

# REGIONAL EDITION

## OCEANIA

### Consulate: Mobile Passport Station Queensland in October 2016



Between **24.10.2016** and **28.10.2016** the Consulate General of Switzerland in Sydney is planning to operate a mobile passport station in the following cities:

- Cairns
- Townsville
- Brisbane

3 months prior to the visit all Swiss citizens registered with the Consulate at an address in Queensland will be informed about the procedure by e-mail or letter. **Please do not register your applications for this visit before receiving those instructions.**

Please make sure you have your current data and family members registered with the Consulate. In the past years several people missed out because their birth or change of name had not been registered beforehand.

Should you not be able to meet the Consulate's staff with its mobile passport station at the locations and dates mentioned above, you can always apply for a new identity document at our Sydney office as per the regular procedure. Please refer to our website: [www.eda.admin.ch/sydney](http://www.eda.admin.ch/sydney) under "services".

You may also have your biometric data registered in Switzerland or in another Swiss representation abroad should it be more convenient for you. However please note that you always have to make an online application on [www.schweizerpass.ch](http://www.schweizerpass.ch) beforehand with a remark saying where and when you wish to have your data taken. After checking your passport application it will be transferred to the passport office you have chosen.

In addition to the usual Monday to Friday the Consulate in Sydney will process biometric data for Swiss Passports and ID-cards on the following **Saturdays: 4 June, 2 July, 6 August, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November, 3 December**. This service will be provided with minimal staff and will therefore be strictly limited to the taking of biometric photos, fingerprints and electronic signatures. Please apply for a passport early (but not more than 3 months in advance) on [www.schweizerpass.ch](http://www.schweizerpass.ch) if you wish to secure an appointment, since the number of applicants is limited for each date.

### CSA: Being a CSA Delegate / Upcoming Vacancy for 2017 Term

During the most recent spring session of the CSA Delegates meeting in Brunnen, one of the topics was that the expat community does not really know the services of the ASO, or what we as CSA Delegates actually do.

A good starting point is the ASO website [www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch), a very helpful resource of all the services and different sub-organisations.

"The Council of the Swiss Abroad represents the interests of Swiss expatriates before the authorities and public opinion in Switzerland" says it in short of what we CSA Delegates do. Besides the bi-yearly CSA sessions held in Switzerland (for which we are encouraged to attend - travel at your own expenses), we may also inform the expat community about all ASO specific topics.



After 12 very fulfilling years as CSA Delegate and recently Editor of the Swiss Review for Oceania, I will resign both posts by August 2017. There will be re-elections coming up in due time, and I hope many of you put your hand up for these interesting posts.

*Marc Godat, CSA Delegate and Editor Swiss Review*

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(image on first page)  
CSA meeting at  
Seehotel Waldstätter-  
hof in Brunnen.

The "Auslandschweizerplatz" in Brunnen, CH now open to the public; only the lawn is still missing. Worth while a visit on your next Swiss trip.



**Victoria: Events**

- 7/8 Swiss Nat. Day Celebration  
Austrian Club, Heidelberg West
- 13/8 Jassabend, Horticulture Centre  
Forest Hill (Matterhorn)
- 14/8 Kaffeeklatsch (Trachtengr.)

**swiss festival**

**Sunday, 9 October 2016, 11am**  
Queensbridge Square  
Southbank, Melbourne  
**Visit:** [swissfestival.com.au](http://swissfestival.com.au)

Come and celebrate Swiss culture  
incl. music, food and entertainment.  
Contact us for sponsorship  
packages or donations!

**Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn**  
The Melbourne Swiss National Day Celebration on Sunday 7th August will again be held at the Austrian Club, 90 Sheehan Road, Heidelberg West. This celebration is supported by the different Swiss groups in Melbourne and will be an occasion for the whole family to enjoy traditional entertainment and Swiss specialties.

**Trachtengruppe Schwyzergruess.**

14/8 Kaffeeklatsch. It is sponsored by the Group. All Swiss and none Swiss partners are welcome. Please book with Marlies on 9503 9921 or Rosmarie on 9583 9048. We look forward to welcome you

Suuser Fest,  
Swiss Club of  
South Australia



**South Australia: Events**

- 6/8 Swiss National day celebration
- 2/10 Swiss Club of SA 50th Anniversary

**Swiss Club of South Australia**

In March our President listened to the 'Heimweh-Schweizer' and organised a Suuser Fest, where we could enjoy the fresh grape juice just before it turned into proper wine.

In October we will celebrate 50 years Swiss Club of SA with a 'Buure Z'morge' (brunch), live dance music and dinner to finish an eventful day. If you have a story, old photos or a special memory you would like to share.



