

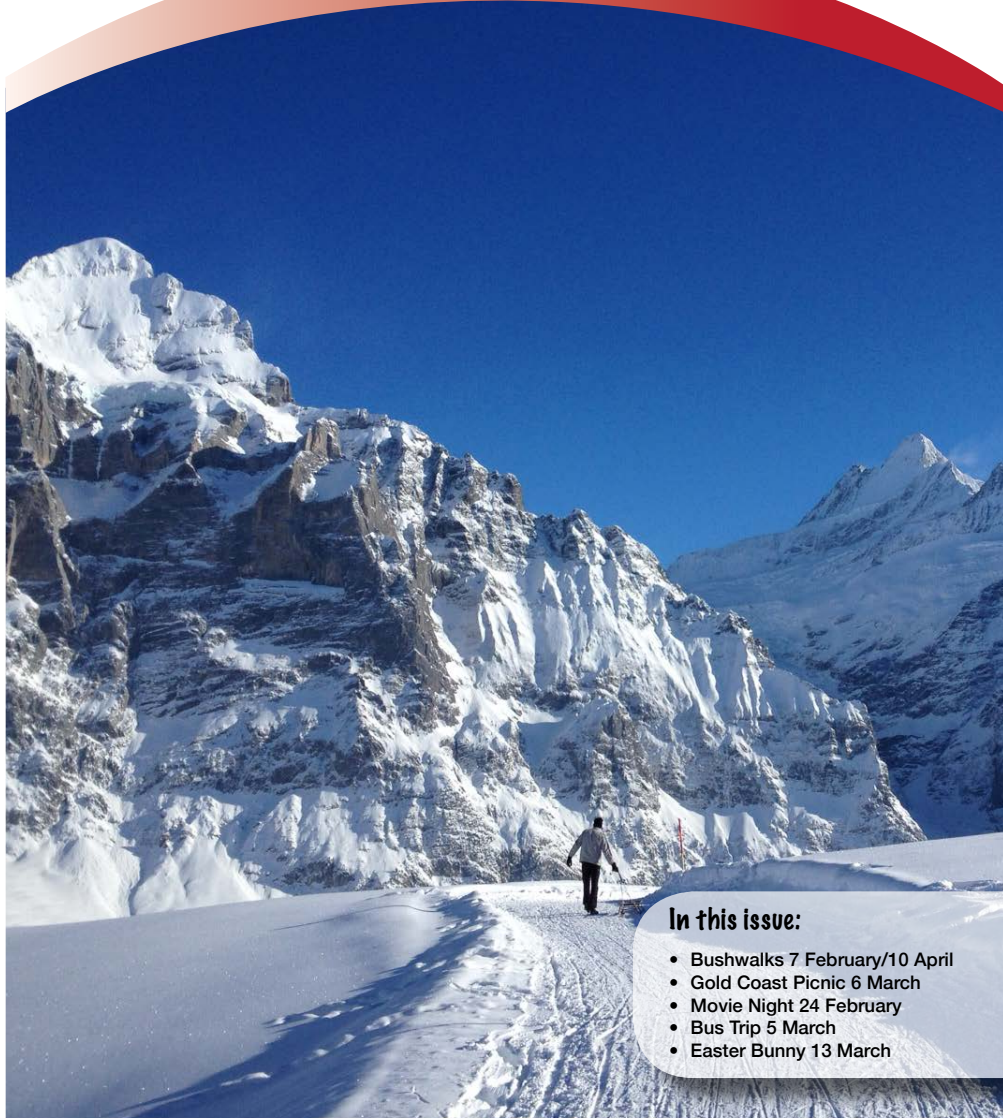


SWISS

Queensland

news

www.swiss.org.au/ssq



In this issue:

- Bushwalks 7 February/10 April
- Gold Coast Picnic 6 March
- Movie Night 24 February
- Bus Trip 5 March
- Easter Bunny 13 March

Ho, Ho, Ho, Santa arrived in style!



It was fantastic to see everyone for our first Swiss Santa picnic. What a fantastic turnout, almost 40 kids waited! My little one was so happy to see Santa arrive in a 2CV and get his present. He had his first taste of gingerbread and it even had his name on it, it was very special.

What a piping hot day it was! It was a shame that the children could only play in the dry

creek bed. The little ones love to splash around and cool off in the water.

Here's an idea for next Xmas: why don't members nominate their family's favourite place and the Swiss Club Committee evaluates the suitability of each venue and creates a short list for members all to vote on.

Nadja Surbeck



DEADLINE

For submissions for
issue 2/2016:
16 March 2016

**THE MISSION OF THE
SWISS SOCIETY**

***Preserve and promote
the Swiss heritage
and goodwill
between Australia
and Switzerland
through social and
cultural activities.***

DISCLAIMER

Letters published in this
brochure do not necessarily
reflect the opinions of
the committee.

When photos are taken at
events, please advise the
photographer(s) if you do
not wish your picture to
appear in the Swiss News.
Otherwise we presume you
consent for photos of you/
your children to be published
in the Swiss News.

