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SWISS EXPRESS

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Another year is coming to an end and, once again, I am very pleased to report that the Society is in fine shape. Membership is stable, as are the finances. *Swiss Express* continues to offer an excellent variety of content and the quality provides a great advert for both the production team and the Society as a whole. There are two matters of which I should make mention. One is the provision of a memorial seat at Planalp for Roy Dunglison. The seat has been made and we are awaiting advice from the Brienzer Rothorn Bahn as to when they are able to complete the rebuilding of Planalp station, which will coincide with the placing of the seat. This was meant to happen during the past year, but the repair of winter damage to the line, of course, took precedence.

The other matter is that of registering the Society as a company limited by guarantee. Initial advice was contained in the September magazine and, hopefully, there will be more in this December issue. Having been, all my working life, an operator rather than a businessman, I could previously not see the need for change, but am now sure that this is the direction in which the Society should be heading. David Stowell, our treasurer-in-waiting, is looking into matters very thoroughly. The two trips that Roger Ellis and I announced this time last year were both very enjoyable. Although the weather was not perfect, there was enough sunshine to ensure some good photo opportunities and we managed to get out and about every day, even if we had to dodge the showers! Even better, I believe everyone enjoyed themselves. I send all our members and families my best wishes for Christmas and the forthcoming year and once again, thank everyone for their support. 

Alan J Pike O.B.E.

The committee has decided to award Honorary Life Membership of the Society to Alan at the time of his 90th Birthday, for all the hard work he has done for the SRS since its inception, from being a founder member through holding the posts of Chairman, Vice-President, Joint President and since 2012, President.

Happy Birthday Alan.

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If you are not currently a member of the Swiss Railways Society, and have only just discovered *Swiss Express*, why not join so you can keep up to date with railways and the transport scene in Switzerland? For a modest UK subscription of £19/year in addition to receiving four quarterly issues of this splendid publication you can also take part in the other activities organised by the Society.

For a Society Prospectus you can either write to

Steve Buck, 55, The Boulevard, Wyld Green, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5JB,
or email him at membership@swissrailsoc.org.uk

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RhB Ge 4/4^{II} 619 'Samedan' at Bergun and a train to Preda.
Photo: Stephen Miles