

Pendle Hill Fund Final Report



Restored fingerpost at the Pendleton junction on Clitheroe Road

January 2023

Introduction

1.0 Introduction to the Pendle Hill Fund

The Pendle Hill Fund was a community grants scheme, which aimed to support small scale landscape and heritage activity developed in the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership area by local and neighbouring community groups, schools, businesses and parish councils.

There were two different grants available: Small Grants for projects up to £500 and larger grants for projects between £2000 and £10,000. The first grants were allocated in 2018, and then yearly until 2021.

Grant-aided activity had to meet the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership aims, and to include at least 2 of the following criteria:

- Improve the condition of locally important heritage and landscape features
- Increase knowledge and understanding of distinctive people and places, and share this with a wide audience.
- Provide training, learning or volunteering opportunities linked to the area's heritage and landscape
- Enable more people to explore and enjoy the heritage and landscape of Pendle Hill, particularly our target audiences.
- Improve the visitor and walking experience of the Pendle Hill LP area.

1.1 Panel Members

Upon receipt of applications, a small panel drawn from membership of the PHLP board scored the applications and allocated grants accordingly. With special thanks to our panel members -

- Cllr James Starkie - Pendle Borough Council
- Liz Moss - Heritage Trust NW
- Susan Nike - Barrowford Parish Council
- David Peat - Ribble Valley Parish Councils

Project Outputs

Over the 4 year period The Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership supported 24 grant aided projects with a total of £86,870 worth of grants. The outputs from the Pendle Hill fund can be seen below.

- £26,751.72 in match funds
- £41,560 in volunteer time
- 3 training events held
- 159 volunteers trained
- 309 people volunteered
- 54 groups engaged
- 62 businesses involved
- 1139 people involved
- 24 schools involved
- 17 interpretation panels installed
- 23 events held
- 12 features were improved
- 24 Grants awarded

Year One Projects

- Project Name: Higham Parish Interpretation Panel
- Application Body: Higham Parish Council
- Start date of project: January 2019
- Completion date: May 2020

Higham Parish Council aimed to install an interpretation panel in the village, which would include information about the Parish, specifically principal historical information and geographic features that are lesser known. The interpretation panel was successfully installed in April 2020.

This project involved 6 people and included around 75 hours volunteer time. The interpretation panel sits in a central village location beside the Pendle Way Footpath and has been admired by many residents and visitors to the area.



New interpretation panel installed in Higham

Year One Projects

- Project Name: Pendle Hill Song Fellowship
- Application Body: East Lancashire Clarion Choir
- Start date of project: January 2019
- Completion date: August 2019

This project focused on encouraging more people to sing whilst providing an opportunity to learn more about the heritage of Pendle Hill. The songs performed all had a Pendle Hill history theme, primarily focusing on the Pendle Radicals, those who came before us and had a pivotal impact on society.

Twenty-one volunteers were trained in helping people to enjoy singing and the benefits it can bring to health and well-being. Observation of the group showed how much they gelled over the course of the training and were confident in their role. They were also of great help to each other in terms of helping someone who had visual impairments/ offering lifts/ checking everyone was up to speed.

The project engaged with approximately 300 people and included those who live within the Pendle Hill area, but also those living in the surrounding urban areas who have not visited Pendle Hill because of different barriers, including physical and mental health. The project engaged with 67 people at various outreach events and via communication with local choirs and wellbeing groups. They enjoyed a high-quality singing experience which was both uplifting and informative and participants learned more about their local history and specifically two local visionaries related to the Pendle area.

The outreach sessions were used to demonstrate the benefits of singing on well-being, helped the project to become better known and encouraged people to join in with the final stage of the project. The final event saw an audience of 30 people, and together with the participants, all 75 people enjoyed an afternoon of song and discussion as part of a final event – and of course there was tea and cake!



