

**FREE
EXHIBITION**



Bewicks Gallery,
Gateshead Civic Centre
3 - 31 May, Monday - Friday, 8am - 6pm
(Closed Bank Holidays)

We are delighted to show some of Stephen Ward Fox's detailed and accomplished paintings and prints relating to Railway History and local scenes. Stephen was born in Durham and lives in Esh winning and is a Member of the Guild of Railway artists. He has exhibited in the National railway Museum in York.

Full Steam Ahead



Local History Month

A winning look at Gateshead's past.

May 2016

Local History Month

Events Schedule

Lost Landmarks of Gateshead Local History Talk

St Mary's Heritage Centre
Tuesday 3 May, 7pm
The Wrekenton Clock, Redheugh
Corner, 'Shepherds of Gateshead'.
They gave us our skyline, our
navigation points and our sense
of place. John Boothroyd recalls
some streets and some structures
that helped mould the character
of an earlier Gateshead.
Tickets £3
Tel: 0191 433 4699 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



An Audience with Val Scully Author Talk

Birtley Library
Thursday 5 May, 10.30 - 11.30am
The welcome return of local
author Val Scully talking about
her new book, My Name is
Eleanor, based on the life of Lady
Eleanor Bowes.
Free - please book in advance
Tel: 0191 433 6101 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

The History of Victoria Garesfield Local History Talk

Rowlands Gill Library
Thursday 5 May, 1 - 3pm
Angela Lee gives a talk on the
social history of Victoria Garesfield
from 1871 to the present day.
Refreshments provided at a
small charge by the WI, between
1 - 2pm. Talk 2 - 3pm
Free - please book in advance
Tel: 01207 542 372 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



Gateshead's Grand Houses Revisited - by Gateshead Local History Society Book Launch

St Mary's Heritage Centre
Saturday 7 May, 10.30am
Following on from the success
of 'Gateshead's Grand Houses'
published in 2012, members of
Gateshead Local History Society
have compiled a second book
featuring more of the large houses
in the town and the people who
lived in them. Come along for the
launch event of this long-awaited
sequel. Signed copies available
to buy on the day.
Free - Please book in advance
Tel: 0191 433 4699 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Ceilidh with Fiddlers Elbow

St Mary's Heritage Centre
Friday 6 May, 7.30 - 10.30pm
This will be a great night of social
dancing with local band Fiddlers
Elbow, bringing their own style to
a ceilidh for everyone. Fiddler's
Elbow are a four piece Ceilidh
Band consisting of Robin Dunn
(Caller & fiddle), Rachael Hales
(fiddle), Phil Tyler (fiddle) and
Sue Morgan (piano). They play
a wide variety of music from
England, Scotland, Canada &
New England as well as featuring
Northumbrian tunes & Robin's
own compositions, and have a
huge repertoire of dances to suit
complete beginners to seasoned
dancers. Robin Dunn as the
caller and band leader will be
there to guide everyone through
the dances, so even if you have
never been to a ceilidh before you
will know what to do. The lovely
traditional sound of this band
will be a superb accompaniment
for the musical heritage that the
band play. Bring along a friend or
come along to make new ones.
There will be a pay bar.
Tickets £5
Tel: 0191 433 4699 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

To book tickets call **0191 433 4699 / 8420** or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated

Explore Local Studies

Gateshead Central Library
Monday 9 May, 2 - 3.30pm
Gateshead Local Studies has a wealth of unique material relating to the history of Gateshead. Come along to this informal session to find out more about the maps, photographs, documents and books available to help you find out more about your street or your family's history.

Free

Places are limited, please book in advance

Tel: 0191 433 8420

Email: tic@gateshead.gov.uk or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Birtley Heritage Group Open Day presents Our Elisabethville

Birtley Library

Tuesday 10 May, from 11am

Birtley Heritage Group presents an exhibition telling the story of the Birtley Belgians through photographs and the archives of local historian, John Bygate.

Free - just turn up

Tel: 0191 433 6101

Joseph Paxton: From Parks to a Palace

Local History Talk

St Mary's Heritage Centre

Tuesday 10 May, 7pm

Joseph Paxton was one of the most influential designers of the 19th century. Discover how a lily pad led to the construction of the Crystal Palace. Malcolm Grady returns with this entertaining new talk.

