



Beck Isle Museum. All Images Tracey Hebron.

Beck Isle Museum

On a recent visit to the Yorkshire coast, I had a wonderful trip on the North York Moor Heritage railway to Pickering, with the aim of visiting a museum that has always been on my to-do list.

Beck Isle Museum is situated on Bridge Street, just a two-minute walk from the main train station. Admission price is £7 for adults and is staffed mainly by volunteers. The museum is situated in a beautiful grade II* listed building. On entering the museum, I was greeted by two lovely volunteers who introduced me to the site. Once owned by William Marshall, a leading agriculturalist from 1981 and passed on to his sister after his death in 1818, the building was used as the residence for practising doctors. The history of the museum began in 1967 when a local group wanted to set up a museum to showcase the history of Pickering.

The main museum building is accessible on the ground floor and a DVD tour is available. The first floor is only accessible via a flight of stairs. When I visited, the first gallery on the lower floor contained a large number of objects with a focus on childhood. From dolls and records to a smart camera collection with useful interpretation. There was also a number of collections dedicated to local photographers including a collection of photos by Sydney Smith. Displays in cabinets showcased the history of Pickering, before I entered a reconstructed pub and blacksmiths with numerous fascinating artefacts.

