

# S'ALPHORN

Nr. 126

<b>Facts and Figures</b>	1	Alphorn
	3	Committee
	6	Editor's Note
	8	Walther Nahr - 2nd Vice President
	9	Thomas Rechtsteiner - Honorary Treasurer
	10	Marguerite Candiotti and Rita Reber - Event Co-Coordinator
	12	Welcome & Goodbye
	14	Calendar of Events
	17	Staff of the Consulate General of Switzerland
<b>Recipe &amp; Interview</b>	18	Swiss Chalet recipe
	21	Peter Gautschi interview
<b>Past Events</b>	26	Swiss XI and final results
	30	Mai Po Wetland Park
	34	Swiss Rifle Association
	39	Dragon Boat Races heats
	40	Dragon Boat Races finals
	44	Golf Week in Switzerland
	48	Chocolate Tasting
	50	Melchterli Cup
	52	Sedan Chair Race
	54	Family Walk
	58	GSIS Raclette
	60	Christmas Charity Luncheon
	63	Samichlaus im Park
	66	Jassen results
	68	Ladies Luncheon China Club
<b>What might be of interest to you</b>	71	Swiss School Reform
	74	New FIS Teacher
	76	Evangelische Gemeinde
	77	Actuelle Vorsorge Zahlen
	78	SAHK Membership Form
	79	Websites
	80	S'Alphorn advertisement

# Swiss Association of Hong Kong

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## Editors Note

**F**ood features strongly in this edition. Be it photos of grilled sausages, people gathered around tables, gingerbread houses, chocolates or cheese. The Swiss community has adapted easily to one of Hong Kong's favourite past times...appreciation of food. Try out the Zuerri Geschnaetzelt recipe on page 18. To make sure you got it right visit the Swiss Chalet to compare your fare.

On prompting by Hans Ruedi Kunz at the last AGM, I interviewed Peter Gautschi who marked his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and being in Hong Kong for more than half a century in 2007, making him one of the Swiss communities longest Hong Kong believer. It was my great pleasure to hear the stories from an old China hand who is still going strong.

For a summary of the upcoming revolutionary school reforms in Switzerland read page 72.

Thanks to **all** the contributors of drawings, photos and articles and the events coordinators. Thanks to the advertisers – I hope we can get more advertising in the future. I would like to thank Peter Klaus for being reliable, like clock work, which must be typical of his trade.

The exciting news is that the Swiss Association of Hong Kong has a new website up and running! Thanks to the tremendous time and efforts of our President, Andrea Capol, and Vice President, Markus Muecke. We hope that you will enjoy and use the website. We want to make our association a growing and active community. Log on to [www.swiss-hk.com](http://www.swiss-hk.com).

Editor, **Angelina Bussinger Lee**



# Walther Nahr

## *2nd Vice President*

I arrived in Hong Kong in 1977 and was joined by Anita in 1980, we got married in 1981. Our son Dominic, born in 1983, grew up in Hong Kong and spends his entire school life at the German Swiss International School.

Both Anita and I always enjoyed supporting the community and as such I have been president of the Swiss Association in 1993/94. Anita served for several years on the School Committee of the Swiss Association and also 14 years on the board of the GSIS until 2007.

My business career has always been in transportation and logistics; today I am the Corporate Vice President of AGI Logistics (Hong Kong) Ltd. I am also Vice Chairman of the Hong Kong Freight Forwarders Association.

To help the Swiss Association to organize events and foster the relationships amongst the Swiss community is not only a pleasure but an honor.

# Thomas Rechtsteiner

## *Honorary Treasurer*



**M**y first footstep to an Asian country lasted less than one day. It was on my stopover in Kuala Lumpur 1997 on the way to Australia. Too short to really get a taste of Asia, nevertheless I was amazed by the dynamic and the culture. A few years later, I had the opportunity from my previous employer, Credit Suisse, to join a one year internship abroad. My preference was Asia as I intended to explore more of this fascinating region. Hong Kong then was consequently recommended by many friends.

Arriving in January 2001 in Hong Kong on a rainy day, I was asking myself: "What am I doing here?". I trust I do not have to mention that the year passed too quickly and I was infected by the 'yellow fever'. Back in Switzerland at the beginning of 2002 I became an onshore client advisor, did my Master in Finance and enjoyed once again winter sports. I always kept Asia in mind.

After a few years, Asia was on the spot again. To cut a long story short, I got an interesting job opportunity from a friend I have known back since 2001. Landed at Chek Lap Kok and passing the financial district by taxi, it felt good to be back.

I am glad to have the opportunity to be a member, as well as Treasurer, of the Swiss Association Hong Kong. Taking this chance to support the Swiss community in Hong Kong, I am looking forward to being an active committee member, keeping the finances up to date and meeting you during one of the events.



# Event Co-Coordinator

**M**y name is Marguerite Candiotti. I was born in Vevey and raised in the cantons of Jura, Geneva and Vaud. I continued my studies first in England, then Italy and finally in the States where I met my husband at Georgetown University in Washington D.C.

We have 4 children (19, 14, 13 and 11), 3 of them are with us and the eldest is back for her studies in Geneva. We could have lived in Switzerland happily for ever after but 5 years ago we accepted to give it a try as expatriates and moved to Singapore for 2 wonderful years and agreed once again to move on for a new experience when my husband was asked to come to Hong Kong. Now, after 2 years and a half in Hong Kong I thought it was about time to get more involved with the Swiss community and that is why I accepted the challenge of being event coordinator in order to be closer to the Swiss community as well as Switzerland and our roots.

When I met Rita a year and half ago, we both found we had a lot in common and got along very well. We naturally thought that by joining our efforts we could together organize events for the Swiss community. However, we count on all of you and are open to any suggestions for any events that you would like to organize. We are expecting your comments and feedback.

We are looking forward to seeing you in one of our future events.



**M**y name is Rita Reber. I was born in Illanz, the first "city" of the Rhein River. We then moved with my family to the ski resort of Davos where I grew up and made my studies as well as my apprenticeship. After that I spend three wonderful years in Ticino and one year in Zurich, before going back to the mountains where I met my husband at the Schatzalp (no better place to find "the Schatz"). Before coming to Hong Kong, we lived 18 years in Binningen /BL, where our sons Jan and Alex (14 and 12) were born. With enthusiasm we decided to accept the big challenge of moving to Hong Kong..., a great step for the whole family. Thanks to the help and friendship of many members from the Swiss Association here in Hong Kong, not only have we been able to integrate into this great community but after 16 months we now think of Hong Kong as our second home.

# WELCOME & GOODBYE

## Welcome

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Mr & Mrs Marc & Ulla Affolter                      | 25 Mr Oliver Huegli                               |
| 2 Mr & Mrs Thomas & Monika Anderegg                  | 26 Mr & Mrs Hungerbuehler Grunauer                |
| 3 Mr & Mrs Francois & Christine Bauder               | 27 Mr & Mrs Frank & Marie-Louise Iller            |
| 4 Mr & Mrs Michael & Entela Benz                     | 28 Mr & Mrs Urs & Lawrence Isenschmid             |
| 5 Mr & Mrs Oliver & Claudia<br>Bertschinger-Pfund    | 29 Mr & Mrs Domenic & Gaby Janutin<br>Oetterli    |
| 6 Mr & Mrs Emanuel & Jie Breiter Huang               | 30 Mr Michel Kuenzler                             |
| 7 Mr & Mrs Paul & Kim Brodie Vy                      | 31 Mr & Mrs Patrick & Junko Meyer                 |
| 8 Mr & Mrs Daniel & Sylvie Bubanec                   | 32 Mr Damian Milewski                             |
| 9 Mr & Mrs Max & Monique Burger                      | 33 Mr Thomas Rechtsteiner                         |
| 10 Mr & Mrs Ambrose & Annemarie Chan-<br>Sollberger  | 34 Mr Patrik Riedweg                              |
| 11 Mr & Mrs Arthur & Connie Cheng Ng                 | 35 Mrs Iris Riesen                                |
| 12 Mr & Mrs Christian & Lorna Dimita-<br>Faeh        | 36 Mr Robert Rohner                               |
| 13 Mr & Mrs Peter & Sonia Doerig-Bal                 | 37 Mrs Susanne Sahli                              |
| 14 Mrs Sophie Dumas                                  | 38 Mr & Mrs Thomas & Liana Schaffner              |
| 15 Mrs Ursula Eberhart-Heutschi                      | 39 Mr & Mrs Marc & Karin Schlund                  |
| 16 Mr & Mrs Andre & Nadia Egli Fux                   | 40 Mr & Mrs Steve & Viviane Seneque<br>- Lowe     |
| 17 Mr & Mrs Stephane & Anna Eroes de<br>Bethlenfalva | 41 Mr Philippe M. Spielhofer                      |
| 18 Mrs Monika Geissberger                            | 42 Mr & Mrs Lukas & Katrin Staub                  |
| 19 Mr & Mrs Andre & Dorcas Gerber                    | 43 Mr & Mrs Jean-Claude & Lingzhu<br>Steiner Yu   |
| 20 Mr Balthasar Ginsig                               | 44 Mr & Mrs Olivier & Azota Toublan Pelin         |
| 21 Mr Sylvain Gysler                                 | 45 Mr & Mrs Michael & Hiu Hung<br>Youssoufian Sze |
| 22 Mr & Mrs Christian & Bobbie<br>Habisreutinger     | 46 Mr & Mrs Roger & Maria Chiara G.<br>Zwahlen    |
| 23 Mr & Mrs Eduard & Julia Held                      | 47 Mr Damian Pang                                 |
| 24 Mr & Mrs Johannes-Gerhard & Ute<br>Hesse          |   |