Tickets £3

Tel: 0191 433 4699 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



Ryton and West Blaydon 1950: An Illustrated talk by John Boothroyd with photos & maps

Blaydon Library

Wednesday 11 May, 1.30 - 2.30pm

Discover a unique and evocative set of photographs taken by the Ordnance Survey that show how Ryton and west Blaydon looked around 1950.

Free - Please book in advance

Tel: 0191 433 6201 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Fools Gold North East Songs

Pelaw Library

Wednesday 11 May, 11am - 12noon

Join husband and wife duo Carol and Steve Robson who will perform their own songs of people, places and events relating to the North East

Free - just turn up

Tel: 0191 433 6409

Using Trade Directories for Local & Family History

Rowlands Gill Library

Thursday 12 May, 2 - 3pm

Discover how our historical trade directories can help you with your local and family history research. For total beginners.

Free - book in advance

Tel: 01207 542 372 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Tyneside & the Battle of Jutland

Whickham Library

Thursday 12 May, 6pm

The Tyne industries provided many of the Royal Navy's ships, arms, coal and men for this pivotal battle between the British and German fleets in 1916. A Local History talk by Richard Pears of Whickham Local History Society.

Free - book in advance

Tel: 0191 433 6424 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

To book tickets call **0191 433 4699 / 8420** or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated

An Introduction to Trade Directories

Learn Lane Library

Friday 13 May, 10 - 11.30am

Our historic trade directories contain a wealth of information relating to local residents and businesses. Find out how useful they can be for local historians, in this session for beginners.

Free - Booking essential

Tel: 0191 433 6428 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



Winlaton Forge Open Morning Local History Drop In

Winlaton Forge, to the rear of Winlaton Library

Saturday 14 May, 10am - 12.30pm

This 17th century cottage forge is the last remaining link with Crowley's Firm, which dominated the iron manufacturing trade in the North east throughout the 18th Century. Small display of tools, photographs and information.

Free - Just turn up



Walcher's Song:

Music, storytelling and dance

St Mary's Heritage Centre

Saturday 14 May, 11am - 12.30pm

In the troubled days of unrest after the Norman Conquest the Belgian-born bishop of Durham was ambushed at St Mary's, Gateshead, by a mob led by Northumbrian lords, and brutally killed. This was the indignant response to unheard complaints about the Norman usurpers, but the heartless retaliation that followed was exacted on the people of Gateshead. William Walcher was killed on the 14th of May 1080 and on the anniversary of his death Anna and Andy Raine and friends' will perform 'Walcher's Song' to remember these events with music, storytelling and dance.

Tickets £3

Email: heritage@gateshead.gov.uk

Tel: 0191 433 4699 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

St Mary's Pageant

St Mary's Heritage Centre

Saturday 14 May, 6 - 11pm

Drop in to St Mary's to discover some of the many historic characters who have been involved with St Mary's miraculously returned to life and just waiting to entertain you with their stories. Come and meet Barbara Coulson the work worn church cleaner, the enthusiastic Mrs Prest, Vicar's wife and sanctimonious Bishop Walcher - put to death by the people of Gateshead in 1080. In deference to one of the Graveyards famous inhabitants, the stone mason, we have Ross Coleman as artist in residence for the evening, demonstrating the craft of the master stone carver, with a chance to try your own hand.

Free

Email: heritage@gateshead.gov.uk

Tel: 0191 433 4699



Walk around Whickham: Local History Walk with Richard Pears

Whickham War Memorial

Sunday 15 May, 2 - 4pm

Starting at 2pm at the War Memorial, Front Street, Whickham we'll take a gentle stroll along Whickham Front Street looking at the history of the village featuring Oliver Cromwell, John Wesley, Harry Clasper and Lang Jack. The walk is on flat pavements but bring stout footwear and waterproofs in case of rain.

