



Vol.2 - 2014

Message from the President – David Bainbridge



Welcome to this edition of EnGauge. The first part of 2014 has raced by with many changes taking place within the rail industry and across the country as a whole. We have had major projects announced by governments including the rail infrastructure to support Sydney’s second airport and the proposed Melbourne airport rail link. What is certain is that, if this federal government is going to be the “infrastructure government”, then a significant proportion of the investment is going to be in rail – good news for all!

Taking up this point further, the RTAA needs to be in the right position to meet the needs of our members and those of the industry as a whole. We have been taking on-board all the feedback you have given us and developed our strategic plan for the next three years. It is important to know that our strategy is about what else we need to deliver, in addition to doing business as usual. Therefore, you will not see the Field Days or the Frank Franklyn Award in our strategy – we already do these activities – and do them well!

I ask that, if you have any comments or feedback about how the Executive Committee is steering your RTAA, you tell us. Without your feedback we have no way of assessing whether you are satisfied with our proposed direction or not. After all, this is your RTAA and the Executive Committee is proud to have been given the privilege to make the RTAA what you want it to be.

I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable Anzac Day weekend..

David Bainbridge – RTAA President

RTAA CONSIDERS ITS FUTURE DIRECTION

Under the guidance of Julie Tassone, Proposals and Communications Specialist, the RTAA Executive Committee has been engaged in consultations to consider the future direction of the RTAA. The RTAA has listened to the feedback of our members through the 2013 survey, and feel confident that we are moving in the right direction. Having achieved our core principles over the past few years, which included more Field Day events, networking meetings around the country and wider participation in our Frank Franklyn Award, the RTAA is seeking to expand its mandate to include:

- Broadening the appeal of rail to women, young people and Indigenous people
- Holding the Field Days event in other states and ensuring a truly national focus
- Working towards the establishment of uniform track standards
- Promoting the distribution of rail knowledge from one generation to the next.

A special edition of EnGauge will be published next month devoted entirely to the Strategic Plan. We invite feedback from our members.

Julie Tassone was instrumental in preparing our 40th Anniversary Brochure together with graphic designer, Jamie Robinson. JR Visual Communication Solutions delivers results for businesses and organisations through high impact, persuasive and memorable visual communication solutions

Julie Tassone
Proposals & Communications Specialist

- Proposal management
- Technical writing & editing
- Strategic messaging
- Workshop facilitation
- Corporate communications
- Stakeholder management

0416 086 887 jt@julietassone.com.au

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Some of the Australia Day passengers on the Heritage Express train arrive in Newcastle as part of the RTAA's 40th Anniversary celebrations

In celebration of 40 years!



Glenn Skarrett provided songs and musical accompaniment on the outward journey in our RTAA carriage.



Life Member & RTAA President up to 2006 Dave Hassall and his wife Cathy

RTAA APPOINTS NEW FIELD DAY MANAGER FOR 2015 EVENT



The RTAA has appointed Ateka Ringrose to head our Field Day Organising Committee, following the first meeting of volunteers to plan the 2015 event. The event will be held on 25 and 26 February 2015, once again in Clyde Yard, NSW.

The formal seal of approval has been received from Howard Collins, CEO Sydney Trains, as well as from staunch supporter of our previous events, Chris Lock, Deputy Director General, Transport Projects, Transport for NSW.

Ateka brings over ten years' experience in event management, both in Europe, Asia as well as in Australia, which has been her home for the past two and half years. Her wealth of marketing expertise and professionalism will hopefully ensure an even better Field Days event.

We still aim to achieve a low-cost event for our members to showcase what is current and innovative in the industry.

The event could not be held without the loyal support of our members, some of whom have assisted with organising the event since its inception in 2006. We welcome the following who have volunteered their enthusiasm and hard work: Mark Fulford (Martinus Rail), Mike Hughes (John Holland Rail), Jim Mahood (Transfield Services), Ian Moore (Pandrol Australia), Julie Tassone (JT Communications) as well as Max Croucher (Sydney Trains). New-comers to the committee this year are: Kylie Huth (VAE), Sarah Brennan (Rhombert Rail), Vesna Josifoski (Rocket Rail) and Pauline Henderson (Encompass Credit Union),

The RTAA Executive Committee members will continue to provide their experience and support. Allan Logan has once more assumed the huge responsibility for managing the budget for the event.

Staging this unique event in Australia would not be possible without the generous sponsorship of our member companies, so we appeal to all our Corporate Members to consider the appeal of this event to all in the rail industry visitors.

This will be the RTAA's sixth Field Days event in cooperation with RailCorp (Sydney Trains). The event is a huge exhibition of on-track machinery and equipment well as exhibition stands for services allied to the rail industry.

The Field Days event is the biggest outdoor rail industry event in Australia.

ANNOUNCING THE LAUNCH OF 2014 FRANK FRANKLYN YOUNG RAIL SPECIALIST AWARD – Win a trip to an international conference of your choice!

Nominations are now open for the 2014 Frank Franklyn Award. The award is granted for excellence and “applied” innovation to an eligible young rail employee. Eligible employees may be a specialist in railway infrastructure, and not necessarily an engineer, under the age of 35 years. The award is aimed at acknowledging and encouraging the contribution of young people in rail, while also promoting the objectives of the RTAA.

