

HOPETOWN

- D A R L I N G T O N -

VISUAL STORY GUIDE

This picture guide will help you on your visit. There are useful tips to help you plan your trip and find your way around.



OPENING HOURS

Monday* Closed

*open on bank holiday Mondays and on Mondays during Darlington's school holidays.

Tuesday 10am - 4pm

Wednesday 10am - 4pm

OPENING HOURS

We are open from Tuesday to Sunday, from 10am until 4pm. We are open on most Bank Holidays, but not Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Years Day. In Darlington's school holidays we are open from Monday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. Our last entry is 3pm. You can stay as long as you want, until we close.

Last entry is **3pm**. Hopetown Darlington



PRICES

It is free to enter the site, but you will still need a ticket. You can get them online before you visit. You can get them when you arrive. Some parts of the site you will need to pay to visit. Some of our exhibitions are free and some you have to pay to see. Please check on our website for more information. If you need a carer or essential companion they are free and will need a carers ticket.



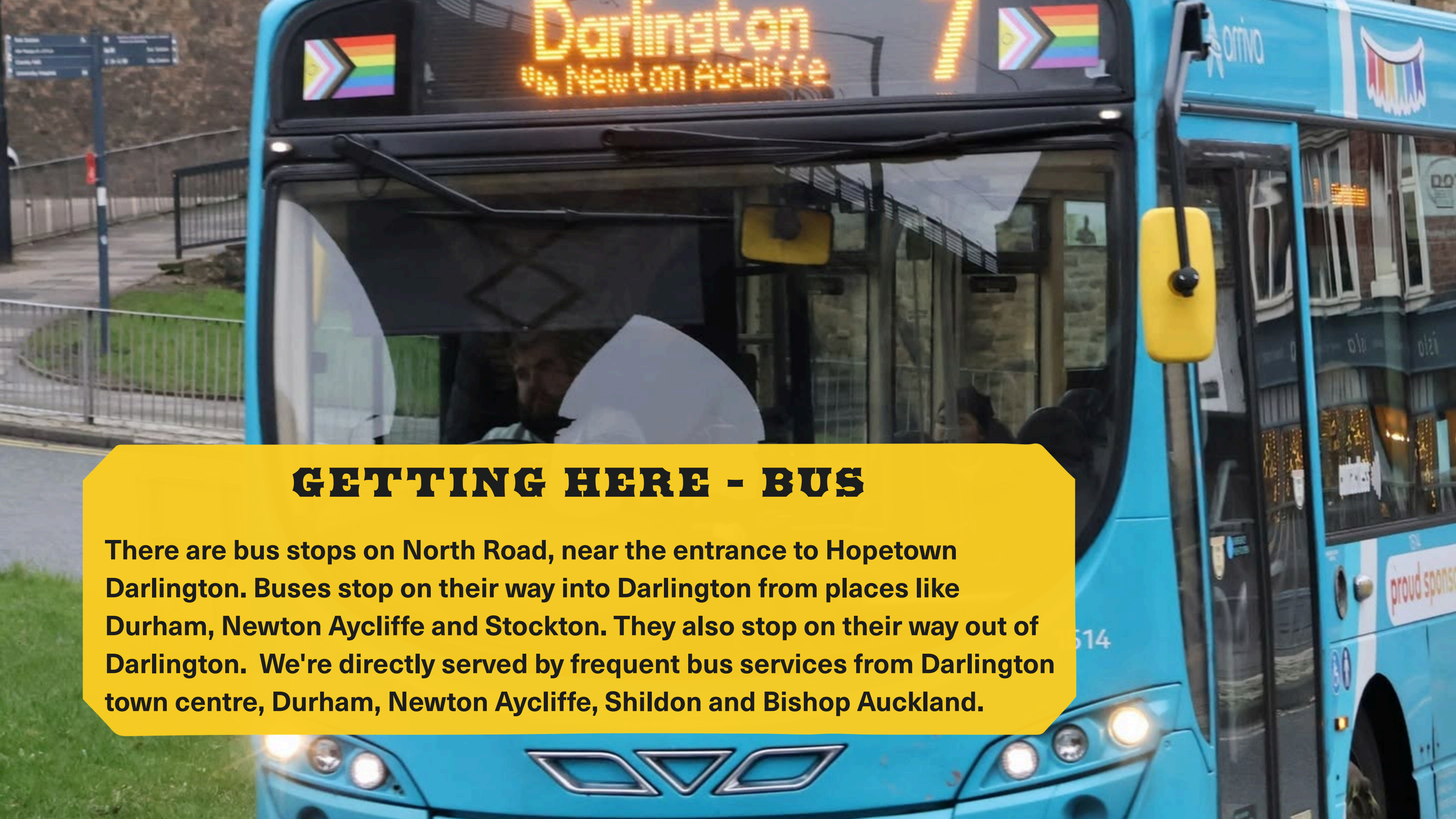
GETTING HERE - PARKING

The nearest car park is at Skerne Bridge. It is run by Darlington Borough Council. You have to pay to park there. It costs £1 per hour or £4 for a full day. There is accessible parking at Skerne Bridge car park. There are limited additional spaces on McNay Street near the entrance to the site.

A photograph of a yellow and blue train stopped at a station platform. The train is on the right side of the frame, with its front door open. The number 56438 is visible on the front. Several people are standing on the platform, which has a yellow tactile paving strip. In the background, there are green storage containers and a building. The sky is overcast.

