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Another departure at the forthcoming AGM is Giles Della Gana who will be standing down from the Management Committee. The Society is greatly indebted to Giles for the many years of service he has given as a member of the Management Committee. His services will not be lost however, as he will continue as Librarian and London Branch Organiser.

The whole nature of the Library has changed over the last year and Giles has put a great deal of work into preparing boxes of selected library books for the branches to loan out to their members. This scheme is in its early stages and its success depends on support from the membership. We have a wide range of books especially related to Swiss railways and it seems a waste of resources that they just sit gathering dust on the shelves of the Library.

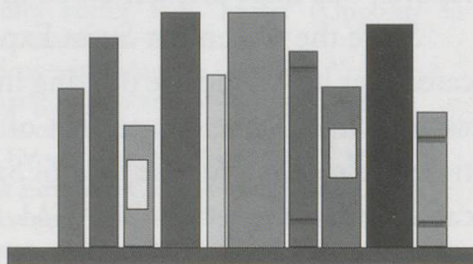
I must draw your attention to the AGM and Spring Meet at the Midland Hotel, Derby on 18th March. We have four model layouts booked for the Spring Meet as well as trade participation. The doors open at 11.00 hrs and guests are welcome on payment of a donation. The AGM, which is for members only, starts at 14.30 hrs and the Spring Meet will continue after the AGM until about 17.00 hrs. Although the closing date for bookings for the dinner has passed, it may be possible to take a few late bookings. In which case please advise the Secretary immediately, enclosing a cheque for £13.50 per person.

On the evening prior to the AGM, 17th March, the East Midlands Branch will be holding at 20.00 hrs their monthly meeting at the Brunswick Hotel, Derby. This is about 5 minutes walk from the Midland Hotel and Railway Station and all members and their guests are welcome. Richard Pinner will be giving a talk entitled "A Holiday in Brig".

The Society web site <http://www.btinternet.com/~srs.uk> now has the contents of the December Swiss Express listed as well as a few dates in the Society calendar. Any information, such as links, which members feel could be added would be gratefully received by the Secretary for consideration. Meanwhile all members preparing their own web sites should be aware that the Society logo is copyright and should not be used in any context. It would also be appreciated if links could be created to the Society's web site rather than individuals writing their own, or paraphrasing the Society's text.

LIBRARY SHELVES - THE SBB LIBRARY - Giles Della Gana

As a result of my appeal in last December's issue of 'Swiss Express' I was sent copies of 'Railway Holiday in Switzerland' and 'Swiss Travel Wonderland' by the archive section of the SBB in Bern. I feel that this is not only a most generous gesture in itself, but shows also that our Society is highly regarded by 'the powers that be'. I am told that 'Swiss Express' is read at the highest levels.



The SBB's library is somewhat larger than ours. It contains some 40,000 books, 1000 periodicals and 600 reports covering technology, economics, social sciences and law from Switzerland and other countries. Recent books and articles have been placed on a database called appropriately 'SWISSBASE'.

Address : Room D87, Mittelstr. 43, CH-3000, Bern 65

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