**ACT: Canberra Swiss Club**

Our next event will be the popular Fondue night. This year it is also a farewell night for our Ambassador Marcel Stutz and his wife Esther. A new posting in Havanna means he and Esther are leaving by the end of June. We thank the Ambassador for all his support and the positive and

**NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN**

**SWISS AWARD**  
20 OCTOBER 2016  
SYDNEY  
Nominate yourself before June  
2016 online  
[HTTPS://WWW.COGNITOFORMS.COM/  
SWISSCHAM/SWISSAWARD20162](https://www.cognitofirms.com/swisscham/swissaward20162)



cooperative relationship with our Club, members and non members. It has always been a great pleasure to have his and Esthers' company. We also say farewell to two more members of the Swiss Embassy: Sandra Cadien and Tamara Kucera Schmid. Ambassador Stutz will be replaced

by Ambassador-designate Pedro Zwahlen (Australia) and Yasmine Chatila Zwahlen (PNG, Vanuatu, Solomon Island, Kiribati and Nauru).

Every second Wednesday we have a Jass evening. Everybody is welcome – beginner or expert. Once a month our choir rehearses at the German Club. Reading notes is not necessary - the love of singing is what counts. Every Monday night from 6pm to 8pm you can listen to

the Swiss Radio Program on 91.1FM. Every contribution is welcome.

Finally, the next Club events will be the Fondue Night on 3/6, a Film Night with place and date to be announced and our traditional National Day Celebration on the 31/7.

## New South Wales: Events

- 23/7 Lunchtime Concert (SSCS)
- 7/8 Nat. Day family picnic (Yodlers)
- 23/9 Organ Rec. @ Opera House (SSCS)

## Swiss Yodlers of Sydney

The yodellers had the pleasure to sing at the funeral of fellow compatriot, Tony Kalt on Feb 29.

We are very pleased to welcome the return of Honorary Member, Martin Scarpino to the group, after many years working in Asia. On 23 July, 2016 we will perform at the Swiss Seniors 1 August luncheon at the Concordia Club in Tempe. Our Swiss National Day Family Picnic will be held on Sunday, 7 August, 2016 at Castle Hill Show Ground.

## Queensland: Events

- 3/7 Bushwalk
- 30/7 Nat Day Celebration Brisbane
- 31/7 Nat Day Celebr. (Gold Coast)
- 31/7 Nat Day Celebr. (Fraser Coast)
- 24/8 Movie Night
- 4/9 Bushwalk
- 18/9 Barefoot bowling



PNG: EBC Kassam Training Centre

## PNG: Swiss Community PNG

EBC Kassam Training Centre near Yonki Dam in Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea, has existed since 1968. The core objects of the church run carpentry- and mechanical training is to train young people in a 2 - 4 years' training program in basic practical and spiritual skills to provide service for local communities, church projects or by joining the commercial sector. Over 600 young vital people have been trained in the last 48 years with a tremendous benefit to the nation of Papua New Guinea. A Swiss investment with eternal value.

## New Zealand: Taranaki Swiss Club

At our recent Club Annual General Meeting we were very pleased to welcome youth on our committee – thank you so much Sonja Werder and Andrea Hebler for offering your services to our Club!

During March we participated in two parades – the Multi-ethnic Parade in New Plymouth and the Kaponga Primary Schools' 125th jubi-

lee parade. Thank you to the Bernese Mountain Dog Club for joining us ... your dogs were a hit and added so much to our float. It was great to see younger members with their small children taking part too. Thank you all for coming.

Our new programme has just been sent to members with many functions in the next few months and we look forward to great support!

## Hamilton Swiss Club

14 members from the Hamilton Swiss Club set off to the Tokoroa Alpine Club at Mt Ruapehu for a weekend of planned Tramps. Friday evening started with a dinner of Swiss Alpine Macaroni and apple sauce, all eaten up followed by swiss baking/coffee/cards. On the Saturday, after a cooked breakfast we attempted to walk but the weather would not oblige, more coffee/cake/cards, but decided to walk in the rain in the afternoon, 6 braved the elements and walked the Taranaki Falls, always beautiful regardless of weather, returned and warmed up with hot showers. Happy Hour followed by dinner, we had Speck/sau-

Swiss Society of Qld Jass Championships



Taranaki Swiss Club



sages, sauerkraut and potatoes. Sunday morning, the weather was still not kind to us, but it was decided after breakfast, that most of us would all walk somewhere in the rain, some did the part of Whakapapaiti walk and others did a shorter walk on the Whakapapanui walk, returned to lodge and had a late lunch and cleaned up the lodge and returned home again. The planned tramps will have to wait for another year

## Auckland Swiss Club

We've had a flurry of activities over the summer months and enjoyed spending time at the Swiss Farm! Unfortunately the South Auckland walk had to be cancelled due to rain. But rain did not deter the Hamiltonians and Aucklanders to participate in the Cow Bell Semifinals in Auckland. It was a close competition – Hamilton won it, and will compete in the finals at Queens Birthday.

