

West Midlands Rundschreiben

March 2019

Group News.

I hope everyone is well.

Many thanks to Sholto for last month's talk 'Dutch Transport Scenes' . It covered a wide range of Dutch transport subjects. Benelux Railways Society magazine has the attached rare colour picture of a WD 2-8-0 at Gouda (of all places) which I thought was appropriate to include.



Ex-WD 2-8-0 4402 stands in the goods yard at Gouda on 28th August 1957 *Dr J Van der Meene*

This month there is a change of plan. David Stevenson will now present 'The S's in Switzerland' one of Martin Fisher's talks (as I will not be able to attend.) at Kidderminster Railway Museum on Wednesday 27th March at 1930. I hope as many as possible can make it to the meeting.

If all goes to plan then I should present February 2019 inter-railing next month (April 24th).

SBB and other News

166 Kreuzlingen Bernrain Konstanz S 14 25898 Construction work:

S-Bahn trains 14 are cancelled between Kreuzlingen Bernrain and Konstanz.

A replacement bus service is operating Kreuzlingen Bernrain - Kreuzlingen - Konstanz.

Duration from 25.03.2019 until 29.03.2019 from 01:25 until 02:00 o'clock.

Duration from 01.04.2019 until 05.04.2019 from 01:25 until 02:00 o'clock.

Duration from 08.04.2019 until 12.04.2019 from 01:25 until 02:00 o'clock.

Duration from 24.04.2019 until 26.04.2019 from 01:25 until 02:00 o'clock.

Duration from 29.04.2019 until 30.04.2019 from 01:25 until 02:00 o'clock.

Duration from 06.05.2019 until 10.05.2019 from 01:25 until 02:00 o'clock.

Duration from 13.05.2019 until 17.05.2019 from 01:25 until 02:00 o'clock.

The cable car service between Säntis and Schwägalp, Säntis-Schwebbahn is suspended 02.02.19 until 29.04.19.

The funicular service between Zug, Schöneegg and Zugerberg is suspended 15.03.19 until 31.03.19.

Between Ependes and Yverdon-les-Bains, engineering work is in progress.

Duration from 02.03.2019 05:30 until 03.03.2019 00:45.

Duration from 06.04.2019 05:30 until 08.04.2019 00:45.

Duration from 12.10.2019 05:30 until 14.10.2019 00:45.

Between Luzern and Alpnachstad, engineering work is in progress.

Trains S-Bahnen + Interregio are cancelled between Luzern and Alpnachstad.

Replacement bus services are operating Luzern - Alpnachstad für S4 + S5.

Replacement bus services are operating Luzern - Alpnachstad direkt für IR Luzern - Interlaken.

Replacement bus services are operating Luzern - Stans direkt für IR Luzern - Engelberg.

Duration from 18.03.2019 04:00 until 15.04.2019 04:00.

<http://www.swissitalianpaddlesteamers.com>

This has the usual great selection of paddle boat photographs. The news page also details some of the recent events (and failures!) of various paddle steamers. Vevey is currently having some hull work done and new electric motors.

www.cgn02.ch

Again there is a great selection of photographs of Lake Geneva. One interesting image shows an artists impression of a new boat Ville d'Evian .There is also a railway page at:

<http://www.cgn02.ch/ferphoto>

A useful email from Wizz Air (Via Rupert)

After 29 March 2019:

1. You should have 6 months left on your UK passport from your date of arrival. This applies to adult and child passports.
2. If you renewed a passport before it expired, extra months may have been added to your new passport's expiry date. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count towards the 6 months that should be remaining for travel to most countries in Europe. The new rules will apply to passports issued by the UK, Gibraltar, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Jersey.

Currently, UK passport holders can travel to all EU countries as long as they have enough remaining validity to cover the length of their stay, so it's important to be aware of the above changes in a 'no deal' Brexit.

So, please check your passport and if you are affected, you should consider renewing your passport earlier than planned.

The affected (Schengen area) countries are: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

A rather interesting railtour using 3 Kroks: 14305/14253/13302 treble heading from Erstfeld to Bellinzona and return.

<https://www.sbbhistoric.ch/veranstaltungen-fahrten/kalender/sbb-historic-events/2019-10-19-100-jahre-krokodil.html>

<http://www.bahnonline.ch/bo/bahnkalender-events/kalender>

A few seats still available on the ticketcorner site.

