

Throwing new light on it



Plans have been unveiled to create a spectacular line of light from coast to coast, along the length of Hadrian's Wall, next year.

also be a number of stewarded points along the Wall where people will be able to view the line of light.

This once in a lifetime event will take place on Saturday 13th March 2010 and will follow the route of the 84 mile long Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail.

Our aim is to capture the public's imagination with an event that will show the immense scale and beauty of Hadrian's Wall and the countryside, villages, towns and cities that it runs through. It will be a celebration of a truly iconic piece of World heritage.

There will be around 500 individual points of light, placed at 250 metre intervals. The first one will be illuminated at Wallsend in the North East, with the line of light then making its way along the Wall to Bowness-on-Solway in Cumbria over the following hour.

Illuminating Hadrian's Wall is an ambitious project led by Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd which forms part of the world-class programme of festivals and events developed by culture¹⁰ in the North East of England and the Lakes Alive programme in Cumbria presented by Kendal Arts International and Manchester International Arts. Illuminating Hadrian's Wall is also a flagship event of British Tourism Week 2010.

A camera crew will film the line of light as it makes its way from coast to coast from a helicopter and the pictures will be beamed to giant screens as part of two major events in the north east and at Carlisle to celebrate the illumination of Hadrian's Wall. There will

Vindolanda opens the box



Lepidina birthday party invitation © Vindolanda Trust

One of the most exciting parts of our rich Roman heritage has been hidden from public view for far too long but, thanks to a £4 million Heritage Lottery grant award, the packing cases can come out of storage and the remaining Vindolanda Writing Tablets, widely cited as the country's most significant historical find, can soon go on display.

This welcome funding will enable the Vindolanda Trust to link Roman Vindolanda and the Roman Army Museum and to create new galleries and an education centre to inspire the next generation of young archaeologists. For the first time, a significant element of Vindolanda's collection that is either in storage or held at the British Museum will be able to go on public display.

Keeping the Trail on Track

NATIONAL TRAIL MANAGER DAVID MCGLADE REPORTS ON THE TRAIL'S ANNUAL SURVEY

Ensuring the continued wellbeing of the National Trail as it follows the line of Hadrian's Wall through some of the country's most glorious countryside calls for constant vigilance.

A major week-long intensive survey of the Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail was carried out this autumn by the National Trail's managers, accompanied by its consultant archaeologist and the two lengthsman. The fieldwork survey is also supported by the fixed-point photographic monitoring exercise that is undertaken every April, August and November. The Trail project now boasts an unique archive of the condition of the World Heritage Site stretching back to the mid 1990s.

Both the survey and the monitoring data revealed water-logging as a continued concern along some sectors and more recent high rainfall has since rendered all of the Wall's soils in a saturated condition. However, at the time of the survey the sward condition was found to be generally in a reasonable

condition and, given the unseasonably wet summer, with some sites not as poor as might have been expected. This is largely thanks to the daily proactive surface management undertaken by the Trail's two lengthsman and the popular Summer Passport that influences walkers towards the (normally) drier months of the year.

The Trail could not function without the *Generic Scheduled Monument Consent*. This enables day-to-day proactive grassland management to take place by the

lengthsman, and other staff, who can make decisions in the field with the knowledge that they are operating within an agreed legal framework.

Year-on-year the Trail's management, and the techniques employed, has improved to the point where most of the remaining pinch-point sites can now be attributed to other causes. The Trail project will be working closely with Natural England and English Heritage with a view to finding solutions to them.



Plan your visit

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HADRIAN'S WALL COUNTRY

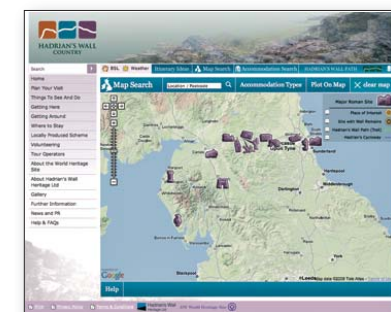
For more details please see 'Hadrian's Wall Country: your Essential Map' or contact the individual attractions.

2010 Holiday and Short Breaks Guide

Tourism businesses in Hadrian's Wall Country are being given the chance to take part in a new marketing campaign to attract more visitors to the region. With record accommodation occupancy, half a million visitors to the Hadrian's Wall websites and over 25,000 people contacting the Hadrian's Wall Information Line this year, interest in the area has never been higher.

Hadrian's Wall is expected to be firmly in the spotlight in 2010, and in recognition of market demand, all promotional literature which is used as the key response piece to all Hadrian's Wall Country marketing and PR activity will be available for distribution from January.

