

Inspiring Creativity conference

This one-day conference in October 2004 for primary teachers, headteachers and artists focused on creative approaches to teaching and learning through the arts. Artists Gordon MacLellan and Hugh Nankivell led sessions reflecting their work with **Land**. Other artists involved included: Kjartan Poskitt, Pat Southern and Steve Hutton.

The event was attended by 98 people and helped set the scene for the start of the Arts Council's Creative Partnerships scheme.

Young Carers' Retreat

In July 2005 a pioneering scheme, devised by **Land** in partnership with the Young Carers' Project, resulted in the first ever arts-based course for young people who care for an incapacitated adult. The 4-day residential course, held at Whitehough Outdoor Education Centre near the village of Barley in Pendle, enabled 50 young carers from across East Lancashire to enjoy a complete break from routine. They immersed themselves in arts activities led by six professional artists, including mask and puppet-making, willow-weaving, music and drama, culminating in a performance. In keeping with the aims of **Land** they also left behind an artistic legacy in the form of willow sculptures of a heron and a unicorn in the landscape for others to enjoy.

The young people were centrally involved in planning and organising their week, and their activities were filmed and photographed to provide them with a lasting reminder. At a celebratory event at Burnley Mechanics in October, attended by 82 people including the Mayor of Rossendale, each member of the course was presented with a souvenir DVD - which you can watch [HERE](#) or via the Project Videos link above the images to the right.

Mapping the Landscape/The Wayside Arts Trail

Mapping the Landscape was a collaboration between **Land** and the Forest of Burnley to develop the section of the Burnley Way from Towneley Park up to the **Panopticon** site at Crown Point, creating a new family walk for the East Lancashire Regional Park.

The project developed in three stages during 2004-2005. First, sculptor Martyn Bednarczuk from Oswaldtwistle, designed and carved 12 unique fingerposts from local green oak, featuring local wildlife, and installed them at intervals along the walk with the help of students from Myerscough College in Burnley.

Blackburn artist Julie Miles then worked with children from St John's Junior School, who carved additional waymarkers out of brick, again featuring delightful representations of local insects, birds and woodland animals. These are set into the ground at the foot of each signpost and at intervals in between. Julie also worked with children from Christ the King Primary School to create a three-metre-long ceramic map depicting the route, which is positioned near the start of the walk immediately behind Towneley Hall.

The third stage was the creation by Julie of a replica 'beehive' brick kiln now sited, appropriately, near the small housing estate known as The Kilns. The almost 2-metre high kiln, covered with intricate designs by schoolchildren, was installed in autumn 2005 and has become a very popular feature in the landscape.

Moving the River

Musician Hugh Nankivell and writer Tony Liddington worked with local people in summer 2004 to explore the landscape around Gawthorpe Hall in Padiham, using song, poetry and prose. A series of workshops involving young children, older children and older people resulted in an open-air production for members of the public, celebrating the history and environment of the Hall. An audio guide, featuring the songs, poems and prose

devised during the project, was subsequently recorded on to CD for people to listen to and relate to the landscape as they explore the Hall and its surroundings.

Arcazaar

Arcazaar was the first major outdoor event under the Land banner and for four days in the summer of 2004 over 10,000 visitors to Burnley's Towneley Park experienced this amazing construction by [Architects of Air](#). Arcazaar's spectacular domed sculpture, known as a luminarium, intrigued and delighted the visitors who came from near and far to experience this inflatable wonderland. The event was an excellent opportunity to bring Land, Panopticons and the wider Regional Park programme to the attention of a large audience.

LAND Finale – Julian Beever

International pavement artist Julian Beever worked at Higherford Mill in Barrowford for four days from Thursday 22 - Sunday 25 March 2007, creating a delightful 3D illusion to mark the finale of Land. You can see him clinging on to a [giant maypole](#) far above the Lancashire mill scene below. Or is he?

Land Giant

A 16ft-high figurative sculpture in steel and willow surrounded by several wooden towers, was installed on land owned by Crow Wood Leisure Centre, overlooking the M65 motorway on the border between Pendle and Burnley. The sculpture, by internationally acclaimed willow artist, Serena de la Hey, was the final piece of work originating from **Land**.