East Lancashire Clarion Choir workshop

Year One Projects

- Project Name: Rise Up Community
- Application body: Community Arts by ZK
- Start date of project: February 2019
- Completion date: July 2019

This project was delivered by Community Arts By ZK, who delivered 12 Art/Textiles workshops to individuals and families from a range of cultural, faith and social backgrounds including Syrian refugees, migrants, immigrants, Asylum seekers, Asian British Pakistani and white British.

The workshops saw a 'hands on' approach with a strong emphasis on community cohesion, heritage and the landscape of Pendle Hill. The project was supported by a volunteer translator which reduced certain barriers, giving some individuals the chance to get involved in a project which they wouldn't have had the chance to without a translator. The project engaged with approximately 30 people, who have developed new friendships and learnt more about the Pendle Hill area, as well as new art and textile skills.

In their final report, Community Arts By ZK stated that one of the main achievements of the project was allowing the group to meet each other and create a stronger community, building friendships and confidence.



Rise Up Community group photo

Year One Projects

- Project Name: Heritage Trails
- Application Body: Pennine Lancashire Community Farm CIO
- Start date of project: January 2019
- Completion date: December 2019

The Heritage trails project was all about enabling socially isolated individuals from the deprived areas around Burnley, predominantly Bangladeshi and Pakistani women from the BAME community, to access the heritage and landscape of Pendle Hill. This was achieved through the provision of an effective support package including transport, translators and publicity.

The project successfully ran six trips over the duration of the Heritage Trails project, and 65 individuals were able to enjoy the landscape and overcome barriers which would normally prevent them from doing so, including issues around language, mental and physical health, mobility, and cultural and financial pressures.



A trip to Downham

Year One Projects

- Project Name: Roughlee Habitat Project
- Application Body: Roughlee Parish Council
- Start Date of project: November 2019
- Completion Date: December 2019

This project focused on improving wildlife habitats in Roughlee and increasing the engagement and awareness of environmental issues with the community. This has been achieved in numerous ways. Firstly, by planting wildflower seeds in the concrete buttresses by the river, wildflower seeds were also given to Roughlee School for the children to grow. A new Roughlee Habitat interpretation panel has been produced and installed in the bus shelter which provides information about local habitat, pollinators, and the fight against invasive Himalayan balsam. There is also a section about the great flood of 1967, an event which necessitated the building of the protective concrete buttresses by the river. Lancashire Wildlife Trust were commissioned to identify potential wildlife corridors and to establish circular walks and nature trails around the village. The village website has been developed to incorporate a wildlife section, and information from the Lancashire Wildlife Trust survey and photographs of local flora and fauna have been uploaded. Work to develop the Habitat section is ongoing and new species will be added as they are identified www.roughlee.org.uk/nature

To increase engagement, a volunteer group has been set up to explore and understand the local environment and undertake tasks such as removing Himalayan balsam. As a result, more local people have got involved in engaging with local wildlife and habitats, and a village walking group now meets up regularly for walks. This project has involved approximately 45 people of all ages and at least 200 hours of volunteer time.



New interpretation panel installed in Roughlee bus shelter

Year Two Projects

- Project Name: Kids Away 2020
- Application Body: Rotary Club of Burnley Pendleside
- Start Date of project: July 2021
- Completion Date: August 2022

The main purpose of this project was to take children to Whitehough Camp School, Barley to: give them a holiday; teach them about the richness of the surrounding Pendleside environment; teach them relevant life skills and to work in teams. Many primary school children, who on a daily basis look towards Pendle Hill and its surrounding countryside, never realistically have the opportunity to visit, learn, enjoy and experience this fabulous local Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

This project was initially planned to run over the summer of 2020, however due to the to the unexpected global pandemic caused by Coronavirus, it was extended to run over two Summers – 2021 and 2022.

Initially Rotary Club members identified that many local young people were missing out on the many benefits to be had from experiencing the countryside around Pendle. During the project 40 young carers and disadvantaged young people were introduced to the joys and recreational opportunities available in the Pendleside area.

