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## President's Report

Hello fellow AITPM members,

It's a pleasure for me to be penning my first President's Message for the AITPM Newsletter. I am eagerly looking forward to serving the Institute and members over the coming couple of years. First though, I'd like to congratulate Andrew Hulse for steering the good ship AITPM over the past two years, bringing so many initiatives to the fore, including the Certified Transport Planner (CTP), stronger ties with other organisations and agencies such as IPENZ and Austroads, mutually beneficial sponsorship arrangements, and sharing his enthusiasm towards the Thunderbirds. Personally and largely thanks to my kids' domination of the TV I'm a bit keener on the other great British sixties sci-fi classic, Doctor Who. Maybe we can generate a "favourite Doctor" dialogue in the Newsletter.



[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

I'm pleased to report that our 2008 AITPM National Conference, held in Perth on 3 to 5 September 2008, was a huge success. Our registrations totalled somewhere around the 220s, which was a fantastic turnout. (the 6-hour epic domestic flight from Brisbane was well worth it!) The workshops on Wednesday attracted over 100 people, which was exceptional. I was asked to wrap up the conference and have prepared a Powerpoint presentation that you can see in PDF format on [www.aitpm.com](http://www.aitpm.com). Huge thanks go out to Garry and Sue Mason, Don Veal, the whole WA Branch Committee, and as always, to our administration officer Josephine Mitton for putting on a great show. And now it's time for Adelaide to shine in August 2009 — stay tuned for further information and look out for your chance to participate. We have already posted out the Call for Papers..

We have new look Branch Committees and a National Council in place for the coming 12 months, and I point you again to [www.aitpm.com](http://www.aitpm.com) to see who'll be working hard on organising AITPM activities in your state. Also note that NSW takes in NZ, Victoria takes in Tasmania and SA the NT. We're generating a lot of interest in regional areas with successful forums already held in Mt Gambier, the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast. I understand that moves are afoot to hold a joint NSW–Victoria event in the near future. So if you're a regional member, holler for your local branch if you have any ideas for an interesting seminar or forum.

On the AITPM scholarships front, I'm delighted to report that Ms Rachel Smith of SKM in Brisbane has been awarded the 2008 Janet Brash Memorial Scholarship. Rachel will be looking at international best practice cycle planning and proposes to develop a best practice toolkit for Australia. We're also keeping open submissions for a few more days for a member who would like to attend the IPENZ Conference in New Zealand in November this year, so have a go!

Finally I'd like to give a special thanks on behalf of the membership to the invaluable contributions of immediate past National Secretary "Cousin" Bill Cirocco and past National President Garry Mason to the smooth running of the Institute over the past decade or so. Both Bill and Garry were duly honoured at the 2008 Conference Dinner with AITPM Distinguished Service Awards. Now Bill has more time to perfect his cabaret act...

Cheers all,

**Jon Bunker**



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