Serena, who is perhaps best known for Willow Man, a 40ft figure on the northbound side of the M5 near Bridgewater in Somerset, always creates work which relates closely to landscape, local materials, traditional working methods and the local way of life, and 'Land Giant' is no exception.

Serena commented, "*My aim was to produce a piece sympathetic to the site, which would reflect the large amount of forestry in the area while taking full advantage of the nearby motorway. The wooden structures around the figure are reminiscent of ancient woodland or mill towers.*"

Within Grove

In summer 2005, **Land** in partnership with Hyndburn Council commissioned artist Kerry Morrison to create a long-term plan to transform a neglected open space at Within Grove in the Huncoat area of Hyndburn.

Working with Huncoat Residents' Association and Huncoat Youth Project, Kerry began a programme of community consultation, aimed at forming a local steering group, developing a long-term plan, identifying funding and building sustainability.

A door-to-door questionnaire revealed a high level of interest among residents in helping to improve the estate, and this has been demonstrated through the practical involvement of local adults and young people in a series of arts activities investigating topics such as botany, biodiversity, landscape design, horticulture, permaculture, litter pollution, and recycling – all relevant to the estate and its future.

Activities included:

- creating a site herbarium with plant specimens from the area;
- collecting yellow flag seeds, researching their market value and designing a 'Within Grove Choice' seed packet;

- clearing litter and seeding wild flowers in the front gardens of four boarded-up houses;
- creating panoramic pictures using collages of flowers and plants for use on banners and street signage;
- filming an (un)safe route to school;
- a plant give-away day and picnic for local residents.

Hallowe'en Celebrations

In October 2003, **Land** artists worked with local people to make masks and lanterns from natural materials for the traditional Hallowe'en procession along the historic trail from the Aisled Barn to the Haworth Road car-park – close to the site of the Pendle Panopticon, [Atom](#).

In 2004 and 2005, with the involvement of additional **Land** artists, the event grew to include a fancy-dress competition, a fire show and music, as well as sightings of ghostly figures in the ruins of Wycoller Abbey! On each occasion, several hundred local people turned out to enjoy the fun.

Willow at Wycoller

In November 2004, artists Jeff and Heather Allen led willow-weaving workshops with local adults and children close to the site of the Wycoller Panopticon, [Atom](#), which resulted in the creation of a giant willow tunnel, a willow bower, a bird hide and a majestic horse and rider. The sculptures are situated close to the Aisled Barn in Wycoller village.

Clitheroe Castle Labyrinth

In 2005, international labyrinth artist Jim Buchanan was commissioned by Ribble Valley Borough Council, Clitheroe The Future and **Land** to create a large-scale labyrinth in the grounds of Clitheroe Castle, on the disused bowling green. The grass turf design was chosen following dialogue and workshops with the local community and schools to stimulate ideas for the eventual labyrinth design. This community labyrinth is a stunning example of land art, which attracts and delights local people and visitors alike. It has been named *Convex Green*, to reflect its shape, colour and history as a bowling green. Additional support was received from the Friends of Clitheroe Castle and the Northwest Regional Development Agency.

ShadowLand

This project, which set out to celebrate and record aspects of the history of East Lancashire by involving young people in capturing and recreating the reminiscences of older people, began with a pilot project in Pendle in March 2004. In the summer, the project moved to Rossendale, where Esther Davies of 3DV Writers' Group and artist Kerris Casey St Pierre worked with Bacup Youth Theatre gathering tales and experiences from local people to create a performance at Bacup Royal Court Theatre in June. This was a contemporary dance piece telling the story of Bacup, performed by students from Rossendale School of Dance and Drama with an original soundscape plus set and costumes by Horse and Bamboo Theatre. In July 2004, stories and puppets from the Bacup Shadow**Land** project were exhibited and a performance by 3DV Writers' Group took place at Haslingden Community Centre during the Rossendale Alive Festival.