The project provided the opportunity for these young people to stay at the Burnley Football Club in the Community -Whitehough Outdoor Centre (BFCITC) for three days, two nights residential. With appropriately qualified outdoor leaders provided, they were given the opportunity to go via Ogden Clough and Boars Clough to the summit of Pendle Hill and back to Whitehough. They then had the opportunity to take part in the various confidence and leadership building skills offered by the Whitehough Outdoor Centre staff in an outdoor environment. On arrival the young people were very withdrawn, uncommunicative and timid. After having time to free themselves of their massive caring responsibilities, if only for three days, they started openly chatting, laughing and being able to really enjoy themselves and behave in a carefree manner.



The children participated in outdoor activities at Whitehough Outdoor Centre, Barley

Year Two Projects

- Project Name: Clitheroe Young Farmers Club Traditional Boundary Restoration Training
- Application Body: Clitheroe Young Farmers Club
- Start date of project: October 2019
- Completion date: November 2021

This project has enabled Clitheroe YFC members to improve their skills and knowledge in traditional boundary restoration techniques.

Two hedgerow training weekends were delivered, resulting in 8 members gaining a Lantra hedge laying award, and 50m of hedgerow getting restored in the Pendle Hill LP area. Eight members also attended the drystone walling training weekend and 10m of wall was restored in the project area, which the host farmers will maintain going forward. The equipment purchased allowed members to attend and enter the Young Farmers Class at the Bowland Hedge laying Competition in 2022, which resulted in a Clitheroe member winning the class. The equipment will be used at future training sessions and will enable members to enter future hedge laying and walling competitions.



Clitheroe Young Farmers rebuilding 10m of dry-stone wall

Year Two Projects

- Project name: Rimington Oral Heritage
- Application Body: Rimington Memorial Institute
- Start date of project: October 2019
- Completion date: October 2021

This project aimed to record the fascinating stories that older characters in the village of Rimington have to share in order to protect an amazingly rich legacy within the community. The project aimed to inspire local people to share their own memories of village life and have those recorded and shared on the village website.

In a bid to inspire people to get involved, a Dialect Night event was held at Rimington Memorial Institute featuring Rimington dialect poet Christine Thistlethwaite, broad sheet ballad singing and Lancastrian and Yorkshire clog dancing by Jennifer Reid and Lancashire folk music by Trouble at T' Mill. A hot pot supper was served, and 65 audience members attended.

Recordings of the body of Christine's poetry were made, one of which was set to music by Trouble at' Mill, another one was set to music by Bob Johnson following Christine's death in December 2020. Each of these recordings is on YouTube with access on the appropriate page of the website.

The Rimington and Middop website rimington.org.uk has been significantly developed with the permission of the Parish Council, and includes oral recordings, old photographs, maps, censuses, BMDs, and links to YouTube videos.

As a result of the website development, three volunteers have now considerably advanced their IT skills and are now able to update the website themselves. Not only has the website and YouTube content helped to reach a wider audience, but it has inspired further interest and passion in local history.



Rimington Dialect Poet Christine Thistlethwaite reading some of her poetry in 2019

Year Two Projects

- Project Name: Simonstone to Gooseleach Wood
- Application Body: Martholme Greenway
- Start date of project: January 2020
- Completion date: October 2020

Martholme Greenway is a group of volunteers set up with the intention to create a multi user path, along the disused East Lancashire railway loop line from Great Harwood to Padiham via the Martholme viaduct. This will then link the Padiham Greenway through to Great Harwood, Rishton, Blackburn and the surrounding areas.

The group has carried out a lot of work to the route, including tree planting, dry stone wall restoration and opening up a new path from Simonstone lane to Gooseleach wood along the old railway track bed. The aim of this project was to install two new picnic benches and some interpretation boards to inform the public of the local history of the area, along with the development and protection of the biodiversity along the route. Through the Pendle Hill Fund, these have now been installed and have been greatly appreciated by the general public and the local forest school.