[https://www.ticketcorner.ch/noapp/tickets.html?fun=evdetail&affiliate=TCS&doc=evdetailb&key=2307796\\$11264832&utm_source=TCS&utm_medium=dp&utm_campaign=railway](https://www.ticketcorner.ch/noapp/tickets.html?fun=evdetail&affiliate=TCS&doc=evdetailb&key=2307796$11264832&utm_source=TCS&utm_medium=dp&utm_campaign=railway)

Due to the need to completely renovate both the Giarsun Tunnel and the Magnacun Tunnel on Rhaetian Railway's Lower Engadin line, the track must be closed for six months. From 11 March to 7 September 2019, therefore, the section between Susch and Scuol-Tarasp will be closed to rail traffic. During the six-month closure of the line, a rail replacement bus service will be in operation in the Lower Engadin. Direct connections currently running between Landquart and St. Moritz and the Vereina car transporter are not affected.

Sent out in the <https://www.verbanoexpress.it/> newsletter today

Saturday 27 April Ticino Express Luino - Steam Air *

Sunday June 16th Nature Express Luino - Arth Goldau electric

Saturday August 24 Legio Express Luino - Electric Keisaugst

9-13 October Luino-wheels-rails-steam Steam event **

30.11-1.12 Christmas Tour Luino - Constance -Stein am Rhein ***

Saturday December 14 Nikolaus Express Luino - Einsiedeln electric

Train in collaboration with Eurovapor and Verein1020. Meeting at Airolo and parallels in the descent to Bodio, followed by the fusion of trains.

Term common journey to Luino. (Details will follow).

** Great event in Luino with steam trains from Switzerland and Italy, exhibitions, exhibitions and much more (Details will follow).

*** Two-day tour to the Christmas markets of Konstanz and Stein am Rhein (In the studio)

11411

11411 will be working an Erstfeld-Göschenen return trip on July 6

<https://www.sbbhistoric.ch/veranstaltungen-fahrten/kalender/sbb-historic-events/2019-07-06-erlebnis-nordrampe.html>

Booking

<https://www.sbbhistoric.ch/veranstaltungen-fahrten/kalender/sbb-historic-events/2019-07-06-erlebnis-nordrampe.html>

14253 be operating two return trips, 1015 and 1330, from Bern to Thun on July 7 2019. This is to commemorate the official opening of the electrification from Bern to the former Thun Scherzlingen station on July 7 1919 (Though in fact the first revenue earning electric train ran on 29.04.1919.)

Details

<https://www.sbbhistoric.ch/veranstaltungen-fahrten/kalender/sbb-historic-events/2019-07-07-100-jahre-unter-strom---vormittag.html>

Online booking (One coach already sold out on the 1330 train)

<https://www.ticketcorner.ch/sbb-historic-fahrten.html?affiliate=TCS&doc=artistPages/overview&fun=artist&action=overview&kuid=515131>

[The SBB publicity claims 14253 is 100 years old this year but it was only accepted into traffic on January 15 1920]

Gotthard Panorama Express

0922 Lugano-Flüelen 1149 (3092)

1440 Flüelen-Lugano 1638 (3093)

This will run Tuesday to Sunday 19.04.2019 to 20.10.2019. It will now be Compulsory reservation FIRST CLASS ONLY plus a supplement of SFR 16

Gotthard Weekender

Will only run Saturday and Sunday 20.04.2019 to 08.06.2019 (also 19/22.04 and 30.05). From 09.06 a different Gotthard timetable will apply due to the engineering closure of Zug to Arth Goldau

0757 Zürich-Bellinzona 1120 (3091)

1618 Bellinzona-Zürich 1942 (3094)

Direct link to zip file containing the entire SBB 2019 timetable in pdf documents

http://www.fahrplanfelder.ch/fileadmin/fap_daten_real/felder_pdfs.zip

2019 Presentations- Offers of presentations are welcome!

Many thanks for the offers of presentations, not quite a full house but getting there!

April 24th - 'Inter-railing' in Jan / Feb 2019 by Richard Shaw.

- June /July – Obbo trip at Severn Valley Railway date tbc.

August 28th – ?

September 25th – 'T-Z in Switzerland' Marin Fishers talk presented by David Stevenson

October 30th – ? by Rupert Chambers

November 27th- ?

December Christmas event – date tbc

Regards, Richard Shaw (shawrichard@pobroadband.co.uk)