

Official Communication. Schengen/Dublin

Informative note on the implementation of Schengen/Dublin

The association agreements of Switzerland to Schengen-Dublin concluded with the European Union entered into force on 1 March 2008.

The philosophy behind Schengen is the abolition of systematic border controls among the participating states. Thus road traffic is no longer delayed; road, rail and air passengers no longer have their identity checked by border guards when crossing borders (however, security controls by carriers are still permissible). One common visa for one common area!

As the 26th Schengen Member State, Switzerland applies since 12 December 2008, the Schengen regulations concerning the issuance of visas. The visa will be valid for entering the territory of all Schengen member states. This will also apply to Schengen visas issued by other Schengen States which will permit entry to Switzerland. Being an active member of Schengen, Switzerland will benefit strongly from the important Schengen Security Information System (SSIS). This system will be - among other things - an important working instrument for Swiss authorities in fighting organized crime. Furthermore, being an active Schengen Member, Switzerland becomes at the same time part of the Schengen/Dublin Association Agreements. This Association Agreements enable Switzerland to fully participate in European efforts to increase co-operation in security and asylum question.

For information concerning changes of procedures and methods of issuance of visas, we recommend that you consult the Federal Office for Migration (FOM) website: <http://www.bfm.admin.ch> or the Consulate General of Switzerland in Sydney.

Consulate General

Consulate General of Switzerland
101 Grafton Street, Cnr Grosvenor 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

CSA Representatives

Peter Meury, Sydney (02) 43 90 9208
email: petermeury@bigpond.com
Walter Purtschert, Melbourne
email: wpurtsch@bigpond.net.au
Marc Godat, Brisb. (07) 3899 8996
email: mgodat@off-ice.com.au

Editorial. Swiss Review Budget Cuts Confirmed

It is now official: A press announcement was issued on December 16 by ASO that the budget for the Swiss Review will be reduced from CHF1.8M to CHF1.3M in 2009; not the Christmas present we hoped for really.

In the press release, the Swiss Review was described as the "Schweizer Sackmesser" of the Expats living far abroad, providing a newspaper, political information media, and a forum for Embassies, Consulates and Clubs, all at once; not too bad at a cost of only CHF 1.25 per printed issue!

The 27% reduction in the budget now means that there will only be 4 issues annually (for 2009, they will be February, April, August and October); all of them will have the 4-page Regional News, so at least for us here Down Under, it will be business as usual, at least for now...

Upcoming ASO Elections for Term 2009-2013

Back in November last year, a letter was sent out by Peter Meury, CSA Representative, to Swiss Clubs and Groups providing informing on the upcoming CSA election process for the next term. There are still some vacancies!

An ever growing Swiss population in Australia means that we can now fill 4 permanent seats within the CSA. Currently, we have 3 seats filled; Peter Meury from Sydney and Walter Purtschert from Melbourne both indicated that they would prefer to step down and let somebody else have a go, while I would be quite happy to continue for another term, given I get re-elected, of course. It is no secret that we aim for 1 representative in each of the major cities like Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, or possibly also Adelaide.

As a CSA Representative, your role is, simply speaking, to "represent the interests of Swiss living in Australia within the Swiss parliament". Practically, this means that it is beneficial if you can attend the yearly "Auslandsschweizerkongress" in August in Switzerland. The CSA Meeting is usually held 1 day before the congress start and it is there where we can have a say and bring forward our requests to the Swiss Parliament.

Throughout the year in Australia, your role is to listen to the needs of Swiss living here, give help and support in ASO matters like AHV cases, and provide information on what the ASO has on offer in general (like schools, programs, etc). Besides this, the most important skill required is that you are well connected within the Swiss community; for example you might serve (or have served) in a committee in your group/club, or simply have good connections to many Swiss living here. Please check the ASO website for more details on the requirements / election process.

So if you feel like this profile fits you, why not give it a go and send-in your CV to Peter Meury, PO Box 278, Budgewoi NSW 2262, or email petermeury@bigpond.com, or contact any of us by phone (list of CSA Representatives is on the left). We would like to wrap-up the election process by the end of February so we can put forward our candidates shortly after that to Bern.

