



# S'ALPHORN

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Nr. 127 March 2009



# S'ALPHORN

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<b>Facts and Figures</b>	1	Alphorn-Downhill
	2	Content List
	4	President's Word
	6	SAHK Committee and Other Related Organisations
	8	Stefan Basler - 2nd Vice President
	9	Claudia Gehrig - Events Co-Coordinator
	10	Welcome & Goodbye
	12	Calendar of Events
	15	Staff of the Consulate General of Switzerland
<b>Recipe, Swiss News &amp; Interview</b>	16	Recipe
	18	Meeting of the Council of OSA
	20	Eine Schweizerin bekämpft den nordkoreanischen Hunger
<b>Past Events</b>	22	Hong Kong Heritage Tour
	26	Easter Egg Hunt in the Fog
	28	Our AGM
	32	Dragon Boat Warm-up Race 08
	34	Night at the Races
	36	The Flying Crocs of Po Toi
	38	SwissXI in Hong Kong
	42	Swiss Dragons, Pirates and Sharks
	46	Vom Roesti Und Dim Sum Graben
	48	Swiss National Day
	52	HK Golf Week Switzerland 2008
	54	Welcome Back Gathering
	56	Melchterli Cup
	58	Wine Tasting
	60	Family Hike & BBQ
	62	Sedan Chair Race 2008
	66	Six a Side Tournament in Manila
	68	Swiss Rifle Association
	70	Charity Benefit Luncheon
	72	Erdnüsse, Grittibenzen und Mandarinen
	73	Jass at the Banker's Club
	78	Christmas Coffee Morning
	80	Carnival - Raclette - Fasnacht
<b>What might be of interest to you</b>	77	SAHK Membership Form
	82	My Great Journey of Learning
	84	German Speaking Churches
	85	The First Swiss in Hong Kong
	86	Vorsorge Zahlen 2009
	87	S'Alphorn Advertisement Form
	88	Websites

# President's Word

Dear Friends of the Swiss Association of Hong Kong

I would like to thank you – once again - for joining the “Thank you” dinner with my colleagues from the committee.

It has been a very entertaining evening – learning more interesting anecdotes about Swiss living in Hong Kong; making new friends, collecting new ideas and enjoying the excellent food and drink.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on March 19, 2009 to vote for the new committee and Stefan Basler as the President.

Best Regards, Markus Muecke



**We would like to thank our advertisers for their generous support, without which the publication of this magazine would not have been possible.**

# Swiss Association of Hong Kong

G.P.O. Box 9873 Hong Kong

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

Committee of the Swiss Association of Hong Kong 2008/2009



President  
Markus Muecke



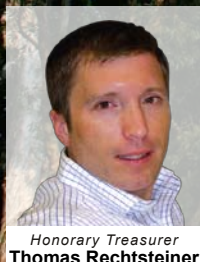
1st Vice-President  
Walther Nahr



2nd Vice-President  
Stefan Basler



Ex Officio  
Andrea Capol



Honorary Treasurer  
Thomas Rechtsteiner



Events Co-coordinator  
Marguerite Candiotti



Events Co-coordinator  
Claudia Gehrig



S'Alphorn Editor  
Angelina Bussinger Lee



School Committee  
Christian Lang

President	Markus Muecke <a href="mailto:Markus.Muecke@swiss-hk.com">Markus.Muecke@swiss-hk.com</a>	2760 2600
1st Vice President	Walther Nahr <a href="mailto:Walti.Nahr@swiss-hk.com">Walti.Nahr@swiss-hk.com</a>	3628 0219
2nd Vice President	Stefan Basler <a href="mailto:Stefan.Basler@swiss-hk.com">Stefan.Basler@swiss-hk.com</a>	9236 1722
Ex Officio	Andrea Capol <a href="mailto:Andrea.Capol@swiss-hk.com">Andrea.Capol@swiss-hk.com</a>	2971 6376
Honorary Treasurer	Thomas Rechtsteiner <a href="mailto:Thomas.Rechtsteiner@swiss-hk.com">Thomas.Rechtsteiner@swiss-hk.com</a>	2971 7835
Events Co-coordinator	Marguerite Candiotti <a href="mailto:Marguerite.Candiotti@swiss-hk.com">Marguerite.Candiotti@swiss-hk.com</a>	6776 1140
Events Co-coordinator	Claudia Gehrig <a href="mailto:Claudia.Gehrig@swiss-hk.com">Claudia.Gehrig@swiss-hk.com</a>	6621 7520
S'Alphorn Editor	Angelina Bussinger Lee <a href="mailto:Angelina.Bussinger.Lee@swiss-hk.com">Angelina.Bussinger.Lee@swiss-hk.com</a>	9170 1111
School Committee	Christian Lang <a href="mailto:Christian.Lang@swiss-hk.com">Christian.Lang@swiss-hk.com</a>	2913 7182
Webmaster	Dennis Cheung <a href="mailto:webmaster@admin.swiss-hk.com">webmaster@admin.swiss-hk.com</a>	

2009/2010 committee list pending ratification at AGM. Complete updated list posted on our website as of April 2009.

## Other Swiss related Organizations

Swiss Benevolent Society(SBS)	Ruedi Bischof	2905 3366
Swiss Chamber of Commerce in HK	Serge G Fafalen Irene Lo <a href="mailto:admin@swisschamhk.org">admin@swisschamhk.org</a> <a href="http://www.swisschamhk.org">www.swisschamhk.org</a>	2524 0590
OSA-Organization of Swiss Abroad	AnnaMarie Peyer <a href="http://www.aso.ch">www.aso.ch</a>	
Swiss XI, Golfing and Sedan Chair Race	Peter Klaus <a href="mailto:Peter.Klaus@dksh.com">Peter.Klaus@dksh.com</a> SwissXI: <a href="http://www.swissXI.com">www.swissXI.com</a>	2895 9709
Dragonboat Team	Christian and Corinne Lang <a href="mailto:dragonboat@swiss-hk.com">dragonboat@swiss-hk.com</a>	2913 7182
Swiss Rifle Association	Alexander Luedi <a href="mailto:aleudi@netvigator.com">aleudi@netvigator.com</a> <a href="http://www.srahk.com">www.srahk.com</a>	9150 0574

## Swiss Association of Hong Kong(SAHK)

The Swiss Association exists since September 1949. Its official language is English. Currently there are about 630 members. Please check the web site of the Swiss Association of Hong Kong for information about events. [www.swiss-hk.com](http://www.swiss-hk.com)

## Swiss Benevolent Society(SBS)

The Swiss Benevolent Society (SBS) was founded in September 1949 and offers assistance to Swiss Expats, who are temporarily in financial difficulties. The SBS is partly financed by membership fees of the Swiss Association of Hong Kong.

## Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong

The Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong promotes relations and common interests in trade and financial matters among business people, who are linked with Switzerland. Currently there are about 130 members. Monthly luncheons with guest speakers take place and a newsletter is regularly published. Swiss Business Council in Hong Kong, G.P.O. Box 9501, Hong Kong

## OSA-Organization of the Swiss Abroad

Since 1916 the Organization of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) makes sure that the interests of the Swiss Abroad are being heard in Switzerland. The OSA provides information about Switzerland and offers various services.

For more information please contact: OSA, Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3000 Berne 16, Phone: +41 31 351 61 00. Fax: +41 31 351 61 50, E-Mail: [info@aso.ch](mailto:info@aso.ch)

## Swiss Rifle Association

The Swiss Rifle Association was founded in 1982. Currently there are about 50 members and two events every year, one of them being the compulsory shooting exercise.



**Stefan Basler**  
*2nd Vice President*

“**R**aclette at 36 degrees Celsius, outside (!) ... the Swiss in Hong Kong are quite patriotic”. Those were my first thoughts at the Swiss National Day Celebrations back in 2007 when we first came to Hong Kong on a familiarization trip. Yet, my partner Dagmar and I spent a wonderful evening there and enjoyed the welcoming atmosphere. We both knew that we wanted to actively participate in the Swiss community once we relocated to this energetic spot.

Only a few months later we actually found ourselves travelling from DB to Stanley every Saturday (early morning) to attend the Swiss Team Dragonboat training. A wonderful start for us here as we met great people, made good friends and surprisingly became Saturday-Morning-Early-Birds...

On the job-side of life we both have assignments with GE Capital and SR Technics, working as Compliance Officer and Area Sales Director. Looking after customers in the aviation industry often brings me to other countries in the APAC Region, an enriching but also challenging part of my job.

Looking back on our first year in Hong Kong, we both enjoyed the cultural richness and the connection back to our roots thru the Swiss Association – be that at the exciting events, the Dragonboat training, the Sedan Chair Race or my function as 2nd vice president in the committee. And guess what – we both became quite patriotic despite the 36 degrees Celsius!

# Claudia Gehrig

*Events Co-Coordinator*



I am Claudia Gehrig, born in Rorschach. All of my life I have been living next to the Lake of Constance. During my youth, I had a stay in Lausanne where I was able to learn the French language and the habits of the French Swiss people. In August 2007 I came with my husband to Hong Kong. My two older children (Nastasja - now 26 and Nicolai - 22) are still living in

Switzerland. The youngest one Jérôme (9) lives with me in HK. My husband is working in China during the week and joins us for the weekends.

It is a great joy for me to join the committee of the Swiss Association here in HK. Due to the move of Rita Reber who went to Singapore, I got the possibility to take over her engagement in the SAHK. I am happy to work together with Marguerite Candiotti to help to organize several events for the Swiss expat „community“.

I am very much looking forward to interesting encounters with nice people in the next years!

