Peter Berriman is President of the NSW Rail Transport Museum (NSWRMT), and has been since 2004, on a purely voluntary basis. With a professional engineering and management background, he has in recent years worked on a number of heritage-related projects, and has been instrumental in the development of formal conservation management plans for heritage rolling stock, where the NSWRMT and its Exhibits Management Group have led the field. He has also overseen the development of a major strategy to recognise the NSWRMT’s role in conservation of the state’s moveable rail heritage, and promote with the NSW government a long-term strategy for funding and management of government-owned heritage rolling stock. Together with the NSWRMT’s Operations Manager Andrew Killingsworth, he has envisaged a future for rail heritage in NSW that moves on from the current and traditional approach.

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Graeme Breydon was the former Chairman of the Emerald Tourist Railway Board (Operator of the Puffing Billy Railway) and former Treasurer, Puffing Billy Preservation Society. At the time of his premature death in August 2006 (aged 54) Graeme had been Chairman of the Emerald Tourist Railway Board since November 1999. He was instrumental in the operation and development of the ‘Puffing Billy’ railway over the previous forty-two years. He first joined the Puffing Billy Preservation Society as a ten-year-old in 1964. In 1989 he joined the Board and became chair a decade later. In this role he worked tirelessly to improve the Puffing Billy experience. At a national level, Graeme was involved in the development of the National Rail Safety Regulations as they pertain to tourist railways. For his efforts he was presented an individual award for excellence from the Australasian Railway Association, an outstanding achievement that recognised his passion for railways and sharing their magic with members of the public.

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Donald Ellsmore PhD is a heritage consultant specialising in conservation and heritage management. He is the convener of the Association for Preservation Technology International Australia Chapter and a graduate of Newcastle University with higher degrees in architecture from Bordeaux University and the University of York. As heritage manager for the NSW State Rail Authority between 1995 and 1999 he was responsible for devising and implementing conservation strategies at significant railway heritage places including several on the Great Northern Railway. Donald is actively involved in education and training in architectural conservation practice and cultural tourism management. He is Director and Principal, Donald Ellsmore Pty Ltd.

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Ian Gray PhD is Associate Professor in Sociology and Anthropology, Director Centre for Rural Social Research, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Charles Sturt University. Ian’s research interests cover sociology of community, rural society, local government, urban society, transportation and the environment. He has extensive experience in research on rural social and environmental issues. Ian teaches sociology and conducts research on rural communities and transport. His research projects include a study on regional transport for the Local Government and Shires Associations of New South Wales which culminated in the 2004 publication *A Future for Regional Passenger Trains in New South Wales*. He has spoken at many conferences in Australia and overseas on transport issues. Currently he is working on a project investigating attitudes to regionalism and the prospects for changing our systems of governance to give greater autonomy and voice to regional communities.

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Robert Haworth PhD was an apprentice in the Eveleigh and Chullora workshops in the 1950s. Subsequently, he completed a PhD in the geography of settlement and its impact on the built and natural environment, which led to a natural interest in heritage and what we can learn from past successes and failures. He has published extensively on climate change and its likely impact on the environment, including transport systems, as well as studies in heritage and folklore. He was a hardworking member of the organising committee for the Railway Heritage Conference at Tamworth in 2005, and has co-prepared a plan for the tourist development of the former Eveleigh workshop sites. Robert’s current research interests include the environmental history of urban expansion over the last 200 years, especially south-western Sydney, and the inter-relationship between people, nature, technology, and people’s perception of nature. He is Senior Lecturer in Coastal and Catchment Management, School of Behavioural, Cognitive and Social Sciences, University of New England.

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Andrew Killingsworth is the Operations Manager of the NSWRTM, and has been since 1997. Andrew has a professional management background, and has brought discipline and an unprecedented level of professionalism to the role, a volunteer position. Because of his focused management and his professional commitment, Andrew is widely respected by rail network owners and regulators in NSW and Victoria. Significantly, Andrew has also brought fresh ideas and an entrepreneurial approach to the design and marketing of heritage rail tours, with a special program of tours in 2005 for the 150th Anniversary of the NSW Railways, culminating in a major display at Central Railway Station and the re-enactment of the first train from Sydney to Parramatta, on 26 September. Andrew has been instrumental in helping to set the future direction of the NSWRTM and rail heritage generally, in identifying market trends and planning for broader community involvement.