I hope you all had a good start for 2009 and if there is anything you wish to contribute to these pages, just give me a ring.

Marc Godat, Regional Editor, mgodat@off-ice.com.au, +61 7 3899 8996
Deadline April issue 2009-2: March 1, 2009

Useful Online References

www.revue.ch
www.aso.ch
www.swissinfo.org
www.swiss.org.au
www.sacci.com.au
www.avs-ai-international.ch

Swiss Revue Online (additional material)
Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Actual News by swissinfo/SRI
Swiss Clubs on the Net in Australia
Bilateral trade and investment information
OASI/DI and voluntary contributions

Words From The Consul General.

Dear Compatriots, Heads of Swiss companies and organisations,

On behalf of the team of the Swiss Consulate General, I wish you and your families a festive season and a positive New Year, good health and plenty of success.

As the world becomes more and more a global village, the recent severe economic and financial turbulences crossed borders with an unprecedented speed and a quick solution/end to this is unfortunately not in sight. Despite these unpleasant facts, the Consulate General once more can look back to a very eventful year with many successful events - just to mention a few:

Project ToptoTop from Sabine & Dario Schwörer (7 summits non-stop round the world by human power and nature's force). With their fine sailing boat "Pachamama", Sabine & Dario Schwörer participate in the classic Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race on Dec 26. This 628 nautical mile course is often described as one of the most challenging ocean race in the world.

Project "Solartaxi" from Louis Palmer - some of you certainly came across Louis during his long stay here in Australia.

Project A1 GP - Swiss Team in Sydney, last February, they landed the prestigious second place.

Our famous Compatriot and Olympic gold medal winner, Edith Hunkeler, visited Down Under in January - February 2008 and took part in various wheel chair races and even won the race in Sydney.

Project Nicolas & Stephan Perren: father and son circled the world in a small single engine airplane with the aim to stimulate awareness and support for research of osteoporosis. Presentations have been organised in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

These were just a few events where this Consulate played a major role in the organisation. Another very successful event was, of course, the Swiss participation at the famous Audi German Film Festival where Switzerland was represented through the wonderful Swiss movie "The Late Bloomers".

Last but not least, I would like to encourage you to visit the website of the Consulate General which is meant to be a gateway for anyone who is interested in Switzerland. The information you can find there will be revised as new needs arise. I wish to thank visitors in advance for any suggestions that will help us offer even better services to you. You can always contact us by phone or e-mail. The staff of the Consulate General in Sydney will be happy to be of any assistance to you.

Jürg Casserini, Consul General

Victoria

Victoria Events

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|---|
| 18/2: Movie Night: "Achtung, Fertig, Charlie!" |
| 28/2, 28/3: Jass Night |
| 4/3: Ladies' Luncheon |
| 4/3: Annual General Meeting |
| 5/3, 2/4: Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand |
| 18/3: New Members Evening |
| 22/3: Swiss Festival (see ad) |
| 29/3-26/4: Melbourne Comedy Festival |

Swiss Club of Victoria

89 Flinders Lane
Melbourne VIC 3000
Tel: (03) 9650 1196 Club
Fax: (03) 9650 3104
President: Rolf Huber
Mobile 0425 805 854
Email: rhuber@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubvic

Happy New Year dear Readers,

I am writing to you all with great optimism even though for many of us, 2009 will be a difficult one as we come out of the worst financial crisis in the past eighty years. But really, it is not all doom & gloom. Compatriots, we have something unique in the heart of Melbourne - the Swiss Club of Melbourne. It has weathered many storms in the past 100 years and it still stands strong as a meeting place for friends to exchange new ideas in a pleasant environment and with some of the best Swiss food money can buy away from Switzerland. Visitors from overseas and interstate flock to the Swiss Club of Victoria in Melbourne for an unforgettable cultural experience and to mix with the locals.

