Editorial. Winter Wonderland - Part 2

Dear Readers

Looking back at that incredible Winter with massive sub-zero temperature all over Switzerland, I just could not resist including another photo taken at the lakeshore of Geneva. Even if this is quite “funny” to look at, we should also remember the suffering across the border, especially in Italy where they had unusually plentiful snow never experienced before in many parts of the country.

Back home in Australia, another “big wet” came our way with many regions badly flooded - again - in particular in New South Wales and Victoria. If you know anybody who is willing to share their story to our readers I am more than welcome to publish an article about it.

Marc Godat, Regional Editor, (07) 3899 8996

OSA. E-Voting & Bank Fees

E-voting is especially important for the Swiss abroad. Post delivered late, or to the wrong address, repeatedly prevents them from participating in elections and referenda. But there is also a strong interest in e-voting from within Switzerland, especially from the younger generation.

The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad has launched a petition calling for the introduction, as quickly as possible, of voting in elections and referenda via the Internet (e-voting and e-election).

The petition addresses both the Federal Council and the competent cantonal authorities, as the cantons as well as the Federal Government are responsible for organizing elections and referenda. The petition will be presented to the Federal Council on 18th August 2012, on the occasion of the Congress of the Swiss Abroad.

Please support this petition. Visit: www.petition.aso.ch

Outrageous Swiss «Bank Fees» for expats living overseas is now spreading beyond the US and is a growing concern. The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad takes this situation very seriously and has already taken several steps to see what can be done about it. The advise right now, as many of these actions are probably dragging on for quite a while, is to make our voices heard.

So if you experienced anything along those lines, please let us know or post your comments on any of the community websites like swisscommunity.org. As a reminder, here are the contact details of our CSA (Council of Swiss Abroad) Delegates:

• Roland Isler, Victoria, 0412 935 565
  Email: risler@swiss.org.au
• Marc Godat, Queensland, (07) 3899 8996
  Email: mgodat@off-ice.com.au
• Noemi Guyer, New South Wales, (02) 9905 5500
  Email: noemiguyer@gustavkaser.com.au
• Beat Knoblauch, New South Wales, (02) 9232 7100
  Email: beatek@ozemail.com.au

We are happy to discuss your issues any time.

Marc Godat, CSA Delegate
saan: first swiss alumni meeting at the university of sydney

eth zurich, the university of basel and its vice-chancellor glyn davis visited of south australia.

saan will continue to facilitate the exchange in south australia, where it co-

universities in australia.

lausanne were attending the meeting.

alumni meeting at the university of south australia.

the swiss club of victoria offers a home away from home in the heart of melbourne. all welcome!

please join us and our various interest groups in their activities and special events.

how about a lovely swiss meal at our restaurant? our manager, roger mouliet, and his friendly team are looking forward to welcoming you.

our swiss folk dance group alpenrose is holding their annual heimatabend on saturday, 12 may. RSVP a must.

the australian jazz championship will take place over the queen’s birthday long weekend, sunday 10 june at the swiss club.

if you enjoy jazz, this is the event for you. please book with the restaurant.

we have again a children’s group, that meets regularly at the swiss club to learn about switzerland and swiss german. the swiss kids meet every first saturday at the swiss club.

please bring your children along. it is also an opportunity for parents to meet fellow swiss parents.

merci beaucoup to all the volunteers, who helped us at this year’s swiss festival in march. we appreciate your support and help.

are you planning a function or event for your business or private? look no further than the second floor, a cBD function and meeting room with a difference.

modern amenities and a versatile space for meetings and functions from 10-120 people.

we look forward to welcoming you to the swiss club of victoria.

ladies luncheon

the swiss club of victoria

convener: heidi giger
tel: (03) 9889 9321

bookings essential with the swiss club.

swiss kids

convener: esther blaser-tokarev
tel: 0424 220 523

esther.blaser@gmx.ch

for swiss kids of all ages. we will be doing experiments, singing, craft and swiss school. we meet the 1st saturday of the month from 2-4 pm at the swiss club of victoria.

