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JUNE 2013 – A BLS CELEBRATION

Roger Ellis



TOP: Preserved BLS 205 in December 2009.

LEFT: RhB 707 at Filisur in 2012.

Photos: Roger Ellis



The 100th Anniversary of the BLS, occurs next year. Bryan Stone our Swiss News Editor has confirmed that the BLS will celebrate this with a two-day event based at Frutigen on 29/30th June 2013. At the time of writing neither Bryan nor I know what form the weekend will take, only that it is happening. The BLS has indicated to Bryan that members of the SRS would be welcome. If enough members wish to join me the plan is as follows: We all travel independently to the Frutigen/Spiez/Kandersteg area and meet together on the evening of Friday 28th June for the usual drink and briefing, attend the BLS event over the weekend, and then transfer on Monday 1st July to Filisur and the Grischuna Hotel where we stay for five nights. I plan four days of excursions including a trip to the Landquart works of the RhB, the railway walk from Preda to Bergun (where we will be able to visit the new RhB museum and the walk from Filisur to Davos Wiesen and return via the Landwasser gorge. Hopefully on the latter walk we should be able to end that day at the viewpoint where the picture in the centre fold of Martin Fisher's excellent "*Glacier Express*" book was taken. Weather permitting. On the fourth day I did suggest to Neil Wheelwright that he organise a Zurich "Tram Day" similar to

the super day we spent in Bern, but he reminded me that the journey from Filisur to Zurich takes about two and a half hours each way which would have meant a very long day. Neil did suggest we get the train to Tirano or Poschiavo (the Depot again?), but stopping off for a break at the restaurant at Alp Grum. I will visit this establishment in September to see what can be organised. If this trip does appeal to you then, as for 'Erstfeld 2009' and 'Spiez 2011' please let me know of your interest and I will include you in my "BLS Newsletter". For the BLS 100 event I will let you book your own Hotel in the area, but when contacting Anna at the Grischuna to book your room please mention you are a part of the SRS party. Most of you will know that single room accommodation in the Grischuna is limited, so book early. As before, a degree of physical fitness will be required for this trip and of course you will need to organise your own travel arrangements and appropriate insurance. I look forward to hearing from you.

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