

Loco Shed

Asia Pacific Heritage and
Tourist Rail Organisation



APHTRO

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<http://www.aphtro.info>

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The days in ‘hibernation’ provide a good opportunity for considering and planning the future

(Kyoichi Oda, President)

Since the last newsletter was issued in December, we have been encountered many changes from infection by Corona Virus. It sees the tourist side of our activities damaged in some members’ places. The situation toward the future is still unclear, but we are preparing for after the problem ends. It seems also the days in ‘hibernation’ make a good opportunity for considering and planning the future of your business. For APHTRO too:

We have run our Facebook group forum, however it might not be so useful for our members. So the plan of a new on-line communication platform has been launched to resolve and improve matters. It can bring much benefit for our members, through various types of on-line communication. For this, we must seek views of our members about what they want; we lacked the views of our on-line activities in the past.

It is not so easy to form and run a really useful and valuable platform for our members. There are quite few successful examples world-wide of domestic and international on-line co-operation in the rail heritage sphere. Our members and partners, from New Zealand to Jordan, have a wide cultural diversity. They each have different historical and social backgrounds - people’s way of thinking and business style is different too. But now would be a good opportunity, viewed from the other side, to incorporate a variety of cultural views.

I hope you can give your ideas and views - indispensable to form such an on-line platform as a mainstay for our activities.

Supporting members' projects

We are currently supporting the following projects:

- a. Transforming the former Taipei Railway Workshops into a Railway Museum in Taiwan;
- b. A steam train revival plan by Manila Railroad Club in The Philippines;
- c. Steam locomotive boiler inspections at Royal Railways in Cambodia;
- d. Converting a steam engine to oil burning at Shibanzi Railway in China;
- e. Forming friends' association and introducing driving courses at Jordan Hejaz Railways; and
- f. Financial assistance for some delegates coming to our annual conference.

Incorporation

We will not be incorporated in India. We are seeking in other countries - possibly Taiwan, Thailand or Jordan are conceivable places.

On-line Communication Platform

Our new on-line communication platform is under planning, comprising so far:

- a. Communication and exchange
- b. Notices
- c. Database
- d. Broadcasting

It is essential that ideas and views of those involved with rail heritage in the Asia Pacific region are collected at the planning stage and we hope for your help with this. It needs your suggestions and will be constructed for members and people in the rail heritage sphere in the Asia Pacific region. Please be assured that this facility is to bring you benefit and to help your activities. Let us begin!

Conference 2020 in Cepu, Indonesia

The state of COVID-19 will be checked in September before the final decision to hold the Conference. We advise that no flight or hotel be booked before our confirmation notice.

Next APHTRO Conference will (**if confirmed**) be held in Cepu and Solo (Surakarta), Indonesia.

The (**provisional**) Conference programme Schedule:

Sun 6 Dec Arrival Semarang, move to Cepu by each
Mon 7 Dec Steam train on Cepu Forest Railway
Tue 8 Dec Move to Semarang, visiting Lawang Sewu
Wed 9 Dec Visit railway museum in Ambarawa and steam train, move to Solo
Tue 10 Dec Steam train of Jaladara and Tasik madu
Fri 11 Dec Business session

Delegates will fly to Semarang via Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur or Singapore then take the train to Cepu by Sunday 6 December 2020.

Conference fee is expected to be 300USD or less depending on the number of delegates. Payment in Indonesian Rupiah will be welcomed.

The Conference will end in Solo, in the late afternoon of Friday 11 December. Delegates can fly back from Solo airport through Jakarta, or Yogyakarta airport (one hour by train from Solo).

Presentations on the day of the Business session will be broadcast on the Internet. You also can join subsequent discussion - please consult our webmaster:

Youwei Liu, youwei.rcs@gmail.com

More details and a booking form will be available on our website: www.aphtro.info



(Photo: Masatoshi Suzuki)

Further conferences

Conferences from next year:

2021 China - Yunnan Railway Museum in Kunming, Chengdu–Kunming railway with some double or triple loops, Steam train on Shibanzi Railway, Steam train on Diaobingshan coal mine line, Shenyang Steamloco Museum, China Railway Museum in Beijing

2022 India – Steam Train on Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, Class WP on mainline and Nilgiri Mountain Railway

Thailand(2nd) – after inauguration of new railway museum

Myanmar

Sri Lanka

Pakistan

Website move

Due to domain registration problems, the APHTRO website has been moved to a new domain:

<http://www.aphtro.info>

Vacancies

Please recommend if you or someone you know would be happy to help us.

Secretary

We are seeking a new secretary.

Treasurer

We are seeking a new treasurer.

Volunteers

All APHTRO activities are maintained by volunteers and we are currently seeking a:

- Newsletter Editor - This newsletter appears at least twice a year

Our Newsletter cannot be sustained without fresh content.

Latest news, photos and articles from your heritage railways will be very much welcomed.

Our next issue will appear in December 2020.

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(We thank *tw* for checking the draft)