## Goodbye

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Mr & Mrs Benno & Ursula Christen         | 3 Mr & Mrs Christoph & Jolanda Himmelstein |
| 2 Mr & Mrs Michael & Marianne<br>Comerford | 4 Mr & Mrs Martin & Cina Sheila Schuler    |



## Calendar of Events

(April 2008 - December 2008)

<b>April</b>	7	Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
	9	Ladies Morning
	11	60th AGM at the Hong Kong Club
	28	Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club

<b>May</b>	1	Warm Up Race for Dragon Boat Races
	5	Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
	7	Night at the Races
	14	Ladies Morning
	19	Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club
	25	Junk Trip

<b>June</b>	2	Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
	7	European Championship opening match Switzerland vs Czech Republic
	8	Dragon Boat Races
	11	Ladies Morning
	16	Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club

<b>July</b>	21	Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club
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<b>Aug</b>	1	Swiss National Day
	4 or 11	Golfing in Switzerland
	25	Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club

<b>Sept</b>	1	Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
	20	Welcome Gathering
	29	Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club

<b>Oct</b>	6	Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
	14	Melchterli Cup
	20	Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club

<b>Nov</b>	3	Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
	Mid Nov	Sedan Chair Race
	23	Operation Mercury Swiss Rifle Association Hong Kong
	24	Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club
	29	GSIS Christmas Fair

<b>Dec</b>	1	Joint Christmas Charity Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
	6	Samichlaus

### Notes on regular monthly events:

- Joint Monthly Luncheon of Swiss Association and Swiss Chamber at the Hong Kong Club  
time : 1200-1400  
registration : [luncheon@swiss-hk.com](mailto:luncheon@swiss-hk.com)
- Ladies Morning, topics and meeting places to be advised on website  
registration : [Marguerite.Candiotti@swiss-hk.com](mailto:Marguerite.Candiotti@swiss-hk.com) and [Rita.Reber@swiss-hk.com](mailto:Rita.Reber@swiss-hk.com)
- Jass Evening at Hong Kong Bankers Club  
time : 18:45  
organizers : Beatrice and Daniel Rogger

The above list is not conclusive. Additional events may be added or deleted.

We have gone paperless! All events will be announced by e-mail to members of the Swiss Association of Hong Kong. Please send us your preferred e-mail addresses if you have not yet received any announcements from the association.

Please take the time to browse our newly launched website <http://www.swiss-hk.com> for regular updates and exact details of all our events.

# Zürri Gschnätzlets mit Röschi – Emince of Veal with Röeschti

By courtesy of Max Liechti  
The Swiss Chalet Restaurant

Veal thinly sliced with mushroom  
and cream sauce served with  
hash brown potatoes.



## Ingredients for 4 persons

- 100gr. Butter
- 50ml. White wine
- 50gr. Onions, chopped
- 150gr. White mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 80gr Veal gravy or substitute gravy from the tube by Maggi or Knorr
- 600gr Veal meat, thinly sliced (fully trimmed fillet, rump or topside)
- 200ml Fresh cream
- 4-5pc Potatoes, medium size

Seasoning: a pinch of salt, black pepper,  
Fondor Maggi or Aromat Knorr (the Swiss  
magic powder-optional), flour

## Method

- 1) Cook the potatoes in plenty of salted water until almost done.  
Drain and let cool. You can do this a day in advance.  
Peel the skin off and grade with a Röschi Grater (if you do not have one, a regular large holed cheese grater can also be used).  
Season with salt, black pepper, (caraway seeds is optional)  
and a little of Maggi Fondor or Knorr Aromat
- 2) Heat a non-stick frying pan, add butter and then add the seasoned potatoes, form into a round shape pancake and fry on a medium heat. Once it is golden brown flip it over. If you are not skilled in this then a flat plate or cover would help you perform this trick. Otherwise you may find the Röeschti on the floor!  
Fry the other side until golden brown, you may add a little more butter if you desire.
- 3) Season the veal with salt and pepper and dust with a little flour  
fry it in a hot pan with butter very quickly. Remove the meat from the pan and keep aside in a plate.  
Add the onions and the mushrooms to the pan, sauté and add a little white wine and the gravy. Stir well.  
Add the juice from the meat that has collected in the plate and add the cream. Simmer and add the fried veal stir well.  
You may add a little more fresh cream and seasoning according to taste.
- 4) Arrange the Röschi on a plate and on side the veal on the plate with some vegetables of your choice.



**EN GUETE APPETIT**  
**Wishes you**  
**The Swiss Chalet Restaurant and Bar**



# Peter Gautschi,

## *The most important Project of his Career*

Angelina Bussinger Lee

It was the morning of my set interview date with Mr. Gautschi. I was a little nervous. “How will I start, what will I say, how will I keep the momentum of my interview going?”

My father happened to be in the building, so I asked him if he would like to come and say hello... he could be the ice breaker. We were warmly welcomed by Mr. Gautschi to his home. He laughed to think my father needed to come along to be my chaperone. His apartment had a view of the harbour and this prompted us to begin talking about the changes Hong Kong is going through. In fact, there have been many changes Mr. Gautschi has seen.





*When he landed in Hong Kong on 1. October, 1956 at Kai Tak airport, the runway was situated on an east-west axis and there was a shack as a terminal with only a wire fence to separate the travelers from the ground onlookers. His original plan was to only stay for 5 years... boy was he wrong! He was hired by Mr. Gaddi, the then manager of The Peninsula Hotel, to be the assistant manager of The Peninsula Hotel.*

*By way of background, Peter Gautschi was born on the 30. March, 1927 in Beinwil am See Kanton Aargau. Through hard work and relentlessness at his apprenticeship in hotels in Switzerland, then studying hotel management at the hotel school in Lausanne, he went on to work at hotels in London, Lisbon and Basel. The Far East captivated him, so in 1952 he set off to see what it would be like. First stop Cairo, then Bombay and Colombo, then by ship to Australia, where he worked to support himself doing various interesting things using the skills he had learnt in Switzerland... all in true*

*pioneering style. In 1953 he was offered a job at the Grand Hotel in India, which he accepted. Two years later Leo Gaddi offered him the job of Manager of the Hong Kong Hotel, but weeks later had to withdraw to offer since the hotel was sold. He headed back to Switzerland to work with an old friend who was the then manager of the Hotel Bellevue in Berne. One year later he had the second offer from Mr. Gaddi.*

*Back in those days, The Peninsula Hotel was the only first class hotel in town. It also served as the city terminal for most airlines. Pan Am and BOAC were the main carriers that served Hong Kong then. Their check in facilities and offices were located in the hotel's lobby. The lobby was buzzing with all kinds of commerce. Telecom, banks, airline agents, tailors, jewelers and furniture merchants all had their shops and offices there. Society balls were held at the hotel. Visiting dignitaries, film stars and business people stayed there. Due to the lack of hotel rooms in town, The Rose Room, one of the ball rooms was converted to small rooms for*

*the growing number of airline crew coming through the city as air travel grew. The hotel offered the locals, western restaurants to wine and dine in. First, there was Gaddi's, which has been world famous since 1954, and the Verandah, which is the hotels' main restaurant. A few years later Chesa was created by Mr. Gautschi. The Peninsula also catered food to the airlines and started Swire Airline Catering Ltd. in partnership with Cathay Pacific. The hotel made its own Buendnerfleisch, sausages, bread, cakes, chocolates and other delicacies, which were sold thru Lucullus.*

*Mr. Gautschi took over as general manager in 1961 when Mr. Gaddi retired. Further promotion came in 1973 when he was appointed general manager of The Peninsula Group. He shepherded their expansion in Hong Kong with three hotels in a joint venture with the Wharf and later into Singapore, Manila, Bangkok and China by opening the Jianguo Hotel in Beijing. After retiring from The Peninsula Group, he formed Swiss-Bel Hotels to manage hotels, mainly in China. This furthered his involvement with China.*

*As you can imagine being in such a dynamic work environment as the hotel industry Mr. Gautschi has learnt to deal with a multitude of people and situations. This enables him to run his latest enterprise with such skill, passion and commitment.*

After my father left, Mr. Gautschi and I sat down at his desk. His "gemuetliches" home office is lined with photos, books and plants growing blissfully by the window. While classical music played pleasantly in the background, I skipped briefly over the notes that I had about Mr. Gautschi, passed on to me by his good friend, Heinz Rust, who made the introduction for the interview.

"Where should we start?" I asked. There are so many facets we could elaborate on. Mr. Gautschi immediately and with great enthusiasm started talking about the Studer Trust, his latest enterprise. He formed the Trust 5 years ago. In his words, "I had a good life. Exciting, happy and got lots done. I felt I should give something back to China." With this emotion, lots of hard work, and determination, he has formed a charity which is functioning well, solidly grounded and with successful outreach to the needy. Listening to Mr. Gautschi's examples





of the far way places he works in, off the radar of any travel guide, the local people he helps and collaborates with, the planning and building of the schools, I am wondering how someone his age can manage such a network of people and situations. After going home and reflecting on the materials Mr. Gautschi gave me, I now understand that this is all a natural thing for Mr. Gautschi. All through his life he has managed people, situations and 'Got things done'.

He decided to begin building schools for the underprivileged through a project planned by one of the big UN managed organization in Henan province. Unfortunately the project was poorly managed and executed and Mr. Gautschi was very disappointed. He

said: "I can do better by myself!" After all he had built and opened the first western hotel in China after the opening up of China. He had the know how.

As a consequence, in summer of 2003, he formed the Studer Trust, in honour of his mother, Margaretha Studer. This is his way of giving something back to his mother, who was always gave and never got anything back in return for all her work raising three boys.