On Pendle Hill

Spot On, Lancashire's Rural Touring Network, enabled six groups of young people from Lancaster, Ribble Valley and Pendle districts to work with Blaize Theatre to produce a professional show reflecting their experiences of

rural life. *On Pendle Hill*, toured to Barnoldswick, Bolton by Bowland, Longridge, Arkholme and Clitheroe in June 2004.

UR space

During Architecture Week in June 2004, young people from Hyndburn and Pendle worked on a cross-borough project based on Hyndburn's autumn 2003 **Land** project, *Where we Live*. Architects and artists led children in an exploration of their ideal spaces and work produced was displayed at exhibitions in Waterside Community Centre, Colne, and Springhill Community Centre, Accrington.

Land exhibition at Mid Pennine Gallery

In summer 2004, a month-long exhibition at the Gallery showcased successful **Land** projects to date and previewed future plans. This formula was repeated in autumn 2005, including an interactive element whereby visitors were able to explore a light-projected labyrinth by Jim Buchanan and 'walk' from Burnley town centre to Crown Point with the aid of a computer.

Calendars 2005 and 2006

In December 2004, **Land** mounted a unique project with partners Elevate East Lancashire and Design East Lancashire, to give young people a chance to have their say about how their towns could be developed and improved. Artists worked with children from six Pendle schools to explore the importance of design in the landscape. The project resulted in a stunning wall calendar for 2005, entitled *My Perfect Town*, containing twelve images of 'perfect' towns as imagined and represented by schoolchildren through sculpture, painting and modelling. The calendar attracted the attention of the Prince of Wales during his October 2005 visit to Nelson, when he met some of the children involved. Following on from the success of *My Perfect Town*, a second calendar was commissioned for 2006, featuring designs by schoolchildren based on their dreams of the Pennine Lancashire of the future. Six artists worked with six schools across East Lancashire to produce the artwork for this calendar, *Dreaming of Pennine Lancashire*. Needless to say, the Prince of Wales was one of the first recipients of the new version!

Shopkeepers

In summer 2005, a group of local shopkeepers in Pendle took part in *Shopkeepers*, a pilot project to document the effects of regeneration on their businesses. Documentary photographer Gavin Parry took a series of photographs of shops and their keepers, which were compiled in a souvenir postcard pack and were also the subject of an exhibition at the Mid Pennine Gallery. Filmed interviews with the shopkeepers formed a soundtrack to the exhibition. In keeping with the aims of **Land**, a series of workshops held during the exhibition offered school and community groups the opportunity to explore the ideas behind the project and the production techniques involved. The project was expanded into other districts with the title *Talking Shop*.

Parkarts 2003

Artist John Fortnum and members of Action Factory Community Arts worked with schools and local communities to produce a series of artworks in Sunnyhurst Woods and Audley.

Burnley Way Stone Carvings: Four Seasons in One Day

During summer 2004, in a project tying in with ongoing improvements being carried out by Lancashire County Council at Wholaw Nook, Habergham Eaves, sculptor Iain Cant completed four large stone carvings alongside

the Burnley Way on the theme of 'four seasons in one day' (a well known weather phenomenon in these parts)! On two weekends in June, members of the public were invited to try their hand at carving under Iain's supervision.

Flag-flying at Crown Point

To help determine exactly which spot on Crown Point would be best for Burnley's **Panopticon**, the *Singing Ringing Tree*, a flag-flying event was held in September 2005. Local schoolchildren took part in flag-making workshops and then flew their multicoloured flags at various positions on Crown Point on a very windy day! "This was a good example of how the two projects **Panopticons** and **Land** are connected," said Project Coordinator Linda Newton.

Tonkin Liu Community Weekend

Designers Anna Liu and Robert Urbanek-Zeller from London-based architects Tonkin Liu visited Burnley on 17 and 18 March 2006 to talk about their plans for Burnley's **Panopticon** at Crown Point, the *Singing Ringing Tree*. They spent time with children at Rosewood Primary School, conducting experiments with pipes and wind to demonstrate how the **Panopticon** would be built, and later they made a presentation to local partners in the project. The following day, Anna and Robert spoke at a well-attended public meeting at Towneley Hall, explaining their plans for the 10ft tall 'tree'.

