

Rigibahnen [Ron Smith]

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NOTEPAD

stations, full opening was not scheduled until 27th October at the earliest.

HISTORIC

AB

On 17th August, a heritage shuttle service was run between Appenzell and Wasserauen, providing a half hourly service. In service were BCe4/4 30 (AB), BCFeh4/4 5 (SGA) CFe3/3 2 (AG) and Te2/2 49 (AB) with appropriate heritage stock. The Verein AG 2 group opened the shed at Wasserauen to public inspection, on display were the unservicable BCFm2/4 56 (AB) and G3/4 14 (RhB).

BC

MOB DZe6/6 2002 was transferred from open storage at Saanen to Chernex on 11th July. Despite having not worked since 1995, the MOB workshops were able to make the MLV serviceable and she was delivered to Chaulin on 19th July as the centrepiece of the 'MOB Nostalgie' weekend on 19th / 20th July, working

three round trips to Blonay on the Sunday with MOB C4 45 and Ars 101. Availability is very restricted until a full overhaul can be completed.

DBB

The overhaul of Bern Schwarzenburg Bahn Ed3/4 51 was completed in August.

BLS

The "Slow-Up Emmental" weekend on 14th September saw the operation of an hourly steam shuttle service between Ramsei and Huttwil, as a replacement for the suspended bus service. Two train sets were provided, with three passenger coaches and two vans for bikes or skateboards. Four sets of locomotives were used, allowing time for servicing at each end. Engines used comprised SMB Ed3/4 2 + LHB Ed3/4 11, SMB Ec4/5 11, EBT Ed4/5 8 + BSB Ed3/4 51 and DB 64 518, working in sequence as shown. Despite the dismal weather in the morning, great fun was had by all both on the train and cycling/skating, etc along the parallel road.

BOOK REVIEW

Rigibahen

Author and Publisher: Ron Smith, "Rhus", Banff Road, Keith, Morayshire, AB53 4DT. Language: English and German. 44 pages of photographs in full colour. Format: A5 - 5" x 8". Softcover. ISBN: 0-9547007-0-8. Price: £6.50 including P & P from SRS Sales.

This slim volume is a nicely produced photo essay by SRS member Ron Smith that sets out to show various aspects of the two

railways that serve the Rigi from both Vitznau and Arth-Goldau. Originally produced a few years ago this is a welcome reprint that was launched last July at an event on the railway. The majority of the photographs have been taken in this decade although the author has used a few images going back to the 1980s to illustrate certain aspects of the operations. Some of these have come from his Swiss colleague Ernst Leutwiler. The book does not just concentrate on the usual passenger trips but also shows how the railways help serve the whole community on the Rigi. Ever wondered how that ice cream you enjoy on a hot day gets up to the retail outlets on the peak without melting – this book shows you how. This does not purport to be a historical or technical document, but it makes a nice souvenir of a visit to the Queen of Mountains or could help fill a Christmas stocking.

JJ



Ron Smith at the re-launch of his book on the Rigibahn, 27. 7. 08