Warm regards

Claudia

# WELCOME & GOODBYE

## New members

Daniel & Karin Aregger  
Michele Balice  
Stefan & Dagmar Basler & Winkler  
Philippe Blaser  
Reto Bleiker  
Roland Buser  
Katrina & Claudio Chan & Vieceili  
Daniel & Fabienne Cottini & Ulrich  
Axelle De Vilmorin  
Pietro Di Fluri  
Gerard Dubois  
Mark Engler  
Serge Georges Fafalen  
Lisina & Niklaus Fingerhuth Leung  
Marco Frunz  
Ellen & Roman Gabriel  
Peter Emil Glaus  
Jeannette & Patrick Goeldi & von Deschwanden  
Pamela & Andrea Gutmann  
Sandra Helbling  
Urs & Doris Hess  
Patrick & Annette Hoefs  
Winnie Suet Hing Kan  
Philip & Rosalind Keller Liang  
Francoise & Michel Killias Zillweger  
Erich Landolt

Niklaus & Bich Hue Lang & Lang Hua  
Siew Liang & Leta Lau Ng  
Stephan & Helena Lickert  
Natalie & Phillip Lord  
Torquil & Chung-Eun Macleod & Wie  
Amanuel Maengia  
Priska & Juerg Mattli  
Anderas & Anita Meier  
Julian & Raquel Michel-Muniain  
Rudolf Mueller  
Benjamin Mueller-Rappard  
Damian Pang  
Reinhard & Helene Peters  
Andrea & Carmen Ragazzo-Ng  
Stefan & Cat Rust  
Dina Said  
Christian Schiller  
Michael Schweizer  
Toni Sigg  
Nicolas & Jessica Suzanne Steiger-Thorpe  
Symon & Jacqueline Tilberis  
Mirjam & Patrick Trachsel & Wendt  
Elsie van Stolk  
Sacha & Regula Waegeli  
Claudia & John Walshe  
Michael Raza & Dian Retno Wideyanti & Imam

## Resigned members

Felix & Claudia Ammann  
Michael & Aileen Aschwanden-Lim  
Oliver & Claudia Bertschinger-Pfund  
Salmann & Christine Bokhari-Zurbrugg  
Michael & Anne Brendle  
Alexander & Asa Caviezel  
Ariste & Yvette Chiabotti  
Benno & Ursula Christen  
Michael & Marianne Comerford  
Christian & Lorna Dimita-Faeh  
Peter & Sonia Doerig-Bal  
Heinz Egli  
Andre & Nadia Egli Fux  
Balthasar Ginsig  
Heather Goessel  
Sylvain Gysler  
Emmanuel Hammer  
Christoph & Jolanda Himmelstein

Oliver Huegli  
Walter & Vera Hungerbuehler  
Markus & Daniela Kraeuchi  
Cornel & Ariane Krummenacher  
Felix & Christa Kubat  
Michel Kuenzler  
Hans Rudolf & Ruth Kunz  
Andreas & Isabel Luethi Steiger  
Peter & Gloria Obrist  
Christine Ravioli  
Andreas & Rita Reber  
Marc & Karin Schlund  
Edouard & Isabell Schmid-Jegge  
Martin & Cina Sheila Schuler  
Peter Schori  
Adrian & Cinzia Sieber  
Erwin & Sonia Stillhard  
Olivier & Azota Toubian Pelin

# Calendar of Events

(January 2009 - December 2009)

## January

- 12 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
- 13 Ladies' Morning Chinese New Year Traditions

## February

- 9 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
- 13 Bowling Night
- 18 Ladies' Morning Mahjong
- 22 Swiss Rifle Association Training Day
- 28 Carnival - Raclette - Fasnacht

## March

- 2 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
- 5 Thank You Dinner for Supporters of SAHK
- 15 Swiss Rifle Association Compulsory and Field Shoot
- 19 61st Swiss Association of HK AGM and 37th Swiss Benevolent Society of HK AGM
- 23 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club
- 26 Ladies' Morning Walk Around Kowloon with Jason Wordie
- 30 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club

## April

- 1 Ladies' Morning Fashion Trends
- 16 Swiss Rifle Association AGM
- 19 Deep Water Bay Dragon Boat Race
- 27 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club

## May

- 1 Stanley Warm-Up Race
- 4 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
- 6 Night at the Races
- 15 Evening Presentation: On the Road in China with Peter Schindler
- 25 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club
- 28 Stanley International Dragon Boat Races

## June

- 1 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
- 29 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club

## July

- 27 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club

## August

- 1 Swiss National Day
- 10-14 Golf Meet in Switzerland
- 31 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club

## September

- 7 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
- 28 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club

## October

- 5 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
- 12 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club

## November

- 2 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club
- 15 Sedan Chair Race
- 22 Swiss Rifle Association Operation Mercury
- 23 Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club
- 28 GSIS Christmas Fair

## December

- 6 Samichlaustag
- 7 Joint Monthly Luncheon at the Hong Kong Club



### Regular Events:

- Joint Monthly Luncheon of SAHK and Swiss Chamber of Commerce at the Hong Kong Club  
every 1st Monday of the month  
time: 12:00-14:00  
interested, kindly contact: [luncheon@swiss-hk.com](mailto:luncheon@swiss-hk.com)
- Ladies' Morning topics, date, time and meeting places to be advised on website  
interested, kindly contact: [events@swiss-hk.com](mailto:events@swiss-hk.com)
- Jass Evening at the Hong Kong Bankers Club  
usually every last Monday, there are exceptions to the rule, please view calendar  
time: 18:45  
interested, kindly contact: Beatrice and Daniel Rogger
- Swiss Chamber of Commerce Young Professional After-Work Cocktail  
every 1st Thursday of the month  
interested, kindly contact Benjamin Mueller-Rappard [bmr@themirahotel.com](mailto:bmr@themirahotel.com)

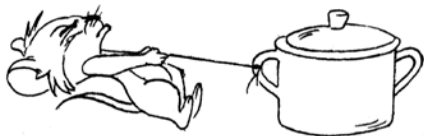
The above list is not conclusive. Additional events may be added or deleted.

Log onto our newly improved website [www.swiss-hk.com](http://www.swiss-hk.com) for regular updates and exact details of events.

## Blanquette of Lamb with Saffron Sauce

### Ingredients (for 4 people)

800 gr. Lamb Shoulder  
 6 dl. Light Bouillon  
 1 dl. White wine  
 150 gr. Bouquet garni  
 (onions, carrots, celery, 1/2 pc bayleaf, 1 pc clove, some parsley stalks)



2 dl. Cream  
 100 gr. Quark Cheese  
 2 tablespoon Olive Oil  
 2 tablespoon Flour  
 Salt Pepper  
 Nutmeg  
 Saffron (ground or threads)



### Garnish

50 gr. Carrots  
 50 gr. Celery  
 50 gr. Fine Green Beans  
 30 gr. Pearl Onions  
 (all vegetables cooked in salted water until tender)



### Method

- Trim the meat well and cut into pieces weighing 40 gr. each
- Boil up the bouillon together with the wine
- Add the meat
- Bring to the boil and skim
- Add the bouquet garni and simmer until the meat is tender, occasionally removing the fat and skimming
- Remove the cooked meat and strain the stock through a fine sieve
- Pour the olive oil into a pan, add the flour and stir well
- Add the stock and saffron and reduce until the required consistency is obtained
- Strain the bound sauce through a fine muslin cloth and carefully whisk in the quark cheese
- Place the meat into the sauce and warm up carefully
- Arrange the meat on a suitable dish and garnish with the carrots, celery, green beans and pearl onions.

**Note:** Above recipe can be prepared with Veal as well.



## **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF OSA- ORGANIZATION OF THE SWISS ABROAD**

*August 21, 2008 in Freiburg*

**AnnaMarie Peyer**

Every year the representatives of the Swiss Associations or Clubs around the world meet the day before the Congress of the Swiss Abroad.

Last year was no exception.

The main topics discussed were

- E-voting
- Swiss Revue
- Free Movement of Persons
- Election 2009-13

### **E-voting**

This has been discussed before and many members were disappointed that not much progress has been made. However, since every canton has its own register of voters, these have to be harmonised first, deadline given by the government for this is 2009.

It will not be possible for all cantons to introduce E-voting at the same time.

In short, patience is asked for!

### **Swiss Revue**

EDA has to save CHF500'000 and decided to cut the budget of Swiss Revue.

The President of ASO, Mr. Eggly as well as its Director, Dr. Wyder, underlined the importance of the Swiss Revue being the only information received by all Swiss

living abroad.

A resolution was unanimously passed, BUT unfortunately in the meantime we have learned that the Council of States as well as National Council has approved the cut.

### **Free Movement of Persons**

(Personenfreizuegigkeit)

This was also the topic of one of the workshops at the congress.

After lengthy discussion the majority agreed that the committee may issue a supportive statement if the voting will take place in February 2009.

### **Election 2009-2013**

Members of the Council of the Swiss Abroad serve for 4 years, election are due this year. With the new assignments of seats, Hong Kong will only have one seat. Up to now Mr. F. Bieger was the delegate, Ruth Hung von Siebenthal and the undersigned substitutes. Mr. Bieger and Mrs. Hung both resigned.

The Committee of the Swiss Association of Hong Kong has asked me to take over from Mr. Bieger. I accepted this appointment.

For more information please visit **[www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch)**

## Eine Schweizerin bekämpft den nordkoreanischen Hunger

KÄTHI ZELLWEGER, LEITERIN DES DEZA- BÜROS IN PYONGYANG

Source: Tages-Anzeiger  
10 November 08

**In Nordkorea zeichnet sich eine schwere Hungersnot ab. Käthi Zellweger hilft dort im Auftrag der Schweiz. Doch diese will sich auf parlamentarischen Druck aus Nordkorea zurückziehen.**

**Von Philipp Mäder, Pyongyang**

Bald kommt der Winter nach Nordkorea. Laut der Uno droht dem Land dann die schwerste Hungersnot seit Jahren. Die Organisation hat deshalb ein 500 Millionen Dollar schweres Notprogramm gestartet, das mehr als sechs Millionen Menschen mit Lebensmitteln versorgen soll.

Im Restaurant Arirang in Pyongyang ist davon nichts zu spüren. Die Tische sind gut besetzt - mit der High Society der Nordkoreaner und der Community der Ausländer. Zu dieser gehört auch Käthi Zellweger, die das Büro der Direktion für Entwicklung und Zusammenarbeit (Deza) in Pyongyang leitet. Mit einer Mischung aus Englisch und Koreanisch bestellt sie Kimchi, den scharf eingelegten Kohl, der bei keiner Mahlzeit fehlen darf. Dann schaltet die hübsche Kellnerin den gasbetriebenen Tischgrill an, damit die Gäste Bulgogi essen können, gegrillte Fleischstückchen.

### Mais-Schädlinge bekämpfen

Zellweger beginnt, von ihrer Arbeit zu erzählen. Sie kennt nicht nur die schicken Restaurants von Pyongyang, wo die Ausländer mit ihren Euros beliebig viel

Essen bestellen können. Sondern auch die raue nordkoreanische Wirklichkeit draussen auf dem Land. Dort, wo die Menschen nach der schlechten Ernte in diesem Jahr um ihr tägliches Brot bangen müssen.

Die gebürtige Appenzellerin war viele Jahre Leiterin des Caritas-Büros in Hongkong - und dort auch für Nordkorea zuständig. Seit zwei Jahren arbeitet sie nun für die Deza in Pyongyang. Mit einem guten Dutzend Mitarbeitern und einem Jahresbudget von mehr als vier Millionen Franken setzt sie vor allem Projekte in der Landwirtschaft um.

Die Schweiz hilft unter anderem mit, Schädlinge zu bekämpfen, die den Mais und die Kartoffeln zerstören. Und sie zeigt, wie man rutschende Hänge aufforsten kann. Das geht weit über die Nothilfe hinaus, mit der die Schweiz nach schweren Überschwemmungen 1995



Hält die Stellung in der Kommunisten-Diktatur Nordkorea: Käthi Zellweger. BILD REGINA KUEHNE/KEYSTONE

erstmal in Nordkorea aktiv wurde: «Heute möchten wir den Menschen aufzeigen, wie sie die Armut selbst überwinden können», sagt Zellweger. «Dabei steht die lokale Bevölkerung im Vordergrund. Veränderungen, die Bestand haben sollen, müssen von ihr ausgehen.» Doch klar ist auch: Im diktatorisch regierten Nordkorea ist Entwicklungshilfe nur möglich, wenn die Schweiz eng mit der Regierung kooperiert. Und da kommt schnell der Vorwurf auf, die Schweiz stütze ein Regime, das nicht nur die eigene Bevölkerung unterdrückt, sondern mit seinem Atomwaffenprogramm auch die umliegenden Länder bedroht.

