

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, film shows and family events.

Some events 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 Historic Scotland, Falkirk Council and Falkirk Community Trust for their ongoing support.

**Find out more. Go online and visit:
www.bigromanweek.org.uk
or email: info@bigromanweek.org.uk**

Or call us on 01506 510629.

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 is also a replica of the Bridgeness Roman Slab off Harbour Road, Bo'ness.

There are 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
Historic Scotland www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/antoninewall

Brochure produced by The Friends of Kinneil
Designed by The PR Store www.theprstore.net
Printed in the UK by Instantprint



BIG ROMAN WEEK 2015

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

SEPTEMBER 19 - 27, 2015 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 and by Greenhill Historical Society at Bonnybridge Library, Bridge Street, Bonnybridge, FK4 1AD. 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

ALL WEEK – FREE FILM SHOW: “THE MARK OF ROME”. How one of Britain's best Roman finds was copied using hi-tech tools, and re-installed close to where it was found in Bo'ness. New edited version for 2015. Running time 25 minutes. Showing on demand, during opening hours, at Kinneil Museum, Bo'ness (open Mondays to Saturdays from 12.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Admission free.) www.kinneil.org.uk

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 – FAMILY EVENT: CHATTERBOOKS ROMAN READING GROUP. Great Roman-themed activities for children aged 7-12 years. From 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. at Grangemouth Library, Bo'ness Road, Grangemouth. Free tickets will be available from the library two weeks before the event. Call 01324 504690 or email: grangemouthlibrary@falkirkcommunitytrust.org

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 – 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. Free, 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 19 – 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. 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 19 – FAMILY EVENT: ROMANS EXPERIENCE. Come along and become a Roman soldier, find out how they built the Antonine Wall, examine original Roman objects and take part in Roman manoeuvres. Event for children aged 7-12 at Callendar House, Falkirk, from 3-4 p.m. Price £3.50. Booking essential. Book through the Steeple Box Office in Falkirk, tel. 01324 506850. Organised by Falkirk Community Trust. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/heritage



Picture by FALKIRK COUNCIL

EVENTS FOR ALL THE FAMILY ACROSS FALKIRK DISTRICT

Central Scotland's Roman festival is back for a seventh year, promising great events - some free - across our local World Heritage Site. From September 19, 2015. Find out more at www.bigromanweek.org.uk

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 – WALK THE WALL: BRIDGENESS TO CARRIDEN. Join archaeologist Geoff Bailey as he leads a walk from the new replica of the Bridgeness Roman Slab (at the eastern end of the Antonine Wall in Bo'ness) to the site of Carriden Roman Fort. He'll also talk about the Roman bath house discovered on Carriden Estate. (Approx two miles one way). Free. No need to book, just turn up. Leaves from the replica at 2 p.m. Just off Harbour Rd, Bo'ness EH51 9LF. Organised by Falkirk Community Trust in association with The Friends of Kinneil and Carriden Community Volunteer Group.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 – PRE-SCHOOL EVENT: TODDLING O'CLOCK – ROMAN IN THE GLOAMIN! An imaginative, creative, sensory and exploratory play session – with a Roman theme – for pre-school children, aged 2- 5 years, and their adult caregivers. At Callendar House, Falkirk, from 10.30 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. Price is £3.50 for each child and up to two adult caregivers/parents. Booking essential. Book through the Steeple Box Office in Falkirk, tel. 01324 506850. Organised by Falkirk Community Trust. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/heritage

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 – TALK: RECONSTRUCTING ARTHUR'S O'ON – STENHOUSEMUIR'S LOST ROMAN TEMPLE. Alan Montgomery is the author of the Visit Roman Britain blog and also has a twitter feed @ RomanBritain. He'll visit Larbert Library to look at the various (often contradictory) pieces of evidence about the structure that was once known as the “Little Pantheon”. It was destroyed in the 1740s. Tickets, priced £5.50, are available from the library. At Larbert Library, 22 Hallam Road, Larbert, FK5 3JX from 7 p.m. Contact the library at: larbertlibrary@falkirkcommunitytrust.org or call 01324 503590 to book tickets.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 – 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, Bo'ness, at 2 p.m. Free. No need to book, just turn up. Round trip approx two miles or around an hour in duration. www.kinneil.org.uk