Free - Please Book in advance

Tel: 0191 433 6424 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

To book tickets call **0191 433 4699 / 8420** or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated

**Behind the Scenes at
Gateshead Central Library**

Gateshead Central Library
Monday 16 May, 2 - 3pm
Join us on a tour of the Library, which still has many original features including the underground book store, designated as an air raid shelter during the Second World War. The tour also introduces you to the many services now on offer including CDs, DVDs, books, computers, art and local history.
All ages
Free - please book in advance
Tel: 0191 433 8420 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



**Fugar, Washingwell and
Watergate - A Hidden Heritage
Local History Talk**

Whickham Library
Tuesday 17 May, 1 - 3pm
Sunnyside Local History Society share an exciting, unique project centred on Fugar, Washingwell and Watergate. The project focuses on the period from 1269 when a Breton mercenary, William de Fugars was gifted land as a reward for services rendered to the Bishop of Durham. The estate including a house on the edge of the steep sided valley of the Black Burn remained in occupation until the early 1950s when it was condemned and demolished. The History Society would love you to bring along personal reminiscences and photographs from the area.
Free - Please Book in advance
Tel: 0191 433 6424 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



**Re-making Beamish
Local History Talk**

St Mary's Heritage Centre
Tuesday 17 May, 7pm
Join Lisa Peacock from Beamish as she explains 'Re-making Beamish' - an exciting project that will see the museum grow to create new ways of experiencing everyday life in the North East. Visitors will be able to explore a time in living memory with the development of a 1950s town and farm. Beamish will also be expanding their 1820s area to tell a more rounded story of the foundation of the industrial era.
Tickets £3
Tel: 0191 433 4699 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

**Elisabethville:
The Boundary Walk
Local History Walk**

Meet at Birtley Library 10am
Tuesday 17 May, 10am - 12noon
Join Birtley Heritage Group on this unique walk around the Boundaries of Elisabethville the Belgian Village. Please note this is a two hour walk and appropriate footwear is recommended. Meet at the library at 10am and return there for tea / coffee
Free
Pre Booking Essential
Tel: 0191 433 6101 or visit
www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



To book tickets call **0191 433 4699 / 8420** or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated

My Name is Eleanor
Talk by author Val Scully
Blaydon Library

Wednesday 18 May, 10.30am
Mary Eleanor Bowes, sole heir of Newcastle coal czar George Bowes, achieved notoriety in the Georgian era, yet her true legacy is often overlooked. Val Scully will discuss a new interpretation of this dramatic and significant life, which is the subject of her novel, My Name Is Eleanor.
Free - book in advance
Tel: 0191 433 6201 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Gardens with Capabilities
Illustrated Talk

Gateshead Central Library
Wednesday 18 May, 2 - 3pm
Lancelot 'Capability' Brown has been described as England's greatest garden designer. Discover his story and some of the gardens he designed in this illustrated talk by local historian Anthea Lang.
Tickets: £3
Email: tic@gateshead.gov.uk
Tel: 0191 433 8420 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Winlaton & District Local
History Society
Drop-in and Exhibition

Blaydon Library
Thursday 19 May, 1 - 6.30pm
Drop in at Blaydon Library with a display of maps, photographs, books and other information about the fascinating history of the Blaydon / Winlaton area.
Free - just turn up
Tel: 0191 433 6201



Whickham Worthies
Local History Talk

Whickham Library
Thursday 19 May, 6pm
Richard Pears of Whickham Local History Society highlights the lives and achievements of historical figures from the area.
Free - book in advance
Tickets: 0191 433 6424 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Gateshead Memories
Local History Reminiscence
Session

Dementia Awareness Week
Gateshead Central Library
Friday 20 May, 2 - 3.30pm
Take a trip down memory lane while browsing through photographs from our archives. Bring your own photographs to share with others too.
Free - just drop in
Email: libraries@gateshead.gov.uk
Tel: 0191 433 8420

Weekend Family History Surgery
St Mary's Heritage Centre

Saturday 21 May,
11am - 1pm
On the third Saturday of the month volunteer members of the Northumberland and Durham Family History Society are on hand to offer help and advice with any family history queries. Make sure to bring your research with you. No need to book, just come along.
Free, drop in
Email: heritage@gateshead.gov.uk
Tel: 0191 433 4699

The Year of the Somme

St Mary's Heritage Centre
Saturday 21 May, 10.30am - 3.30pm
This year marks the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. To commemorate this, and in conjunction with the North East War Memorials Project, we have arranged a special day featuring three keynote speakers and a short play 'Letter from Kitchener' performed by members of Little Cat Theatre.

Drop in for one event or stay all day. Speakers taking part will be Wendy Stafford, Alan Fidler, and Ken and Pam Linge.