the swiss companion singers

convener: heidi giger
107 glyndon road

melbourne victoria 3124

tel: (03) 9889 9321, or herbert schwaerzler (03) 9561 7811

practices at the club every 2nd and 3rd thursday of the month.

swiss club of victoria

89 flinders lane

melbourne vic 3000

tel/club functions: 1300 893 968

tel restaurant: (03) 9650 1196

president: barbara kidnig

mobile: 0402 018 363

email: info@swissclubvic.com.au

www.swissclubvic.com.au

facebook: facebook.com/swissclubvic

the swiss club of victoria started and, if you think you would enjoy practicing and performing swiss yodeling songs in a friendly atmosphere, this is your chance to join our choir. we take our singing seriously but we also value good companionship among choir members and we enjoy having a good time. please contact marco to find out more.

this year on saturday 5th august we will again hold the traditional national day picnic at the gembrook sports ground, and we hope that by then we will be able to entertain you with a few songs.

marco unternahrer

swiss folk dance group alpenrose

headquarters:

107 glyndon road

melbourne victoria 3124

tel: (03) 9561 6575

hochuli@tpg.com.au

the dance group is organised at the unterhaltungsabend at the swiss club.

the date is may 12, 7.30pm, three course dinner, kapelle grosse mitte und weill entertaing you. tombola with lots of prizes. cost $ 40pp. bookings must be made with the swiss club. come and join in the fun and support the group.

we practice every tuesday night at the club.

why not come and join us?

silvia hochuli

trachtengruppe schwyzerguerges / swiss cultural soc.

(contact same as alpenrose as above)

pro ticino - pro down under

president: claudia sciuti

5 falls road, hoddes creek vic 3119

tel: (03) 5967 4542

south australia

swiss club of south australia

box po 770

north adelaide sa 5006

president: bruno zueger

swissclubofs@bigpond.com

www.suisse.org.au/swissclubsa

facebook: swissclubofs

griess mitenand

already we are in april of the new year. i hope you all are having a good start to 2012.

after the christmas holiday break the swiss club organised the camping weekend from the 3rd-5th february at the wonderful camping site at port elliot. some of the club members came on friday and stayed until monday morning.

the weather was fresh and the spirit at the campsite was very welcoming as we enjoyed a great dinner with good companionship around the BBQ area at the campsite. it was aches that you didn’t make it this time and i hope to see you next year!

february 24th I had the opportunity to welcome bernhardurger, deputy consul general from sydney and honorary consul rene pilouf of to
Western Australia

Swiss Club of Western Australia
PO Box 411
Northbridge WA 6865

President: Philippe Bossert
Tel: 0424 068 141
president@swissclub.org.au
www.swissclub.org.au

Dear Friends

Our AGM was held on the 26th of February 2012 at the Dutch Club Neerlandia in Wembley. New committee members were elected, thank you Agnes, Peter and Rene and after the formal proceedings, all attendees were treated to a feast of Wiener Sausages and Potato Salad and yummy cake for dessert. I also thank the outgoing committee members for their efforts last year.

This year we appeal to all families with Swiss background to come along to our functions. It will showcase Switzerland to your children and give them an insight into the various Swiss traditions.

A bi-monthly newsletter is sent to anyone that is interested; please register by sending us an email, this way you are informed about the various events.

Our first event will be the Easter Picnic on our property in Gidgegannup – if you enjoy camping, come and join us for the weekend. Children in particular love playing in the bush and hunting for the Easter baskets in the morning!

In May we have the annual Metzgete /Slaughter Feast, please check the website for details close to the date.

On behalf of the committee of the Swiss Club of WA, I wish all readers an eventful and healthy year ahead.

