

The Big Roman Week is an annual festival, held each September.

It marks the birthday of Emperor Antoninus Pius (born 19 September 86AD) – who built his Roman frontier, The Antonine Wall, across Falkirk district.

Great events have been organised to help you explore and appreciate local history. The programme this year includes walks, talks, a film show and family events.

Many events this year are FREE of charge, although you may have to book places in advance. Check individual listings for details.

The Festival is co-ordinated by The Friends of Kinneil charity (with support from a number of partners).

We are particularly grateful to Falkirk Community Trust, Falkirk Council and CVS Falkirk and District for their ongoing support.

**Find out more. Visit:
www.bigromanweek.org.uk
or email: info@bigromanweek.org.uk**

THE ANTONINE WALL

The Antonine Wall was built by the Emperor Antoninus Pius to hold back Caledonian tribes from invading southern Scotland, then under Roman rule. Unlike the stone-built Hadrian's Wall, the Antonine Wall consisted of a rampart of soil, faced with turf, resting on a stone foundation. It stood 12 feet high, and was protected on the north side by a wide, deep V-shaped ditch. It was abandoned around AD 160, when the Romans retreated to Hadrian's Wall.

Today many parts of the Antonine Wall lie under towns and settlements, built long after the Romans departed Scotland. However evidence of the wall's ramparts and buildings can still be found.

The Bo'ness and Falkirk areas are fortunate in having a number of highly visible parts of the Antonine Wall. As well as the remains of a fortlet at Kinneil, Bo'ness, and a fort at Rough Castle, near Bonnybridge, the wall can also be seen at Polmont Woods, Watling Lodge at Tamfourhill (near the Falkirk Wheel), Callendar Park in Falkirk and Seabegs Woods, near Bonnybridge.

There are also free exhibitions on the Romans in local museums: Callendar House, Falkirk, and Kinneil in Bo'ness. (Outside the district, there are displays in the Auld Kirk Museum in Kirkintilloch, the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow, and the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh.) The Wall became part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site in 2008.

www.antoninewall.org
www.kinneil.org.uk/antoninewall
www.facebook.com/kinneil
www.twitter.com/kinneil

BIG THANKS

The Big Roman Week has been co-ordinated by The Friends of Kinneil charity (No. SC038368) – www.kinneil.org.uk - in conjunction with:
Falkirk Community Trust www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org
(Registered Charity No. SC042403)
Falkirk Council www.falkirk.gov.uk
Bo'ness Community Council / Bo'net www.romanboness.org.uk
CVS Falkirk and District www.cvsfalkirk.org.uk
The Antonine Friendship Link
Historic Scotland www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/antoninewall

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Designed by The PR Store www.theprstore.net



BIG ROMAN WEEK 2014

Great family events across Falkirk district - many free of charge. Explore your Roman roots.

SEPTEMBER 13 - 21, 2014 AD

The Friends of Kinneil acknowledge ongoing support from:



THE FRIENDS OF KINNEIL

Show your support by joining The Friends of Kinneil, and enjoy additional events and activities throughout the year. Join us at www.kinneil.org.uk/friends (Registered Charity No. SC038368)



ALL WEEK – ROMAN DISPLAYS in Bo’ness Library, Scotland’s Close, Bo’ness, EH51 0AH. You can also see Roman exhibitions at Callendar House, Callendar Park, Falkirk, FK1 1YR; and Kinneil Museum, Kinneil Estate, Bo’ness, EH51 0PR. For opening times, visit www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/libraries and www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/heritage

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 - FAMILY EVENTS: ROMAN CRAFTS - at Bonnybridge Library, Bridge Street, Bonnybridge, FK4 1AD (11 a.m. - noon) and at Bo’ness Library (11 a.m. to noon). Fun activities for children aged five and over. The events are free: get a ticket in advance from the libraries to reserve your places. Call Bonnybridge on 01324 503295 or Bo’ness on 01506 778520. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/libraries

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 - FAMILY EVENT: THE ROMAN EXPERIENCE – Workshop at Callendar House, Falkirk, FK1 1YR, 2 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. Become a Roman soldier. Find out how the invaders built the Antonine wall. Examine original Roman objects - and take part in Roman manoeuvres. For ages 7-12. All children must be accompanied by a supervising adult. This is partly an outdoor activity, so please wear sturdy footwear and suitable clothing. Free. Book tickets by calling the Steeple Box Office on 01324 506850. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/heritage

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 - FILM: A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM (PG). Hilarious film version of the smash-hit Broadway musical about wily Roman slave Pseudolus (Zero Mostel) who will do anything to secure his freedom. Co-starring Michael Crawford, Phil Silvers and Buster Keaton. At the Hippodrome Cinema, Hope Street, Bo’ness, EH51 0AA, from 2.30 p.m. Tickets £6.30 (£4.80 concessions). Box office: 01324 506850. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/arts



EVENTS FOR ALL THE FAMILY ACROSS FALKIRK DISTRICT

The area’s Roman Festival is back for a sixth year, promising great events - mostly free - right across our local World Heritage Site. From September 13, 2014. Find out more at www.bigromanweek.org.uk

