



First City of Light &  
Country Music Capital –  
One city with a rich history

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Museum Operations and  
Visitor Engagement  
Officer

# Agenda

Tamworth Powerstation Museum

- Why Tamworth
- It's Collection

Australian Country Music Hall of Fame

- Why Tamworth
- It's Collection

Questions

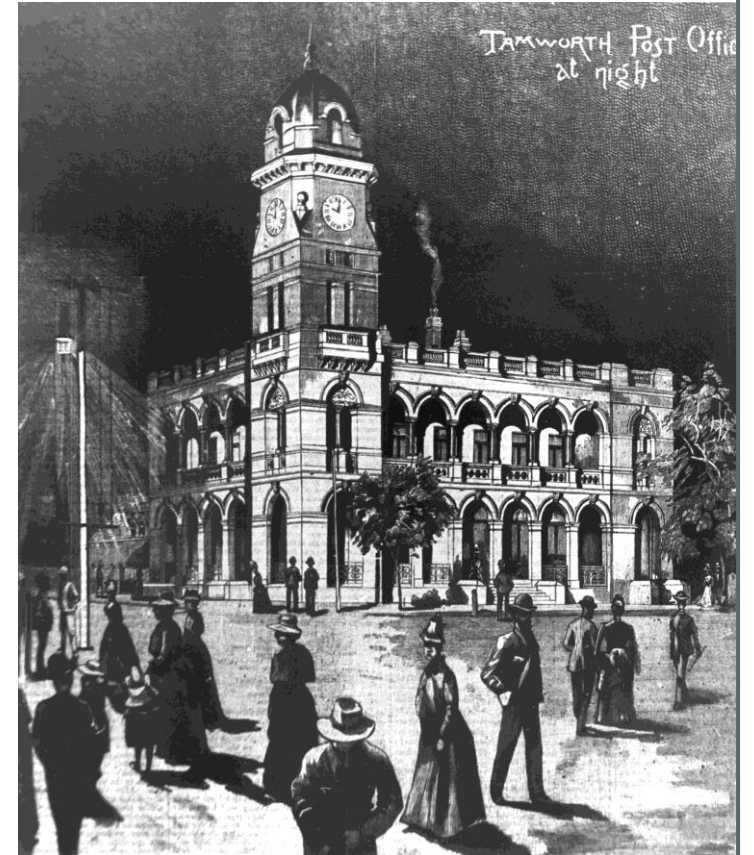


## Tamworth Powerstation Museum – Why Tamworth?

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 1888 Tamworth became the first city in the South Hemisphere to have municipally funded electric street lighting.

A total of 13.5 miles (21.5km) of electric street lighting was switched on by the Mayoress Elizabeth Piper at 7.30pm on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November.

100 years later on the site of Tamworth's first Powerstation Australia's only electric museum was opened.



