



PRESS RELEASE:

National Lottery grant makes Pendle Hill Project a piece of cake!!

5th October 2018

Pendle Hill, in cake form, was centre stage at the official launch of the Heritage Lottery funded landscape partnership scheme this week (see photo).

Attended by supporters, volunteers, funders and staff from the various organisations involved in the scheme, the launch was an opportunity to review the plans of this ambitious 4 year £2.5m scheme and to celebrate it starting activity.

Since April the Pendle Hill landscape partnership has been busy with a number of different heritage activities taking place around the hill including:

- An 5 week archaeological excavation at Malkin Tower farm cottages
- Restoration of 2600m of the 'cart track' ascent, and paths across the summit of Pendle
- New family learning and fortnightly under 5s 'forest schools' at Spring Wood near Whalley and Victoria Park in Nelson
- Construction of a new stone seating area on the summit by a master craftsman dry stone waller and volunteers
- Removal of invasive weeds along the river banks around Barley
- Research into 'Pendle Radical' Ethel Carnie Holdsworth
- Artists residencies at Malkin Tower and on Pendle Summit
- Continuation of the successful 'People Enjoying Nature' sessions in conjunction with NHS Community Restart
- Four meetings of the new Pendle Hill farmer network
- Creation of a new website at www.pendlehillproject.com where you can find out more

Ralph Assheton, chairman of the Landscape Partnership Board said: 'I am delighted to announce that the Pendle Hill scheme is now up and running.'

There will be lots of exciting activities coming up for people to enjoy, and plenty of work is planned to restore and improve the heritage and environment of the Pendle Hill area.'

Photo shows the Pendle Hill landscape partnership team and Board members from left:

Cathy Hopley (programme manager), Nathan Lee (HLF NW, Head of Region); Elliott Lorimer (Forest of Bowland AONB Principal Officer); Sarah Brooks-Silcock, Alison Cross, Jayne Ashe; Hon. Ralph Assheton (Chairman of LP Board); Cllr Robert Thompson, Hetty Byrne and Sarah Dornan.

EDITORS NOTES

- The Pendle Hill landscape partnership is led by the Forest of Bowland AONB.
- The partnership aims to:
 - I. restore, enhance and conserve the heritage and landscape of Pendle Hill
 - II. reconnect people with their past and their landscape
 - III. bring the two sides of the hill together
 - IV. create a sustainable future for the environment, heritage and for visitors' experience of Pendle Hill
- The scheme was awarded a National Lottery grant of £1.8million by the Heritage Lottery Fund in January 2018. These funds will be delivered from 2018-2022 and will be matched with further funds raised locally.
- The scheme is made up of a dozen projects which safeguard the area's wildlife and heritage and improve people's access to this popular countryside area. We will do this by providing opportunities for training and volunteering; by supporting research and devising creative and digital interpretation to inspire a new generation about our heritage; by restoring important landscape features, and by working with communities to re-tell the stories of radical Pendle people. The scheme will increase pride in this special place and raise aspirations amongst communities, and it will bring in new investment to support the environment and the economy.
- The Pendle Hill landscape partnership is supported by National Lottery players through the Heritage Lottery Fund and by the Forest of Bowland AONB. Partners include representatives of parish councils, the landowning and farming community, Pendle and Ribble Valley Borough Councils, Lancashire County Council, statutory bodies, tourism businesses and volunteers.
- Projects will be delivered by the AONB team, plus local delivery partners including In –Situ Arts, the Dry Stone Walling Association, Mid Pennine Arts and Ribble Rivers Trust.
- The Pendle Hill LP covers 120 square kilometres, stretching from Gisburn down to Whalley, and from Clitheroe across to Nelson and Padiham.
- The Hill is well known as a beauty spot and is heavily visited by residents of the local towns: it is a perfect place for walking and cycling. The area's heritage is dominated by the story of the Pendle Witches, but there are lots more stories to tell including the founding of the Quaker movement, non- conformists and radicals, Roman and Bronze Age settlers, medieval farming systems and early industrial developments. The network of dry stone walls and hedgerows give

the area a distinctive feel, and the landscape is also important for its wild moorland, rare birds and woodlands.

- For further information contact the LP Scheme Manager cathy.hopley@lancashire.gov.uk on 07891 537835 / 01200 420420
- Visit the project website at www.pendlehillproject.com or visit our Facebook page 'Pendle Hill Project' for up to date news and views.

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. www.hlf.org.uk Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and use #HLFsupported