The Swiss Club of Victoria owns a three story building in the heart of Melbourne offering excellent facilities as a meeting/dining place for both private and corporate functions. Both business people and visitors alike can enjoy traditional Swiss food and hospitality in a unique setting. The

club restaurant is open for lunch from Monday to Friday and for dinner from Wednesday to Friday. Roger Moullet, our well known chef and restaurant manager will serve you a treat!

As always the first quarter of the year is packed with exciting events and functions in and around the club. By the time you read these lines Roger Federer may have visited the club with his family in his pursuit to win yet another Australian Open. On 4th March our Annual General Meeting will take place, a type of Landsgemeinde and a must for members. The next Swiss Festival, a celebration of Swiss culture which is presented by all Swiss groups of Victoria, will take place at the Austrian Club, Heidelberg West in Victoria, a northern suburb of Melbourne. The new date is on Sunday 22th March 2009. Please put this date in your diary now and tell your friends to join us! Last year's event attracted over 1'000 visitors from around Australia and the world (please see ad.)

For those of you who are interested in motor sport, the Australian Grand Prix will be held at Albert Park from 26th to 29th March which is only a short distance away from the club. Who knows, perhaps the BMW Sauber team will pay us a surprise visit. Come to the club for a good laugh, the Melbourne Comedy Festival will use the "Swiss House" as their stage (1-26 April). Buy tickets on the premises and enjoy dinner at the club,

The renovation and future utilisation of the second floor is still the committee's number one topic. We need financial support to turn this potential asset into a commercial success. If you are interested and want to know more about it please get in touch with the committee.

We encourage all members and friends of the club to participate in the active planning of our future club building. You can voice your opinion to the committee verbally or in writing.

The Swiss Club of Victoria looks forward to welcoming you at the club or at one of the many fantastic events.

Please visit our website swiss.org.au/swissclubvic for more information.

Your President, *Rolf Huber*

Ladies Luncheon

The Swiss Club of Victoria
Convener: Heidi Giger
Tel: (03) 9889 9321

Bookings essential with the Swiss Club.

The Swiss Companion Singers

Convener: Heidi Giger
107 Glyndon Road
Camberwell Vic 3124
Tel: (03) 9889 9321, or
Herbert Schwaerzler (03) 9561 7811

Meet at the Club every 2nd and 3rd Thursday of the month for practice.

Young Swiss Group

Convener: Amy Bohren
abohren@swiss.org.au
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/YoungSwissMelbourne/>

We meet once per month. Anyone is welcome to come along. For up-to-date information about our next meeting, please check our website.

Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn

3 Bluegum Court, Upwey Vic 3158
President: Marco Unternährer
Tel: (03) 9752 6996 (h) or
Tel: (03) 9388 8777 (b)
mrun@optusnet.com.au
www.swiss.org.au/matterhorn

The big event for this year will be our 40th Anniversary celebration on 17 October, and planning and preparations for this special evening are well under way. We are practicing every Wednesday evening at Marco's place and, if you like singing, you're very welcome to join us at one of these enjoyable evening sessions! Our 1st Jassabend will be on 28/2 at the Horticulture Centre, Jolimont Road, Forest Hill.

Erwin Weinmann

Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose

President: Sylvia Hochuli
92 Addison Street
Elwood Vic 3184
Tel: (03) 9531 6575
hochuli@tpg.com.au

We meet every Tuesday night at the Swiss Club for our practise. The group has plenty of room for new members. It is not just hard work, we do have a lot of fun too. For information, ring Sylvia (or Nancy on 9890 7530).

Silvia Hochuli

Trachtengruppe Schwyzergruess / Australian Swiss Cultural Soc.

President: Silvia Hochuli
(contact details as above)

Groupe Romand Du Victoria

Présidente: Marianne Puccinelli
Tél: (03) 9561 9595
www.swiss.org.au/chfrvic

Pro Ticino - Pro Down Under

President: Claude Rossi
5 Falls Road, Hoddles Creek Vic 3139
Tel: (03) 5967 4542

SANM

Swiss Academic Network Melbourne
info@sanm.id.au
www.sanm.id.au

Saturday Morning Swiss School

Convener: Andrea Pinch
Tel: (03) 5331 6762
pinch@hotmail.net.au
www.swiss.org.au/scvschool

Swiss Playgroup

Ingrid Preston (03) 9772 0516
Claudia Dahinden (03) 9347 6913
www.swiss.org.au/playgroup

Meets 1st Thursday of each month from 11am-2pm at the Swiss Club.

