

Join us for our Summer Event

Wednesday 8th June 3pm

St James' Church, Benwell

Afternoon Tea among the Flowers

Display by Roman soldiers

New film about the Roman Wall in Newcastle

"Stories from the Graveyard" Guided tour

This event follows immediately after the AGM at 2pm

Booking essential

The Romans are coming!

Spotted on Shields Road and Westgate Road recently – a troop of Roman soldiers. Is this another invasion?



No, it's St James' Heritage & Environment Group making their new film "Gannin' Alang the Wall", which follows the real route of Hadrian's Wall through Newcastle.

Meet some friendly Roman soldiers at the Summer Event.

Find out more about what life was like here during the Roman occupation.

The film will be shown during the Event.

St James' Heritage & Environment Group

SUMMER PROGRAMME 2022

A Stroll in the Parks – Guided Walk

Wednesday 15th June 1pm

Join us to explore the history of two of Newcastle's oldest parks and the surrounding area, with a leisurely walk around Exhibition Park and Leazes Park.

Walk leaves from the entrance to Exhibition Park at the junction of Claremont Road and Queen Victoria Road.

Creative crafts for the summer

Tuesday 21st June 2pm and 3pm

Join us on summer solstice day to make a decoration celebrating the colours and patterns of nature. Materials and equipment provided.

Craft sessions at St James' Church, Benwell Lane.

Elswick in the 19th century – Guided Walk

Thursday 23rd June 10.30am

Meet at Cruddas Park Library for a guided walk around Elswick. Follow in the footsteps of Ruth Nicholson, celebrated pioneer in the field of medicine and daughter of the vicar of St Stephen's Church. Includes refreshments and a free copy of our book "Ruth Nicholson's Elswick".

Walk leaves from Cruddas Park Library, Cruddas Park Shopping Centre, Westmorland Road

Roman Benwell – Guided Walk

Wednesday 6th July 1.30 pm

This year marks the 1900th anniversary of the building of Hadrian's Wall. What better time to explore the local heritage of the Roman occupation? This circular walk takes in the former site of the fort of Condercum and the surviving remains of a Roman temple and vallum crossing.

Walk leaves from the entrance to St James' Church, Benwell Lane

Wealth and power in 19th century Benwell – graveyard tour

Wednesday 13th July 1pm

When the parish graveyard was opened in 1832, Benwell was home to some of the wealthiest and most influential families on Tyneside. There are memorials here for famous names such as John Buddle the coal owner and mining engineer, John Sowerby the glass manufacturer, and Walter Scott – one of Britain's first self-made millionaires. Join us for a tour of the original graveyard.

St James' Church graveyard, Benwell Lane

Get crafty

Tuesday 19th July 2pm and 3pm

Open your imagination and create a quirky craft to decorate your garden. Sign up for a session of creative crafts. Materials and equipment provided.

Craft sessions at St James' Church, Benwell Lane.

Stories of women and children – graveyard tour

Wednesday 10th August 1pm

Rich and poor, men, men and women, young and old are buried in the parish graveyard of Benwell. Join us to hear about the lives and deaths of some of those whose stories didn't reach the history books.

St James' Church graveyard, Benwell Lane

Booking is essential for all these activities

CONTACT US

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Visit: St James' Graveyard, Benwell Lane. Visitors are welcome to drop in between 10am-1pm on Wednesdays.

Why not explore the historic graveyard? Guide books and information leaflets available. Contact us in advance for a tour or for information about burials.

Looking to the future

Does anyone recognise this chap?
He has been waiting a long time to meet you.
More than a hundred people of all ages took part in our **Potted History** project in 2019--20, creating pottery models of people and places from the history of the West End. These were scheduled to be on show in Summer 2020 – but the pandemic intervened. The exhibition will finally go on show in the City Library and Discovery Museum this autumn, starting with a launch event on Friday 9 September.



Forth Banks, a short distance from Newcastle quayside, is the starting point for “Quayside to Paradise”. This short film, made during the first year of the pandemic, tells the story of the former industries along the West Newcastle riverside. The narrator, local author Michael Chaplin, will present the film at our **Big Local History Event** on 16 September.

Over the coming months we will continue to run a variety of **guided walks** that explore the fascinating history of West Newcastle from the Romans to the present day. Neighbourhoods such as Elswick, pictured here, have experienced huge changes over the past century but the evidence of their earlier history can be found if you know where to look.