One of the new interpretation panels installed.

Year Two Projects

- Project Name: Spring Wood Pond Project
- Application Body: Friends of Spring Wood
- Start date of project: November 2019
- Completion date: February 2022

The Friends of Spring Wood group was formed in 2000. The group exists to conserve, maintain and improve the natural habitat, biodiversity and landscape of Spring Wood and to enhance the experience of visitors to the site by providing interpretation, educational experiences and events. The group provides opportunities for the local community to become involved in a wide range of projects on the site, including woodland management, meadow creation, furniture construction and wildlife surveys.

The main objectives of this project were to improve access to key areas of the site for visitors of all abilities and create and improve biodiversity in those key areas. In the main this was around the central pond on the site and routes towards it. The funding for this project enabled the pond to be rejuvenated by: removing silt and repairing a leak, thinning the canopy, removing dominant vegetation to improve light to the pond to encourage new understory thereby improving the environment for biodiversity to flourish. Wildflowers, shrubs and a handful of trees were also planted around the perimeter of the pond to provide spring blossom and winter berries for wildlife. Access to the pond and other main pathways throughout the woodland were improved, making it safer and more accessible for the public to enjoy.



Improved pond area at Spring Wood, Whalley

Year Two Projects

- Project Name: Finger Post Renovation
- Application Body: Roughlee Parish Council
- Start date of project: November 2019
- Completion date: November 2021

The finger post renovation project was awarded funding which was matched by multiple Parish Councils, in order for fingerposts to be renovated across the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership area. More than 17 fingerposts have now been brought back to life by craftsman Duncan Armstrong and painter and decorator Brian Pinder. Locations include Barley, Blacko, Roughlee, Newchurch, Barrowford, Higherford, Pendleton and Sabden, and we are sure these will be admired for years to come.



Local craftsman Duncan Armstrong installing newly renovated fingerpost

Year Three Projects

- Project Name: Pendle Hill Lengthsman
- Application Body: Sabden Parish Council
- Start date of project: 2020
- Completion date: 2022

During the Covid pandemic the Pendle Hill Fund offered grant support to the Pendle Lengthsman project, which is run by a group of local Parish Councils around the hill. This meant that a number of small improvement projects could be carried out where Parish Councils were aware that footpaths were being used more regularly than usual and required repairs.

In total five parishes received support which included new kissing gates, pruning back of undergrowth, repairs to stiles, wall repairs and small drainage works: all of which was well received by the rural communities and visitors.



Pendle Lengthsman repairs

Year Three Projects

- Project Name: Calico and Clogs
- Application Body: Sabden Parish council
- Start date of project: November 2020
- Completion date: October 2022

This project saw the development and design of a historic trail through the village using a mixture of information/interpretation boards and directional signs at key points of importance. The trail informs visitors and village residents about local historical points of interest and provides information on buildings, sites and events that are no longer visible. It also provided the opportunity for the introduction of environmental projects to aid biodiversity in the form of wildflower patches, wild life beds, and fernery.

The project engaged with the local primary schools who helped with the development of the logo and promotional material, and the wider community for the history and heritage part of the project. The parish council will manage and maintain the trail going forward with assistance from the community environmental group and will continue with environmental projects in adjoining areas.



Interpretation panel on the Calico and Clogs trail in Sabden

Year Three Projects

- Project Name: Rimington Heritage Trail
- Application Body: Rimington Recreation Association
- Start date of project: October 2020
- Completion date: August 2021

This project aimed to bring the industrial and cultural heritage of Rimington to more people's attention through the creation of a heritage trail.

