

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 82 (2016)  
**Heft:** [4]

**Artikel:** A bit more history...  
**Autor:** [s.n.]  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-944304>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

**Download PDF:** 06.02.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## A bit more history...

1. Bring water to the boil. When combined with the other ingredients the water will activate the baking soda and start the process of transferring the tarnish to the aluminium foil.
2. Add the dry ingredients into the pan and slowly pour in the vinegar. You will cause a slight reaction, so pour carefully! It is possible to clean your silver without adding vinegar, but the vinegar will dramatically speed up the process.
3. Pour in the boiling water and then place the silver into your pan, making sure each piece is touching the foil. Try not to let any of the pieces overlap. This should only take about 30 seconds but if you have heavily tarnished pieces you may need to let them soak a few minutes longer.
4. Use tongs to remove the silverware and work off any remaining spots by buffing with a rag. Then, look deep into your shiny silver and admire the smartypants that brought it back to its original glory!



### Anybody prepared to try the following?

Using Aluminium foil to whiten teeth. How to prepare this homemade tooth paste?

You just need to mix some baking soda and some toothpaste. Then, grab some aluminum foil, and apply some of the toothpaste on the foil and wrap it around your teeth. Leave the toothpaste on for an hour. If you want to get the best results from this whitening method, then you should use it at least 2 times every week. You will notice that this method will make your teeth perfectly white, and you will be amazed by the results.



Source: Jean Renggli 1891

In Friedrich Schiller's play William Tell, written in 1804, this oath of three men who were representatives from Schwyz, Uri and Unterwalden, takes place in Walter Fürst's house in Altdorf and basically consists of a promise to meet again on 1 August on the Rütli meadow and to bring with them leading and brave men of the three cantons to decide upon a common action. Most notably, among the representatives of Unterwalden was Konrad Baumgarten, a free and wealthy man who had killed, in his own residence, the local Habsburg sheriff Wolfenschiessen with an axe in defence of his wife Itta Baumgarten against the Sheriff's trespass and inappropriate attempts to approach her.

On the other hand, William Tell refused the invitation to come to the Rütli as he was of the opinion that the strong shall act on his own and was skeptical about any common actions. The most famous version of the oath is no doubt that found in the play:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RütliSchwur#Schiller>

Wir wollen sein ein einzig Volk von Brüdern,  
in keiner Not uns trennen und Gefahr.  
Wir wollen frei sein, wie die Väter waren,  
eher den Tod, als in der Knechtschaft leben.  
Wir wollen trauen auf den höchsten Gott  
und uns nicht fürchten vor der Macht der Menschen.

#### Approximate English translation

We want to be a single People of brethren,  
Never to part in danger nor distress.  
We want to be free, as our fathers were,  
And rather die than live in slavery.  
We want to trust in the one highest God  
And never be afraid of human power.

The Schwurhand is a heraldic charge depicting the hand gesture that is used in Germanic Europe and neighbouring countries, when swearing an oath in court, in office or in swearing-in. The right hand is raised, with the index finger and middle finger extended upwards; the last two digits are curled downwards against the palm. The thumb is shown slightly curled or raised.



The use of the gesture dates back many centuries. Recruits of the Pontifical Swiss Guard at the Vatican City use the sign when swearing their oath of allegiance to the Pope, in a ceremony performed on 6 May every year since the Sack of Rome in 1527. The use of the three digits is said to symbolise the three elements of the Holy Trinity.

#### In Switzerland

Depictions of the Rütli Oath or RütliSchwur, the legendary founding oath of the Old Swiss Confederacy in the 14th century, show the participants using this gesture. The people elected at the Swiss Federal Assembly and at the Swiss Federal Council traditionally use the Schwurhand for their oath of office (and say 'I swear'); however, some people do not do it to avoid religious references.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RütliSchwur#Schiller>

**TELL SPIELE**  
INTERLAKEN

Performances of the famous play by Schiller that is more than 100 years old, and a wonderful retelling utilising 200 amateur actors from toddlers to sprightly pensioners, not forgetting horses, cows, goats and sometimes even foxes and squirrels. Tell-Freilichtspiele performances run between 21 June to 10 September 2016.

info@tellspele.ch www.tellspele.ch

