

## Northumberland National Park Heritage at Risk Project

- We are looking for volunteers to help us monitor and conserve our Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Together we can safeguard our heritage.



Figure 1: Clockwise from top left –SAM 25036 Low Cleughs Bastle; Volunteer training day in the Cheviot at discussing and viewing the threats to Brough Law hillfort, part of SAM 32782; ‘The Old Palace’ at Yeavinger and Walkers Cairn on the summit of Brough Law.

Northumberland National Park covers an area of 405 sq miles. People have lived in the area for at least 10,000 years, and have left behind many physical remains that are visible in the well preserved historic landscape. This includes designated heritage assets such as *Scheduled Ancient Monuments* (archaeological sites that have been granted special legal protection because they are of national importance) and *Listed Buildings*, and undesignated heritage assets such as locally important sites. These historic remains are a finite resource that once lost is lost forever.

The Northumberland National Park’s Heritage at Risk project aims to raise awareness of our shared heritage, the risks and challenges that it faces and to help us respond more effectively to ensure our heritage survives for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. There are 424 Scheduled Ancient Monuments within Northumberland National Park, many are exceptionally well preserved and survive as visible, upstanding landscape features. Each of these Scheduled Ancient Monuments requires an up-to-date condition survey, a survey that assesses the condition of a site at a particular point in time, in order to identify the conservation required to safeguard our heritage before it is lost forever. The Heritage at Risk project provides opportunities for local communities to participate in the monitoring and conservation of the Scheduled Ancient Monuments within Northumberland National Park and to help reduce the number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments that are at Risk. In

order to do this we are looking for volunteers to help us monitor and conserve our Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

Anyone can become a Heritage at Risk Volunteer, and we would like to involve as many people as possible from all sectors of the community. All volunteers will be supported throughout their involvement in the project by Northumberland National Park staff, and all volunteers will be provided full and comprehensive training. The training is free, and is open to people of all backgrounds, ages and abilities. There is no minimum or maximum commitment, volunteers can monitor or get involved with as many or as few sites or activities as they are able. Becoming a Heritage at Risk Volunteer is an opportunity to...

- Learn about the history of the important sites within the Northumberland National Park, and gain a new understanding and appreciation of the landscape.
- Play a vital role in the conservation and preservation of these sites, ensuring their long term survival for the benefit of present and future generations.
- Learn new skills and gain valuable experience.
- Explore the beautiful and inspirational landscape of Northumberland National Park.
- Meet new people.
- Have fun!

If you would like more information or are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Northumberland National Park's Heritage at Risk Officer, Natalie Ward, on

[heritageatrisk@nnpa.org.uk](mailto:heritageatrisk@nnpa.org.uk)

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