In order to make the trail more accessible, repairs and developments to stiles and gates were required. In total, one gate and three kissing gates were installed and several stiles repaired or replaced. Two interpretation boards and two fingerposts were designed, made and installed in appropriate places. Five hundred trail guide leaflets were designed and printed, and are now available in Cosgroves shop Rimington, and Clitheroe Tourist Information Centre, as well as two local caravan parks. An online map has been produced along with information about all the sites on the trail. This can be accessed from QR codes on the interpretation boards and the leaflet.

A formal launch of the trail took place in August 2021, which included walking the trail. The trail was also included in the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnerships September walking festival and was included in the Clitheroe Ramblers programme.

The trail has been very successful and appreciated by many, with thanks coming via online channels and emails.



Unveiling the new interpretation panel on the Rimington Heritage Trail

Year Three Projects

- Project Name: Habitat and Woodland Management at Park Hill
- Application Body: Heritage Trust for the North West
- Start date of project: October 2020
- End Date: 31st March 2022

The aims of this project were to restore the historic landscape features and habitats at Park Hill, home to the Pendle Heritage Centre, to create and manage footpaths, undertake new tree, hedgerow and scrub planting, slowing the flow of the stream that runs through the site and investigate water retention methods. It also aimed to tackle invasive species such as Himalayan balsam, to create a sensory garden and to raise awareness and understanding of the outdoor environment for all visitors.

Despite delays caused by the Covid pandemic, the Himalayan balsam was removed and leaky dams have been created in a bid to manage the flow of water. Bird and bat boxes have also been installed, alongside new wildlife cameras which have been a great way of reaching a wider audience via social media. New paths, fencing and steps have made it safer for visitors to enjoy the woodland, and a sensory garden has been developed to give a better experience to those visitors with disabilities and impairments.



New paths, steps and fences at Park Hill

Year Four Projects

- Project Name: Pendle Pioneers
- Application Body: Burnley Youth Theatre
- Start date of project: September 2021
- Completion date: July 2022

This project educated fifty-nine KS2 pupils from Roughlee Primary School and St Marys Newchurch Primary School about the heritage and history of the Pendle Hill landscape; paying particular attention to the key people uncovered through the Pendle Radicals project.

Over the 10 weeks, pupils from both schools worked with professional drama practitioner Charly Ward to explore Pendle Hill's heritage of radical thinkers and non-conformists using the Pendle Radical resource packs as a stimulus. After exploring key members of the Pendle Radicals, each class selected one Pendle Radical to create a film about. Roughlee chose - Ethel Carnie Holdsworth and St Marys at Newchurch chose Selina Cooper, both of whom were suffragette women in Pendle.

The children worked with professional filmmaker Sean Lovell to create the film using various outdoor locations surrounding Pendle Hill in Roughee and Newchurch. The footage was then edited into two short films that were shared at a 'celebration event' at Burnley Youth Theatre on Tuesday 12th July, which engaged parents, carers and the wider community in the project. The videos were also shared on social media and with the Schools involved.



Film screening celebration event at Burnley Youth Theatre

'Really enjoyed producing the film' - Hugo

'I loved it. It was so fun and I enjoyed it' - Megan

Year Four Projects

- Name of Project: Ride Pendle
- Application Body: Breaking Cycles CIC
- Start date of project: September 2021
- Completion date: September 2022

The aim of this project was to research cycling routes within the Pendle Hill landscape area and to use this information to encourage more responsible trail use on permissible routes, in a bid to protect ecosystems and reduce excessive erosion.

