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Swiss Made



A Swiss caveman had a sudden inspiration around 10'000 years ago by drawing a horn-like instrument on the wall, which later would become the famous Alphorn. The Matterhorn can be seen far far away in between the volcanoes.



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Message from the President

Dear members of the
Swiss Association of Hong Kong,

Dear readers,

We proudly present to you a copy of the 140th edition of the s'Alphorn magazine. The year was once more dominated by the many waves of COVID-19 hitting Hong Kong, which had significantly impacted our association. Social distancing restrictions are in stark contrast of our mission, that is, to provide a platform to socialize and foster collaboration among the Swiss Community living in Hong Kong.

Many hours have been spent in the committee to discuss on how to best manage the situation and to plan for events in times of great uncertainty. I am grateful to all our committee members who gave their time and ventured on this mission possible. Despite all the challenges and our commitment to comply with government regulations, we have managed to host over 40 events and activities. This includes our top 3 flagship events: The Swiss National Day celebrations, Picnic with Santa Claus on the Beach and the Christmas Charity Luncheon. As you scan through this year's edition, we hope you revisit those good moments in between the pandemic



Raffael Morger, Swiss Association president for 2022/2023.

waves, while also sparking your interest in future ones.

During the lockdown, the Swiss Association Committee made a decision and the commitment to refresh our website and logo. In line with this, we have also kick started to publish not just news, but also events and photos of our activities through our social media platforms, Facebook and Instagram. We hope that this will make it

even easier to connect and spark your interest in our events. I am grateful to each and every one who contributed and supported us with this redesign!

All of these would not be possible without the dedicated contribution and assistance of our many volunteers and sponsors. We are fortunate to have a list of partner organizations who regularly organize activities for the Swiss community,



such as the Swiss Dragon Boat Team, the Swiss XI, Swiss Jassen and the Swiss Rifle Association. Last but not least, a special thank you also to our Swiss Consul General, Rolf Frei, and his entire team for the continued support and excellent relationship with our association.

As a volunteer organization, we are happy to welcome anyone onboard to help us in any means and be involved. Please reach out to any of our committee members if you are interested in supporting the Swiss Community in Hong Kong.

We hope to see you in person at one of our many events. Please watch out for announcements via email, website and social media. We are committed to follow the HKSAR government regulations on social gathering restrictions and therefore ask for your understanding, in case we have to scale back or postpone events.

On behalf of the Swiss
Association Committee

Raffael Morger
President of the SAHK
2022/2023



Handover with our Past president, San Wang.

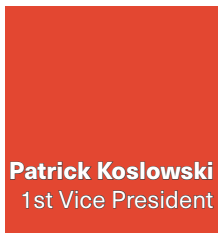


Swiss
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Hong Kong
EST. 1948

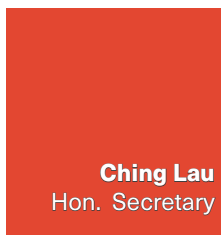
Committee 2022-2023



Raffael Morger
President



Patrick Koslowski
1st Vice President



Ching Lau
Hon. Secretary



Ashley Lau
Sponsorship
Coordinator



Luisa Muenzenmaier
School Committee
Events Coordinator



Roland Jossi
Hon. Treasurer

About the Association

The Swiss Association of Hong Kong (SAHK) serves as a focal point for the local Swiss community to socialize, foster friendships, conduct business networking, and meet and engage in activities of common interest.

Throughout the years, the SAHK has welcomed numerous Swiss nationals in Hong Kong and enabled them to maintain and share their heritage and cultural experiences while abroad.

The SAHK organizes a variety of activities, including webinars with guest speakers, month-

ly Jass evenings, holiday parties for children and family hikes. The SAHK works closely with other Swiss organizations such as the Consulate General of Switzerland, Swiss Benevolent Society, Swiss School Committee, Swiss Chamber of Commerce, Swiss XI, Swiss Dragon Boat Team and Swiss Rifle Association.

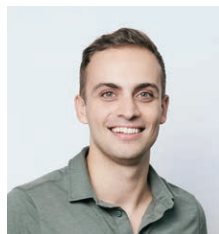
Membership to the SAHK is open to all Swiss and friends of Switzerland residing in Hong Kong. To find out more, email us at info@swiss-hk.com or visit our website at www.swiss-hk.com





JJ Wang
Events Coordinator

Claude Scheidegger
Events Coordinator



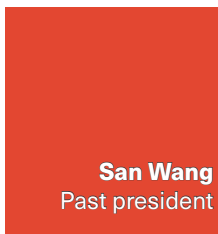
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Ricardo Ferraz
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Past president



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New Committee Members

Joanna

++

I am a third generation Chinese born in the Philippines, and have called Hong Kong home for two decades. During my penultimate year at University, I had the opportunity to do an internship with UBS in Hong Kong. My career in financial services has kept me here for the most part, having worked at PwC, Citi, HSBC, and currently AXA.

Last year, I joined the Swiss School Committee as Treasurer and had the pleasure of getting to know more of the Swiss Community in HK. It was the first ever Swiss National Day celebration I attended. During the Christmas holidays, I also thought how nice it was for the Swiss kids to receive personalized letters and baked goodies from Samichlaus and Schmutzli!

I am looking forward to continuing supporting the Swiss Association and its numerous initiatives and events in the coming year. I do hope to meet more of you in person!



Ching

++

I am a Hong Kong-born Chinese but was raised in Germany. Since I am fluent in both German as well as Cantonese, in 2015 I was looking for a new challenge and started working for a German company here in Hong Kong. Being friends with a lot of Swiss in Hong Kong I finally let them convince me to join the Jass game nights in

2019 and immediately fell in love with the game, winning the championship in my first year. I had of course a few awesome Jass teachers, best regards to the Seeholzer family.

I am looking forward to taking over the organization of the Jass games 2022 and hope, that we can start the events again soon.



Luisa



Ciao a tutti, mi chiamo Luisa e sono ticinese ! I was born in Locarno and grew up close to Bellinzona. I have spent four- and twenty+ years in Zurich and Lausanne. After London and Kuala Lumpur is Hong Kong our 3rd. destination outside Switzerland. My hobbies are fitness (in general) and you may often meet me on the countless hiking-tracks in HK. As ex-pat wife I equally took advantage to start activities that always wanted to do, but never had time. One of those are that I started sewing. I love to fabricate cloths and my office looks like a little Gucci atelier... well, almost. For SAHK I'll organize the Ladies-Meet ;) that takes newly place every first Tue or Thur of each month. My message therefor is: Ladies' stay tuned and hope to meet you soon.

Roland

My name is Roland. This is my second time to live in Hong Kong, after a spell here from 2000 to 2007. Before and after that, I had lived and worked in Japan and Singapore in the financial industry. It is also my second time to join the committee of the Swiss Association, taking up the position of the Honorary Treasurer. Some of the "older" members might have seen my face or name before, hopefully my face at one of the many events we used to organize in the past, and not only my name on reminders that the annual membership dues have not been paid yet, or on the Thank You for renewal of the membership confirmations.