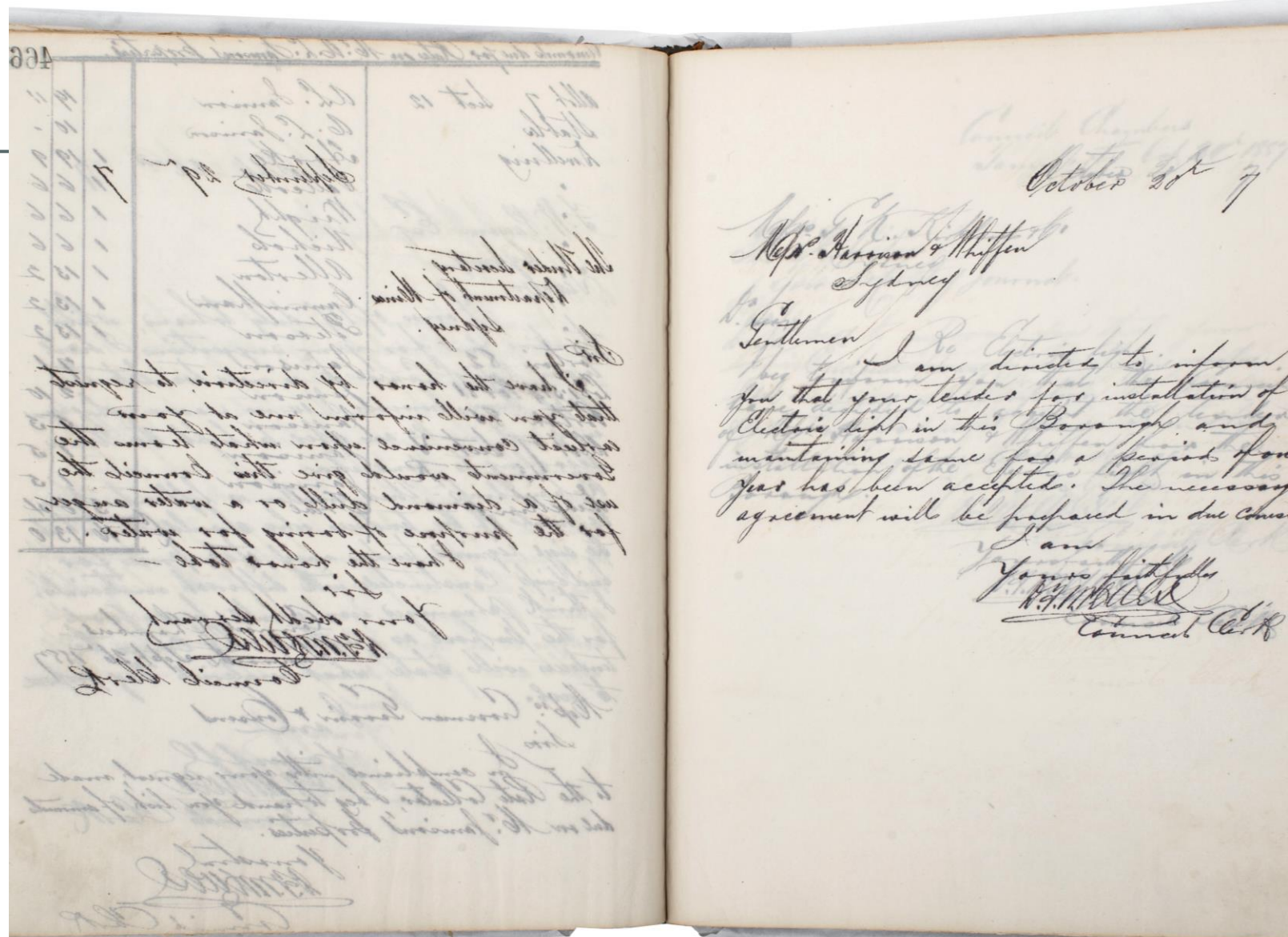
## Tamworth Powerstation Museum – It's Collection