There will also be an opportunity to look at some of the First World War items held by Gateshead Libraries including the Book of Remembrance and newspaper cuttings of Gateshead servicemen.

Free
Coffee and cake courtesy of St Mary's Heritage Group (donations welcome)
Further details online at: www.smhgg.org.uk
Tel: 0191 433 4699

To book tickets call **0191 433 4699 / 8420** or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated

Pasture, Parks and Paintings

Gateshead Central Library
Saturday 21 May 10:30am - 12noon
Members of Gateshead Local History Society will lead this walk which looks at the history of the Shipcote area. Beginning outside the original (main) entrance to the Central Library, the walk looks at how this area has developed, takes an outside look at Saltwell Park and ends in the Shipley Gallery for tea/coffee and biscuits at approximately 12 noon.

Free

To book a place visit:

ticketsource.co.uk/event/EEFIHG



Bensham Grove's Famous Visitors

Local History Day

Bensham Grove Community Centre, Sidney Grove, NE8 4XD
Sunday 22 May, 10am - 3pm
What would William Morris have recognised on his visits to Bensham Grove? Who would J. B. Priestley have spoken to or heard about in 1933? Our friendly guides will tell you all the tales. Relax with tea and cake or try your hand at various crafts.

Free - just drop in

Tel: 0191 433 6450



Sporting Memories

Gateshead Central Library
Monday 23 May, 2 - 3.30pm
Come along and chat about your favourite sporting memories. Tell us about the local teams you've supported, the triumphs and the disappointments.

Adults only - Refreshments provided.

Free - please book in advance

Email: tic@gateshead.gov.uk

Tel: 0191 433 8420 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

The Butterfly Bridge - Crossing the Generations: The Postscript

Whickham Library

Tuesday 24 May, 1.30pm

Sunniside Local History Society reports on the unsolved queries that have arisen since the completion of the project in September 2013. Includes a short film describing the project and a snip of a 1966 film showing the manufacturing of massive anchor cable by the last handmade chain factory, Nixon & Whitfield, whose premises are still present in Winlaton.

Free - just turn up

Tel: 0191 433 6424

It's Bedlam in here!

Local History Talk

St Mary's Heritage Centre

Tuesday 24 May, 7pm

Join Pat Lowery for this interesting talk exploring the world of the ill and destitute.

Tickets £3

Tel: 0191 433 4699 or visit

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



To book tickets call **0191 433 4699 / 8420** or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated



Highlights of Elisabethville Local History Walk

Meet at Birtley Library
Thursday 26 May, 2pm
Join Birtley Heritage Group for a one hour walk around Elisabethville. Discover highlights and features of the Belgian village. Meet at 2pm and return for tea / coffee.
Free - Booking Essential
Tel: 0191 433 6101 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Up the Derwent Valley Local History Talk

Blaydon Library
Wednesday 25 May, 1.30 - 2.30pm
Join John Boothroyd on a river journey in old images from the river Tyne to the (current) Durham border for this illustrated talk with photos, sketches and maps.
Free - book in advance
Tel: 0191 433 6201 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Gateshead Perambulations Local History Walk

Saturday 28 May
Meet at Gateshead Civic Centre car park entrance at 9.00am
Members of Gateshead Local History Society revive the ancient practice of walking Gateshead's boundaries. This will be the fifth Perambulation of the Gateshead Borough since 1857 and we would like to invite any energetic volunteers to join us. Sturdy footwear a packed lunch and waterproofs required. The walk is approximately 13 miles but for those who only wish to undertake half the journey, there will be a convenient leaving/joining point at around 12noon at The Ale Taster. We aim to finish the walk at the gates of St Mary's Heritage Centre at around 3.30pm.
Free - pre-booking essential
Maximum 20
Box Office: 0191 433 6965 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson



From Artisans to High Art - the story of a Victorian house Local History Talk

St Mary's Heritage Centre
Tuesday 31 May, 7pm
As the owners of Bensham Grove followed fashion from 1800-1940, they left a trail of stylish ceramics, stained-glass, murals and artefacts. Follow this story, from early dragon-flies to modern Arts and Crafts in an interesting talk by Shirley Brown.
Tickets £3
Tel: 0191 433 4699 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Just for Fun Quizzing on the Mobile



Tuesday 3 - Tuesday 31 May
Mobile Library

How well do you know your local area? Why not test your knowledge of local places and dates by picking up a quiz sheet from the Mobile Library.

