

It was the village of **Higham** which housed the "ghastly" Chattox and several of her "victims". The Four Allis Inn has an interesting sign and a stone horse trough. In **Newchurch** the "Eye of God" is to be found on the tower of **St Mary's church** to ward off evil. The church is said to house another of the Pendle Witches, the family grave of Alice Nutter. Chattox was alleged to have desecrated graves in this churchyard to collect skulls and teeth! Should you like a souvenir too please use Newchurch's own **Witches Galore** shop in the village!

On the right you will pass a wonderful 17th century building now the **Lamb Working Men's Club**. As you rise along the road take time to take in the views of Nelson on the left hand side.

The **Keith Melling Studio** has exceptional originals and prints of the local scenery. Keith is nationally renowned for his landscapes of the local area and the north of England. The quaint village church of St Anne's is on your left at the end of the village and on the right is Hoarstones. It was at Hoarstones where local boy, Edmund Robinson, claimed he was held prisoner by witches on All Hallows Eve 1633. 17 witches were convicted, but the verdicts were overturned when he admitted that his father had put him up to it.

It was at **Ashlar House** that Demdike, Chattox and Anne Redfearn were interrogated on 2nd April 1612 and sent for trial. Elizabeth, James and Jennet Device were also brought here on 27th April for questioning. Please respect this is a private residence.

Points of Interest

Directions

Turn right from the Heritage Centre car park and over the bridge and turn left at the junction. Continue along the main road passing the impressive 17th. century inn the **White Bear** on the right. Take the next right turning up Church Street.

Continue along this road following signs for Wheatley Lane passing a church and a school on the right and taking no turns off this road, heading in the direction of Padham. The Sparrow Hawk Inn is on the right. Take care on this road as it approaches the village of **Fence (2)**. The pub is also a way point on one of "Pendle's Six Circular Walks" (available at the Tourist Information Centre).

Continue along Wheatley Lane Road passing the Keith Melling Studio and Hoarstones on the right. Passing St Anne's Church the road bends left. Take the first right and pass the **Fence Gate Inn** on the right, and the **Bay Horse** on the left both renowned for excellent food and drink.

Drive through the village and turn left where you will meet the main road (the A6068). Turn right onto the main road. As you turn right onto the main A6068 road look out on your left for Ashlar House

Directions

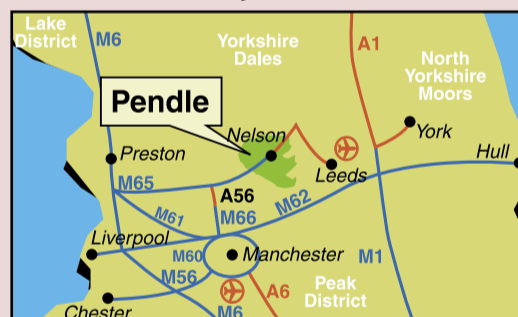


Pendle Scenic Car Trail – Pendle Witches

You will start this road trail at the car-park opposite the **Pendle Heritage Centre (1)** at Barrowford which you can visit now or at the end of your journey. The Centre is easy to find (follow the signs off junction 13 of the M65) and has a Tourist information Centre which has plenty of information about the Pendle Witches. The centre is also the start and end point for the Pendle Way. Enjoy this route even more by getting hold of a copy of the Pendle Way guide from the Centre. By looking at where The Way passes close by or crosses this scenic road trail, you can plan your own mini countryside walks from this trail (please park sensibly and respect residents!). The main points along the route and eating and drinking establishments are highlighted.



