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For those members suffering from withdrawal symptoms and with internet access, the Hotel Grischuna at Filisur has a webcam facing the station. It can be reached from the RhB website at [www.rhb.ch/bilder](http://www.rhb.ch/bilder) or via the link under the General heading on the Society website.

 **SBB CFF FFS** and

 **SÜDOSTBAHN**

SBB and the SOB recently announced a simplification in the historic infrastructure split between the two networks.

The SOB are to withdraw from their share in St. Gallen HBhf and in return SBB are to hand over to the SOB the SBB part of Lichtensteig Bhf, relinquish their share in the joint operation of Wattwil, Ebnat-Kappel Bhf, the whole stretch between Lichtensteig and Wattwil and the joint operation between Wattwil and Ebnat-Kappel.

The boards of both companies will also discuss over the summer the settlement together with the precise split of staff as well financing of future joint projects.



The BAV have withdrawn the operating licence for BVB section HG4/4 31 and 32 following a runaway and derailment after a brake failure on 32.

## THURBO

The new fleet on order from Stadler, RABe 526 701 – 780, is branded GTW AK (Automatic Coupling). The first units have taken over from RBe 540 units on the St Gallen area S5 service between St Gallen and Weinfelden. Platform heights along the line are being raised to 55 cm to match the step height of the new stock.

## Trams



**Transports publics genevois**

The extension of Line 13 from Cornavin to Place des Nations was inaugurated with the national timetable change on 13th December. As the additional trams on order won't be delivered until Summer 2004, the TPG have hired two 'Cityrunner' trams from Lodz (Poland). These five section trams of 2002 / 2003 are unusual for Switzerland in being double ended. A concession has been granted to convert trolleybus route 9 between Cornavin and Maisonnex to tram operation, with a planned completion date of 2009.

## Shipping

**WALDSTÄTTERSEE**

*Die Flotte mit Stil*

*für alle 4 Jahreszeiten*

The SGV became the second company in 2003 to run a substitute ship service after a landslide swept away the lakeside road near Vitznau at the end of November. Until the road reopened in February, a roughly two hourly service was provided between Vitznau and Gersau, calling on request at the piers at Floralpina, Rotschluo and the Beckenreid ferry terminal.

PS Gallia is due to re-enter service on May 1st, with a parade featuring all five paddle steamers being planned.



PS Simplon has been out of service since suffering an explosion while leaving Geneva on 18th August 2003. Finance has been found for her reconstruction, with an expected return to service in 2005.

The former PS Valais, for the past 40 years a restaurant and landing stage at Geneva Jardin Anglais, has been broken up.

**Brian Hemming**

## STOCK CHANGES

 **SBB CFF FFS**

### November 2003

New: Re – 482 029-32 RABDe ICN – 500 028  
 Withdrawn: Tm<sup>II</sup> – 490 Tm<sup>II</sup> – 757, 836/52  
 Brünig: Deh – 120 012 (to historic fleet), Te<sup>I</sup> – 198/9

### December 2003

New: Re – 482 033/4 RABDe ICN – 500 029 Am - 842 101/2 & 843 001  
 Withdrawn: Tm<sup>II</sup> – 755 Ee3/3 – 16400  
 Brünig: Deh – 120 006  
 Renumbered: Re4/4<sup>II</sup> 11384 to Re 421 384

## NOTEPAD. . . .

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