COTMA Conference Brisbane 2025 – Update.

Host: Brisbane Tramway Museum Society

Dates: Friday 10 Oct to Monday 13 Oct. 2025

Location: Conference sessions at the Queensland Museum – Grey St South Brisbane

Approx costs – partners and attendees: – with the generous support of the Queensland Museum in providing the conference venue free of charge, $300 to $350 – to be confirmed.

Timetable provisional: –

Friday 10th Oct

- 8.58am Train ex Central then connecting bus for sessions at the Rail Museum
- 10.20am Ipswich Workshops Rail Museum
- Morning Tea
- Registration & Welcome
- Presentation by Director on Visitor Engagement
- Lunch (catered)
- Inspection of Qld Rail Heritage Fleet Maintenance Workshops
- Possible Presentation then return to City by train.
- Dinner - Own arrangements

Saturday 11th Oct

- 9am conference at Qld Museum Southbank
- Presentations & Museum Updates
- Lunch catered
- Presentations & Museum Updates
- Dinner - Own arrangements

Sunday 12th Oct

- 9am conference at Qld Museum Southbank
- Presentations & Museum Updates
- Lunch catered
- Presentations & Museum Updates
- Conference dinner and award presentations

Monday 13th Oct

- 13th Oct Train to Ferny Grove
- (Taxis from station for those unable to walk) Morning tea
- Conference General Meeting
- Lunch catered
- Inspection and Tram operations

Call for Papers:

If your Museum or yourself would like to present a paper for the Conference, please advise the Conference Organiser, Peter Hyde at peter.hyde@bigpond.com by Friday 1 August 2025. The actual presentation, if you are using PowerPoint or similar, must be with the organisers by Wednesday 1 October.

Award Nominations:

Museum Excellence – The Bill Kingsley Award – due to be submitted by Monday 1 September to the Secretary – Mal.rowe@gmail.com

Volunteer Awards: again to Mal Rowe by Monday 1 September.

For details of Awards and the nomination process see https://cotma.org.au/awards.html

Museum reports:

Presentation limits – 15mins max otherwise you shout the bar. Proposed presentations with PowerPoint or a movie must be with the organisers by Wednesday 1 October to enable it to be checked using the Queensland Museum's equipment. Please advise the organisers that you are planning to present a report by Sunday 21 September to enable session planning.

Conference General Meeting: The meeting will be held at the BTMS Ferny Grove Museum.

Gold Coast Light Rail Visit

No formal arrangements for a visit have been made. Suggestions are to self-organise either on the day before or the day after Conference.