In total I have lived in Hong Kong for more than 17 years, and I am still always positively surprised how vibrant and diverse the Swiss community in Hong Kong is. It is also always interesting to get to know fellow Swiss people, some have just arrived, others have lived here for much longer than me, but our ways have not crossed yet. This is what the Swiss Association stands for, to offer a place for the local Swiss



community to socialize and take part in activities of interest. For me that means participating in the regular Jass meetings at the Swiss Chalet, combining exciting Jass games and discussions with delicious Swiss food prepared by our honorary member, Max Liechti and his team.

Goodbyes

The Swiss Association of Hong Kong would like to thank the dedication of our Committee members and other partners who will not keep collaborating next year. To them, we wish all the best for their new projects.



Susanne Fanton

Honorary Secretary, 2020-2022

Patrick Heimann
ASO Representative, 2021-2022

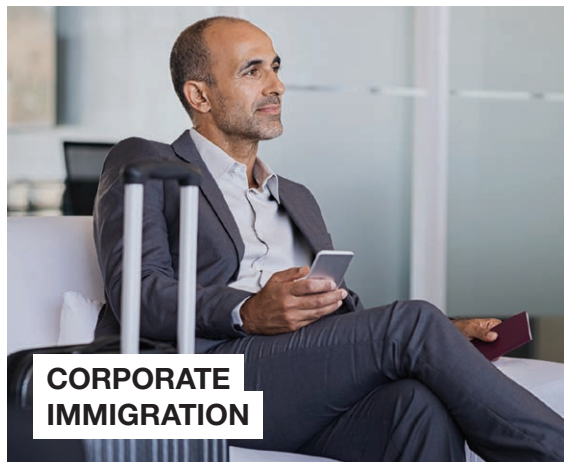


Finn Krüger
Honorary Treasurer, 2020-2022

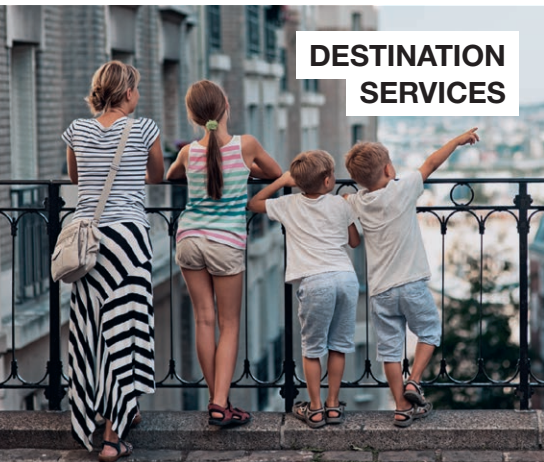
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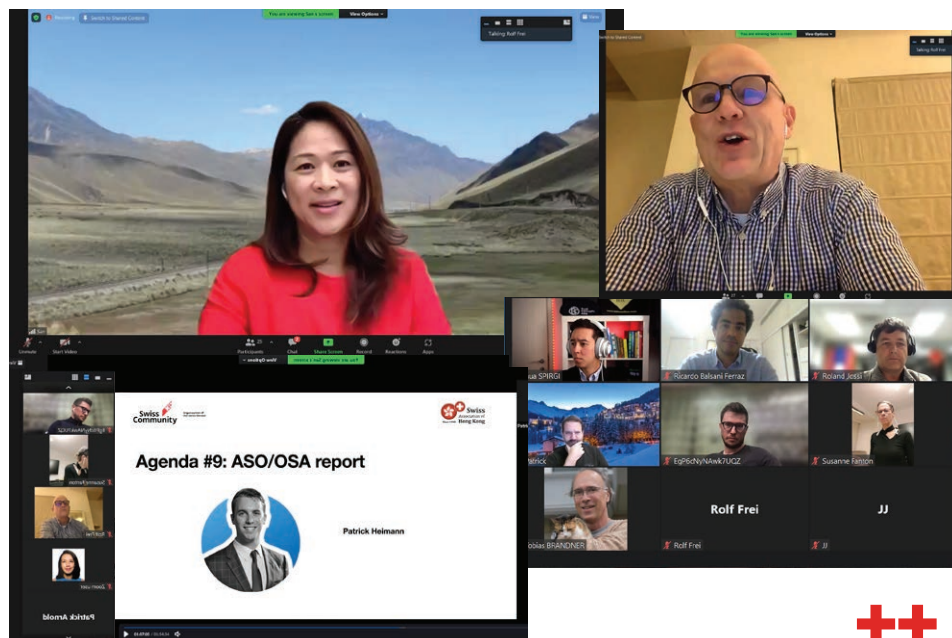


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74th Annual General Meeting



March 2022 was a difficult month for Hong Kong, with the strictest distancing measures in place around the city. That is why, once more, our SAHK Annual General Meeting had to be held remotely, over Zoom Meetings. 24 members the conference and other 42 sent their votes through our e-proxy system.

As the current SAHK president at that moment, San Wang conducted the meeting and introduced Raffael Morger, the person who would take over the presidency from that day on. After San, the guest of honor, Consul General Rolf Frei, took the opportunity to say a few words and thank the resiliency of the Swiss Community during the last Covid outbreak.

The meeting followed with a review of the

past year for SAHK and the voting of several routine issues, including the confirmation of the new SAHK Committee. After the voting, Patrick Heimann came to the mic to review his tenure as OSA delegate and pass the baton to Peggy Pui-Zee Huen, who will take over the role after Mr. Heimann relocation to Switzerland.

Right after the end of the SAHK meeting, the Swiss Benevolent Society followed with their annual assembly. President Tobias Brandner, even recovering from Covid, conducted the meeting. Between the usual business, he thanked the work of the other members of the Benevolent Society, in special the treasurer Silvan Colani for his great performance, and welcomed San Wang to the team of the organization.



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Swiss Universities Alumni Chapters in Hong Kong



Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne

The Hong Kong Alumni Chapter of the Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne meets at least once a quarter, offering great opportunities for social gatherings and professional networking. It is also a good platform to help both interns and new graduates integrate easily into their new environment. For more information, please go to the website : <http://aehl.net/eng/hong-kong>



The HSG Alumni Club Hong Kong was started in 1999 and addresses all alumni of the University of St.Gallen who currently live and/or work in Hong Kong. The HSG Alumni Club Hong Kong is run on an informal basis with 4 to 5 events per year. Our “classic venues” include the Christmas/New Year dinner at the Library of the China Club, the fondue/raclette dinner at the King Ludwig Beerhall in Stanley, as well as the BBQ at the Foreshore Deck of The Hong Kong Country Club. We had also participated in other “joint-alumni events” including Tsinghua University in 2012, the Toronto University in 2013 and the HSG Asia Alumni Meeting. The average attendance per event varies from 20 to 30 people. Some of our members have been living in Hong Kong for more than 20 years, while others are on “short-term” contracts. For more information, please contact Alexandre Tunik, President of the HSG Alumni Club Hong Kong at tpf@transpacificfareast.com or go to the website <https://hsgalumni.ch/de/chapters-clubs/uebersicht/>



The Chapter of the ETH Alumni in Hong Kong was founded on 4th of February 2013. The founding members intend to organize three to four events each year related to current and relevant topics researched and taught at ETH. They are also inviting guest scholars and industry leaders from ETH Zurich to present their areas of expertise to Hong Kong audiences. It is the aim to foster an active and mutually beneficial relationship between ETH University, its alumni and the wider business community in Asia through programs and events. Given the chapter recently are actively seeking contact to alumni of ETH Zurich. ETH alumni based in the region are encouraged to contact Olaf Eichstaedt at olaf.eichstaedt@linova-consulting.com. To become a member, individuals simply need to register as ETH Zurich Alumni. The affiliation to the local chapter does not incur any additional costs.