Witch Way to Pendle



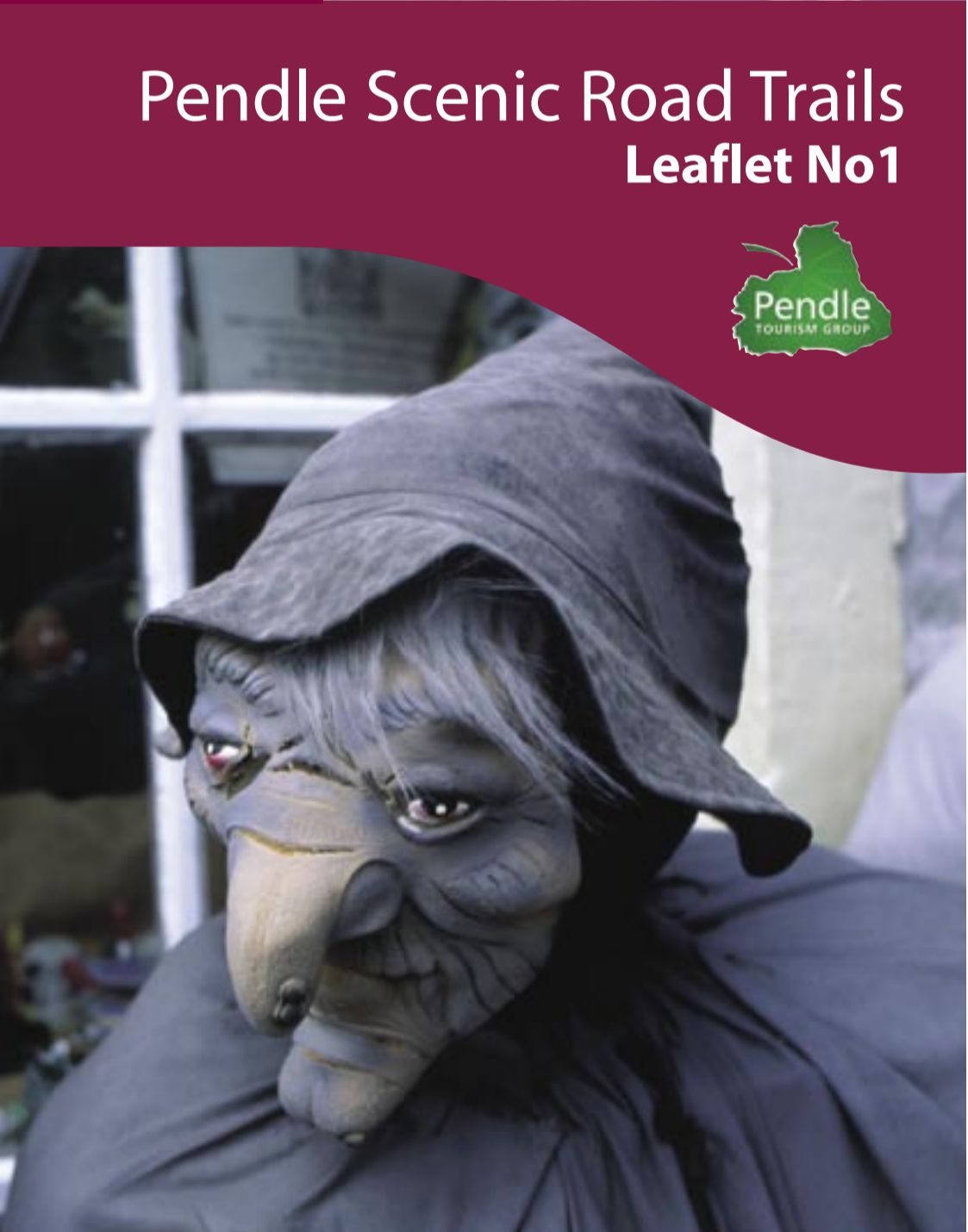
More Car Trails...
 This Pendle Witches Scenic Car Trail is one of three wonderful scenic car trails. The other two trails are equally fascinating and pass through some magnificent countryside. Trail 2 is called "Brontes and Browsing" and covers Colne, and its famous son Wallace Hartley, as well as the Brontes "Ferndean Manor" in Wycoller. Trail 3 is called "Boats and Beams" covering the West Craven area of Pendle.



More information
 More information is available about Pendle in the guides we produce, including a Visitor and Accommodation Guide. There is also a Pendle Witches Walking Trail, a longer Road Trail and a DVD. For free copies of these guides please contact **(01282) 661981**, or email: **tourism@pendle.gov.uk**.



This trail was produced by the Pendle Tourism Group in partnership with the Tourism Unit of Pendle Borough Council. Information on Pendle Tourism Group can be obtained by visiting **www.pendletourism.com**



Pendle Scenic Road Trails Leaflet No1



Pendle Witches

THE STORY OF THE PENDLE WITCHES



18th March 1612 - Alizon Device, granddaughter of Demdike is begging on the road to Colne. A pedlar refuses her some pins, she appears to paralyse him with a curse.

30th March 1612 - Alizon Device confesses to witchcraft. At the same time she incriminates her grandmother, Demdike, and another elderly woman, Chattox. She tells how the ale at the Inn at Higham was turned sour and how the landlord's son was bewitched to death using a clay image.

2nd April 1612 - Demdike, Chattox and her daughter, Anne Redfearn are interrogated. Demdike confesses to evil deeds, claiming that the devil came into her and sucked her blood leaving her stark mad.

3rd April 1612 - Demdike, Chattox and Redfearn are sent to Lancaster Castle and charged with witchcraft.

