



The Canberra Swiss Club Inc.
Newsletter



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Upcoming Club Events

All events are subject to last minute changes/cancellations

Date (2022)	Event	Date (2022)	Event
Fri 25 Nov	AGM	Sun 4 Dec	Samiclaus Picnic
Fri 10 – Mon 13 March	Coast Weekend		

Your Swiss Club Committee

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Cancellations



Unfortunately, the weather was not kind for the planned Swiss National Day celebrations, nor for the fall-back option, so we had to cancel the event. This was a great shame, as the committee and other helpers had put a lot of time into organizing it. Let's hope that next year it can go ahead.

Alas the Austrian Club no longer has a venue for the Eisstock schiessen, so this was also cancelled. Fingers crossed that they can find a suitable venue next year.

President's Message

Dear Members,

It looks like we are finally getting warmer weather after the winter.

Talking about winter, in June we had our Fondue night at a new venue "Albert Hall". I have to say, I was very impressed with the "Albert Hall". It looked very beautiful and classy. Even the change from a Friday to Saturday night was a good move in my opinion. This helped the organisers by providing them with extra time to set up and organise the last-minute items for the night. As you know, this event couldn't be done without all the helpers and volunteers. We are always looking for additional help. The Fondue tasted great as always, and then the dinner was finished off with the fruit salad for dessert and tombola. Thank you to all the sponsors and members that brought a prize along. I had the pleasure to share a table with the Swiss Ambassador Caroline Bichet-Anthamatten and her husband as well as the president of the German Club Michael Fuller and his partner.

I would like to congratulate the committee and helpers for a great successful night!

Unfortunately, we had to postpone and then cancel the Swiss National Day celebrations due to all the rain we had in the area. It was just too wet at the farm to be able to park all the cars in the paddock without getting bogged. I like to thank the Lustenberger Family, for making their home available to host the Swiss National Day celebrations. Everything was organised and ready to go, except the weather. What a shame. We sold most of the sausages to members and have a few left in the freezer.

Congratulations to Sonja and Dave for organising the very successful National Jass Tournament. There was an enormous amount of work that they put in behind the scenes.

The next major event is the AGM. Please read through all the details in the newsletter! There is a venue change for the AGM. I hope that it will be a great evening with lots of fun, laughter, and great food.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or any other committee member.

Thank you.

Christoph Heiniger
President
Canberra Swiss Club.

Annual General Meeting

- When** Friday 25 November 2021
- Where** Ainslie Football Club, 52 Wakefield Ave, Ainslie
- Time** 6:15pm for 6:30pm AGM start
7:30pm dinner
- RSVP** Click on the [link](#) or scan the QR code



Nominations for the committee will also take place at the AGM. If you are interested in joining the committee, please email canberraswissclub@gmail.com

We require a Newsletter Editor as our current Newsletter Editor migrated to Switzerland last April and is busy with her new job. She is willing to write articles on Swiss Culture and provide recipes as well as the children's worksheet but does not unfortunately have the time to focus on preparing the newsletter.



Reminder – Coast Weekend



Don't forget to book accommodation at the NRMA Murramarang Beachfront Holiday Resort, South Durras for the Canberra Day Long Weekend (most people will be there from at least Friday night until the morning Monday 13 March 2023). Book through their website nrmaparksandresorts.com.au/murramarang or phone 1300 767 255. More details can be found in our May 2022 newsletter.

Samichlaus Picnic



- When:** Sunday 4 December
- Where:** Swiss Embassy, 7 Melbourne Ave, Forrest
- When:** 1 pm to approx. 4 pm
- Cost:** Free to all
- Bring:** a picnic rug, BBQ things, sunscreen, sunglasses, hats and games, such as a frisbee or soccer ball.
- RSVP:** Click on this [link](#) or scan the QR code



As the event is being held at the embassy, you must register by Friday 25 November 2022.

Goodie bags will be handed out to all the good children and adults. Santa will read a message to your child/ren. In Switzerland this is normally a few points on what good things they've done during the year and what they could improve on. You can provide details of what you would like to be read to your child in the RSVP form

Sometimes Schmutzli even finds some naughty adults to hit with his broom! We hope to see you all there. And thank you to the Embassy for hosting this event.



Annual Fondue Night – June 2022

Once again the club put on its annual fondue night, this time in a new venue. Ninety Six years young Albert Hall was the location of choice and its grand old charm was well received by all that attended. With Covid still causing restrictions, this venue, ordinarily capable of seating 400 gave us plenty of room to spread out. Were we cold? No, heating was installed after WWII.

Over 80 members and guests attended the event, including the current Swiss ambassador Mrs Caroline Bichet-Anthamatten. Numbers were down on previous years, we assume due to the pandemic.