**University of
Zurich** ^{UZH}



Università
della
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italiana

It is the aim of the UZH Alumni and Friends Hong Kong to provide a platform for discussions on education and research in humanities, arts, law, science and economics, reflecting the inter-disciplinary study fields of the University of Zurich. The platform shall help to strengthen ties between visiting scholars/alumni and the Hong Kong alumni bodies (Universities and Alumni) by inviting them to join and contribute to the events of the UZH Alumni and Friends Hong Kong. Since the start of the Hong Kong UZH Alumni chapter in March 2012 several events have taken place.

The UZH Alumni and Friends is open to all alumni of the University of Zurich and to people supportive of their aim. This is a platform of equals where the convener does not understand his / her role to arrange programs for the alumni but instead welcomes alumni to suggest any form of event or discussion and helps in arranging such event if initiated and approached by members of our group. In other words, the initiative is with all of you and we welcome you!

For more information, please contact Tobias Brandner, Chairperson of the UZH Alumni and Friends Hong Kong at tobias.brandner@alumni.uzh.ch or go to the below website where you will find the link to register your membership & join the UZH Alumni HK:

<http://www.alumni.uzh.ch/wer-wir-sind/international/hongkong.html>

USI Università della Svizzera italiana has around 10'500 alumni, living and working in more than 100 different countries around the world.

To keep in touch with our alumni, USI created, in 2017, Alumni Chapters in different cities and today, there are 34 Chapters active in 4 continents.

Each Alumni Chapter engages USI Alumni as Points of Contact (PoC), acting as the local reference for all USI Alumni living and working in the same area, who want to get together, create a network and stay in touch with USI and with other USI graduates. PoC are alumni leaders committed to supporting their Alma Mater in connecting alumni with each other, by volunteering time, energy and talent.

Currently USI has three Chapters in China: one in the city of Hong Kong, led by the USI Alumnus Mr. Francesco Stadler (USI Degree: Bachelor in Economics in 2010): francesco.stadler@alumni.usi.ch, the second in the city of Beijing, led by the USI Alumna Ms. Meng Zhang (USI Degree: Master in Economics and International Politics in 2010), and the third one in the city of Shanghai led by the USI Alumna Alice Comi, Associate Professor at the University of Tongji in Shanghai (USI Degrees: PhD in Communication, 2012).

More information about the USI Alumni Chapter China: <https://www.usi.ch/en/node/8247>, also on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8668012/>

To become a member or for more information contact USI Alumni: alumni@usi.ch



ASO/OSA Report 21/22

By Patrick Heimann

**Dear Swiss Compatriots,
Liebe Schweizer Mitbürgerinnen und Mitbürger,
Chers compatriotes suisses,
Cari compatrioti svizzeri,**

Every four years, the Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA) is appointed for a new legislative period. The election regarding the new legislative term 2021-2025 was not only a matter of electing new Council members but also of appointing a successor to President Mr. Remo Gysin, who had headed the organization for the past six years. In August 2021, The Council of the Swiss Abroad elected former Ticino member of the Council of States, Mr. Filippo Lombardi, as his successor as new OSA President.

The new Council of the Swiss Abroad has set the following priorities for the next term:

1. Preservation and continuation of the free movement of persons;
2. Introduction of a secure e-voting system;
3. Increased contact with Swiss financial institutions;
4. Inquiry on the digitalization of AHV/IV and health insurance services;
5. Implementation of the project for a memorial for the Swiss victims of National Socialism;

Even though 2021 has been the year of the recovery back to the new normal, many aspects of the Organisation's activities have unfortunately been impacted.

As of February 2022, the new coronavirus variant Omicron continues to spread both in Switzerland and abroad. Due to the exponential increase of cases, the epidemiological situation is critical and remains difficult to assess. Due to the continuing uncertainty, the President and the Board of the Organization have decided to hold March 12, 2022, OSA Meeting virtually.

Furthermore, the planned meeting between members of the Swiss Parliamentary and members of the Council of the Swiss Abroad planned on Thursday, March 10, 2022, will be postponed.

Finally, the 98th OSA-Congress is, as of today, planned to take place in person from the 19th to the 21st 2022 in Lugano, Ticino. The Congress's theme will be "What are the challenges for our democracy?".



E-voting trials: new legal basis to be finalized by mid-2022

The cantons shall again be able to carry out trials with e-voting. The Federal Council has decided to create the necessary legal basis by mid-2022. The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad welcomes this progress.

A large majority of the cantons support the proposal. However, they also stress the high development costs that the redesign of e-voting will generate. The Federal Council believes that it makes sense for the Confederation to contribute to the development costs and is in favor of this taking place via Digital Public Services Switzerland (DPSS).

Survey: Delivery of documents for the federal votes

In January 2021, following the suggestion of a Member of the Council of Swiss Abroad based in the USA, the Executive Committee decided to survey whether and when the voting documents have reached the delegates in the different countries.

This project will last two years, a survey will be sent four times a year after each federal vote. This project is aiming at tackling one of the most urgent matters impacting Swiss Expats' life abroad. The results of the analysis will be used by the Organization to assess the Status Quo regarding long-distance voting and take further actions.



Filippo Lombardi succeeds Remo Gysin

After a brilliant 6-year career within the Organization, Mr. Remo Gysin stepped down from his role as president of the OSA at the end of August 2021. The Council of the Swiss Abroad elected former Ticino member of the Council of States, Mr. Filippo Lombardi as his successor.

The new president is well known to the OSA. As the former OSA vice-president, Lombardi is familiar with its current agenda and as one of the pioneers of the "Swiss Abroad Act" in force since 2015, he knows all about the issues relating to the 776,296 Swiss passport holders who live outside the country. Lombardi is currently a city councilor for Lugano.

Life Certificates: Facilitated process

The Swiss Compensation Office ("Schweizerische Ausgleichskasse (SAK), Caisse suisse de compensation (CSC)") is simplifying the process of life checks through an automated exchange. Until now, all insured persons receiving an AHV/IV benefit had to send a life

certificate to the SAK at regular intervals in order to ensure that the pension was paid without interruption. This process, which is burdensome for both the SAK and the insured, will be simplified starting from 2022 with the introduction of an automated exchange between the various administrations, including the FDFA.

The OSA welcomes this simplified procedure and this solution, which since 2019 has been the subject of regular exchanges between the Organization and the Swiss Compensation Office.



ASO Head office on Alpenstrasse 26, Bern.
This and all the photos in the last two pages
were kindly provided by the ASO.

© Organisation of the Swiss Abroad / Adrian Moser

New financial solution for the Swiss Abroad: partnership between OSA and YAPEAL

Maintaining Swiss banking services and fair conditions for Swiss Abroad has historically been an important milestone for OSA. It is a pleasure to announce that OSA has entered into a partnership with YAPEAL, a FINMA recognized fintech company that offers international digital financial services.

