

Zeitschrift: Swiss express : the Swiss Railways Society journal
Herausgeber: Swiss Railways Society
Band: - (2011)
Heft: 108

Artikel: Streetwise in the rain : Jason Sargerson visits the Togener Bahn
Autor: Sargerson, Jason
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-854720>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 19.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

STREETWISE IN THE RAIN

Jason Sargerson visits the Togener Bahn



ABOVE: Be 4/8 No 35 at Market Place, St Gallen.
LEFT: Be 4/8 No 32 and a bus in front of Bahnhof.

PHOTOS: Jason Sargerson

This article could be titled "What to do when it rains?" as, for some reason, I often visit St Gallen when the weather is poor. I have visited in a snow blizzard in the winter, and twice in the summer when it has poured with rain - as you can see from the photographs.

The Togener Bahn (TB), now part of the Appenzelbahn group of railways, starts its journey to its namesake town from outside the main station at St Gallen. This metre-gauge line is 10 km long, began operations in 1893, is electrified at 1,000 V dc and has its main depot en-route at Speicher. Most of the frequent services use its latest Be 4/8 units, two of which were introduced in 2004, with a further three in 2008. These units, named for local communities, were built by Stadler and originally suffered from major noise problems, resulting from issues with the

interface between the wheel flanges and the track. Two BDe 4/8 units, Nos 22 & 23 dating from 1975, are now held in reserve. Similar units Nos 21 & 24 were sold to the Italian Rittnerbahn some two years ago, whilst another was scrapped.

St Gallen's main station is a busy junction for trains in the north east of Switzerland and, in addition to the TB services terminating in the street immediately outside, the separate Appenzelbahn terminus is also found there. As has been noted in *Swiss Express*, plans are in-hand to link the two operations. Inconsiderate vehicle users can affect operations here. A car seen parked on the TB tracks in 2009 was apparently in the same spot in 2010! Trains to Toggenburg traverse the length of the station past the bus stops on a section of double track that continues up Bahnhofstrasse and round to Marketplatz. A train I used had to slow considerably to make sure it passed a 4x4 that stuck out of its parking place on Bahnhofstrasse. Services continue on-street in St Gallen to Schülerhaus, before gaining a roadside reservation and heading uphill on a single track. Good views of St Gallen can be seen on the left when it is not raining, and despite the weather I could just make out Lake Constance in the distance. I must return on a fine day! Speicher, with its depot and passing loop, is the summit of the line, after which it descends and curves around into Toggenburg. Here the driver walks from the front cab to the back cab and almost immediately begins the return journey. The schedule is tight as the journey from St Gallen to Toggenburg takes 25 minutes and the basic service frequency is every 30 minutes, although this doubles in the peaks. PostAuto connections from the terminus allow circular trips utilising other parts of the Appenzelbahn (AB) and other railways around St Gallen. 

Be 4/8 No 32 at Bahnhofstrasse.