ABN
79 756 877 680

President's Report

Dear members and friends of the SSQ,

I hope the New Year has started well
for you all and you can enjoy the long
Summer days. Although I can hear some
of you saying "if only that heat would be
over, I can't stand it..."

I am writing this report while all the
nail biting tennis stuff is going on in
Melbourne. So exciting and at the same time very relaxing. Some of
us "represented" the Swiss Community at the Brisbane International
2016 tennis event in December and we were very lucky to collect a
signature again from Roger Federer, who is just such a gentleman.
Unfortunately he didn't win (he suffered from the flu and therefore
didn't play as well as he could).

2015 finished with the "Samichlaus" visit at Slaughters Falls. It
was absolutely delightful to welcome 39 children and their parents.
Although a hot day, I think everyone enjoyed welcoming Santa in his
fabulous red Deux-Cheveaux! A huge thank you to Santa and his
helpers for bringing joy to so many Swozzi-kids.

We are starting the year with a repeat walk through the Noosa Heads
National Park. Should we work up a sweat we then have the chance
to dip into the ocean, before heading back along the shore.

On Wednesday, 24 February is our first Movie Night followed by the
Bus Trip on Saturday, 5 March. We had a ball at last year's bus trip
and we hope to have a group of cheerful people attending again.

The visit of the Easter Bunny is also not far away on 13 March.
Parents, please book early, it helps us to get the goodies organised.
Thank you.

In 2015 we celebrated the first "50 Years of the Swiss Club", and we
hope the next 50 will be as successful. Now as we all had a good
break we are ready for another year of organising all the different
activities.

I'm looking forward to seeing all the regulars, the ones who have
dropped off the radar for a while, and the new members at our
various functions. We from the committee love to have a chat and will
always find time for it.

Your President
Rita von Rotz



Happy Birthday René

René Alini, Swiss Society Committee member, recently celebrated his 70-th birthday with many friends and of course a very special music performance!

Happy Birthday René!



A warm welcome to our new members:

- Bawden Claudia and Marcus with Bryce and Finnley – Shorncliffe
- Geisseler Andrea and Baker Stuart – Ormeau
- Rippstein Mark and Jacqueline with Aline and Cecile – Kenmore
- Sendall Fabienne and Shane with Erin, Jesse, Tabea – Carindale

We welcome you to the Swiss Society of Queensland and look forward to getting to know you at one of our next events.

Please contact any of the committee members for info about the club (see contact details on page 24).

Have you changed your contact details?

Please let us know so we can update our records.
Anita Meier, Secretary, call 0401 957 309 or email anita.meier72@bigpond.com



Mark it in
your calendar!

Qld Jass Meisterschaft

Sunday, 24 April 2016

Pls book early on the website or call,
text Rita on 0431 707 144

For a good cause

The Swiss Community Care Society helps fellow Swiss members in need. Why not become a life member? Or for just \$20/year (couple) you can help out.

SCCS membership costs are as follows:

Single	\$15/year
Couple	\$20/year
Companies	\$100/year
Life member single	\$150
Life member couple	\$225

Please make your payment to:

Commonwealth Bank, BSB 064 144,
Acct No. 10061973 with your name in the
description so we can identify your payment.

Call Anita Bickel on 07 3122 7007 or
email: anita@swiss.org.au for infos.

Swiss News of Queensland

Do you have a story, a photo or some news or even a joke you would like to share with the Swiss in Queensland? Send us some text and a picture or a link to some interesting story for our next SNQ magazine!

Please mail to editor@swiss.org.au



Swiss Community Care Society

QUEENSLAND CHAPTER A.B.N. 28 446 153 022

www.swiss.org.au/sccsq



President: Lorly Wihler 07 3298 5300
Vice President: Marianne Bucher 07 3841 6239
Secretary: Erika Vincent 02 6672 8591
Treasurer: Anita Bickel 07 3122 7007
anita@swiss.org.au

Committee Member for the Sunshine Coast:

Ursula Sheldon 07 5443 4272
Committee: Silvia Alini 07 3848 7519
Marlies Lymann 07 3397 8359
Susanne Dolle 0408 191 537

Postal: SCCS, Erika Vincent, 35 Myrtle Street, Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Dear Members, Compatriots and Friends,

Happy New Year to all of you, may 2016 bring you Good Health and Happiness!

We ended 2015 on a high note with our yearly Christmas Lunch. This time it was at a new venue, the Sea Scouts Hall at Graceville. A rather nice spot with tables out on a large veranda overlooking the Brisbane River. Josef Berner prepared the delicious lunch and dessert, and the SCCS members got busy baking the "Guetsli" (cookies) for the "Chlaussaeckli" (Santa bags). We even sang a few of the German Christmas songs out of our Swiss song book. Altogether an enjoyable way to spend a day.

Before the lunch we had our AGM. The existing committee has been reinstated as all the current committee members agreed to stand again and there were no other nominations.