The first project was a school in Guxi, Jiangxi province. The school cost 1/4 of the total budget of the Henan project. The community got a school built to their needs which they could manage as well. This became the model for future school projects. To date, the trust has initiated and completed more than 70 projects in China, Myanmar, Nepal and Laos. For a complete listing please refer to [www.studertrust.org](http://www.studertrust.org)

Mr. Gautschi is adamant that all



he has achieved is a team effort, and in that team is Kat Lau, who helps on the China projects and is studying social sciences at a university in HK;

Cho Cho Lwin, who works on projects in Myanmar, and is advised by Dr. David Braga; LT Chan, Managing Director of Studer Trust (formerly of Swissair), who keeps the accounting in check; Dr. Annie Wu, who advises on China matters; Lauretta Fong (also formerly of Swissair), who dedicates her time to oversee the "Follow Up" of projects and; Heinz Rust, the Chairman of Studer Trust

What is really important to Mr. Gautschi are the following:

1. That the trust be continued in perpetuity.
2. Full financial transparency.
3. The projects respect the spirit of giving and can be managed by locals.

In order to achieve these goals, in 2007, Studer Ltd. with a board of seven directors was formed to oversee the Trust.

100% of all donations to the Trust go directly to the projects. All running costs are funded by a separate donor to manage the Trust. In the case of building schools in China, the Trust funds the initial 30%, the next 30% is provided during construction, another 30% on completion and the remaining 10% is maintained for future maintenance. Mr. Gautschi continuously



reminded me that the projects can only be successful if the communities they are helping are motivated and enthusiastic. In his words, "locate people who need help, help them, and make sure money goes to them." This is all in the spirit of "bringing discipline into charity."

In addition to the schools, Studer Trust is involved in various grassroots initiatives, educational projects as well as introducing sustainable agricultural methods. An example of this is the biofuel project in Myanmar – with a single US\$4,000 donation and the natural resources available, one can bring electricity to a whole village, which would otherwise be left in the dark.

This is all truly inspiring. How can we help with the efforts of the Studer Trust? For one, they need volunteers for projects. For instance in "Follow Up" volunteers liaise between the schools and the Trust to determine what more assistance is needed and to inject appreciation into what has been given. Secondly, they need more donors, particularly corporate donors with an ongoing commitment.

In Mr. Peter Gautschi's own words: "My life is now this charity and it brings me a tremendous amount of fulfillment."



# SWISS XI HONG KONG

Peter Klaus *President SWISS XI*

The season 2006/07 ended at the end of April. And what an end it was! It could not have been more dramatic. The first three teams could all end in first place, pending on the outcome of the last day's play. The Swiss XI was right in there with 40 points from 21 games. The other two contenders were Kowloon Cricket Club

(KCC) and French Kiss with 42 and 43 points respectively. However, with the best goal difference the Swiss could still end up in first place. Our team was first to play. We were not only playing for the championship but our front man, Sven Haeffliger, still had a chance to get the golden boot for the best scorer in second division. Playing against Azzuri the Swiss

XI had a perfect start and scored four goals in quick succession, all by Sven! The final score was 5:0 – would it be enough? The French played next. At the end of regular time there game was a draw but the referee obviously did not have a Swiss watch as the game continued for another seven minutes. Of course, as one would expect in a thriller, the French scored the winning goal a few seconds before the referee finally blew his whistle. KCC had no problem in winning

their game – so after a most exciting final day the Swiss XI ended in third position, a place we would have gladly accepted at the beginning of the season when our aim was not to be relegated back to the third division. So close and finally so far! On a happy note, Sven managed to get the golden boot award, despite having missed several games during the season. This was celebrated at the AGM of the Yau Yee League where the Swiss XI had a very large presence.

The final table looks like this (totally 12 teams):

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
KCC	22	14	4	4	42	18	24	46
French Kiss	22	14	3	5	51	24	27	45
Swiss XI	22	12	7	3	45	15	30	43
German All Stars	22	11	6	5	44	27	17	39

As a consequence the Swiss XI will continue to play in second division. Basic discussions about the next season both on and off the field will be talked about during the SWISS XI AGM on 21.9. just two days prior to the start of the first games.

At the end of the season we had again our traditional trip to a nearby country. The original idea was to travel to Jakarta but this had to be dropped for various reasons. As a compromise we traveled to Phuket where we met again the team we



had played before. The Thais had been training very hard for the two encounters against the Swiss XI and gave us a hard time on the pitch. The first game ended





8:5 in their favour. In the second game we had a realistic chance of winning, being ahead with ten minutes to play. The heat did more damage to our strength than the opponents and in the end we had to settle for a 5:5 draw. Afterwards we had a few hours together with the Thai players, eating, drinking, talking and joking – rekindling old friendships as some of them played against the Swiss XI for the third time.

In order to get the team into the right spirit and fit for the games the usual Hash House run started soon after our arrival

from Hong Kong. Prepared by our Hon. President, Albert Hausammann, it lead us through places nobody had seen before.

During the official dinner various trophies were presented. A life-time achievement award was given to our Vice-president and coach, Andy Raishbrook, who has managed and coached the team with total dedication for over ten years.

We have now two sponsors for the team uniform, Ziggy's fine food for the away kit and Julius Baer for the home kit.



Peter Klaus *President*

## NEWS FLASH

The new season has started well for our team. After seven games we are leading Division 2. Even without the support of our best striker we have still managed to score 20 goals in just seven games. This speaks for the strength in depth we currently have. The table looks like this:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
SWISS XI	7	5	2	0	20	9	11	17
SFALO OXFORD	7	5	1	1	15	5	10	16
BOCA SENIORS	7	5	1	1	8	5	3	16
UNIVERSITY	7	4	0	3	9	10	-1	12



# Vögel in den Mai Po Wetlands

6 May 07



Eines schönen frühen Sonntagmorgens machte sich eine kleine Gruppe mit dem Bus auf das Mai Po Natur Reservat im Nordwesten der New Territories zu erkunden. Wir wurden von einer engagierten jungen Frau begrüßt, die dort an Wochenenden ehrenamtlich tätig ist und uns durch das Reservat führen sollte.



Das Reservat ist ein Netzwerk aus Sümpfen, Fisch- und Schrimpteichen sowie Mangrovenwäldern und Schilfbetten. An verschiedenen Stellen gibt es Aussichtshütten von denen aus man die Vögel beobachten kann. Leider hatten wir nicht das Glück die Vielfalt der über 300 einheimischen und ziehenden Vögel beobachten zu können. Als Gruppe kann man wahrscheinlich gar nicht leise genug sein, um die Vögel glauben zu machen, dass niemand da sei.







Überrascht hat die vielfältige, für Hong Kong unerwartete Vegetation und Landschaft. Bei einem Blick über die Sümpfe wurde man aber schnell in die Realität zurückgeholt, am nahen Horizont sieht man die allmächtige Skyline von Shenzen.

Der Besuch der Wetlands hat den großen und kleinen Besuchern gut gefallen. Es war ein Tag Natur in Hong Kong mit interessanten Eindrücken für jedermann. Auch wenn man nicht viele Vögel gesehen hat, konnten wir dank eines kleinen Museums viel über ihre Lebensweise und ihr Zugverhalten erfahren.





# Swiss Rifle Association of HK: Shooting Season 2007

2007 was another successful year for the Swiss Rifle Association. Two perfect shooting days and an increasing membership show that we are on the right track in maintaining our activities as a small and exclusive club. We are grateful for the ongoing support we have from our friends at the RHKR Sports Shooting Association, from the Hong Kong Police Force, and from the Swiss Government. Thank you also to our non-shooting sponsors and donors.

## Compulsory and Field Shoot, June

A thunderstorm warning at the last minute caused the May event to be cancelled. Luckily, the sausages and meat loaf ordered ended up in Rolland Seeholzer's house where an illustrious group, including our Defense Attaché from Beijing and the Deputy Consul General 'took care' of them. We now have agreed that in the future the spring shooting should take place earlier in the year to avoid bad weather. The date set for 2008 is the 16 March.

Our original shooting eventually took place on 17 June with 37 shooters, including our friends and owners of the firing range, the RHKR Sports Shooting Association, competing firmly and sternly in the four programs: Compulsory Shoot, Field Shoot, Swiss Abroad Shooting Competition, and Individual Shooting Competition.



Below are the main Swiss Rifles' results. Detailed scores can be looked up on our new website [www.srahk.com](http://www.srahk.com)

<b>Compulsory Shoot:</b>	Gold	Marc Rogivue	Score	76
	Silver	Daniel Piaz	Score	72
	Bronze	Peter Thuler	Score	68
<b>Field Shoot:</b>	Gold	Daniel Piaz	Score	56
	Silver	Michael Aschwanden	Score	54
	Bronze	Johan Kachelhoffer	Score	52
<b>Swiss Abroad Shooting Competition:</b>	Gold	Joann Kachelhoffer	Score	88
	Gold	Michael Aschwanden	Score	88
	Silver	Marc Rogivue	Score	75
	Silver	John Jones	Score	75
	Bronze	Alex Luedi	Score	71
<b>Individual Shooting Competition:</b>	Gold	Alex Luedi	Score	82
	Silver	Johann Kachelhoffer	Score	80
	Bronze	Daniel Piaz	Score	73
<b>Day Winners Overall:</b>	Gold	Michael Aschwanden	Score	275
	Silver	Alex Luedi	Score	265
	Bronze	Daniel Piaz	Score	262

Operation Mercury

Why is it called “Operation Mercury”? We do not know anymore, but this has become a traditional event.

Close to 50 shooters and guests found their way to the shooting range overlooking the border with China, and with the Shenzhen skyline as a backdrop shooting our traditional Swiss Army rifles is quite an unusual activity.

Starting with the safety briefing, and ending with the traditional cutting of a Swiss cheese over 1,600 rounds of ammunition were spent. Congratulations to the winners!