### Collection Highlights:

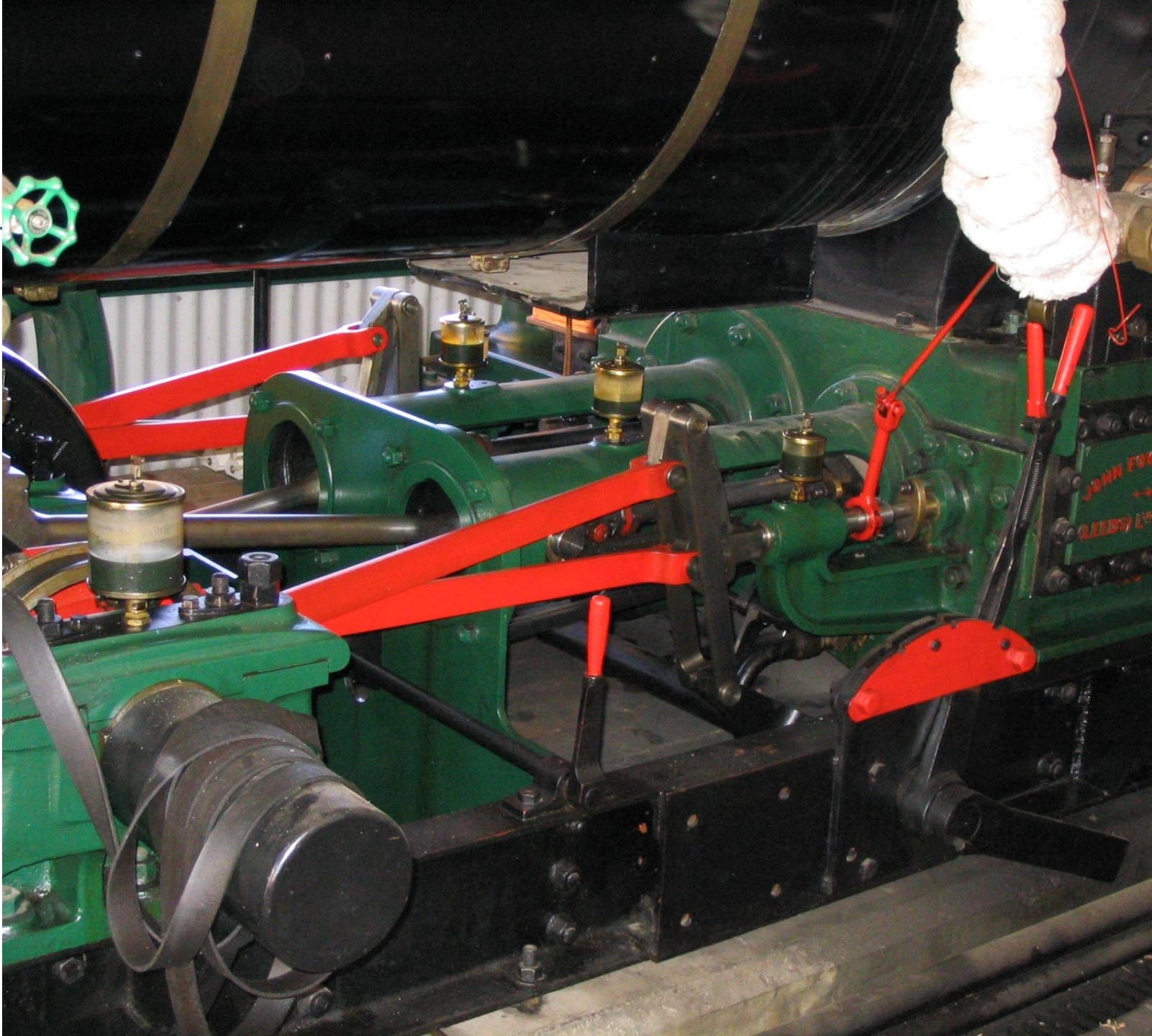
- Tamworth Borough Council "Veness" Letterbook (1888-1890)
- John Fowler Steam Engine No. 7586 (1896)
- Last Australian Telegram (1993)
- Dowsing Radiant Four Bulb heater (c1911)
- Maytag Washing Machine (1929)



- Tamworth Borough  
Council "Veness"  
Letterbook (1888-  
1890)



- John Fowler Steam  
Engine No. 7586  
(1896)



- Last Australian  
Telegram (1993)

LETTER



LETTERGRAM



GRAM

003991-893869-0001

30 September 1993

Mr Ian Simpson  
Tamworth Powerstation Museum  
216 Peel Street  
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

This last Lettergram from Tamworth Post Office marks the closure of the telegram service in Australia at 5.00 p.m. on 30th September, 1993.

The electric telegraph was invented in England in 1836 by William Fothergill Cooke. It was first connected to Tamworth on 9th November, 1861.

The telegraph was the first use of electricity in Tamworth and operated using a code devised by Samuel Finley Breese Morse in 1844, universally known as Morse Code. The binary system used in today's computers is the same basic ON/OFF principle used in the telegraph.

This service operated in Tamworth for 132 years.

- Dowsing Radiant  
Four Bulb heater  
(c1911)





- Maytag Washing  
Machine (1929)



## Australian Country Music Hall of Fame – Why Tamworth?

In 1969, Radio 2TM proclaimed Tamworth as Australia's 'Country Music Capital'. Only four years later 2TM launched the Tamworth Country Music Festival and staged the first Australasian Country Music Awards.

On January 28, 1994 the Australian Country Music Foundation moved into the old Mechanic's Institute on Brisbane Street – The Museum had begun.