The tombola was run with plenty of prizes donated by attendees and non attendees including a donation of six knives from Victorinox. The draw was assisted by the ambassador, who graciously stuck with us throughout the whole presentation stating 'it was fun'.

The club's new (donated) coffee machine got a good workout, with many enjoying a freshly made cappuccino, latte or the ever popular flat white.





The committee thanks all the volunteers who assisted in running the event, without them we would not be able host such a wonderful night.

Mulligans Flat Bird Walk

After having to cancel the first attempt at the bushwalk because of rain, members of the club met on the rescheduled day at 10.30am at the Amy Ackman car park in Forde in the blistering heatwave of 7.6 degrees.

We made our way to the main entrance gate 10 mins walk away to enter the 1286 hectare (established 1994) fenced sanctuary which is part of the Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve. This combined with the adjoining Goorooyaroo Nature Reserve gives Canberra an 18km² protected woodland, the largest of its type in Aus!



At the entrance



Our first stop was the woolshed where we looked at the exhibit, it gives a glimpse into what life was once like. The woolshed is not the original as it burnt down during the 1996 fires. This woolshed was built in the 1930s on an adjacent property called Forest View and moved to this location as a preservation project.

Outside the woolshed

We then commenced the 6.5km Bird walk which takes in a few of the sanctuary dams. Luckily one of our party (Sonja) had downloaded the available app and we got an audio tour of different features/species as we made our way along the trail. The heatwave kept the wildlife at bay, no doubt huddled somewhere to keep warm. We did see a few wallabies and plenty of birds mainly in the proximity of the dams and some fungi for the amateur mycologists.



Checking out the (honey) fungi



At the biggest dam – watching the birds

By 1.20pm we had completed the relatively flat walk and had enjoyed ourselves immensely. With temperatures now hitting double figures (10.3 degrees) we opted instead of a picnic lunch to accept the offer to attend a member's house nearby and partake of our luncheon in the warmth of the indoors.

Note: fun has been made of the temperature but while walking it was quite pleasant. Hope to see more of you at the next walk TBA.

Cheers for now.

11th Australian Jass Tournament

The long weekend in June 2022 was the first time the Australian Jass Tournament was held in Canberra. The weekend started with a casual get together dinner which was attended by almost every participant (plus several guests) and this set the tone for the tournament: fun and socialising.

There were 48 players across 12 tables, supported by 6 volunteer helpers on the day, with people travelling from ACT, NSW, VIC, QLD and even WA! The Gungahlin Lakes and Community Club proved to be the perfect venue, providing catering and a private playing area. It was a full day, with 10 rounds of card-playing and while it was the national competition, it was very much a friendly relaxed event with players of all skill levels. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed meeting old friends and making new ones, with most people and their families attending the official dinner following the tournament.

There were enough donations for all participants to receive a prize, and additionally everyone received a commemorative engraved playing card bottle opener.

Thanks for the donations from Swiss Embassy (who created a lovely first prize hamper), Swiss Club of NSW and the Swiss Jass-Club of Victoria (prizes including chocolates), SwissMech Equipment (prize money and prizes), and our members Eva Capeder (schnapps) and Cathy Schmidli (wine). The Canberra Swiss Club hosted the event and also donated some Wild Brumbies schnapps.





Vermicelles

A traditional Swiss dessert in Autumn that is made with chestnuts. It goes hand in hand with walks to view the magnificent array of autumn colours in the forests and vineyards



- 450 ml milk
- 1 kg shelled chestnuts
- 300 ml water
- 6 tbsp sugar
- ½ vanilla pod, seeds scraped out
- 1 tsp kirsch
- 4 – 8 meringues
- 200 ml whipped cream
- A few glace cherries

Method

1. Heat milk and add the chestnuts. Allow the mixture to simmer. For fresh chestnuts, cook for about 40-50 minutes. For frozen chestnuts, allow about 10 – 20 minutes cooking time.
2. Puree the mixture and allow to cool.
3. Simmer the water, sugar, and vanilla paste for about 15 minutes until it is a syrup like consistency.
4. Add the hot syrup to the chestnut puree and mix well. Add kirsch to your liking. The mixture should be soft and spreadable.
5. Place the meringues on four plates and press the chestnut mixture through a vermicelli press or a noodle press and decorate with cherries.
6. The chestnut mixture can be frozen for up to 12 months.



You can buy the vermicelli press online in Australia.

Something for the children



Autumn is the time of the year of the lantern festivals, sometimes known as St Martins Procession depending on the area you live in.

The children will carve a turnip or sugarbeet at school (in pre school with the help of their parents, in primary school independently) and then they shown them off in a procession whilst singing songs.