And as usual, grilled sausages, meat loaf and the Jass were not to be missed.

Results of the Swiss Rifles:

Operation Mercury:	Gold	Stefan Lickert	Score	90
	Silver	Alex Luedi	Score	89
	Bronze	Michael Aschwanden	Score	86

Cowbell Competition:	Team 2	Stefan Lickert
		Michael Aschwanden
		Lukas Schuetter
		Marc Rogivue



How do we Do It?

People have asked how we manage to maintain our tradition in the Chinese administered Hong Kong, keeping seven original Swiss Army assault rifles, and have the Swiss authorities every two years or so flying in original ammunition from Switzerland?

It is worth, ten years after 1997, to recall: During the British period shooting took place within the garrison of the Queen’s Gurkha Rifles – a army unit comprised of soldiers from Nepal, under British command. After 1997, the Swiss Rifles had the luck to make friends with the RHKR Sports Shooting Association, a club created by former members of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (RHKR), who were disbanded, but given a 50-meter shooting range in Sheng Shui. Our shooting activities are now overseen by the Hong Kong Police Force, and as a private organization we must maintain strict adherence to rules and regulations issued by the police. We must license our own range officers and arms instructors. In early 2007, Peter Thuler and Marc Rogivue spent two days each on the firing range being tested by experts from the Hong Kong Police Force about their knowledge of firearms and Hong Kong’s shooting rules and regulations.

Rifles and ammunition are stored at a private arms dealer at considerable cost. Given the limited storage capacity of this armory we are obliged to order ammunition in small batches, but thanks to a very cooperative attitude by personnel from the Swiss Army in Berne – and the Hong Kong Police Force, we receive our bi-annual shipments free of charge (!) and with a minimum of paperwork.

So, if you are a Swiss Army trained person, and look for a real alternative activity in Hong Kong, please join us on our next shooting event. For more details, look up our website [www.srahk.com](http://www.srahk.com).

Alexander Luedi  
President  
Swiss Rifle Association of Hong Kong





# Dragon Boat Warm-up Race

**T**he Warm-up Race was a real success. Our mixed team engaged in some great racing.

The results were as follows:

- 3rd place in the first race
- 5th place in the 2nd race(all 6 teams within 2.04 seconds of each other.)
- 3rd place (and a nice big cup) in the Silver Plate Final.

We finished off:

- 28 liters of mineral water
- 60 cans of Pocari Sweat
- 36 cans of soft drinks
- 90 cans of beer
- 3 kg Birchermuesli
- 50 veal sausages
- 14 Cervelats
- 13 baguettes

Congratulations to all the participants!







# Dragon Boat Festival 2007

## Successful Swiss Teams

19 June 07  
Andi Reber

**N**och im Siegesrausch habe ich am Stanley-Beach versprochen, zu Händen der Nachwelt einen Bericht ueber die beiden erfolgreichen Schweizer Drachenboote zu schreiben. Dies allerdings unter der Bedingung, den Artikel erst zu texten, wenn meine von den schaufelbaggernden

Paddelbewegung uebersaeurten Muskeln wieder den Normalzustand eines aktenschiebenden Buerogummis erreicht haben. An der Dragonboatparty vom Samstagabend, 6.10.07 auf der windstillen Gildemeister Dachterrasse in Stanley hat mich dann Christian schonend auf den pendenten Artikel aufmerksam gemacht. So ein Zufall, denn exakt an



maritimer und kundiger Fuehrung von Christian Lang haben wir uns woeentlich und intensivst auf den grossen Tag vorbereitet. Die ganze Rackerei muesste Pflichtprogramm in einem Patologiestudium werden, denn mit Dragonboattrainings

diesem Samstag kurz vor dem Fest war der Drachenbootmuskelskater ploetzlich und unergruendlich verschwunden. Dabei war ich doch gar nicht in Lourdes und es sei hiermit die frohe Kunde verbreitet, dass es sie noch gibt, die Wunder dieser Erde. Allerdings schwadronierten dann jedoch am Sonntagmorgen aufgrund der vorabendlichen Wein- und Genussreise und den damit verbundenen Degustationspflichten andere erinnerungsstoerende Nebelschwaden durch meine Hirnwindungen. Was nun folgt ist somit eine Zusammenfassung der Dragonbootereignisse, ohne jeden Anspruch auf Vollstaendigkeit.

**Die Trainings:** Die Trainingseinheiten sind mir in nachhaltiger, unausloeschlicher Erinnerung geblieben. Das Training haben wir unmittelbar nach der Winterpause aufgenommen. Unter

koennten die Mediziner auf eindruuecklichste Art und Weise und am eigenene Koerper erfahren, wo es noch ueberall Muskeln gibt. Ich erspare euch die physionomischen Details dieser schmerzlichen Erkenntnisse bin aber selbstverstaendlich gerne bereit, mich in einer Selbsthilfegruppe mit anderen Drachenboot-Patienten und Leidesgenossen auszutauschen, um den Weg in die Normlitaet wieder zu finden. **Der lange Worte kurzer Sinn: Das Training war sehr, sehr streng.**

**Die Konkurrenz:** Da sind mir eigentlich nur zwei Team wirklich aufgefallen. Erstens die «Liechtensteiner» und zweitens die «Gala-Kaesli». Bei den Liechtensteinern muss es wohl daran gelegen haben, dass sie mit ihren rot-blauen Shirts Assoziationen an den FC Basel und den Schweizer Fussball ausloesten. Allerdings



tragen auch beim FC Basel sowohl das Top-Team als auch das eher der Gruempelturnier-Liga verbundenen Plausch-Seniorenteam rot-blau. Und da waren eben noch noch die Gala-Kaesli. Ihren Namen habe ich ihnen zwecks besserer Identifikation gegeben und weil die durchtrainierten Bodies dieser Musterathleten die Form eines Gala-Kaesli haben (oben breit unten schmal und natuerlich nicht umgekehrt). Das ganze hat mich irgendwie an Vicki und die starken Maenner erinnert und eine gewisse Unterlegenheit suggeriert. Aber die Posturen waren natuerlich auch ein Problem, denn mit diesen Muskelpaketen beladen navigierten die Dragonboote wie Containerschiffe im

Tiefgang vor der Kueste Hongkongs mit dem staendigen Risiko, dass sich ein Container vom Deck in Richtung ewige Jagdgruende selbstaendig macht. **Der lange Worte kurzer Sinn: Weder Farbe der Shirts, noch Muskelmasse der Paddler erlauben eine Prognose auf die Erfolgschancen. Swiss Team stay cool!**

**Das Rennen:** Und da war er endlich, der Renntag. Tausende von Booten waren im Hafen von Stanley. Bitte das unbedingt der Nachwelt so ueberliefern, denn damit wird der 10. Platz der Swiss Dragons und der 26. Platz der Swiss Pirates eines Tages in den Geschichtsbuechern dieser Welt im gleichen Atemzug wie die Landung der Allierten in der Normandie genannt. Solche Top Rangierungen waren natuerlich nur moeglich, weil die Schweizer Boote von den zahlreich erschienenen Gaesten auf den Schweizer Dschunken foermlich



vom Start hinter die Ziellinie geschrien und von den Drummern Werni und Shirley im Hochleistungstakt ins Drachenbootnirvana getrommelt wurden. Zudem waren wir im Gegensatz zu anderen

Booten immer auf direktem Kurs und hatten keine peinlichen und zeitraubenden Slalomfahrten zu absolvieren. Ehre gehoert dem Steuermann Peter Baer. Ruedi Gildemeister hat die Teams nach dem letzten Rennen mit Bier empfangen und somit konnten wir sofort auf die Erfolge anstossen. **Der langen Worte kurzer Sinn: Unseren Platz in den Geschichtsbuechern und eine Ehrentafel im Schweizerischen Landesmuseum haben wir auf sicher.**

#### Die Fakten:

##### Team **Swiss Dragons**

1. Rennen: Sieg
2. Rennen: Sieg
3. Rennen: 10. Platz im RBS Mixed Gold Cup Final (Endresultat: 10. von total 110 Teams)

##### Team **Swiss Pirates**

1. Rennen: 2. Rang
2. Rennen: 5. Rang
3. Rennen: 6. Platz im RBS Mixed Bowl Final (Endresultat: 26. von 110 Teams)



Ein grosses Dankeschoen geht hiermit an unseren Coach Christian Lang und seine Frau Corinne, welche viel Zeit und Energie in das Abenteuer Swiss Dragons und Swiss Pirates investiert und uns zum Erfolg gefuehrt haben. An dieser Stelle auch ein grosses Merci an Rudolf Gildemeister und Sisu Otto, welche uns an der Swiss Dragonboatparty am 6.10.07 bei ihnen zu Hause in bestem Ambiente mit der Unterstuetzung von Inge Herzog bewirtet haben. Das naechste Dragonboataffestival findet uebrigens am 8. Juni 2008 statt und das Training beginnt wie ueblich nach der Winterpause.

A warm thank you goes to all the sponsors of the Swiss Dragon Boat Teams:

**Team Sponsors:** a-connect, Bally, Chopard, Zuellig Pharma & Mr. Guido Cherubini

**Junk-Boat Sponsors:** Santa Fe & Mr. Roland Seeholzer

**Party Sponsors:** Dine.atHome & Mr. Hans Peter Roost



# Hong Kong – Swiss Golf Week

## 6.–10.8. 2007

Peter Klaus



This yearly event was held, as always, during the second week of August. There was a record turnout. This was very encouraging for the organizer, Alex Hirt, but at the same time it also created problems. It is not easy to find time slots for a group of up to 30 players.