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 – 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.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 – TALK: DOUG JACKSON – THE SCOURGE OF ROME. The author of successful historical novels “Caligula” and “Claudius” discusses his books and all things Roman. Douglas's new book, “Scourge of Rome”, has just been published. At Bonnybridge Library, Bridge Street, Bonnybridge, FK4 1AD from 7 p.m. Tickets cost £5.50, available from the library, tel. 01324 503295 or email: bonnybridgelibrary@falkirkcommunitytrust.org The price includes a cup of tea or coffee.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 – TALK: CARRIDEN: FROM ROMAN FORT TO COUNTRY HOUSE. Geoff Bailey talks about the Roman occupation around the eastern end of the Antonine Wall. Upstairs large meeting room at Bo'ness Library, Scotland's Close, Bo'ness, EH51 0AH, from 2 p.m. Tickets cost £5.50 and include a cup of tea or coffee. Tickets available from the library, tel. 01506 778520 or email: bonesslibrary@falkirkcommunitytrust.org

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 – ITALIAN NIGHT. Enjoy a three-course Italian meal for just £15 a head. At the Corbie Inn, Corbiehall, Bo'ness, EH51 0AS, from

7 p.m. Book via the venue, tel. 01506 825307. The night will include the official unveiling of the Corbie's own “Roman replica” – with a short talk from archaeologist Geoff Bailey. There will also be a prize raffle for The Friends of Kinneil. www.corbieinn.co.uk

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 – ROMAN COOKING. Chef John Crouch, seen on Robson Green's “Tales from Northumberland”, cooks up some authentic Roman food. There will also be some modern day nibbles. From 7 p.m. St. Mary's Church Hall, off Linlithgow Road, Bo'ness, EH51 0DP. No need to book, just turn up. Admission will be free (although attendees are asked to give a small donation at the door to The Friends of Kinneil to cover costs.)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 – FAMILY EVENT: CHATTERBOOKS ROMAN READING GROUPS. Great Roman-themed activities for children aged 7-12 years. From 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. at Bonnybridge Library (no need to book, just turn up) and from 11 a.m. to noon at Bo'ness Library (please book a free ticket for the Bo'ness event from the library). Contact Bo'ness Library on 01506 778520 or email: bonesslibrary@falkirkcommunitytrust.org ... The Bonnybridge event will also feature an appearance by Roman re-enactor Douglas Eckhart from Real Roman Tours. www.realromantours.co.uk

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 – FILM: ASTERIX AND OBELIX MEET CLEOPATRA (PG). Go back to Roman times with this family film starring Christian Clavier as Asterix and Gérard Depardieu as Obelix. Cleopatra tells Julius Caesar that she will build a great palace for him. She also tells her architect that if he doesn't make the schedule – he'll be fed to crocodiles! Good old Asterix and Obelix do their best to keep him alive. At the Hippodrome Cinema, Hope Street, Bo'ness, EH51 0AA, from 11 a.m. Reel Saturday event. All tickets £2.60 each. Box office: 01324 506850. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/arts

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 – ROMAN COOKERY AT KINNEIL. At Kinneil Museum, Kinneil Estate, Bo'ness, EH51 0PR. Roman cookery expert John Crouch cooks up some Roman food for visitors. 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 26 – FAMILY EVENT: HANDS ON HISTORY – THE ROMANS. You will have the opportunity to handle real Roman artefacts and find out more about what the Romans left behind here in Scotland. At Callendar House, Falkirk, from 3-4 p.m. Suitable for all ages. Booking not required. Free, just drop-in. Organised by Falkirk Community Trust. www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 – WALK THE WALL: FROM THE FALKIRK WHEEL TO CASTLECARY. Join archaeologist Geoff Bailey as he leads a guided walk along the line of the Antonine Wall: leaving the Falkirk Wheel and Rough Castle Roman Fort and heading to the site of the Roman Fort at Castlecary, via Seabegs Wood, by Bonnybridge. Walk (one way, around five miles). No need to book, just turn up. Leaves outside Wheel visitor centre at 2 p.m. 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