Philippe Bossert, President

WA EVENTS

8/4 Easter Picnic
15/4 Metzgete/Slaughter Feast
23/4 Raclette or Fondue (tbc)

(The please check our website for updates)

The Guggeburas
Only “Gugsegmusig” in Australia. Practice is every Tuesday. Jennifer Leutenegger (08) 9277 7826 guggeburas@swiss.org.au

Play Group
Every 1st Friday of the month. Cynthia Reed 0409 295 775 cyngasgroot@gmail.com

Monthly Jazz
Every 3rd Thursday of the month, from 6.30pm, North Perth Lawn Bowling Club, Farmer Street, North Perth.
Peter Mueller (08) 9291 8402 peliina4243@yahoo.com.au

Swiss Yodellers
Traditional Swiss folk group. Peter Mueller (see above)

The Swiss Club Down South
Nicole May, 276 Holbrooked Cnr Campbell WA 6284
Tel: (08) 9755 5297
mayfamily@westnet.com

Honorary Consul
Dr Juerg Weber 0407 452 666 pme@ahunz.ch

Swiss Radio Perth
Every Tuesday 7-8pm
(4th Tuesday of the month in French) 95.3MHz, or www.swt.com.au

Swiss Radio Sydney
播出 a Swiss program every Tuesday on SBS Radio with her wife in due course.

More details on events will be announced in the newsletter and on our website.

Jazz evenings are held every 2nd Wednesday at the Harmonie German Club (dates in newsletter/website)

Canberra Swiss Club Choir had a great start this year with several new members joining for the first practice. If you enjoy singing in a small group on a regular basis, then the Choir is just right for you. We sing traditional songs in our national languages. From time to time the choir performs with the German and Austrian choirs. Rehearsals are held at the Harmonie German Club from 6pm to 7.30pm on the last Tuesday of every month. For further information check the website or contact the coordinator Regula Neillon at r.neillon@netcep.com.au.

Canberra Community Radio FM91.1, broadcasts a Swiss program every Monday night from 5-7pm. Gabby and Werner present an informative and entertaining programme with local content and news from Switzerland. So tune in in your radios on Monday nights.

If you live in Canberra or surrounding district and would like to become a member of the Canberra Swiss Club, please download the membership application from the web site or contact us by phone. We look forward to meeting you at one of our next functions.

Heinz Buechtioker

ACT

Canberra Swiss Club Inc.
Correspondence to: The Secretary, PO Box 3211
Manuka ACT 2603
Tel: (02) 6246 5722
President: Heinz Buechtioker
email: heinz@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/canberroclub

NSW EVENTS

15/4 Fondue vigneonneuse (Cercle R.)
20/4 Seniors Concert with Lunch
29/4 Bushwalk (place/time tba)
5/5 Seniors Lunch

Our inauguration of the Swiss Club Movie Night. Over 40 members came to this event. It was a great night and the members enjoyed the Swiss film “Hoselepp”. Watch this space for more movie nights in Adelaide hosted by the Swiss Club.

I would like to welcome our newest committee member, Carmen Trochner as the club new member. Carmen and husband Markus have two boys are from the “Ost-Schweiz”. Carmen is currently uptaking the website on ‘swiss.org.au’, where you can find all our current details and next events.

Regular Events:
Every first Friday (from 6 pm onwards) of the month come along for “Hockey” and a meal at the Australian Association at 11 – 17 Terrace Road, Ovingham; “Jass abig” before the Hockete every 2nd month. We are looking forward to meet you for a game of Jazz and a “gmetzelt hockey”.

The “Schwyzer-Frauechraenzli” every Monday of the month. You are more then welcome to join the Swiss Ladies of the “Frauechraenzli”. For further details please call Rosmarie Copeland on (08) 8336 5932.

Swiss Radio SEBI FM Adelaide
The Swiss Radio Corner “Schweizereree” every Saturday evening from 6 – 7 pm on 103.1FM. Please phone in at (08) 8211 7066 and make a music request or tell us about any special celebration.

Come along and be an active part our Swiss Community in South Australia; see you soon at the next opportunity.