YAPEAL's services include a Swiss digital account offering, a Visa debit card that can be used worldwide, domestic and international payments, and cash withdrawals in Switzerland and abroad. From November 2021, the company's services will also be available abroad. In a first step, Germany, France, Italy, Austria and Liechtenstein will benefit. YAPEAL will expand its offering to 15 other majority-European countries in the first half of 2022 and to other countries depending on demand. Swiss Expats living in Hong Kong SAR will have to show some patience before seeing this

1st Congress of Young Swiss Abroad

For the first time, young Swiss Abroad came together online and were able to interactively exchange ideas. In discussions about education, work, politics and culture in Switzerland, the young people were able to contribute their opinions and help shape the future.

In cooperation with YPSA (Youth Parliament of Swiss Abroad), the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad successfully ran the first online congress. This international meeting via Zoom enabled the young Swiss Abroad to stay connected with their home country and with each other.

Swiss Abroad inaugurates a new website

The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad – which since 1 January 2021 went under the name of “SwissCommunity” – launched a new, combined website at the beginning of the year. All OSA, “Swiss Review” and Youth Service content can now be found at www.swisscommunity.org.

The new website not only features fresh content and advice – it will also be the community hub allowing the Swiss Abroad to interact, share knowledge, opinions and information, get helpful tips, and announce events online.

banking solution available in our territory. Nevertheless, this partnership represents an important milestone to address a serious issue associated to access to financial services in the motherland.

The Organization continues to lobby for the maintenance of beneficial banking conditions for Swiss citizens living abroad. Only a few traditional banks currently support Swiss Expats with their banking needs. Banque Cantonale de Genève (BCGE), a historically important partner for OSA, has renewed the partnership with our Organization, which will be in force also during the year 2022.

During year 2021, there has been few successful examples of Swiss Expats opening banking facilities from Hong Kong SAR. Local OSA Delegate has supported Swiss Expats in Hong Kong SAR to gain access to banking professionals who could provide support.



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#RCMemories #ritzcarltonhongkong



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Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong

The Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong is a business association with over 160 members representing the Swiss business community to both the Swiss and HKSAR governments.

The Swiss Chamber of Commerce has kept a high level of activity in 2021-2022, organizing more than 40 events, both in-person and online,

which were well received by over 800 attendees. These numbers highlight the enthusiasm and dedication of our team and the positive response from the Swiss Business community.

Here are a few notable examples of how the Swiss Chamber has engaged its members between 2021-2022:

Montblanc Calligraphy Masterclass,

Swiss Chamber launched the first Calligraphy Masterclass with Montblanc for an artistic journey to explore the history, passion, and art of beautiful handwriting.



A conversation with Swiss Ambassador in Beijing, H.E. Bernardino Regazzoni:

Switzerland's new China Strategy at the Foreign Correspondents' Club. Over 80 guests joined the luncheon with the Ambassador at Embassy of Switzerland in Beijing to share online his experiences in Beijing and the significance of the new Strategy for Swiss companies in Mainland China and Hong Kong.



Perfume Balm Masterclass,

SwissCham launched its first "Perfume Balm Masterclass" in partnership with Parfumerie Trésor. Our guests enjoyed the experience of creating their own custom perfume balm, meeting the perfume masters and learning about the different scent origins and techniques.



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On top, Nespresso Planting & Tasting Masterclass. Watch Caring & Sharing in the photos below.

Nespresso Organic Coffee Planting & Tasting Masterclass,

The Swiss Chamber organized its first “Organic Coffee Planting & Tasting Masterclass” in partnership with Nespresso Professional and Grand Hyatt Hong Kong in November 2021. Our guests enjoyed their experience of a private coffee tasting, including the tasting of Peru Organic and Congo Organic coffee where the Nespresso’s farm partner explained the meaning and importance of sustainability in the coffee planting industry.

Watch Caring & Sharing Masterclass

at Breitling Boutique Central, the Swiss Chamber is pleased to present Watch Caring & Sharing Masterclass in partnership with The Oriental Watch Company. We have organized an exclusive private class to learn how to easily change a watch strap and take part in a Watch Care Sharing Workshop by an experienced watchmaker from The Oriental Watch Company.

A conversation with Swiss Ambassador in Beijing, H.E. Bernardino Regazzoni and Prof. Cabestan: “China Tomorrow? And What Does It Mean for Switzerland?”

at the Foreign Correspondents’ Club. Nearly 60 guests joined the luncheon with the Ambassador at Embassy of Switzerland in Beijing and Professor Cabestan to share online their experiences and learned some valuable insights on what the future for the two countries may look like.





On top, the event with the Ambassador (right) and "Invest in Jewellery". Below, Monthly Cocktail.

Invest in... Jewellery

The networking event held together with 6 partnering Chambers. Our guests enjoyed an evening full of networking opportunities and mingled with members of other International Chambers in Hong Kong while enjoying drinks and snacks.

The Chamber worked hard over the past year to adapt our efforts to the ever-evolving environment and keep helping its members to connect with peers and expand their business, stay up to date with market trends, and increase their visibility within the Hong Kong international business community.

To make sure we would be able to meet all kinds of interest from our members, we have continued our popular events formats such as the "Invest In Series", the "Masterclass Series" and "Lunch & Learn Series". "Invest in..." is a series of events where the Swiss Chamber opens the door to the rising class of alternative assets investments, which have been the privilege of exclusive collectors, billionaires, or aficionados.

May Monthly Cocktail,

Swiss Chamber resumed the monthly Cocktail at Gustaci in May 2022. An elegant mix of mild colors, textures, and elements helped create a casual environment that is both effortlessly fresh and chic. Our guests mingled with friends in the Swiss Community.

Through the popular format of 'Masterclass', we invited the participants to discover the fascinating world of coffee planting, the magic of watchmaking, the art of calligraphy, the wonders of perfume marking and many more to come!

Other Swiss associations in Hong Kong

Organisation of the Swiss Abroad

Peggy Huen, Hong Kong representative.

OSA ensures the interests of Swiss citizens living outside of Switzerland are represented in Switzerland through the 140-strong Council of Swiss Abroad. The OSA also provides information about Switzerland and offers various services such as summer camps for children and young people, and information about emigrating or moving back to Switzerland. www.SwissCommunity.org aso@swiss-hk.com

Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong

Gabriel Mallet, President

SCCHK represents the Swiss business community to both the Swiss and HKSAR governments. Regular meetings and luncheons allow members to meet and discuss their common interests. SCCHK also informs members of new government initiatives that might have relevance to them and acts as a lobbying vehicle to promote their interests to the Government. www.swisschamhk.org
gabriel.mallet@swisschamhk.org

Swiss Chamber Young Professionals

Charles-Henry Dubey

The SCCHK Young Professionals organize regular social and networking events for the younger members of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce. charles-henry.dubey@swisschamhk.org

Swiss Benevolent Society (SBS)

Tobias Brandner, President.

The SBS of Hong Kong was incorporated in September 1949 to assist Swiss nationals who encounter financial difficulties in Hong Kong. 30% of SAHK membership fee is contributed to the SBS fund. tobias.brandner@swiss-hk.com

Swiss XI

Peter Klaus, Honorary President

Founded in 1977 to offer members of the Swiss community and beyond an opportunity to participate in local amateur football league games. Jürg Niederberger is Vice President and Manager of XI. He has been in charge since 2006. He is also the Swiss XI article contributor for S'Alphorn for the last few years. j_niederberger@hotmail.com. More on page 52.