GETTING HERE - TRAIN

Hopetown Darlington is next to North Road Darlington Station. It is on the line between Saltburn and Bishop Auckland. Darlington Station is one stop away. There is a short footpath from North Road Station to the front door of Hopetown Darlington.

A blue bus is shown from a front-three-quarter view. The destination sign above the windshield displays 'Darlington' and 'Newton Aycliffe' in orange LED text. Two rainbow flags are visible on the bus: one on the left side of the destination sign and another on the right side. The bus has a yellow side mirror and a 'proud sponsor' logo on the side. The background shows a street with a metal fence and a building.

GETTING HERE - BUS

There are bus stops on North Road, near the entrance to Hopetown Darlington. Buses stop on their way into Darlington from places like Durham, Newton Aycliffe and Stockton. They also stop on their way out of Darlington. We're directly served by frequent bus services from Darlington town centre, Durham, Newton Aycliffe, Shildon and Bishop Auckland.



GETTING HERE - WALKING & CYCLING

You can walk to Hopetown Darlington. We are about 15 minutes walk from the town centre. You can ride your bike to Hopetown Darlington. There is a bike shed next to the Goods Shed. You need to bring your own lock if you want to lock it up whilst you are visiting.



PRAMS AND BUGGIES

You can bring a pram or buggy to Hopetown Darlington. There is a pram or buggy store if you want to park your pram or buggy. It is next to the Goods Shed. You need to bring your own lock if you want to lock it up whilst you are visiting.



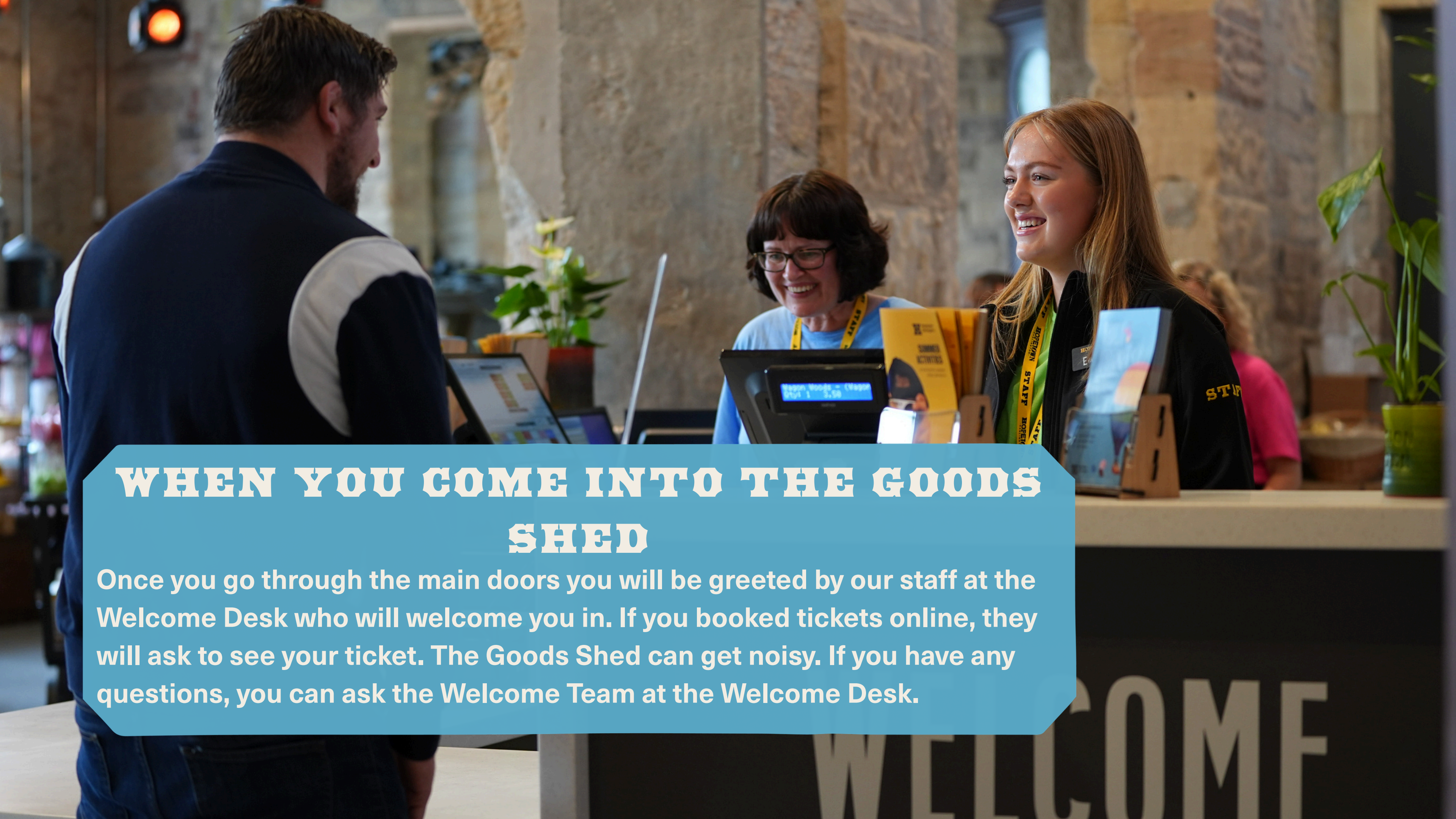
DOGS

Assistance dogs are welcome everywhere on site. These dogs are working with their owners and will have a special coat or lead. Do not try to stroke them or feed them. People can bring pet dogs to our site but these must be on a lead. They may be in the Goods Shed and the museum. They will usually be outside. Dogs are not allowed in Wagon Woods, Experiment! or in some exhibitions.



