



25 July 2014

Prepared by Mathew Munro



FAREWELL ANDREW

There is now less than one week until our contract with HGH Consultants to provide secretariat services comes to a conclusion. It is the end of an era for the ALRTA and of course it is also the beginning of a new one. I know I speak on behalf of all ALRTA staff when I say that we have really enjoyed working with Andrew Higginson.

Personally, I have appreciated Andrew's steady hand and sound advice on management and policy issues. It has been great having Andrew in the office during my first year with ALRTA and while his counsel will be missed, I know he has left his mark on my thinking and approach.

You can join us in saying a fond farewell to the Higginsons (Andrew, Emma and Linda) at the Australian Turf Club in Sydney on 14 August. Details at: [Invitation and Booking Form](#).

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE CONDITION OF RURAL ROADS

Austrroads is developing a level of service for heavy vehicles on rural roads. They would like to hear from drivers and operators about a range of issues including the road surface, road and lane geometry, and traffic impacts. The ARRB Group are conducting the survey. They are particularly keen to interview heavy vehicle drivers in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

Operators/drivers and logistic managers who wish to participate can contact ARRB directly through Shoukry Marzouk (shoukry.marzouk@arrb.com.au; phone 03 98811556) or Tim Martin (tim.martin@arrb.com.au; phone 03 9881 1564) to arrange for a face-to-face interview. The 15min survey can also be completed directly online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HVLOSRR>.

BRIDGES RENEWAL PROGRAM

Members are advised that Round 1 of the Federal Government's Bridges Renewal Programme is open until 28 August 2014. Up to \$100m has been allocated to the first round which will focus on projects that are well developed, with planning and approvals well advanced so construction can begin in the 2014-15 financial year. Details on the programme parameters, how to apply and funding conditions are contained in the Programme Criteria and Proposal Form. Contact bridgesrenewal@infrastructure.gov.au for details.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The ALRTA would like to acknowledge and thank the purchasers of two Cummins engines offered for auction at the ALRTA's National Conference last month – Don Watson Transport & CMV Truck Sales Adelaide. Thanks to a generous arrangement from Cummins a significant part of the sale price goes directly to assisting the ALRTA keep up our fight for better operating environment for rural transporters. Buying an engine is a major outlay and we thank the purchasers for putting their hand up (quite literally) to help the ALRTA.

OUR DOORS ARE ALWAYS OPEN

It's always great to see a friendly face. We had a surprise drop in from LRTAV Member and Secretary, Peter Shiells, this week. Peter was in Canberra all the way from Warnambool, Victoria, for a family gathering and took the time out to pop into the office and say hi. It was great to share a coffee and hear about how things work in Victoria. I'm looking forward to accepting Peter's invitation to join him in his truck soon and see how the task is done down his way.

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