

West Midlands Rundschreiben

January 2020

Group News.

I hope everyone had a good Christmas and New Year. I'm trusting you are all in good health especially those who we have not seen for some time. I know this newsletter is early in the month but I thought I would send an update of the presentations for the year as the Jan – March meetings have only recently been confirmed and hopefully it might tempt members to help fill the gaps!

SBB and other News

The NStCM has awarded Stadler a contract to supply six two-car electric multiple-units. Deliveries are scheduled between late 2021 and early 2022. The 1.5 kV DC EMUs will be similar to four Abe4/8 units which Stadler supplied to the 27 km long metre-gauge line in 2015.

Appenzeller Bahnen has taken delivery of two Stadler Gem 2/2 electro-diesel locomotives for use on its infrastructure maintenance trains. The two-axle metre-gauge locomotives were ordered at cost of SFr5.3m in March 2018 to replace 50-year old diesel-only locos. The 28 tonne locos are rated at 400 kW when using diesel power and 700 kW when using the 1.5 kV DC electrification.

Metre-gauge railway group BVZ Holding has awarded Stadler a SFr45m contract to supply five two-car Abt rack EMUs for use on its 9.4 km Gornergrat mountain railway from 2021. The 725 V 50 Hz units will have a maximum speed of 30 km/h uphill and 20 km/h downhill, and will be able to work in multiple with the Gornergrat Bahn's existing vehicles. Regenerative braking will allow three downhill runs to power two ascents.

Sihltal Zürich Uetliberg Bahn has awarded Stadler a SFr46.7m contract to supply five three-section Be570 electric multiple-units for the 1 435 mm gauge Uetlibergbahn, which forms Route S10 of the Zürich transport network.

Intended to replace the line's Be520 and B220 vehicles, the new EMUs will be similar to the Be510 units which have been in service since 2014. They will be equipped to work from both the Uetlibergbahn's 1.2 kV DC electrification and the national standard 15 kV 16.7 Hz.

(Thanks to Railway Gazette for the above news)

2020 - Offers of presentations are welcome!

Presentations so far are:

Dates are:

“The finest song ever kept from number one by a rubbish song” by David Stevenson - Wednesday Jan 29th.

(I will not be able to make this one, on nights! The projector etc. should be there for use. Another very cryptic title for you to work out!)

‘2019 Swiss Update’ by Sholto Thomas - Wednesday Feb 26th

‘2020 Jan-March European Ramble (Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic and Austria)’ by Richard Shaw-Wednesday March 25th

Wednesday April 29th – VACANT

Wednesday August 26th – VACANT

Wednesday September 30th – VACANT

Wednesday October 28th – VACANT

Wednesday November 25th – VACANT

2020 Christmas event t.b.c. probably Wednesday 16th December 2020



A Stadler tram testing out its articulation!

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