



Merewether Historical Society

"A society aimed at recording memories of the past for the benefit of the next generation."

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The Chronicle

December 2024

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL NOT BE A JANUARY MEETING!

Meetings: Next meeting will be at the Merewether Bowling Club Caldwell St, on **Tuesday 11 February, 2025**, 10.30 for a 10.45 start. All are invited to join us for lunch at the end of the meeting.

Guest Speaker: Alex Jenkins will speak on the history of money and cyber security.

Birthdays in December and January: Many happy returns to Cherie Richardson, Mike Scanlon, Robyn Single, Jeff Graham, Julia Harrison, Judy Henry, Jocelyn Ison and other members who have double celebrations at this very busy time of year. Flowers and Birthstones are the Holly/Carnation and Garnet/Blue Zircon.



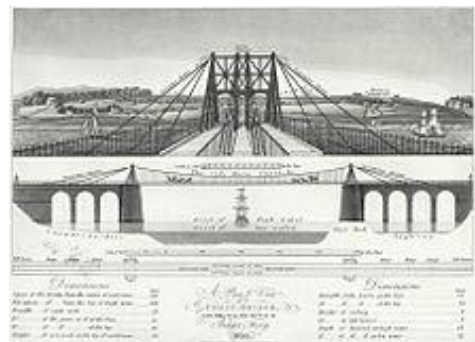
Australia. Newcastle Division. Unfortunately, I was unable to find information regarding the location of the plaque.

Many of the well-known streets in Newcastle are named after prominent engineers of the time.



George Stevenson (Stephenson) 1781 – 1848 developed the 'rocket' engine which was the first successful steam locomotive. He was the pioneer of railway development that superseded horse transport throughout the world. Stevensen Place is in Newcastle East, near Nobbys

Thomas Telford 1757 -1834 was known for improvements in road construction. He is responsible for the Menai Strait suspension bridge, many canals and harbour works. He was the first President of the Institute of Civil Engineers which was founded in 1818. Telfors Street is also in Newcastle East



Christmas Lunch: Tuesday 10 December in Fireflies at the Merewether Bowling Club. 12.00 for a 12.30pm start. \$50 for a delicious 2 course meal, champagne or orange juice on arrival and great company. Please contact Monica or Denise to book a seat and advise of any dietary requirements.

Newcastle Streets The following information is taken from a plaque erected in 1956 by the members of The Institution of Engineers,

James Watt 1736 -1819 was responsible for improvements to steam engines that had far reaching effects. His work brought about the “Steam Age”, caused an industrial revolution that influenced the course of modern civilisation – transformed Industry, Commerce and Transport. Watt Street too is in Newcastle East.

boilers. Again Perkins Street is in Newcastle East



We are almost at the end of 2024 and I don't know where it has gone Thank you all for your support throughout the year, the Society has been responsible for numerous informative and enjoyable moments as well as fostering many friendships. I would like to take the opportunity, on behalf of myself and the Committee, to wish you and your families a truly wonderful Christmas Season and a fervent hope that 2025 brings health and happiness to you, and peace to the World.

Matthew Bolton (Boulton) 1728 – 1809 was in partnership with Watt. He furthered the development of his inventions. He was responsible for Newcastle's first water supply which was pumped by Boulton and Watt Beam Engines from the Hunter River at Walka, Maitland. Bolton Street runs parallel to Watt St in Newcastle East



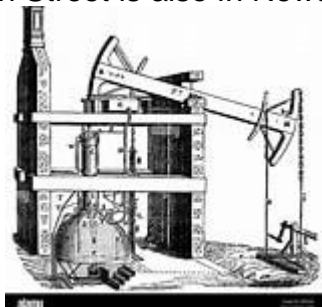
Walka Waterworks



Thomas Newcomen 1663 – 1729 introduced the ‘atmospheric’ steam engine which was extensively used for mine pumping for about 75 years. This was superseded by Watt's engines towards the end of the 18th century. Newcomen Street is also in Newcastle East

Point to Ponder: Happiness is not a station you arrive at but a manner of travelling.

Margaret Lee Runbeck



Atmospheric Steam Engine

2024/25 Committee:

President:	Geoff Wright
Vice President:	Dennis Hinchliffe
Secretary:	Sue Kenny
Asst Secretary:	Denise Wright
Treasurer:	Greg Struck
Asst Treasurer:	Monica Jordon
Committee	Alison Chapman Iain Kelso Jan Welsman Judy Henry Darryl Boyce Chris Marshall
Hon. Solicitor:	Nicholas Dan

Arthur Woolf (Wolfe) 1766 – 1813 introduced the system of compound cylinders, the chief improvement in steam usage since Watt's time. Wolfe Street is in Newcastle East

Jacob Perkins 1766 – 1849 with A and L Perkins, experimented with high-pressure steam boilers and in 1823 proposed a means to attain working steam pressure of 800–1400 psi. He built a Woolf-type steam engine in 1827, designed an improved paddle wheel 1829, and invented a means for the free circulation of water in boilers in 1831, which led to the design of modern water-tube

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