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SOCIETY NOTICEBOARD

From the Society Chairman

There is no Editorial in this edition because the Editor is in hospital. Readers may know that, early last year, Malcolm and his wife were severely injured in a car accident.

Treatment has been almost continuous and Malcolm is now undergoing bone surgery. Not only is this very painful but it also involves a period of several weeks of almost complete immobility.

It is a tribute to Malcolm's courage and determination that he has continued to produce, on time, what I consider to be an excellent journal. The responsibility for any defects in this edition can be placed firmly on my shoulders as I, assisted by John Jesson (who does most of the work) have assembled it.

I am sure you would wish me to extend to Malcolm and his wife our very good wishes. I know that he is anxious to recover the Swiss Express from the hands of we amateurs and to continue his preparation of a new, and different, book about the Gotthard.

From the Membership Secretary

SPRING MEET AND AGM

May I remind you that the Society's Spring Meet incorporating the AGM will take place in the Lakeland Suite at the Portland Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester on Saturday 18th March 1989. The Meet will be opened by the Chairman at 11.30 a.m. and the AGM will commence at 3.00 p.m. Confirmed attractions at the meeting include two model railways, model displays, P & K Models, Robert Spark Railway Literature, RV Television Video, multi prize raffle, society stand, swap stall and of course, a private bar. Anyone wishing to exhibit any of their work please contact me as soon as possible. Guests and friends are welcome to attend the meet but a small donation is expected.

The hotel is very conveniently situated close to Piccadilly station and there is a car park exclusive to the hotel across the road.

It is not too late to book for the Dinner to follow the Meet. This will take place at the same location at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Tickets must be reserved quickly from: Mr. P. Donbavand, 80 Winifred Road, Davenport, Stockport, Cheshire SK2 6HG. Tickets are £13.50 and again friends and guests are welcome. Full menu and conditions in last Swiss Express.

If you wish to stay overnight and have not reserved your room through Phil Donbavand bookings must now be made direct to the hotel. Quote the society for special rate.

No organised visits have been arranged for the Sunday but I recommend the Greater Manchester Museum of Science and Technology — with many new exhibits — or the Granada Studio Tour — more expensive but it is worthwhile. Both are within easy reach of the hotel. More ideas of visits at the Meet. If Gary Hartman can make the trip for a second time from the USA it must be worth **you** giving us a visit.

See you on the 18th MARCH 1989 at the Portland Hotel.

Front Cover:

Rh.B. ABe4/4 Nos. 44 and 49 at Ospizio Bernina

Photo: P. Over

One small point regarding membership. I am delighted to have received so many new applications for membership in the past two years. It is apparent that many members have access to forms for application for membership and are using these to good effect. Unfortunately many of these are out of date — some by three years — and as a result time or money is lost in processing the application because the wrong subscription is tendered. New forms present a better image of the society and enable me to process the application more easily. They can be obtained from the secretary or myself. For urgent, impulsive applications please ensure the current subs of £8.00 U.K. and £11.00 overseas (not USA) are shown!

EXPRESS POST

It is with deepest regrets that we learn of the death of Rupert Taylor, a member of the Society in October, 1988. He has written many articles in the "Railway World" and was a great contributor to the cause of the D.F.B. To his wife Priska I, on behalf of the Swiss Railway Society would like to offer our deepest sympathy at the news of her bereavement.

SWISSRAIL '89 June 16th to June 23rd inclusive, based on Martigny and Lucerne, including BVZ, MOB, Centovalli, Gotthard, SOB and Lucerne Transport Museum. Swissair scheduled flight to and from Heathrow, first class Holiday Card, half board with private shower and w.c., insurance. £457.00 for 8 days. Contact: C.J. Freezer, 22 Concorde Drive, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP2 4AW. Telephone: (0442) 62271.

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