

Education update

Progress has been made on a number of initiatives to support education groups visiting the Centre.

Loans boxes



Health and Hygiene - Collection of historic objects with teachers' notes, archive photographs and 'Castor Oil and Iodine' - a fascinatingly short interview with a local man, Willie Robson who, in the 1930s, feeling "not too grand", visited his doctor to be diagnosed with pleurisy. He explains how he was treated, for this common, but potentially fatal illness.

A second loans box, '**Shopping Around**' is under development, pending the acquisition of a few more objects to complete the collection. This will have a strong numeracy focus.

Future loans collections include a photo pack, '**Travelling Around**' which comprises a set of historic images from our extensive archive.




Use of the loan boxes is free and can be loaned for half term blocks. Just let us know when you want to collect one from the Heritage Centre.

Activity sheets

Themed activity sheets for each of our major collections are being developed.

- **Ticket to Ride** is a detective style explores area's railway heritage in Station Yard and the Heritage Centre.
- **Hard as Iron** explores the area's industrial heritage, especially that relating to nearby Hareshaw Iron Foundry.
- **Farming out** (under development) looks at the area's long and rich farming heritage.

Ticket to ride



These two photographs show what Bellingham station looked like 90 years ago.

Walk up and down the platforms and circle on each photograph things that have now gone.

In the Heritage Centre you will see lots of things that used to be in the station.
Tick when you have found something used to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Tell the time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sell tickets	<input type="checkbox"/> Light the platform
<input type="checkbox"/> Warn people	<input type="checkbox"/> Let trains pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean the platform

What did children do on the old wooden door of the parcel shed?

From Bellingham you could buy a ticket to many places in Northumberland.



Look at the railway map on the door in the corner and find the stations mentioned on each ticket.
Which is the closest to Bellingham?

Which is the furthest away?

Which coins would you use to buy a ticket from Bellingham to Tarsset?



(In 'old' money there were twelve pence in a shilling)


There were many different jobs for men working on the railway.

Engine driver	Stationmaster	Porter	Labourers	Signaller
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Find something that each of these railway workers would have used and write it below their photograph.

Hard as iron




This is **ironstone**.

There was a lot of it in the ground around Bellingham. Men came from all over the country to work in the mines to dig it out. Boys too!

What other shape was iron ore from Hareshaw?


The ironstone was taken from the mines in small trucks.

The remains of two trucks were found in the mud at the side of the burn.
Draw what a truck used to look like.
 (Clue - look above you)



How different are they to the two trucks by the entrance into the Heritage Centre?
 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

The ironstone was taken to a large **foundry** close by to smelt the iron. It was built in 1838 and had 3 furnaces and 80 coke ovens. This is the only picture of it.




Find this picture and write the name of the foundry here.

 (It's also the name of the small river which supplied water to the foundry.)

What's the name of the other iron works nearby? R _____ E

Go outside and walk down the path to this street where the foundry workers lived



What has changed since this picture was taken?

Go back inside and look at the old maps of Bellingham from the 1850s and 1900s (above the pieces of iron ore) see how many more streets were built near the foundry for the workers.
Circle how many more streets you can find. 1 3 5 7 9

Many tools in the blacksmith's forge in the Heritage Centre are made of iron.
Find something that you could use for:

Cutting	Bending	Fastening	Gripping	Carrying
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Coal was also mined in **collieries** nearby. It was baked in ovens to make coke. The coke was then burned inside the furnaces with the ironstone to smelt the iron.



Which colliery did this brick come from?
 Write your answer in the white space inside the brick.

Find the names of three other collieries nearby.
 F _____ L _____ H _____

Underline those you could get to by train from Bellingham.
 (Clue - Look at the black and white photographs opposite the red telephone box.)

We can also produce specific activity sheets to meet your own needs and the ability of your children.

A family activity sheet, which has been trialled by teachers with their own families, can also be adapted for use by visiting groups.

School presentations

Our volunteers are more than happy to visit schools in NW Northumberland to introduce our Heritage Centre. They will bring a presentation of what we have to offer or can just chat to you and your staff about what we have and what you can do with your groups when you visit. For more information please contact us at info@bellingham-heritage.org.uk

Intro2Bellingham

For schools further afield we will soon have a downloadable presentation designed to give visiting groups an introduction to the history and geography of the area. It's seen through the eyes of children, and also shows what's at Bellingham and in the Heritage Centre.

The image displays six presentation slides arranged in a 2x3 grid, each with a light beige background and a thin black border. The slides contain text, photographs, and small illustrations.

- Slide 1 (Top Left):** Title: "Kielder Forest isn't just about growing trees to chop down and use for timber." Text: "The rangers also look after lots of birds and animals who live in the forest. But some animals are not always welcome." Images: A man with a dog, a sheep, a rabbit, and a deer.
- Slide 2 (Top Middle):** Title: "Meet some of the locals... ice skating on the river." Text: "Yes! We know it's dangerous to walk on frozen ice, but the river was very shallow at this spot." Images: A group of people ice skating on a river, a small boat, and a landscape photo. A handwritten note says "Skating on Tyne at Bellingham 17.2.1917".
- Slide 3 (Top Right):** Title: "Here's some of us on our way to school. It was the only way we could get there if you lived on remote farms." Text: "These two places were important if you owned a horse." Images: A group of people on horseback and a group of people on a train.
- Slide 4 (Bottom Left):** Title: "After we left school most of us worked on a farm, in a mine or quarry, or for the Forestry Commission." Text: "It was very hard work." Images: A group of people working in a field, a person in a mine, and a person in a quarry.
- Slide 5 (Bottom Middle):** Title: "We grew up learning a lot about animals." Text: "Even having some as pets." Images: A person with a dog, a person with a horse, and a person with a sheep.
- Slide 6 (Bottom Right):** Title: "From here you could travel by train to all these places." Text: "This was before there were cars and when most people still travelled by horse and cart." Images: A map of the railway network and several vintage train tickets.

Contact details

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To arrange a visit to the Heritage Centre please email info@bellingham-heritage.org.uk