The weather gods were not particularly smiling upon us. Sure enough, we started under brilliant sunshine in Bluemisberg from where we moved on to our base in Bex. On the second day we traveled by



bus to Crans Montana. Fog, low lying clouds spoilt the early morning. Gradually the fog disappeared but the clouds still lingered around the mountain peaks. The

occasional rain spoilt what should have been a scenic round of golf. Still, despite all the adversities we managed to finish 18 holes. Afterwards we were happy to sit in the warm restaurant enjoying local food and wines. In the evening we feasted on Raclette in an old castle – needless to say the atmosphere was very good and lively. On Wednesday we traveled to Evian. In the morning we were able to make use of the very modern practice fields under the supervision of pros. After some interesting tips we proceeded to the clubhouse. As the famous “Coupe Hardy” was to be played in the afternoon we started off with the first discipline on the car-park (throwing golf balls at tins – this proved much more difficult than anticipated). After a sumptuous lunch and coffee we proceeded to the course. The second discipline, throwing dices, had to be performed before teeing off. Regrettably, the rain started almost at the same time and the temperature dropped. The weather did not improve, on the contrary, and in the end the course was closed. Most teams did not finish more than six holes. Thus the organizers had to take the scores of just a few holes



into account, together with the results of the other two disciplines mentioned. The winner would be announced during dinner. After a change of cloth at the hotel we drove by bus to the salt mine of Bex, where we had an interesting introduction, walked for about ten minutes through a shaft before boarding a little train – we really had to squeeze hard to get into the tiny wagons with even smaller seats. After a rather long ride, some additional walks, we arrived in a large cave where we found a restaurant, nicely set tables and friendly service. During the dinner the winner of the Coupe Hardy received the “Wanderpreis” – the copper duck. This year it was won by the organizer himself. The following two days saw heavy rainfall and flooding in Switzerland. Golf was impossible. Alex showed tremendous flexibility and arranged for a different program. Thursday morning we visited a Chagall exhibition in a museum in Martigny. There was also an exhibition of antique cars which found as much interest as the nearby bar where Pastis flowed freely. In the afternoon we visited

the Olympic Museum in Lausanne. Dinner was at the golf club of Montreux where we were supposed to play against the seniors. The, by now, traditional Bratwurst dinner was followed by the happy songs of a Mexican Mariachi band who had thrilled us already two years ago with their music. With a bit of coaxing we managed to get the band to the bar of our hotel where they continued to play and sing from eleven to one o'clock. Happy music, great friendship, story-telling (of old times) continued into the wee hours. It was clear that play would be impossible on Friday and for this reason there would not be any early wake up call!

We hope for somewhat better weather next year when we will play in the north-eastern part of Switzerland – Bad Ragaz and the “Buendnerland”.





# Chocolate Tasting

3 September 07

At the **Joint Monthly Luncheon of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce & Swiss Association of Hong Kong**. Our guest speaker was **Thomas Meier, Managing Director of Lindt and Sprüngli Asia-Pacific**. What a pleasant way to welcome in the autumn.







**T**he Melchterli cup was the coveted trophy to be won on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2007. Since 1970 golfers have been playing for this very special cup – thus it is probably one of the older trophies in Hong Kong for an association.

On a beautiful, sunny and dry day, with an immaculate course, just days off the Club championship at Shek O, eight golfers assembled and fought it out, all in a very friendly but competitive way. Once back in the club house we all had a cool drink and lots of stories to tell about the various fortunes and misfortunes that this crazy sport has in it. Later we assembled for dinner. Again, the chefs had prepared a delicious Swiss menu and with the fine wines accompanying the food everybody enjoyed the evening in the quite surroundings with the beautiful scenery.



All too soon it was time for the prize presentation, with a prize for every participant! Where else can you get a prize for just finishing. It is hoped that next year we can attract a few more players as it would really be a pity if this trophy would have to die a natural death. In order to prevent any excuses the date for next year's Melchterli Cup is **Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2008.**

The results of the Melchterli Cup 2007 are:

1st	<b>Dorcas Gerber</b>	39 stableford points
2nd	<b>Christine Bokhari</b>	37
3rd	<b>Peter Klaus</b>	32
4th	<b>Wolfgang Sickenberg</b>	30
longest drive ladies:		<b>Christine Bokhari</b>
longest drive men:		<b>Patrick Mathys</b>

As in previous years, the first prize was a beautiful Maurice Lacroix watch – and we will try to also keep this a tradition.





# SEDAN CHAIR RACE

## 2007

Peter Chief mechanic



**O**n a beautiful, sunny day in November we all assembled at the Matilda Hospital for the 2007 Sedan Chair Race.

The converted chair had been delivered during the night – a cute old-timer. May be you will ask yourself, what has an old-timer got to do with Switzerland. Well, one hundred years ago, as the writer witnessed in a car museum in Switzerland, our country was among the top producers of cars!

Dressed as mechanics we carried the sedan chair around the race course, ably assisted by our lady driver and an English gentleman starter, together with Andreas as pit stop worker. Several times the car had to stop for mandatory greasing, oiling, pumping up of the wheels as well as refilling the tank. The crowd along the race course enthusiastically supported us, including again a number of Swiss supporters.

We had probably one of the best



decorated chairs in our history but then the competition is so tough that we only got a honorable mention as third best decorated car. However, what is more important is the spirit of the event, participating and last but not least to help the various charities that benefit from this event. It is rewarding to see that this year we are able to donate a somewhat larger amount than in 2006, largely because the strong support of Swiss individuals. To them and the few Swiss companies

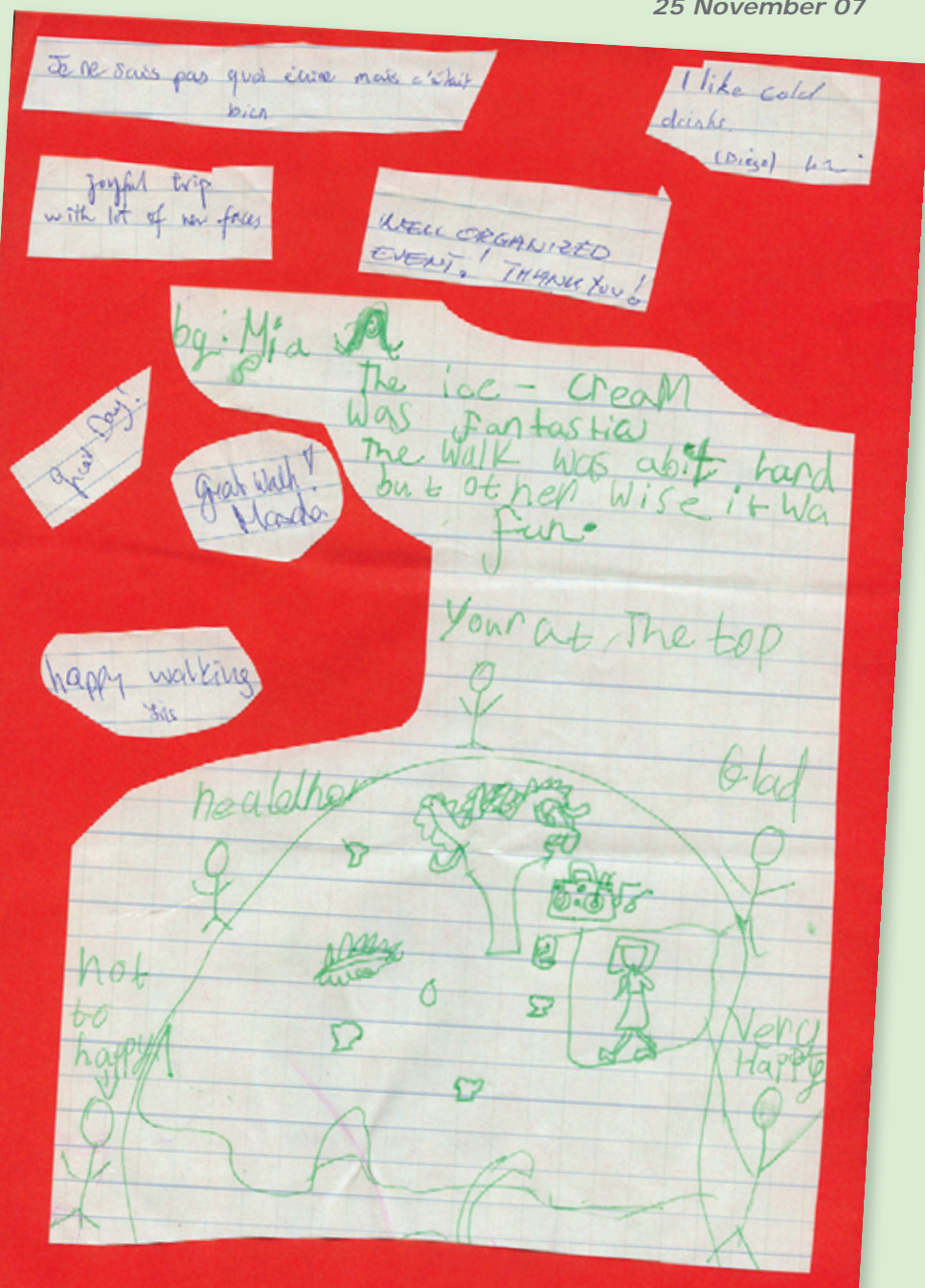
that donated money we say a big “Thank you”. We also thank the Swiss Consulate for the light yellow liquidity for refilling the mechanics systems!

As pictures speak more than words here are some photos taken before and during the race.