ARRIVING AT HOPETOWN

Our main entrance is in the Goods Shed on McNay Street, Darlington, DL3 6SW. You will walk up a staircase or up a zig-zag ramp to get to the entrance. The Goods Shed is the building with the clock tower. There may be a queue to get inside.



WHEN YOU COME INTO THE GOODS SHED

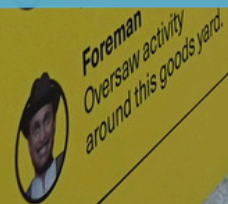
Once you go through the main doors you will be greeted by our staff at the Welcome Desk who will welcome you in. If you booked tickets online, they will ask to see your ticket. The Goods Shed can get noisy. If you have any questions, you can ask the Welcome Team at the Welcome Desk.

EXPLORE HOPETOWN DARLINGTON

Follow our app-based trail to discover the stories
of the people who got, and kept, this railway on track.

GETTING AROUND THE GOODS SHED

To the left of the Welcome Desk is the shop and cafe. You can walk through these to enter the site. To the right of the Welcome Desk is a corridor leading to a large double door to the site. There is a map of the site on the Welcome Desk and on the wall near the desk.



The image shows the interior of a rustic cafe located in a stone shed. The space is filled with wooden tables and chairs, some with metal frames. The walls are made of stone, and there are large windows on the right side. A large sign on the wall reads "MADE IN DAR". A fireplace is visible in the background. The floor is made of concrete. The overall atmosphere is warm and inviting.

SHOP AND CAFE IN THE GOODS SHED

In the shop you can buy souvenirs of your visit. There is a range of things at different prices. You can also buy sweets, alcohol (if you are old enough) and other food gifts. The café serves a range of sandwiches, snacks and hot and cold drinks. You can eat and drink inside or take your food outside.



TOILETS IN THE GOODS SHED

There are toilets in the Goods Shed. These are single cubicles that anyone can use. There is an accessible toilet as well with baby changing facilities included.