With support from the Pendle Hill fund, Ride Pendle has successfully created a collection of cycling routes within the Pendle Hill Landscape Area which are now available online via the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership and Forest of Bowland AONB's website. The new routes are graded to clearly communicate who they are for and what type of bike would be best. As part of the research, lead Phil Wade discovered a large amount of digital content that promotes unlawful activity, so the project output was to create trail descriptions featuring legally ride-able off-road trails in the area. These include gradings and descriptions to promote accessibility, digital mapping of routes, and digital media to promote and encourage use of the routes. Phil spent lot of time carrying out research, connecting with the general public, cyclists and landowners. His evaluation has identified the challenges faced, outcomes and future work needed. For the research, digital media and new route information visit: <https://www.pendlehillproject.com/explore-cycling>



Phil Wade, Breaking Cycles CIC

Year Four Projects

- Name of Project: Outdoor Essentials Grant
- Application Body: The Ernest Cook Trust
- Start date of project: July 2022
- End date: September 2022

The Ernest Cook Trust applied for a grant to offer to Pendle Hill Landscape Partnerships Schools in order to help them promote outdoor learning. The Schools were required to apply for the funding and in total, 18 schools were successful. Examples of how schools would use their funding include-

- The creation of a sensory garden where children can go to calm down, reflect and engage with nature for their wellbeing.
- Purchase of gardening equipment to promote care and maintenance for the school allotment and monitor wildlife in the forest school area
- Create beds to grow food, purchase garden tools, seeds, plants and to help develop a local community hub.
- To create shelter/windbreak in the wildlife area to extend the time the area can be used, and purchase outdoor learning resources
- To purchase outdoor clothing
- To plant veg and herbs to use in science & cookery
- Enhance the wildlife garden by planting more wild flowers to attract bees and insects.

The schools have been hugely grateful, with one email reading "We cannot thank you enough for this. We are determined that no child should go without the basic childhood experiences that we had as children. The joy of jumping in puddles or making dens to hide from the rain with 4/5 year olds who have never experienced that before is priceless. This will help us achieve this, and look at other ways we can enrich their learning."



Outdoor clothing purchased through the Outdoor Essentials project

Small Grants Fund

- Project Name: Local Traditional Step Dance and Morris in the Pendle Area
- Application Body: Malkin Morris
- Start Date of project: February 2020
- End Date: February 2021

The aim of this project was to provide training, learning or volunteering opportunities linked to the area's heritage and local Morris dancing, through providing a number of workshops and information sessions across local village halls, local schools and local community groups.

With the global pandemic caused by Covid 19, the Malkin Morris group were unable to deliver on this, however they did use some of the funding to purchase two high quality rollup banner screens to serve as promotional material for future events.



Malkin Morris dancers

Small Grants Fund

- Project name: High Sheriff's Bench Refurbishments Whalley
- Application Body: Whalley Parish Council
- Start date of project: November 2020
- Completion date: November 2021

With this funding, Whalley Parish Council have been able to replace two deteriorated benches within Whalley Parish and on the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership Boundary. Both benches are accessible and freely available to the general public and located on popular walking routes.

Clerk Hill was the home to two of four High Sheriffs that came from Whalley; Basil Greenwood 1975 and Sir James Whalley 1783, and the new benches have plaques to detail the heritage to the local community. The Clerk Hill bench has been named the High Sheriff's Bench (Sir James Whalley), and the Old Read Bridge bench has been named the High Sheriff's Bench (Basil Greenwood). It is intended to have memorial plates on the benches that detail the heritage for the local community. The benches are made of composite plastic to reduce future maintenance costs and should last for another twenty years.



One of two new benches installed

Small Grants Projects

- Project Name: Roughlee Heritage Trail
- Applicant Body: Roughlee Parish Council
- Start date of project: April 2021
- Completion date: April 2022

The aim of this project was to provide a Heritage Trail for visitors to follow, informing them of Roughlee's industrial past. With support from the Pendle Hill Fund, Pendle Borough Council, local farmers, local businesses and volunteers, the heritage trail is now complete.

Interpretation panels have successfully been installed at the three locations in Roughlee where mills once stood: Thorneyholme, Dam Head and by the lodge near the Village Centre, providing the history of each site. The information on the panels, provided by Pendle Forest History Group, is interesting and enlightening and visitors can often be seen reading them. A link has been added to the Roughlee village website to a detailed and fascinating presentation by the Pendle Forest History Group about the history of the village and its changing appearance over the years. And at the Thorneyholme site, historic gates have been restored and two benches have been positioned, further enhancing the heritage trail.



