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SWISS RAILWAYS SOCIETY (CLBG) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Railways Society (CLBG) will be held in the Hallmark Hotel, Derby on Saturday 4th April 2020

NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS

Directors who hold the following positions on the Board of Directors have completed their three-year term of office and the posts are available for re-election: Chairman, Membership Secretary and Director of Publicity & Exhibitions (3 years in each case).

Please note that the current Chairman and Director of Publicity & Exhibitions will not be seeking re-election so these posts must be filled by other members of the Society.

Job Description summaries for all three posts have been placed in the Members' section of the Society's website and are available by post or e-mail from the Company Secretary. Nominations are invited for all three directorships and nomination forms are available from the Company Secretary:

Martin Fisher, 15 The Boulevard, Middle Deepdale, Scarborough, North Yorkshire YO11 3EX
or by email at <secretary@swissrailsoc.org.uk>

Completed forms must reach the Secretary no later than Tuesday 31st December 2019. Any applicant who has not previously served on the Society's Board or Committee will be sent a document by the Company Secretary which summarises the basic requirements that have to be met by a Company Director.

Excluding applicants who are seeking to continue their existing SRS directorships, all applicants will be invited by the Company Secretary to attend a Board meeting on 18th January 2020, and will be interviewed by a panel of Board members that day. Subsequently, nominees will be asked to submit a statement to the Company Secretary in support of their application by 28th February.

It is important to note that all nominees AND their proposers and seconders will be expected to have paid their subscriptions for 2020 PRIOR to signing the nomination form. Failure to do so will render the nomination form invalid unless the relevant subscriptions are paid by 28th February. If a potential nominee does not know other Society members who could endorse his/her application, then he/she should contact the Company Secretary who will address the matter.

Members are advised that a list of nominees and a copy of the accompanying statements made to support their nominations, will be supplied by the Company Secretary on receipt of an application by post with an SAE or by email at the above addresses.

Any application for a postal vote must be accompanied by an SAE and will be sent out by post only to the named addressee who must be a member of the Society at the time of application.

The application must reach the Company Secretary by Saturday 28th March 2020. Completed ballot papers must reach the Secretary no later than the start of the AGM meeting on Saturday 4th April 2020.

Notice is also hereby given that at the Society's Annual General Meeting on 4th April 2020, paragraph 34.2 of the Memorandum & Articles of Association will be replaced with the following words:

"Nominations for Management Committee posts shall be received by the Secretary by 31st December. Unless the nomination is made by a current Management Committee member seeking to extend his or her term of office in the same role, all nominees will be required to meet representatives of the Management Committee by 31 January, so they have an opportunity to learn more about the post and can discuss their suitability to fulfil the role in question.

"All nominees will be asked to submit a statement in support of their application to the Company Secretary by 28 February, in order that it can be included in the printed brochure for the Annual General Meeting.

All nominations will be considered at the Annual General Meeting but the Management Committee reserves the right to offer a view on some or all of them where appropriate."

Martin Fisher
Company Secretary

SWISS RAILWAYS SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SPRING GET-TOGETHER

Saturday 4th April 2020 – 10.00 to 16.30 (AGM commences at 14:30)

At the Hallmark Midland Hotel, Midland Road, Derby DE1 2SQ

Tel: 0330 028 3405

(Directly opposite Derby Railway Station)

Members attending the weekend events can park free of charge at the hotel but should register their vehicles on the terminal at the hotel reception.

The Get-Together will be held in the “Garden Room” and the AGM in the “Edale Room”.

Guests and friends are also welcome to the Get-Together, but a donation of £2 per person would be appreciated.

Confirmed Traders: Contikits, Gerald Savine Prints, NScaleCh, Mount Tabor Models, Platform 5, SRS Sales. It is hoped that Switzerland Travel Centre will also attend. In addition there will be a “Bring and Buy” Stall and a Raffle.

Confirmed Layouts: Comburg (HO French Trolley Bus), Matthew Moore’s RhB Layout (N), Preuninger Alm (Austrian HOe), Schweizer Kleinstadt (Swiss Z Gauge), Santa Maria (RhB HOm), Swiss Postbus Model Display.

Swiss Railway Films will be shown in the Edale Room throughout the day.

There will be a dinner after the AGM on the Saturday evening commencing at 18:30.

The Menu will be:

Starters: Leek and Potato Soup with Crème Fraiche and Snipped Garden Chives.
Or Freshly sliced ripe Honeydew and Watermelon topped with freshly picked Garden Mint and Mango Coulis

Main Course: Slow braised Feather Blade of Beef with a roasted Shallot Gravy.
Or Roasted Breast of Chicken wrapped in crispy Parma Ham with fresh Asparagus and Grain Mustard Jus.

Dessert: Warm Sticky Toffee Pudding with Salted Caramel Sauce and Vanilla Ice Cream.
Or Meringue Nest filled with Whipped Cream, Fresh Raspberries, Strawberries and Blackberries.

Coffee or Tea.

In addition there will be a Vegetarian Option for each course.

The cost will be £25.50 per person excluding wine - this is cheaper than 2019.