Christmas Lunch at the Sea Scouts Hall, Graceville



From left: Lorly Wihler and Silvia Alini

Two of our members, Lorly and Marlies, are at present in Switzerland, enjoying the cool weather and possibly some snow. However, as both are in Zuerich I am not sure how much snow there is still falling at present. Given the global warming and general climate change, it may be only "Pflotsch" they are getting. In any case they have escaped our Summer heat and that alone makes a trip to Switzerland worthwhile.

For us poor souls left behind and sweltering in the heat it is "business as usual".

We are keen to hear from anybody who needs our attention!

Stay cool!

Regards
Erika Vincent



Swiss Yodel & Folklore Group

www.swiss.org.au/syfg



Email: syfg@swiss.org.au

President: Katja Wallimann Gates

Secretary: Iris Roethlisberger

Treasurer: Peter Weidmann

Phone/Fax: 07 3871 1339

Phone: 07 3285 4818

Phone: 07 3397 8359/

Fax: 07 3397 0356



Dear friends of the choir,

I hope you all had a good start into 2016. As we write this article, the choir has not started the new year but will soon meet for the first time. We are looking forward to seeing our friends at our regular rehearsals.

At the end of last year we were working on putting our new program together, but it is not too late for a special request that you would like us to add to the program. Please let us know if there is a song or music piece that we should consider.

If someone would like to join us, now would be an excellent time. We will learn a few

new songs and decide which of the old favorites we are taking up again. This is our time to learn, discuss the meaning of our new songs while teaching our teacher about Swiss culture and enjoying the friendship and fellowship of our rehearsals. It is not all work and the hardest part of the evening is leaving because we have to get up in the morning and can't continue the interesting discussions.

We hope to see you in the audience during some of our performances later in the year and wish you all the best for 2016.

Katja and Kevin



The Baerg-Roeseli group at Buderim

Baerg-Roeseli

SWISS YODEL &
FOLKLORE



Gold Coast Group

www.swiss.org.au/gcs



Email: gcs@swiss.org.au

Contact: Franz Huber

Bruno Vogt

Hansruedi & Merla Schwegler

Phone: 07 5530 5061, Mobile: 0414 970 666

Phone: 07 5559 4600

Phone: 07 5529 4763

Family Picnic Day

Sunday, 6 March 2016

Please join us for our Family Picnic Day at the Gold Coast, let's catch-up and explore the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Garden.

It is a loop road entrance to the garden, parking on site, children's playground, boardwalk around the lake, and an off-leash dog area are available.

Watch for the Swiss flags. Bring chairs please and your own salad and a dessert to share would be appreciated.

Bratwurst, Cervelats, Fleischkaese with bread and some drinks will be available for sale.

Date: 6 March 2016

Time: From 10am

Where: Gold Coast Regional Botanic Garden, Rosser Park, Benowa, Ashmore Rd (opposite Benowa State High School), UBD Map 38 M10

Info: Ruedi/Merla 5529 4763
Bruno 0407 593 826



We enjoyed the End-of-the-Year picnic in December, catching up with friends

Mark it in your calendar!

Saturday, 4 June 2016

The famous Gold Coast "Metzgete" will be on again!

at Country Paradise Parklands, 231 Beaudesert-Nerang Road, Nerang, Qld 4211
(more info to follow).



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Fraser Coast Group

www.swiss.org.au/page.php?ID=105



Email: cecile@swiss.org.au

Contact: Cecile Scherrer Phone: 07 4194 0105, Mobile: 0409 286 326

18 Grey Gum Ct, Urraween Qld 4655

Invitation to Swiss-Aussie-Families

Since August 2001: Get-Togethers for Aussie-Swiss families in February/May/August/December. Including Bauple, Maryborough, Childers, Bundaberg, etc.

Mark it in your calendar!

Please note the following events for 2016. Call or email Cecile for more information. All welcome!

Carnival at the Pool

Saturday 6 February 2016
in the Booral area
with *Fasnachts-Chuechli*,
Chaes and *Ziebelwaie* and
Mehlsuppe

Movie Night

Wednesday, 9 March 2016
at Brolga Theatre (see info)

BBQ at the Beach

Saturday, 7 May 2016
at the Beach
With "Spanish Broetli" for
Mothers Day

Swiss Nationalday

Sunday, 31 July 2016
in a backyard
with *Servelats* and *Bratwurst*

Samichlaus + Grittibaenzen

Saturday/Sunday
3/4 December 2016
Where: to be announced
with "Dough men" competition

And we enjoyed the **Santa Claus event** (albeit without Santa...)

23 adults and 5 children enjoyed lunch and afternoon together in Cecile's Backyard. Kids had fun in the donated plastic pool. Santa was better paid in the Shopping Centres so could not make it to our function but ordered "Miss Santa" to hand out the bags to the kids on his behalf...



Where was Santa....?



Fraser Coast Group

And we celebrated Christmas

On 24 December 2015 a group of 19 Swiss and Multicultural friends had a lovely evening together and “Christkind” surprised each with a gift from the OP-Shops – it was fun to unwrap the treasures.



Swiss Culture Caf

Thursday, 3 March 2016

We agreed to supply food and presentation and decoration for the monthly Migrant Settlement happening in our area.