New interpretation panel mounted on stone plinth on the Roughlee Heritage Trail

Small Grants Projects

- Project Name: Pollinator Project
- Application Body: Readstone Environment Group
- Start Date of project: June 2021
- Completion date: August 2022

Readstone Environment group applied for funding to help develop their ongoing project which aims to improve and increase local biodiversity and pollinators. They specifically wanted to increase local pollinators, improve neglected green areas, remove Himalayan balsam and tackle litter.

Readstone Environment group visited St. John's Primary School in Read and St. Peter's Primary School in Simonstone, and talked about the work of the Environment group and the importance of pollinators. Following this conversation, pollinator counts were conducted and wildflower areas were created in the school grounds. A second pollinator count was carried out at both schools in July 2022 and the result of the surveys demonstrated that the number and variety of pollinators had indeed increased. This was shared on Facebook and on the schools website.

In order to increase biodiversity around the village the group planted small beds with wild flower seeds near Friendship Mill on Whalley Rd; at Turner Fold on Whins Lane; and on the corner of George Lane. They also carried out gardening work, greatly improving and planting up the long border on Worthalls Road; the patch of soil next to Read Cricket Ground on Worthalls Rd; and around Church St. Gardens on George Lane. Balsam bashing and litter picking also continued and the funding enabled the group to purchase equipment to aid this – around 20 bags of litter were collected each month!



Pupils carrying out pollinator counts

Small Grants Projects

- Project Name: Molly's Well Heritage Project
- Application Body: Wiswell Parish Council
- Start date of project: August 2021
- Completion date: September 2021

The Molly's Well Heritage Project restored a well of significant importance to the heritage of Wiswell village. The well is formally known as wise woman's well, and is situated on the route of a popular local walk. The village of Wiswell, according to one theory, is named from a corruption of wise woman's well. The precise date for the well is unknown but is thought at one time to be the principal water supply for the village.

The project relied on the use of volunteer labour from four local residents and the employment of a local stone waller. The grant money was spent on securing the services of a local stonemason, and the purchase, transport and cutting of replacement stone as required. This project developed community interest and support from any local residents who were unaware of the importance of the well in terms of village heritage. The well will now be preserved and enjoyed for years to come.



Molly's Well, Wiswell

Small Grants Projects

- Project Name: Roman Road Research Project
- Applicant Body: Ribble Valley Archaeology
- Start Date of project: October 2021
- Completion Date: October 2022

The main purpose of this project was to enable the Ribble Valley Archaeology group to survey stretches of Roman Road that run through the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership area and provide more opportunities for the wider public to get involved, as well as raising landowner awareness for local archaeology.

The funding was used to obtain insurance cover for participants and to purchase surveying equipment and safety fencing. This has allowed the group to extend the range of activities on offer and to work in a more professional way. Three archaeological excavations were conducted, using materials purchased with the grant, and the group uncovered a significant section of the Roman road revealing details of the way it was constructed. The group identified at least one location where the road is well preserved, and the landowner is now aware of this and is keen that it is preserved for the future. They also identified two locations where the road is badly damaged and revealed a possible new site of uncertain type away from the line of the road which will be investigated in due course.

Successfully trained volunteers will now be able to take part in other archaeological investigations, in fact the project has inspired some members to start a search for a lost Medieval Chapel! Reports have been produced and uploaded to appropriate websites and data bases and will contribute to the Lancashire Historic Environment Record.

The project also inspired an archaeology and heritage day at Rimington Memorial Institute, attended by more than 40 people from the local communities and was partly held as a thank you for the support given by that community. This project very much complemented the Rimington Heritage Trail project which was also supported by the Pendle Hill Fund.



Archaeologists at work