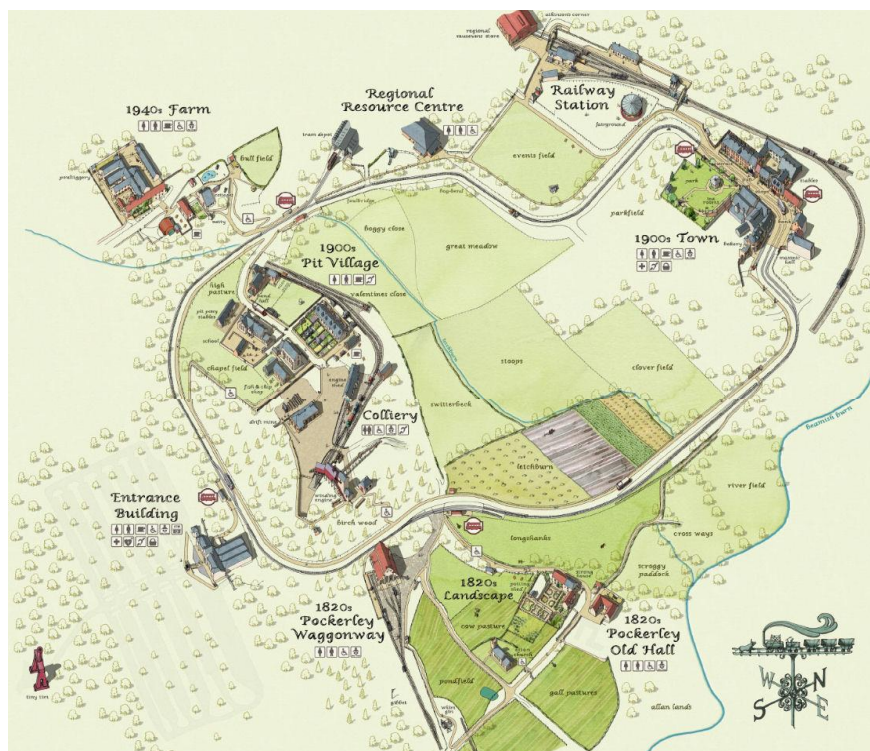


## The Beamish Museum

Beamish was the vision of Dr. Frank Atkinson, the Museum's founder and first director. Frank had visited Scandinavian folk museums in the early 1950s and was inspired to create an open air museum for the North East. He realised the dramatically-changing region was losing its industrial heritage. Coal mining, ship building and iron and steel manufacturing were disappearing, along with the communities that served them.

Frank wanted the new museum to "illustrate vividly" the way of life of "ordinary people" and bring the region's history alive. Beamish remains true to his principles today and brings history to life for hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

1958: Frank Atkinson, then director at the Bowes Museum in Barnard Castle, presented a report to Durham County Council, recommending items of everyday history were collected to eventually form part of an open air museum. A policy of "unselective collecting" – "you offer it and we will collect it" – saw an army camp of 22 huts rapidly filled with objects ranging from steam engines to sewing machines.



Get a real taste of the past during your visit. Catering outlets across the site serve up traditional tasty treats, from homemade hot meals to delicious snacks, cakes and drinks.

Tea Rooms, 1900s Town - a range of delicious hot and cold meals

Sun Inn, 1900s Town - Pop into this cosy pub for a pie and a pint

Sinkers' Bait Cabin, 1900s Pit Village - Enjoy light refreshments from this cabin

Davy's Fried Fish Shop, 1900s Pit Village - Famous fish and chips

British Kitchen, 1940s Farm - Ration books at the ready! Wartime British Kitchen

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual Historical Society Trip to visit Beamish Village Museum**

**The cost includes coach and entry to Beamish**

### **Itinerary**

**8.00 am – Depart from Tesco car park**

**10.45 am – Arrive at Beamish Village Museum**

**5.30 pm – Depart for Leyland**

**8.00 pm – Arrive at Tesco car park.**

**Cost £20.00 (deposit £10.00)**

**1970:** Frank became director, with three staff, at Beamish Hall and the museum was born.

**1971:** "Museum in the Making", an introductory exhibition opened in Beamish Hall.

**1973:** The first Beamish tram, Gateshead 10, went into service on a short demonstration line.

**1976:** Poet Laureate Sir John Betjeman opened Rowley Station

**1979:** Mahogany drift mine was opened.

**1983:** Home Farm welcomed its first visitors.

**1984:** The Co-op store, from Annfield Plain, opened its doors to visitors.

**1987:** Beamish was named European Museum of the Year. Frank Atkinson retired this year.

**1992:** The Board School opened in Pit Village.

**1993:** The Beamish Tramway, circling the entire site, began operating.

**1994:** Jubilee Sweet Shop was opened by MP Mo Mowlam and The Town garage was unveiled by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu.

**1995:** The opening of Pockerley Old Hall, showing life in the early 1800s.

**1999:** Pockerley Waggonway opens in the Georgian Landscape.

**2002:** The replica of 1815 built Steam Elephant was completed for Pockerley Waggonway.

**2006:** The replica of 1813 built Puffing Billy first ran at Pockerley Waggonway.

**2009:** The Colliery Lamp Cabin was opened.

**2010:** Beamish's 40th anniversary year saw the arrival of the Steam Gallopers and refurbishment of the Entrance building and Tea Rooms.

**2011:** Davy's Fried Fish Shop served up its first fish and chips.

**2013:** Herron's Bakery, in The Town, and Hetton Silver Band Hall, in The Pit Village, opened.

**2014:** Wartime arrived with the launch of the 1940s Farm, and the Pit Pony Stables welcomed their first equine inhabitants.

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual Historical Society Trip to Beamish – 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

**Please book me .... Places on the coach, deposits of £10.00**

**Print Name (s) ..... Signature .....**