Time Capsule

Pupils from Rosewood Primary School took part in workshops to decide what should be placed in a time capsule. The time capsule was buried in the foundations of the **Panopticon** for Burnley, the *Singing Ringing Tree*.

Singing Ringing Tree Launch Event

Through **Land**, local schoolchildren and students were involved in the preparations for the launch of the *Singing Ringing Tree*. Children from a number of schools took part in storytelling workshops aimed at devising a new tale about the mysterious tree of legend. Their ideas were then blended into a single story, which was read to guests at the launch event as they made their way by coach to the *Singing Ringing Tree* site at Crown Point. Later, at Towneley Hall, guests were treated to a musical performance from students of Unity College, who had taken part in a Hallé education project, led by Hallé Education Director Steve Pickett, to compose a new piece especially for the occasion.

Songwriting & Video Project

In July 2003, musician Hugh Nankivell worked with pupils from Moor End Primary School and GCSE music students from Rhyddings High School to create a collection of new songs in response to their visits to Foxhill Nature Reserve in Oswaldtwistle. Ten new songs were composed and performed in front of an invited audience at the High School. The performance was recorded and a CD was distributed to all who took part. In a related project, also in July 2003, video artist Jack Lockhart and Jill Penny worked with a local youth club in Oswaldtwistle to make a film about their response to the Nature Reserve. The young people created their own story-board, filmed and acted in the film themselves, supported by the two artists. The film was given a public showing at the Youth Club.

Where We Live

In autumn 2003, artists and architects worked with young people from Hyndburn's Creative Activities Project (CAP) to produce artworks for four existing sites of creative activity in Spring Hill, Barnfield, Central and Church. Working on the theme of 'where we live' and focusing on regeneration, the young people responded in different media - for example, designing a landmark for their area, writing a piece describing their environment, or redesigning their street. This culminated in an exhibition of work produced.

Diary Pod

In spring 2004, Paul Hartley of Hyndburn's Creative Activities Project (CAP) and artist William Titley developed a new technique to engage young people more effectively in the process of evaluation. With echoes of 'Big Brother', they designed a 'diary pod'. Contributors entered a small igloo tent where a simple computer programme asked them questions. Their responses were filmed and recorded without anyone else being present.

Outdoor Classroom Development

During summer 2005, artist Gordon MacLellan worked with young people and adults in Hyndburn Park Community Space to develop an outdoor activity area for Hyndburn Park Primary School and members of the local community. The space is now available as an outdoor classroom for activities such as creative writing and performing. At the school, Gordon developed a 'Resource Book' with children and teachers to encourage best use of the new space. Through the art of story-telling, the Resource Book leads children through a series of activities which take them on a journey round the outdoor classroom, encouraging the creation of new stories for telling and writing. The journey takes them across the worlds of literacy, science and geography.

The Enchanted Woodland at Arden Hall

This imaginative project, a partnership between **Land**, the Friends of Arden Hall and Hyndburn Borough Council, aimed to encourage greater use of Arden Hall Park, by involving local schoolchildren and community groups in devising a large-scale, outdoor event inspired by the history and wildlife of the area. During the spring and summer of 2005, environmental artist Gordon MacLellan led the activity, working alongside local community artists Gillian Kelly and Sue Gibson. The first stage was a teacher training day, introducing teachers to the techniques to be used in preparing for the event. The focus then moved to practical workshops, in which the artists worked with community groups and children from four local schools to create new stories about the woodlands, the hills and their inhabitants, working from local folk tales and stories of the people, animals and plants of Lancashire. Together they also designed and created a new world of animals, plants and people. The culmination of all the activity was a magical summer evening in the Park when the new stories were brought to life in a vivid pageant of theatre, music and dance. The woodland was decorated by spectacular 'enchantment banners' made in public workshops and over 500 people attended.

