



## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

### **JANUARY 2018**

Dear Members

Happy New Year!

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. We've a review of some of our most recent events, news from Switzerland and an exciting opportunity to attend a talk on the Ticinese artist Hans Tomamichel in early 2018.

Excitingly, we had always believed that almost all of our records from before 1924 went up in smoke when the building housing them was bombed in 1940. However we now know that the minutes' book for the 1880s – a crucial period for the Unione Ticinese – still survives! It is apparently a large volume with detailed accounts of our meetings. Unfortunately by the time we were able to take action we heard that it had been sold at a book fair in London in November.

If, by chance, you purchased it or know who did, please could you contact Peter Barber. We would of course be prepared to compensate for it. It is a document of the utmost importance to us and to the history of the Ticinesi in London. We'd very much like to return it to its proper home, among the rest of our archive on deposit in London Metropolitan Archives.

Very best wishes for 2018,

Rita Day-Giollo

**PRESIDENT**

## **VISIT TO THE GRAVES**

OCTOBER 2017

As is tradition, we met at St Pancras and Islington Cemetery to see the graves, the most important reminders of the Society's origins as a benevolent society. Members of Unione Ticinese still have a right of burial in them today. So they are an important part of our heritage, with a story – and a person - behind each name.

Members were invited join others in laying flowers on the Unione Ticinese graves.

## **CASTAGNATA**

NOVEMBER 2017

By kind permission of the Swiss Ambassador, Mr Alexandre Fasel, this year's much-anticipated Castagnata was held in the Embassy of Switzerland.

The Castagnata was very well attended and successful. It was good to see so many of the well-known members. The kitchen team, led by Christiane Barber, did us proud, as ever, serving the most succulent chestnuts served with the choice accompaniment of cold meats or a vegetarian alternative and cheeses – with, of course, wine!



# ST NICOLAO

## DECEMBER 2017

At the beginning of December, we held a traditional Festa di San Nicolao for the children and their families. It was a lovely and cosy event held in a nursery room with lots of toys and activities near Mornington Crescent.

Five lucky children attended with their families and they were treated to an extra special appearance by San Nicolao. There were some fantastic gifts, given to the children before San Nicolao continued his journey to meet all the other children on his 2017 list!

There was a buffet with plenty of good food and treats for everyone. The Unione Ticinese would very much like to thank Emilie Martinoni Hogenboom for organising the party and look forward to seeing more children at next year's party.



# SUBSCRIPTIONS

2018

The annual subscription of £25 is now due. If you pay by standing order, please check that the amount and the receiving account details are correct (there are a few people that have been paying into an old account):

<b>Payee:</b>	<b>Unione Ticinese</b>
<b>Sort Code:</b>	<b>30-64-57</b>
<b>Account No.:</b>	<b>46005060</b>

Please double check that your name is included as the reference so that we can mark your membership fee as paid.

Alternatively, cheques payable to "Unione Ticinese" can be sent to Stella Eusebio. Please write member names on the reverse of the cheque:

34 Ditton Hill Road  
Long Ditton  
Surrey  
KT6 5JD

## **NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND**

### **SCHWYTS-STOOS FUNICULAR**

A week before Christmas, the spectacular new Schwytz-Stoos funicular was opened.

It is the longest and steepest in the world and has barrel-shaped cabins that turn in such a way as to allow the passengers to permanently keep upright. Those of you who are going to be in the area this winter, will have the benefit to try it out. The snow, we are reliably informed, is superb this year.



## **BREXIT TALK**

### **THE BRITISH & SWISS DESTINY**

There's a forthcoming free event organised by the New Helvetic Society in association with FOSSUK. The Ambassador of Switzerland will talk on Brexit: what does it mean for the British and Swiss destiny in Europe? Details and booking information can be found here:

