

## Fremington Quay Heritage Centre

There was once a busy freight and passenger railway line that ran between Barnstaple and Bideford, with a station and goods yard at Fremington Quay.

All signs of that railway line have disappeared, and the old trackway is now repurposed as the Tarka Trail.

The Heritage Centre aims to provide information, to locals and visitors alike, about the history of the area, including the export of ball clay, the Fishley Pottery, and the importation of coal, gravel and fertiliser. In its day, Fremington Quay was the busiest port between Bristol and Falmouth!

In the past couple of years, the heritage Centre has undergone a refurbishment, with the original displays now grouped together on the walls, and the beautiful model of the Quay and the railway brought into prominence.

Wall space, to display information, is quite limited, so we have introduced two Audio-Visual Kiosk display screens instead. These have the advantage that we can add new topics and detail as we discover it, and visitors can explore this material through a series of “menus”, ensuring that they can quickly get to the items that interest them.

We will also be adding a third screen, shortly, that will provide 4 or 5 videos relating to the local area, or the site history, so that visitors can select and watch their choice.

A CCTV camera has been added to the roof of “The Lookout” tower, to allow people who cannot climb the stairs for the live view, to see it on a screen on the ground floor.

The Heritage Centre is run by a voluntary Management Group. It is a non-profit organisation, and funding comes from The Landfill Trust. Anyone who would be interested in becoming involved with what we do can become a member of the “Friends of Fremington Quay”.

