

## **Halton Lune Trust report to Halton Hydro AGM April 2023**

At the beginning of 2023 we changed banks to The Co-op who offer a free service saving around £61.00 a year.

3 grants have been awarded in 2022 totalling £4,180.00 and all recipients will be given this plaque to display.



### **AUGHTON VERGE PROJECT £630.00**

In 2013 an initiative was adopted by St. Saviours Church aimed at preserving and developing the environmental potential of the churchyard. By changing the cutting schedules of the churchyard in designated areas between March and September allows plants to grow and set seed. Each September a Boon Day takes place when the village comes together to cut the six month's worth of growth. This is an essential part of improving the biodiversity and the results have been remarkable and at the last survey over 60 different plant species identified with the Forest of Bowland AONB showing an active interest.

Emerging from the success of this work Aughton Verge Project was formed– the aim to manage the verges in and around the village in a similar way, working with local authorities.

In order to move away from reliance on fossil fuel driven machinery, the grant application was to purchase a scythe, an instruction course and a wheelbarrow for community use.

A scythe was duly purchased together with a wheelbarrow and 6 villagers attended the course. They are now lovingly caring for the Aughton verges.



**Halton with Aughton Heritage Group £900 towards a total project cost of £4025.00**

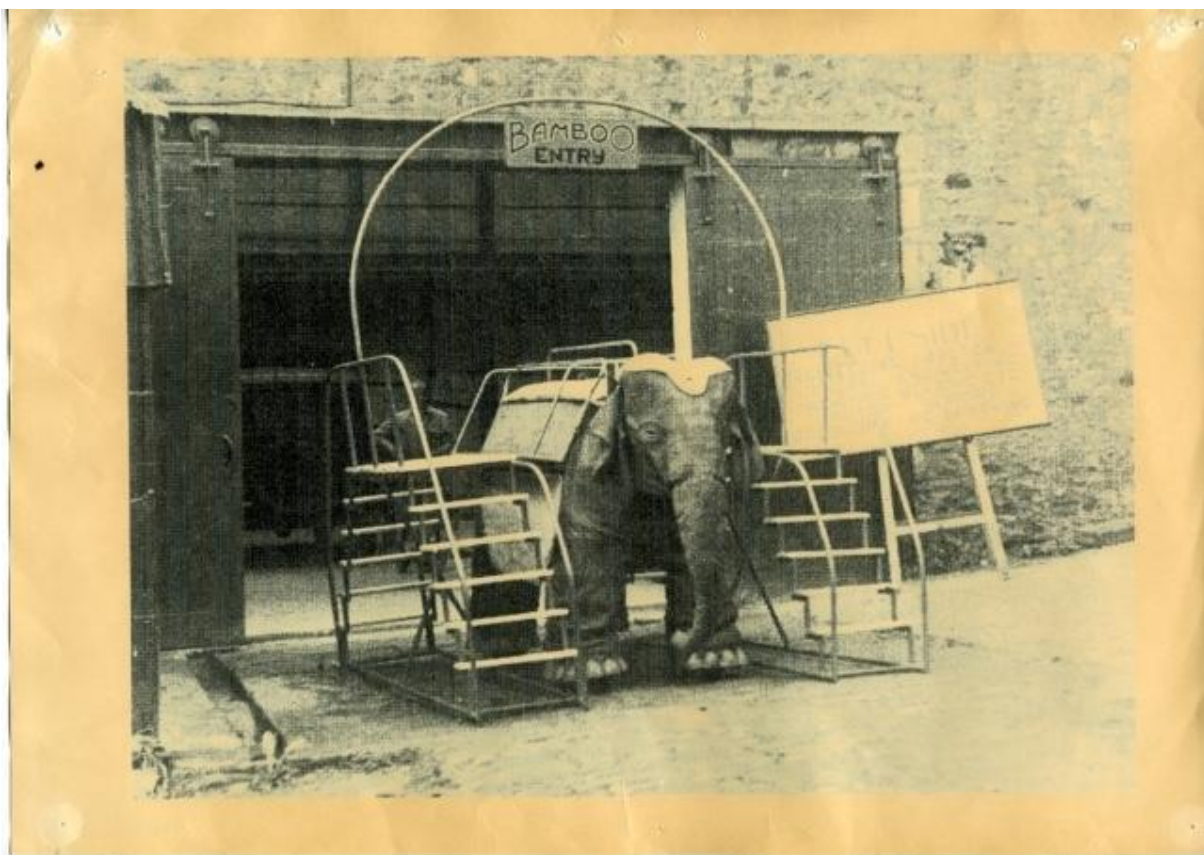
The grant has helped to fund a short documentary film bringing to life the remarkable story of Luneside Engineering, the precision engineering works founded in what is now Halton Mill after the second world war by Polish refugee, Colonel TeodorBerniski. Halton Mill is the only mill remaining from an era when Halton was an industrial centre. The film was shown during an open event at the

Mill in September as part of the national Heritage Open Days. The title of the documentary is Precision, camaraderie and courage: how a group of Polish refugees built a new life and a thriving business in a Lancashire village.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITILGf1SGxA&t=24s>

The film captures important oral history of the locality, which otherwise might be lost. It offers a permanent record in an engaging format of an era and a local industry from people who will soon not be with us.

The film will be held in the Lancashire County Archives, a useful resource for local historians (both amateur and professional). It will be available for future viewings and for educational purposes, as well as being featured on Youtube and the Halton Mill website. We hope that the positive vision it offers of the contribution of refugees to the locality will be an inspiring message for current and future generations.



#### **Hermitage Field Community Meadow £2650.00 towards total project cost of £4020.00**

To help maintain and upkeep Hermitage Field Community Meadow for the benefit of the local community and wildlife. The funds will be used for fencing repairs, insurance and website hosting and to design and print a wildflower/wildlife leaflet to educate people about biodiversity within the meadow, which will be distributed freely.

The leaflets will compliment the recently erected interpretation boards.

The meadow is a beautiful, well used and well managed space for residents, the local community and visitors to the area. It provides a place to relax, walk dogs, exercise and meet people. Volunteer sessions are also encouraged and 'The bay A Blueprint for Recovery' are joining in with their wellbeing volunteers.

