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SRS 2019 AGM

Please do not forget that our AGM will be on the 13th April in Derby. It has returned to our usual venue, the Hallmark Midland Hotel, but it is a month later in order to try and ensure better weather as you travel to attend it. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible there. The last date for booking and paying for tickets for the Saturday evening dinner is 1st April, details of the menu choices and payment details are in the full page AGM advertisement in this magazine.

Website Members' Area

The 2019 password for the "Members' Area" of the Society's website is printed on your 2019 membership card this will be valid until the end of January 2020. You can now read and download all issues of *Swiss Express* from 2011 to 2017.

Warley Show

The 2018 National Model Railway Exhibition was held at the NEC on the 24th/25th November. As normal the SRS had a stand at the event thanks to the hard work of our Exhibitions and Publicity Officer Bill Salter. Members Derek Morris, Steve Tinsley, Martin Fisher and Glyn and Pam Jones assisted him over the weekend. Apparently some 16,000 people attended the show, many of whom saw our display.



SRS on Facebook

The SRS has a Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/swissrailwaysociety/>

It is hoped that being on Facebook will promote the Society and will be a vehicle where we can put announcements at short notice. We also have a Facebook Group page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/swissrailwaysociety/> Members can join, ask questions, post photos and videos. Please 'like' our Facebook page and join this closed group and make use of it.

Member's Photographs

When submitting photographs as part of an article or possible inclusion in the 'Member's Photo Gallery', please ensure you supply them with captions. Also, if you are the photographer or credited to a third party.

Member's letters

From: Robert Worthington. By email.

Swiss Miniature – for real! In 2009 I visited Lugano with my wife and son and we spent a very enjoyable few hours at the Swiss Miniature model exhibition. Then my wife decided

that we should see as many of the exhibits as possible "for real". We try to holiday in Switzerland every year and we have so far seen 111 of the 129 sites using our wonderful Swiss Passes. We have visited many lovely places, of which quite a few are off the tourist beaten track! This is a highly recommended way of seeing Switzerland, but don't include the 'Lion d'O'Inn in Oberaach (TG) in any trips - it was burnt down in 1984!

From: Michael Donovan By Email

RhB Clarification and Information. I have just been reading my article 'Autumn on the Rhätische Bahn' in the December *Swiss Express* and I spotted an interesting typo of my own making. I referred to a train from Landeck to St Moritz via the Engadin, when I should have put LANDQUART to St Moritz... No, they haven't built the once proposed extension into Austria while I've been looking the other way!

In the same article I noted that I was unsure of the extent of the 'switchable catenary' at Pontresina. Fellow SRS member Adrian Friend has kindly confirmed that both Platform 2 and the adjacent through line at the station have the necessary switchable electrical supply arrangements to allow trains arriving, using 11,000v AC, to switch to 1,000v DC - and the other way. The voltage is shown by indicators under the platform canopy and adjacent to the protecting signals. I had not been aware of these signals, which are shown here thanks to Adrian. There is also a 'blank' display that is shown when the lines are not electrified.



Live at 1,000v DC.

Live at 11,000v AC



Member's advertisements

For sale:

BEMO Models - HOm RhB Locomotives and rolling stock (changing to BVZ!) also 'Swiss Express' magazines - Most issues June 06 to date. 75p each and postage. J. Hargaden, 21, Woodfield Gdns. Hereford. HR2 9RN. 01432 508316. hargaden@pobroadband.co.uk

SWISS RAILWAYS SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SPRING GET-TOGETHER

Saturday 13th April 2019 – 10.00 to 16.30 (AGM commences at 15:30)

At the Hallmark Midland Hotel, Midland Road, Derby DE1 2SQ

Tel: 0330 028 3405

(Directly opposite Derby Railway Station)

Members attending the weekend events can park free of charge at the hotel but should register their vehicles on the terminal at the hotel reception.

The Get-Together will be held in the "Garden Room" and the AGM in the "Edale Room".

Guests and friends are also welcome to the Get-Together, but a donation of £2 per person would be appreciated.

Confirmed Traders: Contikits, Gerald Savine Prints, NScaleCh, Platform 5, SRS Sales and Switzerland Travel Centre and Hornby International.

In addition there will be a "Bring and Buy" Stall and a Raffle.

Andreas Perren (Perren Cab Rides) will be attending the AGM.

Confirmed Layouts: Bärental und Dorf (HOM), Chlâtère (HO), SGK – Bahn (Sm Rack), Cronenberg (HO Trolley Bus), Wolfsberg (HO), Cernet SBB/BLS (N).

Swiss Railway Films will be shown in the Edale Room throughout the day.

There will be a dinner after the AGM on the Saturday evening commencing at 18:30.

The Menu will be:

Starters: Seasonal Vegetable Soup with Double Cream and Fragrant Red Amaranth or Pressed Ham Hock and Honey Terrine

Main Course: Pan Roasted Chicken with Fondant Potatoes and Mediterranean Vegetables or Pork Tenderloin served on a Colcannon Mashed Potato and English Cider Jus

Desert: Profiteroles filled with Sweetened Cream topped with a Warm Chocolate Sauce and Fresh Fruit or Apple and Rhubarb under an Oaty Baked Crumble with a Traditional Custard Sauce

Coffee or Tea with Chocolate Mints.

In addition there will be a Vegetarian Option for each course.

The cost will be £26.00 per person excluding wine.

Andreas Perren (Perren Cab Rides) will talk about his experiences filming the Cab Rides after the meal along with a Quiz

Bookings can be made by sending a cheque for the appropriate amount to:

Glyn Jones, 13 Welland Close, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs DE15 0AG

Please state your menu choices and include a stamped addressed envelope for the return of your tickets - don't forget to state your menu choice. The last date for bookings will be 1st April.

WHY NOT JOIN US FOR THE WEEKEND?

There will be a talk in the Hotel's Edale Room on the Friday evening commencing at 20:00 by Paul Russenberger entitled: "Another Look at Switzerland"

Hotel Accommodation

Single Rooms will cost £65.00 for one night or £124.00 for two nights,

Double Rooms will cost £112.00 for one night or £210.00 for two nights.

Rates include VAT, free Wi-Fi and full English breakfast.

A table d'hôte dinner will be available on the Friday evening - £22.00 for three courses, booked upon arrival at the hotel.

Room bookings should be made direct with the hotel quoting the "Swiss Railways Society", or if booking on-line, use the code "SWS18" to get these rates.

These rates may not be the cheapest available and there are plenty of other hotels in the area.

It is worthwhile to sign-up to the Hallmark Hotels promotional email service.

Please note that the Austrian Railway Group is holding their AGM at the Aston Court Hotel, Derby, (across the road from the Midland Hotel) on the same day. Members can get free admission to the ARG Get-Together on production of their Swiss Railways Society Membership Card.