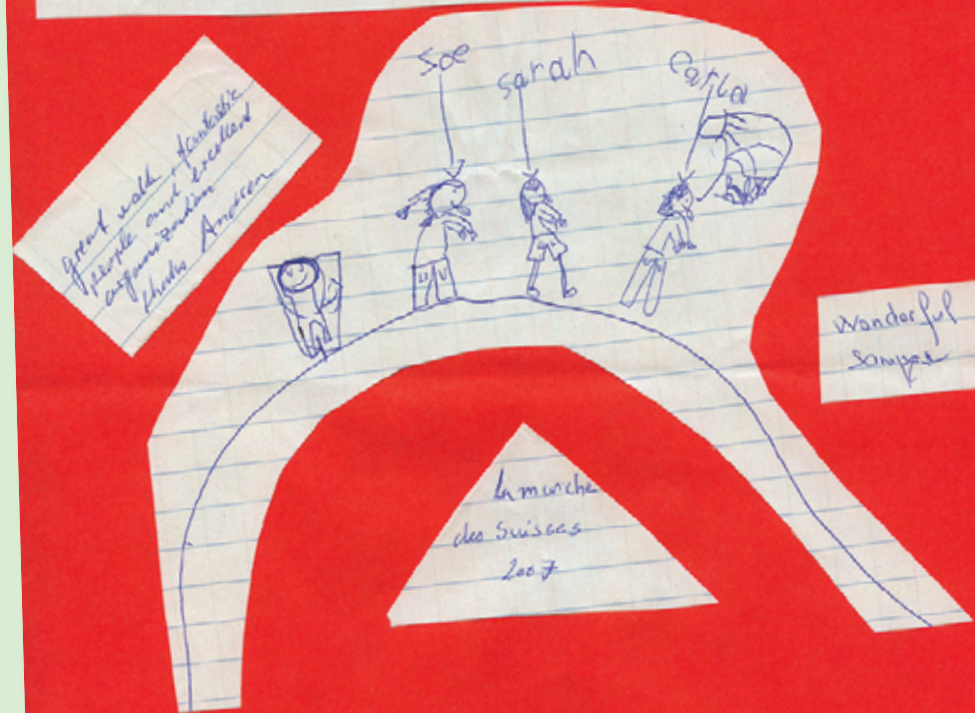


# Family Walk

25 November 07



CARLA SGOBBO  
Wir waren wandern auf dem berg.  
natürlich nicht im wasser  
und ~~am~~ spieh.



Gabriel: "J'ai tombe dans le ravin  
6 1/2 en comment hop vite! Mais c'était pas grave."

Carole: "J'ai vu des mouettes et  
4 1/2 des bateaux. C'était super"

Noémie: "Moi j'ai vu pleins de en l'eau  
2 1/2 j'étais dans le sac à dos, et j'ai  
mangé une glace. C'était bien."







# Swiss Raclette Stall

## at the GSIS Christmas Bazaar,

1 December 07

Christian Lang



Normally it is very quiet on a Saturday on the campus of the German Swiss International School (GSIS) in Hong Kong. Not so on the last Saturday before the First Advent. This is the day of the annual Christmas Bazaar. Most of the classes and many organizations set up their stall in the school and its courtyard.

There is plenty of entertainment for the families, lovely Christmas decorations and other kinds of goods to buy. As you stroll through the building you can smell the scent of fresh advent wreaths, ginger bread, "Gluehwein" and waffles. In the courtyard it is German gammon ham and pickled cabbage, Indian and Thai curry and the smoke of grilled sausages



that catch your nose's attention. However, the strongest smell of all clearly comes from the Swiss raclette stall. As every year over twenty volunteers of the Swiss Association melt Swiss raclette cheese in two shifts from morning till late afternoon. The traditional Swiss dish is most popular amongst Europeans, but also finds a lot of interest amongst the Asian visitors at the bazaar.

That is why the queue got quite long at times. This year the crew produced (with five gas grills and two electrical "twin grills") over 1,500 portions of raclette which were all sold by four o'clock. All the income from the stall went to the Mother's Committee of GSIS who finances several projects at the school with the proceeds of the bazaar. Once more the raclette stall proved to be a big success thanks to the efforts of Inge and Stefan Herzog and all the volunteers.

# Treats by La Rose Noir

3 December 07



**T**he Joint Christmas Charity Luncheon of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce & Swiss Association of Hong Kong was well attended by a cheerful crowd ready for the holiday season. Our guest speaker, **Gerard Dubois President of La Rose Noir**, gave an informative talk on "La Rose Noir Extends its Passion to China" sprinkled with plenty of anecdotes on his past and present day-to-day experiences. The charity, designated by our guest speaker, this year was the **Little Sisters of the Poor - St. Mary's Home for the Aged**.





We are happy to announce that a **total HK\$ 30'718** was raised with the various fundraising activities one could partake in during the luncheon:

HKD 12'000 from raffle sales

HKD 9'718 from the Dutch auction of a very large Ginger Bread House and donations at the door for the Christmas goodies donated by La Rose Noir

HKD 9'000 from the 1st prize raffle Beau Rivage voucher Sister Paola won and put up for auction

Many thanks to Gerard Dubois for his talk and all the goodies we went home with. Thank you to the audience for your participation and show of goodwill to the Little Sisters of the Poor.



# Samichlaus im Park

8 December 2007

Markus Mueke

*Samichlaus Dec 2007 - English*

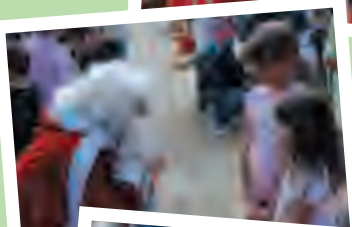
Dr Sami Claus chunnt, (French, Italian, romantsch, mandarin) Santa Claus is coming, Tai Tam Country Park on December 8, 2007 ! More than fifty children, accompanied by parents, visiting relatives and friends, assembled, all eagerly awaiting Santa Claus.

While the adults enjoyed the barbeque, children played in the park. Right on time, Santa Claus arrived. He came alone, since Schmutzli and the donkey have been busy with other events across the world.

Santa Claus had been well prepared, detailed notes written in his book. He knew who's naughty or nice, bad or good. With his wisdom, he guided the children and parents how to do better in 2008 - in multiple languages. As each youngster made his/her promise to be nice and good in 2008 - Santa Claus rewarded his/her - with a bag full of surprises.

Since Santa is a busy man, he left soon after. He had no time to play, he's got millions of stockings and bags to fill for Christmas day. However, he promised to be back in Tai Tam on December 6, 2008.

So we better watch out, we better not cry, and all be nice and good in 2008.





### *Samiclaus Dec 2007 - French*

Le 8 décembre 2007 le Saint Nicolas est passé par Tai Tam country Park! Plus de 50 enfants accompagnés par leurs parents ainsi que par les familles et amis de passage se sont tous retrouvés pour attendre impatiemment l'arrivée de Saint Nicolas.

Pendant que les parents ont savouré le barbecue, les enfants ont joué dans le parc et Saint Nicolas ne sait pas trop fait attendre. Il est venu sans son âne et sans le père fouettard qui étaient tous les deux retenus à l'autre bout du monde.

Saint Nicolas avait été très bien informé et tous les détails étaient inscrits dans son cahier. Il savait très bien qui avait été gentil et qui s'était mal comporté. Avec sa grande sagesse il a su donner les bons conseils aux parents comme aux enfants pour qu'en cette nouvelle année 2008 tout le monde puisse s'améliorer et cela dans plusieurs langues.

Comme les enfants ont promis d'être sages et de bien se comporter en 2008, ils ont tous été récompensés par un sachet surprise rempli de bonnes choses.

Saint Nicolas n'a pas pu rester avec nous car il avait encore des millions de chaussettes et de cadeaux à distribuer pour le jour de Noël mais il nous a promis de revenir à Tai Tam le 6 décembre 2008.

Donc ne soyez pas tristes mais comportez-vous bien et soyez sages car le Saint Nicolas sera de retour en 2008 !

### *Samiclaus Dec.2007 – in Italian*

L'otto dicembre 2007 San Nicola è venuto a Tai Tam country park! Più di 50 bambini accompagnati dai genitori così come dalle loro famiglie ed amici di passaggio si sono ritrovati per aspettare impazientemente l'arrivo di San Nicola.

Mentre i genitori approfittavano del barbecue i bambini hanno giocato nel parco e San Nicola non si è fatto aspettare a lungo. E venuto da solo senza il suo asino e senza la Befana, tutti i due trattenuti dall'altra parte del mondo.

Ben informato, San Nicola aveva tutti i particolari dei bambini registrati nel suo quaderno. In più lingue, ha saputo dire chi si era comportato bene e chi era stato più birichino. Con la sua grande saggezza è stato di buon consiglio sia per i genitori che per i bambini affinché in questo nuovo anno 2008 ognuno possa migliorare.

Come i bambini promisero di fare i bravi e comportarsi bene nel 2008, furono tutti ricompensati con un sacchettino sorpresa riempito di buone cose.

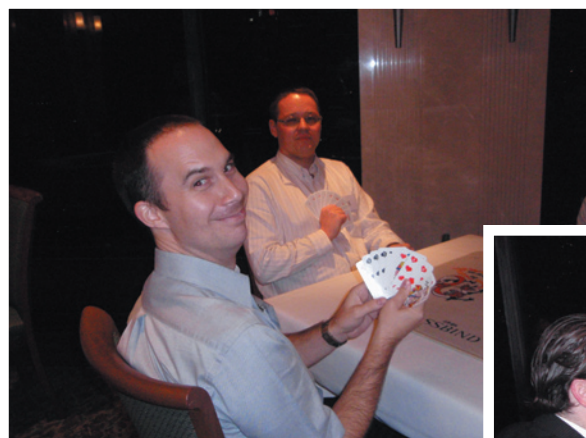
San Nicola non è potuto rimanere con noi perché aveva milioni di calze e regali da riempire e da distribuire per il giorno di Natale ma ci ha promesso di ritornare a Tai Tam per il 6 dicembre 2008. Perciò non siate tristi ma comportatevi bene e fate i bravi perché San Nicola sarà di nuovo fra di noi nel 2008.





