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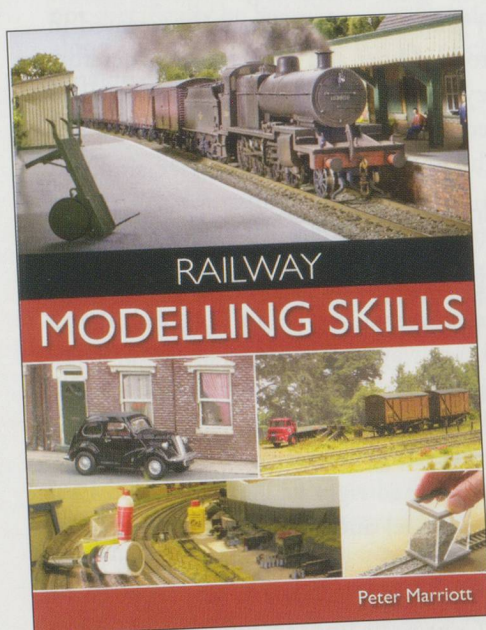
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“Railway Modelling Skills”

Author: Peter Marriott.

Published by: The Crowood Press, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 2HR. Tel. 01672 520320.

Softback: 224 pages 24.5cm x 19 cm. Full Colour: £22. ISBN: 978 1 84797 955 1



This new book is by Society member and very regular contributor Peter Marriott. Those of us who regularly read Peter's items in Swiss Express will know of his modelling knowledge and skills, not only building model railways but also writing about them, and this comes over really well in his new book. It is

full of useful advice and ideas and the multitude of colour photos are instructional and inspirational. Whether you're new to the hobby or a seasoned expert, you're sure to find something of interest. The chapters lead you through the processes from designing a new layout, choosing the right scale, baseboards, track, and landscape scenery. Do you need DCC or will conventional electrics do; how to improve and weather your rolling stock; the latest scenic products and techniques and even how to photograph your end results. Obviously for such a large topic, only the basic ideas and information is presented, but there are pointers to obtaining more information and a useful appendix of material suppliers. Peppared through the book are light blue text boxes of tips relevant to the main text and there are full colour photos on virtually every page. Whilst the book is heavily geared towards British railways (he has managed to slip in a couple of Swiss layout photos), the information within is equally applicable to foreign based layouts although there's no mention of how to install overhead catenary which would warrant another book all on its own. Anyone reading this book is sure to pick up something new and it may even get some away from their computers and start building something very worthwhile. Recommended. TB

“Peter's Railway – The Great Train Robbery”

Author & Publisher: Christopher Vine, PO Box 9246, Bridge of Wier, PA11 3WD.

Paperback: 48-pages, 15cm X 14cm.

Well illustrated. £4.99.

ISBN 978-1-9088970-53. Available in good book shops, at many heritage railways, or direct from www.petersrailway.com.

This is the latest paperback in the Peter's Railway series that has now sold well over 100,000 copies. The books are aimed at 6 to 12 year olds, but it appears that quite a few adults seem to like them too! As with all of Chris Vine's books it is a good way to get children interested in how railways work and how they operate. Apart from being bought as sensible 'treats' when taking children to visit your local heritage or speciality railway, any of the 16 books in the range would make excellent presents from parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts, family friends, etc. especially for hard-to-please children. A search of the website above will reveal the complete range of these great publications. At just £4.99 the paperback volumes in the series are at pocket money price, whilst the five £11.99 hardbacks that contain more technical information in their 96 pages are still very competitively priced and good value for money. MB

“My path to building a Swiss model train layout”

Author & Publisher: David Bisno, M.D., Hanover, New Hampshire, USA.

Hardback; 44-pages, 25cm X 25cm.

Lavishly illustrated.

