

Zeitschrift: Swiss express : the Swiss Railways Society journal
Herausgeber: Swiss Railways Society
Band: 4 (1994-1996)
Heft: 7

Rubrik: Chairman's notes

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Chairman's Notes

As I write this, the rain is busily ensuring that the grass grows ever longer. Hopefully, the weather has enabled some of you to extend the traditional modelling season and so make use of what seems to have become the usual British June weather! Personally, my modelling had to stop a while back so that I could catch up on decorating.

The June issue of "Swiss Express" contained an invitation from Les Heath, our new Editor, to tell him what you thought of his first edition. I am pleased to say that there has been some response. I am also pleased to say that Les is not going to be boiled in oil, or anything else unsavoury. I will let him tell you the improvements he plans, if he wants to. After all, he may wish to surprise you!

One query has been raised which, perhaps, warrants an explanation. The magazine is

usually despatched by Willy McKnight. On occasions, the June issue being one, someone else does it is intended that all magazines shall be despatched together, but this is not always possible and it is possible that different batches will either catch or miss the post for the day. When combined with inevitable hiccups in the Post Office deliveries, there can be a difference of several days in delivery. This can lead to misunderstandings, and I ask your tolerance of the differences in delivery times. There are over 900 magazines, plus any inclusions, to put into envelopes, label and stamp, a somewhat onerous task! By the way, all Society members, including the Officers, receive their magazine by the same means. Only the Editor gets a preview but, as he does the work, I suppose we shall have to allow this!

John Jesson

Secretary's Report

The Management Committee is at the present time continuing its discussions with a view to reaching an agreement to provide credit card facilities. It is very encouraging to learn of new groups being formed in various areas, and the Committee has appointed a Branch Co-ordinator, John Stokes, at the Committee meeting on the 29th July: details elsewhere in this issue. A constant increase in Society membership gives an encouraging sign for the future and also reflects on the hard work of the Committee. It has recently come to the notice of the Committee that the Australasian Branch now has 36 members - 16 from Australia and 20 from New Zealand. On the exhibition front the Society will within the next few months be represented at a number of exhibitions - look for details in this issue. As a matter of interest the Australasian Branch do have events coming up at which it is expected that the Society is to be represented. These are Dunedin (August) Christchurch (October) Wellington (November) and Pleasant Point/Timaru (March 96). The Society is active in further pastures than just the UK. There is a bi-

annual European Modellers Convention to be held in Sydney in June time 1996 and hopefully the Australasian Branch will represent the Society there. Remember, too, the Society sales section - the holiday period will soon be fading out and Christmas is coming?

Peter Dransfield

Luzern Bridge

Having repaired the burnt out Kappelbrücke in record time, the good burghers of Luzern have taken to bridge replacement with elan. The Seebrücke is currently being replaced by a new structure, with a pair of temporary bridges on either side taking the traffic with minimal inconvenience. The duck pens have been moved closer to the old bridge and Pier 1 has been extended outward by at least 10m, as a consequence. Large explanatory diagrams on either side explain what is being done and give projected dates for the project's various stages. If kept, by next summer all should be as before.

NJF