## Australian Country Music Hall of Fame– It's Collection

### Collection Highlights:

- Rodney Walk One Man Band (c1980s)
- Rocky Cameron's Three Piece Cowboy Suit (1951)
- Gordon Parsons Fish Shaped Tackle Box (1980-81)
- Karen Lee's Homemade Redback on a Toilet Seat stage costume (1980)
- Country Music Awards footage by Chanel 7 (1980s-2000s)



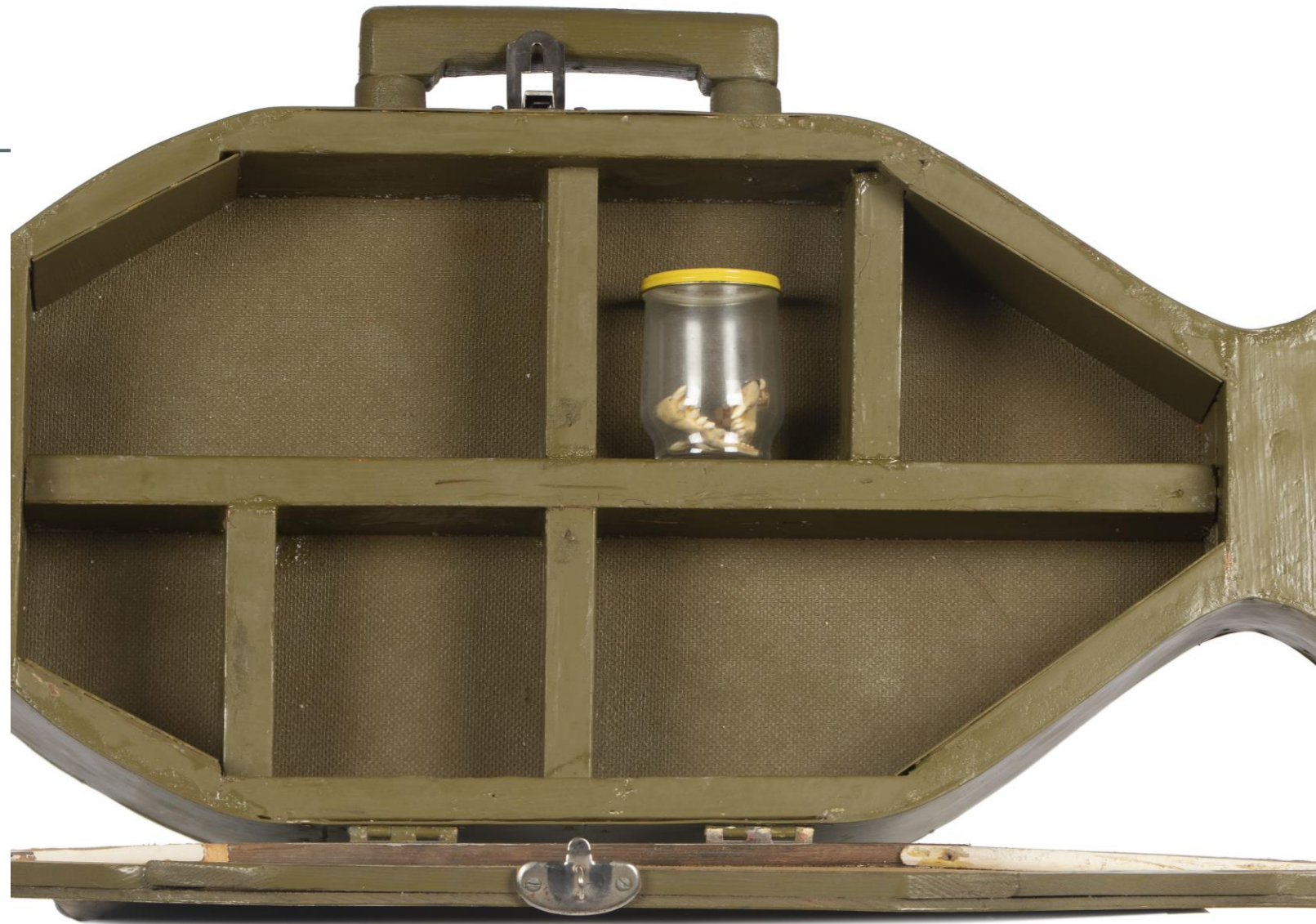
- Rodney Walk One  
Man Band (c1980s)



- Rocky Cameron's  
Three Piece Cowboy  
Suit (1951)



- Gordon Parsons Fish  
Shaped Tackle Box  
(1980-81)



- Karen Lee's  
Homemade Redback  
on a Toilet Seat  
stage costume  
(1980)



- Country Music Awards footage by Chanel 7 (1980s-2000s)







## Questions



Thank you

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