Birds of Bowland Lantern Procession

In December 2003, artist Steve Eliot led three days of lantern-making workshops with children at Brabins Primary School, Bowland, in preparation for the 'Birds of Bowland' Festival. The children later took part in a celebratory procession through Chipping village with their lanterns, which created a unique opportunity for the rural community to celebrate their environment. A total of 240 children and adults took part.

Bowland Transit Writing Project

Bowland Transit is the name of an integrated transport project serving the Forest of Bowland in the Ribble Valley. To celebrate the first anniversary of the project it hosted a writer-in-residence project for eight months during 2004. Writer Maureen Fenton travelled throughout the area on the Bowland buses, seeing the

landscape through the eyes of the other passengers and encouraging them to write about their surroundings and their life in Bowland. Her intention was to “celebrate the natural beauty, the people and the rural heritage of Bowland.”

Brungerley Sculpture Trail Waymarkers

On the Brungerley Sculpture Trail in Clitheroe you can see three waymarkers designed and produced by artist Paul Smith during 2004, working with children from three local schools involved in the Wildlife After Schools Project (WASP). The waymarkers are made of reclaimed stone gateposts, inset with abstract wildlife designs made from mosaic tiles and highlighted with a ceramic tile identifying what each design represents. The posts were installed with the help of WASP staff and volunteers from the Wildlife Trust. They marked the beginning of the Brungerley Sculpture Trail’s refurbishment plan to create an inspiring and educational outdoor attraction within the Ribble Valley.

Bugs Lantern Parade

Artists from Action Factory led workshops for 10-13 year-olds in the summer of 2003 to make exotic lanterns on the theme of ‘bugs’. The children joined in a parade with their lanterns as part of the Barnoldswick Festival in September, processing along the canalside to finish in a local park.

Environmental Arts Workshops

In November 2003, environmental artist Gordon MacLellan led a series of activity days in Wycoller Country Park for four Pendle schools. These involved children in mask- and puppet-making, poetry- and story-writing and all kinds of artwork as they discovered the secrets of Wycoller’s historic past and its natural treasures. In January 2004, Gordon followed this up with a training workshop for 23 primary school teachers at the Pendle Heritage Centre in Barrowford, which showed how teachers could develop links between literacy and outdoor work in gardens, school grounds or the countryside.

What is Sculpture? – Teachers' Training Day

In March 2004, 15 teachers attended a full day course led by artist Pat Southern at the Pendle Heritage Centre in Barrowford. The day made a link between the **Panopticon** public art programme and the way teachers could address sculpture in the National Curriculum at Key Stage One.

Mapping the Canal

In October 2004, in a series of workshops linked to Mid Pennine Arts' award-winning children's writing festival, *Kicking Leaves*, illustrators Steve Hutton and Angela Thompson and writer Esther Davis led sessions with schoolchildren aboard British Waterways' canal boat *Kennet* to map the local stretch of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal. This work was intended to feed into the wider mapping of Regional Park strategic routes.

Community Planting

Also in November 2004, a community bulb- and tree-planting day was held at the Wycoller **Panopticon** site in preparation for the arrival of Pendle’s **Panopticon**, *Atom*. The planting was organised by East Lancashire garden designer Paul Hensey and countryside rangers were on hand to assist with tree planting. Many local people and children of all ages turned out to enjoy the activity.

Wycoller Schools' Writing Residency

In November 2004, children from two Pendle schools explored the paths around the Wycoller **Panopticon** site with writer Maureen Fenton, learning and responding creatively to the history, people and natural environment of the place. The residency was linked to Mid Pennine Arts' award-winning children's writing festival, *Kicking Leaves*.

Poplar Sculpture, Salterforth

On the Salterforth play area by the Leeds-Liverpool Canal, a 14-ft tall poplar stump, saved from felling, was transformed into a dramatic sculpture to provide a waymarker on the National Cycle Network. Children from Salterforth Primary School contributed their ideas to design workshops led by sculptor Iain Cant in spring 2005 before work began.

Rag Rug Workshops

Workshops run in Wycoller by textile artist Lynne Stein during spring and summer 2005 offered local people an opportunity to learn the ancient craft of hand-tufting. The result was a beautiful wall-hanging featuring images of local plants and wildlife.

