

L'ESCALADE

This year's celebrations will take place at
The Swiss Embassy, 16 – 18 Montagu Place, London W1H 2BQ on
10 December 2011 at 7pm

A brief history

When Charles Emmanuel came to the throne of the House of Savoy in 1580, he longed to make Geneva his capital north of the Alps and to crush Protestantism. Geneva was not part of Switzerland at the time. He failed.

The city of Geneva was attacked by Savoyard soldiers who attempted to climb the city ramparts during the night of 11 to 12 December 1602. The battle was severe, but the people of Geneva valiantly defended their town. One particular example of bravery was la Mère Royaume who climbed onto the ramparts and poured her cauldron of hot vegetable soup over the head of a Savoyard soldier.

Today L'Escalade is still celebrated by Genevans and their friends by singing the Cé qu'è l'ainô, which is the anthem of the canton of Geneva. Then the marmite, a chocolate cauldron filled with marzipan vegetables, is solemnly broken and of course eaten.

The menu

For this year's celebratory dinner is based on recipes from Geneva priced at **£15.00** for members of the New Helvetic Society and the Cercle Genevois, **£20.00** for non-members and **£7.50** for children under 10. Wine and soft drinks are included.

La soupe de la Mère Royaume, vegetable soup
Fricassée de porc à la Genevoise, fricassee of pork
Tarte aux poires à la Genevoise, pear tart



POST TENEBRAS LUX

I/We will be attending the Escalade celebrations

Name(s): _____

Tel.No.: _____

Number of meals	at £15.00:	£
	at £20.00:	£
	at £7.50:	<u>£</u>

Total: £

Number of vegetarian meals:

As booking is essential, please return this slip by Tuesday 06.12.2011 with your cheque made payable to New Helvetic Society, c/o Swiss Embassy, 16 – 18 Montagu Place, London W1H 2BQ.

Please note: no tickets or confirmations of booking are issued and fees cannot be paid at the door.