

## Defibrillator

A number of people have enquired about the possibility of getting a defibrillator for the village. We are looking into this and will let you know if we are able to secure any funding to help purchase one. We will try to arrange some heart healthy events to assist with the funding. If anyone has any special skills, such as an interest in fitness and would be willing to donate some time to sponsored activities please let us know via email.



## Gardening club

**Calling all green fingered residents.** We would love to set up a gardening club and are seeking new members including a gardening hobbyist to lead the group. As a club member you would help with maintaining the existing planned areas, share ideas, as well as exchange plants & seeds. The lead would support and direct the weekly activities. And with our help develop a planning and maintenance plan, whilst occasionally getting your hands dirty with the odd hour of village gardening. Our hope is that we could arrange a plant exchange for the spring once everyone has their seedlings growing. We also have some small pots left over from planting on the green if anyone would like some to plant things in their own gardens. If you would like to join the club, or if anyone would like to get involved to lead, please get in touch. Some of the local gardens are truly beautiful, there is so much knowledge and skill in this village and it would be wonderful to learn from each other.

## Christmas tree

We are currently in discussions with the council about getting a Christmas tree for the village. Watch this space!



## Plans for next year

We are hoping to plan some events for the Queen's Platinum jubilee and 1900 years of Hadrian's wall next year. If anyone would like to contribute ideas or their time all will be gratefully received.

We are planning quarterly food bank collections so check out the programme of events for when we are seeking donations.

## Programme of events

- 03/10/2021 - Harvest food bank collection
- 31/10/2021 - Halloween trail and further events to be confirmed subject to COVID
- 12/12/2021 - Winter trail, Carols on the green and Santa's coming in his fantastic Christmas car.
- 24/01/2022 to 23/12/2022 Hadrian's Wall 1900
- ??/01/2022 New Year food bank collection
- June 2022 - Jubilee Celebrations
- 01/07/2022 - AGM

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Find us on facebook: Walbottle Village Residents Association

# VILLAGE NEWS

Newsletter of the Walbottle Village Tenants and Residents Association

## Hello Everyone

We have had a busy few months in Walbottle Residents Association. The AGM was held in July where we welcomed Kelly to the team as secretary. She has already done some amazing work for us and we look forward to working with her. Rosie, Kim and Roger continue in their roles as co-chairs and treasurer.

## Road Safety - Schools

Following a number of comments raised about road safety and accessibility around the schools the council have agreed to carry out a road safety survey when the schools return.

In response to requests being made for one way traffic systems, we have been advised that these tend to speed up traffic and are therefore not advisable on minor roads.

The council have asked us to remind anyone that if vehicles are causing an obstruction, a report should be made to the authorities.

## Walbottle Recycling Centre

There have been many complaints about road safety around the Walbottle recycling centre. The council are aware of the issue but have advised that they believe the road is wide enough for vehicles to pass safely. They state there have been no recorded accidents in the area in the last 3 years.

If anyone has been unfortunate to have had an accident in the last year, please email us with the full details and, where possible, photos of the damage or incident. We believe that the current traffic issues represent a hazard requiring remedial action but we need evidence that it is a danger to the public. Any dashcam images showing the difficulties vehicles face in passing the tip may also be useful.



## Newsletter Highlights

Road Safety

Walbottle Recycling Centre

Anti-social Behaviour

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

History Group

Hadrian's Wall 1900 Festival

Hadrian's Wall at Walbottle

Defibrillator

Gardening Club

Christmas Tree

Plans for next year & programme of events



## Anti-Social Behaviour

Thank you to whomever painted over the graffiti at the bus stop. We are all very grateful to you. There have been incidents of graffiti and fly tipping in the area, around the park, bus shelter and near to the coal trucks. We, as a village, need to protect our beautiful village, our neighbours and the environment. If you see anything concerning please report it to the authorities.



## Neighbourhood Watch

We are in the process of forming a neighbourhood watch. This will hopefully help us to deter anti social behaviour, but is also a question on all home insurance questionnaire so may save us all money, as well as peace of mind. The link to find the local scheme is: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/get-involved/find-my-local-scheme>. Thank you to those working on this extremely important project

## History Group - Would you be interested?

We are starting a history group to help put Walbottle on the map from a heritage point of view. If you are interested in joining the village history group then please let us know.



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## Hadrian's Wall 1900 Festival

**Did you know** that in the summer of 122 Newcastle became the most important place in the Roman Empire when Emperor Publius Aelius Hadrianus, better known as Hadrian, visited the town. He sailed up the Tyne and landed in the Gateshead/Newcastle gorge probably near where the swing bridge is today. He brought a retinue of over 1000 senators, courtiers and Praetorian Guard. His mission? To bring stability to the North by ordering a massive wall to be constructed across the country from Wallsend in the East to Bowness on Solway in the West.

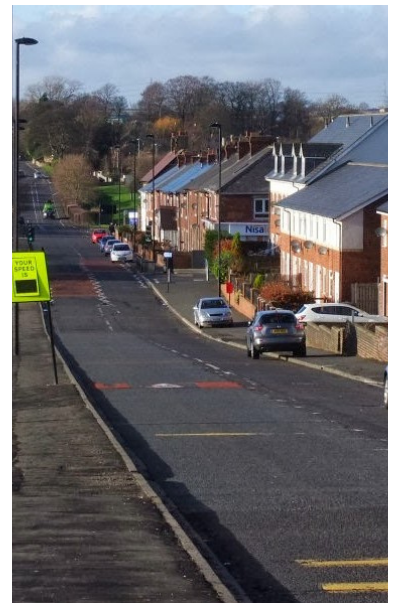
Next year marks 1900 years since the start of construction of the wall and **Hadrians Wall Country** are celebrating the event with a series of festivals from the 24th of January (Emperor Hadrian's birthday) to the 23rd of December (the start of the midwinter festival of Saturnalia). They are encouraging residents along the wall to join the festival with their own activities. We have registered our interest and have had a few good ideas already but need your help to make it happen. If you would like to join the Hadrian's Wall 1900 Festival preparations please contact us.

### What happened to Hadrian's Wall at Walbottle?

In 1724 Sir John Clark visited the area and said that he knew of few places where the "stone Wall and the ditch called Hadrian's appears more distinctly than between the village of Walbottle and a deep gell to the west of it". So what happened to Hadrian's Wall at Walbottle?

The B6528 Hexham road which bisects the village known as the Military Road or sometimes General Wade's road was commissioned by Parliament following the failure of General Wade to lift the siege of Carlisle during the Jacobite rebellion of 1745 due in no small part to the poor road between Newcastle and Carlisle. The surveyors who planned the route of the new road followed the line of Hadrian's Wall for the first 30 miles as there was a ready supply of raw materials (the Wall) and building the road on top of the Wall foundations would reduce compensation to landowners to a minimum. The Wall was demolished to provide hard core for the road and is the biggest single act of destruction in the Wall's history. Even at the time it was controversial. The antiquarian William Stukeley petitioned the Princess of Wales expressing his concern "at the havoc now making of this noble antiquity by the surveyors of the new road who pull the cut stone of the wall and beat them into pieces" regrettably to no avail. In fact the decision to repurpose one military structure for another was considered by many a stroke of genius.

So what did happen to the Wall at Walbottle? It's under Hexham road!



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