Welcome to the April edition of the Newsletter.

**The Politics of the Wall: National Identities in Wall Studies**

Richard Hingley has been continuing his research on the reception of Hadrian's Wall and has presented a paper on this topic at the 2009 Archaeology Festival held in Cardiff in February. This is one of a number of research papers that Richard has recently delivered; others include: *The Roman Limes and British Imperial Frontier Policy*, a paper for the 'Empires and the Political' conference, University of Durham, North Carolina; and the forthcoming *Narrating the Roman Wall through Chorography* for the 'Narrating Landscape and Environment' session at the 2009 Royal Geographical Society Annual International Conference 'Geography, Knowledge and Society' in Manchester in August this year. This paper will consider the role of chorography in revealing the narratives of Hadrian's Wall. Chorography developed in the Jacobean period and provided an alternative method of depicting landscape which embedded in the map the myths, legends and histories of the landscape that were occluded by cartography.

**Visualizing the Wall: Material and Visual Culture on the Wall**

Divya Tolia-Kelly has been working on the Archaeology of Race Exhibition which is taking shape; with artefacts from the Wall, contributions from renowned academics, professional archaeologists and artists brought together by a professional designer the exhibition will be a perfect showcase for the multicultural nature of the Wall region in Roman times and will challenge attitudes to and understandings of the cultural heritage of the northeast and northwest regions. The Archaeology of Race Exhibition opens at Tyne & Wear Museums Segedunum on 4th July 2009 and will run until 13th September 2009. It then heads west to the other end of the Wall where it will be open to view at Tullie House, Carlisle from 19th September to 25th October 2009. Divya's research on the archaeology of race is also being presented in the Department of Environmental, Social and Spatial Change at Roskilde University, Denmark where she will present *The Landscape of 'stranger', 'migrant' and 'other' in Roman Britain* on May 29th 2009. She is also contributing a paper on *Narrating the Postcolonial Landscape: the archaeologies of race at Hadrian's Wall* to the 'Narrating Landscape and Environment' session at the 2009 Royal Geographical Society Annual International Conference.

Contact us by email on hadrians.wall@durham.ac.uk or use the link below to visit the project website for further information

[http://www.dur.ac.uk/roman.centre/hadrianswall/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/roman.centre/hadrianswall/)
Experiencing the Wall: Monumentality and Landscape

Rob Witcher is continuing his research into the ways in which the Wall and its landscape are experienced and represented by visitors. He has collected a large database of images and texts generated and shared by online communities such as tourists and geocachers. By analysing the ways in which photographs are described and discussed, he has begun to identify motivations for visiting the Wall and the values attached to it. In particular, he is focusing on the way in which individuals’ prior expectations are transformed by their visit to the monument and its landscape. Meanwhile, out on the Wall, he is meeting with people to discuss what the Wall means to them. He is talking (and walking!) with people who have lived and worked on the Wall for several years in order to provide some historical context to his study of visitor practices. In the coming weeks, he will meet up with National Park Rangers and a local photographer to enjoy (or endure!) the spring weather.

Interpreting the Wall: Archaeology and Pilgrimage

Claire Nesbitt has been working on a paper considering the development of archaeological knowledge on Hadrian’s Wall; this paper will consider how approaches to the study of the Wall, and particularly the archaeological methodologies, have changed since the late 19th century. As the project nears its conclusion the team are getting ready for the final Advisory Group meeting in July and the Limes Congress at Newcastle in August. The Tales of the Frontier team are convening a session at the congress entitled Studying Roman Frontiers in a Globalized World which will be held on Wednesday 19th August. The session includes a host of international academics with a diverse range of approaches to the study of frontiers and promises to stimulate much discussion. More information can be found on the Limes website, or on the project website under events. News on all publications and events related to the project can be found on the project website.

See the website for forthcoming events…

http://www.dur.ac.uk/roman.centre/hadrianswall/