Zellweger sieht das anders. «Im Gespräch mit der Regierung kann man auch neue Ideen einbringen», sagt sie. «Und man kann jene Kräfte fördern, die an einer Integration in die internationale Gemeinschaft interessiert sind.» Dennoch räumt auch sie ein, Reformen seien nur in kleinen Schritten möglich.

Weniger Geduld als Zellweger haben die Schweizer Parlamentarier: Sie unterstützten vor kurzem einen Antrag des Zuger CVP-Nationalrates Gerhard Pfister, der den Rückzug der Schweizer Entwicklungshelfer aus Nordkorea verlangt. Nicht einmal der Bundesrat wehrte sich dagegen. Vielmehr verweist man im Departement für auswärtige Angelegenheiten darauf, dass man die Zahl der Schwerpunktländer ohnehin reduzieren wollte.

### Hilfsorganisationen sind rar

Spätestens in drei Jahren muss Käthi Zellweger deshalb ihr Büro in Pyongyang räumen. Sie selbst kann diesen Entscheid zwar nachvollziehen, sieht die Dinge aber anders: «Man bestraft mit einem Rückzug die Falschen,

nämlich die Ärmsten», sagt Zellweger. Dies findet sie umso bedenklicher, als Nordkorea eines der wenigen Länder sei, in denen sich die Hilfsorganisationen auf der Suche nach Projekten nicht gegenseitig auf die Füsse stehen. «Hier kann man noch Veränderungen erzielen», sagt Zellweger. «Auch wenn diese oftmals nicht sofort ersichtlich sind.» Der Abend im Restaurant Arirang ist schnell vorbei, alle am Tisch sind mehr als satt geworden. Zellweger kommt noch auf ein letztes Taedonggang-Bier in die Hotelbar. Dann fährt sie mit ihrem weissen Offroad zurück ins Haus der Deza, wo sie auch lebt. Obwohl Zellweger im Gegensatz zu den meisten Nordkoreanern einen nahezu europäischen Lebensstandard genießt: Wenn sie auf Besuch in der Schweiz ist, merkt sie wieder, wie arm Nordkorea wirklich ist: «In der Migros quellen mir jeweils fast die Augen über», erzählt sie mit ihrem ansteckenden Lachen. «Und wenn ich wieder nach Nordkorea zurückreise, habe ich immer einen schweren Koffer dabei.»

Katharina Zellweger, a Swiss national, joined the Swiss Government as Country Director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Pyongyang on October 1, 2006. She heads a team of 4 expatriates and 10 national project officers.

Before joining SDC, Katharina Zellweger spent almost 30 years at Caritas-Hong Kong.

In the summer of 2006, the Vatican honoured her with one of the highest awards that can be given to a lay person: she was made a Dame of St. Gregory the Great – intended to recognize her contributions to humanitarian work.



# Hong Kong Heritage Tour

16 March 08

After almost one and a half years in Hong Kong, both my wife and I had expressed a real desire to get to know this city much better. My latest city tours with friends and family from abroad had made me realize that I was stuck in somewhat of a 'landmark & anecdote' routine. When the Swiss Association of Hong Kong sent out invitations for its Hong Kong Heritage Tour, I immediately signed us up.

Fast forward to March 16th, the actual date of the tour. It's a beautiful Sunday

morning except for the alarm clock that shrills at a truly unforgiving 7h30 am. My initial eagerness to discover the beauty of Hong Kong slumps at once: We need to get up early because we live in Discovery Bay and have to reach the Hong Kong City Hall for the departure. By the time we make it to Hong Kong Island, the only landmark I really want to see is Pacific Coffee, I am in desperate need of caffeine if I want to pay the least a bit of attention.

We finally make it to the Hong Kong



City Hall in time, which is an interesting fact because it sets the tone for the rest of the morning: first because I realize that I would have instinctively gone to the wrong gathering place (Legco instead of City Hall), second because nestled between the skyscrapers are a number of buildings in Hong Kong one recognizes without knowing their names. Slowly, a little group of brave early birds assembles, among them is Marco Foehn, our guide for this morning. Having lived in Hong Kong for more than 25 years he is ideally placed to talk about the city, its history and landmarks.

As I am about to discover, City Hall is an ideal starting point for our tour. Among various items of colonial history, a quick dive into the past reveals why Hong Kong is called 'Fragrant Harbour', despite the overwhelming smog and

polluted air! Marco also emphasizes that we are standing on reclaimed land, explaining how the process started and the original shorelines of the Hong Kong Island. We then move on to the Legco building, ahh yes, have seen that one already this morning, where Marco's insight lends a fresh perspective on things yet again. Where Swiss perfectionism would sarcastically jump to the one and obvious conclusion that local craftsmen are simply not very skilled; the various concrete patches on the façade of the Legco building draw the attention to the Japanese occupation period during which shots were fired.

Marco bridges the short walk to the next landmark by explaining the history and influence of the very same Catchik Paul Chater, who single handedly financed the first land reclaiming process in Hong



back side of the HSBC building, we then hear about the history of the Portuguese Club Lusitano before walking up Battery Path to the Court of Final Appeal and St

Kong and whose name christened a garden, street and building in the Central district. Overlooking Statue Square, our guide explains why there are no buildings higher than a car parking lot in front of the HSBC building and that the statue of Thomas Jackson, the former manager of HSBC, was not always facing the Legco building.

One of my personal all time favorite landmarks is Norman Foster's HSBC building. We learn that the building, erected before the handover, was constructed in a way that it could be totally disassembled if need be. I had always wondered why, despite obvious 'no eating or drinking' signs, the building sheltered so many domestic helpers on Sundays. Marco explains that their presence is tolerated because the place derives its 'chi' (energy) from the people gathering below the construction. Standing on the



John's Cathedral.

Through Cheung Kong Center we access Hong Kong Park, where we're explained that the KS Lo Gallery allows visitors to enjoy tasty (vegetarian) Dim Sum and a real Chinese Tea ceremony every weekday. Walking up Garden Road and passing the Lower Peak Tram Terminal we are introduced to the history of the Helena May building, which until this day offers a shelter for young women arriving in Hong Kong.

From there, we reach Upper Albert Road, where we peek through the gate of the Governor's House. The mansion



was the official residence of the British Governor of Hong Kong from 1855 to 1997 and is now closed to the public. From there one also sees the Bank of China building and our guide narrates the anecdote that the Chinese architect of the BoC building oriented one of the buildings sharp angles towards the Governor's House to act in retaliation to the perceived threat coming from the HSBC building, where a rooftop crane in shape of a gun was pointing to the BoC. The thoughtful Chinese defended themselves with the power of bad Fung Shui created by their own buildings angle...

We finish our tour in Ice House Street, where Marco renders the colonial past of the Old Dairy Farm Building, located nearby the Foreign Correspondence Club and opposite the Anglican Bishops House. With hindsight, the Heritage Tour was more than worth getting up early on a Sunday morning: During the 3 hours, the participants discovered their city in a colorful and new perspective.

For all those who missed it, Marco Foehn holds an official Travel Agents license and offers the Heritage Tour as part of his 'Walking Hong Kong' program.



# Easter Egg Hunt in the Fog

22 March 08

Julia Held



Nach so vielen trockenen und sonnigen Wochen in diesem Winter, hat es endlich geregnet, und zwar nicht nur ein bisschen Nieselregen. Und auch nicht an irgendeinem Tag, sondern am 22.3.2008, an dem Tag, an dem die Swiss Association ihre 'Easter Egg hunt' organisiert hatte.

Zum Glück sind die Schweizer nicht so zimperlich und ausserdem gewohnt, ihre Kinder in Gummistiefeln draussen rumrennen zu lassen. Auf jeden Fall hatte sich eine kleine Gruppe auf dem Peak in Hong Kong für das Dekorieren der Körbe

und das Suchen der Schoggihasen und Eier eingefunden.

Petrus hat dann zum guten Glück eine kleine Pause eingelegt und somit den Kindern die Möglichkeit gegeben, diese Aktivität in vollen Zügen zu geniessen.

Leider war die Pause nur kurz, so dass die Eltern keine Zeit hatten es sich auch etwas gemütlich zu machen.

Ich sage nur: „Qualitytime für die Easter Bunnies!“

Den Kindern hat es auch trotz dem Suchen im Nebel gefallen. Was will man mehr?



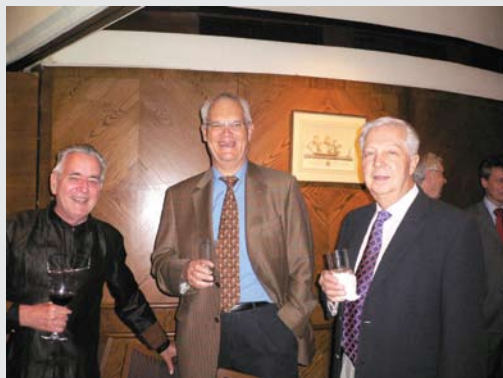
# Our AGM

APRIL 11, 2008  
THE HONG KONG CLUB

**O**n Friday 11. April 2008 the 60th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Swiss Association of Hong Kong (SAHK) followed by the 36th Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Benevolent Society of Hong Kong (SBS) was held at the Hong Kong Club.

The quorum of 41 members of the SAHK was met. Andre Capol, the to be outgoing president of the SAHK welcomed Dr. Roth and Mr. and Mrs. Mueller from the Consulate General of Switzerland and our guests and the meeting commenced. The meeting followed the usual agenda: last year's SAHK minutes were approved, the year end accounts report announced, the Swiss school report and accounts read, the Swiss Benevolent Societies minutes approved and their accounts announced. The audience gave a warm applause to the outgoing president, Andrea Capol, the newly appointed

president, Markus Muecke, and the entire SAHK committee for their much appreciated efforts made this year. A milestone of the year was that our website got up and running and our communications have become environmentally and cost friendly by going paperless. The committee on their side thanked and bid farewell to Annie Wettling, who served loyally for more than 10 years as Honorary Secretary. With a loud ring of her cowbell Annie wished the SAHK well!

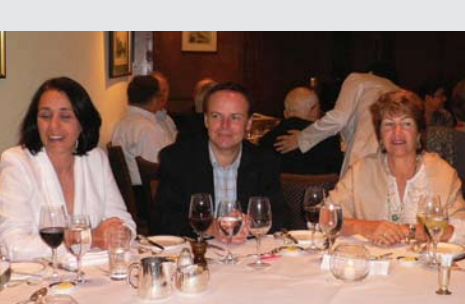




Committee members of the Swiss Association of Hong Kong 2008/2009



Committee members of the Swiss Benevolent Society of Hong Kong 2008/2009





# Dragon Boat Warm-up Race 08

1 May 08

The first highlight of the racing season was the participation in the Warm-up Races on 1st May 08. On that day over 60 teams met at Stanley Main Beach to compete. We enrolled one combined Swiss Team, consisting of 29 paddlers, one drummer and many supporters. After the three races, our team received a shiny trophy for the third place in the Mixed Gold Plate Final. But most importantly we all spent a fun day at the beach, gained some racing experience and enjoyed delicious Swiss sausages from the barbeque. There was also quite a crowd of Swiss supporters who cheered for your team.