# Jass Night

Courtesy of Beatrice and Daniel Rogger



## ANNUAL RANKING 2007

Top 25 Name ANNUAL TOTAL

1	CHERUBINI Guido	13008
2	JEAN-RICHARD Pius	12476
3	MILEWSKI Damian	12393
4	BISCHOF Ruedi	12240
5	LANG Christian	12198
6	VON SIEBENTHAL Bruno	12161
7	DOERIG Leo	12140
8	LUETHI Andreas	11909
9	HUERLIMANN Carlo	11843
10	ROGGER Daniel	11775
11	SCHULER Martin	11554
12	KAMBLI Rolf	11354
13	ASCHWANDEN-LIM Aileen	11287
14	GAUTSCHI Peter	11236
15	SCHAFFNER Thomas	11226
16	DALI Niklaus	11159
17	EGLI Andre	11148
18	KELLER Christine	11148
19	CINA Sheila	11076
20	HERZOG Stefan	10913
21	FUX Nadia	10827
22	ENGLERT Christian	10790
23	RUEST Heinz	10587
24	KAMBLI Kris	10499
25	HUG Stephane	10390

Counting the 4 highest daily totals

## Best Daily Results 2007

Top 25 Player Jass Points Stoeck Match TOTAL

1	LANG Christian	3054	60	400	3514
2	JEAN-RICHARD Pius	2956	40	500	3496
3	CHERUBINI Guido	3011	40	400	3451
4	TOUBLAN Olivier	3078	60	300	3438
5	VON SIEBENTHAL Bruno	2916	20	500	3436
6	STAUB Lukas	2754	60	600	3414
7	MILEWSKI Damian	2840	40	500	3380
8	SCHAFFNER Thomas	3030	20	300	3350
9	BISCHOF Ruedi	2899	80	300	3279
10	CHERUBINI Guido	2814	40	400	3254
11	ROGEL Peter	2928	20	300	3248
12	SCHMID Hans-Ruedi	2677	60	500	3237
13	ROGGER Daniel	2858	40	300	3198
14	JEAN-RICHARD Pius	2782	100	300	3182
15	CHERUBINI Guido	2801	80	300	3181
16	LUETHI Andreas	2700	80	400	3180
17	DOERIG Leo	2769	100	300	3169
18	DOERIG Leo	2818	40	300	3158
19	HERZOG Stefan	2867	80	200	3147
20	CHERUBINI Guido	2762	60	300	3122
21	ASCHWANDEN-LIM Aileen	2717		400	3117
22	HUERLIMANN Carlo	2586	20	500	3106
23	HUERLIMANN Carlo	2879	20	200	3099
24	ROGGER Daniel	2612	80	400	3092
25	MILEWSKI Damian	2688		400	3088

## Swiss Association of Hong Kong - Ladies' Lunch

21 January 08



**20** Swiss ladies joined our special dim sum lunch at the beautiful restaurant of the China Club. The food of the 11 menu courses was delicious and the luxurious atmosphere of this art deco styled restaurant was a treat.

We were pleased to have amongst us some ladies who have lived in Hong Kong for more than



35 years, like Anna Maria Peyer and Barbara Rust, and welcome Regula Wägelin who just arrived 3 weeks ago! Most of us have been living here for a couple of years and enjoy a comfortable life in Hong Kong. It was nice to have been able to talk amongst our "Swissies" and to exchange some useful and interesting information about the Hong Kong life style.

A special thank you to our new Events Co-Coordiantors Rita Reber and Marguerite Candiotti!



# REVOLUTION IN SWITZERLAND

Dr. Heinz Wolf *Swiss teacher at GSIS*

**R**evolution? In Switzerland? Impossible! Something like that simply does not happen in Switzerland! Sure, we had one 160 years ago, but since then: stability, consensus, slow change. Nevertheless, there is a silent revolution going on in that, at heart, conservative alpine country, unnoticed by most and unfolding in an area of society least expected: in education. Let's look at the facts.

In May 2006 a national referendum about a national framework of education was approved by a clear majority of the people and the cantons. Its aim was to provide the federation and the cantons with a constitutional tool to make education in Switzerland fit for the 21st century. In a rather Unswiss way, the cantons moved remarkably quickly. As early as in June 2007 the Conference of the Cantonal Directors of Education approved the so-called "HarmoS-Konkordat", an agreement of all cantons to harmonise primary schooling.

To implement this "Konkordat", ratification by at least 10 cantonal parliaments is required, which many experts say is just a matter of form. By the end of 2008 this process of ratification is expected to be complete, after which there follows a grace period of six years. The harmonized new primary school system will then come into effect with the start of the school year 2014/15.

What is this system all about? Well, it is revolutionary because the following features will apply nationwide, in all cantons. To start with, mandatory schooling in the form of Kindergarten or pre-school will begin, for every single child, at the age of four. From the age of six this is followed by six years of the actual primary school. The Conference of the Cantonal Directors of Education also agreed on three years of schooling at secondary level 1 – nationwide.

If put into proper – revolutionary – perspective, the "HarmoS-Konkordat" means that Switzerland will get a mandatory school system which is

nationally unified, covers the years four to fifteen, and can be called a 2-6-3 model.

However, harmonization – or even standardization – does not stop here. In the new Swiss primary school one single – national – curriculum will replace the hitherto diverse cantonal curricula, and children in St. Gallen will learn with the same course books as the children in Bern and Chur. To monitor the children's learning process and to assess the quality of the individual primary schools, teaching will be based on national education standards.

The structure of school days will also be reorganized in two important ways. For one thing, block times will replace the still existing individualized timetables, which will make life a lot easier for many mothers. For another, block times will be expanded by whole-day school structures, which means that families can choose – but they do not have to – if they want to send their children to school for the whole day. If they choose to do so, they have to pay a fee.

Primary and secondary schools are not the only school types in Switzerland,

though, undergoing reforms. It was in the early 1990s when an actual education reform era was unleashed. It all started with the remarkably swift setting up of a national system of higher education institutions (Fachhochschulen), which has so far proved to be very popular and successful. At about the same time Switzerland signed the “Bologna Protocol”, obliging all Swiss universities to implement a system of Bachelor and Master study courses for all subjects by 2010, a system which is mostly in place already. With the “Bologna Protocol” being signed by all European countries, the new Bachelor/Master system is meant to greatly enhance the comparability of achievements among universities domestically and internationally and to make tertiary education as well as research in Europe fit for competition in a globalised world.

Then, in 1995, the first Gymnasium reform was launched, abolishing the traditional Gymnasium types A, B, C, D, E, and introducing a standardized Matura course with priority subjects, additional subjects (greater choice of foreign languages, economics/law, IT), group

subjects (natural sciences, social studies) to promote interdisciplinary learning, and a non-graded Matura paper to encourage independent scientific research.

The experience gained since inception made it necessary for this new Gymnasium system to be adjusted, which also happened in June 2007. Partly due to pressure from universities science subjects will play a more important role at Swiss Gymnasiums in future, and the Matura paper must be graded. The Conference of the Cantonal Directors of Education has already announced a third phase of Gymnasium reforms to be carried out as early as 2015. Its aim is a comprehensive overhaul of the Swiss Gymnasium system nationwide with, among other things, Gymnasium duration and bilingual courses as items on the agenda.

To sum it all up: Switzerland is in the midst of a comprehensive education reform period that started in the early 1990s and will extend until 2015 or beyond. Reforms have tackled all levels of education and aim at integrating pre-primary, primary, secondary, tertiary and occupational education into a coherent

and efficient whole. The forces behind this truly revolutionary process are varied, indeed. For one thing, the reforms are a reaction to the findings of the famous Pisa study which was a global comparative assessment of reading, writing and mathematical skills and in which Swiss pupils fared worse than expected but still better than their peers in other European countries. In addition, education experts and politicians alike have, wisely, seen the need to adapt to new worldwide trends in education, scientific research, politics and economic developments. Thus, by taking seriously the process of globalization at all levels, the relevant decision makers have introduced comprehensive education reforms to strengthen the overall competitiveness of Switzerland. Judged by the extent of these reforms it is fair to say that not many countries have done more than Switzerland in the last fifteen years. However, everything comes at a price in life. The more these reforms are unfolding the more it becomes clear that the future education system in Switzerland will be less federalist and more centralist. Revolution in Switzerland? Yes, it's possible!



# *French International School Teacher*

**S**ophie Dumas, valaisanne, enseigne, depuis septembre 2007, au Lycée français internationale *Victor Segalen*, section française niveau CE1.

A 28 ans, c'est sa première expérience d'expatriée.

Hong Kong est une ville palpitante, Causeway Bay, lieu de son domicile, un quartier très actif, et son souhait, en plus de se perfectionner professionnellement dans son domaine, est de visiter les contrées alentours durant les deux années qu'elle passera en Asie.





## Evangelische Gemeinde Deutscher Sprache in Hong Kong

### Herzlich willkommen!

Wir feiern regelmäßig deutschsprachige evangelische Gottesdienste:

jeden 1. und 3. (und 5.) Sonntag im Monat um 10 Uhr  
im Old Gym der GSIS, 11 Guildford Road, The Peak.

Parallel finden Kindergottesdienste statt.

Weiter gibt es verschiedene Veranstaltungen wie z.B. Kindergruppen, Konfirmandenunterricht, Literaturkreis, Frauengruppe, Treffen in Discovery Bay, Gemeindeausflüge und vieles mehr. Die Pfarrerin und der Pfarrer stehen für Seelsorge zur Verfügung.

