

Loco Shed

Asia Pacific Heritage and
Tourist Rail Organisation



APHTRO

Asia Pacific Heritage and Tourist Rail Organisation

No. 23

30 June 2023

<http://www.aphtro.info>

<https://www.facebook.com/aphtro>

New international co-operation from / based in Asia-Pacific (Kyoichi Oda, President)

Our new website has been launched. More content will be added steadily, to cover all Asia-Pacific rail heritage as the first step. An on-line discussion forum is under research - mainly technical side – and will be introduced after trial by our council on-line communication.

We are trying suggesting TICCIH Congress 2028 in India. It has been held mostly in western countries recently, except 2012 in Taiwan. It is important for our Asia-Pacific industrial heritage to have strong connection and co-operation with the other regions in the world. We think the co-operation with the other sphere of industrial heritage on worldwide level is important too.

Our annual conference will be held as ‘hybrid’ style, visit programme to rail heritage sites in each country and on-line webinar / discussion by presentors from Asia-Pacific region and any other in the world. It seems the best way for us under our current situation. Very expensive, for example more than 1,000 USD fee for each participant does not work well. We never forget that most of our members / potential members are in developing countries.

In this year, the visit programme will be Indonesia in November and on-line discussion will be held in December as in below of this newsletter. We will keep this style in the future as reviewing the result of this year except some small amendments to improve it to the best way for our rail heritage in Asia-Pacific region.

Supporting members' projects

We are currently supporting the following projects:

- a. Transforming the former Taipei Railway Workshops into a Railway Museum in Taiwan;
- b. Proposing TICCIH Congress 2028 in India;
- c. A steam train revival plan by Manila Railroad Club in The Philippines;
- d. Steam locomotive boiler inspections at Royal Railways in Cambodia;
- e. Converting a steam engine to oil burning at Shibexi Railway in China;
- f. Forming friends' association and introducing driving courses at Jordan Hejaz Railways;
- g. Transforming the Hua Lamphong Railway Station, Bangkok into a Railway Museum in Thailand; and
- h. Financial assistance for some delegates coming to our annual conferences.

Conference Visit Programme in Indonesia 2023

Our visit programme is planned from 18 to 24 November in Indonesia, one of the richest rail heritage countries in Southeast Asia. It includes steam train rides and visit to all rail historical sites:

Steam train of Sawahlunto Railway Museum in Sumatra Island



Steam train of Jaladara in Solo city



Steam train at Tasik Madu sugar mill



Railway museum in Ambarawa and steam train ride



Tourist train on Cepu Forest Railway



Transport Museum in Jakarta



and West Java Railway Heritage Trail Tour on 23 & 24 November

The detailed brochure is available and booking is opened, Please ask us by email or on Facebook.

Conference On-line Discussion 2023

This year's on-line discussion part is planned on 16 & 17 December, held on MS-Teams the same as last year.

Expected speakers:

- Jordan Hejaz Railways
- Sichuan Chuantou Emei Tourism Development Co.,Ltd.
- Mr. Paul Mahony, Department Conservation of New Zealand, "Forest Railways in Asia Pacific
- Ms Hasti, HERITAGE Hands-on, Industrial Heritage in Indonesia
- Mr. Naiyi Hsu, APHTRO, Report of Visit Programme Indonesia
- Mr. Ripan Dhawan, Plan of APHTRO Conference 2024 in India

Further conferences beyond 2024

The conferences beyond 2024 are in planning. They will be held as 'hybrid' - which consists of real visit programme and on-line discussion. The venues of visit programmes under consideration are :

2024 India

*Nilgiri Mountain Railway

*Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus in Mumbai)

Special steam train on main line, hopefully Class WP 7161

*Darjeeling Himalayan Railway

(* World Heritage site)

2025 Sri Lanka or Vietnam

The locations of the conference visit programmes beyond 2026 under consideration:

- **Thailand (2nd)**

New railway museum renovated from Hua Lamphong station and some other sites planned.

Visit the museum and hopefully special steam train.

- **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 steam locomotive museum

China Railway Museum in Beijing

- **Pakistan**

TBD

Unfortunately, so far we cannot have any plan in Myanmar and Syria.

Website Development

Our new website has been launched in last November. The further contents and services, which includes rail heritage information base and an on-line communication platform, will be added by turn:

a) Heritage Rail Information – Photo Gallery, Rail Museums, links etc. as rail heritage site database and background in Asia-Pacific, introducing information about members' sites - anything useful for visitors.

b) Blog / Bulletin Board / Newsletters as an on-line forum.

An on-line BBS for members to share and exchange information. A discussion facility for each category and topic. A thread floating BBS system makes for considerable

progress. WhatsApp or other messenger service could be used as an alert for new postings.

Appropriate roles of such facilities and other communication media - Facebook, Newsletter etc., will be considered and updated for further improvement.

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 and will be a useful promotion of your railway.

Our next issue will appear in from m December 2023.

info.aphtro@gmail.com

(We thank *tw* for checking the draft)