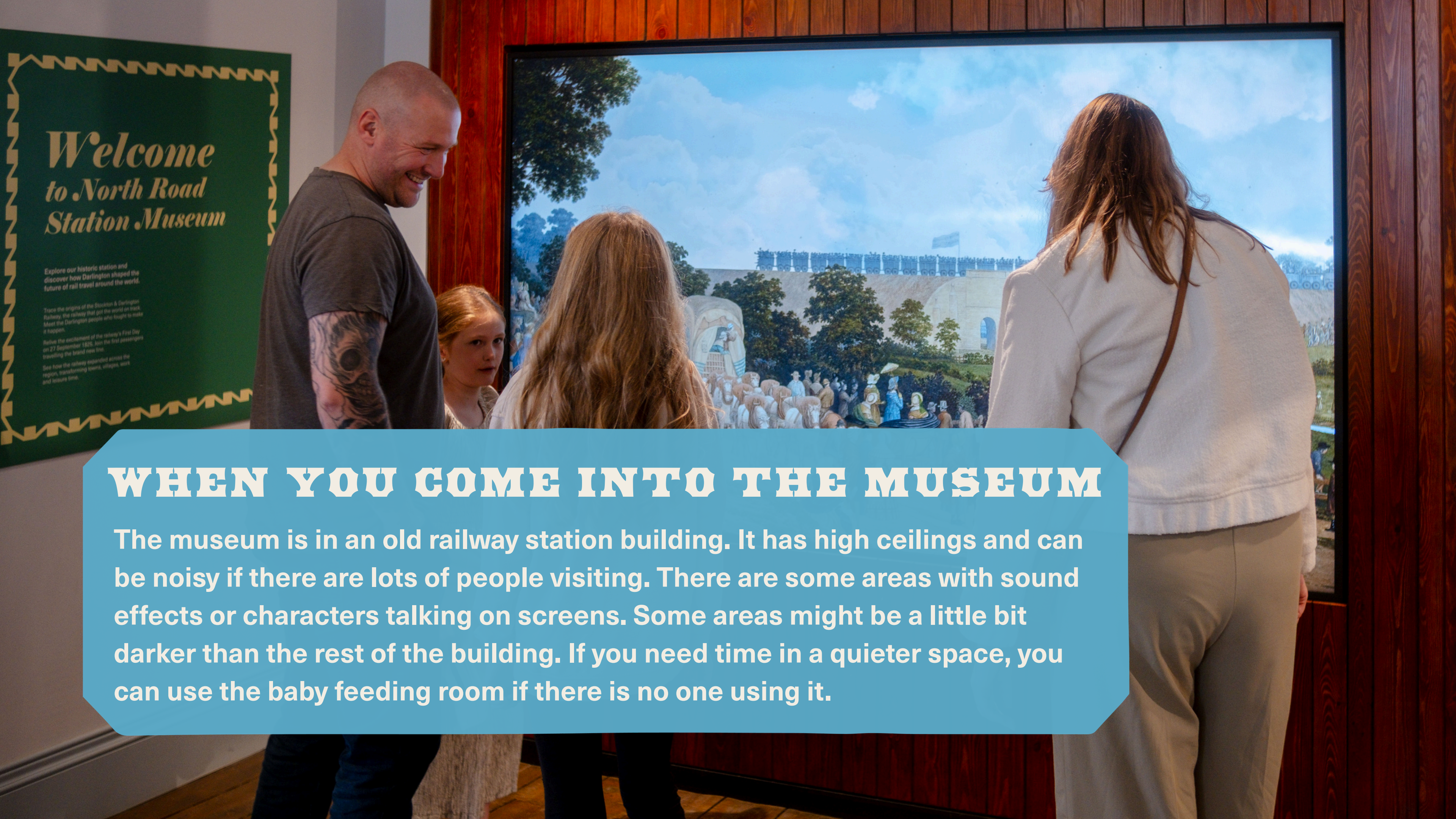
GOODS YARD

There is outdoor seating here – you can sit here if you have brought your own food or bought some from the café. You can see the trains at North Road Station from here.

The image shows the exterior of the North Road Station Museum. It features a light-colored, textured wall with two large, multi-paned windows on the left. To the right of the windows is a set of blue double doors. Above the doors is a black sign that reads "NORTH ROAD STATION MUSEUM". To the right of the doors is a vertical black sign with white text that reads "WELCOME TO NORTH ROAD STATION MUSEUM. STEP INSIDE TO CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY INTO THE WORLD OF THE RAILWAY. ENTER HERE FOR EXPERIMENT!". There are also several smaller signs, including a "Fire exit Keep clear" sign above the doors and a red circular sign on the wall to the left of the doors. A blue banner with white text is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

ARRIVING AT NORTH ROAD STATION MUSEUM

Follow the signs to the entrance to North Road Station Museum. You enter the museum through the blue doors under the canopy.



Welcome to North Road Station Museum

Explore our historic station and discover how Darlington shaped the future of rail travel around the world.

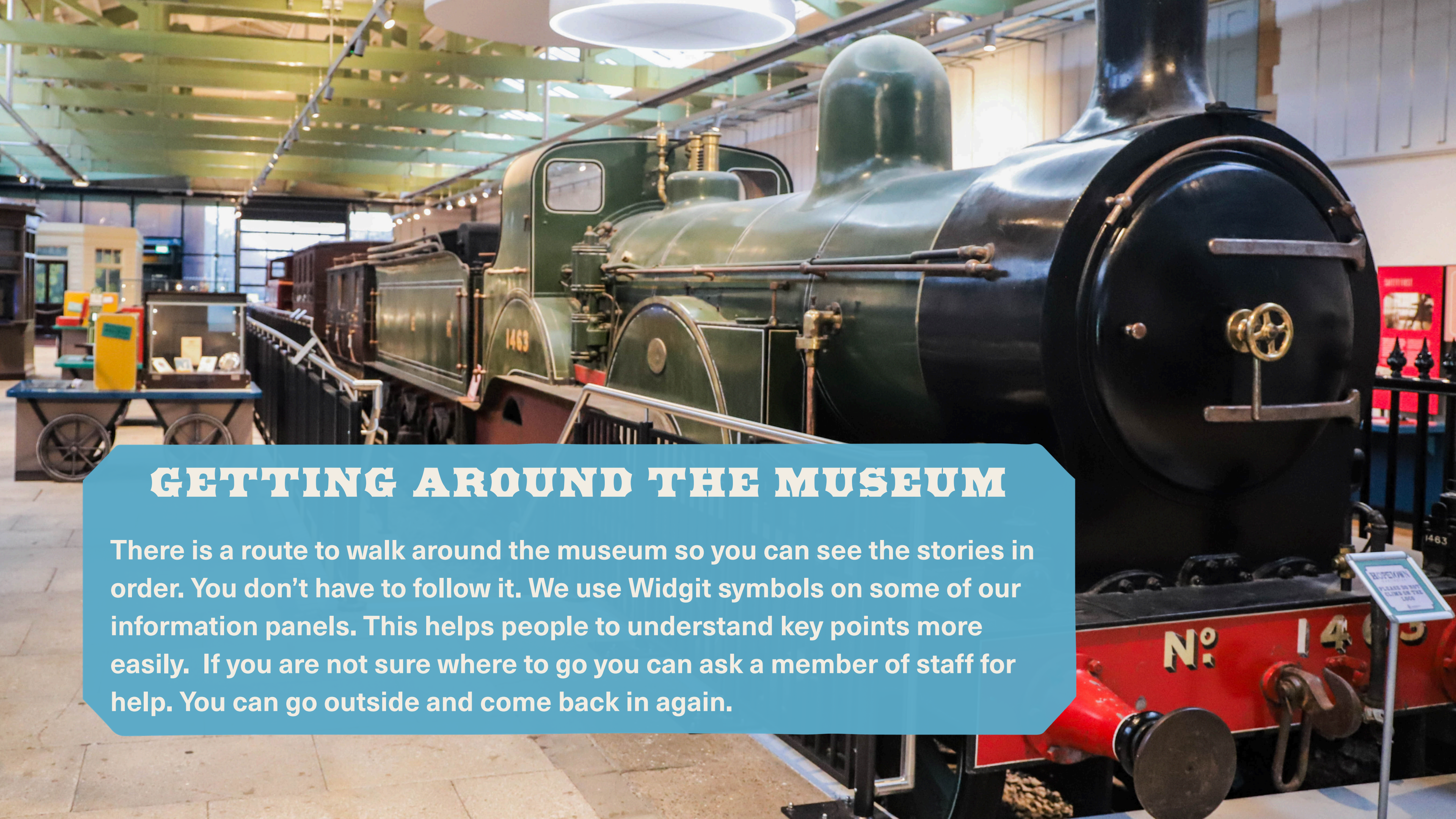
Trace the origins of the Stockton & Darlington Railway, the railway that got the world on track. Meet the Darlington people who fought to make it happen.

