

# A word from the mebership secretary

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layouts present. The builders of these layouts together with the various supporters from the trade are all to be thanked for their participation in this event. Last but not least the thanks of the Committee, on behalf of all the members, go to Dave Howsam who put the whole thing together so ably and effectively.

We were able to negotiate with a couple of publishers a supply of three titles of Swiss related books for the Spring Meet. There are still some copies left; the details of which and where to obtain them are given elsewhere in this issue.

The evening dinner after the AGM has become something of a tradition and this year was attended by some 60 members and guests. In true railway fashion all participants in the dinner received Edmondson card tickets which had been specially produced and kindly donated by Michael Farr for the occasion. The East Midlands Branch provided the after dinner entertainment with their member Rob Morrey presenting a quiz (won by your Secretary!) and then a fascinating slide show on his Swiss Top 20. Thanks are, of course, due to both Michael Farr and Rob Morrey for their valuable but very different contributions. If any members would like one or more of the Edmondson card dinner tickets please write to the Secretary enclosing an stamped addressed envelope

One point raised at the AGM was the difficulty some members were experiencing in reaching the Society web site. Our providers have now set up an alternative domain which is <http://www.srs.uk.btinternet.co.uk> The previously notified address still works but, although we have not been so advised, its life may be limited. The website has been significantly expanded with scans (kindly provided by John Whitby) of Swiss Express covers for the current and 1999 issues as well as details of their contents. A diary has now also been included of all published Branch fixtures as well as details of their meeting places and Organisers. Work is now in hand to build links to other Swiss railway related web sites. Many links can be found immediately on John Whitby's website, which incidentally has a link to the Society website, and is on <http://website.lineone.net/~john.p.whitby> .

## EXHIBITIONS REPORT - Andy Nelson

The support shown at the AGM for Society Sales was fantastic and we took an all time record amount. A great weekend, thanks go to the East Midlands group.

I will be attending a new European event on June 17th at Newmarket (see below). This is a new part of the country for the stand to go to and I look forward to meeting many members from the surrounding areas. If you would like me to bring an item you require then please let me know.

The SRS Stand, together with my diorama "The Wrong Kind of Snow", will be at the following:

June 17th            Newmarket, new Continental show, St Felix Middle School, Fordham Road

Sept. 23rd           German Railway Society, Oxford

Mike Polglaze will be taking his layouts to the following exhibitions:

VIA MALA          Aug. 12th-13th            Blandford, Royal Signals Museum, Blandford Camp

Oct. 14th-15th        Giessen, Modellbau (TBC)

Nov. 11th-12th        Tamines, Belgium, L'Athenee Royal (TBC)

Nov. 25th-26th        Southend, Cliffs Pavilion, Westcliffe-on-Sea

SANGIA COMO - The new layout replacing Bimblebahn has it's first outing on:

Sept.. 23rd-24th        Wood Green Village Hall - Charity show on the A338 between Salisbury and Ringwood. It will still be under construction.

## A WORD FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

I would like to thank all those who have renewed their subscriptions. Renewal rate is already almost 92% - the same as for the whole of last year.