Just an idea about the consumption of the Swiss Team:

- 32 liters of water
- 72 cans of bocari sweat
- 95 cans of beer
- 25 cans of soft drinks
- 50 veal sausages
- 24 cervelats
- 15 baguettes
- 4 kg birchermuesli
- 3 kg carrots



# Night at the Races

7 May 08

The hustle and bustle around the entry gates to the Jockey Club in Happy Valley, where we were greeted by Marguerite and Rita in their cute red caps. This quickly immersed us in Hong Kong's 'Mecca' of emotions on Wednesday evenings.

The race course was built in 1845 on what used to be swamp land. Rice was grown in the earlier days in the surrounding. The first race than ran in December 1846. It was originally intended to entertain the British people. Nowadays horse race betting is a favourite activity among all people living in Hong Kong.

Unfortunately, in early 1918, a fatal fire caused many casualties. In 1995 the race track was rebuilt and since became a world-class horse racing facility, a place which on this warm May day, was the perfect spot to spend an evening full of fun and hopes to become a millionaire.

A staff of the Jockey Club introduced us to some of the horse betting secrets, revealing the meaning of 'Win', 'Place', 'Quinella' and 'Tierce' on the bet forms, but omitting to give away the most important detail - how to bet on the winning horse. Therefore, equipped with the basic knowledge on how to complete the bet forms and the amount of money one was prepare to invest, various strategies were established when it came to pick the potential winning horse. While



some race enthusiasts went carefully through the details provided in the racing section of the SCMP, others preferred to use their intuition choosing between melodious names like 'Le Rossignol' and 'Esperanza' or trying their luck with 'Fat Dragon' and 'Win A Dozen'. While lining up to place the bet or filling up the plates with a variety of delicious dishes from the buffet, the debates about the tactic to be recommended in order to end up with a thicker wallet at the end of the races, were not very clear.

At the end of the night we were all winners, as we got the chance to spend a wonderful evening cheering for one's favorite horse in a spectacular setting, provided by the surrounding lights and sky scrappers, particularly at night.

A big 'merci beaucoup', 'danke schoen', 'grazie mille' and 'grazia fitch' to Marguerite and Rita with the assistance of the Jockey Club for organizing this event.

# The flying crocs of Po Toi

25 May 08



After having just finished dragon boat training, we ran for a quick shower and headed to the pier of Stanley to catch one of two junks that were chartered for us for the day. The weather was beautiful; the drinks were cold and the sea kind. We really enjoyed the sail to Po Toi Island. In particular those of us who were undercover on the lower deck, hiding from the water police as there were a few too many onboard.

Arriving at the restaurant after a short walk, we enjoyed great sea food. We spent a few pleasant hours in that small and delicious restaurant. The highlight was yet to come ... a short drive around

the edge of the island and then a swim in blue waters on the south side of Po Toi. Back at the pier we were waiting for our junk again, and were waiting for our junk again and were waiting for our junk again. But our junk didn't move at all - the only thing moving was the couple owning the junk, up and down the ship, gesturing around like there was a leak. Well it wasn't a leak as we found out about 20 minutes later - it was the motor that was 'not anymore' - an engine blow-failure... Fortunately the regular ferry was about to leave soon and so we decided to take the chance, boarded this ship and headed back to Stanley.

But all of our stuff was still on the original junk so the other junk acted as a transport ship moving materials back and forth. And then the real fun started... whose shoes are those, to whom belong that back pack, those towels, the pink flip flops, the yellow sneakers and the brown crocs...?

Hurry up, the ferry was already leaving when we thought that we had sorted it all out. Everything was on board and even more than what was supposed to be with us, because ex-officio Andrea Capol, who was supposed to ride back with junk number one, still stood barefooted on the pier shouting something about

crocs, brown ones... And there they were - the flying crocs of Po Toi! Winnie, who reacted the fastest, threw them back from the moving ferry ashore and Andrea managed to catch them.

The junk with the "I don't mind working on Sundays - Motor" drove then further around the corner where those participants enjoyed a nice swim whereas we went back and took care of the rest of the drinks on our way to Stanley. It was a great trip with fun people and delicious food - even though not everything worked out as planned we had the perfect Sunday and look forward to some flying objects in the greater area of Po Toi next year.



## SWISS XI HONG KONG

Mid Sep 07 - End May 08

The 2007/08 season could not have finished in a more dramatic way! After 21 games, our team was in first place. The final game against ANP, two points behind the Swiss XI would be the deciding one. After taking the lead in the first half, we unfortunately lost two goals in a short period of time. Though we were pressing for an equalizer which would have kept us in first place, we lost a late third goal. One dream, the one of being champion of the second division was gone. However, after the understandable disappointment there was still reason to celebrate because the Swiss XI gained promotion to the first division where the team has not been for a considerable period of time. My thanks go to all the players, supporters and the responsible people involved in the management of the team: Andy Raishbrook, Sven Haefliger, Juerg Niederberger. The team's thanks go also to our sponsors: Ziggy's Fine Food and Bank Julius Baer.

Final table Yau Yee League, 2nd division, totally 12 teams:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. ANP	22	15	3	4	60	23	37	48
2. Swiss XI	22	14	5	3	55	27	28	47
3. German AS	22	13	2	7	51	28	23	41



The traditional end of season trip took us to Phnom Penh in Cambodia. Most of the players had never been to that country. We arrived on a Friday and had our first game against a local team. They had heard that the Swiss XI was promoted to the first division and reinforced their team with some imported players from Thailand. Playing in a beautiful stadium with a great pitch, it came soon apparent that we would have to struggle for a decent result – our average age was around 42 as some of our young players did not or could not join us. In the end our fighting spirit helped and we lost with grace, 1:0. Some beers helped us to cool down as it was hot throughout the game. Later at the pool in the hotel we could relax our tired bodies. On Sunday, we had a second game against another team on a pitch belonging to the Marine Headquarters. The pitch was 40% grass, 40% sand and 20% water and mud. Playing under the noon sun, it was incredibly hot and the age difference was no different from the day before. Again we lost, 2:1, although the second goal by our opponents was scored by a “heavenly” hand – but who wants to argue with a referee and linesman in a foreign country! In the evening, we were glued to the TV screens – watching Roger Federer then, followed by the opening ceremony and first game of Euro2008.

On Monday, our leisure day, we first traveled to an orphanage. During the previous two days, three of us accompanied the head of the orphanage to buy essentials. Money that had been collected from all participants was used to purchase 200kgs of rice, beef, chicken, vegetables, condiments and 69 school uniforms/shoes for the children



living at the orphanage. We arrived at the modest homes of the 75 children (6 are not yet going to school) in a convoy of tuk-tuk's to a very warm welcome of cheering young children. Each one of us distributed some toys and in no time the children were playing happily and intermingling with the members of the Swiss XI. The uniforms were distributed, we had a short introduction to the orphanage and then it was time to play soccer with the kids. The pitch was in the center, placed between dormitories and simple, open classrooms with two huge mango trees. 6 of us playing against 11 youngsters hardly saw the ball, the kids were running rings around us – there were just too many legs! We lost gracefully, 3:0. All too soon it was time to leave again. All of us were extremely happy and satisfied that we could give more than just food and clothing to these kids. They treasured talking to us, playing and laughing with us. By the way, they all learn English, French



and Japanese.

This most memorable three hours were followed by a cruise on the river and later by the traditional Hash House run through the streets of Phnom Penh, followed by a dip in the pool and lots of cool beer. In the evening we had the usual prize presentations (for best player, best goal etc.) after a delicious dinner.

Finally, it is particularly rewarding to note that some of the players who where initially hesitating to donate money (because they had no clue what it was for!) have taken it upon themselves to explore possibilities to continue the support for that particular orphanage.

The players have started preparations for the new season in the first division. Weekly training and running sessions are organized and some games will take place to prepare the squad for a tough life in the first division.

El Presidente



# Swiss Dragons, Pirates and Sharks

8 June 08

The Dragon Boat Festival is one of Hong Kong's most popular festivals, especially amongst the expat community. It seems that dragon boating becomes more popular and more competitive every year. It is not only a good opportunity to get in shape for the beach season, but it is also great fun and excellent time to foster team spirit. Hundreds of teams start to train in spring in order to participate in the races in early summer. For many years

the Swiss Association of Hong Kong has participated in the Stanley Dragon Boat Races with two teams. This year, following the general trend, the interest in paddling was that big, that we were able to enroll three Swiss teams: The Swiss Dragons, Swiss Pirates and Swiss Sharks.

About half of the sixty paddlers started the weekly practice sessions on 1st March 08. At that time, the weather was still quite cold and everyone enjoyed the hot tea and gingerbread after the training

The Swiss Dragons



session. In Mid April, the second half of the paddlers joined as well and now the temperatures warm enough to drink cold beer after a good workout.

This year the Dragon Boat Festival coincided with the kick-off of the Euro 2008, which was on 8th June (Hong Kong time) and the Stanley International Dragon Boat Race was the biggest one in Hong Kong with 240 teams participating in several categories. In addition to the 5000 paddlers, there were thousands of



## The Swiss Pirates



spectators and about 120 pleasure boats along the racecourse. The Swiss Teams had their party base on board three Chinese Junks, where over 100 guests cheered for our teams and enjoyed grilled sausages, risotto and cold drinks. The hard training did have a great effect on our paddlers and all three teams crossed the finishing line in second position in their first race. In the second round both the Swiss Dragons and Swiss Pirates came in third, which meant they had to compete in the Silver Cup Final against each other. It was really exciting having two Swiss boats racing side by side in the final. The Swiss Dragons finished 17th and the Swiss Pirates 24th out of 144 mixed teams, with the Swiss Sharks getting a picture published in the South China Morning Post.

Overall it was a very successful



season for the Swiss Dragon Boat Teams and we all look forward to the next Dragon Boat Festival on 28th May 2009.

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

**Team Sponsors:** a-connect, Bally, Chopard, Swiss Re & Zuellig Pharma

**Junk-Boat Sponsors:** Santa Fe, Guido Cherubini & Roland Seeholzer

**Party Sponsors:** Dine.atHome & The 8th Estate Winery

## The Swiss Sharks



It was not only great fun yesterday, but we also achieved **GREAT RESULTS:**

All three teams finished 2nd in their **first race** (Race 4, 14 & 16) and won a nice cup (1st runner up).

In the **2nd round of the Cup-Competition** (top 50%) the following places were achieved:

Swiss Sharks: 9th place

Swiss Dragons: 3rd place

Swiss Pirates: 3rd place

In the **Silver Cup Final** the Swiss Dragons and Swiss Pirates raced next to each other:

Swiss Dragons: 5th place (17th out of 144 mixed teams)

Swiss Pirates: 12th place (24th out of 144 mixed teams)

**Congratulations to all participants in all the three teams!**

The proud organisers,

Corinne & Chris



# VOM ROESTI UND DIM SUM GRABEN

11 June 08



**A**m Mittwoch den 11.Juni haben sich 17 Damen aus der Swiss Association in dem Towngas Cooking Center, Causeway Bay eingefunden, um Ihre Kochkünste unter Beweis zu stellen.

