

Zug uses Bitcoin

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For a few years I took on part time work, feeding calves, occasional milking, and a round of artificial cow insemination for Livestock Improvement. Later on I did a bit of voluntary work for the local primary school as bus driver and teaching 'Bible in Schools'. In 1997 I took on my voluntary duties as editor for the SWISS SOCIETY'S HELVETIA magazine. Together with Beatrice Leuenberger as president of the Swiss Society, and a chosen team of wonderful helpers, this challenge became easier as time went on. It was the time when pencil, ruler and correction-pen gave way to computer work, and finally I could use my touch-typing skills I learned earlier during my office apprenticeship in Toggenburg. The five year term for HELVETIA ended in 2002 when it was handed on to the Taranaki Swiss Club.

In 2010 our son with his wife and family purchased our Te Pahu property and



we retired to our present address in Dixon Rd, Hamilton. Once again we found wonderful neighbours and as Gritli developed some health problems, we valued the proximity to the nearby hospital, the shops and the Church.

In 2015 we celebrated our 80th birthdays with all of our four families, including our twenty grandchildren. In 2016 our first great-grandchild was born, giving us great joy. The recent 60th anniversary celebration of the Hamilton Swiss Club marked our sixty years living in our home country of choice. The memory of the 'founders' meeting' in May 1956 at Te Rapa hall is still with me to this day.

Looking back over our lives, we are grateful for God's providence that gave us such a colourful life with family, friends and acquaintances.

Written by Rinaldo Rust



Zug uses Bitcoin



In a world first, the Swiss town of Zug in central Switzerland began accepting the cryptocurrency Bitcoin as payment for government services on a trial basis. The Zug municipality made the decision at its meeting on May 3 and the pilot started July 1 2016 and was soon changed to a permanent policy.

Bitcoin payments up to a value of CHF200 (\$205.8 or 0.44 XBT) will be accepted for standard government services.

The authorities claim they wanted to lead by example in a region that has recently become a hub for the financial technology (Fintech) sector in the country.

The self-appointed "crypto valley" of Switzerland hosts around 15 companies specialising in blockchain technology that underpins Bitcoin.

The town's mayor Dolfi Müller announced that Zug is open to exchanging ideas with such companies.

Müller recently pointed out that even in this digital age, the use of bitcoin is still rare. Nonetheless, the program still has a huge symbolic effect, which could make Switzerland — and 'Crypto Valley' Zug, in particular, synonymous with Fintech and innovation. In Zug, bitcoin payments are now available for dentistry services, trustee services, and some government services. As of November 11, 2016, the purchase of bitcoin is available around the clock at the Swiss Federal Railway. This makes Switzerland a country with the densest network of Bitcoin vending machines or 'Bitcoin ATMs'. Customers can purchase bitcoin between 20 to 500 Swiss Francs' worth at train ticketing machines. All that is needed is a local phone number and a bitcoin wallet.

Swiss info.ch and <http://bitcoinist.com/zug-swiss-bitcoin-payment-permanent>

Proverb:

**"Jedes Problemlli het zwöi siite:
die fauschi ond üsi."**

Every problem has 2 sides : the wrong one and ours.