South Australia

Swiss Club of South Australia

64 Castle Street
Parkside SA 5063
President: Maya Schnider
Tel: (08) 8431 1892 (evening)
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubsau

Grüezi mitenand!

Best wishes for a successful and happy 2009. I am delighted to announce that we have an extended and rejuvenated committee. Thank you for the outgoing members and a warm welcome to the 'fresh blood'. We are focused on getting young and old Swiss and their friends involved in the activities - so what is stopping you from picking up the phone and joining us?

This year we got involved with Tour Down Under for the first time and had a Swiss Sausage & Crusty Breadroll stall at Willunga Oval. Thank you all for dressing up in red & white to cheer on the Swiss bike riders - the support was fantastic!

Groups and organisations representing all four languages and areas of Switzerland take part in the Swiss Festival, where the Swiss community showcases its unique culture and traditions. Food and drinks are available on the day. Some of the groups and organisations that attend this festival are:

- The Swiss Ambassador to Australia
- Groupe Romand du Victoria
- Pro Ticino
- Swiss Club of Victoria
- Trachtengruppe Schwyzergruess
- Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn
- Swiss Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (ASO)
- Swiss Academic Network Melbourne

Bring your families and friends and have a good time! There are games for children, numerous stalls and attractions and live performances by various Swiss community groups. Non-Swiss are welcome! Ample parking is available.

Swiss Festival Committee, c/o Swiss Club of Victoria
89 Flinders Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000
Phone 03 9650 1196
swissclubvic@swiss.org.au www.swiss.org.au

SWISS festival

Sunday 22nd March 2009
11am to 4pm

Austrian Club
76-90 Sheehan Road
Heidelberg West, VIC
(Melway 19 F9)

VICTORIAN multicultural commission

Upcoming Events

21-22/2: Camping weekend, Port Elliot
19/4: Swiss Club Bushwalk

Escape the hot city and join us for a fun camping weekend at Pt Elliot Caravan Park on the beachfront of picturesque Horseshoe Bay. Call Warren Wrobel on (08) 8278 5276 for details, he did a great job last year in organising for us a little speck of Switzerland.

We will gather for a late Easter Bushwalk in the Adelaide Hills. For further details please check our website or contact Sarah Muller for a newsletter on (08) 8365 0894.

Regular Events:

"Hockete", stands for a casual get-together - everybody is welcome to join us on the first Friday of the month at the Austrian Association at 11 - 17 Torrens Road, Ovingham from 6.30 pm onwards. Come along for a delicious meal and the chance to brush up on your 'Schwyzerduetsch'.

"Schwyzer Frauechraenzli", meets on the first Monday of the month. We are group of 50+ aged ladies, who enjoy a good time out; be it a visit to the movies, lunch in a park or an excursion. You are welcome to join us. For further details please call Rosmarie Copeland on (08) 8336 5932.

Swiss Radio 5EBI Adelaide

Listen to the Swiss Corner every Saturday between 6-7 pm on 103.1FM. Phone-ins are welcome on (08) 8211 7066.

Keep in touch and I look forward to meeting you at the next Swiss Club function. *Maya Schneider*

Western Australia

Swiss Club of Western Australia

Correspondence to: PO Box 411 Northbridge WA 6865
President: Peter Gabathuler
Tel/Fax: (08) 9296 3960
anpega@oceanbroadband.net
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubwa

Sali mitenand; The Samichlaus event at Perry Lakes, was again a great success. Fifty six children, aged 1 to 14 fronted the Samichlaus. Some of the children even had a "Versli" for the Chlaus. Small or big, they all happily received their little Chlaus Bag and "Grittibanz". Thank you Playgroup Mums and Dads for organising the event. Thank you Samichlaus for playing the most important part. The smell of "Roscht-Bratwüerscht" and Cervelats went far beyond our designated area.