Usually about 200 people attend these morning tea/lunches and help is available from kitchen.



Movie Night

Wednesday, 9 March 2016

“Clouds of Sils Maria” Cannes - Swiss Film
6.30pm at Brolga Theatre, Federation Room

Kristen Stewart and Juliette Binoche star in a movie directed by Olivier Assayas. Presented by our Cinema Club of the Maryborough Regional Arts Council

Wishing everybody a Happy and Healthy New Year and many lovely gatherings with family and friends.

Cecile, on behalf of the Fraser Coast Swiss Group



Let's WALK!



Beautiful Noosa Heads

Sunday, 7 February 2016

Because it is still summerish, our first walk for 2016, on 7 February, is an easy coastal walk with plenty of sea breezes and swimming opportunities.

By popular demand we are doing a walk through Noosa Heads National Park.

The walk follows the coastal track from the main Noosa Heads National Park car park along the coast all the way to Sunshine Beach. We will pass Tea Tree Bay, Granite Bay and walk the length of Alexandria Bay.

It is about 5km to Sunshine Beach with a few steep down and up hill sections including a long set of stairs and 1km of beach walking. The walk should take about 3 to 4 hours depending how often we stop for a swim or a view.

We aim to leave the NP carpark (end of Park Rd, Noosa Heads) at 10 am. It is a 2 hour drive from Brisbane. Before we leave we will put a car at the end of the walk on Seaview Tce, Sunshine Beach, so that the drivers can go and get their cars at the end of the walk. That way we can walk the track one way only.

The idea is to have an easy fun day, nothing too hard yet.

Don't forget to bring your hat, sunscreen, swimmers, and wear good walking shoes.

Noosa Heads



When: Sunday, 7 February 2016

Level: Easy

Meet: Noosa National Park, 9.30am, at main car park off Park Rd, Noosa Heads. Make sure you get there a bit earlier to find a car park.

RSVP: Essential so that we don't leave without you. RSVP online.

Car pool: if you want to car pool please RSVP by 5 Feb 2016

Contact: Peter Zuend via 0488 738 371 or bushwalkers@swiss.org.au



West Canungra Circuit

Sunday, 10 April 2016

This is the classic O'Reillys waterfalls circuit. We should still have plenty of water going over the falls from the summer rains. If it is raining, blue crayfish should be out on the track. Bring your swimmers for some cool waterholes. It is relatively long (13.9km) track and is expected to take about 6 hours so you need to be reasonably walk fit. It is a two hour drive each way so we plan to leave Brisbane, 7am. Please register online or by email.

When: Sunday, 10 April 2016

Level: Moderate

Car pool: Register on line by 7 April to arrange meeting / cars

Meet: O'Reillys main car park, 9am

Further info and register:
bushwalkers@swiss.org.au

Mark it in your calendar!

Other planned walks for 2016

5 June – Mt. Beerwah, Glasshouse Mtns (Hard)

3 July – Mt Greville, Scenic Rim (Hard)

4 September – Point Lookout, Stradbroke Island, lets have a whale of a time (Easy)

6 November – Cedar Pocket Dam to Kondallia Falls, Blackall Range, swimfest (Moderate)

For all bushwalks also refer to the SSQ website, www.swiss.org.au, where you can register online, get infos, etc.



Schwizerduetschi Spielgruppe – Swiss German Play group

Are you a Swiss German speaking family with young children and are you interested in a regular playgroup meeting? This is a great opportunity for children and mums and dads to improve their conversation in Swiss German.

If you are interested please contact Sandra and she will add you to the mailing list.

Sandra Landolt, phone 0402 655 158 or
email sandrandolt@yahoo.com.au

The group is going to meet on a more ad-hoc basis. Please register your name and email address with Sandra and we will inform you via our email newsletter about upcoming meetings.

For info see also our blog at <http://swissplaygroup.blogspot.com>



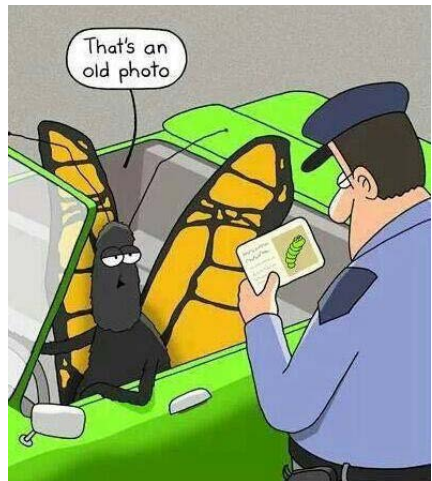
The Joke Box:

Must do my...SUDOKU!

		2					5	
				8	2		6	
6						2		8
				6	3			9
	9		5				1	2
	5		2					
		1						7
8	2			3				
		5	1	4		8		

Sudoku is an 81 square number grid with nine blocks each containing nine cells. To solve the puzzle, fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

Let's hope Santa has been kind to you!

