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Editorial

Hello everyone! Welcome to Year Six of the Twenty-first Century AD! Unfortunately I have a rather pessimistic feeling that the first five years of this new Century have been rather worse than the first five years of last Century, given that Humankind has made so much progress in all facets of modern civilisation, during the twentieth Century. Yet in spite of this enormous progress, particularly in the fields of education, medicine, transport and communication, there are large groups of people in many parts of our World who immediately seize their guns and explosives to settle any perceived threat or insult without even first trying to settle the disagreement with a meeting on neutral ground. One would think in this day and age, with our super-quick communication

systems covering our whole Planet Earth, allowing almost everyone anywhere, to find out within minutes what's going on in any patch of the globe at any time, people would be intelligent enough to demand a comprehensive conference to try to settle disagreements, before resorting to guns and bombs!

Well, I'm sure all of us are sincerely hoping that our modern Twenty-first century will not be as tumultuous as the Twentieth century was, in spite of a somewhat bumpy start!!!

Speaking of new beginnings, I hope you all had a happy festive season with your loved ones and a healthy 'rutsch' (slideover) into the New Year! For myself, I can report in the affirmative!!! Sadly, the year 2005 had its' downside closer to home also, with the death of

many Society members, most of whom were also members of their nearest Swiss Club. Our Taranaki Swiss Club was not spared either. Our members felt a particular heavy loss with the passing of a couple of 'old Stalwarts', Mr Ruedi Dudli, a past President of our club, and Mr John Hermann, who passed away just a few months before Ruedi.

Recently your Editing Committee had a brief discussion regarding obituaries for deceased members. We wish to advise everyone that while your Editing Committee is domiciled in one club-area, they are often unaware for many months of the deaths of Society members, or members of their families, in other parts of the country. This is even more so for members living in the South Island. We would be very grateful if a family friend would send us a short obituary of the deceased, unless the next-of-kin specifically objects to this. We would love to print these, with a photo please, even though it is always sad news for our Swiss-Kiwi community! Please, would all our readers take special note of this last paragraph.

Cheerio for now, from Paul.

ausschreibung

sehr geehrte damen und herren der schweizer vertretunge im anhang übermittle ich ihnen eine ausschreibung für eine von mir geplante anthologie. ich würde mich freuen, wenn sie diese an weitere stellen ihres vertreterlandes, an ihnen bekannte schweizerinnen und schweizer weiterleiten würden. vielen dank für ihre bemühungen und mit freundlichen grüssen

Madeleine Weishaupt

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*Sometimes it is better
to keep your mouth shut
and let people wonder
if you are a fool,
than open it and remove
all doubt.*

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