Die mit Mikrofon ausgerüstete Kochlehrerin hat genaue Anweisungen gegeben, wie 'Prawn Dumplings' und 'Spring Rolls' hergestellt werden.

Mit gekonnten Griffen hat sie das Gemüse und das Fleisch geschnitten, wie auch den Teig geknetet, und diese in wunderschöne 'Dumplings' und Frühlingsrollen verwandelt.

Wir haben uns natürlich auch grosse Mühe gegeben, möglichst ähnliche Formen herzustellen, was uns auch gar nicht so schlecht gelungen ist – wenn auch einige 'Dumplings' doch eher einem etwas zu weissen Ravioli glichen.

Aber was soll's, der Geschmack war hervorragend, weswegen ich etwas zu viel davon gegessen habe.

Ausserdem hab ich gemerkt, dass es beim 'Dim Sum' kochen nicht anders ist, als bei jeder Kochkunst: Du musst zwar ein paar Tricks kennen, aber ganz wichtig ist deine Fantasie und die Freude am Kochen und am Essen.

# SWISS NATIONAL DAY

1 August 08

at the Hong Kong Jockey Club Happy Valley Culbhouse







# HK Golf Week Switzerland 2008

Peter Klaus

4-8 August 08



**T**he traditional golfing in Switzerland took place from 4.-8.8.2008. Over 20 players who either still live in Hong Kong or stayed here for a number of years some time ago met on the first day in Domat Ems. During a lavish lunch of traditional specialties from the region, lively conversations, happy laughing indicated that everybody had arrived in good spirit.

Domat Ems was the starting point of our Grison tour. In the evening we dislocated to Pontresina where we had our "headquarter" for the rest of the week. In the following days we played Samedan (2x), Zuoz and Bad Alvanau. We were joined by a large group of senior

players from Montreux with whom we have had a close relationship for some years. On the last day, another group of seniors from Bad Ragaz joined us. This was no coincidence as the senior-captain of Bad Ragaz lived in Hong Kong for many years, as did the senior-captain of Montreux. It seems that international experience is a stepping stone for senior golf appointments.

Apart from the golf, the social aspect was naturally very important too. We had plenty of time to talk about the good, old times during dinners in lovely restaurants in and around Pontresina.

Only two competitions within the Hong Kong group took place as we mingled with the players from Montreux/ Bad Ragaz

during most of the time. On the first day there was a scramble in Domat Ems with the following result:

- 1) Rolf Kuehne/Alex Hirt/ Peter Klaus**  
*55 points (on countback)*
- 2) Hans Abderhalden/ Peter Gujer/ Hansruedi Kunz**  
*55 points*
- 3) Kurt Schaerer/ Toni Weder/ Werner Schuepbach**  
*57 points (on countback)*

The most important competition, however, was the infamous "Coupe Hardy" named after Hardy Diethelm, the original sponsor of the brass duck. The first Coupe Hardy took place in 1987 and was played in Discovery Bay Hong Kong. The celebrations that followed, first

at the club, later at the Hong Kong Club are legendary! This year the competition consisted of golf (only a few holes are counted), throwing of darts and throwing dices. The judges had an extremely difficult time – the weather was nice and hot, they had to work on the scores for about four hours, sitting at the half-way house and sipping wine. The lucky winner was Goeopf Raeber who will now have to look after the duck for one year (he was given some duck food for that purpose).

A great time was had by all and we are all looking forward to next year's event to once again reminisce about the past, discuss the present and future, enjoy meeting old friends, eating and drinking well – AND yes, playing golf.

# Welcome Back Gathering

20 September 08

Béatrice and Daniel Rogger

**O**n Saturday, September 20, you cannot miss the Swiss corner at the Police Museum Playground. Chilled white wine and inviting decoration ready ... Marguerite and Claudia are warmly greeting newcomers as well as familiar faces.

Feeling at home, we appreciate the glass of wine being served – with the perfect blue sky justifying our drink. We are introduced to a couple who had moved to Hong Kong just recently and then we cheer two families for a welcome back after the long summer break. In a quiet corner some catch up with the conversation they had started just a few days ago...

Meanwhile the children have taken over the playground. They enjoy the fact that the adults are lost in good conversation, enjoying the delicious finger food and have no time to have a watchful eye on the young ones.

How much everybody feels part of the community and is integrated becomes obvious towards the end of the afternoon. A well behaved little girl finds the braveness to pull a lady's blouse and slide a few ice bits down her back. Her mum had been talking to the lady a while ago and it is rightly clear for the girl that we belong together and such a little joke is obviously acceptable!

**E**s ist gleich vier Uhr Nachmittags an diesem Samstag, 20. September und auf dem Spielplatz des Police Museums ist die Schweizer

Ecke nicht zu übersehen. Es ist alles bereit, der Weisswein gekühlt, die Dekoration einladend und Marguerite und Claudia bereit, neue und bekannte Gesichter zu begrüßen...

Wir fühlen uns sofort heimisch und nehmen gerne ein angebotenes Glas, der strahlend blaue Himmel macht durstig. Hier stellt man sich jemandem vor, der erst kürzlich zugezogen ist, dort fallen sich zwei Familien, welche sich seit



den Sommerferien noch nicht gesehen haben, in die Arme. Etwas weiter entfernt, knüpfen einige am Gespräch an, das sie vor wenigen Tagen angefangen hatten.

Unterdessen haben die Kinder den Spielplatz erobert und geniessen es, dass die Erwachsenen sich bestens unterhalten, die leckeren Häppchen geniessen und sich wenig um die Jungmannschaft kümmern.

Wie sehr sich alle dazugehörig fühlen bei diesem Welcome Gathering und eine zufriedene Zeit in gelöster Atmosphäre verbringen wird erst richtig deutlich als gegen Schluss ein Kind keinerlei Hemmungen hat einer Dame, die sich vorher mit seiner Mutter unterhalten hatte, einige Eisstückchen von hinten ins T-Shirt zu stecken. Es ist allen klar – wir gehören zusammen und die Kinder dürfen sich einen kleinen Scherz erlauben!



# Melchterli Cup 2008

14 October 08

Peter Klaus



The MELCHTERLI CUP originally donated by the Swiss Consul General in 1970 was up for grab on 14th October at the scenic Shek O Golf and Country Club.

The weather gods were smiling upon us once again. It was a beautiful sunny day and the strong winds that existed during the morning subsided in the afternoon. The turnout was modest with nine golfers lining up to win the trophy, with one couple flying in all the way from Singapore to play golf and enjoy the pretty land and seascapes.

After a few drinks and showers we assembled on the front lawn which

we had entirely to ourselves for a very delicious dinner accompanied by fine wines. The full moon greeted us and added to the special atmosphere. Before the traditional apple und rhubarb crumble was served the prize presentation was held. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of DKSH/Maurice Lacroix and Audemars Piguet we had wonderful prizes almost for every participant.

And here are the results of the Melchterli Cup 2008:

1st	Dorcas Gerber	39 stableford points
2nd	Christine Bokhari	33
3rd	Salman Bokhari	31
4th	Peter Klaus	30

## Nearest pin

Ladies: Dorcas Gerber

Men: Peter Klaus

## Longest drive

Ladies: Christine Bokhari

Men: Peter Klaus



The winner received an elegant MAURICE LACROIX watch (it was the second watch in consecutive years for Dorcas).





Attending wine tasting events can be a great experience and a lot of fun! For those members who were unable to attend, you were missed by your association friends, but more importantly as a member you gave up a fantastic opportunity to socialize and learn more about the world of wines.

The wine tasting event was well organized and revealed new and interesting aspects of Hong Kong's hidden treasures. Not only did we discover the Crown Wine Cellars in Shouson Hill but we were also introduced to this historical military site and its bunkers, where the wine for club members is stored.

The members and friends of the Swiss Association enjoyed a selection of Swiss, French and American wines and we were encouraged to use all our sensory skills to examine and evaluate the wine offered by the director of Golden Gate Wine Co Ltd., Mr. Toby Marion. The night included a wine tasting competition which sparked fierce discussions about colour, body and aftertaste among the Swiss Association members, as they battled to choose their favourite red and white wine. Our guide Mr Toby Marion provided our group with insights as to the locations of the chosen wines and to the style of grapes that had been selected to create the wines we

sampled.

As with every competition, there are only a handful of winners. However, there were plenty of wine tasting professionals. Many discovered that wine expertise is not necessarily determined by the quantities of past consumption, as this did not necessarily enhance one's ability to distinguish different grapes and tastes this time! Hence, the members were delighted as we cheerfully crowned three winners for the wine tasting night. Knowing some of the winners, it was impossible to tell the difference between being a gifted wine taster or just



sheer wine tasting luck.

The message was clear on the night that members who take up the opportunity to explore new experiences with the Association reap the benefits of the harvest!

# Family Hike & BBQ

9 November 08

Une magnifique journée a commencé avec tous nos amis de la nature à l'heure pour nos deux marches dans un Clearwater Bay qui bénéficiait ce jour-là d'un temps magnifique offrant des vues dégagées imprenables.

Les familles qui s'attaquaient à la version courte de la marche sont partie de Sheung Sze Wan et ont grimpé en direction du pied du Junk Peak. Là ,après un snack restauratif, notre groupe s'est scindé en deux avec les plus braves partant à la conquête du géant, pendant

que les plus raisonnables en faisaient cautionneusement le tour. Nous nous sommes retrouvés de l'autre côté de la montagne et les aventuriers du sommet ont régales les autres marcheurs avec les récits de leurs aventures pédestres et autres affrontements avec le vent. Puis nous avons repris la route pour Ng Fai Tin où les 'Long' nous ont rejoint chez les Ringger pour un BBQ. Dans le jardin les enfants ont fait la queue devant la balançoire, pendant que les adultes faisaient la queue devant le four à raclette!

Nous nous réjouissons de vous revoir pour un 'ox-trail' en Novembre prochain!





suffered and huffed and puffed and whenever a large group of spectators was around we entertained with our SAS (Swiss Association Shuffle). The crowd liked our performance very much and applauded us generously. For the first time in 30 years, we had

plastic stands and one rubbish collector, all converted into instruments. Soon the individual players understood Stefan's direction and after a short practice session, the sound the group generated was really cool. It got better all the same time with every beer we consumed! After two hours of practicing and replenishing lost fuel (it was a very warm autumn day) we felt that we had the rhythm in our blood and adjourned the practice session. As we were all hungry after the intensive work we enjoyed the "Aelpler Maggrone" served by Werner and Winnie.

a female runner helping us to carry the chair!! Well done Dagmar!

