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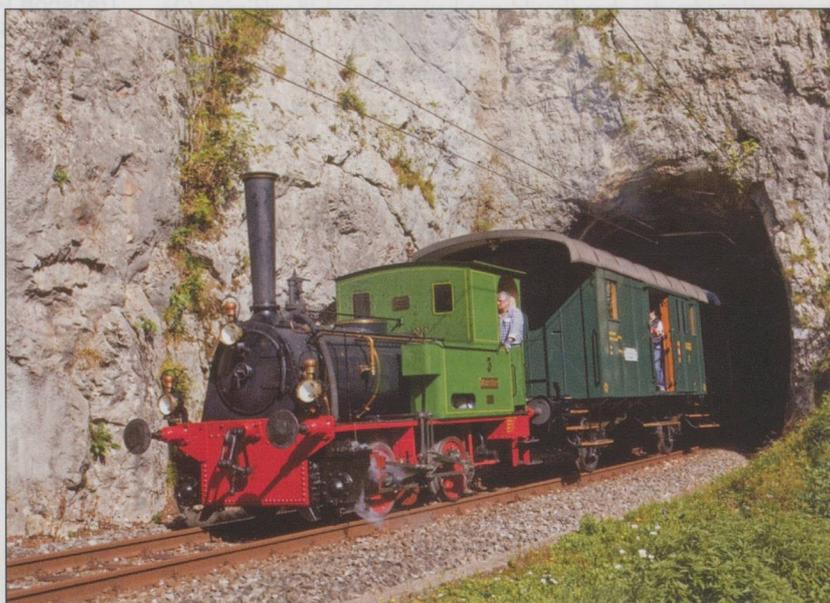
...and finally –

From E to Z

Thomas Pulfer



The Swiss Historical Railway Society (Historische Eisenbahn Gesellschaft - HEG), based in SBB's roundhouse at Delémont in Canton Jura, and maintains a small but significant collection of Swiss steam locomotives and carriages. The 1890-built roundhouse in Delémont is one of the two last similar buildings in Switzerland. It is in original condition and is still used as a workshop and engine shed by heritage railways. The collection includes Switzerland's biggest steam locomotive, the 2-10-0 "Elephant", built 1917 as a freight engine for the SBB Gotthard Line, and its smallest main line steam engine "Zephir" an 0-4-T built by Krauss in 1874. The carriage collection focuses on coaches with wooden frames built between 1890-1925 and also has a selection of goods wagons, plus the oldest hand crane in Switzerland dating from 1857. For the fourth year, HEG will operate steam trains on a 4 mile section of the mainline between Delémont and Choindéz, where it connects with the local industrial museum of the cast-iron producer Von Roll. Trains will be hauled by "Zephir", which once operated on the



Bodelibahn at Interlaken (see page 2). Trips are scheduled on the 7th September, 26th October, 2nd November and 7th December and will include guided visits to the roundhouse in Delémont and the industrial museum in Choindéz. For further information go to the website www.volldampf.ch

SwissTip Good ideas and information about Switzerland from travellers.

Looking for a good place to watch trains? Standing on the platform at Lenzburg you see at all times a lot of passenger trains of various types, and somehow the heavy freights roll right through the action even during the peak hours. When you've had enough take the bus to the Castle on its hill, or go for lunch in the Old Town; and there is always the Seetalbahn in the road outside the station. If you do not want to leave the station area to eat there is an excellent Café on the 1st floor of the large CO-OP supermarket one block south of the railway. It has a rooftop terrace where you can sit in the sun in good weather. 

Ray Williams's Layout for sale. Margaret Williams has decided to sell Bärenthal and Bärenthal Dorf. This is her late husband's RhB HOm layout that was located in Harrods window during the Swiss promotion at Easter in 2011, and was featured in Continental Modeller in December 2004. There is more information via the Modelling Page of the Society's website, Margaret can be contacted by email - margaret@parwichps.wanadoo.co.uk or through the Society's Sales Officer - contact details in this magazine.

Ivan Rodrigues - News from Switzerland Travel Centre

We would like to remind SRS members that the current Swiss Travel System promotion Swiss Pass 4+1 (purchase a 1st class Swiss Pass/Saver 4 days and receive 1 extra day free) is still available for travel between 1st November and 31st December 2013. From the 1st September 2013 until 31 May 2014 (travel period only) there is a new promotion – 2-day Swiss Flexi Pass. Currently the Swiss Flexi Pass valid for 1 month can be purchased for either 3,4,5 or 6 days and allows unrestricted travel on consecutive or non consecutive days by public transport (train, bus and boat) throughout Switzerland as well as 50% reductions on many privately owned mountain railways. The new 2-day Swiss Flexi Pass is available in 1st and 2nd class as an individual pass. For more details, please contact us.

Travelling to Switzerland in the winter? Why not take the Swiss Alps Ski train operated by Eurostar and Lyria with a simple platform change at Lille. After a successful trial last season, Eurostar and Lyria will be running 5 departures again to the Valais region on the following outward dates: 21 and 28 December 2013, 15 and 22 February and 1 March 2014.

The return dates are 1 week later. Although this service may be aimed at skiers/snowboarders, we believe that this would be an ideal train for those SRS members who prefer to travel to Switzerland in a more scenic and relaxing way, rather than flying. You could even take the new 2-day Flexi Pass and combine it with a trip on the Glacier Express as an example. Again SRS members should contact us for timings and prices if you are interested about Swiss Alps Ski trains.

Finally we would like to share with SRS members a new product – “Swiss Peaks Pass” which will only be available for travel from 1st January – 23 December 2014. The Swiss Peaks Pass offers unlimited access to selected mountain trains and/or cable cars and includes Rochers-de-Naye, Stanserhorn and Brienz Rothorn to name but a few. The price for the Swiss Peaks Pass will start from £20.00 and be available only in conjunction with a valid 4 or 8 day Swiss Pass/Saver. For more information about the mountains included or to purchase one, please call or email us. We look forward to assisting you with your travel plans. 



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