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News from the Embassy

A letter sent by the Swiss Embassy to Swiss citizens who are nearing their 18th birthday.

Registration with the Embassy of Switzerland

Dear fellow-citizen,

You will celebrate your 18th birthday in the course of this year. I should like to seize the occasion of this important milestone in your life to convey to you my heartfelt congratulation on your becoming a full-fledged citizen of our country. This means that you will from now on enjoy all the rights and bear all the responsibilities of a Swiss citizen.

With this letter, I ask you to register with the Embassy. This is not only an obligation under our law, but also necessary in order to obtain services such as the issuance of a passport, marriage and birth registrations etc. later in your life. Please return the enclosed orange print-out of your personal data duly signed within thirty days, if necessary with corrections of details. If the Embassy does not receive this form from you, your registration will be cancelled and no services will be available until you are re-registered.

As a citizen of Switzerland, you will enjoy rights that are unique in the world since you will now be part of our country's highest political authority, our people, who not only elect their representatives every few years as in other democratic nations. Swiss citizens decide all the important issues our country faces. You will find enclosed information on how to exercise these rights, and I strongly urge you to do so. You will have to register in the Swiss municipality of origin of your family by using the enclosed form and returning it to this Embassy. You will then receive the voting documents in the official language of this Swiss municipality, German, French or Italian.

Swiss citizens also have obligations. Living in New Zealand, you will not have to pay Swiss taxes, and you are not obliged to serve in the Swiss Army as Swiss males must and females may do. Many young Swiss living abroad, however, chose to do so voluntarily. This option exists for young men who are not also citizens of New Zealand and for all young women. I encourage you to consider voluntary Army service since it is an excellent opportunity to get to know Switzerland, her beauty, her people and her cultures. The initial training period is 18 weeks. Further services would be possible, but not mandatory if you don't make Switzerland your permanent home. Army trainees get paid roughly 3000 NZ\$ a month during the initial period. For further services, this pay would be higher. Should you be a young male double citizen of Switzerland and of New Zealand with a strong desire to serve in the Swiss Army, feel free to contact me personally in order to find a solution.

Towards the end of this year, I and the Embassy staff intend to invite you to the Swiss Residence in Wellington where I live. You will receive information about this event in due time and I very much look forward to meeting you then in person.

Sincerely,

THE AMBASSADOR OF SWITZERLAND

David Vogelsanger

Australia where all the information to be published is collected. There it is revamped before being passed on to the Swiss Review publishers.

After months of negotiation the attachment "Oceania" is now part of the Swiss Review. At the moment it has 4 pages for all contributing parties.

At this point I would like to thank Tanja and her dedicated crew for jumping on board and doing all the hard work, detailed negotiations and working out the specifics in making this venture work. Without their help this would not have taken off.

The Swiss Review Magazine is published 6 times a year and is distributed in several languages to all registered Swiss Worldwide. In our case the attachment "Oceania" together with the Swiss Review is distributed to all registered Swiss in the Oceania/Pacific Region.

According to the Swiss Review team in Switzerland:

- There are currently around 2700 printed issues sent to Swiss registered in Wellington, of which about 2600 issues remain in New Zealand. The rest are distributed among the Swiss living in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu
- The overall print – e-mail ratio is about 2 print for 1 e-mail.

Considering that there are about 7000 Swiss registered in Wellington, and that one Review (print or e-mail) is sent to each household, there are probably about 1500 to 2000 e-mails sent out.

Peter Ehrler

Elected Council Member of the Swiss Abroad representing New Zealand.

chuderwälsch Dialect words from Grison

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Hanmpfla | a hand full |
| 2. Kemmi | chimney |
| 3. Foppa | to irritate, to annoy |
| 4. Juza | to cheer, to rejoice |
| 5. Gäch | steep |
| 6. Huder | bad person |
| 7. Uuh koga guat | very good |
| 8. Täscha | thoughtless woman |
| 9. Kroma | shopping at the market |
| 10. Schnütznedli | handkerchief |
| 11. Verluadara | to waste, to run down |
| 12. Fätzätüfä | a daring person |

MR

The Swiss Café and Bakery has been operating in Milford since 1993 and specialises in all things Swiss. All our products are baked fresh daily without the use of premixes. Some of our European specialities include Berliners, Engadiner Nusstorte, Zuger Kirschtorte, Swiss fruit flan and many more! We also offer catering, special occasion cakes and party breads upon order. As well as our baking we offer cabinet food and a full cooked breakfast menu in store. Although we have a wide range of traditional products our bakers are always keen to develop new products to keep up with customer demands. We are proud to now have a **wide range of gluten free sweet and savoury items** which we endeavour to keep expanding! We are also proud to serve award winning coffee from Toasted Espresso.

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