Swiss Rifle Association

Alexander Luedi, President

Founded in 1982, the Swiss Rifle Association organizes shooting events and competitions, including the annual Compulsory Shooting and Operation Mercury. More on page 50. www.srahk.com
rifle_association@swiss-hk.com

Dragon Boat Team

Werner Heimgartner, Manager.

The Swiss Association's dragon boat team participates in the legendary Stanley Dragon Boat races, every year in June. It is open to members and non-members. Beginners are welcome. More on page 54. [@swissdragonshk](https://www.facebook.com/swissdragonshk) on FB and IG



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Member of Wing Kee

Consulate General of Switzerland

Welcome Richard Kurz to the chancellery



At the beginning of 2022 we warmly welcomed Richard Kurz in the chancellery. Richard started his journey with the Consulate General in Hong Kong in April 2016 as assistant to the Consul General. After many years of experience, this year he took up the new role as Consular Officer. Richard was born and raised in Basel but has been living in Asia for more than 15 years. He is fluent in German, French and English and can assist you in any consular matters.

Eva Enzler joins the public diplomacy team

Richard replaced Eva Enzler, who was serving our Swiss community since spring 2011. Eva Enzler joined in January 2022 the Public Diplomacy team of the Consulate General where she is responsible for the organization of events and for communication and social media.

We wish Eva and Richard all the best in their new functions.



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Know our team



Rolf Frei
Consul General



Katia Stampfli
Deputy
Consul General



Thomas Fischer
Consul



Vanita Karpf
Consular Attaché



Winnie Kan
Senior Assistant



Richard Kurz
Consular Officer



San Wang
Trade Officer



EvaENZLER-KÖLLIKER
Project Manager

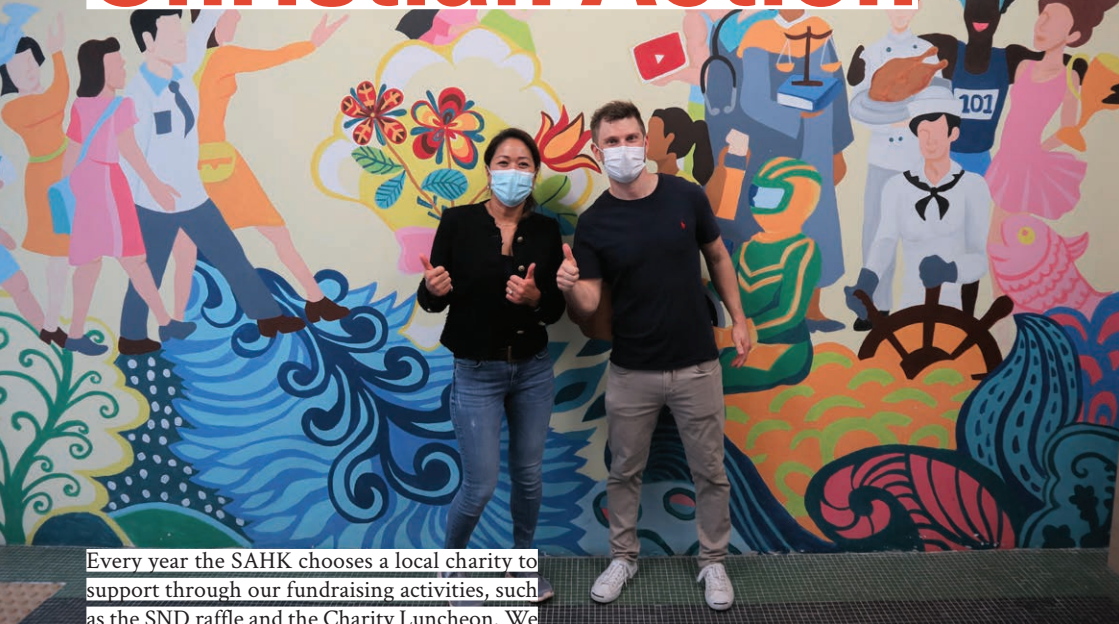


Melody Shu Kin So
Visa Affairs Officer



Senna Ma
Driver &
Office Assistant

Philanthropy: Christian Action



Every year the SAHK chooses a local charity to support through our fundraising activities, such as the SND raffle and the Charity Luncheon. We

always try to find the organization where our financial support will have the most impact. In 2021 we were happy to come across the Christian Action (CA).

This Organization is a non-sub-vented NGO registered in Hong Kong since 1985. The aim of their work is to reach across the gaps in our society. The CA serves those who are disadvantaged, marginalized, displaced or abandoned, regardless of their age, gender, nationality and religion.

Currently, they operate 25 service points in Hong Kong, the majority of which seek to serve underprivileged children and youth, the unemployed, low-income families, ethnic minorities, refugees, street-sleepers as well as migrant domestic workers. In recent years due to Covid, they set up a Food Station to provide food packs and nutritious meal boxes to 1,500 individuals without a stable income and/or living in sub-divided units.

San Wang and Raffael Morguer at the Christian Action



The new service building of Christian Action



Above, left: the Refugee Program offer a wide support, including education, training and psychosocial services. Right: one of CA food stations. Below: Christian Action offers training and guidance to low income families. They also provide care services for children whose parents unable to give timely care.



Together with his predecessor, the president of the SAHK donates 105 HKD to the Christian Action

In memory of

Guido Cherubini

Swiss Association honorary member and Jass legend**By Roland Jossi**

Guido as we met him. Also, photos of the young athlete, his wedding and a casual moment in Japan.

Most of us had know Guido only after he moved to Hong Kong in 1988, with a cigar in his one hand and a glass of whisky in the other, or then, even more often, a set of Jass cards in his hands. But his story began much, much earlier.

Guido Cherubini was born on a cold winter day, on January 16, 1929, in Kappel, Canton of St. Gallen. He completed his commercial training and worked for a few years in the textile industry. During that time, he was not only a very competent skier, but also a talented gymnast.

In 1951, he jumped on the chance offered by Lacoray SA in Geneva, to work for them in Osaka, Japan. It didn't take long for him to settle in this exotic post-war Japan. He got married to his Swiss wife Toni in Kobe in 1954 and became the father of the twin children, Cristina and Remo, in 1958.

In 1962 Lacoray took a majority stake in Liebermann Waelchli & Co., and Guido was appointed managing director. He then grew this company into a major player in trading of textile machines as well as

luxury goods. Some years later, the company expanded in Asia and, after a merge, became Cosa Liebermann. Guido was appointed to lead the enlarged group and moved to Hong Kong in 1988. He stayed in the company until his retirement in 1995.

Since his arrival in Hong Kong, Guido had been actively supporting the Swiss Chamber and other Swiss related activities. In 2012 the Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong made him an Honorary Member.

Even after his retirement, Guido kept a busy life. Quite a lot of time was spent playing Jass, be it as a member of the legendary "Guggitaler" or at the monthly Jass evenings organized by the Swiss Association. He was an excellent and also very competitive and tough playing partner. Less experienced players preferred to play AGAINST him, as it was difficult for him to accept obvious mistakes by his partners. "Hesch scho wider ä Match versaut..." could be heard quite often. He was always one of the top players and in 2007 he became the Jass Champion, winning the prestigious cow bell.



School openings in Myanmar. Below, Guido with friends in Chiang Mai and a toast in his honor.

A round of golf as a member of the exclusive Swiss Golf Mafia, followed by a glass of Scotch and a cigar, was also an enjoyable part of Guido's life.

