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AGM Report

March 25th saw 140 members and wives and friends meet at the Midland Hotel, Derby, for the exhibition prior to the AGM.

Those there saw members throwing money at Winco, MITV, Great Little Trains, Ffestiniog Travel and Picture Pride Cabinets.

Members were also able to investigate several layouts, David Broomfields 'Maloja', Peter Dransfields 'Dransbahn', The Letchworth MRC's 'Touch of Switzerland' a working display of RhB in LGB by Peter Jiggins, Mike Baggs computerised 'St. Niklaus' and Andy Micklethwaites PC controlled system. Also with her book Maureen Cooling.

The Society sales stand, sold out of SBB and SRS china beakers, ties and lapel pins (all since replenished), new items included three limited edition plates, a green crocodile, a green Ae3/6 and a red Re 460.015 this has since been repainted in Agfa livery. All available at £14.99 including postage.

The AGM is covered in the minutes which are enclosed separately with this copy of Swiss Express, but welcome to the committee, Dave Howsam and John Stokes.

Fifty members, wives and friends were entertained by Rico Signore, late of the SNTO at a meal in the evening, he highlighted the long standing friendship between Switzerland and the UK together with the various items which helped set up that friendship.

The evening ended in some dissaray with everyone claiming to have won Cyril and Nicks slide competition. Answers ranged from a bad day on Snowdon to a Blackpool tram and of course the real answers from those who know. The prize for the winner was a blown projector bulb.

Funds were improved by the efforts of Sandra Bayford, Giles Baker and Glyn Jones who used every possible means to raise £149 on the raffles.

If you didn't come you missed a splendid weekend, you will have the chance again on March 9th 1996 at the Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham, organised by the Manchester branch, so don't miss out again.

Tomas Sheard

Editors Jottings

Firstly I would like to thank Cyril for the faith he has placed in me to carry on from him as editor of the Swiss Express, Cyril will be a very hard act to follow. He brought many years of experience to the magazine and has steered it to the success it is today.

Andy Nelson has now taken over as the Publicity & Exhibitions Officer. This is an opportunity for me to thank all the members up and down the country who have come along to exhibitions and supported me with the Society's stand, I know that Andy Nelson can count on your support in the future.

I have looked at the questionnaires that members returned with the renewal form and over the next few issues I will attempt to give you what you have asked for. **I am the editor of the magazine not the writer**, so, I must ask you all to send in articles. If you have the words and not

the neccesary photographs I may be able to acquire them from other members, so please write that article you keep meaning to do. Of course, there may not be room to publish them all, but I will do my best. I hope you like my first edition of the magazine, please write and tell me what YOU think about it? Please keep the copy coming, it is YOUR magazine.

Copy date for the next issue is 20th July.

Steam Festival

The Third Sumiswald Festival of Steam will be held on the 12 and 13 August 1995, there will be 9 locos in steam, and in addition at Huttwil there will be a display of EBT loco's and rolling stock and the depot will be open to the public.