

Loco Shed

Asia Pacific Heritage and
Tourist Rail Organisation

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<http://www.aphtro.info>

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



A multi-national organisation with a diverse background

(Kyoichi Oda, President)

The countries represented by our members are extremely diverse: railway heritage activities extend from Jordan to New Zealand, each with its own unique social and historical background. This diversity is far greater than that found in North America or Europe.

It goes without saying that an organisation cannot function effectively without recognising this diversity. Likewise, an administration based solely on the way of thinking or business practices of a single country will never succeed.

So, what should we be careful about?

First, we must understand the social and historical background of each member country. People's ways of thinking and business practices vary considerably from one country to another.

Second, we need to understand the circumstances surrounding railway heritage activities in each country. In many cases, these are closely related to the country's social and economic conditions.

Third, we must remain politically and religiously neutral. We should not favour any particular political or religious position, nor should we establish any hierarchy among our members. Every railway heritage activity deserves to be treated with equal respect.

Fourth, we must not overlook the challenges faced by developing countries or adopt only the perspectives of wealthy people in affluent nations.

Our cooperative activities would not succeed unless we carefully consider these points. This principle is probably applicable to any form of international cooperation

across continents.

Any international organisation dedicated to railway heritage must be administered in a balanced and inclusive manner. This is not always easy, but a "one-size-fits-all" approach is fundamentally inappropriate - it can never gain full support of people from such diverse backgrounds.

Supporting members' projects

We are currently supporting the following projects:

- a. The inauguration event of new Taipei Railway Museum in November 2028;
- b. Proposing TICCIIH Congress in Indonesia and India;
- c. Steam Loco parts supply to Hawaiian Philippines Co.;
- d. Holding a Rail Heritage Trail Tour in Thailand and Taiwan;
- e. Holding photography tours in the Southern region of Jordan Hejaz Railways;
- f. New management at Rewari Steam Centre in India;
- g. Financial assistance for some delegates coming to our annual conferences.

Conference Visit Programme 2026

2026 APHTRO Conference Visit Programme is planned to be held in Thailand and Vietnam. The details have not been confirmed yet at the end of June 2026.

Thailand:

1 or 2 December: Arrival Kanchanaburi, photo reconnaissance(unofficial)

3 December: River Kwai Bridge Week and steam special train (TBD)



4 December: Move to Bangkok

5 December: Ride the steam train from Bangkok to Chachoengsao



6 December: Visit a Railway Museum and Thon Buri steam depot (Unofficial)



7 December: Ride and visit Maeklong market line (Unofficial)

8 December: Visit Makkasan Workshop (Unofficial)



9 or 10 December: Flight from Bangkok to Da Nang

Vietnam:

10 December: Arrival Da Nang, photo reconnaissance(unofficial)

11 December: Visit the steam engine shed



12 December: Ride the Revolution Express steam train from Da nang to Hue

The provisional schedule is:

0900 depart Kim Lien Station Danang going north via the Hai Van pass.

1015 arrive Lang Co station. Guests can disembark or board here.

1130 depart Lang Co for Hue Station

1300 arrive Hue Station

1400 depart Hue Station

1530 arrive Lang Co Station

1630 depart Lang Co Station

1745 arrive Kim Lien Station in Danang

13 December: Photography (Unofficial) or ride the Revolution Express steam train



Conference Webinar 2026

This year's Webinar will be held from UTC 09:00 to 12:30 on 21 and 22 November. Please refer our Facebook page for the confirmed speakers and presentations.

Further conferences beyond 2027

Our Conference will be held as a 'hybrid' - comprising a real visit programme and Webinar usually held in November or December.

Our Visit Programme beyond 2027:

2027

We will join FRONZ conference, from late May to early June in Nelson in New Zealand.

<https://fronz.org.nz/conferences/>

2028

Taiwan, Expected to be held with the inauguration event of new Taipei Railway Museum and possibly ANIH (Asian Network of Industrial Heritage) congress; planned to include visit and ride on Alishan Forestry Railway, sugarcane narrow gauge lines and mainline steam train (TBD).

beyond 2029

Malaysia: Kota Kinabalu

China: Chengdu and Sheoyang

Sri Lanka

Pakistan

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 December 2026.

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(We thank *tw* for checking the draft)