Relive the excitement of the railway's First Day on 27 September 1825. Join the first passengers travelling the brand new line.

See how the railway expanded across the region, transforming towns, villages, work and leisure time.

WHEN YOU COME INTO THE MUSEUM

The museum is in an old railway station building. It has high ceilings and can be noisy if there are lots of people visiting. There are some areas with sound effects or characters talking on screens. Some areas might be a little bit darker than the rest of the building. If you need time in a quieter space, you can use the baby feeding room if there is no one using it.

A large steam locomotive, number 1463, is displayed in a museum. The locomotive is painted in a dark green color with a black smokestack and a red-painted front buffer beam. The number '1463' is visible on the side of the boiler and on the front beam. The locomotive is positioned on tracks, and a small informational sign is visible in the foreground. The background shows the interior of a large museum with a high ceiling and other exhibits.

GETTING AROUND THE MUSEUM

There is a route to walk around the museum so you can see the stories in order. You don't have to follow it. We use Widgit symbols on some of our information panels. This helps people to understand key points more easily. If you are not sure where to go you can ask a member of staff for help. You can go outside and come back in again.

The background image shows a museum refreshment room. It features several round white tables with a decorative pattern of plates and cutlery. White plastic chairs are arranged around the tables. In the background, there is a large, dark wood display cabinet with glass doors, containing various historical items like plates and a teapot. A window with a radiator is visible on the right side of the room. The floor is made of polished wooden planks.

SEATS AND FOOD AND DRINK IN THE MUSEUM

There are places to sit around the museum. There are tables and chairs in the Refreshment Rooms. You can have your own food and drinks in this room. You cannot have your own food and drink - except water - outside of the Refreshment Room.

TOILETS IN THE MUSEUM

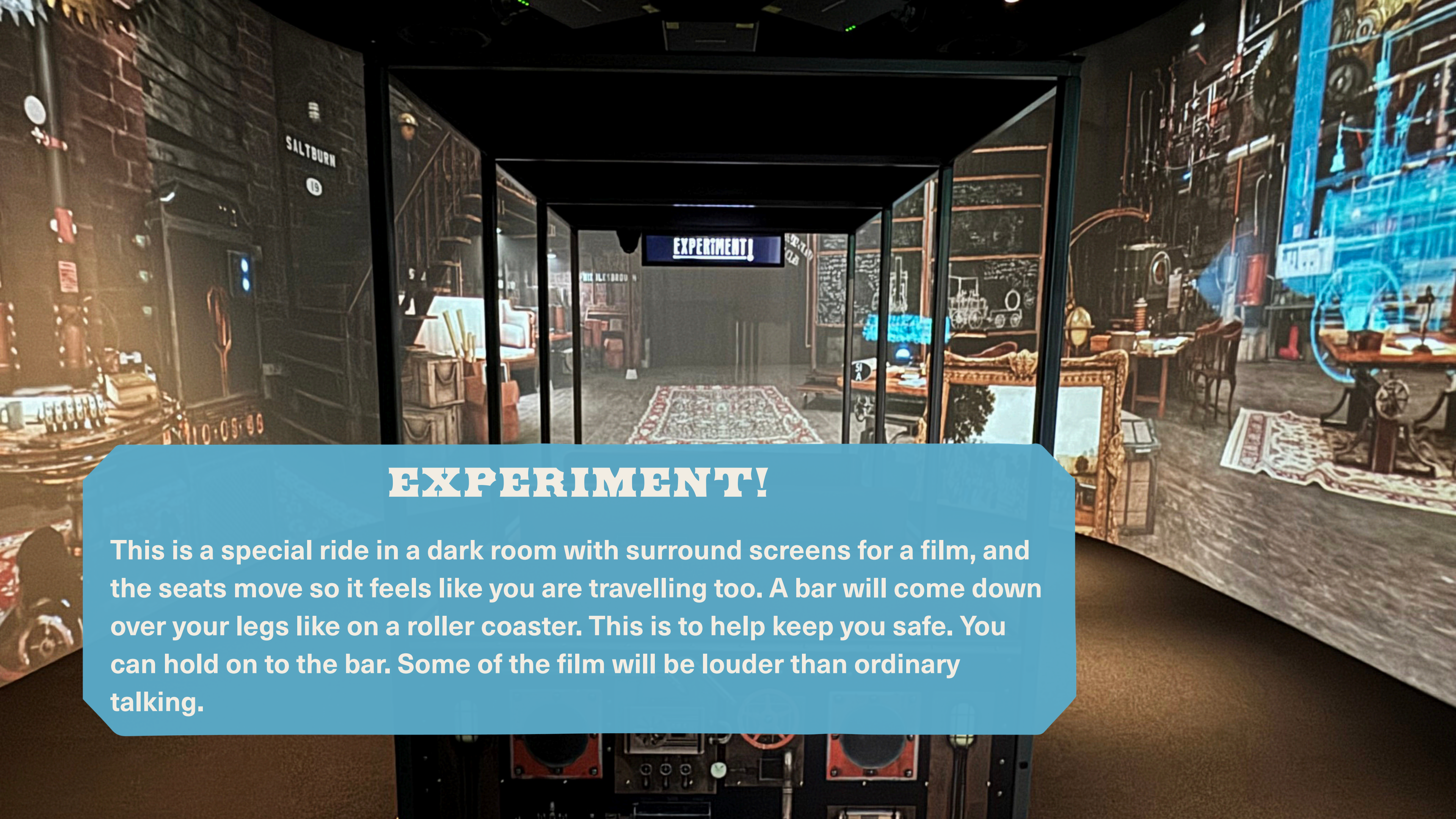
There are male and female toilets and an accessible toilet in the museum. There is also a Changing Places toilet. There is a baby feeding room.



