
Hadrian's Wall
SPRING FESTIVAL

WRITING
ON THE
WALL

POETRY READINGS



Community &
Education Readings

HADRIAN'S WALL
WORLD HERITAGE SITE 

Introduction

As part of the Hadrian's Wall Tourism Partnership's Spring Festival events, Writing on the Wall is presenting a series of Readings by participants of the Education and Community Workshops that have been taking place from January to April 2002.

These workshops have been run by Professional Writers and have involved pupils and teaching staff from a number of schools as well as adults from Cumbria, Northumberland and Tyne & Wear. The participants were encouraged and guided to produce a wide range of writing that creatively explored different subjects connected to the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.

These Readings are an opportunity for the work to be performed by the participants and to be available to a wider audience.



Education & Workshop Readings

PLEASE NOTE THAT PLACES FOR THE READINGS SHOULD BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE TO ENSURE ADMISSION. PLEASE TELEPHONE THE VENUES DIRECTLY TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE.

Monday 27th May - 2pm
Waberthwaite CE Primary School

Waberthwaite, Millom, Cumbria, LA19 5YJ
Tel: 01229 717664

The pupils worked with Kitty Fitzgerald using different forms of writing - verse, diaries, letters and emails to extend their vocabulary and sentence building around the theme of Ravenglass in Roman times and today. The work also included the use of nouns, verbs & adjectives, acrostics, time travel, lost artifacts and mysteries.



Tuesday 28th May - 2pm
Heddon on the Wall St. Andrews CE Primary School

Trajan Walk, Heddon on the Wall, Northumberland, NE15 0BJ
Tel: 01661 853350

Robert Forsythe involved pupils in studying W.H. Auden and his connections to the North Pennines and Hadrian's Wall. The petrol station at Heddon is mentioned in Auden's play *Hadrian's Wall* - *An Historical Survey* and the children have used this and other works to explore notions both of barbarism and the importance of the ordinary.

Wednesday 29th May - 9am
Hadrian Primary School

Baring Street, South Shields, Tyne & Wear, NE33 2BB
Tel: 0191 4554514

Thursday 30th May - 2.30pm
Carville First School

The Avenue, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, NE28 6AX
Tel: 0191 2007236

Pupils at both schools worked with Bill Herbert and used visits to Arbeia and Segedunum to examine their sense of place and history. Buildings in both forts have been reconstructed in the lifetime of the pupils and this experience offered parallels with the first building of the wall and its relationship with the then local inhabitants and the Roman settlements.

Saturday 1st June - 2pm
Corbridge Roman Site

Corbridge, Northumberland, NE45 5NT
Tel: 01434 632349

A community based adult writing group worked with Linda France and responded to various exhibits at the Corbridge Roman Museum. They have created their own contemporary version of the 'Corbridge Hoard' - a wooden chest containing a remarkable collection of objects, buried during the first half of the second century, and discovered in 1964. The group has also traced the imagined origins of a selection of other 'found' objects.

Writing on the Wall is a New Writing and Public Art Project for Hadrian's Wall, and links the local communities and people within an international writing context. The project runs from 2001 to 2006 and is funded by One NorthEast, through the Single Regeneration Budget and with match funding from local authorities and other partners.

There is a rich and active writing scene in the North, and this is being actively involved in the project. Writing on the Wall will commission writers from Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear and Scotland. It will also set up opportunities for writers from the countries that originally garrisoned the wall: Algeria, Belgium, Bulgaria, South West and Eastern France, North Germany and the Rhineland, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Morocco, Romania, North and North West Spain, Switzerland, European Turkey, Syria, Tunisia and Wales.

The project was created and initiated by Steve Chettle, whose great interest in writing led him to being inspired by both the Vindolanda texts, and Roman Wall Blues, by W.H. Auden - the absolute history and a 20th Century response.

A series of educational and community based workshops is being organised along the route of the wall to involve people of all ages and abilities. These workshops will introduce a new audience to the work of high quality writers, and encourage and support new writing from the participants. The writers will also create new works about the wall, which will examine historical and contemporary aspects of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.

Writing on the Wall is part of the Hadrian's Wall Tourism Partnership's Enrichment and Enterprise scheme - a five year initiative funded by One NorthEast and other partners, comprising five projects that work together to benefit visitors and the region as a whole.

Writing on the Wall is an ARTS UK originated concept, which it is delivering on behalf of the Partnership by working closely with other public, private, voluntary and independent agencies in a series of educational and community based residencies and workshops.

For more information,
please contact:

ARTS UK Ltd.
71 Westmacott Street
Newburn
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE15 8NA.

Tel/Fax: 0191 2649474
Email: email@arts-uk.com
Web: www.writingonthewall.uk.com
www.arts-uk.com

HADRIAN'S WALL
WORLD HERITAGE SITE 

HADRIAN'S WALL

TOURISM PARTNERSHIP



ARTS UK
LIMITED

Designed by Blue River
T 0191 2610000