



Central Queensland Combined Rail Groups Network

Objectives

The Central Queensland Combined Rail Groups Network was founded in 2000 as an informal forum for regional rail/tram heritage groups:

- To preserve and promote the region's rail/tram heritage.
- To improve relations between groups by exchanging information, ideas and artifacts.
- To ensure awareness of legislation, procedures, regulations, training opportunities, etc.
- To encourage young people to join rail or tram groups as volunteers.

Membership

Membership is open, without charge, to any rail/tram heritage group or activity located in Central Queensland or involved in promoting Central Queensland's rail/tram heritage.

- Members must agree to respect and maintain the integrity of all members.
- Members must provide details for a membership register and nominate a contact person(s).
- While there is no membership fee, members may be asked for donations to cover normal operating expenses. Network activities, such as meetings, will normally be self-funding.

Activities

Network activities are generally proposed at, and accepted by those attending a network meeting. They include maintenance of the network as well as special activities to further the objectives of the network. They include:

- Maintaining an up to date register of Central Queensland rail & tram groups with contact names, addresses, phone numbers, fax, e-mails etc. within the network.
- Distributing a register of groups, meeting minutes, invitations, heritage rail/tram and other appropriate railway information, etc.
- Promoting network groups and their activities through the QldRailHeritage.com web site.
- Assisting network groups with volunteer recruitment; setting up of displays; exchanging, donating or repairing memorabilia; enhancing exhibits or museums; training; etc.
- Responding to changes in legislation, regulation, rules, etc., and organizing appropriate training to assist implementation.
- Representing the network with other tourist or heritage organizations, railways, etc. Note that

this must usually be done at the expense of the representative, not the network.

- Sponsoring an annual Achievement Award(s).

Meetings

Meetings are held 2-4 times per year and are rotated around the region so that members become familiar with the operations of other rail heritage activities to assist with promotion and improve relations between groups.

Groups wishing to host a meeting should advise the coordinator and nominate a preferred date. Meeting sites and dates will normally be confirmed by the members at a meeting.

Meetings normally include 'smoko' on arrival, a tour of the host and/or other local facilities, lunch and a business meeting, chaired by the network coordinator, with a local guest speaker.

Meetings also provide an opportunity to promote upcoming activities, supply promotional material or flyers for distribution throughout the region, etc..

Achievement Award

Network groups may apply for consideration for an annual award to recognize group(s) which have made significant achievements during the year.

- Achievements could include a restoration or accreditation project, the incorporation of a group, a restoration project or painting of a building, laying of rail line or sleepers, holding a special event or function, having passed the previous best visitor numbers in a year, holding an event where the proceeds will be donated to a charity, achieving the highest number of financial volunteers in any one year, or any other achievement that may be recognized as significant by that group, museum or venue.
- Applications will be considered by a committee approved by the network and will be announced at the last network meeting of the year.

Network Coordinator

The network coordinator is an unpaid position to perform the minimal administrative requirements of the network. These include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Maintaining the membership register and distributing minutes, etc.
- Setting the agenda and chairing the business component of network meetings.
- Ensuring that meeting preparations are satisfactory.