A photograph of a specialized toilet facility. The room has light-colored tiled walls and a dark grey floor. In the center, there is a metal frame with a blue padded surface, likely a changing bed or hoist. To the left, a white toilet is partially visible. To the right, there is a white sink with a chrome faucet. A grey trash bin with a yellow liner is on the left. A window with a white frame is on the back wall. A white radiator is on the left wall. A black handrail is on the left wall. A white paper towel dispenser is on the right wall. A white electrical outlet is on the left wall. A white fire alarm pull station is on the right wall. A white fire extinguisher is on the right wall. A white fire alarm control panel is on the right wall. A white fire alarm bell is on the right wall. A white fire alarm strobe is on the right wall. A white fire alarm siren is on the right wall. A white fire alarm speaker is on the right wall. A white fire alarm bell is on the right wall. A white fire alarm strobe is on the right wall. A white fire alarm siren is on the right wall. A white fire alarm speaker is on the right wall.

CHANGING PLACES TOILET

There is a Changing Places toilet in the museum. You do not need a key to get in. There is a wash area, a changing bed, a hoist, a toilet and a sink. They all move to suit your needs. If you need help using this space please find a member of staff.



EXPERIMENT!

This is a special ride in a dark room with surround screens for a film, and the seats move so it feels like you are travelling too. A bar will come down over your legs like on a roller coaster. This is to help keep you safe. You can hold on to the bar. Some of the film will be louder than ordinary talking.

possible with The National
Lottery Heritage Fund.

Thanks to National Lottery players,
we have been able to bring you

EXPERIMENT!

our time travel, railway-themed
immersive ride!

EXPERIMENT! TICKETS

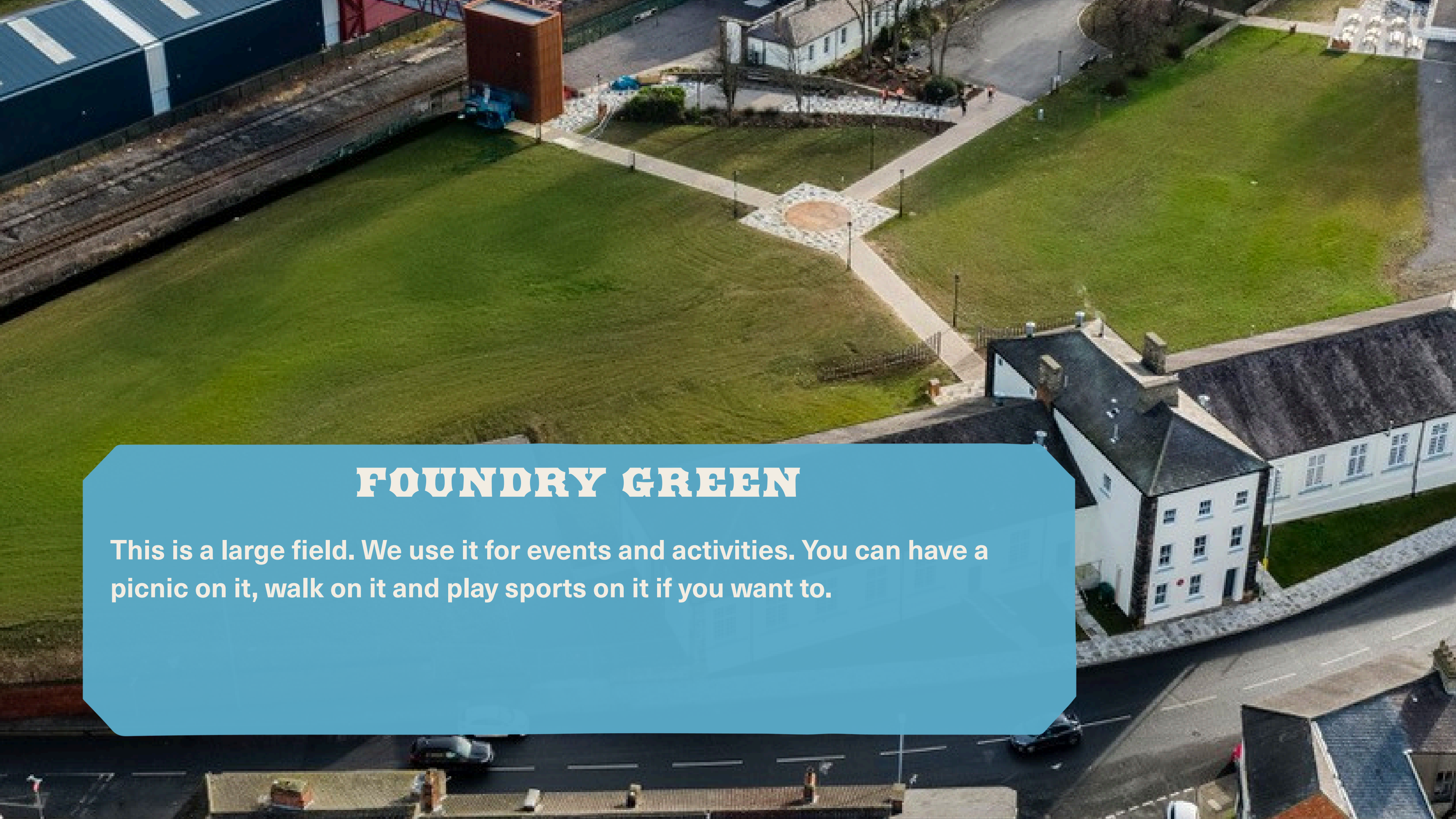
You will need to pay to go on Experiment! It costs £5 per ticket. Your ticket will have the start time on it. You can buy a ticket online or from the Goods Shed. You can also buy a ticket at ride itself. You must be older than three years old to go on.

