off uphill for the four hour walk. The other half a dozen not so keen trampers did the nature walk which was very pleasant and interesting. Therefore we were allowed an early lunch under the shelter and headed back home after lunch because of the occasional showers all day. The rest of the keen ones came back at various stages and most complained of the muddy and slippery conditions coming back down. This was all a bit of bad luck as the weather the previous week and the following week was absolutely perfect. Maybe we will have better luck next time.

The AGM took place on Saturday 13th April at Swisscraft with the usual number of members turning up. In addition, we were treated to a visit by Bernadette Hunkeler from the Embassy in Wellington, accompanied by her husband. Bernadette was available for questions on an informal basis. The proceedings of the meeting were carried out in the usual fashion and it was with regret that the club accepted Hanspeter Burch's resignation. Many thanks were expressed to Hanspeter for his help over several years on the committee. Fortunately we were able to fill the gap with another nomination received - that of Max Schwitzer - who was warmly welcomed to the committee. Another nomination was received but this is subject to acceptance as the person concerned is overseas at present.

Following the election of officers, there was a further nomination for Heidi and Heinz Leuenberger to be made honorary members of the Hamilton Swiss Club. Since 1978, many years before Heidi even joined the Club committee, card evenings have regularly been held in

Putaruru/Tirau, so 2002 will be the 25th year that Heidi and Heinz have been involved in organising and catering the three evenings a year held in the South Waikato.

Congratulations and thanks to you both for all your work and efforts!

. After all the formalities were over, everyone was happy to enjoy a delicious supper provided by the committee. For some, this is always the highlight of a swiss gathering.

Forthcoming Events...

Card Evenings

Saturday, 27th April, 7.30pm

The First Card Evening to be held at the Eureka Hall, commencing with the Swiss Society Medal Jass. (Please be punctual for Medal Jass competitions.)

Saturday, 11th May, 7.30pm

Second Card Evening and Medal Jass to be held in Tirau.

Saturday, 25th May, 7.30pm

Third Card Evening, Eureka.

Saturday, 8th June, 7.30pm

Fourth Card Evening, Tirau.

Saturday, 22nd June, 7.30pm

Fifth Card Evening, Eureka.

Saturday, 6th July, 7.30pm Sixth and final Card Evening and overall prize presentation, Tirau.

Shooting - don't forget the 300 meter shooting is at the Auckland Club House on the weekend of 18/19th May. Only four replies have been received so far. Please confirm your attendance by phoning Hans Vetsch on (07) 855-3294 evenings or 021 658 733.

Swiss Society AGM, 1st-3rd June

Most members have now contacted the committee about accommodation or travel to Taranaki for Queen's Birthday Weekend, but if you have overlooked this or would still like to attend you can contact Anita (07) 856-2414 and we may still be able to accommodate you, somewhere or somehow.

First of August Function will this year be held on Saturday **20th July** at the Eureka Hall. Please note the earlier date than in previous years. Further details closer to the event.

AZ.

Congratulations

Mrs Mina Arnet
celebrated her 85th birthday
on 18th April

With best wishes
from your family and
the Hamilton Swiss Club

On April 19th,
Helen and Joe Staheli
celebrated their
50th Wedding
Anniversary

And on April 29th,
Helen
also celebrated her
75th birthday

We wish you both good
health and happiness on
this 'golden' occasion.
Congratulations from the
Hamilton Swiss Club and
the Swiss Society

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Anna Louisa Lischer
3.5.1919 - 12.3.2002



Annelies Lischer née Willimann was born on 3. May 1919 in Littau, Canton Luzern. She was the youngest of the seven children in the Willimann family. During her early adult years in Switzerland she lived on her brother's farm at Malters, near Luzern, where she undertook seasonal work in local Hotels. She then spent one year in England, working and learning the language. In 1952 she met her future husband Ted Lischer. Ted emigrated to New Zealand in 1953 and Annelies followed in 1955, arriving on March 14, (the date of Annelies's funeral 47 years later) and they were married at the Catholic Church in Morrinsville in April 1955.

Annelies and Ted's marriage was blessed with three daughters and one son. Their farming life started with sharemilking at Tauhei and progressed to farm ownership at Manawaru.

The 47 years of happy marriage of Annelies and Ted were unfortunately overshadowed by the tragic loss of one daughter due to an accident and of a second daughter due to illness.

A keen follower of bowls and golf, Annelies found much friendship and happiness in her circle of sporting friends at Te Aroha.

The Hamilton Swiss Club and the Swiss Society express deepest sympathy.



taranaki@swiss.org.nz

Past Events...

We have had our first afternoon of cards with 21 people attending. Fun was had by all, however we would have loved to see a few more faces. We have cut down the afternoons from ten to eight, in the hope that they will be supported a little better. We are very fortunate to have Charlie and Doreen Schuler organising these, so come along and participate!!! - Margrit Suter may not have been lucky with her cards, but she did win the raffle!!! - Congratulations!!!

Forthcoming Events...

May 5 - Cards

May 19 - Swiss Society Competitions and championship Shoot from 10-00 am. Lovely medals up for grabs with a separate junior section.

