Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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**Embassy of Switzerland to New Zealand,
the Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu**

Swiss Traditional Culture for the Wellington Summer

The Embassy of Switzerland and the Wellington City Council bring traditional Swiss culture to the citizens of the nation's capital. On 13 and 14 February, at lunchtime, the *Trachtengruppe Baar* will yodel, sing, dance, play the beautiful alphorn and even throw flags in the sky.

Baar is a town in the Canton of *Zug* near *Zurich*. The 26 Swiss cantons are sovereign little republics, each of them with its own parliament, government and tax policy. They are responsible for most public matters and form together the Swiss Confederation, represented with an Embassy in New Zealand where seven thousand Swiss citizens and at least thirty thousand Swiss descendants live.

Each of these cantons has its own beautiful traditional costume or *Tracht* for both women and men. It is nowadays worn mostly on festive occasions or for cultural performances. The fourty-person strong group from *Baar* will yodel, sing, dance, play the beautiful alphorns and even throw Swiss flags. It has performed in New Zealand before and also in the United Kingdom, Japan, Germany and of course in many locations in Switzerland.

On **Tuesday 13 February in Civic Square** and on **Wednesday 14 February in Midland Park from 12pm to 1:30pm**, everybody will have the opportunity to experience, free of charge, the traditional culture of a small country 18'000 kilometers away.

Website Trachtengruppe Baar (in German, but with beautiful pictures)

Enquiries
Maurus Räss Embassy of Switzerland, 10 Customhouse Quay
maurus.raess@eda.admin.ch
04 472 15 93