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From the editor

Dear Helvetia Readers,

The sun tan is long gone and the 'Grit-tibänze' have been replaced with Easter eggs. I will never forget the huge array of chocolate Easter eggs we used to sell in our bakery when I grew up. The delectable, smooth, mouth-watering fillings that were on offer were just too tempting for me to walk past without 'stealing' a few every time (one was never enough...). Luckily for me these delicacies aren't so readily available in New Zealand, since I have no willpower at all if it's concerning Swiss chocolate.

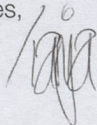
The Swiss Market is once again absorbing quite a bit of my life – only a few weeks to go and the list is still endless. I have an amazing selection of products booked and promise you it will be another memorable Swiss cultural day. I hope that many of you from near and far will come along to enjoy the festivities on the 2nd May.

At the end of May Wellington is hosting the AGM of the Swiss Society of New Zealand and I'm already looking forward to meeting familiar faces again from all over the North Island. You will find the program, the agenda and last year's minutes in this issue of the Helvetia.

Our Helvetia team has done an outstanding job again at putting together another stunning issue. We really did throw Victoria into the deep end when she took over as editor but she is doing an amazing job! Huge thanks to you Victoria for all your efforts! I am also pleased to introduce a new Helvetia team member: Luzia Sauer has been busy writing articles for us too, which is great. Welcome on board Luzia.

I think we all have a soft spot for the Appenzell and admire their strong sense of tradition and culture. There was nowhere near enough space in this issue to talk in detail about this stunning canton but we've given you a little taster anyway. And just where does that spoon come from the men wear in their ears? I have not been successful yet at finding that answer – if someone could please enlighten me, I'd be grateful... surely it's not about the soup – as my grandmother used to say.

Take good care of yourselves,



Dear Readers,

This edition of Helvetia brings many delights. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

As I am new to the editor role I have recently been informed that in honour of April Fools Day, every April edition of Helvetia hides a joke somewhere within its pages. A select group of the Helvetia team has worked hard these past few weeks, perfecting the humour and hiding it so that only the most careful readers would be able to find it. Perhaps the Helvetia team is having me on; regardless, I wish you luck.

May you have a wonderful and joyous Easter.

Victoria

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