

Local History Month - Meet the Author



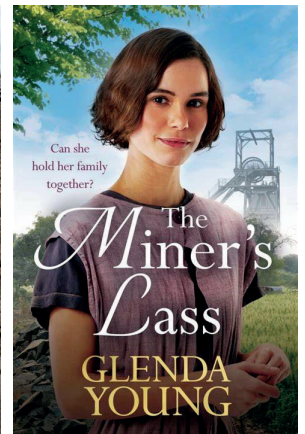
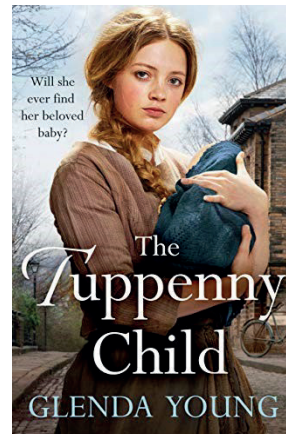
Meet Local author Glenda Young
at
Wheatley Hill Heritage Centre
on
Thursday 4 May

10.00-12.00

Everyone welcome to this FREE event

Glenda is a best-selling and award-winning author. Her gritty sagas are set in the northeast mining village of Ryhope in 1919. Her books are inspired by her love of soap operas with lots of action and some wonderful female characters. You may also be following her weekly 'soap' article "Riverside" in the *People's Friend*, the longest running women's magazine.

Glenda's visit to the Heritage Centre during local history month will give local people the opportunity to meet and talk to her about her books as well as the chance to purchase both her mining village books and her cosy crime novels set in modern-day Scarborough and to have them signed by her.



Two of Glenda's novels set in Ryhope

Local History Month - Chat to Louise



Louise is carrying out research into the Wheatley Hill dog track—her work is called DOG PEOPLE and she would like to speak to anyone with any memories of the track. She will not be recording or photographing at this event—just the chance to talk to people about their memories.

Meet "Dog People" Louise Powell
at
Wheatley Hill Heritage Centre
on
Thursday 18 May

10.00—12.00

**Everyone welcome to this
FREE EVENT**

CONTACT DETAILS

CHAIR: 01429 820813

TREASURER: 01429 823198

Find us on

facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/wheatley.hillhistory/>

E: history.club2@btinternet.com

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MEETINGS IN WHEATLEY HOUSE

Start at 11.00am

31 May	WW1 Pension Records	J Passby
28 June	The Suffragettes	S Vincent
26 July	A Social History of Wheatley Hill Cemetery (This meeting will be held in Wheatley House and NOT in The Heritage Centre as advertised in the calendar)	M Hedley



Historical Association
The voice for history

Local and Community History Month – May 2023

Yesterday's Memories—Tomorrow's History

Every day throughout May an image showing the history and heritage of our area will be posted on our Facebook page. That's 31 photos.

Please find the time to have a look.

<https://www.facebook.com/wheatley.hillhistory>



Sidney & Florence Attrill

Sidney Claud Attrill

In March we had an enquiry from a lady called Nancy in Christchurch, Australia who turned out to be the wife of the grandson of the above and she wanted to know if we could provide any information about Sidney's time spent as a teacher at Wheatley Hill Boys School from 1910—1921.

Nancy told me that Sidney was born in Plumstead, Kent in 1890 and trained as a teacher at the Islington Day Training College, London, graduating in 1910 when he was appointed as an assistant teacher at "Wheatley Hill Council Senior Boys School". One of the first things that I discovered about Sidney was that that he was lodging at No 24 Granville Terrace when he worked at the Wheatley Hill School and I was able to send an image of the house. I also sent images of the Boys School at the time Sidney would have been there and some class groups so that Nancy and her husband could put the information into context.

Sidney married school teacher, Florence Brown of Hutton Henry in 1915 when she was teaching at Station Town Council Junior Boys School. They had two daughters, the first of whom, Edith sadly died in 1916 and their second daughter Joyce, was born in 1921.

Sidney enlisted with the Royal Garrison Artillery at the time of the First World War from his home address at 48 North Road, Wingate and after the war returned to Wheatley Hill Boys School.

The family re-located to the south of England in 1921 before emigrating to Australia.

As you know our war books have the title, *"Employees and Residents of Thornley, Ludworth and Wheatley Hill—Their Contribution to the First World War"*, and if Sidney had still been lodging in Granville Terrace at the time he joined the Army, he would have appeared in our books.

Memories of The Royalty Cinema

By
Ena Patterson

I started work at The Royalty when I was about 16-years-old. It was the same cinema I went to as a child but it was called The Palace Theatre then.



The Palace Theatre, Wheatley Hill, opened 1913

The manager of The Royalty was called Joe Snaith and he was nicknamed Smoky Joe because he always had a cigarette in his mouth. The secretary was Miss Richardson and the under-secretary was Audrey Eastwood of Shotton and the commissionaire was Mr Eastwood.

Once The Palace was refurbished, and re-opened as The Royalty, the entrance changed and sometimes the performance was on the stage.

There were two ticket boxes, one at each side of the entrance and they both opened on a weekend.



One of the ticket boxes in The Royalty

You often had to queue outside to the right for seats upstairs and to the left for downstairs. The prices changed over time, but I remember was more expensive upstairs and the back two rows had double seats for courting couples.

Usherettes took the tickets and were provided with torches (which were sometimes useless!) to show people to their seats. A few of us did both jobs, selling tickets and being usherettes.

There was a room behind the stage at the bottom end which was called the 'dog end' and tickets for these seats were the cheapest. There were two toilets upstairs and two downstairs and sweets and cigarettes were sold from the office.

Apart from weekends the performances were continuous but on a weekend there were two performances on a Saturday and only one on a Sunday.

When the person in the ticket box had finished their duties, they were expected to relieve the usherettes for ten minutes and then they could go home. We got monthly commission for selling Eldorado ice cream. It cost 3p or 4p depending on size.

My wage was 12 shillings a week (60p) for 6 nights and a Saturday afternoon. I got one night off and I went to the other cinema in Wheatley Hill, The Regal.



The Royalty Cinema, Wheatley Hill opened 1938

Mr Snaith lived in the front street and at the time I was there Tommy Hodgson and Benny Davis were the projectionists.



Programme from The Royalty, 1957

Wheatley House Moving Forward

Wheatley House was formerly the men's hostel within the aged miners homes complex, opened in 1924. It is now a community hall managed by a committee to provide a gathering place for the people of Wheatley Hill and surrounding area to hold a range of functions

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