



Generators 1, 2 and 3 on the Powerhouse generating floor.

Credit: Outback Pics



Powerhouse Truck

Credit: Longreach Regional Council



Dual Fuel Generator

Credit: Longreach Regional Council

Longreach Powerhouse Museum

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Hours: 9am – 12pm, Tuesday to Friday, April to October

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Presented by Museum & Gallery Services Queensland in partnership with Longreach Regional Council.

Our Profile

A hidden gem, the Longreach Powerhouse Museum boasts a state-registered heritage complex that showcases the rare technology of gas-fired electrical generation.

Visit the well-preserved generation buildings to see the gas-producers, eight enormous generators from different periods, and explore the plant as it was on the last day of operation. Look out for the quirky details – the works siren, the Shift Manager’s “office” or the only 1600 class Diesel locomotive on display in Queensland.

While visiting the Longreach Powerhouse Museum, you can find out more about the history of Longreach, the capital of the outback. Go back in time at Nogo cottage where the life of yesteryear is seen in all its rustic glory. The local history of Longreach, settled in the 1870s, is presented with a recreated schoolroom, and interesting artefacts from pastoral, commercial, social associations, and an unusual airport control centre from the 1970s. In the grounds we feature a collection of rural machinery with the unexpected extremes of a 1930s Thomson River flood boat and the local fire engine from the 1960s.

Come along Tuesdays to Fridays from April to October, to experience this unique destination or make the most of our vibrant open days, twice a year. Book ahead for informative group tours.

Did you know?

The Longreach Powerhouse is the largest rural generating complex still intact in the Southern Hemisphere. Opened in 1922, it powered Longreach for 65 years.

We have a resident Powerhouse cat! Our most reliable employee, he always turns up at dinnertime. Following a long tradition, powerhouse cats keep vermin down in the nice warm environment of the station.

There was an archaeological dig in the early 2000s at the old swimming baths next to the Longreach Powerhouse. The 1920s baths used water from an adjacent bore to provide relief from the heat and their remnants can be seen today.

What the Standards Program has meant for our museum

Understanding and Direction: The Standards Review Program has helped me gain a better understanding of the direction of where the Powerhouse Museum is heading. It has also helped me gain support from community groups e.g. Longreach Historical and Archival Group Inc.

Collection Management: Since doing the Standards Review Program I have now recognised that the Powerhouse Museum’s collection data needs to be up-dated so Council can move forward. The Standards Review Program has given Council the tools to do so.