NEXT RIDE DEPARTS IN 00:02

A photograph of a wooden play structure in a forest. The structure is made of light-colored wood with dark brown trim. It has a gabled roof, a circular window with a grid, and a large arched entrance. A silver metal slide curves down from the left side. To the right, a tall wooden tower is visible, with the word 'HOTTOWN' written vertically on its side. The structure is surrounded by lush green trees. The ground is covered with dark mulch and wooden planks.

WAGON WOODS

Wagon Woods is the big play area in the trees for 0-12 year olds. You can follow the signs to Wagon Woods. You can get your tickets online, at the Kiosk or at the Wagon Woods entrance. Sometimes the Kiosk is used as the entrance to Wagon Woods. Children over one year old need a ticket to play in Wagon Woods. It costs £3.50 on a weekday during term time and £5 on weekends and in school holidays. The ticket will have the time to go into Wagon Woods on it. Adults are free to enter.

An aerial photograph of a large, green, rectangular field. To the left of the field are several parallel railway tracks. A paved path runs along the right side of the field, leading to a small, circular, paved area in the center. In the background, there are some buildings, including a small white house and a larger building with a dark roof. The field is surrounded by a low fence. The sky is clear and blue.

FOUNDRY GREEN

This is a large field. We use it for events and activities. You can have a picnic on it, walk on it and play sports on it if you want to.

A photograph of a garden. In the foreground, there are numerous purple flowers, likely lavender, in full bloom. In the middle ground, a statue of a person in classical attire stands amidst green foliage. In the background, a white building with a dark roof and a chimney is visible under a blue sky with some clouds.

STATION GARDEN

This is a sensory garden full of plants and trees. There is a statue, information boards and benches to sit on. You can eat and drink in here.



ARRIVING AT THE CARRIAGE WORKS

Follow the signs to the Carriage Works. You enter the Carriage Works through the large glass doors.

— THE — STORES

GETTING AROUND THE CARRIAGE WORKS

To the right of the reception desk is The Stores. This is where we keep most of our artefacts and objects. You can look around this area but you cannot touch anything. There is a book corner and play area for children.

EXHIBITION HALL

SPONSORED BY

Darlington
Building Society

GETTING AROUND THE CARRIAGE WORKS

To the left of the reception desk is the Exhibition Hall. You can use the short stair case or the lift to get down into the hall. This is where we have different exhibitions and events all year. You usually need a ticket to enter which you can get from the reception desk.

A photograph of a modern public restroom. On the left, a dark grey door with a 'FEMALE' sign is visible. In the center, another dark grey door with a 'MALE' sign is shown. To the right, two white toilets are visible, each with its lid up. The walls are dark grey, and the floor is dark grey tile. A blue text overlay is positioned in the center of the image.

TOILETS IN THE CARRIAGE WORKS

There are male, female and accessible toilets in the Carriage Works. The accessible and baby changing toilet is opposite the reception desk. The male and female toilets are down the short staircase and along the corridor.



THE BRIDGE TO DARLINGTON LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

You can get to the viewing gallery by taking the stairs or the lift and going over the bridge. The stairs are in the rusty coloured tower. There are two periscopes on the bridge to look through so you can see the railway line under the bridge.



DARLINGTON LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

You can see people making a new steam locomotive in the locomotive works from the viewing gallery in the locomotive works. You can push the button on the wall to make the lights come on. On some weekends, you can go down into the locomotive works.