A tough businessman and even tougher Jasser, Guido was also a very generous person. Education of underprivileged children was especially close to his heart. Whenever another Swiss grand monsieur, Peter Gautschi, needed support for his Studer Trust charity, Guido was there to help. More than funding the projects, Guido wanted to see their impact and joined many school openings in remote areas of Myanmar. The happy smiles of the children made him happy, too.

Besides that and other charities, Guido was also very generous with our community. Whether by sponsoring the Swiss Dragons boat races, golf tournaments, giving substantial donations to the Swiss Benevolent Society and also to the Swiss School Committee, he was always there to help when needed. For his great contributions and service to the Swiss Community in Hong Kong for so many

years, in 2020 the Swiss Association of Hong Kong bestowed on him Honorary Membership. Guido is one of only three such nominations since our establishment in 1948.

In January 2019, Guido invited family and friends to Chiang Mai to celebrate his 90th birthday. A large delegation from Hong Kong joined that special occasion, which included a gorgeous birthday dinner with musicians from his home region and also joint events with the local Jass community. It will stay unforgettable for all the participants.

The Covid pandemic and health problems forced him spend more time in Thailand. While it was not completely unexpectedly, it was still a great shock for all of us when the sad news came in:

Guido passed away on August 16th, 2021 at 15:35h at his house in Chiang Mai – Mae Rim...

Guido, we all are missing you. We treasure the many valuable and enjoyable encounters. You had always been a great inspiration and will last as such in our thought.

Swiss National Day 1st of August celebrations



Megan Wang with her parents, San and Will.

By Megan Wang

The annual Swiss National Day celebration is the Swiss Association of Hong Kong's flagship event. This year, it took place on the 1st of August 2021, in the Grand Ballroom of the Conrad Hotel Hong Kong, following the government's social distancing regulations with four people per table and each table separated by plastic partitions.

We opened the night by watching a video of the Consul General, Rolf Frei, preparing a Swiss dish from his hometown which was served at the buffet. Then, the Deputy Consul General, Katia Stämpfli-Ferraz, gave an insightful speech, which was very heartwarming in the midst of the Hong Kong pandemic. We also watched a video address by Federal Councillor and Education Minister Guy Parmelin, reminding us of the importance of



all Swiss abroad, and that our ties as a community must remain strong amidst the uncertainty of Covid-19. After that, we enjoyed an excellent dinner containing many Swiss favourites, including raclette and rösti.

This time, the sponsors included Wynn Palace Cotai, Sasa, Switzerland Travel Centre, and more! They provided generous gifts for the raffle tickets. This event, together with the Christmas Charity Luncheon in December held at the Foreign Correspondent's Club, organised in partnership with SwissCham, helped SAHK raise \$105,000 HKD for Christian Action.

This event was very enjoyable and highly successful. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Swiss National Day Celebration in 2022!







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Monthly Jass

By Raffel Morger



The Swiss Jass has finally arrived at the Swiss Chalet! After almost a decade at the Pacific Club, it was time for a new location and we were all delighted that Max agreed to host the event at his restaurant! The new location was a big success, the Swiss Chalet adds another touch of Swissness and cozy feel to the event.

The year 2021 was a surprisingly good year for us and all Jass evenings could take place as planned. Thankfully we only need four people at a table to play jass and therefore we were fully compliant with social distancing rules. This year we could also continue our tradition with the Chlausjass, where winning is particularly lucrative. Thanks to the generous support from many of our

friends and players, there were plenty of prizes to win such as cheese, ham, cookies, champagne and dining vouchers!

The best player of the year and the 2021 Jass champion is Rudolf! He won the title thanks to consistently good results and an outstanding evening win! The unlucky first runner up was again Adrian, already the third time in 5 years he came in second.

The Jass evening is supposed to be a fun event for Jass friends of all generations! If you are interested to join the event, you are more than welcome to join. The Jass evenings are published on the Swiss Association website and hopefully there will not be too many cancellations due to Covid restrictions. If you have questions, please email to jass@swiss-hk.com.



Rudolf, 2021 Cow Bell winner



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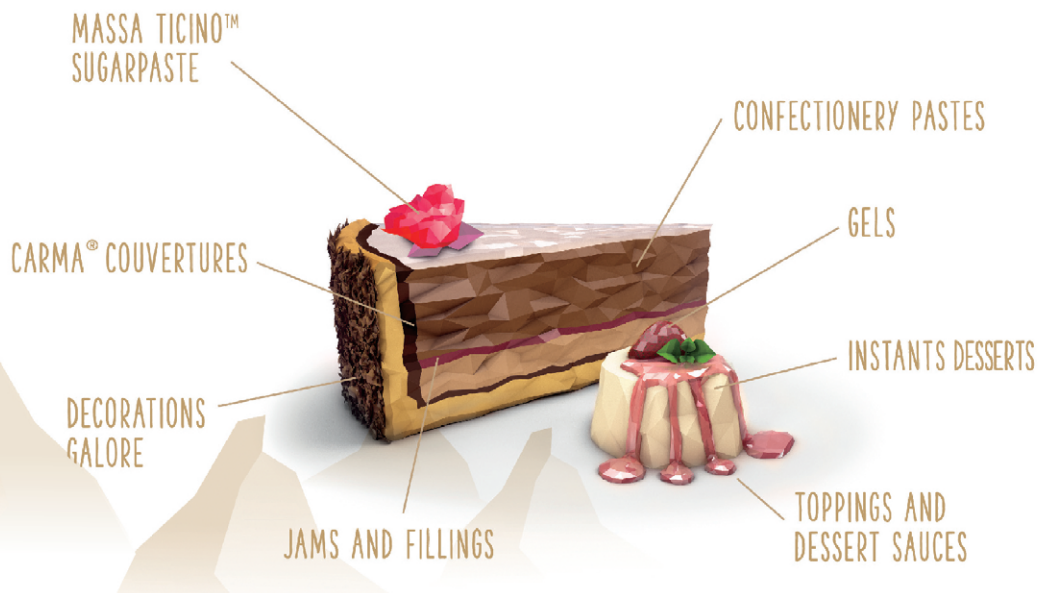