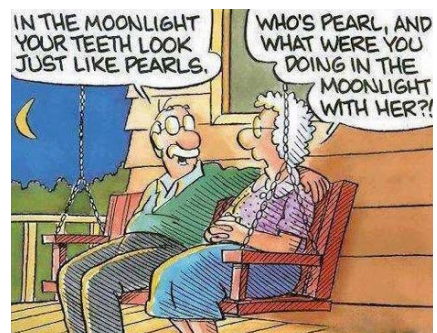


Hmm, sorry, no translation available...

Sait ds einte Arschbäggli zum andere:
I ha di so gärn, chum mir hürote! Git
ds andere zur Antwort: Das brengts
ned, mir gönd eh bi jedem Schissdräck
usenand!

Ä Ma mit starkem Sunnebrand a de Bei
chunnt zum Arzt. "I gib ihne für d'Nacht
Viagra." "Jä hilft das?" "Nei, aber
s'lüpft wenigstens d'Deckli über dä
Oberschänkel!"

Wie verhüete Hüener? Mit Clerasil, de
giz nämlech kener Bibeli!



Movie Night

Wednesday, 24 February 2016



Please join us for a fun evening, which we will start with a small dinner (Wienerli, Brot), then we will watch the film, and end the evening with a yummie dessert and chatting with friends.

Date: Wednesday, 24 February 2016
Time: 6 pm, movie starts at 7pm
Venue: Anglican Church Hall
56 Racecourse Road, Ascot
Cost: Gold Coin Donation for the movie
\$10 for dinner and dessert or
\$4 for dessert and coffee only
RSVP: Online or Rita von Rotz, m 0431 707 144
email: tari@swiss.org.au

DER VERDINGBUB by Markus Imboden

Max is an orphan who has been hired out to a farmer's family. His foster parents treat him like a workhorse while their son seizes every opportunity to humiliate him. Playing the accordion is the one thing that is entirely his. But when the new teacher stands up for Max, it only makes a bad situation much worse. The only thing preserving his will to survive is his friendship with Berteli, who was also taken on to work at the farm. Max dreams of Argentina with her: a fantasy world, where allegedly even hayforks are made of silver.

Did you know...

- If you type in any flight number into Google, you can see exactly where the plane is and how long until arrival.
- All garments and fabrics on Air Force One are exclusively supplied by a Swiss company. As the leader in fashion for public transportation, Lantal has one very prominent customer: The President of the United States of America!
- I bet you never knew that there is a strong tie between your daily Starbucks and Switzerland! No less than 75% of worldwide trading activity for wholesale coffee happens in Switzerland - namely in places like Zug or Winterthur! Like with most commodity trading, the coffee never physically passes through Switzerland. Instead, companies like Starbucks, Nestlé or Kraft Foods have their global purchasing centers for coffee strategically located in CH.

