



PRESS RELEASE

18/05/2021

Spring Wood Big Wildlife Count

The Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership are calling on local naturalists and the general public alike to help them carry out a Big Wildlife Count at Spring Wood near Whalley this year.

Spring Wood is well known for its amazing springtime woodland flowers, with wood anemones, bluebells and wild garlic carpeting the ground in April and May. But you can help record what other wildlife lives there throughout the year, by getting involved with the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnerships' 'Spring Wood Big Wildlife Count' which is taking place from now until March 2022.

This can be done at your own leisure, either on your own, with family and friends, or with your local naturalist group. Simply download the [iNaturalist](#) app, create your own log in, and record the species you find at Spring Wood. This can include anything from fungi, flora and fauna, trees or insects.

Speaking about the project, Farming and Wildlife Officer for the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership and Forest Of Bowland AONB Sarah Robinson said "We are really hoping that people can jump on board and help us collect as much data about the wildlife in Spring Wood as possible. People have recently made stronger connections than ever to nature, and it really is a fantastic way of reducing stress levels and gaining a sense of wonder. Taking the time to notice and record our local nature and wildlife can have huge benefits to our mental health and wellbeing, so this is a great project to get involved with."

iNaturalist is an app which enables you to share pictures of your findings with a global network of like-minded people, and with scientists who study biodiversity. By recording and sharing what you see, not only are you connecting to nature and creating valuable scientific data in the process, but you are learning more about nature and playing a key role in this local study.

For more information on how to get involved, please visit the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnerships' website [Spring Wood Big Wildlife Count | Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership \(pendlehillproject.com\)](#) where you can also find more information on how to

download and use the iNaturalist app. Alternatively you can email PendleHill.LP@lancashire.gov.uk for more information on how to get involved.

Images attached to the email show:

Bumblebee on Red Campion, Chimneysweepers on Birds Foot Trefoil, Elf Cup Hearts, Frog, and a Red Admiral ©Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership

EDITORS NOTES

- Spring Wood picnic site is owned and managed by Lancashire County Council
- 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 National Lottery Heritage Fund

Using money raised by the National Lottery, we **Inspire, lead** and **resource** the UK's heritage to create **positive and lasting change** for people and communities, now and in the future. www.heritagefund.org.uk

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