Gerne senden wir Ihnen unseren Gemeindebrief „WIR“ kostenlos zu, teilen Sie uns einfach Ihre Anschrift mit!

Aktuelle Hinweise und Informationen rund um die Gemeinde finden Sie auf unserer homepage [www.kirchehongkong.de](http://www.kirchehongkong.de).

### **Evangelische Gemeinde Deutscher Sprache in Hong Kong**

**16B G/F Shouson Hill Road, H.K.**

**Tel.: 2553 0321;**

**[egdshk@netvigator.com](mailto:egdshk@netvigator.com);**

**[www.kirchehongkong.de](http://www.kirchehongkong.de)**



*Pfarrerin Ute Reckzeh und Pfarrer Sven Salzmann*



# DIE AKTUELLEN "VORSORGE ZAHLEN"

## DER SCHWEIZ: DAS III-SÄULEN KONZEPT

(Die neuen Schlüsselzahlen per 01.01.2008)

### I. Säule

#### A H V / I V Alters-, Hinterbliebenen- und Invaliden-Versicherung

Ab dem 1. Januar 2007 gelten die folgenden Leistungen gemäss der "Renten-Skala 44" (volle AHV/IV Rente):

##### Alters- oder Invaliden-Rente:

	Monatlich	Jährlich
Minimal Einzel	CHF 1,105	CHF 13,260
Maximal Einzel	CHF 2,210	CHF 26,520
Minimal Ehepaar	CHF 1,658	CHF 19,890
Maximal Ehepaar	CHF 3,315	CHF 39,780

##### IV - Rentenstufen:

IV-Grad mind. 40%=Viertelrente, mind. 50%=halbe Rente, mind. 60%=Dreiviertelrente, darüber=voll

##### Hinterbliebenen-Rente:

	Monatlich	Jährlich
Minimal Witwen (-r) Rente	CHF 884	CHF 10,608
Maximal Witwen (-r) Rente	CHF 1,768	CHF 21,216

Die Mindest-Prämie pro Jahr beläuft sich auf CHF 890 und die Beitragssätze für Arbeitnehmer und Arbeitgeber, betragen zusammen 13,1 % des Lohns.

**Auslandschweizer** zahlen 9,8 % des Lohns. Nichterwerbstätige CHF 864 - CHF 11,000 pro Jahr.

Zusätzlich werden 3% Verwaltungskosten verrechnet

#### Achtung!

**Bei fehlenden Beitragsjahren werden sämtliche, oben genannten Zahlen reduziert.**

Die individuellen AHV-Nummern, werden per Juli 2008 geändert. „Alte“ Nummern sind weiterhin brauchbar.

### II. Säule

#### B V G Berufliches Vorsorge-Gesetz (Gesetzliches Minimum)

Auf Lohnbestandteile von unter CHF 23,205 bzw. über CHF 79,560, brauchen keine Pensionskassen-Beiträge geleistet zu werden. Der obligatorisch zu versichernde Maximallohn beträgt somit:

maximal anrechenbarer Jahreslohn CHF 79,560  
 minus Koordinations-Abzug (= maximale AHV-Rente, minus 3.315) CHF 23,205

##### Obligatorisch zu versichernder Lohnanteil

(Minimaler versicherter Lohn: CHF 3,315)

CHF 56,355

Gesamtbeiträge: je nach Alter 10 - 24 % des versicherten Lohns

=====

### U V G

#### Unfallversicherungs-Gesetz — obligatorisch zu versichernder Lohn:

kein Minimum / Maximum = CHF 106,800

### A V I G

#### Arbeitslosenversicherungs- und Insolvenzzerschädigungs-Gesetz

Versicherter Lohn: kein Minimum / Maximum CHF 106,800

Lohnbestandteile bis CHF 126,000

2 Lohnprozente

(Je nach Branche 0.17 – 13.5 % für Betriebsunfälle

(Je nach Branche 0.68 – 4.87 % für Nichtbetriebsunfälle

### M V G

#### Militärversicherungs-Gesetz

Maximal versicherter Lohn = CHF 137,545

### III. Säule

#### Privat: Gebundene und Freie Vorsorge

Für ein sanftes Alters-Ruhekissen, inklusive der Erfüllung von Extrawünschen oder einer frühzeitigen Pensionierung, reichen die ersten 2 Säulen nicht aus - insbesondere nicht für die Eintrittsgeneration (36 - 65-jährige). Damit es im Alter kein böses Erwachen gibt, bieten klare, massgeschneiderte Pläne individuellen Vorsorgeschutz und Sicherheit.

Gebundene Vorsorge = Steuerlich begünstigt (**NUR mit Wohnsitz in der SCHWEIZ**)

Steuerlich begünstigter Maximalbeitrag für Arbeitnehmer : CHF 6,365 p.a.

Steuerlich begünstigter Maximalbeitrag für Selbständige : CHF 31,824 p.a.

Individuelle Vorsorge = **Weltweite**, steuerliche und erbrechtliche Begünstigung

Sollten Sie nähere Information oder Erläuterungen wünschen, so kontaktieren Sie bitte **Swiss-Sure Co. Ltd., Hong Kong**

Tel: (+852) 2543 8428 Fax: (+852) 2541 8147 G.P.O. Box 11338, Hong Kong Email: [info@swiss-sure.com.hk](mailto:info@swiss-sure.com.hk)



**SWISS ASSOCIATION  
OF HONG KONG**



## Membership Application Form

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Name & age of children \_\_\_\_\_

### Mailing Address

Floor, Apt. Nr, Building Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Name and Nr. \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_

Telefon Nr. (one number only) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Nr. (one number only) \_\_\_\_\_

### E-Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_ Mandatory

### Membership Fees

(Thirty percent of the fee will be contributed to Swiss Benevolent Society)

☐ HK\$ 250.00 for individuals

☐ HK\$ 450.00 for couples

### I/We would be interested to

- ☐ participate in committee work
- ☐ help organizing events, e.g. Easter Egg Hunt, Santa Claus, etc.

### Payment

Please complete this form and post it together with your crossed cheque, payable to '**Swiss Association of Hong Kong**', to the following address:

**Swiss Association of Hong Kong**

GPO Box 9873

Hong Kong

Website: [www.swiss-hk.com](http://www.swiss-hk.com)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# WEBSITES

## Useful Information

Swiss Association of Hong Kong	<a href="http://www.swiss-hk.com">www.swiss-hk.com</a>
Consulate General of Switzerland in Hong Kong	<a href="http://www.eda.admin.ch/hongkong">www.eda.admin.ch/hongkong</a>
Government of Switzerland Administration	<a href="http://www.admin.ch">www.admin.ch</a>
Government of Hong Kong Administration	<a href="http://www.info.gov.hk/eindex.htm">www.info.gov.hk/eindex.htm</a>
Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong	<a href="http://www.swisschamhk.org">www.swisschamhk.org</a>
Organization for the Swiss Abroad(ASO Info)	<a href="http://www.swissinfo.ch">www.swissinfo.ch</a>
German Swiss International School in Hong Kong	<a href="http://www.gsis.edu.hk">www.gsis.edu.hk</a>
Lycee Francis International, Hong Kong	<a href="http://www.lfis.edu.hk">www.lfis.edu.hk</a>
Evangelische Gemeinde in Hong Kong	<a href="http://www.kirchehongkong.de">www.kirchehongkong.de</a>
Katholische Gemeinde in Hong Kong	<a href="http://www.deutsche-katholiken-hongkong.de">www.deutsche-katholiken-hongkong.de</a>
News Provider with many Links	<a href="http://www.swissinfo.org">www.swissinfo.org</a>
Newspaper Tagesanzeiger	<a href="http://www.tagesanzeiger.ch">www.tagesanzeiger.ch</a>
Newspaper NZZ	<a href="http://www.nzz.ch/index.html">www.nzz.ch/index.html</a>
Radio DRS	<a href="http://www.drs.ch/drs.html">www.drs.ch/drs.html</a>
Weather in Hong Kong	<a href="http://www.weather.gov.hk">www.weather.gov.hk</a>

## Websites of companies advertising in this issue in alphabetical order

Banca del Gottardo	<a href="http://www.gottardo.com">www.gottardo.com</a>
Caran d'Ache	<a href="http://www.carandache.com">www.carandache.com</a>
Credit Agricole (Suisse) SA HK Branch	<a href="http://www.ca-suisse.com">www.ca-suisse.com</a>
Credit Suisse	<a href="http://www.credit-suisse.com">www.credit-suisse.com</a>
Jaeger-LeCoultre	<a href="http://www.jaeger-lecoultre.com">www.jaeger-lecoultre.com</a>
Kuehne Nagel	<a href="http://www.kuehne-nagel.com">www.kuehne-nagel.com</a>
LGT	<a href="http://www.lgt.com">www.lgt.com</a>
Nescafé	<a href="http://www.nescafe.com">www.nescafe.com</a>
Nespresso	<a href="http://www.nespresso.com">www.nespresso.com</a>
Panalpina	<a href="http://www.panalpina.com">www.panalpina.com</a>
Rolex	<a href="http://www.rolex.com">www.rolex.com</a>
Stanton Chase Int	<a href="http://www.stantonchase.com">www.stantonchase.com</a>
Swiss Sure	<a href="http://www.swiss-sure.com.hk">www.swiss-sure.com.hk</a>
UBS	<a href="http://www.ubs.com">www.ubs.com</a>



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(ii) ai or  
(iii) PDF Format  
Resolution : 300 dpi  
Remarks : all fonts must be converted  
to path (create outline)

For further information please contact

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E-mail : [Angelina.Bussinger.Lee@swiss-hk.com](mailto:Angelina.Bussinger.Lee@swiss-hk.com)

Please publish the following advertisement: (A) (B)

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Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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