Applicants are required to answer the judging criteria (see Guidelines on our website). Consideration is also given to their originality and technical excellence, provided in a logical and concise format. Submissions should be original and preferably not have been submitted previously.

ALL RTAA PERSONAL MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF RTAA CORPORATE MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER (SEE WEBSITE FOR LIST OF MEMBERS). **Closing date Monday 7 July.**

SYDNEY TECHNICAL SESSION AND NETWORKING MEETING



Howard Collins (CEO Sydney Trains) and David Bainbridge at our first Sydney Technical Session and Networking Meeting

The RTAA held its first Technical Session and Networking Meeting on Tuesday 11 February 2014 in Sydney. Howard Collins, CEO, Sydney Trains, delivered the keynote address. Guest Speakers were: Jamie Stares, National Rail Assurance Manager, Infrastructure Division, Leighton Contractors, on the topic of AEO and Leighton Contractors National Rail - Lessons Learned so far. Frank Franklyn Award (third place winner), Dr Sakdirat Kaewunruen, also presented his submission: In situ performance of a complex urban turnout grillage system using FFU Bearers.

Over 90 guests registered to attend this meeting.

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RTAA NO TIE DINNER 2014 CALL FOR SPONSORS

The RTAA has a proud tradition of holding the No Tie Dinner and past events have attracted over 280 guests from the rail industry. No doubt attracted by the first class setting, with fine food and wines, but without the formality of wearing a tie! The RTAA will once again in 2014 include light-hearted entertainment on the night. A well-known comedian has been engaged to ensure a fun-filled evening.

THIS YEAR THE ‘NO TIE DINNER’ WILL BE HELD IN SYDNEY ON FRIDAY 29 AUGUST AT DOLTONE HOUSE, HYDE PARK.

In 2014, we will be awarding the Frank Franklyn Award for the first time at the No Tie Dinner and in the company of its own members. The Frank Franklyn Award finalists will be our guests of honour at this event.

We invite sponsors to contact us now to have their logo included in our invitation which is distributed to all members and their guests. This is a major opportunity to promote your company on the large screens around the ballroom before the captive audience dinner guests.

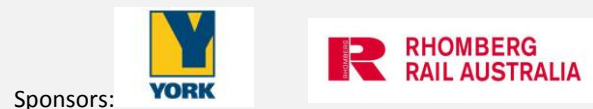
Please contact Sandy Bull on secretary@rtaa.org.au or on 02 9980 5211 for more details.

TECHNICAL SESSION & NETWORKING MEETING IN PERTH - 13 MAY 2014

Members and their guests are invited to attend this meeting at Rydges Hotel at 5.30pm. Attendance is free.

To attend, please register with secretary@rtaa.org.au to reserve your place.

Our guest speakers will be: Simone Pennefather, Project Manager, Fremantle Ports and Steve Kochergan, State Manager W.A., York Civil



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JOINT RTAA / PWI QUEENSLAND MEETING HELD IN BRISBANE

A key strategy for the RTAA is to encourage more collaboration with other rail bodies and, as a result, the RTAA convened a joint meeting in Brisbane with PWI Queensland. The President, David Tate, thanked the RTAA for organising a good night at Christies Conference Centre, where both David Tate and David Bainbridge welcomed their guests.

Guest speaker for the evening was: Paul Hoffmann, Vice President Project Delivery at Aurizon, who delivered a presentation on: Aurizon's Transformation and the Part Program Delivery Plays.



Please note that the Mackay Networking Meeting on 17 June 2014 has been cancelled.

SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE NETWORKING MEETINGS – CALL FOR SPONSORS

Please contact Sandy Bull for more information if you would like to sponsor (or co-sponsor) either of these meetings.

AUSRAIL 2014 – PERTH “Making Innovation Work”

RTAA TECHNICAL STREAM UPDATE

In response to the call for papers, 84 were submitted across all Australian rail bodies. The RTAA Technical Stream committee now has the unenviable task of selecting 6 papers, out of a possible short-listed 10, for its technical stream. The stream takes the form of a 25 minute presentation on the program.

Authors will be notified of their acceptance on 2nd May 2014.

NEW - MEMBER BENEFITS TABLE

To avoid confusion, the following table for personal and corporate members should clarify benefits that apply.

Benefit	Corporate	Personal
Access to RTAA publications / Website	Yes	Yes
Free attendance at Technical and Networking Events	Yes, for all employees and their guests	Yes, for the individual nominated personal member plus one guest
Upload of company logo onto RTAA website	Yes	No
Use of RTAA logo or name in company literature / website / emails	Yes	No
Advertise company through RTAA diary, wall planner, EnGauge, events' app or other publications	Yes	No
Issue of Invoices	To company ABN	To the individual
Take part in the Field Days Event as an exhibitor	Required to maintain corporate membership for a two year period (in the Field Days year as well as the Field Day off-year)	No
Benefit from discounts for any RTAA event	Yes	Yes, for individual personal members only
Purchase tickets for any RTAA event at reduced rate	Yes, for employees and guests	Yes, for individual use only (may purchase one couple's ticket, for themselves and partner)
Nominations for Frank Franklyn Award	Yes, for any number of employees	Personal member may nominate themselves
Sponsorship of event with benefits of sponsorship	Yes, for the company	Yes, as individual, not as a company