May 26 - Cards.... need to practice before the final of the Cowbell Competition.... so come along!!!

June 1 - 3 - Our 50th Jubilee... come and join us... I am sure you won't be disappointed!!!

Queens Birthday Weekend

The format of this weekend is as follows:

Saturday 1st June

Gather at Swiss Club Hall, Kaponga with a light dinner to be served. Would all attending please notify Walter Seifert on 7628559, or Marianne Drummond 7628718, to assist with our catering needs. Payment for this can be made on the night. Should be a good social event.. catch up time or make new friends!!

Sunday 2nd June

Final of the Cowbell Competition will start at 10-00 am with lunch provided thereafter. AGM will be held at 2-00 pm at the Swiss Club hall. The evening's function will be held at the **Kaponga War Memorial Hall** (on the main street... you can't miss it!!!) from 5-30 pm.

Tickets are available from Marianne Drummond, Craydon Rd., RD 24,

Stratford, or Walter Seifert, Denbigh Rd., RD 24, Stratford, (phone numbers above) at a cost of \$45.00 per person. this includes dinner and entertainment by the Swiss Kiwi Yodlers and Guggen-Musik. An evening not to be missed which coincides with the Taranaki Swiss Club's 50th Jubilee!!! Would other clubs' members please contact their club secretaries so that group bookings can be made. This should be a night to remember and we look forward to your support. We will have a bar license, so alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be available.

MD

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Saturday 8.00 - 14.30 Sunday closed.



Past events....

24 March: Easter egg painting at the Clubhouse

A pleasant way to spend a Sunday afternoon for parents and children one would have thought. Well, apart from the Committee, precisely one mother and one child turned up to indulge in this age-old custom of using paint, onion peelings and grasses to decorate eggs for Easter. What an opportunity missed to learn new patterns and techniques from each other and just having fun!

Forthcoming events...

2 June 2002:

Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society and 50th Jubilee of the Taranaki Swiss Club

Wellington Swiss Club members are most heartily encouraged to attend the AGM and to help Taranaki celebrate. We all know how good our Taranaki compatriots are at throwing a festive party and for this occasion they have the Swiss Kiwi Yodel Group and the Guggemusig from Auckland to help them.

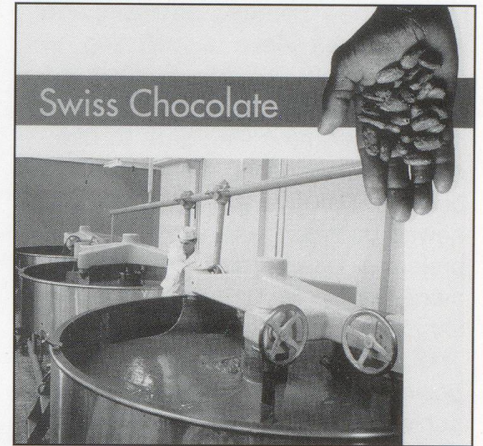
Would all those who intend going independently please get their dinner tickets from Marianne Drummond 06 7628718 and book their own accommodation. Do not delay, they expect a lot of people. Would those who would like to go in a group, please ring Roland Schuetz (568 6772) urgently.

L.N.

Snippets and News from Switzerland

Swiss have a sweet tooth

Chocolate consumption has increased to a record annual 12.3kg per head of population. The Swiss are the undisputed champions in chocolate eating - Germany comes a distant second at 10kg. Chocolate manufacturers last year produced a record 141,243 tonnes of this tasty confectionery - up 2.1% from the previous year - bringing in Fr.1.28 billion (approx. \$1.8 billion). Together with imports, the Swiss munched their way through no less than 89,109t of chocolate in total. Best sellers continue to be the time honoured Easter bunnies, chocolate eggs and Christmas decorations, accounting for 11.9% of production. Even the sale of the chocolate bars (Tafeln) increased by 7.1%. New creations are said to be primarily responsible for this improvement - the bar section alone created 90 new products last year. Exports have increased even more than inland consumption to 66,041t - although sales did drop sharply after September 11th.



Chocosuisse continues to enjoy a very good name throughout the world, no doubt supported by clever marketing. Of the 130 countries Chocosuisse counts as customers, Germany accounts for 25% of total sales, followed by Britain, 11%; France, 10%; and USA, 6%.

This article contributed by Heinz Leuenberger.

Swissport finally sold

Swissair has sold its dispatch company, Swissport, to the British investment firm, Candover, for Fr. 580m (approx. \$803m). No redundancies are anticipated. Candover is investing Fr.274m of its own capital, and five trading banks another Fr.345m. Transfer costs will be about Fr.39m. Swissport is satisfied with the arrangements. The new firm will continue to pursue an aggressive expansion policy. Candover will fully support the world's second largest dispatch company and does not see the investment as a short term profit oriented venture. Swissport is active at 130 airports in 23 countries and is well positioned

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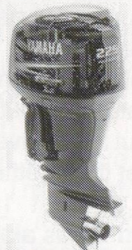
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