Things are looking up at our Rolling Greens property. Santa has dropped off 16 packs of Smart Pavers. Finally, we can look forward to a paved shelter.

No more blowing off sand from sausages and steaks. Beny Schildknecht, our new Property Mangager would like to invite you all to our next Busy Bee. The free DIY lesson on brick paving may come in very handy for your next project at home. Look out for the Busy Bee date. It will be around Easter time.

The Easter Sunday Picnic, organised by our Playgroup, should again be lots of fun for children and adults alike. Bring along your picnic basket. The barbeques will all be red hot, ready for you to throw on your snags, steaks and

chops. Don't forget our AGM on 22 March 09. Be part of it. Go to our Webpage and find all the instructions on how to become a member. Have a great 2009.

Peter Gabathuler

Upcoming Events

21/2: Fasnachts Ball, Rhein Donau Club
22/2: Kinder Fasnacht, Rhein Donau Cl.
22/3: Annual General Meeting
12/4: Easter Picnic, Rolling Green
Property

Come along and join the fun! You will find all the information about the activities of our club, even on how to become a member, on our web page.

Regular Events / Groups:

Swiss Radio 6EBA Perth, Swiss Radio Perth broadcasts on 6EBA FM on 95.3 MHz, or through the internet on <http://www.6eba.com.au/> between 7pm and 8pm every Tuesday night. The programme is in French every fourth Tuesday of the month and the other programmes are in Swiss German. Contact the presenter at the studio on (08) 9227 5953, during the program, or James Kunz on 0414 421132.

The Guggeburras, They are different, they are fun and they are the only Guggemusig in Australia. Twenty enthusiastic, fun loving Guggers of all ages and talents, dressed in colourful costumes and with unique face-paintings, play the traditional Guggemusig - Sounds artfully out of tune - at special events and at Carnival time. They get together every Tuesday evening to practice new songs for the coming Fasnacht Season. Any carnival-inspired person is welcome to join this fun group, especially brass players and drummers. Contact Jennifer Leutenegger on (08) 9277 7826 or send an e-mail to guggeburras@swiss.org.au for more information.

Play Group meets every first Friday of the month. Mums, check 'em out, they are great fun. For more information or how to join: Ring Alexandra Schaub on 08 94032241.

The Swiss Club Down South

Correspondence to:
Mrs Nicole May, 276 Holbenroad Cowaramup WA 6284
Tel: (08) 9755 5297
mayfamily@westnet.com

Northern Territory

Swiss Social Club Darwin

PO Box 241, Nightcliff NT 0814
President: Fritz Risler
Tel/Fax: (08) 8981 4147

ACT

Canberra Swiss Club Inc.

Correspondence to:
The Secretary, PO Box 3211 Manuka ACT 2603
Tel: (02) 6246 5722
President: Heinz Buettikofer
email: heinz@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/canberraclub

Dear members and friends, as you read this contribution we have already moved a couple of months into the new year. Still, please accept my best wishes for a happy 2009. I assume you are well back into your daily routines after the Christmas break. Before you fill up your calendars with many other commitments, I suggest you take a look at the list below and mark your favourite events in your diary. The committee has again planned a diverse list of events so that there is something for everyone. Some function dates in the second half of the year have yet to be decided. They will be announced in the Newsletter and on the website within the next couple of months. As always, the committee is ready to hear about new functions from you, so please let us know if you have any such ideas.

Upcoming Events

4/2: Start of Jass Evenings 2009
13/2: Film Evening
20-22/3: Coast Weekend
29/4: Jass Tournament - Round I

For more details on any of the events please refer to the newsletter or visit the website. If you need more information please get in touch with any of the committee members.

The Jass evenings (not shown here) are held every second Wednesday. Please check the newsletter or the website for dates.

If you are a non-member and would like to join any of the activities, please write to us or give us a call. We are always pleased to see new faces and welcome anybody who would like to participate.