Our website



hadrians-wall.org
All the information you need to plan your visit

Our Information line

T 01434 322002
E info@hadrians-wall.org

Roman Sites and Attractions

Senhouse Roman Museum, Maryport
W senhousemuseum.co.uk
T 01900 816168

Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle
W tulliehouse.co.uk
T 01228 618718

Birdoswald Roman Fort and Visitor Centre
W english-heritage.org.uk
T 01697 747602

Discovering Cumbria, Rheged
W rheged.com
T 01768 868000

Roman Army Museum, Carvoran
W vindolanda.com
T 01697 747485

Once Brewed Northumberland National Park Centre
W northumberlandnationalpark.org
T 01434 344396

Roman Vindolanda, Chesterholm
W vindolanda.com
T 01434 344277

Housesteads Roman Fort and Museum
W nationaltrust.org.uk
W english-heritage.org.uk
T 01434 344363

Chesters Roman Fort and Museum, Chollerford
W english-heritage.org.uk
T 01434 681379

Corbridge Roman Town, Corbridge
W english-heritage.org.uk
T 01434 632349

Great North Museum, Newcastle
W greatnorthmuseum.org
T 0191 222 6765

Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths and Museum, Wallsend
W twmuseums.org.uk
T 0191 236 9347

Arbeia Roman Fort and Museum, South Shields
W twmuseums.org.uk
T 0191 4561369

We welcome your comments and feedback on Frontier

Published by: Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd
Designed by: Smith Creative 0191 232 1268

Front Cover: Sycamore Gap © Roger Clegg

Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd believe the information in this newsletter is correct at time of going to press and cannot be held responsible for alterations that occur after printing. This content is also available online at hadrians-wall.org/frontier



frontier

inside this special edition...

02 WALKING THE WALK

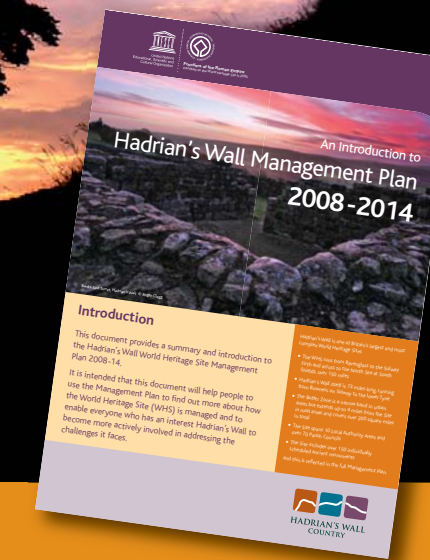
05 THROWING NEW LIGHT ON IT

03 ROMAN BRITAIN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

06 KEEPING THE TRAIL ON TRACK

04 LUCKY 13 FOR PILGRIMS

and includes our new introduction to the Management Plan



HADRIAN'S WALL
Frontiers of the Roman Empire
WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Welcome



Welcome to a very special edition that marks the third season of *Frontier* and showcases exciting news and developments around Britain's premier World Heritage Site.

In these pages you can read about the international experts and interested parties

who gathered for their ten-yearly pilgrimage to Hadrian's Wall, which was followed by the 21st International Limes (Roman Frontiers) Congress in Newcastle upon Tyne.

You will find details of the coast-to-coast walk by BBC Radio Two presenters Mark Radcliffe and Stuart Maconie and the latest report on the state of the National Trail as well as exciting plans to illuminate the Wall from end-to-end in what will be a spectacular once-in-a-lifetime event. Most importantly of all, we reveal in a very accessible format the detail of the crucial and exhaustively comprehensive five-year Hadrian's Wall Management Plan that we believe will carry us confidently into the future. You can read here of the key management and development issues this initiative deals with and the role it will play in galvanising the wider community into working together to preserve and enhance this region's most valuable asset.

Close on a million people live and work here. The World Heritage Site affects over 700 landowners, and benefits over 2000 businesses. Over 100 people representing agencies, organisations, businesses and communities were involved in consultations.

Addressing in detail a broad range of issues, challenges and opportunities that face this much loved World Heritage site, the plan also aims to encourage people to discover how the site is managed and to get actively involved in preserving this wonderful asset. The Romans placed an indelible footprint on these lands. The challenge facing us all is to protect and enhance this heritage.

Linda Tuttiert

Chief Executive, Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd

Walking the walk



There were big smiles on the faces of popular BBC Radio Two presenters Mark Radcliffe and Stuart Maconie when they arrived at Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths & Museum and received the last of the six Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail passport stamps, and the commemorative certificates and badges that prove they successfully completed the 84 mile walk from Bowness-on-Solway, over on the Cumbrian coast.

En-route the intrepid duo stopped off to broadcast their 2009 British Press Guild *Radio Programme of the Year* show live from various venues within Hadrian's Wall Country.

Commented a delighted Mark: "You really feel as though you have achieved something. You can do it in a week and there are loads of nice places to stay.

"The countryside is truly glorious and the views from the crags are amazing. You can see for miles around and feel on top of the world in every sense.

Added an equally enthusiastic Stuart: "I would absolutely recommend the experience. It's been a walk of great contrasts and the archaeology and history are a big part of it, while we've enjoyed good food and drink all the way along. And, just as importantly, we encountered some wonderful people."

