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EuroShuttle

The Red Train a mystery no more! Hugh Edgley

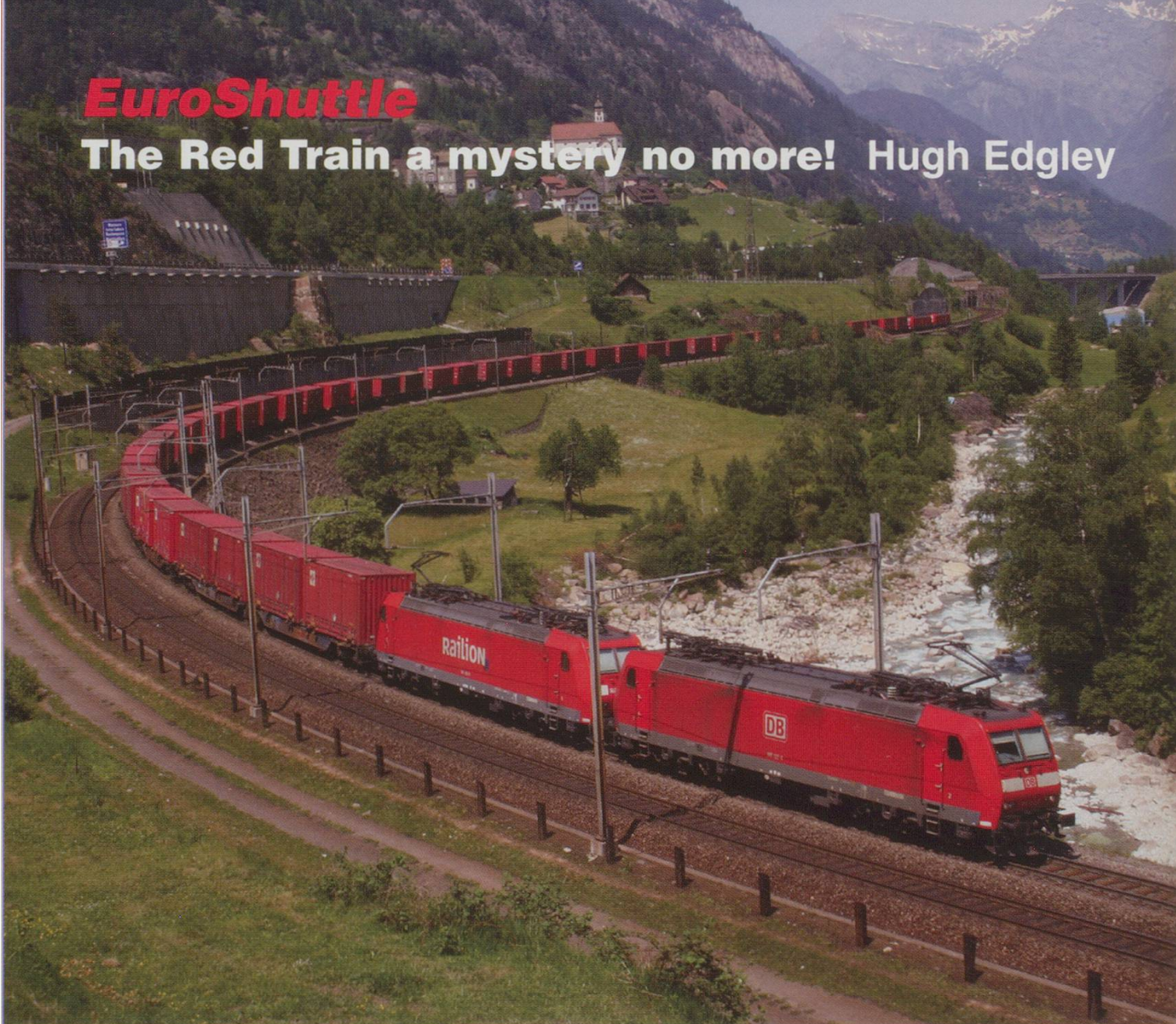


Photo: David Adams Thursday 15/06/2006. 185132/185108 leading, 185139/185103 at the rear.

This is for anyone who has ever wondered about the “Red Trains” that ply the Gotthard line, or wanted to see David Adam’s ‘afternoon spectacle’ mentioned in June’s Swiss Express...

Danish company EuroShuttle operates block trains between terminals in Scandinavia, Italy and Germany, for onward delivery by truck direct to the receiver, or via warehousing. EuroShuttle is an international transport company established in 1991 that specialises in handling combined European Road/Rail/Road transportation with swap bodies. A large number of their 2100 plain red swap bodies are specially equipped to transport paper. EuroShuttle is a neutral operator working directly for its customers and those of major European forwarding companies.

EuroShuttle handles 6 to 7 weekly block trains in each direction between Scandinavia and Italy, and 5 to 6 weekly block trains in each direction between Scandinavia and Germany. Hallsberg in Sweden is used as an assembly point for traffic for Maschen yard, Hamburg, which in turn is used as a hub for onward travel throughout Germany and Switzerland and on to the Castelguelfo Railport, near Parma in Italy.

The EuroShuttle block trains comprise up to 16 articulated container wagons each able to carry 4 swap bodies (2 full lorry loads) – a block train has a length of up to 550 metres. (Bogie sliding wall vans are sometimes added to the consist).

This article is based on information from EuroShuttle’s website www.euroshuttle.dk