Environmental Garden, Colne

In summer 2005, a council-owned green space was leased to Sacred Heart Primary School in Colne for the development of an environmental garden with public access, for use by both pupils and local people. Sculptor Martyn Bednarczyk and other local artists worked with pupils at the school throughout the summer and autumn to construct a new entrance to the garden, develop pathways and seating and create artworks from found objects – including a large owl sculpture carved from a tree stump.

Barnoldswick Community Gardens

In summer 2006, Year Five pupils at Coates Lane Primary School in Barnoldswick worked with artist Helen Callaghan to create features for the local community gardens. First they made an 'ideas tree' – a wire mesh frame with 'foliage' in the form of writings and drawings showing their ideas for the gardens. Next they worked together to produce a mural of their ideal community garden on the end of a garden shed. The colourful imagery enhances the gardens and is an eye-catching landmark for boaters on the nearby Leeds & Liverpool Canal.

Atom Launch Event

Children from Bradley Street Primary School, Nelson, were among the performers at the celebrations for the opening of Pendle's Panopticon *Atom* at the end of September. Following drumming workshops with Martin South and Philip Howley, organised through **Land**, the children provided a rousing finale to the launch event.

Equestrian sculpture and outdoor classroom

In an off-shoot from the **Land** project, young people from Holcombe Pony Club took part in artist-run workshops during summer 2008 to enable them to help with the design and build of a stone-carved equestrian sculpture and carved informal seating. These are sited close to Croft Top Equestrian Centre in Rossendale.

Shoe Trail

Working with artist Julie Miles, Year 7 pupils at Haslingden High School and All Saints Catholic High School in Rawtenstall worked up designs for sculptural shoe pieces which Julie then carved in brick. The shoe sculptures, representing a variety of shoe designs, celebrate the traditional shoemaking industry of the area.

The Pink Link

The Pink Link was a project intended to encourage young children to enjoy and interact with the landscape. At the Rossendale Alive Festival in summer 2004, they were invited to fill a bag with small pink pebbles and take them away to mark a favourite spot in the landscape. In keeping with **Land**'s aims of protecting and enhancing the landscape, the pebbles were of course completely environmentally friendly. One five-year old, Ciaran Grimshaw, had a lot of fun making a pink 'snake trail' in the grass at Calf Hey reservoir.

Willow Work at Rossendale Ski Slope

In summer 2005, **Land** offered young people aged from 9-16 an exciting opportunity to learn the skills of willow-weaving with professional willow sculptor Jeff Allen. Everyone who took part contributed to the creation of five willow deer sculptures.

Arts in the Forest

Arts in the Forest was a pilot programme for **Land**, conducted in over six months in the summer of 2002. It was co-ordinated by Mid Pennine Arts in collaboration with the Forest of Burnley and a host of other partners. The programme included the following projects:

Concerto for a Million Trees

Puppeteer Sarah Frangleton worked with children from the Hearing Support Unit at Ivy Bank School in Burnley to create and perform a shadow-puppet show at the premiere of the Concerto for a Million Trees by Dave Nelson at Burnley Mechanics. The new composition celebrated the planting of hundreds of hectares of trees in the Borough of Burnley.

Millennium Woodland

Ridge Avenue's Millennium Woodland celebration brought together over 500 children and adults in a community lantern procession through the Brunshaw estate in Burnley. Children and local residents worked alongside artists and youth workers to create lanterns in all shapes and sizes.

Trail of Words

In this collaboration between writer Jackie Kay and sculptor Phil Bews, words and images from Jackie's writing workshops with children and Pennine Ink writers' group inspired Phil to create a beautiful sensory handrail and woodland carving on the Grove Lane Plantation in Padiham.

Through the Wood

This addition to the Towneley Park Sculpture Trail, created by sculptor Richard Caink, was inspired by poems written by Jackie Kay and the children and adults from the Trail of Words project.

Trees for Babies

Forty-seven local families participated in this project to help create a new family woodland at Rowley Lake in Burnley. Trees were planted for babies and local artists helped older children to dress their trees with teddy bears.