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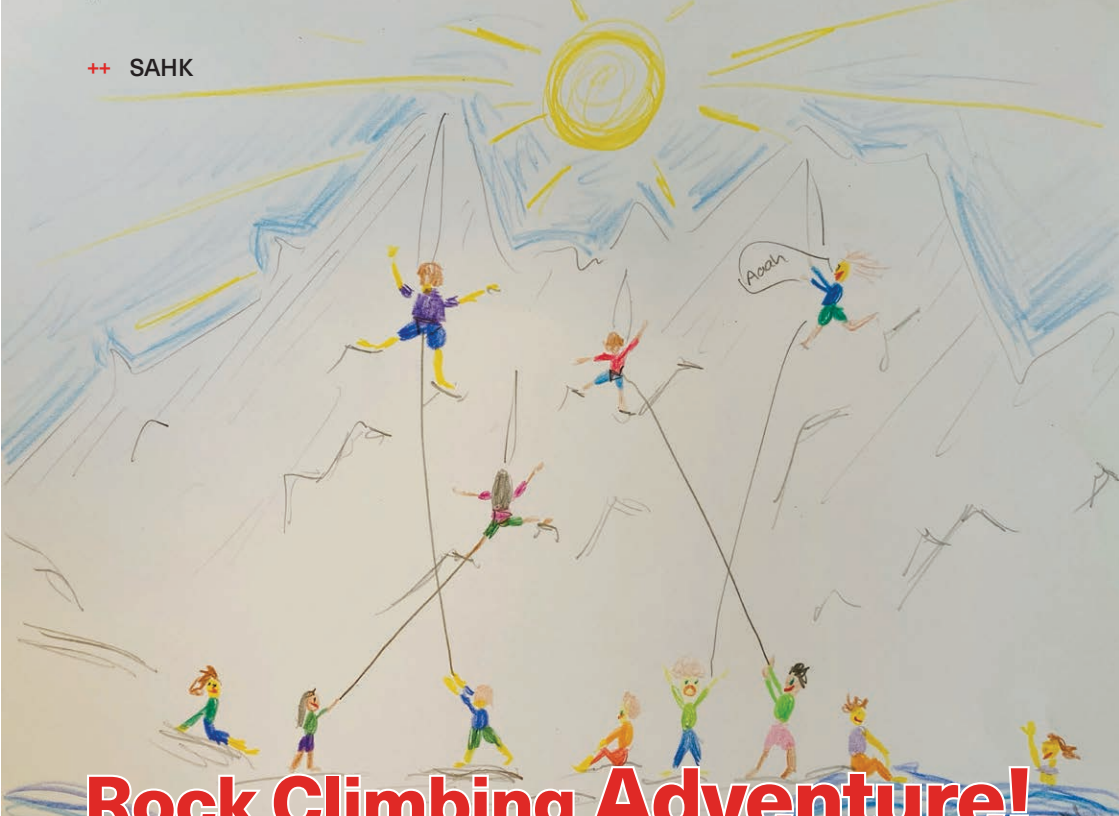
LadiesMeet@AfterFive

Smiles and Positive Vibes

By Luisa Münzenmaier

The idea of “LadiesMeet” was born during a spontaneous get together in April 2021. Already during the first gathering we could feel all the positive vibes and smiles between us ladies. We all had a different connection and interest to and for 🇨🇭 (as remote as « my neighbor is Swiss, or I have a Swiss friend » 😊). The tribe grew steadily from month to month and in one of the last meetings (before the pandemic restrictions) we counted almost 20 ladies involving close to 10 different nationalities. The highlight of each evening was our discussion of a movie, chosen

by one of the participants. As such we covered “Her”, “I Care A Lot”, “Infernal Affair”, “Gifted”, « Oxygen », “Midnight Diner” and the funniest thing was, even if you didn’t watch the movie, you could still participate in the discussion! That goes to show how chatty this group of women is. This is what we call Women Power! Many thanks to Pying for her initiative to organize our gathering so far and to Euginie for the delicious food and cozy ambience! Ladies, stay tuned – location and date of our next event will be released very soon. Hope to see you all there!!



Rock Climbing Adventure!

By Aiden Saar-Naville

16 May 2021

It started on a beautiful Sunday in a big traffic jam. Because everyone was quite impatient, we jumped out of the taxi and walked the final few meters up the hill.

The crag at Cape Collinson made every Swiss heart jump. The rock was rough and darkened from the sunshine and we would be very glad to have a chalk bag with us.

Raffael organized everything very well and we picked up our helmet, climbing shoes and harness. The entire group was excited to start climbing. First we watched the experienced climbers, to check out how to get up that steep wall. It was impressive and when it was my turn, I couldn't stop climbing. At the descend I was a bit scared at the beginning, because you have to jump off with your feet and spread out the hands. It was a bit unusual and I had to get used to. My smaller brother Caelen was next and he also had lots of fun. Mum and I made a competition – that was fun. The sun was super hot and the rock was burning. Even the

chalk bag didn't help much anymore – so many of us jumped into the sea while others rested in the shade.

Lucky we brought our Swiss knives.. A sea urchin stung Rolf in his toe, but thanks to the tweezers we could remove it... lessons learned – Always bring a Swiss knife when exploring nature.

The most exciting moment was when San was swinging in the air, when she let go and everything was silent for a moment. We all cheered and where happy when she made it back. The second moment was when Raffael climbed to the top – it looked like Spiderman! I have never seen this and hope to see it soon again.

At some time my fingers got tired and we packed and went home with a plenty of new impressions and new friends!

I am already looking forward to the next climbing tour, we'll be joining for sure!!!!

German version on the next page...



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Santa Claus was visiting Hong Kong!



Santa Claus in Hong Kong. On the other page, SAHK members help Santa with the treat bags.

By Susanne Fanton

Santa Claus was visiting Hong Kong!

How exciting! Santa was in Hong Kong! He visited the children on December 11th. It was a very sunny and warm Saturday when Santa came to Chung Hom Kok beach.

Around 29 children and their families came to visit Santa. Due to the Covid regulations the families spread on the beach with their picnic towels and left the needed space in between. They enjoyed the waiting time with playing on the beach.

Santa was placed on a white boat usually used by the guards that was parked on the beach. He made himself comfortable there surrounded by the two huge bags filled with traditional treats for the children.

When Santa was ready, he called one Family at a time to join him. Santa was very kind and took his time for each and every child. He was reading out of his Golden Book some of the good behaviors and some behaviors that could be improved from the relevant child. In the end all the children received a

bag “Chlaussäckli” filled with a traditional dough man (Grittibänz), peanuts, tangerines, traditional Swiss Christmas Cookies and Swiss Chocolate.

Time just flew by and soon it was time for Santa to leave. Some families left as well, and some decided to stay a little longer and enjoy the sun as long as they could.

Bye bye Santa! We hope to see you again next December!



Samichlaus in Hongkong!

Deutsche Fassung

Wie aufregend! Samichlaus war in Hong Kong! Er besuchte die Kinder am 11. Dezember. Es war ein wundervoller sonniger und warmer Samstag, als Samichlaus an den Strand von Chung Hom Kok kam.

Ungefähr 29 Kinder und ihre Familien kamen vorbei, um Samichlaus zu treffen. Infolge der geltenden Covid Regulationen haben sich die Familien auf ihren Picknicktüchern mit der entsprechenden Abstandeinhaltung am Strand niedergelassen und genossen die Wartezeit mit Spielen am Strand.

Samichlaus konnte sich auf einem am Strand deponierten Boot der Rettungsschwimmer zusammen mit seinen zwei mitgebrachten grossen Säcken niederlassen. Im Sack befanden sich die traditionellen «Chlaussäckli».

Als Samichlaus dann bereit war, rief er jeweils jede Familie einzeln zu sich hin. Samichlaus war sehr nett und freundlich und nahm sich für jedes Kind seine Zeit. Aus seinem Goldenen Buch las er jeweils Dinge vor, die gut gemacht wurden und solche, bei denen sich die Kinder noch etwas mehr Mühe

geben könnten. Am Schluss erhielt jedes Kind ein «Chlaussäckli» gefüllt mit den in der Schweiz traditionellen Leckereien: ein Grittibänz, Erdnüsse, Mandarinen, Weihnachtsguetsli und Schokolade.

Die Zeit verging wie im Flug und bald war es für Samichlaus Zeit zu gehen. Einige Familien gingen dann auch nach Hause. Andere entschieden, noch zu bleiben und die Sonne etwas länger zu geniessen.

