

Dear members

This year, the club has seen some good and sad things and isn't exempt of facing some challenging matters.

The first event of many was back in February this year. It was a boat trip that Rita had successfully organised. Although the initial trip had to be cancelled due to a storm, she managed to get the boat re-booked very quickly, so that members didn't have to miss out on this special experience.

Around the same time, we received the rather unexpected and sad news, that one of our founding club member and chair, Max Brandle had passed away. He was a very inspiring men and he always knew an interesting story to tell in connection to Switzerland. He will be dearly missed.

The events later in the year saw continuous success; The Jass Meisterschaft was held at a new location in Hendra. The raclette night was fully booked and sold out however that wasn't the same story for the Fondue night because it was hosted on a long weekend.

On National day we were again blessed by splendid weather. There were a lot of families and we had the honour to welcome some special guests. It was Consul General Bernadette Hunkeler Brown, her hubby Nigel, both from Sydney and Honorary Consul Daniel Gschwind, who celebrated our big day with us.

In addition, everything that was for sale on that day, had been sold. What an exceptional day it was and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved.

All the events mentioned, and many more, such as the movie nights etc, will continue to be held next year. However, right now, we are busy preparing for a brunch which will be launched on 3 November of this year. I encourage members and families to come along, as this provides a great opportunity to catch up with each other and meeting new faces.

We have seen more families attending our events and this proves to be very important for the future of our club. The introduction of family prices may have helped to see that increase.

However, to be able to continue to run all or most of our events, we need more committee members.

Our committee is shrinking. It has now reached a critical point. At the moment there are only 4 active members on the board and this is simply not enough. Rita and myself have both been tirelessly working to grow our committee, but to no avail. Therefore, I ask our members to seriously consider joining us.

If we can't get any more members to join our committee, then we have to scale back on our events which would be a shame. We think that our club is forward thinking and innovative. One that deserves to continue to foster the Swiss culture and especially so, while the number of members is still growing.

I would like to thank my team for their ongoing help and support and would like to thank our members for your support and the trust you have given me to continue to lead our club.

I look forward to bringing you an engaging program throughout the coming year and seeing you at one of our events.

Your president

Anita Meier