Pub Nights: our monthly get togethers at a local pub are always enjoyable and nice to catch up with friends. Jass: the competition for a block of cheese or other spot prices can get heated at times.

Come along to one of our future events to make new friends!

**1/7 Movie Night:** we will showcase the new Heidi film, typically Swiss and very much recommended.

**31/7 Swiss National Day Celebration -** we will celebrate Switzerland's Birthday in style with a brunch at the Swiss farm.



Auckland: Rained-out bowling at society semifinals

## NZ Embassy: Mobile Passport Station in Auckland in Dec. 2016

In December 2016 it is the turn of the Embassy of Switzerland to fly the extra mile!

Swiss citizens residing in New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Niue and American Samoa will have the opportunity to apply for a new Swiss Passport and/or ID in Auckland instead of flying to Wellington for this purpose. This service will be offered exclusively from the **5th till the 9th of December 2016**.

All Swiss citizens registered with the Embassy of Switzerland in Wellington will be informed about the exact details and procedure by e-mail or letter three months before the date. **Please do not register your applications for this visit before receiving those instructions.**

Please make sure that your personal data are up-to-date and that also your family members are duly registered with the Embassy in order to receive the detailed announcement and to be able to benefit from this service.

Should you miss the opportunity of having your biometric data captured in Auckland, you can always apply for a new identity document at our Wellington office under the regular procedure. Please refer to our website: [www.eda.admin.ch/wellington](http://www.eda.admin.ch/wellington) under "Services".

You may also have your biometric data registered in Switzerland or in another Swiss representation abroad. Please note, however, that you have to lodge an online application on [www.schweizerpass.ch](http://www.schweizerpass.ch) beforehand, with the indication "Wellington" as your place of registration and a remark mentioning where and when you wish to have your biometric data taken. After our verification, your passport application will be forwarded to the passport office you have selected and you will get a confirmation.



### CONSULATE GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND IN SYDNEY

(FOR AUSTRALIA, KIRIBATI, NAURU, VANUATU & SOLOMON ISLAND)  
101 GRAFTON STREET, CNR GROSVENOR ST  
TOWER 2, LEVEL 23, BONDI JUNCTION, NSW 2022, AUSTRALIA  
PHONE: 0061 2 8383 4000  
E-MAIL: SYD.VERTRETUNG@EDA.ADMIN.CH  
WEB: WWW.EDA.ADMIN.CH/AUSTRALIA

### PAPUA NEW GUINEA

VICTOR WONG, HONORARY CONSUL PORTMORESBY@HONREP.CH

### EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND IN NEW ZEALAND

MARITIME TOWER, LEVEL 12  
10 CUSTOMHOUSE QUAY  
WELLINGTON 6011, NEW ZEALAND  
PHONE: 0064 4 472 1593  
E-MAIL: WEL.VERTRETUNG@EDA.ADMIN.CH  
WEB: WWW.EDA.ADMIN.CH/WELLINGTON

### SAMOA

SYLVIE SALANOVA, HONORARY CONSUL GENERAL APIA@HONREP.CH

### FIJI

ROLF GFELLER, HONORARY CONSUL GENERAL SUVA@HONREP.CH

### CONTACT DETAILS OF SWISS CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS AND GROUPS

Swiss Cham Australia, Sydney (02) 9290 1928 [office@swisscham.com.au](mailto:office@swisscham.com.au)  
SAAN (Swiss Australian Academic Network) [info@saan.id.au](mailto:info@saan.id.au)  
SBS Radio (on air in NSW, VIC, ACT) [www.sbs.com.au/german](http://www.sbs.com.au/german)  
VIC: The Swiss Club of Vic, Melb. 1300 893 968 [info@swissclubvic.com.au](mailto:info@swissclubvic.com.au)  
Swiss Festival Australia 0425 805 854 [www.swissfestival.com.au](http://www.swissfestival.com.au)  
Ladies Luncheon (03) 9889 9321 Heidy Giger  
SwissKids (Esther Blaser) 0424 220 523 [esther.blaser@gmx.ch](mailto:esther.blaser@gmx.ch)  
The Swiss Companion Singers (03) 9889 9321 Heidy Giger

Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn (03) 9754 7390 <http://swisschoir.wix.com/swissyodelchoir>  
Swiss Folk Dance Grp Alpenrose (03) 9531 4575 [hochuli@tgg.com.au](mailto:hochuli@tgg.com.au)  
Trachtengruppe Schwyzergross / Australian Swiss Cultural Soc. (as above)  
Les Bavards French conversation 0416 088 000 Sigrid de Castella  
Groupe Romand Du Victoria (03) 9571 2835 [remy@favrecranage.com](mailto:remy@favrecranage.com)  
Pro Ticino - Pro Down Under (03) 5967 4542 Claude Rossi  
SA: Swiss Club of South Aust. Bruno Zueger [swissclubofsald@gmail.com](mailto:swissclubofsald@gmail.com)  
Schwyzer-Frauechraenzli (08) 8336 5932 Rosmarie Copeland  
Swiss Corner Radio 5EBI FM Adelaide (08) 8211 7066  
WA: Swiss Club of Western Aust. 0466 658 411 [president@swissclubwa.org](mailto:president@swissclubwa.org)  
The Guggeburras (08) 9277 7826 [guggeburras@swiss.org.au](mailto:guggeburras@swiss.org.au)  
Play Group 0404 671 913 [petrajost00@gmail.com](mailto:petrajost00@gmail.com)  
Monthly Jass / Swiss Yodellers (08) 9291 8402 [pelimu4243@yahoo.com.au](mailto:pelimu4243@yahoo.com.au)  
The Swiss Club Down South (08) 9755 5297 [mayfamily@westnet.com](mailto:mayfamily@westnet.com)  
Hon.Consul (Dr. Juerg Weber) 0407 452 666 [perth@honrep.ch](mailto:perth@honrep.ch)  
NT: Swiss Social Club Darwin (08) 8927 5794 [swissclubdarwin@hotmail.com](mailto:swissclubdarwin@hotmail.com)  
ACT: Canberra Swiss Club Inc. 0402 858 903 [heinz@swiss.org.au](mailto:heinz@swiss.org.au)  
Canberra Swiss Club Choir [r.neilson@netspeed.com.au](mailto:r.neilson@netspeed.com.au)  
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NSW: Swiss Australian Cultural Assoc. Inc. (SACA) [info@swissentreprenuers.com.au](mailto:info@swissentreprenuers.com.au)  
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The Swiss Club of NSW Ltd. 0416 160 919 [noemi@gustavkaser.com.au](mailto:noemi@gustavkaser.com.au)  
Swiss Play Group (02) 9602 9395 [bsidaril@bigpond.com](mailto:bsidaril@bigpond.com)  
Schwyzerdüttsch For Kids (02) 9419 7277 [akretz@bigpond.net.au](mailto:akretz@bigpond.net.au)  
The Swiss Yodelers of Sydney (02) 9874 9096 [www.swiss.org.au/cercleromand](http://www.swiss.org.au/cercleromand)  
Cercle Romand Du N.S.W. 0410 454 287 [scrcs.ursula@gmail.com](mailto:scrcs.ursula@gmail.com)  
Swiss Community Care Society (incl. Swiss Seniors of NSW) Ursula Mooser  
Swiss Folk Dance Grp Alpegruess (02) 9560 0666 [www.swiss.org.au/alpegruess](http://www.swiss.org.au/alpegruess)  
Swiss Historical Society Inc. (02) 9363 9131 [mail@thesswinnsw.com](mailto:mail@thesswinnsw.com)

QLD: Swiss Society of QLD Inc. (07) 3314 8344 [tari@swiss.org.au](mailto:tari@swiss.org.au)  
Jass (Brisbane) (07) 3289 1183 Fredi Vogel  
Swiss German Playgroup 0402 655 158 [sandrandoldt@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sandrandoldt@yahoo.com.au)  
Swiss Yodel & Folklore Group Baerg-Roeseli, (07) 3871 1339, [syfg@swiss.org.au](mailto:syfg@swiss.org.au)  
Swiss Community Care Soc (QLD) (07) 3298 5300 Lorty Wihler  
Gold Coast Group 0414 97 0666 Franz Huber  
Jass Group (Gold Coast) 0418 982 480 Rachel Dorig  
Fraser Coast Swiss Group 0409 286 326 [cecile@swiss.org.au](mailto:cecile@swiss.org.au)  
Swiss Club Sunshine Coast (07)5447 7548  
NZ: Swiss Society of New Zealand 021 101 4432 [tanja.latham@swiss.org.nz](mailto:tanja.latham@swiss.org.nz)  
Wellington Swiss Club 04 568 6772 [wellingtonswissclub@gmail.com](mailto:wellingtonswissclub@gmail.com)  
Auckland Swiss Club 09 832 0366 [adrian.blaser@swiss.org.nz](mailto:adrian.blaser@swiss.org.nz)  
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### REGIONAL EDITOR INFORMATION / NEXT EDITION

Regional Editor Marc Andre Godat [mgodat@off-ice.com.au](mailto:mgodat@off-ice.com.au)  
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