There will be a quiz after the Dinner – suitable for all – devised and presented by Rob Morrey.

Bookings can be made by sending a cheque for the appropriate amount to:

Glyn Jones, 13 Welland Close, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs DE15 0AG

Please state your menu choices and include a stamped addressed envelope for the return of your tickets - don't forget to state your menu choice.

The last date for bookings will be 15th March.

WHY NOT JOIN US FOR THE WEEKEND?

There will be a talk in the Hotel's Edale Room on the Friday evening commencing at 20:00 by Martin Fisher and David Stevenson entitled: "All those books - the inside story".

Hotel Accommodation (per Room)

Single Rooms will cost £46.00 for one night or £90.00 for two nights,

Double Rooms will cost £74.00 for one night or £140.00 for two nights.

Rates include VAT, free Wi-Fi and full English breakfast.

A table d'hôte dinner will be available on the Friday evening - £22.00 for three courses, booked upon arrival at the hotel.

Room bookings should be made direct with the hotel quoting the “Swiss Railways Society”.

These rates may not be the cheapest available and there are plenty of other hotels in the area.

But they are much cheaper than 2019.

It is worthwhile to sign-up to the Hallmark Hotels promotional email service.

SRS 2020 AGM

Elsewhere in these Society Pages you will find the formal notice for the 2020 AGM, which is once again being held in the Hallmark Midland Hotel, Midland Road, Derby. The date will be Saturday 4th April. Three Directors' posts must be filled. Whilst our Membership Secretary, Steve Buck, is happy to continue in his role, the posts of Chairman and Exhibitions and Publicity Director will be vacant, as neither John Jesson nor Bill Salter are seeking re-election.

SRS on Facebook

The SRS has a Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/swissrailwaysociety/>

It is hoped that being on Facebook will promote the Society and will be a vehicle where we can put announcements at short notice. We also have a Facebook Group page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/swissrailwaysociety/> Members can join, ask questions, post photos and videos. Please 'like' our Facebook page and join this closed group and make use of it.

2020 Society Calendar

There may still be copies of the 2020 Society calendar left. They will be removed from the on-line shop when they have all been sold, but for mail orders it would be best to contact **SRS Sales** before placing an order and remember that **SRS Sales** will be closed from the 13th December. For more details see the SRS Sales Page.

SRS Sales Christmas Closure

Society Sales will be closed from Friday 13th December until Friday 10th January and no orders will be dispatched during this period. If you require items for Christmas please order them as soon as possible.

Website Members' Area

The 2020 password for the Members' Area of the Society's website is printed on your 2020 Membership Card. This will be valid from 31st January 2020. Until then please use the 2019 password. Any new members who do not know the 2019 password should contact the society's webmaster quoting their membership number.

The Members' Area Forum is still getting little use. Please give it a try, you can ask questions, give answers and buy and sell Swiss related items.

Clarifications and corrections

Apologies for the following errors that crept into the

September issue:

The photograph at the bottom of Page 18 in the article "The Story of the Bodensee Train Ferries" depicts the MF Schussen, not the MF Rorschach.

The photograph by Steve Tinsley on Page 24 is certainly a class 501 'Giruno' on test but it was in fact taken at Immensee. The train is heading north from Arth-Goldau.

In the first item of *Swiss News* on Page 30 the reference to a higher frequency for Genève-Lausanne-Echallens does not in fact mean that Lausanne station will receive a gauge-changer! We should have said that both (standard gauge main line) Genève - Lausanne and (metre-gauge) Lausanne-Echallens will both enjoy higher frequencies.

Neil Wheelwright

Sadly we have to report that Neil Wheelwright passed away on Wednesday 30 October.

Neil, whose article on the SBB 'Red Arrows' concludes in this issue, joined the Society in its early days, was a stalwart of the London Branch and had been a member of the Committee and latterly Board since 2002.


A fuller appreciation will appear in our next issue.

Letter to the Editor

FROM: Bryan Stone - by Email
Swiss Rail Centres; Olten Part Two

A small but significant point in Steve Tinsley's article on Olten in the September *Swiss Express*. Steve implies that the many container trains seen at Olten originate or end in the Basel Rhein port. Actually this is not so; they are just what my reader's letter 9 (*in the same issue - Ed*) referred to: they are mostly real trans European maritime containers to and from Rotterdam, sometimes Antwerp and Zeebrugge, which are using the EU Corridor Rotterdam - Alps - Northern Italy.

There is also an element of inner-European cargo, as with trainloads of Ambrogio, LKW Walter, etc., using domestic containers and tank containers. And there are the rolling high-way piggybacks of HUPAC/BLS, Freiburg im Breisgau - Novara, as shown in a picture.

There is indeed a substantial barge container traffic to Basel, but it is almost all Swiss import/export traffic for overseas. The significance? Here EU and Swiss government pull together with subsidies, but also with line of route improvements, to encourage rail transit throughout, instead of HGVs over the Alps. 

Where's Heidi?

Answer

With a combination of RhB and SBB, there's not a lot of choice. It's at Landquart Fashion Outlet, the shopping village just outside of Landquart station - access via the subway. 