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## President's Report

Well, it's been great having a month off compiling and posting the magazine ... but boy ... does that month go quickly!!!

I hope that you all had well-attended and entertaining 1st August celebrations, and that your spring functions are also well supported. It is only through our loyal supporters that our Swiss Clubs continue to prosper and foster Swiss traditions and culture. To all of you who are able to support the various Swiss Clubs in New Zealand, a BIG thank you. If you live too far away from the main Swiss Clubs, perhaps you can have smaller gatherings of Swiss descendants to continue fostering our Swiss culture.

*Regards and until next month*

*Marianne*

## News from the Embassy

### "Winter 05/06 - Welcome to Switzerland"

Winter fun in the alps! Be a guest in Switzerland! Great holidays and training possibilities for young Swiss abroad. Make up your own individual programme, take the tips and sing up!

All the information is on [www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch), under "Youth", or call the Embassy for a brochure.

## Spruch des Monats

### The Essence of Lifelong Friendship

A lifelong friend  
is one who enters your life  
at a time when they are needed most.  
Though you may not understand it,  
there will be an instant bonding  
between you and a realization  
that this person was brought to you,  
not only to fill an emptiness  
or assist you in time of need,  
but to form an eternal friendship.

A lifelong friend  
is a friend who knows you like no other,  
who is so much a part of you  
that distance does not cause separation.  
They will hurt when you hurt,  
and feel joy when you are joyous.  
They know your imperfections  
and they accept them as a part of you.  
Though they may not agree with  
your decisions,  
they will support you completely  
in everything you do.  
They respect you and your right  
to make your life what you want it to be.  
When all the others have come and gone,  
this friend will be with you;  
even if your world falls apart,  
they will be there to build it back up  
better and stronger than before.  
This is the essence of  
lifelong friendship.

- Lisa Van Ellen

Contributed by Walter Seifert

## Swiss National Day



On August 1, The Honorary Consul of Switzerland, the President of the Swiss Club and a member of the Committee climbed the Auckland Harbour Bridge to raise the flag in celebration of the Swiss National Day.

It was a beautiful sight on a lovely Winter's day. The Swiss National Day was reported on the breakfast show on TV1, on the Radio and in the New Zealand Herald.