<p>1.</p>  <p>Using a pizza cutter, cut four double lines from top to bottom and add some right-angle lines between.</p>	<p>2.</p>  <p>Between the lines using a star cookie cutter to press in star shapes.</p>	<p>3.</p>  <p>Carefully use a penknife to remove the star. Continue to decorate the turnip.</p>
<p>4.</p>  <p>Cut the lid with a large kitchen knife.</p>	<p>5.</p>  <p>Using a flower form cookie cutter, cut out a flower shape in the lid.</p>	<p>6.</p>  <p>Using a small ice-cream scoop, scoop out the flesh.</p>

<p>7.</p>  <p>Straighten up the internal edges with a knife.</p>	<p>8.</p>  <p>Make three holes in the lid and body with tooth picks.</p>	<p>9.</p>  <p>Cut three lengths of string 60 cm long. Use a needle or fine crochet hook to thread the string and tie three knots inside the turnip.</p>
<p>10.</p>  <p>Thread the string through the three holes in the lid and carefully pull it through.</p>	<p>11.</p>  <p>Pull the string together and tie it in a knot.</p>	<p>12.</p>  <p>Pierce three tooth picks into the inside bottom of the turnip so that a tealight can fit between them.</p>

And have fun singing this song! You can listen to it by clicking on this [link](#).



Ich goh mit minre Latärne und mini Latärne mit mir.
Am Himmel lüüchtet d'Sterne, do unde lüüchtet mir.
De Gügge chrait uind d'Chatz miaut.
Eh, eh, eh, la bimmel, la bimmel, la bumm.

I'm walking with my lantern and my lantern is walking with me
In heaven the stars are alight, and down here we are alight
The cockerel is crowing, and the cat is meowing
Eh, eh, eh la bimmel, la bimmel, la bumm

What do you know about Canton Bern?

1



The Bern Councils Erlach and Twann share a half island which is found in Lake Biel. The peninsula is much loved by tourists and was originally an island. What is the original name of it?

- a St. Petersinsel
- b St. Paulsinsel and Vacherin
- c St Piusinsel

2



The Swiss author Friedrich Glauser created stories about a fictional subordinate of the Bernese Police, including stories and novels such as Matto Reigns and Smurf Erwin. What was his name?

- a Constable Heinrich Gretler
- b Constable Jakob Studer
- c Constable Beat Meier

3



There have occasionally been changes to Swiss cantonal borders during Switzerland's history. In 1979 after a referendum, which part of Bern split away?

- a An area that is now known as Canton Jura
- b Laufental became affiliated with Canton Basel Country.
- c The half Canton Inner Schwyz

4



The city of Bern has been considered the capital of Switzerland and has housed many federal institutions. Which one does not have its main residence in Bern?

- a Federal Parliament
- b Federal Assembly
- c Federal Court

5



The city of Bern offers a number of alternative cultural institutions. Which one was founded as an autonomous centre in Marzili in 1971 and especially appeals to a younger audience

- a Dampfzentrale
- b Gasskessel
- c Reithalle

6



Bern is officially bilingual. Which unofficial border separates the predominantly French speaking areas of the canton from the mainly German speaking areas?

- a Röstigraben
- b Foie-gras-Graben
- c Rüscheegg-Graben

7



The new passenger bridge was inaugurated at Bern main train station. Under what name is the pedestrian crossing known for given its architectural originality?

- a Wonder of Bern
- b Wave of Bern
- c Guard of Bern

8



Switzerland is world famous for its amazing range of cheeses. One type of hard cheese is famous throughout Switzerland and was first invented in a valley in Bern. What is it called?

- a Greyère
- b Appenzell
- c Emmental

9



He is one of the best known Swiss rock stars. What is the name of the singer which became famous with "Pas d'amis comme toi" and was born in Buchsi?

- a Stephan Eicher
- b Holger Edmaier
- c Benedikt Eichhorn

10



The city Biel/Bienne is not only famous for watches but also for its cobblestones. What type of stones are they?

- A missiles
- b amber
- c pralines

Chäesteilet



Every year in September the farmers come together in the Justis valley high up in the mountains above Lake Thun to take the cows down the mountains before the snow arrives. During the summer the milk produced by the cows feeding on the lush green alpine pastures is made into cheese in the mountain cheese factories. On the day of the procession, the cheese is divided amongst the farmers based on a tradition spanning hundreds of years.

Whilst it is not the only place to do this, this event on the Spycher mountain is famous beyond the cantonal borders and is visited by many a tourist and local alike. The milk is collected from over 250 cows that belong to the

farmers in the area of Sigriswil. The farmers and the cheesemakers, as well as their friends and family dress in the local costumes and celebrate the end of the season with homemade breads, meats and of course cheese. Spontaneous yodelling is not uncommon and the cows are dressed in beautiful flowers to celebrate a successful return to the valley.