Bruno Zueger, President

Northern Territory

Swiss Social Club Darwin
PO Box 241, Nightcliff NT 0814
President: Alois Kissling
Tel: (08) 8927 5794
Mobile: 0438 060 515
swissclubdarwin@hotmail.com

ACT

Canberra Swiss Club Inc.
Correspondence to: The Secretary, PO Box 3211
Manuka ACT 2603
Tel: (02) 6246 5722
President: Heinz Buechtioker
email: heinz@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/canberriclub

New South Wales

NSW EVENTS (cont)
6/5 Brunch to Givrely walk (Eds)
10/5 AGM SACCI
12/5 (tbc) Film night, Swiss Club
20/5 Raclette (Cercle Romand)
3/6 Raedelbeth Umzug (Eds)
Jun (tbc) Bowling (Cercle Romand)
1/7 Royal Cat, Park Walk (Kids)
(all events organized by the Swiss Club except where otherwise stated)

Regular Monthly NSW Events:
1st Monday: Social evening, jazz, and Committee meeting (Eiger)
1st Wednesday: Swiss Club Lunch (Lord Nelsonbrewery)
1st Thursday: Cercle Romand, soiree pub
2nd Friday: Social evening (French For.)

Last Friday – Swiss Play Grp (French For.)

Swiss Australian Cultural Association Inc. (SACA)
President: Walter Annen
www.swissculture.org.au

SACA’s new website is now online. A number of reasons made us taking this step. The most important was to give our creative members a joint platform to introduce themselves and their work and interests. We use the expressions “creative members” as culture encompasses many fields of creative activity – not just the fine arts. Another reason was to achieve exposure for our members in the wider community. The website will also present another way to communicate information regarding cultural events with a Swiss connection organised by SACA and its members.

The registration for Swiss-Dz Art Expo 2012 is now closed. 22 artists working in different medium will participate. Their works will make the exhibition at the Bondi Pavilion Gallery an attractive and interesting event. The exhibition will run from November 6 to November 18. Don’t forget to pencil these dates in your diary.

We look forward to seeing you at Bondi Beach and your visit to our website.

Walter Annen, President

Swiss Entrepreneurs
info@swissentrepreneurs.com.au
www.swissentrepreneurs.com.au

The Swiss Club of NSW Ltd.
GPO Box 3713, Sydney NSW 2001
President: Daniel Frutiger
Tel: (02) 8877 0864
Fax: (02) 9905 5700
swissclubnsw@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubsw

February 19 was the yearly Jazz Picnic at Berry Island. We had unusual good weather with plenty of sunshine and pleasant music to enjoy the afternoon.

February 23 The fundraiser for the new Swiss Historical Book (due to be printed and released 1st of August, 2012) was a good turnout with plenty of interesting members, who purchased various items on offer at the silent auction.

Ursla Schaeppi has retired after countless years on SBS Radio with her German and Swiss German program every Sunday evening. I would like
to take this opportunity to thank Ursula Scharpfer for her efforts and professionalism to bring the program to you every Sunday night. We all will greatly miss her familiar Voice on Air. The Swiss community in NSW will work very hard to keep the weekly program running, which will be broadcasted from Melbourne with kind regards.

Daniel Frutiger, President

SchwyzerDudel For Kids
Beatrice Sidari: Tel: (02) 9602 9395 Mobile: 0418 280 178 bsidari@bigpond.com
If you want to meet some Swiss/Australian or Swiss/International families, have fun and enjoy lots of outdoor activities, please contact us.

Swiss Play Group
Austrian Club, 20 Grattan Crescent Frenchs Forest, NSW
Jessica Steiger-Thorpe jessica@cantab.net www.swiss.org.au/spg
Visit the Swiss Playgroup of Sydney’s webpage for all the 2012 information. Children from birth to school age are welcome. Sign up by emailing swissplaygroup@o2yahoo.com to receive updates on venue and timing. Look forward to seeing you there!

