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THE EDITOR HAS HIS SAY

Another magazine, late as ever. Thanks for your patience.

PLANE VS TRAIN

I planned and went on a visit to Switzerland in early May again this year. Good time to go as the weather is pretty good, but it is not too warm or humid. Fares and hotels can be cheaper too. This time I went with easyJet to Basel. Out on a Thursday back the following Wednesday for £31 return. Whilst I might like to go by train out of loyalty and to some extent out of interest the fares and the time taken make it a non-starter. Even the difficulty of booking Eurostar and onward journeys on the internet are legendary compared to the utter simplicity of booking with easyJet. I do realise that airfares go up the nearer the time to travel. For example at the time of writing the same journey in late July would be £85 on easyJet. Mind you the train fare would be £129 from London, I would have to drag across Paris from Gare du Nord to Gare de l'Est in both directions, get myself to Waterloo, where I cannot park a car, meaning I would have to add hotels in London or get someone to drop me off or pick me up, and lose two days off the holiday as the plane arrives at 0945 and leaves at 2100. Where is the incentive to travel by train? Answer there isn't any. The airlines are seamless, straightforward and cheap.

I suspect this is not what members generally want to hear but do you have an alternative, do you think I am wrong? I would be interested to hear from you.

ARTICLES FOR SWISS EXPRESS

I have plenty of stuff for the next edition but like to have things up my sleeve. Regular readers will have noticed that over the past couple of years some new names have appeared. The reason is simple; new blood is essential for the good of the magazine. Old blood keeps things going, ensures stability and provides continuity. Every now and again someone new comes along and refreshes the blood. Many of I know will have been to Switzerland this year. Why not write about your experiences and share them with us all together with some now and topical pictures.

SACKCLOTH & ASHES DEPARTMENT

Some time ago Swiss Express received an article from a Mr Mason about Untervaz on the RhB. It's a really good article and I want to use it. The problem is that I do not have the pictures to accompany it. We must have had them as I do have previews, which I use for layout. If you are Mr Mason and recognise this and have been wondering why those miserable so and so's haven't used your article, well now you know. Please get in touch with me as soon as you can.

MEMBERS ADVERTS

For Sale: Bemo HOM models, all new and boxed as supplied by Winco. RhB steam loco 108 (1290 118) £208.00; 3 RhB coaches (s.a.e. for list please); BOB coach AB212 (3277 712) £42.00. Postage extra at cost, please. Layout plans shelved to help fund granddaughter's music lessons.

Contact: Michael Farr, 1 Trethurgy Gardens, Callington, Cornwall. PL17 7RG

For Sale: Die Model-Eisenbahn/Loki. Complete 1981-2001. Excellent condition, £11 per year. Offers considered for multiple years. Buyer collects or postage at cost.

Contact: Roger Vine. Tel: 01634 864843 (Kent)

