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# CONTENTS

v About the Association

vi Editorial

## ARTICLES

- 1 - 50 JOHN POULTER, The Identification of Long-Distance Roman Alignments in Britain, and their Possible Purposes
- 51 - 66 ROBERT ENTWISTLE, Long-Distance Alignments and Client Kingdoms in the Conquest Settlement
- 67 - 114 DAVID RATLEDGE, The Roman Roads of Norfolk - a Lidar Reappraisal
- 115 - 120 CRAIG PARKINSON, RR72a: Survey and Excavation of the Roman Road at Worston Lancashire
- 121 - 150 DAVE ARMSTRONG, Hadrian's Wall Link Roads
- 151 - 180 BEV KNOTT, Bandits and Roman Trade
- 181 - 218 ISAAC MORENO GALLO, Roman Roads: Status Quo and Future Prospects
- 219 - 240 ROB WALLACE, Roman Roads: Discoveries on the Culver Archaeological Project: 2005-2021
- 241 - 302 MIKE HAKEN, The Stainmore road: from late Iron Age Routeway to engineered Roman Road

## ROMAN ROADS IN 2021

- 303 - 332 Roman Roads in 2021 - recent Roman roads research and fieldwork
- 333 - 338 Newly Allocated Margary Road Numbers

## REVIEWS

- 339 - 344 MARTIN BELL, *Making One's Way in the World: The Footprints and Trackways of Prehistoric People*. (By Dave Fell, Northern Archaeological Associates)
- 345 - 348 DAVE ARMSTRONG, *The Hadrian's Wall Military Way, a Frontier Road Explored*. (By John Poulter)

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## ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

The RRRA was formed in 2015 as a registered charity to bring together disparate individuals who were researching Roman roads, and to coordinate a nationwide programme of consistent and high quality research, promoting the study of Roman roads and Roman heritage throughout the former Roman province of *Britannia*. Over the last couple of decades, it has often been a race against time to discover and record what we can of the 60% of the Roman road network about which we are still uncertain, since modern agricultural methods and urban development have been steadily removing surviving features from the landscape. Fortunately, new technologies such as lidar and geophysical survey have helped enormously and enabled researchers to identify the remains of hundreds of miles of previously unknown Roman roads, along with associated Roman sites, and we continue to work to fill the many gaps. Research is only half the story though, we also have to ensure that the results of our work are readily available. We aim to:

1. bring together all known information on Roman roads in Britain, summarised in a freely accessible online interactive gazetteer, hoped to be complete by 2026.
2. identify key sites where important questions remain, and organise fieldwork necessary to answer those questions. 200 Ha of geophysical survey have been completed, with a further 400 Ha already planned, and several future excavations are currently at the planning stage.
3. encourage the involvement of as many people as possible in our activities. We care passionately about community archaeology, and will always encourage local people to get involved in our work, without any charge (unlike some organisations, we will never do this!).
4. make resources available to researchers and other groups, organise events to keep people up to date with research including online talks & seminars.
5. ensure that all our published work is Open Access, including our quarterly newsletter and *Itinera* (following a brief one year members only embargo).

**Membership is open to everyone**, and our four hundred and seventy or so members come from a wide variety of backgrounds, ranging from those with just a general interest in our Roman heritage to professional archaeologists from both the public and commercial sectors, alongside seasoned Roman roads researchers. The Romans tended to apply their technology uniformly across the empire, this is especially so for Roman road layout and construction. Consequently we do not just restrict our interest to *Britannia* and our membership now includes many international members. Joining the RRRA gives you the knowledge that your modest subscription (just £14 a year for a single adult) is helping to support our important work. You might even get a warm and fuzzy glow.



## EDITORIAL

### ROBERT ENTWISTLE



The publishing of *Itinera* Volume II is no less an important moment than that of Volume I: it demonstrates that our journal has arrived definitively as a point of reference for all transport-related aspects of Roman archaeology – and that this has been possible in a year dominated by Pandemic-related lockdowns. As in Volume I, you will find a range of authoritative and stimulating papers aiming to develop the study and understanding of everything to do with Roman roads and transport, for academics and the informed public alike.

In this volume you will find some contributors familiar to you from the last volume, and other important new ones. We are delighted to have a welcome extension of focus to other regions of the Roman empire, drawing us beyond a comfortable local perspective. We publish a lively paper (translated by Mike Bishop) from the Spanish academic and presenter Isaac Moreno Gallo, who has, single-handedly, done much to develop an informed awareness of Roman roads in his native country. A man of trenchant views, he champions a rational and rigorous approach not always evident in the past. The perspective he provides has much in common with that of the UK, while being stimulatingly distinct. *Itinera* would be most pleased to host other papers from international contributors, developing an understanding of roads and transport systems across the empire.