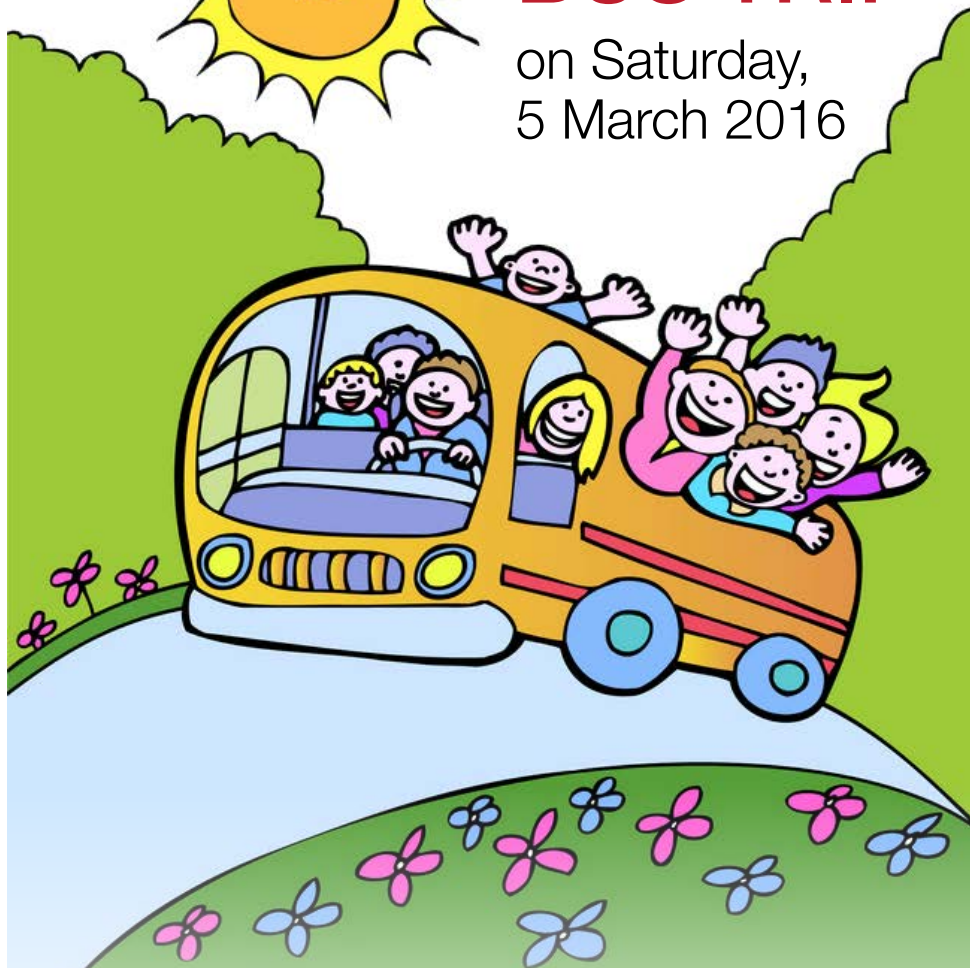




Join us for a fun

BUS TRIP

on Saturday,
5 March 2016



to the beautiful Sunshine Hinterland and
the magical Maleny Botanical Gardens



Date: Saturday, 5 March 2016

Time: 7.15am for 7.30am departure

Meet: Middle of Austin St, Newstead, Brisbane

Cost: \$85 per person (\$5 reduction for concession card holder, \$15 reduction for children 3 to 16 years)

Cost includes bus, entry to the exquisite Maleny Botanic Gardens and 3 course lunch meal

RSVP: by Monday 22 February 2016
(bookings and payment required by 6pm)

José Jungo 0419 900 486
email: josesunstar@gmail.com

Anita Meier 0401 957 309
email: anita.meier72@bigpond.com

Payment:

Pre-paid Reservations only!

Payable to SWISS SOCIETY OF QLD
EFT Direct Bank payment to:
Westpac: BSB 034002 – Account 708120
please include the name of your party so we can identify your payment.

Or: by cheque (pls send no cash)
payable to: Swiss Society of Queensland,
PO Box 3240 Newstead Qld 4006



<http://www.malenybotanicgardens.com.au/>

Trip Information

We will meet half way down Austin Street Newstead where there is plenty of free parking, please be on time, we can make one additional stop on our way north.

There will be a coffee stop at Mary Cairncross Park where the legend of the Glass House Mountains will be explained.

We will then head for the Maleny Botanic Gardens (see picture below) and enjoy beautiful flowers, birds, ponds with a view, gazebos with seats, and much more.

Depending on time, we might have a stop for wine testing. And of course there will be fun games on board!

Our highlight will be the 3-course meal in a well-known fully licensed French restaurant.

Information zur Busfahrt

Wir treffen uns um 7.15 Uhr auf halbem Weg entlang Austin Street in Newstead, wo genügend Parkplätze zur Verfügung stehen. Um 7.30 Uhr fährt der Bus los, ich bitte euch, pünktlich zu sein.

Der erste Halt für eine Kaffee Pause wird beim Mary Cairncross Park sein, dort wird uns dann über eine Legende der eindrucksvollen Glass House Mountains erzählt.

Weiter geht es dann zum Botanischen Garten in Maleny, wo man die nicht alltaegliche Flora und Fauna bestaunen kann.

Wenn es die Zeit erlaubt, können wir dann bei einem Weinbauern einen Zwischenhalt machen und Weine probieren.

Der Höhepunkt des Tages ist das Mittagessen in einem sehr bekanntem französischen Restaurant. Es besteht aus einer Vorspeise, einer Hauptspeise und einem Dessert.

Für Unterhaltung auf dem Bus wird natuerlich auch gesorgt.

We hope you can join us for the day.

José



EASTER Bunny is coming soon!

on Sunday, 13 March 2016

All Swiss members and their families are welcome to join us again for the big Easter Basket Hunt.

The Easter Bunny will visit us at Wellington Point, which is approx. 20kms from Brisbane. Perched out on the tip of a peninsula, Wellington Point is a popular day-trip destination. Take your swimmers for a dip in the water and soccer ball, frisbee, etc for a play on the grass.

There are BBQs available and a playground for kids. We will also be doing some craft activities and egg painting for the little and not so little ones.

Date: Sunday, 13 March 2016

Time: 9.30am onwards

Venue: Wellington Point, end of Main Road.
We will set up to the left, where the playground and beach is.

Cost: Member kids free. Non-member kids \$7 each

RSVP: By 5 March 2016
Sybille Goss, 0424 064 789
email: sybille@swiss.org.au

Bring: Picnic, drinks, swimming gear, soccer ball, frisbee, sunscreen, fold up chairs



And we welcomed **Roger Federer** to the Brisbane International Tennis 2016

A crowd of almost 100,000 fans (and of course some of them Swiss ;-)) attended the 8-day tennis at the Brisbane International 2016, where Milos Raonic (Canada) and Victoria Azarenka (Belarus) were crowned men's and women's singles champions. Milos Raonic has defeated Roger Federer to win his first Brisbane International tournament in a brilliant start to his 2016 season.

