



Flaming torches light up Britain's Hadrian's Wall 閃耀火炬照亮英國「哈德良城牆」

Hadrian's Wall, a Roman-era **fortification** spanning the width of northern England, was lit up from end to end by volunteers carrying flaming torches Saturday.

As night fell, 500 gas flames were lit at 250m intervals for 135km from Wallsend in northeast England to Bowness-on-Solway in the northwest.

This created a coast-to-coast line of light along the route of a path which runs next to the wall.

Hadrian's Wall was built in 122 AD on the orders of the Roman emperor Hadrian to mark his empire's northern **frontier**. It is the largest monument from the ancient era in northern Europe and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

While some sections of the wall **have seen better days**, there are many places where the original **brickwork** is still fully intact.

The torch-lighting event marked British Tourism Week

and the 1,600th anniversary of the Roman departure from Britain in 410 AD.

"When you see you the lights here, it's easy to imagine what it must have been like to be stationed here up on the wall," said Linda Tuttiatt, chief executive of Hadrian's Wall Heritage, which looks after the wall and organized the event.

(AFP WITH STAFF WRITER)

志工們上週六帶著火炬，從起點到終點照亮橫跨英國北部、志於羅馬時代建造的防禦工事「哈德良城牆」。

當夜晚降臨，志工們點燃了五百支火炬，每支火炬各間隔兩百五十公尺，在全長一百三十五公里的哈德良城牆上一字排開，從英國東北部的沃爾森延伸到西北部的博尼斯。

這項創舉以燈火沿著城牆，打造出了連貫英國東西兩岸的閃亮大道。

羅馬皇帝哈德良西元一二二年時下令建造該城牆，作為其帝國北部的邊界。它是歐洲北部最大的古代歷史遺跡，也被聯合國

教科文組織評定為世界文化遺產。

該城牆某些區段的風貌已不復以往，但大部分的區段，原始磚造建築體至今仍完整無缺。

點燃火炬的活動是為了宣傳英國觀光週，並紀念羅馬人在西元四一〇年撤離英國的一千六百週年紀念日。

「哈德良城牆公司」執行長琳達·塔提耶說：「當你在這裡目睹這些火炬，便很容易想像當年軍隊駐紮的情景。」她的公司負責維護該城牆並籌辦此活動。

(法新社／翻譯：張愛弟)

A volunteer dressed as a Roman soldier looks on after a beacon is lit on Hadrian's Wall at Steel Rigg, Northumberland, England, on March 13, 2010.

PHOTO: AFP

一位打扮成羅馬士兵的志工本月十三日，在「哈德良城牆」位於英國東北部諾桑柏蘭區段觀賞英雄烽火。

照片：法新社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **fortification** /'fɔ:rtəfə,keɪʃən/ n.

防禦工事 (fang2 yu4 gong1 shi4)

例：There are plans to build a fortification to protect the southern border.
(有人打算建造防禦工事以保衛南方邊境。)

2. **frontier** /frʌn'tɪr/ n.

邊境 (bian1 jing4)

例：We had to bribe a border guard to cross the frontier into Mexico.
(我們得賄賂邊境的守衛才得以進入墨西哥國境。)

3. **brickwork** /'brɪk,wɜ:k/ n.

(建築物的) 磚結構 (jian4 zhu2 wu4 de5 zhuan1 jie2 gou4)

例：The brickwork is showing some signs of weather damage.
(磚牆出現了一些天氣造成的毀損。)

LANGUAGE POINT 重要片語

seen better days 大不如前、今非昔比

If something has **seen better days**, it used to be in a better condition. According to the article, parts of Hadrian's Wall have **seen better days**.

Example: "My computer's **seen better days**. I think it's time I got it upgraded or bought a new one."

如果說「**seen better days**」，就表示以前的狀況較佳。據本文指出，「哈德良城牆」有些區段可說今非昔比。

例如：「我的電腦狀況大不如前，我想是該要升級或買台新電腦的時候了。」