Once again, we have an impressive range to the topics covered in our journal. The international theme is continued by Bev Knott who considers an aspect of transport that may be new to many: the likely extent and impact of brigandage and banditry on the roads across the empire. Closer to home we have a major paper from David Ratledge, who has become Britain's leading interpreter of Lidar in terms of Roman roads. He demonstrates the remarkable degree to which he has been able to extend knowledge of Norfolk's Roman roads, filling in gaps on the map. At the other end of the country, our Chairman, Mike Haken, explores what Lidar is able to reveal for the Stainmore Pass. He investigates how this might develop understanding of a murky but much-debated topic, the relation of some Roman roads to Iron-Age predecessors.

Of course, roads are not only a topic of study in their own right but help us develop understanding of other areas of archaeology and history. Thus Dave Armstrong, who recently published a book on the Hadrian's Wall Military Way, contributes a paper that is likely to become a work of reference in its own right. It explores and sets out the sum of present knowledge on the network of link roads connecting the Wall to other aspects of Roman infrastructure in the North, a topic little examined in the past.

Yet another topic is tackled by John Poulter in a paper recording how Roman Long-distance Alignments came to be suspected, recognised and understood, with worked examples from

across the country. A further paper investigates how such matters could potentially elucidate aspects of the Claudian Invasion. Finally, and returning us to basics, we have accounts of road excavations from different ends of the country: the Culver Archaeology Project in East Sussex, and an excavation supported by NAA (Northern Archaeological Associates) in Lancashire.

Our section 'Roman Roads in 2021' is inevitably impacted by a year in which Covid 19 has limited much fieldwork, including the work of many local societies. Fortunately, through our valued local correspondents, we can see that not all the work of investigation ceased.

A new enterprise this year is our introduction of Book Reviews, a feature we hope to continue and develop in years to come. We are most grateful to Dave Fell and John Poulter for their contributions on this occasion.

We should not forget that the RRRRA is a charity supported only by its own expanding membership. The dedicated band that makes the production of this journal possible to the highest professional standards, has done so through generous donation of time and expertise, whether they be experienced archaeological professionals or knowledgeable enthusiasts contributing specialist skills, understanding and commitment. This is the group that make up our Editorial Committee and Advisory Panel (listed at the front of this volume), and our wider network of supporters and contributors.

Ultimately, of course, we are dependent upon our authors for demonstrating the health and range of this aspect of Roman archaeology. Our 'Notes for Contributors' are readily available on the *Itinera* section of the RRRRA website, and we encourage all, professional or otherwise, to submit their papers to us. All contributions will be peer reviewed, and we take great pleasure in publishing all that can pass that test. We look forward to your contributions for our next volume.

Robert Entwistle

Hon Editor, *Itinera*

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## NEWLY ALLOCATED MARGARY ROAD NUMBERS

BY DAVE ARMSTRONG

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Following the protocol published by Armstrong (2021, 279-284), a number of new Margary road numbers have been allocated. These fall into three categories: numbers previously allocated but not published (as forecast in Volume 1); new roads identified in 2021 since publication of Volume 1; and numbers for new roads reported in this volume. All are laid out below. Numbers are either reserved, or fully awarded, using the status rating criteria laid out by Haken (2021, 285-318);

- 1 A Roman Road number is reserved where there is archaeological evidence sufficient that at least one road segment has the status 2. *Road, probable*, i.e. some evidence of a Roman road.
- 2 A Roman Road number is awarded where there is sufficient evidence to have at least one road segment of status 3. *Road, known*, i.e. convincing evidence of a Roman road.

These allocated numbers are recorded in RRRA's master database of Margary road number and cross references. The RRRA master database is securely retained and maintained by Dave Armstrong. For any queries contact him on the above mail address. It is intended to make this information available for reference on our website, in due course.

### MARGARY NUMBERS ALLOCATED PRIOR TO 2021

New roads that had Margary numbers allocated prior to 2021 are as follows;

**Templeborough to Thorpe Audlin.** Status, known road, cross referenced with OS RRX002 (Haken 2018), **RR18f(x)** awarded.

**Lincoln to Scampton.** Status, known road (Haken 2018), **RR28aa(x)** awarded.

**Osmanthorpe to Rossington Bridge.** Status, known road, cross referenced with OS RRX104 (Jeffery & Haken 2021), **RR282(x)** awarded.

**Castleford westwards.** Status, known road (Haken 2018), **RR283(x)** awarded - see RRRA Yorkshire Gazetteer, by *Mike Haken*.