Details of availability from davidbisno@gmail.com

This is an unusual book. Self published by David Bisno this is not just the story of how he spent 50 years, during which he planned a layout, collected locomotives, rolling stock, etc., and the two concentrated years he spent building it (with hours and hours of electrical wiring!), but it is also an abbreviated version of David's journey through life, all the time inspired by Swiss trains. After a successful career as an ophthalmologist, David returned to Harvard University in 1992 where he earned an MA in the history of science. Since then he has presented courses for retirees within institutes for lifelong learning on a myriad of subjects throughout the English-speaking world. Finally in 2011 he put other interests aside to build his long-dreamed-of Swiss model railway in the basement of his home in Hanover, NH, the location of the renowned Dartmouth College. The book is a photo essay, with extended captions, of his life, and how he realised his ambition of building the layout about which most of us can only dream. This is not a volume of detailed plans and the minutiae of scenic design or train operations, but it is a creative and imaginative celebration of how a man brought a dream to fruition. It is unashamedly a coffee-table book to browse and enjoy. MB

“Bernina Railway Line”

Publisher: Nous srl, 1-24040 Stezzano (BG), Italy, www.nous-srl.it

Paperback 21cm x 15 cm,

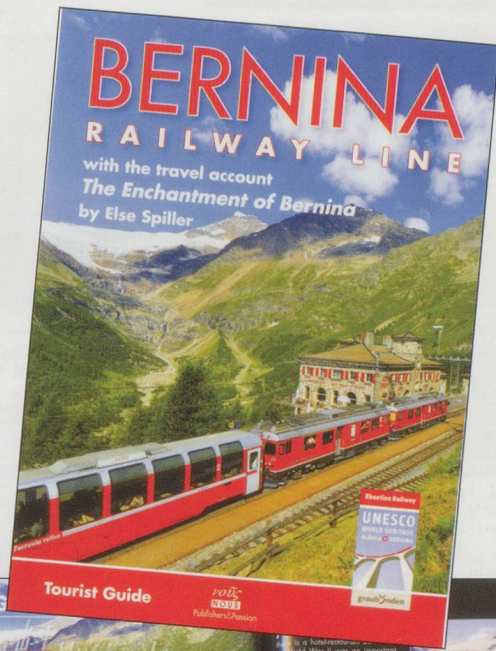
144 full colour, glossy pages: €10 – in Italy:

ISBN 978-88-95781-26-6

Whilst this book may not be easily obtainable from the UK, visitors to Tirano on the RhB should be able to pur-

BOOK REVIEWS

chase it from the small magazine stand almost opposite the station. That's where I got my copy from and it's available in several languages, including excellent English. It is split into several chapters including; the basic history of the RhB; the history of the Bernina line; the rolling stock, and the journey along the line. It also has a piece about the Romansh language and a reprint of a lady's description of the line in 1913. There are maps of the line, and the major towns and villages it serves, whilst the photographic quality is superb. It is ideal for those of us who like to break our journeys at the intermediate stations, as the places of interest are described in a very inviting way. I thought I knew a fair amount about the Bernina line but after reading this I can't wait to go back and explore some more. And at €10 (about £7) it's an absolute bargain. Don't leave Tirano without a copy! **Tony Bagwell** 🇨🇭



Rollcoaches from the second series ABe 4/4 II nos. 41 to 49

41 The second series was constructed in 1964-65 and 1977, thus they only used the first series after 80 years of use. These were also the first rollcoaches to be delivered from the factory in the last years that has made the train on the Bernina line famous.

42 ABe 4/4 II no. 42 at Jabbia

43 ABe 4/4 II no. 43 near Bernina

Rollcoaches from the third series ABe 4/4 III nos. 51 to 56

54 Produced during the years 1988-89 in addition to their identifying numbers, they each have a geographic name and coat of arms. Pöschels, Bivio, Tirose, Valbella, Domiziano and Conzola. In 2009 rollcoaches no. 51 'Pöschels' were given a blue livery to celebrate the line's entry into UNESCO's list of world heritage sites in 2010 under no. 52 'Pöschels' were also given a blue livery to celebrate the line's centenary.

51 ABe 4/4 III no. 51 with Bernina

52 ABe 4/4 III no. 52 painted in October 1998 from the Bernina Line

The locomotives

All locomotives is a self-propelled railway vehicle with one or more axles built to haul a train. In the railway industry, locomotives are commonly known simply as locomotives.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LOCOMOTIVES

Series	Year	Quantity	Weight	Power	Speed
ABe 4/4 I	1954	45	45 t	1100 kW	120 km/h
ABe 4/4 II	1964-65, 1977	9	45 t	1100 kW	120 km/h
ABe 4/4 III	1988-89	6	45 t	1100 kW	120 km/h

18 The Rolling Stock **19**

Alp G

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