

Comments and what I would like to see in the Revitalisation of the Powerhouse Museum

I herewith comment on the proposed revitalisation of the Powerhouse Museum (PHM).

I have visited the PHM probably about 6 times over the last ~ 20 years. In my visits to the Museum, I have seen a very large number and variety of interesting items on display including:

- old locomotives,
- a very large moon model,
- old common items and utensils,
- musical instruments and items,
- appliances,
- full size aircraft,
- road vehicles,
- The Wiggles interactive displays and Big Red Car with my grandchildren,
- countless other interesting displays and exhibited items,
- etc, etc.

People of all ages and backgrounds enjoy spending time there studying whatever interests them.

I have spent several hours looking through several of the documents and drawings included in the Revitalisation pack. It is difficult to gain a full detailed understanding of the works proposed and the detailed end result. Perhaps a day's reading would help.

This is what I would like to see as a result of any work carried out to rejuvenate the PHM:

1. An increase in total areas for exhibiting displays if possible.
2. Sufficient repair and refurbishment to keep the PHM in a good physical state to comfortably withstand external and internal conditions for many decades. It is within a distance from Sydney Harbour where salt spray and salt mist can drift over the buildings. This would require carefully selected and constructed external and internal finishes. Note that coastal sewage treatment plants have been built in extreme coastal corrosion areas with concrete and protective coatings for metalwork that have survived well for several decades. Design life and

strict controls should be included in contracts involved with the work. Many construction contractors and certifiers say they know how to do that type of work, but most do not know how to do it and how to control its application which often results in concrete cancer and steelwork corrosion commencing in 5 to 10 years

3. An entrance area that is easily accessible from more than one street and from public transport.
4. As many displays as possible in an increased total display area.

I believe that the PHM display areas should not be reduced in size and that the Parramatta Museum should not be used as any justification to reduce the total display area of the PHM.