To book tickets call 0191 433 4699 / 8420 or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated

Local History Month Exhibitions



Gateshead in Camera - some favourite photographs over the years by Trevor Ermel

St Mary's Heritage Centre

Friday 1 April - Tuesday 31 May, 10am - 4pm (Tuesday to Saturday)

Trevor has over many years kindly donated many of his photographs to Gateshead Libraries' Local Studies collection. This exhibition shows his work from the 1970's to the present day capturing a town that has undergone many changes, Trevor's images portray the people of Gateshead going about their everyday lives to magnificent effect.

Free

Tel: 0191 433 4699

Email: heritage@gateshead.gov.uk



National Garden Festival Gateshead

Gateshead Central Library
3 - 31 May, Library Hours

Twenty six years ago, the National Garden Festival Gateshead attracted over 3 million visitors to the site on reclaimed land in Dunston and Teams. Gateshead Libraries Local Studies has an amazing collection of photographs from the festival, some of which will be on display throughout Local History Month. Join us in a remembering this wonderful event.

Free

Tel: 0191 433 8420

Email: tic@gateshead.gov.uk

Battle of the Somme, 1916 Local History Display

Crawcrook Library

Tuesday 3 - Tuesday 31 May

Library Opening Hours

The Ryton and District War Memorial Project provide a display profiling local soldiers, who fought and died on The Somme battlefield between 1 July and 13 November 1916. It includes a diary recorded account of the eve, and first day of the battle, by Sergeant Thomas Richardson Barnes, 20th Battalion, Tyneside Scottish who died of his wounds.

Free - just turn up

Tel: 0191 413 8164



To book tickets call **0191 433 4699 / 8420** or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated



Chopwell Photographic Exhibition

Chopwell Library
Tuesday 3 - Tuesday 31 May
Library Opening Hours
Enjoy this exhibition of local photos from our collection.
Free - just turn up
Tel: 01207 561 379

A Blast from the Past Photo Exhibition

Leam Lane Library
Wednesday 4 - Friday 27 May
Library Opening Hours
The Local Studies Collection contains many images of schools and sports teams from the 20th Century. Can you spot someone you know?
Free - Tel: 0191 433 6428

The Changing Face of Felling

Friday 6 May 10am - 3pm
Felling Library
Felling High Street is going through another transformation. The Felling Now & Then Group present a photographic collection showing how it has changed over the years. Free - just turn up
Tel: 0191 433 6402

Our Elisabethville

Birtley Library
Tuesday 10 May - Friday 27 May
Library Opening Hours
Birtley Heritage Group presents the story of the Birtley Belgians through photographs and the archives of historian, John Bygate.
Free - Tel: 0191 433 6101



ST MARY'S
BOOKSHOP

Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm

Located within St Mary's Heritage Centre, Oakwellgate, Gateshead (next to the Sage Gateshead), we stock the largest range of local history titles relating to Tyne and Wear from publisher Summerhill Books with titles from other publishers including The History Press and Amberley also stocked.

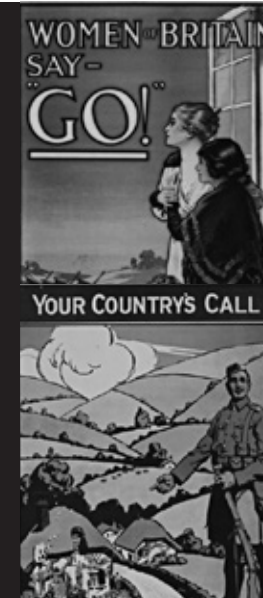
As well as books, St Mary's Bookshop also sells a range of stationery, maps and local history prints, and regularly hosts author events, book launches and coffee mornings.

T: 0191 433 4699
E: heritage@gateshead.gov.uk

First World War Poster Collection

Propaganda posters were a powerful medium for influencing public opinion. They covered recruitment, war savings, charities and the role of women. The posters were intended to make war look exciting, instil a sense of duty and make men feel guilty if they had not joined up. Browse this nationally important collection of posters, along with 140 years of local photographs and other unique material at:

www.gatesheadlocalstudies.com



To book tickets call **0191 433 4699 / 8420** or buy online at:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson unless otherwise stated