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COVER PICTURE:

C56 2978 leaving
Erstfeld on
8th September.

PHOTO: Phil Weaver.

EDITORIAL Malcolm Bulpitt

First an apology from both David Baker, the Society Archivist, and myself. Having decided to reintroduce an edition number on the cover starting with the last magazine we believed that 76 was the correct one. Not so – and we should have been more alert to realise our mistake. It should have been Number 92, so this magazine becomes Number 93. The surprise has been that no-one has contacted us to point out the error of our ways.

Secondly some of you may have noticed that the SRS website was down for a while at the end of November. For reasons too complex to go into here we lost our domain name and this also resulted in all the email addresses linked to the Society (as listed at the front of the magazine) going down. If you tried to contact any of the officers at that time your emails are probably still out there in cyberspace. Thanks to a lot of work by Neil Wheelwright, and I understand the co-operation of his employers, we are now re-established in the electronic age. I hope that I will not have to write a third editorial explaining computer problems that have been afflicting *Swiss Express* and the SRS.

Finally, thanks to all of you who have sent in photos, news items and potential articles for the magazine over the last few weeks. The team will do their to fit everything in over 2008, and we are always looking for more things. Switzerland has the most diverse and interesting railway infrastructure in Europe so if you see something that interests you remember that it will probable interest your fellow members, so photograph it and tell us about it.

JUST A SEC Roger Ellis

Silly Grandad!

It is a compliment that I am known as such by my son Simon's two daughters, Rebecca and Victoria. I cannot think why, when members of the Society only know me as being shy, reserved and unassuming! (Incidentally before many of you ask, yes, I am old enough to have granddaughters). However, this brings me in a roundabout way to asking members if they know of any way in which we can attract younger persons to join the Society? The SNCF Society have 'junior membership', but I don't think that this is necessarily the answer. I am sure many society's and special interest related groups would tell a similar story, but that does not mean that we cannot come up with a solution. We have our new prospectus, and the web site has been much improved of late. Can I ask you to think of any other ways in which we can get younger persons involved in the Society? After all they are the future and may even replace 'Silly Grandad' as Secretary.

Erstfeld 2009

To date about twenty persons have expressed an interest in coming to Erstfeld for the proposed 2009 Social Event, which I think is a little short of the minimum number I need. However I will be going to Switzerland in the autumn, and I will discuss with Paul at