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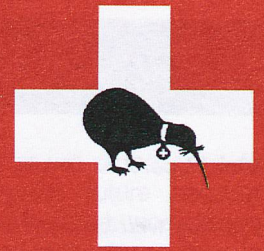
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Driverless shuttles in Switzerland

Sion, the capital of the Swiss canton of Valais, is one of the most important pre-historic sites in Europe. It is dominated by the famous hills of Valeria and Tourbillon and is about to add to its history books as it tests the new self-driving SmartShuttle.



Photo: swiss-image.ch

Highlights

- Exchange of financial information
- Life Story – Waldvogel
- Swiss Architecture
- Switzerland's Underground
- Basler Fasnacht

Inside

| | |
|--|-------|
| Word from President and Editor | 2 |
| Exchange of financial information | 3 |
| Swiss Success | 4 |
| Melbourne CSA and Embassy News | 5 |
| Life Story Waldvogels | 6-7 |
| Swiss Architecture | 8-9 |
| Switzerland's Underground | 10-11 |
| Basler Fasnacht | 11 |
| Kids' Corner | 12 |
| Apprentice Yodeller/Recipe | 13 |
| Club News | 14-18 |
| Obituary | 18 |
| Father Yvans's Update List of Officers | 19 |
| Photo Gallery | 20 |

Acting on behalf of Swiss Post, PostBus Switzerland Ltd together with other partners, such as the City of Sion, the Canton Valais and the ETH Lausanne is testing two autonomous vehicles in Sion over two years. The vehicles developed by Navya, a company based in France, run on electricity alone. The two shuttles are transporting up to eleven people at a maximum of 20 km/h through the streets of the capital of the Valais.

There will always be specially trained personnel on board, but the vehicles run fully automatically and do not have a steering wheel, accelerator or brake pedal. However, there is an emergency button to stop the vehicle if need be. Thanks to state-of-the-art sensors, the vehicles are guided to the centimetre when moving through the streets, and they recognize any obstacles and signals on the road during the day and at night. A programme created by the Swiss start-up BestMile, monitors and controls the two autonomous vehicles. Since the approval of the pilot project by the responsible authorities, the autonomous

shuttles have been operating in public areas since June 2016 and are transporting people in the pedestrian zone and shared space in Sion's old town. If the tests in this area are successful, the vehicles may also be introduced on other routes in the city of Sion.

