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it is now possible to take the "Engadine Star" which makes a circular trip from Chur to Klosters, through the Tunnel to St. Moritz and back along the Albula line to Chur. While Sagliains is now a passenger station incorporated into the timetable so passengers can change here from other services in the Engadine, at the northern tunnel portal the station at Selfranga is only for the car transporter service and no passenger trains will halt here. The car transporter service will operate year round and as a consequence there will be no attempt to keep the Fluela pass road open in winter.

While the 19th was for invited guests only, the RhB opened their new facility to the public over the weekend for a two day "Tunnelfest", and were overwhelmed with visitors. The car transporter wagons were fitted with bench seats to give people an open-air ride through the Vereina tunnel, and refreshment stalls, local produce and information was on hand at either end. On the

Saturday a world record was organised. The Director of St. Moritz Tourist Office, Hans-Peter Danuser assembled 222 alphorn players to perform a specially composed piece. This was a splendid sight as the participants, who came from all corners of Switzerland, were dressed in their local costumes. Flag throwers accompanied them in their performances, first at Selfranga, and then, after a trip through the tunnel, at Sagliains where they filled most of the platform.

On the Monday, with celebrations over and the clearing up operation taking place, normal services came into operation with a new timetable being implemented. Certainly on day 1, when we filmed along the line, loadings were heavy and the passengers we spoke to were most enthusiastic about this new route. The RhB are looking forward to an optimistic future in the 21st century, and I for one certainly hope they will find a good excuse for a party again before too long.

EXHIBITIONS REPORT - Andy Nelson

Into the new century and already it's time to plan your trips. Loads of offers around at the moment, especially on the new "no frills" airlines. The secret is to book as far in advance as possible and know your return times and dates. Be careful though as if you do change the dates there is usually quite a premium to pay.

I will be attending the SRS AGM at Derby assisting our Sales Officer with the Society Sales and look forward to meeting you there.

Finally if you have a Swiss layout which you are exhibiting at any shows in the future let me know so that we can spread the word around the land. Try to give me as much notice as possible, three months at least.

The SRS Stand together with my own diorama "The Wrong Kind of Snow" (see Dec. 98 CM) will be attending the exhibitions listed below. Come along and meet us and buy those indispensable Society items from the Sales List.

18th March

SRS AGM - Derby

17th June

Newmarket Continental Exhibition - St Felix Middle School, Fordham Road

23rd September

GRS Continental Show at Oxford (TBC)