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Goodbye 'Glarner Sprinter'

Ernst Leutwiler

All photos: Ernst Leutwiler

With the next timetable change on the 15th June it will be 'All Change' on the line that serves Canton Glarus. These changes are prompted by an event some distance away, the bringing into service of the 'Durchmesserlinie' - the new line in a tunnel from Zürich Hauptbanhof to Oerlikon. This means that the friendly *'Glarner Sprinter'* service, maintained by Domino units in a special livery, that operates every two hours between Zürich and Schwanden, and to Linthal twice-a-day at weekends, will finish on 14th June. In its place there will be a direct S-Bahn service (S25) every hour from Zürich to Linthal, operated by two units to Ziegelbrücke where the rear unit will wait. Also hourly there will be an S-Bahn service (S6) from Rapperswil to Schwanden. This will give most of the line a half-hourly service, with a direct connection using higher capacity double-deck trains to Zürich every hour. This improved service is building upon the ticketing revisions that came into operation at the December 2013 timetable change, when Glarus became part of the 'Ostwind Verkehrsverbund', which itself is connected with some other 'Verkehrsverbunds' in the area. The most important change this brings is that tickets are now priced depending on the number of Fare Zones travelled through, and no longer by the distance in kilometers. As Zürich is the main commercial center for the area this will greatly benefit rail users heading there.

TOP: GL.-Sprinter at Glarus.
MIDDLE: GL-Sprinter at Pfäffikon.
BOTTOM: Dominos at Glarus.
BELOW: Class 514 053-8 on Glaner Sprinter at Schwanden.