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offer! The bank transfer was made and I became the new owner of 'Bärental'.

So my wife Pam, Steve and myself travelled up from Leverstock Green in Hertfordshire to Belper, Derbyshire, where we met Margaret together with Ray's colleague Richard, who had worked with him on the development of 'Bärental'. Margaret welcomed us with coffee and carrot cake before Richard gave us a demonstration of the layout plus the 'Bärental Dorf' extension with its working Swiss Post buses. As a surprise bonus, Margaret generously included some of Ray's model railway items, some of which he had especially adapted for 'Bärental'. His unique style of customising stock with people or bicycles, or his mechanical novelties, or even a loco with a flashing LED built into the pantograph, will always leave a lasting impression.

It was fortunate we had taken two cars as we found that when folded up, the layout was two inches too tall to fit into my estate car, so we had to put one half of the layout into each car and place the other parts around them. We have now started work on building a new power supply box and a new stand, as the originals had been sold previously with one of Ray's other layouts, and we are also exploring whether there is any way of reducing the height of the folded layout so it will fit into my car. We are enormously grateful to Margaret for allowing us to be the new owners of 'Bärental' and to Richard for his promise of technical advice now and in the future, and hope that there may be an opportunity to exhibit the layout again as circumstances permit.

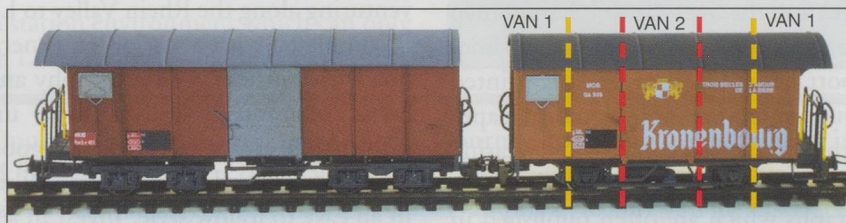
*So for this Swiss Railways Society member – my Swiss dream has come true!* 🇨🇭



## What to do with two spare wagons!

Gerald Savine

**O**ver the years of collecting Bemo MOB models I have landed up with two of the same model goods



vans. Going through one of my 'MOB, DU LEMAN AU PAYS-D'ENHAUT' books, I found a photograph and line drawing of the bogie van, Hack v 401. I could see it wouldn't take too much, with a small saw, to commit surgery on the two spare models to produce a new addition for my future layout.

After breaking the models down into their component parts, I used model paint stripper to take them back to the original plastic. Removing the two ends of model one, leaving the door section with two panels and removing the door section of model two, I was able to glue the pieces

together to make a long-bodied bogie van. Respraying the body, roof, vents and doors. Carefully cutting the sub frames

I glued them to the body, and the same with the roof.

Now, as an artist, I am used to taking *artistic licence* and assumed the engineers at the MOB Chernex Works replaced the original bogies with more modern ones purchased from the RhB. I couldn't get hold of model older style bogies of the original prototype van, so used RhB ones supplied by WINCO. I also made modifications to the framework. Finishing off the model by making the numbers etc. on the computer and printing off.

*The purists might complain but it doesn't look too bad on a train going round the test track!* 🇨🇭