When we had finally made it back to the hospital, the cry was for water, then beer. Soon we saw familiar faces, first Jimmy and his wife greeted us, then we saw our Consul Francoise Killias-Zillweger and her husband carrying a heavy cooler which was full of a very delicious Swiss grape products. Soon afterwards, our former Consul General Alfred Killias

# SEDAN CHAIR RACE 2008

16 November 08  
Street sweeper Peter

**T**his yearly event took place on Sunday, 16.11.2008. The Swiss Association had again entered a team, for the 30th consecutive time! Just a few days earlier, on 11.11., the Carnival officially started. For this reason we decided to dress up the chair as a "Laeckerly Drum". The finished product was a masterpiece – but unfortunately also quite heavy! Ideally we would have liked to have a Guggemusig but this proved to be a difficult task as we could

not find enough strong runners who at the same time can play some instruments reasonably well. We settled for a "rhythm group" but this was by far no second choice.

The day before the race we assembled at the Heimgartner rooftop place to have an intensive training session – led by Stefan. He assessed the various capabilities and afterwards the "instruments" were assigned – two brooms, two plastic buckets, two "cleaning in progress"

On race day, we assembled at the Matilda Hospital for a final practice session. We just continued where we had left off the day before and had no problem with the rhythm. This was, however, not the case with some instruments, which broke under heavy drumming. A last minute search started to replace broken "instruments" in and around the hospital – successfully! After the race started we soon realized how heavy the chair was and that it would be a grueling walk around the course. We bravely





and his wife Andree joined in. We all appreciate the yearly support of the Swiss Consulate, especially the cooling agent provided for our over heated bodies!

The Sedan Chair Race is all about charities and each team has to try and collect a certain amount of money, for a Society it is HK\$ 15,000.-. This year was a severe struggle and if it had not been for a handful of individual generous donors providing the bulk of the total amount we may not have been able to participate in next year's race. In the end we managed to collect HK\$ 27,100, one third less than last year and all from individuals with only one Swiss company supporting us!

The lack of financial support, though understandable in the troubled times we are in, was the only disappointment in another wise perfect day culminating in



first runner up place for best decorated chair. Special thanks to Werner for coordinating the team and making all the arrangements for the chair and the team's uniform, to Stefan for making musicians out of less musically talented guys and to Helen of Creative Group (Tel. 2838 8232 if you need a professional company to decorate a ballroom or the like) for, once again, converting the raw sedan chair into a "Swiss" quality product.



## Six a side tournament in Manila

22/23 November 08

El Presidente

**T**his tournament is well-established in the oldest football club in Asia – the Manila Nomads Sports Club. The team has regularly participated but in the last few years we always struggled to enter a strong team. Until the last minute, it even looked like we would not be able to participate. During the AGM, a last appeal was made and to everybody's surprise we got an overwhelming response and within a few minutes had a very strong team willing to compete. This was very good news because it guarantees us a slot in future years as teams from all over Asia

are on the waiting list.

On Saturday, 22 November, we assembled at eight and traveled by bus to the venue. We were drawn into a very strong group – with the first game against the finalist of last year's tournament. The young and strong Swiss team was full of enthusiasm and confidence and this was evident during the group games which we all won:

Swiss XI – Nomads	1:0
Swiss XI – Seoul British FC	2:1
Swiss XI – Taiwan Mongrels	4:1

Being the first placed team in the group we advanced to the second round of the cup, to be played on Sunday. A happy team returned to our hotel. Later on we met with some friends at the La Tienda, one of the finest Spanish Restaurants in Manila, for cocktails and a sumptuous dinner, sponsored by Wayne, Sigi, Albert and Peter.

On Sunday we had another early call and again we had to leave the hotel at eight. The first game was against the Saigon Raiders, always a strong team. A win would put us into the quarter-final, a loss would have meant the end of our participation. However, once again, the Swiss XI played a very strongly and convincingly beat the opponents by 2:1. In the quarter-final we met the German All Stars from Singapore whom we beat after a strong performance, 2:0. With this victory we were in the semi-final, an achievement not witnessed in many years! Our opponents were Africa United, a team of Africans working in the Philippines. Obviously they were all very skillful and good players but the Swiss XI matched them, both in skill, speed and smarts. Being 0:0 after normal time, this meant a sudden-death game of three against three players over four minutes. When it already looked like the teams had to settle the score in a penalty shootout, the hearts of the Swiss players



and supporters were broken when a goal was conceded with but a few seconds left to play. There was not much time to commiserate as we had to participate in a penalty decision for third and fourth place. Our opponents, Shanghai Shooters, had to go first and our keeper showed his class by keeping the shot at bay, giving us an early advantage. In a dramatic and exciting thriller the Swiss team managed to secure third place by winning 6:5. There was some disappointment because we had not lost a game in regulation. One team in our group, the Nomads, went on to win the Cup, the other two teams in our group reached both the Plate Final. Still, it was the best result of the Swiss XI in a long time and instilled the necessary hunger for the team to try and do better next year.

We collected a trophy as second runner up in the Cup which will be displayed in the Swiss XI Museum. A further award went to our keeper, Marco Fischer, who was awarded the Best Keeper of the Tournament Award (voted by all teams participating).

# Swiss Rifle Association of HK Operation Mercury 2008

23 November 08



Strong participation from both the Swiss Rifle Association and their friends and owners of the Shooting range, the RHKR Sport Shooting Association, marked the traditional Operation Mercury 2008.

A beautiful day, with a dramatic background from a nearby fire showed our members individually in best form, although ultimately, the cowbell competition shooting was won by a team from the RHKR SSR.

Let the pictures speak for themselves:



And the ten best Swiss Rifle shooters of the day were:

1	Peter Thüler	Swiss Rifles	Score	94
2	Daniel Piaz	Swiss Rifles	Score	93
3	Reto Bleiker	Swiss Rifles	Score	89
4	John Jones	Swiss Rifles	Score	81
5	Marc Rogivue	Swiss Rifles	Score	80
6	Marco Föhn	Swiss Rifles	Score	65
7	Ivo Hahn	Swiss Rifles	Score	59
8	Alex Lüdi	Swiss Rifles	Score	59
9	Stella Seeholzer	Swiss Rifles	Score	59
10	Enrico Mattoli	Swiss Rifles	Score	57

Shooting dates for 2009 are 15 March Compulsory and Field Shoot, and 22 November Operation Mercury.

Please also look up the websites of the Swiss Rifle Association of Hong Kong [www.srahk.com](http://www.srahk.com) and of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (RHKR) Sport Shooting Association [www.rhkrssa.com.hk](http://www.rhkrssa.com.hk) for more information and membership applications.

Alexander Luedi  
President  
Swiss Rifle Association of Hong Kong





## CHARITY BENEFIT LUNCHEON

*1 December 08*

We welcomed Agnes Cheng to speak on behalf of Studer Trust at our December Joint Monthly Luncheon, which has become a tradition to be our "Charity Benefit Luncheon". Agnes clearly outlined the benevolent work Studer Trust is doing -- mainly building schools in rural areas of China, Laos and recently Myanmar. To find out more about their work log onto [www.StuderTrust.org](http://www.StuderTrust.org)

A total sum of HKD 11,650 was raised at lunch and SAHK was able to donate an additional HKD 15,547 from revenue of the Junk Trip and the Swiss National Day to make a total of HKD 27,197 for the Studer Trust.



## Erdnüsse, Grittibenzen und Mandarinen

6 December 08  
Sandy Grunauer  
Hungerbuehler



**D**er 6. Dezember wurde auch dieses Jahr von vielen Schweizer Familien freudig erwartet. Bei Sonnenschein und herbstlicher Stimmung, trafen sich Gross und Klein bei der ersten Grillstelle beim Park View im Tai Tam Reservoir. Der Samichlaus kam mit seinem Helfer, dem Schmutzli, und las den Kindern aus seinem grossen dicken Buch vor. Dabei kamen die guten wie auch die noch zu verbessernden Taten der kleinen Leute zur Sprache. Spätestens nach Verteilen der Samichlaus-Säckli mit Erdnüssen, Mandarinen, Weihnachtsgebäck und einem „Grittibenz“, war auch bei den Kleinsten die Angst vor dem Samichlaus nur noch halb so gross. Und so ging es dann auch zum urgemütlichen Teil des Treffens über: Holzkohle wurde angezündet, Würste gebraten, Weinflaschen entkorkt. Die Kinder spielten Fussball, sammelten Brennholz und entfachten noch grössere Feuer. Die wilden Flammen loderten bis spät in die Nacht hinein.



## Jass at the Banker's Club

15 December 08

Stefan Herzog

**W**ould “Jass” be a physical activity, it certainly would be the Number 1 Swiss National Sport, ranking ahead of Schwingen, Hornussen and the likes. Nevertheless, it's a great way to keep your mind fit and alert.

The “Jass” has quite some history as being probably the most popular and regular event organized by the SAHK. It started in the late 80s when the first games were played at the Hong Kong Jockey Club with the same rules and format still in force today.

Even though work commitments are keeping me busy, I try my best to attend the “Jass Evenings”. The great thing is that there are always new people in attendance, be it new Hong Kong residents or visitors to this great city. Throughout the evening, each “Jasser” plays with a maximum of 12 other people/competitors, so it's a great and relaxed way to get to know new acquaintances as well as to refresh old ones. The games are conducted in a relaxed manner and to my knowledge there has never been fights because of playing the wrong cards... at least not violent ones. In fact, there is always ample time to chat between or during the games, and I seldom



experienced an evening without good conversation and good fun.

What would a Jass evening be without good food? Thanks to the creativity of Daniel Wettling at the Bankers Club we are always treated with great Swiss specialties in an authentic ambiance. Many thanks to Daniel Wettling and also to the management and staff of the Bankers Club!

A dedicated organization is the key to any successful event and our organizers Beatrice and Daniel Rogger are just doing that and probably more.

It's not easy to get people together in a busy place such as Hong Kong. Beatrice and Daniel, have been doing a great job for the Jass Event over the past years. Thank you for your commitment!

I certainly look forward to the games in 2009 and hope to see many old and new faces again.

Rank	Name	YEAR TOTAL	AVERAGE PER GAME
1	JEAN-RICHARD Pius	12,858	3,215
2	STAUB Lukas	12,186	3,047
3	ROGGER Daniel	12,054	3,014
4	CHERUBINI Guido	12,052	3,013
5	LANG Christian	11,787	2,947
6	BURKHALTER Thomas	11,504	2,876
7	DOERIG Leo	11,417	2,854
8	HUG Stephane	11,112	2,778
9	BISCHOF Ruedi	11,096	2,774
10	KAMBLI Rolf	11,089	2,772
11	HERZOG Stefan	11,071	2,768
12	DI FLURI Pietro	11,066	2,767
13	LUETHI Andreas	10,910	2,728
14	GAUTSCHI Peter	10,817	2,704
15	STILLHARD Erwin	10,770	2,693
16	ROGGER Beatrice	10,683	2,671
17	ALFARE Udo	10,645	2,661
18	KELLER Christine	10,432	2,608
19	WOLF Heinz	10,258	2,565



## Interested?

The Jass Tournament starts – if possible – on the third Monday of the month at 7 pm at the Hong Kong Bankers Club in Landmark. The Jass partners as well as opponents are drawn by lot. Depending on the number of players attending, between one and maximum 3 'Smilies' are being added to the lot in order to balance the seating arrangement. French as well as German cards are available - the respective quartet decides for one set of cards for the current round.