Final score: Federer 4 4, Raonic 6 6

Some facts:

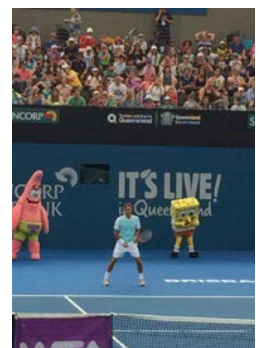
- The most engaging post of the tournament was a video clip of Roger Federer who

played tennis with a giant racquet on Suncorp Kids Tennis Day.

- The stringers hut restrung 894 racquets, using just under 9km of string.
- Matches were officiated by 100 umpires and linespersons from around Australia and overseas.
- Twenty international officials attended the event from 14 countries including Croatia, Norway, Sweden, Italy, South Africa, China and Korea.
- A total of 12,468 Wilson tennis balls were used throughout the event.



Lots of Swiss were there on Sunday, the first day of the Tennis, and Roger Federer was very patient and generous with signing all the articles handed to him.



My story... or "get to know your SSQ members"

Hello, my name is **Marianne Bucher**.

I came to Australia with my husband in 1988. Two years prior Walter started the process of getting a visa for Australia. Then the Australian Consulate was in Bern and it took some time to get his trade qualification recognised.

We married before coming out, otherwise I would have to apply myself.

The adventure started in April 88, we booked a one way ticket to Sydney. We had not been to Australia before and we thought we come and have a go. There was always the option to go back home. Coming from the winter, we soon decided that we wanted a warmer climate, so the Greyhound bus took us to Brisbane.

It was in 1988 and it was not easy to find a place to stay, because Expo was on (low vacancy rate) and the real estate people didn't trust us. After a short stay in a youth Hostel and a Boarding house in Annerey, we found a unit in Fairfield.

We met Erika V as she was a social worker and had a client in the Boarding house. She introduced us to Radio 4EB. The convenor of the Swiss Group was John Portmann and I helped him with many programs to go on air.

The government provided us with English classes, first in Dutton Park and then at South Brisbane Tafe. Migrants from all over the world came to the classes and many wanted to study after they had improved English. So I decided I wanted to study Nursing. I got accepted and studied a Bachelor of Nursing at QUT. They just phased out the hospital training for nurses and shifted nursing to university. I finished the course in 1992 and became a registered nurse. There were many jobs and I got into the post grad year



Walter and Marianne Bucher

at Greenslopes Repatriation hospital, which is now a private hospital owned by Ramsay, called Greenslopes Private.

In 1991 we bought a small house on the southside, at Wishart, a 3bed 1 bath 1lug on a 600m2 block, it was a spec home and brand new, for \$133,800.00! It was quite expensive, but living costs were much cheaper (wages were low as well).

In 1995, we became a family with the arrival of daughter Nancy, and two years later our son Kieren arrived. It was

hard to bring up a family without any family support. That's probably the thing I missed the most, especially for the kids not to have cousins and aunts/uncles and grandparents around. But we managed and the children did not know any different.

Bringing up a family, school commitments, sports and other commitments as well as to work (I worked part time, Walter full time) kept us very busy. I am really glad that the children are just about to leave home!! When they finish their studies and leave, I hope I have more time for myself. We hope to travel more, within Australia and overseas, maybe move closer to the beach.

We still live on the southside, having built a new home in Rochedale about 4 years ago.

We are members of the Swiss Club and have enjoyed organised bushwalk, camping weekends as well as social functions. When the children were younger, we attended Samichlaus and Easter Bunny, and for a while they were part of the children's dance group. I am also a member of the Swiss Community Care.

I like Switzerland but I call Australia home, I love the climate and the lifestyle is easy going.

What's your story? Please send us a short text (word files or email) and perhaps a photo so we can publish it in the Swiss News. editor@swiss.org.au





Regular JASSEN



The social Jass Group meets every 2nd Wednesday evening, from 6pm at the **Gallopers Sports Club, Cnr Lancaster and Nudgee Rds, Ascot, Brisbane 4007.**

Everybody welcome.

JASS Dates 2016

Feb 3 • Feb 17
 Mar 2 • Mar 16 • Mar 30
 Apr 13 • Apr 27 • May 11 • May 25
 June 8 • June 22 • July 6 • July 20
 Aug 3 • Aug 17 • Aug 31
 Sept 14 • Sept 28 • Oct 12 • Oct 26
 Nov 9 • Nov 23 • Dec 07 • Dec 21

For more information contact:

Rita von Rotz 0431 707 144

Fredi Vogel 07 3289 1183

USM

Modular Furniture

USM Modular Furniture is available from ECC Lighting+Furniture.

ECC
 Lighting + Furniture



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ECC Lighting+Furniture would like to offer the members of the Swiss Society Queensland a 10% discount on USM furniture.