**Brough to Welton to Swanland.** Status, known road, cross referenced with OS RRX135 (Haken 2018), **RR290(x)** awarded.

**Colchester to Manningford.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020g), **RR323(x)** awarded.

**Branch from RR323(x) to Harwich.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020g), **RR324(x)** awarded.

**Chester to Aldford.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021a), **RR6aa(x)** awarded.

**Kelsall to Middlewich.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021a), **RR7aa(x)** awarded.

**Lune West side route.** Status, known road (Ratledge & Scott 2020), **RR7ca(x)** awarded

**Cheshire North Ridge.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021a), **RR70aa(x)** awarded.

**Lancaster to Watercrock.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020b), **RR70e(x)** awarded.

**Watercrock to Ambleside.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020a), **RR70f(x)** awarded.

**Nantwich link road.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021a), **RR700aa(x)** awarded.

**Bridge Trafford to Ince.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021a), **RR701aa(x)** awarded.

**Wigan to Burscough.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020b), **RR702aa(x)** awarded.

**Ribchester to Catterall.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020b), **RR704aa(x)** awarded.

**Bainbridge to Bowes.** Status, known road (Toller 2013; Haken 2018; Whitaker 2021), **RR732(x)** awarded.

**Bainbridge Eastwards.** Status, probable road (Haken 2018), **RR733(x)** reserved.

**Old Carlisle to Kirkbride.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020a), **RR755(x)** awarded.

**York to Hovingham.** Status, known road (Haken 2018), **RR802(x)** awarded.

**York to Barlby or Hemingbrough.** Status, probable road (Haken 2018), **RR803(x)** reserved

**Binchester to Hartlepool.** Status, probable road, **RR807(x)** reserved - see RRRR Durham Gazetteer, forthcoming, by Dave Armstrong.

**Lanchester to Chester le Street.** Status, probable road cross referenced with OS RRX120 and RRX132, **RR808(x)** reserved - see RRRR Durham Gazetteer, forthcoming, by Dave Armstrong.

**Kirkby Thore to Old Penrith.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020a), **RR82aa(x)** awarded.

**Whitley Castle to Corbridge.** Status known road (Toller & Haken 2017), **RR840(x)** awarded.

## MARGARY NUMBERS ALLOCATED DURING 2021

Subsequent to the listing within Volume 1 a number of new roads were discovered during 2021. After review by the *Itinera* committee these were laid out in the RRRA Autumn 2021 newsletter as follows;

**Stanegate west of Carlisle to Kirkbride.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021d & this volume 311-2), **RR85c(x)** awarded.

**Stanegate to Burgh branch.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021d), **RR858(x)** awarded.

**Second Stanegate route east of Carlisle via Warwick Bridge.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020a), **RR85bb(x)** awarded.

**Kirkbride to Bowness on Solway.** Status, known road, regarded as an extension of **RR755(x)** from Old Carlisle to Kirkbride (Ratledge 2021d).

**Manchester to Yorkshire via Longdendale.** Status, known road (Haken 2018, Ratledge 2021e & 2022a), **RR715(x)** awarded.

**Saham Toney to Caistor St Edmunds.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021b), **RR336(x)** awarded.

**Caistor St Edmund to Brampton.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2019). **RR3e(x)** awarded.

**Billingford to Toftrees.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021d). **RR338(x)**, awarded.

**Ixworth to Scole.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020f). **RR335(x)** awarded.

**Ixworth to Icklingham.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020i). **RR334(x)**, awarded.

**Toftrees to North Pickenham.** Status, known road. (Ratledge 2021d). **RR337(x)** awarded

**Radwinter to Wixoe.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021c). **RR341(x)**, awarded.

**Ipswich to Walton Castle.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2020g). **RR342(x)** awarded.

## MARGARY NUMBERS ALLOCATED FROM WORK REPORTED WITHIN THIS VOLUME

**Stanegate bypass loop via Chesters bridge crossing of R. Tyne.** Status, known road (Armstrong, this volume 130; Ratledge 2022b). **RR85aa(x)** awarded.

**Link road, Great Chesters to Stanegate.** Status, known road (Armstrong, this volume, 135-6). **RR856(x)** awarded.

**Alternative route for RR14 on the West Bank of the Ouse, Stroude Street.** Status, known road (Wallace, this volume). **RR14aa(x)** awarded.

**Alternative route of RR82 to the east of Brough under Stainmore.** Status, known road (Ratledge 2021a, Haken, this volume) - *original work by Hugh Toller*. **RR82bb(x)** awarded.

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