Tschüss Samichlaus! Auf ein Wiedersehen im nächsten Dezember!

More events Swiss Association 2021/2022

Guided Art Tour & Ladies Lunch

A visit to the Craft and Guild Foundation private gallery in the K11 Artus, followed by a delightful lunch.

(27 May 21)





Euro 2020 watch parties

The Swiss Association was there to support our national team during the 2020 (held in 2021) European Football Championship. Switzerland's amazing campaign crowned the event.

Switzerland vs. Wales (16 June 2021)



Switzerland vs. Spain (02 July 2021)





Atlas of Maritime Buddhism

SAHK visited this exhibition that traced the religion's development along the Maritime route from India across Asia

(27 May 21)





Guided Walking Tour: Exploring Sham Shui Po

We explored one of the hippest, authentic and populous neighbourhoods of Hong Kong. With the support of Schoeni Projects and COREDA.

(27 Sept 21)

Joint Charity Lunch

Held at the Foreign Correspondents' Club, the traditional event was jointly organized by the SAHK and the Swiss Chamber of Commerce. Funds were raised for the Christian Action charity.

(07 Dec 21)



Swiss Rifle Association All Quiet on the Range

By Alexander Lüdi

We already reported that in March 2021 we managed to find a reduced COVID restrictions slot, allowing us to shoot the overdue 2020 Mercury with maximum 20 people on the range, over two weekends. We also had our AGM in March with people present. The rest of the year, however, was mostly bad news. The Swiss Army now has informed us officially that from 2023 onwards they would no longer provide support to the more than 20 active Swiss Abroad Shooting Clubs - in Hong Kong, New Zealand, Durban, Cape Town, Paris, San Diego, Minneapolis, Vancouver, Calgary – to name just a few. This means, starting 2023 we are now forced to import and fully pay for all ammo und rifle spare parts by ourselves. We are still assessing what this all means for the future of our Association.

In addition, we may also lose the recognition as a member of the Swiss Shooting Federation, meaning we can no longer shoot and certify the “Obligatorische und Feldschiessen” for active Swiss Military men posted to Hong Kong. We do understand that the last word in this matter has not yet have been spoken.

An intervention of 20 Swiss Shooting clubs orchestrated by the Swiss Rifle Association of Hong Kong with Federal Counciler and Head of the Federal Department of Defense, Civil Protection and Sport, Mdm Viola Amherd was not successful. Reportedly the Swiss Army wants to save the costs of 40 thousand Swiss Francs per year, because supporting Swiss Abroad Shooting Clubs ‘is not within their task to defend the county’.

This all had not an impact on our further 2021 shooting activities as our shooting range was either inaccessible or closed because of COVID19.

A few pictures of our ‘lonely range’ in Sheng Shui, overlooking Shenzhen, nevertheless.





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Swiss XI and our Clubhouse/ Museum

By Jürg Niederberger



Swiss XI, an amateur football team, was founded back in Hong Kong in 1977. That implies a long (and proud) 45-year existence and tradition. As you all know, over these years, the world has changed so much, and Hong Kong even more so. For Swiss XI that meant that players came and left (but many friendships withstood the test of time), supporters came and some remained and some left, playing seasons came and left, managers came and left, tournaments came and left but we kept the trophies(!), logos came and were upgraded over the years, what remained is the unique name as “Swiss XI” (pronounced Swiss Eleven) despite attempts to have it changed by some antagonists, and what also remains is the precious support from the two founders, Peter Klaus and Albert Hausammann.

What should also never disappear, is the display of Swiss XI’s impressive trophy collection. Swiss XI was proud to have had a “Swiss XI Museum” for the longest time. However, that location disappeared, and the “Museum” was packed into boxes and remained in there for several years. The boxes moved from one caretaker to the next, but the search for a new display opportunity remained. Eventually, one of our most loyal supporters, Nigel Fong of Swiss-Sure Co Ltd, suggested to have one of his Sheung Wan locations used for the Swiss XI Clubhouse / Museum.



Some of the trophies at display in Sheung Wan



On the left, cabinet holding Swiss XI trophies in the clubhouse/museum. Above, the team classification during the current season. Below, Swiss XI starting team and a scene from a recent match.



After some extensive planning, finally in late 2021, a long weekend was used to get the location ready for its new purpose. Each and everybody of the current football team got involved and a lot of sorting out, throwing out of old stuff and some trips to the furniture disposal centre were necessary to get the new location fit for purpose. It was arduous work, but I am now happy to announce that Swiss XI is proud to have its Clubhouse / Museum back and the shiny trophies are back at display in a deserving location in Sheung Wan.

On the football front, after a protest interrupted season, followed seasons of covid in-

terruptions. The current 2021/22 season was stopped for four months but just re-started. Swiss XI re-established itself in the midfield of the First Division. The indoor football season was stopped and a re-start is rather unlikely.

As always, running a football team without generous sponsors would not work, so please allow me to briefly mention Swiss-Sure Co Limited, Ziggy's Fine Food, 1291 Group, CIGP, Aegis, abrdn, Swiss International Asset Management, Quintar Capital, Leonteq, Meat the Sea and Guru Bar & Restaurant. Thank you all, highly appreciated. Oh, and there is a new website, www.swissxihk.com

Swiss Dragons and... the race is back!

By Finn Krüger



In the pictures, moments from the "Stanley Dragon Boat Championships", held on 03 June 2022.

After a two year COVID enforced absence, Dragon boat racing returned on 3 June 2022. For the Swiss Dragons, this meant more paddle glory, achieving a fantastic 10th place overall (4th place in the Silver Cup Final)!

As COVID restrictions eased in late April, and with barely a months' notice, the Swiss Dragons returned to the waters off Stanley for the

first proper race in 3 years. With only 4 training sessions in 2022 before the race success was by no means guaranteed, but the Swiss Dragons dug deep on a hot and humid day in Stanley to win another trophy! The success can be attributed to several factors, chief amongst them discipline! The Swiss Dragons had spent much of 2021 practicing rhythm and team work, as well

as starts. Team Captain Werner Heimgartner had drilled the boat close to perfection, expecting absolute silence except for a unanimous count of 10, 20, 30, ... in the boat, and demanding concentration on rhythm and synchronized padding. A changed starting sequence, to 3-deep, 15-fast, also helped the Swiss Dragons accelerate faster and lift the boat out of the water, before



We want to thank Michael Emmenegger for the beautiful aerial photos shown here.

settling into the race pace. For the 2022, the team was also excited to welcome back Rene Frauenfelder, who helped coach the team's technique, as well as bringing energy and a little bit of competitive aggression to the boat from his seat at the very back! As we rotated our shoulders more, reached further, and kicked the boat harder, the Swiss Dragon's won the first heat, before com-

ing 4th in the semi-finals, placing us in the Silver Cup Final. 0.42seconds relegated the team off the podium to 4th place, but no one was disappointed, proud in the knowledge what we had achieved in only a short span of time.

The team is always looking for new members! If you are interested in joining the team, follow our social medias or talk to a member.



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**Head of German Primary Department
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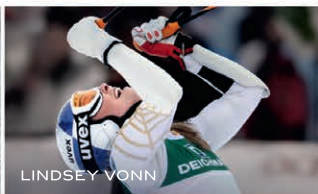
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