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

Heinz Büttikofer

New South Wales

NSW Events

8/2: Beach Volleyball/Picnic (Cercle R.)
13/2, 13/3, 10/4: Get-together, Austrian Club, Frenchs Forest (Swiss Club)
28/2: Harbour Cruise (Yodellers)
2/3, 6/4: Committee Meeting, Austrian Schnitzelhaus (Swiss Club)
3/3: Soirée pub The Lord Dudley Hotel, 236 Jersey Road, WOOLLAHRA dès 19h.00 (Cercle Romand)
7/3: Seniors Luncheon, Concordia Club (Swiss Community Care Society)
22/3: Food Tour Beirut - Hanoi (Swiss C.)
20-22/3: Camping Weekend, Del Rio Riverside Park, Wisemans Ferry (Cercle R.)
March: Talk with Prof B Boss (SACA)
2/4: Soirée pub, BelÉpoque Belgian Beer Café, 429 Miller Street, CAMMERAY dès 19h.00 (Cercle Romand)
18/4: Film Night (Swiss Club)

Swiss Australian Cultural Association Inc. (SACA)

Membership Sec: Elizabeth Isele
Tel. (02) 9498 4475
elisele@ozemail.com.au
www.swiss.org.au/saca

If you managed to see the fireworks on Sydney harbour then you will have had a great start to the new year!

Swiss cartoonist, Caroline Ruetz was recently in Sydney on her way to an International Conference in New Zealand and took part in an exhibition and panel discussion at Alliance Francaise with cartoonists from France and Israel. It was an opportunity to be exposed to the thought patterns of the cartoonists and their different styles of art and humour.

Members also had the opportunity of listening to Swiss amateur pilots, Stefan and Nicholas Perren discuss their extended trip in a single engine plane, whilst showing an extraordinary collection of slides. Nicholas also had an exhibition on photography taken during the trip which was most inspiring.

Adventurous Swiss couple Dario and Sabine Schwoerer, together with their two small children, sailed into Sydney harbour on their yacht "Pachamama" and gave an interesting presentation regarding their travels. We wish them well on their journey.

Bronwen Kretz

Swiss-Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Level 5, 23-25 O'Connell Street Sydney NSW 2000
General Manager: Marcel Svatos
Tel: (02) 9223 7222
Fax: (02) 9223 7211
admin@sacci.com.au
www.sacci.com.au

The Swiss-Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SACCI) has launched a new website. It symbolises the direction of SACCI by promoting the "Swiss brand" in Australia, endorsing bilateral business relations and connecting people and businesses.

The website also offers new and free services to our corporate members (check the heading "The Chamber" > "Marketplace") and to our membership group at large by facilitating discounts and promotional opportunities for SACCI members.

We hope you like it. *Marcel Svatos*

Calling those who make the finest of all music Basler Drummers and Pipers

Are there really only four of us in Sydney? Be unternehmenslustig, dust off your böckli or piccolo and join us in the fun of playing beautiful fasnachts music. Or, do you know someone else who can play, if so please let me know.

I would be thrilled to hear from you.
Contact Kurt Bieri
Phone (02) 9634 4536

Swiss Entrepreneurs

Contact: Silvan Frei
Tel: 0410 297 606
info@swissentrepreneurs.com.au
www.swissentrepreneurs.com.au

The Swiss Club of NSW Ltd.

GPO Box 3713
Sydney NSW 2001
President: Noemi Guyer
Tel: (02) 9486 3443 / 0416 160 919
Fax: (02) 9486 3442
swissclubnsw@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/swissclubnsw

The committee meets at the Austrian Schnitzelhaus every first Monday of the month and the Jassers get together at the Eiger Restaurant in Petersham every Monday night.

Every second Friday of the month we also have a meeting at the Austrian Club in Frenchs Forest for a meal, a chat or a Jass.

New members are always very welcome. If you or your friends who have a Swiss connection and are not yet members give it a go. Please contact the club for further details.