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 - WALK THE WALL: POLMONT TO FALKIRK. Join archaeologist Geoff Bailey as he leads a guided walk along the line of the Antonine Wall: from Polmont Old Parish Church, just off Bo’ness Road, Polmont, to Callendar House in Callendar Park, Falkirk. Approx 3.5 miles (one way). Leaves the church at 2 p.m. Free. No need to book, just turn up. Organised by Falkirk Community Trust. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/heritage

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 – TALK: LIVING WITH THE WALL. Lunchtime talk at the Green Room in Callendar House by Bob Philip and Kate Arnott, members of the Antonine Friendship Link. They will examine the effects of the West Bank Barrier, in particular on the community of Jayyous in Palestine. This accompanies a small exhibition in Callendar House which offers a contemporary slant on the Antonine Wall. The event will begin at 12.30 p.m. and includes tea or coffee and sandwiches. Cost £7. To book tickets, please call 01324 506850, or email arts@falkirkcommunitytrust.org, or visit the Steeple Box Office, High Street, Falkirk. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/heritage

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 - WALK: ROMAN KINNEIL. Members of The Friends of Kinneil charity join the regular Step Forth walk in Kinneil Estate, visiting the Kinneil Roman Fortlet. Leaves from outside Kinneil Museum at 2 p.m. Total round trip, under 2 miles. Free. No need to book, just turn up. www.kinneil.org.uk

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 - FAMILY EVENT: CHATTERBOOKS ROMAN READING GROUP. Great Roman-themed, after-school activity for children aged 7-12 years. 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Meadowbank Library, Stevenson Avenue, Polmont, FK2 0GU. Free, just turn up. Contact the library on 01324 503870. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/libraries

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 - TALK: THE SCOTTISH TEN. Find out about Historic Scotland and Glasgow School of Art’s project to digitally document the Antonine Wall – including work at Rough Castle, near Bonnybridge, and Bar Hill in Lanarkshire. Upstairs meeting room at Bo’ness Library, Scotland’s Close, Bo’ness, EH51 0AH, from 7.30 p.m. Followed by light refreshments. Free, no need to book, just turn up. Organised by The Friends of Kinneil – www.kinneil.org.uk in association with Historic Scotland www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/antoninewall www.scottishten.org

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - REFERENDUM DAY - PLEASE VOTE!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - TALK: THE ANTONINE WALL - THE LINEAR BARRIER. Geoff Bailey discusses just how formidable the Antonine Wall was. Upstairs large meeting room at Bo’ness Library, Scotland’s Close,

Bo’ness, EH51 0AH, from 2 p.m. Please get a free ticket in advance from the library. Call Bo’ness library on 01506 778520. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/libraries

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - KINNEIL HOUSE OPEN DAY. Historic Kinneil House, built next to the Antonine Wall, is open for free tours from noon to 3 p.m. (last admission 2.30 p.m.) There will also be a family fun day in the surrounding Kinneil Estate, see below. Free admission to the House, just turn up (children must be accompanied by an adult). The Friends of Kinneil and Historic Scotland www.kinneil.org.uk Part of Doors Open Days in Falkirk district <http://j.mp/dod-falkirk>

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - FAMILY EVENT: BIG ROMAN DAY AT KINNEIL. Roman encampment beside Kinneil Museum, Kinneil Estate, Bo’ness, EH51 0PR. Come and meet members of the Roman re-enactment group The Antonine Guard. Check out the table-top Roman war games. Try making Roman art (for ages 7 and over). Join members of the Kite Club of Scotland and fly a kite (popular even in Roman times!) Or pop into Kinneil Museum to find out about the Antonine Wall. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Free. No need to book. Just turn up. Organised by The Friends of Kinneil. www.kinneil.org.uk

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 and SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 - WATLING LODGE OPEN DAYS. Watling Lodge is a finely detailed and well-preserved example of a late 19th century Arts and Crafts villa, with the added importance of being constructed directly upon one of the best preserved stretches of the Antonine Wall. See inside for free as part of Doors Open Days and Big Roman Week. Open courtesy of Barnardo’s Scotland. Off Tamfourhill Road, Falkirk, FK1 4RE. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, September 20 and from 12.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Sunday, September 21. Other sites in Falkirk are also open as part of Doors Open Days on September 20 and 21. See <http://j.mp/dod-falkirk>

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 - WALK THE WALL: CALLENDAR HOUSE TO ROUGH CASTLE. Join archaeologist Geoff Bailey as he leads a guided walk along the line of the Antonine Wall: leaving Callendar House in Falkirk at 2 p.m. and heading to Rough Castle, beside the Falkirk Wheel (taking in Watling Lodge and other key sites). The walk will stop off to see the fine arts and crafts building at Watling Lodge, dating from 1894. (Walk one way, just over 4 miles). No need to book, just turn up. Callendar House will also be open from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. that day. Free. Organised by Falkirk Community Trust. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/heritage

Please note that distances for walks are approximate. Unfortunately, we’re unable to offer return transport back to venues. For information on buses to and from venues try www.travelinescotland.com

Queries? Call 01506 823714 or 01506 510629