

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 81 (2015)
Heft: [5]

Artikel: Männerryge
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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-943553>

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Federal Shooting Festival (FSF) Switzerland 2015

Swiss Abroad Competition

Every five years, the Swiss get together for a month-long shooting competition. This year, it was held in Raron/Visp in the Canton of Valais. 35,000 sharpshooters from throughout Switzerland tested their skills on a shooting range set up on the former military airfield of Raron. The Swiss Abroad Competition was held on 27 June, an integral part of the festival. Also part of the celebration was 200 years of affiliation of the Canton Valais to the Swiss Confederation.

Six shooters from the Auckland Swiss Club, Henry Werffeli, Daniel Wiederkehr, Alexandra Jung, Melissa and Ernst Lanz and Othmar Storchenegger travelled half around the world to compete in the FSF. It was a good reason to combine shooting with holidays, visiting family and friends and escaping the cold New Zealand weather.

The accommodation was in 2 Chalets, "Adler" and "Rumpelstilz" in Bürchen. The mountain village of Bürchen, 1300 meters above sea level, is situated on a sun-drenched terrace high above the Rhone Valley. The small family resort is a walker's paradise from spring to autumn and a favourite family winter sport region in winter. Very family friendly was the service we received from Henry's sister Erika and husband Thomas, owner of the Chalet Adler. They spoilt us with a rich breakfast buffet in the mornings and traditional culinary delights in the evenings.

Friday 26 June was a voluntary shooting day and training for the Swiss Abroad Competition at the Riedertal shooting range in Visp. One target was reserved for us the whole day. Everyone shot different programs. There was some excellent shooting and lots of medals.

Saturday 27 June was the big day

for all the Swiss living abroad. 200 shooters from 20 different Swiss Clubs participated in the competition. The shooting program included 5 sighting shots, 6 single shots and 4 rapid shots on the A10 target. 100 points was the maximum possible. Henry's excellent form continued from the day before. He shot 95 points. That placed him 3rd and earned him the Bronze Medal. Daniel also shot well and got a medal.

Rankings:

3rd	Henry Werffeli	95
43	Daniel Wiederkehr	85
66	Alexandra Beskid	82
79	Melissa Lanz	81
92	Ernst Lanz	80
129	Othmar Storchenegger	75

The Auckland Swiss Club was placed 6th in the team event overall.

On Sunday afternoon, the traditional parade was held in Visp, which was broadcast live on TV. Othmar had the honour of being the flag bearer while all the others paraded their medals. The day before, Swiss television also filmed a short interview with Henry and showed the Auckland team, which was aired on the Sunday evening news.

Sunday evening was time to celebrate. We all went to the Moosalp which is located above Bürchen. It has one of the best mountain restaurants in Switzerland. Everyone enjoyed the meal and desserts. Moosalp is also the place where motorized traffic has to give way to the cows. After spending the day out grazing, more than 100 cows return to the barn each evening so that they can be milked. To reach the barn they walk on the road and hold up traffic for about 30 minutes.

Monday was time for everyone to say goodbye to the Valais region. We all continued our holidays in a different part of Switzerland.

By Othmar Storchenegger

Männerryge

Oberturner sy – en Schläck?

*Me chunt mit dene nid vom Fläck!
Der äint isch z alt, der ander z ruuch,
de Dritt, de hät en dicke Buuch,
de Vierti chlönnet wäg em Pfuus:
Ja Oberturner isch en Gruus!*

*Und doch – die Choge sind na zwääg,
zum fit sy schlychets jede Wääg:
Der äint isst Chnobl, äine Lauch,
und äin verzichtet uf de Rauch.
All strotzet schier vo Vitamiin,
fuer d Tööpe nämets Glyzeriin.*

*Und turne tüends! Drei Viertelstund!
Näi, iri Fraue händ kä Grund
Zum Chlöne: "Öis lönds äifach staa."
Zum Zmorge sinds ja immer daa.
Nu ässeds nüüt und hocket still,
Si händ vom Entrecôte na zvil!*

*Gli schlychets ab dur Gang und Fluur,
Mir schetzed iri stramm Figuur
und fröied is an irem Schnäid.
E Männerrygen isch bim Äid
für ali, Vatter, Änkel, Soon,
E grföiti Institutioon.*

*Drum turned vil in öisem Land!
Drum turned ali mitenand!
Wer turned, chunt nid uf de Hund.
Wer turnet, blybt lang zwääg und gsund.
Tank öisem Turne simmer fit.
Bim Turne gits Kontakt und Kitt.*

*Mir stönd derzue, mir sind nid z schüüch:
Mir turned nid nu wäg de Büüch,
mir turned wäg der AHV!
Guet Nacht Koleege. Gruess a d Frau!
Mir gnüssed öises Turnerbluet
Dänn öis tuet s Turnen äifach guet!*

Found for you by Edith Hess in:

**Landuuf, landaab: Zwiegesprach in Versen
von Willy Peter von Gernsberg-Verlag (1.
Januar 1989)**

If you enjoy these delightful Swiss dialect poems as much as we do, you can purchase the book online on www.Amazon.de, or on your next visit to Switzerland!



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in Silverdale (North Auckland)

**Sunday November 15th 9am to 2-30pm,
at the Silverdale Hall**

Come and enjoy a day out with food from many countries, while you do some Christmas Shopping from a great variety of goods.
Over 20 stalls.

Plus giant raffle from Pak 'n Save.

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