Then, the first of a total of four rounds starts. We play 'Schieber' with the options 'trump', 'bottom-up', 'top-down' and slalom. All game points have single value (total of 157 points) independent from the option chosen. No 'Wys' is allowed – except for 'Stöck' (20 points) and match bonus (100 points). Tournament rules apply. If slalom is played, the opening Jass player has to decide about the winning direction of the first card played.

Players, who have drawn a Smiley, cannot play in this respective round. They are compensated by 750 points for the missed game. A player can get a maximum of one Smiley per Jass evening.

In the first seating arrangement, players compete for 8 games, each player announcing the option twice (4x per team).

Die game points, 'Stöck' points and match points are being jointly noted and added per team and table. Each player transfers the result onto his personal score sheet. The second round with new draw by lot is played back to back. The rounds 3 and 4 are played after the dinner break.

At the end of the evening, in general shortly after 11 pm, the total game points plus 'Stöck' points plus match bonus points will be calculated per player – the person with the highest number of points on this evening is the winner. A player scoring more than 3000 points will have a good chance to be one of the top three players of the evening. Jass experts having a lucky night can achieve a plus of up to about 700 more points. If this aim is too high or if a new comer would like to warm up for the competition, she/he can join the Beginner's Table, which is playing alongside the tournament in the same room.

The individual result is added to the yearly ranking. In general, a total of ten Jass evenings per year are organised. If a player had valid scores in at least four Jass events per calendar year, her/his four best results of the year will be considered in the yearly ranking. The highest amount of points achieved determines the Winner of the Jass Year.

Ready? Get started!

## Interessiert?

**D**as Jass Turnier beginnt nach Möglichkeit jeweils am dritten Montag im Monat um 19.00 Uhr – Ausnahmen bestätigen die Regel. Der Jass Partner sowie die Jass Gegner werden per Los bestimmt. Je nach Anzahl Jasser werden ein bis maximal drei sogenannte 'Smileys' zugelost um die Tischordnung auszugleichen. Es stehen Französische und Deutsche Karten zur Verfügung – das jeweilige Jass Quartett trifft seine eigene Wahl pro Tisch.

Dann beginnt die erste von insgesamt vier Runden. Gespielt wird ein Schieber mit den möglichen Varianten – Trumpf, Undeuffe, Obeabe und Slalom. Alle Varianten zählen einfach (157 Punkte), ohne Wys – mit Ausnahme von 'Stöck' (20 Punkte) und Match Bonus (100 Punkte). Es gelten Turnierregeln. Bei Slalom entscheidet der Ausspieler über die Spielrichtung der ersten Karte. Es darf nicht gewiesen werden.

Spieler, welche in einer Runde einen 'Smiley' ziehen, können in dieser Runde nicht mitspielen. Sie erhalten dafür 750 Kompensationspunkte. Ein Spieler kann maximal einen Smiley pro Jass Abend ziehen.

In der ersten Sitzordnung werden 8 Spiele gespielt, wobei jeder Spieler zweimal ansagt (4 mal pro Team). Die gespielten Punkte, Stöck Punkte sowie Match Punkte werden gemeinsam von den

beiden Parteien notiert und addiert. Jeder Spieler überträgt das Resultat der Partie auf sein persönliches Resultatsblatt. Die zweite Runde mit neuer Loszuteilung wird gleich im Anschluss an die erste gespielt. Die Runden 3 und 4 werden nach dem Nachtessen gespielt.

Am Schluss des Abends, meistens kurz nach 23 Uhr, werden pro Spieler das Total der gespielten Punkte plus Stöck Punkte plus Match Bonus Punkte ermittelt – Sieger des jeweiligen Jassabends ist der Spieler mit der höchsten total Punktzahl. Wer über 3000 Punkte jasst hat reelle Chancen auf einen Podestplatz. Spitzenjasser können – gekoppelt mit dem nötigen Kartenglück - gute 700 Punkte mehr erreichen. Wem dies ein zu hoher Ansporn ist, oder wer sich etwas aufwärmen will vor dem ersten Turnier, hat die Möglichkeit am Beginner's Table, der parallel zum Turnier im gleichen Saal stattfindet, zu üben.

Das individuelle Resultat fliesst dann in die Gesamtjahreswertung. In der Regel finden jährlich zehn Jass Abende statt. Nach der Teilnahme an mindestens vier Jass Abenden werden für die Jahreswertung die besten vier Resultate eines Spielers berücksichtigt. Wer am meisten totale Punkte erreicht wird Jahressieger!

Alles klar? Dann los!



**SWISS ASSOCIATION  
OF HONG KONG**



### Membership Application Form 2009

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 \_\_\_\_\_



# Christmas Coffee Morning

10 December 08  
JJ Wang Aebischer



This year's Christmas Coffee Morning was held in the pretty little patisserie "Antique" near Soho. Once entering the shop has the lovely smell of freshly made cakes and macaroons that are wonderfully displayed. In the nicely decorated tea room, both Event Co-Coordinator, Marguerite and Claudia, warmly welcomed the ladies. We had the pleasure of listening to a live violin performance by Mrs. Elodie Grellety from the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, whilst enjoying delicious pastries, coffee and tea. Once again, the gathering was a good occasion to share various experiences of living in Hong Kong. The cozy venue, the sweet treats, and the soothing music created a Christmas ambience that will not be soon forgotten.



# Carnival - Raclette - Fasnacht

28 February 09



If you miss Swiss local traditions you certainly got your money's worth at "Fasnacht und Raclette im Park" on 28th February 2009 at BBQ Area of the Wilson Trail entrance. With the perfect Raclette weather, more than forty adults and as many children joined in on the fun.

The Swiss Association received special attention, as this year's event took place at the same time as the Green Action Walk.

To add some extra enjoyment, a few adults and many children dressed up in their imaginative costumes. The Prize for the Best Dressed Adult went to Markus Muecke, whose funniest clown costume put a smile on everyone's face. The prizes for the Best Dressed Children went to



Elena Held and Lynn Bischof, who made an adorable duo with their Pippi Longstocking dresses and red pigtails.

The weather was a little bit chilly which made the Raclette taste even better. New faces mingled with old ones, children combed through the woods, little ones crawled between legs, and everyone seemed to have a great time.

Thanks to the wonderful organisation of the Events Co-coordinators, Marguerite Candiotti und Claudia Gehrig. We enjoyed another great event of the Swiss Association in Hong Kong!

by Gabrielle Bischof



Quante belle mascherine nel parco del Tai Tam Sabato pomeriggio 28 Febbraio!

Già! Perché quest'anno il comitato organizzativo dell' Associazione Svizzera ha pensato bene di arricchire l'avvenimento culinario della raclette con i colori del Carnevale.

Così, attorno allo stand preparato deliziosamente dalla nostra maga della cucina, la Signora Inge, si è susseguita una

sfilata di personaggi che hanno arricchito l'aria, fresca e quindi perfetta per una calda raclette, con l'allegria tipica del Carnevale: Le Pippi Calzelunghe, i cowboy, i pagliacci, le streghe, gli indiani, gli angeli, le zingare, i pirati, Batman ...c'erano proprio tutti a far festa!

All'arrivo, Margherita Candiotti e Claudia Gherig, impeccabili come sempre, hanno salutato gli ospiti con un delicato vino bianco gentilmente offerto dal Signor Hermann Hoffman della Advantage Asia Pacific Ltd che rappresenta Provins in Asia .

Passo successivo e meraviglia delle meraviglie svizzere, il saluto che va esteso, per quanto possibile, a tutti i presenti. Punto d'obbligo: la sosta davanti alla fumante raclette, naturalmente.



I bambini sono presi nei loro giochi e gli adulti piacevolmente coinvolti in leggere conversazioni con

amici nuovi e di vecchia data fra una raclette ed un cioccolatino offerto dalla Lindt Hong Kong.

Tutto è spensieratezza nel cuore del parco...quando, ecco che arriva il momento dell' annuncio della mascherina più bella. Trepidazione, ansia, attesa...Ci si guarda intorno, ci si dà una sistemata al vestito, all'acconciatura, perché no?... "Vincio io, no, forse sarà lei, no, forse loro..."

Sì! Sono loro: "Pippe Calzelunghe,



prime classificate nella categoria bambini!" Simpatiche e sbarazzine.

E nella categoria adulti "Secondo classificato: il Pirata!", originalissimo nella sua eleganza.

"Primo classificato: il Clown". Certo, chi altri se non lui?. Il re dell'allegria, il tocco di colore che ci vuole, il pizzico di naiveté che fa piacere, il personaggio dai mille scherzi...e sì, perché magari lo abbiamo dimenticato, ma: "A Carnevale ogni scherzo vale!"

by Giorgia Zwahlen

# My great journey of learning

Claudia Staudenmann

Have you ever wondered what the many Chinese characters mean you see everyday? About 2 years ago, after 5 years of living in Hong Kong, I kept on asking myself this question and kind of answered it right away: Oh, forget about that, it is impossible to even attempt to learn that! But I still kept on wondering... until the moment I found out that the University of Hong Kong offered a two year full-time Mandarin course providing students not only with speaking but also with writing tuition. Great, the answer to my question! In within a month I resigned from my teaching job and applied for the programme. Luckily, my husband Mark supported and motivated me from the very beginning and I am very thankful for that!

So here I was, my first day of school had arrived and I was very nervous. Suddenly I wasn't that enthusiastic, just wondering what might be ahead of me. Going back to school after all these years, was it really a good idea? Anyway, I met about 29 other willing students and

together with 9 of them I was put in the total beginner class. Needless to say we were all Westerners of all ages and from countries such as France, USA, Belgium and of course Switzerland. We learned that from Monday to Friday we would have 3 lessons every morning and then a lot of homework to do in the afternoon. Great, I thought, that will be a piece of cake, afternoons free sounds great to me. But then the challenge began...

The first four weeks we basically had singing lessons. We practised and practised the four different tones in any kind of imaginable combination. It was great fun and we laughed a lot! Slowly but surely it became more serious, after all getting the right tone and pronunciation is not easy, especially when one mistake can change the whole meaning of a word. I still remember our teacher gasping for air when a classmate wanted to say "airplane" in Chinese but in fact said "fat chicken". Yes, these tones are tricky! We not only struggled with the right tones and pronunciation but we also

realised that Chinese grammar actually does exist and that the whole grammar concept is quite foreign to a Westerner who is used to English, German etc. And then of course we learned how to write simplified characters and pinyin slowly disappeared from our books. The whole learning experience became quite demanding, every week we had to hand in our workbook full of listening, writing and grammar exercises. After a few months we added essay writing and dictations. My afternoons and weekends were not free any longer and I had to work really hard to keep up, especially as after 3 months the school mixed the three classes and I had to compete with Japanese and Korean students who already had excellent writing skills. But it was a challenge I was willing to take and I passed the year-end exams successfully.

At the beginning of year two, only 12 out of 30 students were left. Some people moved away but many gave up, as they could not fully commit to the intense study requirements. Year two turned out to be even more demanding. We went into much more detail, trying to understand differences in meaning of similar words, grammar rules got more

complicated, idioms and more extensive essay writing were introduced. During speaking lessons we discussed Chinese geography and history, and every week one of us had to make a presentation on a self-chosen topic. We started reading newspapers, learning new sentence patterns and the different style of newspaper language. Simultaneously the school introduced us to HSK, a worldwide acknowledged language proficiency test. We all took that exam a few months before our final exams at HKU.