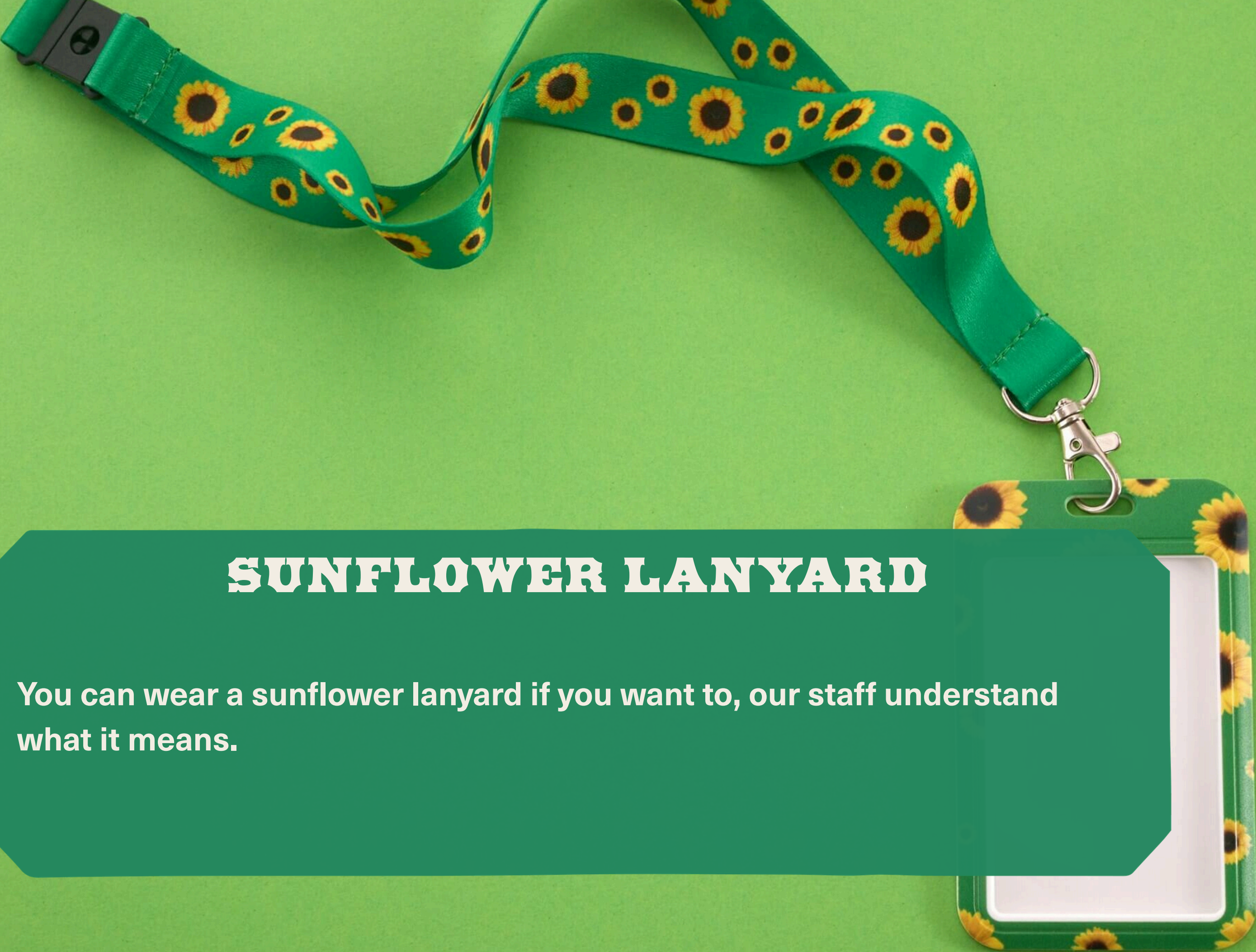
1861 SHED

The 1861 Shed is open on the first full weekend of every month. You need to go through Darlington Locomotive Works to get there. Follow all of the signs to get to the 1861 Shed. It can be a long walk to get there. The path is made of gravel so may be uneven in places.



STEAM TRAIN RIDES

The steam train rides depart from the 1861 Shed. You will climb up to a platform at the 1861 Shed to get onto the train. Staff will guide you. You need a ticket for the ride which is £7.50 and your ticket will have the start time on it. The rides only operate on certain dates throughout the year. The train can be noisy.



SUNFLOWER LANYARD

You can wear a sunflower lanyard if you want to, our staff understand what it means.



WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

If the fire alarm goes off there will be a siren and a flashing red light. You must leave the building through an emergency exit. Follow the green Fire Exit signs and go to the meeting point. If you are not sure what to do, ask a member of staff.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a bright pink long-sleeved shirt and a yellow lanyard with a badge, is smiling and looking towards the left. She is standing in front of a white sign that reads "WELCOME TO HOPETOWN". The sign is placed on a table that also holds some brochures and a small potted plant. In the background, there are other people, including a man in a dark jacket and another man in a blue shirt. The setting appears to be an indoor event space with stone walls. A table with various items, including a basket of colorful eggs, is visible in the foreground on the right.

SPEAK TO STAFF

If you want to ask a question about visiting, you can email hopetown@darlington.gov.uk or contact us through Facebook. To find out more you can look on our website <https://www.hopetowndarlington.co.uk>

HOPETOWN

- D A R L I N G T O N -

**WE HOPE YOU ENJOY
YOUR VISIT.**

