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## 16th SPRING MEET - CARLISLE - 8th March 1997

### The above event is your exhibition.

#### LAYOUTS or DISPLAYS

If you have a layout or any item for display let Willie Mc Knight know as soon as possible. Tel: 01236 729499

#### PHOTO PRINT COMPETITION

Photos should not exceed 7" x 5" and should fall into the following categories:-

1. Swiss Railways
2. Swiss Scenery
3. Humour

All photos must be taken in Switzerland.

All photos should be clearly marked with the owners name.

Entries will be accepted at the Bring & Buy stand at the meeting.

There will be a small prize for each category.

## Around the Branches by John Stokes

The objective of this new section of the Branch Diary column of the Swiss Express is to inform members of the events that have taken place at the various branches around the country. By giving readers a flavour of the meetings and events that the branches have organised, it is hoped that this may encourage other members to go along and see for themselves what goes on. I know that seeing cold words printed giving important but stark details does not convey the actual atmosphere of the occasion.

### Bristol & Bath

Oct. 18: Twenty two members attended a slide/talk show entitled 'Aspects of the Graubünden' given by Andy Nelson. The illustrated talk from the holidays Andy has taken in the area, which covered all the respective lines of the RhB, FO, BVZ showing not only locomotives and scenery but also the freight stock and the important railway structures on the lines. Andy also included pictures of his Bemo layout to show what could be achieved with modelling a particular line. He was also able to show how major bridges were constructed using historical photographs which had been copied from books and transferred to slides.

### East Midlands

Meetings are held in the upstairs "Board Room" of a 'real ale' pub (it also brews its own brand), and are held on the last Thursday of alternate months (except May when the meeting may be moved to avoid clashes with the Spring Bank Holiday). Most meetings have a speaker - either from within the branch or a guest from elsewhere. A small charge

is made (£1) per person to help cover the speakers expenses.

Sept. 26 'Railways of the Jura', seventeen members were present for a slide show and talk given by Alan Pike OBE (S.R.S Vice President) on the railways of the Jura region of Switzerland. Alan usually speaks at our September meetings which are always well attended.

### Manchester

Meetings are held in the upstairs room at the British Rail Staff Association Club in Store Street, underneath Piccadilly station, on the first Wednesday of each month. Being a private club the refreshments are easier on the pocket than most pubs and with the station above and trams below, transport could not be easier. Parking is not normally a problem after 7 p.m. Branch members contribute about three quarters of the year's events with the remainder being given by guests.

July 3: "Railway Walks", some twenty six members attended a slide presentation given by Andy and Jackie Micklethwaite (Manchester Branch members) showing some of the spectacular high level walks around the Martigny region that they had undertaken in the past.

Aug 6: "European Meanderings" was the title of an excellent slide presentation by Charlie Hulme enjoyed by fifteen members in the middle of the holiday season.

Sept. 4: "Presidents Choice" eighteen members enjoyed a collection of slides from Dave Howsam (Branch Organiser) covering North Eastern Switzerland as suggested by H.R. Hauser-Gubser (S.R.S. President).