Terms & Conditions:

Valid until January 31st 2016. Discount applies to USM Furniture and parts only, not delivery or assembly. Delivery within Australia. Must show valid membership to the Swiss Society of QLD. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

15 James Street
 Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
 Ph: 07 3100 8842
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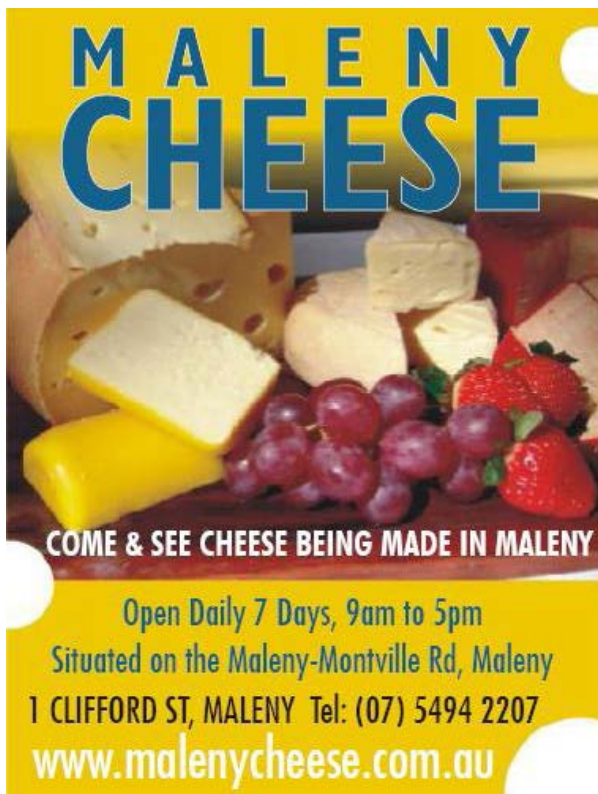
Grindelwald area

Grindelwald is a village and municipality in the Interlaken-Oberhasli district in the canton of Bern. Grindelwald village is located at 1,034 m above sea level in the Bernese Alps.

The village is surrounded by the mountains of the Faulhorn, Schwarzhorn, Wellhorn, Wetterhorn, Schreckhorn, Lauteraarhorn, Agassizhorn, Fiescherhorn, Mönch, Eiger, Lauberhorn and Männlichen, all of which are either within or on the border of the municipality. (Not sure which mountain is depicted in the photo...).

The tourism industry began in Grindelwald in the late 18th century as foreigners discovered the scenic town. In the 19th century many Englishmen came to the village to climb the alpine peaks around the valley. The Finsteraarhorn (4,274 m), the Wetterhorn (3,692 m), the Eiger (3,970 m), the Schreckhorn (4,078 m) and the Gross Fiescherhorn (4,049 m) were all climbed during the 19th century. The Grindelwald road was built in 1860–72, and the Bernese Oberland railway reached the village in 1890, both of which transformed an arduous journey into a simple trip and allowed tourists to flood into the village. A rack railway was built to Kleine Scheidegg in 1893, and it was expanded to the Jungfrauoch in 1912. Today, almost the entire economy of Grindelwald is based on tourism. (Wikipedia)

(Photos sent in by Carole Burri, Switzerland)



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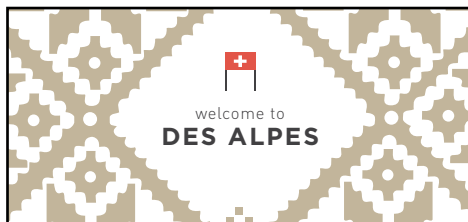
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As my daughter just finished High School with top results, we took off for a backpacking introduction for her year long travel gap overseas.

Our trip to Malaysia was to be done in the old fashioned way of a traveller without planning or deciding where and how to go, in strong contrast to our daily, organised work and leisure life. By zooming in on Google Maps we found a daily ferry, which would take us from Singapore through the back door of the country, from the small place of Changi Pier. As the monsoon would be too strong in the North East, we chose to travel in the South East and the West Coasts.

With backpacks of less than 15kg, including sleeping bag, mosquito net and malaria tablets, we first hitch hiked in a remote area which had just cleared from heavy smoke coming from the island of



Borneo. Buses, boats, scooters and trains then became our mode of transport. First from Mersin across Malaysia to the historic town of Malacca, which I always wanted to re-visit again after a short stay 35 years ago. We then travelled all the way up via Ipoh (temples) and Penang to Langkawi Island at a stone throw to Thailand. All along we encountered the three cultures of Islamic, Indian and Chinese backgrounds, and a wonderful variety of smells from delicious food. We met so many kind people of all religions and enjoyed this country where travelling is very cheap for us. 14 hours train in 2 days ended in Singapore, where it was time to board the flight to our next destination: Switzerland!

Christmas in Switzerland felt like Autumn, with everybody looking at thermometers stuck in positive values. Snow was only great up at the 3000m Titlis. But it was ideal for great sunny walks and we criss-crossed the country between Vaud and Appenzell and even Lichtenstein. The days were short and the mood was good. Summer is nevertheless the season to go for flowers, long days and many outdoor activities.

Gabriel and Xanthia Dubler

(Follow Xanthia on <https://www.instagram.com/xanthiadubler/>)



Special “schoolies” with Dad (continued from page 27)



Bye Xanthia, enjoy your gap year and stay safe!