# Two friends stand accused of felling iconic Sycamore Gap tree



Two friends, Daniel Graham and Adam Carruthers, stand accused of deliberately cutting down the iconic Sycamore Gap tree in what has been described as an act of "mindless vandalism" and a "moronic mission." The incident, which involved using a chainsaw to fell the tree, was filmed on a mobile phone, according to prosecutors presenting the case at Newcastle Crown Court.

The Sycamore Gap tree, located beside Hadrian's Wall, is a well-known natural landmark and a feature of the Northumberland countryside that has been admired by locals and visitors alike. On the morning of the court hearing, Richard Wright KC, prosecuting, outlined the details of the case, emphasising the intentional and skilful method employed to bring down the tree.

Mr Wright told the jury that the approach used by the defendants demonstrated both expertise and determination. He said one of the men cut across the tree’s trunk, causing it to fall and collide with the ancient Hadrian's Wall, while the other recorded the event on Graham’s mobile phone.

The footage, it is alleged, was made as a "trophy" to commemorate the act. Further claims presented at the hearing suggested that the two men joked between themselves after members of the public reacted on social media about the felling. They reportedly congratulated each other on successfully "launching an operation like we did last night."

The Sycamore Gap tree, often featured in photographs for its striking silhouette against the landscape and its proximity to the Roman-era wall, has been a symbol of natural heritage and history in the area. The loss has prompted significant attention and public discussion about the incident.

The Express is reporting that the trial at Newcastle Crown Court continues as details of the case emerge, with the community and wider public awaiting the outcome as the proceedings unfold.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://apnews.com/article/afd8f5d99b67f4daf434c4ff085654fa> - This article reports that Daniel Graham and Adam Carruthers are accused of deliberately felling the Sycamore Gap tree, a renowned landmark near Hadrian's Wall, using a chainsaw, and that the incident was filmed on a mobile phone.
2. <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/men-felled-much-loved-british-tree-moronic-mission-court-told-2025-04-29/> - This source describes the Sycamore Gap tree as a nearly 200-year-old landmark near Hadrian's Wall, featured in the 1991 film 'Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves,' and details the charges against Graham and Carruthers for felling the tree and causing damage to Hadrian's Wall.
3. <https://apnews.com/article/6331abf5567fc87f7b7c9be0e6d3ff61> - This article discusses the trial of Daniel Graham and Adam Carruthers at Newcastle Crown Court, where they face charges of criminal damage for allegedly cutting down the Sycamore Gap tree, a beloved landmark situated along Hadrian's Wall.
4. <https://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/24322236.two-men-arrived-court-linked-sycamore-gap-felling/> - This source reports that Daniel Graham and Adam Carruthers arrived at Newcastle Magistrates’ Court charged with criminal damage related to the felling of the Sycamore Gap tree, a much-photographed landmark near Hadrian's Wall.
5. <https://www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees/2024-05-14/two-men-in-court-over-sycamore-gap-tree-felling> - This article details the court appearance of Daniel Graham and Adam Carruthers, who are charged with causing criminal damage after the felling of the famous Sycamore Gap tree, a much-photographed landmark near Hadrian's Wall.
6. <https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/24321188.pair-accused-sycamore-gap-tree-damage-due-newcastle-court/> - This source reports that Daniel Graham and Adam Carruthers are charged with criminal damage related to the felling of the Sycamore Gap tree, a much-photographed landmark near Hadrian's Wall, and are due to appear in Newcastle court.
7. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2048049/two-friends-accused-felling-sycamore> - Please view link - unable to able to access data