If you feel like having a bit of friendly Swiss company and a nice glass of wine or beer and some delicious food, come and join us at the Schnitzelhaus or the Austrian Club or at one of our forthcoming functions.

Events (see NSW Events): We have lots of exciting things coming up and lots of new ideas for 2009. Some of the events include a combined function, dinner and dancing, Fondue evening, Bowling competition, Movie Nights and bushwalks. Please see the Swiss Community News and our website for updated details of events and functions. If any member of the Swiss community have ideas regarding events please contact the Swiss club as we are always interested in member feedback and suggestions

I look forward to welcoming you to many of our events in 2009. Please check our website for any additional functions and other Swiss information.

Noemi Guyer

Swiss Playgroup Sydney

Sandra Ursenbacher (02) 9975 6987
Isabelle Ferguson (02) 9904 8021

Every last Friday of the month from 10:15am-noon. Please call us to confirm the date before your first visit. See you there at Franches Forest!

Isabelle & Sandra

Schwyzerdütsch For Kids

Beatrice Sidari: Tel: (02) 9602 9395
bsidari@bigpond.com or
Anna Papadimitriou: 0416 744 949
annap@1earth.net

Every first Sunday of the month. If you are interested in our diverse activities, please call or email Anna or Bea.

Swiss Yodelers and Alphorn Group of Sydney

27 Burra Road
Artarmon NSW 2064
President: Alois Kretz
Tel: (02) 9419 7277
akretz@bigpond.net.au

Happy New Year to all!

At the Annual General Meeting held on 10 November 2008 we farewelled Roesli and Housi Kaufmann who are retiring after years of dedication to the group. We wish them well in their official retirement, though look forward to seeing them at future functions playing their alphorns. At the same meeting, former President and Vice President, Martin Scarpino, who is moving with his family to Singapore, was made an Honorary Member in respect of the major contribution he gave the group over many years. We wish Martin and his family well.

The show must go on and the group kept practising on Monday evenings to prepare for the wedding of the year in December between The NSW Swiss Club President, Noemi Guyer and Anthony Bangle, where we rang cow bells and sang.

The Yodler's annual Harbour Cruise will be held on Saturday, 28 February, 2009 and we are fortunate this year to have D'Schwoergelis of Melbourne with their great music and of course, Siggy, joining us on board for a night on our fabulous harbour. Please ring for further information.

Alois Kretz

Cercle Romand Du N.S.W.

Présidente: Anne Resplendino
505 Blaxland Road
Eastwood NSW 2122
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.

Nos activités sont réparties tout au long de l'année: soirées pub le premier jeudi de chaque mois, tournoi de pétanque, bowling, beach volleyball, randonnée, week-end camping et les toujours très appréciées journées fondue et raclette.

Comme d'habitude, nos membres seront informés par courrier/email séparé. Pour tout les détails sur notre programme d'activités, veuillez consulter notre site internet ou par tél. 9874 9096 Anne Resplendino, Présidente.

Au plaisir de vous rencontrer,

Pour le comité, Christian Dubois, secrét.

SBS "Swiss Radio"

Sydney 97.7FM / Melbourne 93.1FM

Swiss Community Care Society

P.O.Box 282, Bondi Junction, NSW 1535
President: Armin Roth
Tel: (02) 9669 1749
arminroth@bigpond.com
Contact / Support Officer:
Ursula Mooser: (02) 9428 5593
mooserclan@exemail.com.au

Our networkers annual Christmas visits with our septua-plus generians produced a lot of positive and refreshing feedback, opportunities to talk with them in their native dialect and share some of the latest news of events and happenings in our community. We have planned with Mrs. Ida GUGGER the Seniors Luncheon for 2009, viz. the first one on 7th March at The Concordia Club and the second one

at The Eiger on 23rd May. As always, if you are aware of someone needing some assistance, please contact Ursula as mentioned above.

Armin Roth

Swiss Seniors of Sydney Area

2/73 Frederick Street
Rockdale NSW 2216
Contact: Ida Gugger (02) 9597 7096

Swiss Folk Dance Group 'Alpegruess'

President: Marco Nussbaumer
7 Wallace Street
Willoughby NSW 2068
Tel: (02) 9560 0666

Queensland

Swiss Society of Queensland Inc.