The Swiss Yodelers of Sydney
27 Burra Road Artarmon NSW 2064 President: Alois Kretz Tel: (02) 9419 7277 akretz@bigpond.net.au
The Swiss Yodelers started their practice in January in to be in top form for the Annual Harbour Cruise. The band created a good atmosphere and made the trip very enjoyable. We hope you come and join us to the different events. We were also wondering if there are any Italian speaking Swiss in the Brisbane area which might be interested in our club activities; please contact us.

Swiss Folk Dance Group ‘Alpegruess’
President: Marco Nussbaumer 7 Wallace Street Willoughby NSW 2066 Tel: (02) 9560 0666 Web: www.swiss.org.au/alpegruess
Our regular bi weekly Jass-evenings now also features a beginners table for those wanting to learn the game and a french card table. Contact Hans Flett on 07 3844 6520

Swiss Historical Group Inc.
C/- Schweizer Kobras, PO Box H283 Australia Square NSW 1215 President: Bettina Boss Tel: (02) 9363 9131 Email: mail@theswissinnsw.com Web: theswissinnsw.com
In 2012 we celebrate 25 years of performing Swiss music and yodels in Brisbane. We would love to hear from anybody who would like to join us. Every second Thursday we meet for practice with Mark, our music teacher. Inquiries about bookings are also welcome.

Cercle Romand Du N.S.W.
Président: Anne Renzplando 505 Blaxland Road Eastwood NSW 2122 Tel: (02) 9874 9096 www.swiss.org.au/cercleromand
Le cercle romand regroupe toute personne intéressée par la pratique et le maintien du français. Le cercle est basé à Sydney; il a pour but de créer des contacts entre nos membres par le biais de sorties et réunions régulières.

Queensland Events (cont.)
26/5 Fondue
1/6 Buderim Lunch (SCS)
10/6 Jazz Championship (Melbourne)
16/6 Raclette
17/6 Bushtwalk
Queensland

CONSULATE GENERAL
Consulate General of Switzerland 101 Grafton Street, Cnr Grovener St Tower 2, Level 23, Bondi Junction, NSW 2022, Australia Postal address: P.O. Box 282, Bondi Junction, NSW 1355, Australia Phone: 0061 2 8383 4000 Fax: 0061 2 9369 1334 E-Mail: syd.vertretung@eda.admin.ch Web: www.eda.admin.ch/australia
USEFUL ONLINE REFERENCES
www.revue.ch/region-en-aus Swiss Revue Online (ad-rates / deadlines / history / downloads)
www.chamberofcommerce.org Internet platform for the Swiss Abroad

EDITORIAL / DEADLINE
Marc Andre Godat, Regional Editor Local Pages, (07) 3899 8996, mgodat@off-ice.com.au Next Deadline for June 2012 issue: 7 May 2012

Swiss Community Care Society (QLD Chapter)
Postal: SCS, c/- Erika Vincent, 181 Kungkarr Creek Rd. Kungkarr 2484 President: Lorly Whiler Tel: (07) 3298 5300 / Secretary: Erika Vincent, Tel: (07) 3679 7210 Contact Sunshine Coast: Ursula Sheldon, Tel: (07) 5443 4272

Swiss Club Sunshine Coast
Contact: Hanni Kaeck 5447 7548 Walter Siegenthaler 5476 2962 Email: scsc@swiss.org.au Web: www.swiss.org.au/scsc
The Club had to cancel the camping weekend planned for the end of January due to bad weather. But the Games Night held in mid February was again a success, with members and guests enjoying a game of scrabble, trivial pursuit and of course “Jass”. Dinner was a communal affair with everyone bringing a plate to share which resulted in a delicious buffet, including scrumptious desserts.

In addition to the National Day Celebrations and the Christmas by Candlelight dinner, the Committee is proposing a fondue/raclette night in June and a further event in October. Details will be posted on our website.

We invite all Swiss on the Sunshine Coast, their families and friends to join us for these fun events, to enjoy good company, keep in touch with old mates and make new friends.

Please ring Hanni if you like to have a chat and find out more, we are happy to help. We also welcome your enquiries and suggestions via email; you will get a prompt response.

Beatrice Bruin-Broennimann