At Gilsland's Willowford Farm, the pair met Lauren Harrison, Chairperson for the Hadrian's Wall Fairtrade Campaign who told them of the campaign to gain Fairtrade status for Hadrian's Wall Country. The following day, David Ridley, from Ridley's Fish & Game, greeted them near Housesteads Roman Fort with a basket of his famous pies while Fiona Watson, from Roman Vindolanda, was one of a number of local guests who appeared live on the programme to talk about the Wall and its environment. To add even more flavour, local bands also made guest appearances.

The presenters and their production team stayed on the way at a range of what they described as superb accommodations along the Wall, including Farlam Hall Hotel in Brampton, the Twice Brewed Inn near Bardon Mill, Matfen Hall Hotel and Keelman's Lodge in Newburn.

Roman Britain in the spotlight



Site visit during the Limes Congress

PAUL BIDWELL, SENIOR MANAGER, ARCHAEOLOGY, TYNE & WEAR MUSEUMS & ARCHIVES, REVIEWS A LANDMARK LIMES CONGRESS

Having hosted the first ever International Roman Frontiers (Limes) Congress, Newcastle was a fitting choice for the 21st anniversary event, held at Newcastle University in August and hosted and organised by Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums.

The congress was staged over a period of four days, during which more than 180 papers were delivered in four simultaneous sessions. There were 330 participants from 22 countries, including all the European states that had Roman frontiers, as well as Canada, USA, Jordan, Israel and South Africa. The opening ceremony took place at Newcastle Civic Centre, where participants were welcomed by the Lord Mayor before hearing presentations on the British and German sections of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site.

Receptions were held at York, at Newcastle University, the Great North Museum: Hancock, and at Arbeia Roman Fort (attended

by the Mayor of South Tyneside). Journalists representing the *National Geographic* and the twin magazines *Current Archaeology* and *World Archaeology* were present throughout the congress while the local and regional press covered several of the congress excursions.

An important part of the event was the programme of excursions, which allowed participants from abroad to visit a wide range of sites where important work has recently been undertaken. The first of these was to York, where the remains of the legionary fortress were examined. Other excursions went to Binchester, Piercebridge and Whitley Castle, near Alston; to Yorkshire, where Malton, Cawthorn and Scarborough were visited, and to the Roman forts of Ambleside, Hardknott and Ravenglass in the Lake District.

The final excursion, during the main congress, was to the outpost forts of Risingham and

High Rochester and to Segedunum and Arbeia. After the congress there were two separate three-day tours, one to Roman Scotland – travelling as far north as Inchtuthil in Perthshire – and the other to all the principal sites on Hadrian's Wall.

The congress promoted the entire Roman heritage of northern England, particularly the many remarkable sites which do not form part of the UNESCO Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site. It was clear from the comments of the participants on the excursions that they had not realised how extensive and well-preserved the Roman remains were. The result will be greater international awareness of the Roman heritage in northern England and increased visitor numbers to sites on Hadrian's Wall and elsewhere. There were many financial sponsors for the congress, including Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd, English Heritage, Newcastle University, TWAM Business Partners and the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies.



Birdoswald Roman Fort © Roger Clegg

Lucky 13 for pilgrims

PROFESSOR DAVID BREEZE, CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE REVIEWS THE HADRIAN'S WALL PILGRIMAGE

Members of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle and the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society were joined by colleagues from Britain and abroad on the 13th Pilgrimage of Hadrian's Wall back in the summer.

About 220 Pilgrims inspected some rarely visited sections in their week on the Wall, travelling from the fort at Moresby, on the Cumbrian coast to South Shields, at the mouth of the Tyne

The purpose of the Pilgrimage was to consider new research on Hadrian's Wall, that is work that has been carried out over the last 10 years.

The Pilgrims considered the evidence from geophysical surveys at several sites, the discovery of pits on the berm – the space between the Wall and the ditch – at several locations, and the earthworks themselves, their importance having been recently highlighted by the publications of Humphrey Welfare.

In addition, old favourites such as Housesteads and Chesters, Newcastle and Wallsend were viewed.

This year, long walks in the central sector were dropped from the schedule as a small contribution towards minimising damage to this much visited central sector of the National Trail.

Instead, the group walked quieter but equally interesting stretches of the Wall in Cumbria as well as the Limestone Corner to Tower Tye length.

Along the Wall participants were well received by local authorities, central government, and by Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd.

A special exhibition in Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery, Carlisle, highlighted the three small pans found on the Wall – only the second time they have been displayed together – and the visit was prefaced by a fascinating lecture by the eminent German authority on such objects, Dr Ernst Künzl. The Pilgrimage ended with dinner in the Civic Centre in Newcastle.

A special handbook was prepared for the Pilgrims, compiled by Dr Nick Hodgson, and this is available from Arbeia Roman Fort & Museum, South Shields.