<http://www.newhelveticociety.org.uk/asset/596/NSH-Flyer-24.01.2018-Talk.pdf>

# TOMAMICHEL ANNIVERSARY EVENT

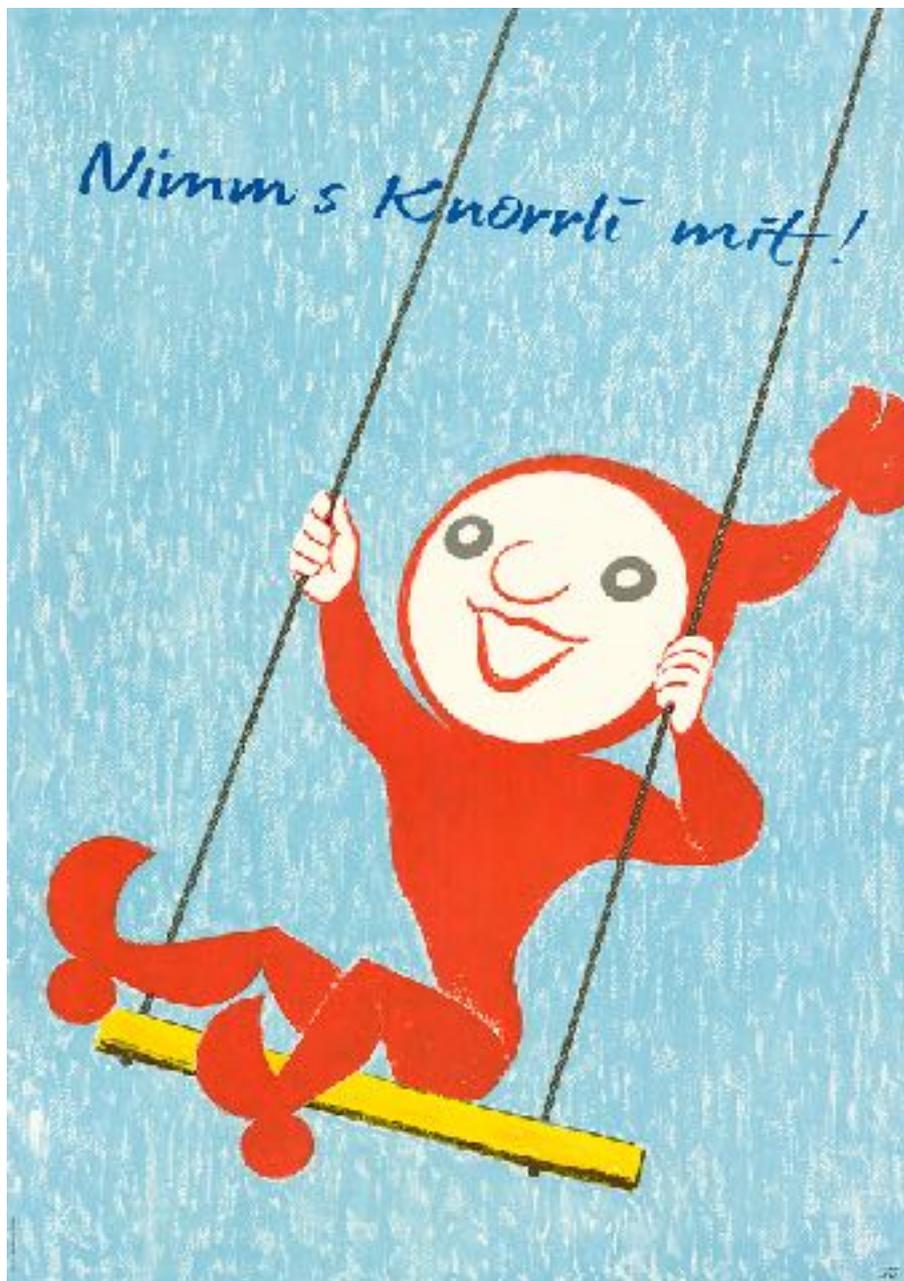
8 FEBRUARY 2018, 6:30PM

Embassy of Switzerland, 16 - 18 Montagu Road, London W1A 2BQ

On the 8th February we will be hosting an exciting event to mark the 144th year of our foundation in conjunction with the New Helvetic Society. A talk by Elisabeth Tomamichel on her father, the famous artist Hans Anton Tomamichel.

Best known as the designer behind Knorr Dwarf (Knorrli), you'll find out all about Tomamichel's life and work. After there will be a reception and a chance to toast the health of the Society.

Attendance is £10 for members and £15 for non-members. To reserve a seat, please fill in the accompanying form. We look forward to seeing many of you on this occasion.



## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

FUTURE EVENTS AT A GLANCE

You will be given full information on additional future events in later newsletters.

**THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2018**

**HANS TOMAMICHEL**

EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND

And for a full calendar of Swiss events please go here:

[www.swiss-societies.co.uk/events/index](http://www.swiss-societies.co.uk/events/index)