Robert Lee PhD is Associate Professor in Asian and International Studies, School of Humanities and Languages, University of Western Sydney. Between 1999 and 2007 he undertook three missions to India for UNESCO’s International Council on Monuments and Sites to assess successful applications for three mountain railways to be inscribed as World Heritage Sites. In 2003 he completed a study of Australia’s transport and communications history, including the identification of significant sites, for the former Australian Heritage Commission. In 2008 he wrote descriptions of exhibits for the new railway museum at Thirlmere NSW as well as a history of the Grafton to South Brisbane Uniform Gauge Railway. He is the author of: The Greatest Public Work: The New South Wales Railways, 1848-1889 (awarded the 1991 Institution of Engineers Australia Engineering Excellence Award in the Heritage and Engineering Category); Colonial Engineer: John Whitton (1819-1898) and the Building of Australia’s Railways; and, The Railways of Victoria, 1854-2004 (shortlisted for the New South Wales Premier’s History Prize for 2007).

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Robert McKillop is Principal, MWA International Pty Ltd. He is a recognised specialist in Australian railway history with a strong interest in the role railways had in shaping Australia’s settlement patterns, industry and culture. He was the Project Facilitator for the establishment of the Australian Railway Monument at Werris Creek and has worked widely for the NSW Office of Railway Heritage on various projects throughout NSW. Robert has published extensively, including Furnace, Fire & Forge: Lithgow’s iron and steel industry 1875-1932, Into the Golden West: the McKillops of Buddih 1872-1974, A Century of Central; Sydney’s Central Railway Station 1906 to 2006 (with Donald Elsmore and John Oakes) and Our Region, Our Railway, the Hunter and the Great Northern Railway 1857-2007 (with David Sheedy). He is the compiler of the Guide to Australian Heritage Railways and Museums, now in its eight edition, and also the Heritage and Research Editor for Light Railways, Australia’s journal of industrial and narrow gauge railways, a position he has held for 23 years.

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David Morgan MBE, TD has been President of the European Federation of Museum & Tourist Railways (FEDECRAIL) since founding it in 1994, now representing some 546 heritage railways in twenty-five countries. He is the Chairman of the Heritage Railway Association of Britain and Ireland comprising over 250 corporate members including not only heritage and tourist railways and most of the railway museums and steam centres, but also the smaller locomotive and rolling stock preservation groups. Groups and individuals involved with the preservation of stations and other railway buildings are also included in the membership range. David is also Chairman of the North Norfolk Railway; Vice Chairman of the West Somerset Railway; Director of the Great Central Railway; Vice President of the Severn Valley Railway; a Trustee of the Southern Steam Trust (Swanage Railway); Deputy President of the Transport Trust, the national UK charity for the preservation of all forms of transport; Chairman of Heritage Afloat (the HRA of ships); a Trustee of the Cutty Sark and the Maritime Trust; and, a director of the Solent Steam Packet (SS Shieldhall).

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Bobbie Oliver PhD is Senior Lecturer in History and Politics, Faculty of Humanities, Curtin University of Technology. Bobbie’s major research interests are in the fields of Australian and comparative labour history; civil liberties; labour and industrial heritage; and, Western Australian history. Between 2000 and 2004, she was Chief Investigator of two Australia Research Council grants to collect interviews and documents, research and co-edit a history of the Government Railway Workshops at Midland (WA), as well as forming partnerships with a range of organisations in the community. A major research outcome of this project — The Workshops: A History of the Midland Government Railway Workshops, co-edited with Dr Patrick Bertola — was the 2006 winner of the Premier’s Prize for Western Australian History.

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Andrew Piper PhD teaches Australian history and heritage conservation. Prior to entering academia he worked in the cultural heritage industry between 1981 and 2003 as an archaeologist, curator and site manager in Africa, Australia, Micronesia and New Zealand. Between 1989 and 1990 he was employed by the Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority, six of those years as the senior heritage professional at that place. His research interests are in the areas of cultural heritage management, Australian convict and frontier history, the history of institutions of incarceration, and railway cultural heritage. In 2005 he was the convenor of the National Railway Heritage Conference: ‘Thinking Rail, Lessons from the past, the way of the Future’. He is the co-editor, with Brian Dunnett of a railway songbook Train Whistle Blowing: Celebrating 150 Years of Australian Railways and the Culture it has Inspired. He is Lecturer in History, School of Humanities and Deputy Director Heritage Futures Research Centre, University of New England.

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Lucy Taksa PhD is Associate Professor, School of Organisation and Management and Director of the Industrial Relations Research Centre, Australian School of Business, University of New South Wales. Since writing her honours thesis on the importance of the Eveleigh railway workshops, and as a long-standing member of the Friends of Eveleigh, Lucy has been part of the sustained campaign to preserve these rail yards as a working museum. She has published extensively on Eveleigh and other aspects of railway labour history and heritage. As well, Lucy's research interests have included investigations into the management of industrial and cultural heritage assets, public administration and enterprise with special reference to the railway industry, employment relations, and globalisation and sustainable development in the railway industry and heritage tourism. She has been on the Editorial Boards of a number of journals, including: the Journal of Transport History, International Review of Social History and Labour History.

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