PO Box 10, Wellers Hill QLD 4121
President: Sybille Goss
Tel: (07) 3358 5183
ssq@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/ssq

Gruezi, bonjour, buongiorno, g'day to all Swiss in South East Queensland.

I am writing this article at the end of 2008 and by the time this Swiss Review will be in your letterboxes we will already be well into 2009. After a well deserved summer break we will again have all sorts of activities at the Club in the New Year. We finished off the year with the Squiz-Night, which was again very well attended. All the participants had lots of fun and the winner received a great 1st prize. In December, Santa Claus found the time again to visit us in the forest at Mt Cootha. Lots of families came along which was great and it's so nice to have a whole new generation of little Swissies taking part in the club activities - including Timothy who was only born in September and is our beautiful little baby (I am obviously a very proud mum).

Upcoming Events

15/2, 15/3, 19/4: Bushwalk

21/2: Fasnacht - Maskenball

22/2: Picnic at Jabiru Island Park
(Gold Coast)

5/4: Easter Bunny

26/4: 20th Jass Championship

Jass, every second Thursday. Contact Hans Heer on 07 3844 6529

Tennis, every Wednesday night from 7:30 pm in Fairfield. Call Marc on 07 3899 8996.

Please check our website to find more information about our bushwalks or any other ad-hoc activities. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our committee members and I look forward to meeting many of you soon!

Sybille Goss

Gold Coast Group

Contact: Franz Huber
Bus: (07) 5597 0666 / M: 0414 97 0666

Young Swiss Group

Contact: Matthias Neurohr
Tel: (07) 3376 1786
mneurohr@swiss.org.au

Swiss Yodel & Folklore Group Baerg-Roeseli

President: Jakob Berger
Tel: (07) 3206 6101
Secretary: Elsy Schuetz
Tel: (07) 3207 7101

We would also love to hear from anybody who would like to join the Choir. We meet every second Thursday for practice with Mark, our music teacher, who guides us through new songs.

Jakob Berger

Swiss Community Care Society (QLD Chapter)

Postal: SCCS, c/- Erika Vincent,
181 Kunghur Creek Rd. Kunghur 2484
President: Lortly Wihler
Tel: (07) 3298 5300 / Secretary:
Erika Vincent, Tel: (02) 6679 7210

Contact Sunshine Coast:
Ursula Sheldon, Tel: (07) 5443 4272

Have you considered becoming a member and receive our Newsletter three times a year, giving you details about our functions and other information regarding the Society?

We have two yearly functions and organise visits when something is amiss or when we know a person would like a visit. Anyone interested, please give us a call. Kind regards.

Lortly Wihler

Fraser Coast Group

Contact: Cecile Scherrer
Tel: (07) 4128 6326
Mobile: 0409 286 326
cecile@swiss.org.au
www.swiss.org.au/page.php?ID=105

We have very informal Get Togethers. Check the website or call for details...

Upcoming Events

7+8/2: Get Together at Erika & Alex

Burrum Heads

28-29/3: Fraser Coast Cultural Festival

Please check out details about the cultural festival on their website at: www.culturalfestivals.com.au. Alphorn-players from Sydney (Housi, Roesli und Brigitte) will perform; the longest Alphorns in Australia! If you would like to hop on the bus with performers from Brisbane, call Cecile; I could also help with cheap accommodation.

Cecile Scherrer

Swiss Club Sunshine Coast

President: Peter Schüpbach
Phone: (07) 5492 3825
peter.schuepbach@exemail.com.au
Treasurer: Vreni Bachmann
Phone: (07) 5437 0530
verena.bac@bigpond.com
www.swiss.org.au/scsc

Our Sunshine Coast club is only young and we welcome new members to join us for regular functions throughout the year. We are now already counting 60 members and are inviting all Sunshine Coast Swiss - young and old - to join us and take part in our upcoming events. Please check our website for more details.

Verena Bachmann