About 6 months before our final exams only 7 students out of the original 30 were left. All of us passed the final exams and I think I can say that we are all proud of our achievement. Though I got to a decent level of language understanding, I know that there is still a lot to learn. To me it would be best to add a few months of language study in China and then I could actively implement what I studied in Hong Kong.

Looking back it was an unforgettable experience, I learned a lot, not only about the language but also about Chinese culture and history. I can only recommend this programme but it is a commitment and the support and understanding of your partner/family will be needed.

For further information:  
<http://hku.hk/chinese/putonghua%20and%20cantonese/index.html>



## 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)

Deutschsprachige evangelische Gottesdienste an jedem 1. und 3. (und 5.) Sonntag im Monat um 10 Uhr im Old Gym der GSIS, 11 Guildford Road, The Peak. Parallel: Kindergottesdienst.  
Weitere Angebote: Kindergruppen, Treffen in Discovery Bay, Gemeindeausflüge. Konfirmandenunterricht beginnt im Alter von ca. 13 Jahren in jedem Herbst. Wir stehen für Seelsorge zur Verfügung. Besuchen Sie unsere Website [www.kirchehongkong.de](http://www.kirchehongkong.de).

*Pfarrerin Ute Reckzeh und  
Pfarrer Sven Salzmann*



## Deutschsprachige Katholische Gemeinde Hong Kong

Die Deutschsprachige Katholische Gemeinde Hong Kong existiert seit 50 Jahren. **Gottesdienst** feiern wir an jedem 2. und 4. Wochenende eines Monats in der Rosaryhill School, 41B Stubbs Road.  
Angeboten werden ferner **Sakramentsvorbereitungen** (Erstkommunion, Firmung, Taufe, Eheschließung), **Aktivitäten für Kinder** (Kinderkirche, Schatzkiste), **Jugendliche** (Spaghetti-Movie-Night), **Erwachsene** (Familienveranstaltungen, Bibelkreis); daneben gibt es **individuelle Angebote** (seelsorgliche Gespräche, Gespräche bei Lebensfragen, Begleitung in Krisen - diese unterliegen der Schweigepflicht).



*Pastoralreferent Klaus Walter*  
Gemeindezentrum: 1A, Sun Ho Court, 29-31 Tung Lo Wan Road, Causeway Bay  
Tel.: 2802 6535; Mob.: 97280191;  
[klaus.walter@deutsche-katholiken-hongkong.de](mailto:klaus.walter@deutsche-katholiken-hongkong.de)  
[www.deutsche-katholiken-hongkong.de](http://www.deutsche-katholiken-hongkong.de)

# The First Swiss in Hong Kong

Von Eduard Bender

When one thinks of Swiss in Hong Kong, today most people associate this with bankers, watch makers or hotel managers. Such professionals might today dominate the Swiss community in this city, but they all came much later to Hong Kong than Theodore Joset, a catholic priest who was with all likelihood our first compatriot who set foot on this small island in the South China Sea only a few weeks after it became a British colony 155 years ago. And the successful careers of many of today's Swiss in Hong Kong is proof of a great entrepreneurial spirit. Joset was definitely not afraid to take on risks.

Joset is the founder of the Catholic Church of Hong Kong. Dying at the young age of 38 here in Hong Kong, he is buried behind the altar of the Catholic Cathedral above Central on Caine Road. You can visit his tomb in which is carved in Latin: "Here awaiting the Resurrection are the mortal remains of Theodore Joset, Swiss priest of the Propaganda Fide, Apostolic representative. Procurator of China, First Apostolic prefect of Hong Kong and of all Missions, he lived 38 years and died on the 5th of August 1842".

It was a large part due to him and not his superiors in Europe that at an early stage an official Catholic presence was set up in Hong Kong. That probably would not have been the case had he not had impressive political instincts - as we know from his writings - great journalistic talent. Before he settled in Hong Kong, Joset, who was ordained a priest in Fribourg in 1833, moved via Singapore and Manila to Macau. Despite his young age in 1834 he became the representative of the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda Fide, the missionary arm of the Catholic Church as well as the Consul of the then independent kingdom of Sardinia.

From the then Portuguese colony of Macau, he observed with keen interest the deterioration of Sino-British relations. This was due to a large part to China's blocking the very lucrative import of opium by British trading houses. The wide use of the drug caused immense social problems in China, as Joset wrote in his letters that were published back home in Church publications in Europe. Beijing finally blocked the import of opium, which led to the infamous Opium War, which China lost. As a consequence, not only opium could be sold legally again, but China had also to cede under the treaty of Nanking, the island of Hong Kong to the British crown.

Here exits the journalist and enters the politician and churchman, Joset. For centuries the Kingdom of Portugal insisted that all matters concerning church administration in China would fall under its direct control, a claim the Vatican for some time already opposed. Hong Kong changing hands was a moment Rome waited for. Joset grasped the opportunity and asked the new owners of Hong Kong for permission to found a Catholic Church that would fall under the direct administration of Rome. The Portuguese governor was not pleased. After first arresting him, Joset was unceremoniously expelled from the colony.

# DIE AKTUELLEN "VORSORGE ZAHLEN" DER SCHWEIZ: DAS III-SÄULEN KONZEPT (Die neuen Schlüsselzahlen per 01.01.2009)



I. Säule	<b>AHV / IV Alters-, Hinterbliebenen- und Invaliden-Versicherung</b> Ab dem 1. Januar 2009, gelten die folgenden Leistungen gemäss der "Renten-Skala 44" (volle AHV/IV Rente):		
	<b>Alters- oder Invaliden-Rente:</b>	<b>Monatlich</b>	<b>Jährlich</b>
	Minimal Einzel	CHF 1.140	CHF 13,680
	Maximal Einzel	CHF 2,280	CHF 27,360
	Minimal Ehepaar	CHF 1,710	CHF 20,520
	Maximal Ehepaar	CHF 3,420	CHF 41,040
	<b>IV - Rentenstufen:</b> IV-Grad mind. 40%=Viertelrente, mind. 50%=halbe Rente, mind. 60%=Dreiviertelrente, darüber=voll		
	<b>Hinterbliebenen-Rente:</b>	<b>Monatlich</b>	<b>Jährlich</b>
	Minimal Witwen (-r) Rente	CHF 912	CHF 10,944
	Maximal Witwen (-r) Rente	CHF 1,824	CHF 21,888
	Die Mindest-Prämie pro Jahr beläuft sich auf CHF 920 und die Beitragssätze für Arbeitnehmer und Arbeitgeber, betragen zusammen ca 13,1 % des Lohns. <b>Auslandschweizer</b> zahlen 9,8 % des Lohns. Nichterwerbstätige CHF 892 bis ca CHF 11,000 pro Jahr. Zusätzlich werden 3% Verwaltungskosten belastet.		
<b>Achtung!</b>	<b>Bei fehlenden Beitragsjahren werden sämtliche, oben genannten Zahlen reduziert.</b> <i>Die individuellen AHV-Nummern, werden per Juli 2008 geändert. „Alte“ Nummern sind weiterhin brauchbar.</i>		
II. Säule	<b>B V G Berufliches Vorsorge-Gesetz (Gesetzliches Minimum)</b> Auf Lohnbestandteile von unter CHF 23,940 bzw. über CHF 82,080, brauchen keine Pensionskassen-Beiträge geleistet zu werden. Der <u>obligatorisch</u> zu versichernde Maximallohn beträgt somit:  maximal anrechenbarer Jahreslohn CHF 82,080 minus Koordinations-Abzug (= maximale AHV-Rente, minus 3,420) <u>CHF 23,940</u>  <b>Obligatorisch zu versichernder Lohnanteil</b> (Minimaler versicherter Lohn: CHF 3,420) CHF 58,140 Gesamtbeiträge: je nach Alter 10 - 24 % des versicherten Lohns =====		
U V G	<b>Unfallversicherungs-Gesetz</b> — obligatorisch zu versichernder Lohn: kein Minimum / Maximum = CHF 126,000		
A V I G	<b>Arbeitslosenversicherungs- und Insolvenzsicherungs-Gesetz</b> Versicherter Lohn: kein Minimum / Maximum CHF 106,800 (126,000) 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	<b>Militärversicherungs-Gesetz</b> Maximal versicherter Lohn = CHF 137,545		
III. Säule	<b>Privat: Gebundene und Freie Vorsorge</b>  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 Vorsorge-schutz und Sicherheit.  Gebundene Vorsorge = Steuerlich begünstigt ( <b>NUR mit Wohnsitz in der SCHWEIZ</b> ) Steuerlich begünstigter Maximalbeitrag für Arbeitnehmer : CHF 6,566p.a. Steuerlich begünstigter Maximalbeitrag für Selbständige : CHF 32,832p.a. Individuelle Vorsorge = <b>Weltweite</b> , 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)



**MAKE SURE YOU GET  
THE BEST POSITION  
FOR YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN  
THE S'ALPHORN NO 128 AND  
BOOK ALREADY NOW!**

Cost of Advertisement and Form

A) Back inside cover 3500 HKD

B) Inside page colour 2800 HKD

## Advertisement's Film Specification

Size : A5--148mm(w) x 210mm(h)

Bleed size : 5mm

Colour : 4 Colours

Screen line : 175

## Advertisement Digital Specification

Size : A5--148mm(w) x 210mm(h)

Bleed size : 5 mm

File format : (i) FreeHand 9.0 or

(ii) ai or

(iii) PDF Format

Resolution : 300 dpi

Remarks : all fonts must be converted  
to path (create outline)

For further information please contact

E-mail : [editor@swiss-hk.com](mailto:editor@swiss-hk.com)

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

( ) Issue No 128, Artwork deadline: November 2009

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

\_Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



## 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(OSA)	<a href="http://www.aso.ch">www.aso.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>
Design and production: Design Target	<a href="mailto:info@designtarget.com.hk">info@designtarget.com.hk</a>

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

Advantage Asia Pacific	<a href="http://www.advantageasiapacific.com">www.advantageasiapacific.com</a>
Atelier B	<a href="http://www.atelierb.info">www.atelierb.info</a>
BSI	<a href="http://www.bsibank.com">www.bsibank.com</a>
Caran d'Ache	<a href="http://www.carandache.com">www.carandache.com</a>
Crédit Agricole (Suisse)	<a href="http://www.ca-suisse.com">www.ca-suisse.com</a>
Baumschlager Eberle	<a href="http://www.baumschlager-eberle.com">www.baumschlager-eberle.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>
Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch	<a href="http://www.lombardodier.com">www.lombardodier.com</a>
Mövenpick	<a href="http://www.moevenpick-icecream.com">www.moevenpick-icecream.com</a>
Rolex	<a href="http://www.rolex.com">www.rolex.com</a>
Swiss Sure	<a href="http://www.swiss-sure.com.hk">www.swiss-sure.com.hk</a>