



## **Newsletter December 2017**

Since the issue of the September Newsletter the ATHRA Board – in transition – is keeping active in dealing with its work log section sheet in regards the setting up for the transition to the new Management Board which will be created at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting in May 2018.

A sub-committee has been created to co-ordinate the Tourist & Heritage sector representation on ARA, NTC and ONRSR based sub-committees. A list of committees and meetings at which ATHRA is to be represented is being drawn up. Amongst some of the items to be discussed in future are the Drug & Alcohol Testing area and Rail Safety National Laws.

### **MUSEUM WORKING GROUP**

Submissions are sought from State Group representatives, who have become members of ATHRA, to take part in a Museum Working Group. A brief of aspects to be covered by this group is being compiled to give the group an area to work on. Responses to be sent to [secretary@athra.asn.au](mailto:secretary@athra.asn.au)

### **MEMBERSHIP**

State Group members are reminded that if they wish to become part of ATHRA, in accordance with Section 5 of the Constitution, then they need to complete the membership application form, sent out with the September Newsletter, and return the form to [membership@athra.com.au](mailto:membership@athra.com.au). This will allow each member organisation to participate in the electing of a State Representative of the seven (7) required. This is needed to be done prior to the Annual General Meeting.

A membership data base is in process of being established to record all details of each group that have submitted their application forms. Upon completion, possibly prior to, this data base will be available for all groups to access.

**NATIONAL TRUST** is rolling out a deductible gift recipient and charitable status scheme that Heritage Groups can access for their projects. More information will follow on this.

### **NATIONAL HERITAGE RAIL DAY**

The first Sunday in September is more commonly known as Father's Day, however in 2018 it will also be National Heritage Rail Day where emphasis will be made on the achievements of railways contribution over the years. Further details will be available in due course.

### **TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT**

All ATHRA members are now invited to apply for the Steam Locomotive Driver and Steam Locomotive Firemen's Training course, which was approved by the Board at the August 2017 meeting. Applications to be forwarded to [training@athra.asn.au](mailto:training@athra.asn.au)

The Training and Assessment working group are currently working on documents relating to diesel drivers and rail cars. It is anticipated to commence in the first week of February and be completed by end of March 2018.

A module on training and assessment of rolling stock maintainers is to be developed in conjunction with the Code of Practice (COP) Group.

A consultation draft guideline has been released by ONRSR for comment from all groups, with closing date for comment by 22 December 2017 – apologies for the short notice. We have been advised that comments will be still be accepted until early January 2018. Details are available via the following link. Please copy any comments to Frank Hussey at ATHRA as well via the address [training@athra.asn.au](mailto:training@athra.asn.au)

**Comments required by early January**

<https://www.onrsr.com.au/news-and-events/news-stories/consultation-on-draft-locomotive-boiler-guideline>

The Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board (RISSB) is presently undertaking a review of the Code of Practice for Inspection, Maintenance and Repair of Rail Locomotive Boilers prepared in 2011 in conjunction with ATHRA. The document is available on our website [www.athra.asn.au](http://www.athra.asn.au) in the menu on the right hand side entitled “boiler code”. Comments on this should be directed to Peter Ford

A key feature of this that Steam drivers and firemen holding an ATHRA certificate of competency resulting from training through the ATHRA course are not required (by ONRSR) to have high risk work licences as well. ATHRA are now applying to the state Worksafe bodies for similar exemptions for those with ATHRA certificates. A review of the Insurance Policy is being undertaken to ensure it covers ATR assessors performing duties relative to ATHRA Requirements. The first exemption application has been lodged in Victoria.

On Behalf of the ATHRA Board we look forward to working directly with the member groups to create a brighter future for our sector and I wish you all the best for Christmas and 2018.

Chris Martin Chairman ATHRA and Brian Williams Secretary ATHRA.

E-mail: [secretary@athra.asn.au](mailto:secretary@athra.asn.au)