



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Monday 2nd September 2019

Summer Holiday Success/Local Families discover nature/ fantastic family events/Outdoor adventures within local landscape

Local families have been out and about during the summer holidays exploring the landscape for free thanks to the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership. 300 children have attended 18 free family events during July and August. Each event had a different theme to enthuse families to learn something new about their local area. From archaeology, to bug hunting, to identifying flowers.

These sessions sparked an interest in wildlife for the children, and encouraged families to return to these outdoor areas and repeat the activities. One family's highlight of the holidays was the Uncovering Archaeology session in Barrowford. This family event was delivered in partnership with UCLAN University Community Archaeology Intern Danielle and UCLAN Archaeology Lecturer Rick. Mum from Great Harwood said "My crew of children had a brilliant time!! Learning lots about history & archaeology, learning new skills & discovering somewhere we have never been before!!" Due to the success of this event, the Landscape project hope to deliver the session next year.

The National Lottery Heritage Funded Landscape Partnership scheme started in April 2018. The projects' Outdoor Learning Officer, who is funded by the Ernest Cook Trust, has been delivering all the free family events. "I have loved watching families learn something new over the summer. A particular highlight was showing a mum and 4 year old a ladybird larvae and explain the life cycle of a ladybird to them. They have since informed me they look for different ladybird larvae as they walk through their local park"

Other successful events include the 3 minin bio-blitz's which were delivered at the Clarion house (near Roughlee). These were part of the Wild About Pendle Project within the partnership scheme which aims to bring people closer to nature and to ensure a bright future for our wildlife. Experts attended these wildlife-recording sessions, to assist families with the identification of plants and insects within the important habitat. Sarah Robinson, the partnerships Farming and Wildlife Officer, attended all 3 events "my highlight was educating families about butterflies and the variety of flowers they need. At the Clarion we recored 12 different species of Butterflies. This data allows the partnership team to conserve the area and monitor wildlife over time."

The Pendle Hill project were also invited to the Pendle Parks Roadshow events, within local Pendle parks. These sessions were organised by Pendle Family Zone, though Pendle County Council. Families enjoyed minibeast hunting and sweep netting for insects within the parks.

The Pendle Hill Project's popular outdoor toddler group called Little Saplings, also continued during the Summer holidays. Allowing parents to bring their under 5 year olds to a nature exploring events. These one-and-a-half-hour sessions are delivered using the Forest School ethos. Recently, toddlers have been playing in mud kitchen, creating insects from clay, wild painting stories and singing.

Polly, mum of two, said " It was lovely how my children just legged it into the woods in excitement today. They've always been confident outdoors but they've really loved the two sessions they've been to. A massive thank you for putting them on." These free events will continue during the rest of the year, booking is essential.

Outdoor Learning Officer Alison Cross, who delivers these bi-monthly sessions said: "Little Saplings events have enabled families to discover more about their local area, learn about nature and how to respect it. It has been a privilege to watch little ones pick up their first worm, make mud pies and be connected with nature using their imagination. I hope more families will get involved."

If you would like to find out more about Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership family events, Little Saplings and working with schools, then get in touch with the team at www.pendlehillproject.com/whats-on or email: PendleHill@ernestcooktrust.org.uk or call 01200 420420.

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 National Lottery Heritage Fund in January 2018. These funds will be delivered from 2018-2022 and will be matched with a further £1m 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 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 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



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