Good Friday 1612 - A party of people gather at Malkin Tower, Demdike's home. They plot to kill the Keeper at Lancaster Castle, blow up the Castle and free the imprisoned women.

Late April - Investigations take place around Malkin Tower. Incriminating evidence found includes human bones stolen from graves at Newchurch and a clay image used by James Device to cause the death of a neighbour.

Three more of the Device family along with Alice Nutter, a gentlewoman from Roughlee are taken away, questioned and imprisoned at Lancaster Castle to await trial.

Demdike dies in prison before the trial begins.

17th August 1612 - The 'Witches Trial' begins at Lancaster Castle.

20th August 1612 - After being found guilty, nine Pendle people are hanged at Lancaster in front of huge crowds.



Pendle scenic road trails No1 Pendle Witches

Directions

Turn right down Jinny Lane to **Roughlee (5)**. At the junction turn right then immediately left signposted 'Blacko and Barrowford' (the road you want is nearly straight up and slightly to the right from the junction you are sat at). Continue along the road to the **Bay Horse pub** on the left, and park in the pub car park for the short walk to Roughlee Old Hall. With your back to the pub turn left, until you come to your next road on the left. Facing down this road, go down the passage which can be seen on your right, past the cottages and Roughlee Old Hall is on your left.

Return to your car, turn right out of the car park and go back along the road that you came in on. Turn right towards Barley (3/4 mile). Entering into **Barley (6)** there is ample parking at Barley picnic site with toilets café and information point. Further down the road on the left is the **Pendle Inn**.

Further on the right is the **Barley Mow restaurant** where traditional food may be tasted and a little further on the **Barley Tearooms** for a well deserved cream tea. Passing out of Barley follow the road around the imposing yet wonderful Foot of Pendle and turn left at the signpost towards Downham.



Next we visit the lovely village of **Downham (7)**. As you enter the village turn right over the bridge, then left up the hill with the church of St. Leonards on the left and the Assheton Arms on the right.

Driving past the Assheton Arms take the left hand road out of the village, and take the right turn towards Rimington (do not take the Stopper Lane turn). **Rimington (8)** is a small but pretty village.

Drive on for about a mile past Rimington and then turn left towards **Gisburn (9)** a charming village but alas peaceful it is not, as it is situated along the busy A59. However, there is an ancient and beautiful church, St. Mary's, with a 13th century porch and impressive 14th century tower. Well known composer Francis Duckworth is buried in the church's graveyard.

Retrace your route towards Nelson on the A682. Our next stop is **Blacko (10)** and its famous tower, earlier viewed on route to Roughlee. Once again lovely views of Pendle Hill can be seen to the right. You will see the **Moorcock Inn** on your left which is a good place to stop and admire the view (but be careful of the bend!). Continue down this road and you will see Blacko tower on the left. Leaving Blacko continue along this road dropping down into Barrowford once more turning left at the old toll house sign posted for Pendle Heritage Centre and then left into the heritage centre car park completing your journey.

Points of Interest

The views are spectacular and you will notice a tower in the distance, **Blacko Tower** which you will see on the final leg.

Roughlee Old Hall is often referred to as "Witches Hall" as this was said to have been the home of Alice Nutter one of the Pendle Witches who was hanged at Lancaster. Please respect this is a private residence.

Dominating the skyline is the wonderful **Pendle Hill**. George Fox founder of the Quakers climbed this hill in 1652 and wrote "I was moved of the lord to go up to the top of this hill...I saw the sea bordering upon Lancashire; and from the top of this hill the lord let me see in what places he had a great people to be gathered". This inspirational vision led to him founding the Quakers.

The comedian Billy Connolly used to play music at the Pendle Inn before his comic fame and loves to return here to relive those times.

For those able to climb the hill, it takes approximately one hour steady climbing but well worth the slog for the breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside, the lake district and on a clear day the Isle of Man. Access to the footpath is along Ings Farm Road with plenty of parking opportunities along the road.

St Leonard's church was built in 1909 except for the 15th Century tower. Queen Mary is said to have remarked that the view from the porch is the "most beautiful in all the land". Behind the church is **Downham Hall**. The village, home to the Assheton family since 1558, is also home to the BBC series "Born and Bred" and was the location for the film "Whistle Down The Wind".

The hymn tune composer Francis Duckworth lived in **Rimington** and attended the chapel at Stopper Lane and is best known for the tune "Rimington" known the world over, the chapel is now a private house with a commemorative plaque.

Gisburn's own witch Jennet Preston was arrested for being at the Good Friday gathering of the witches at Malkin Tower and causing the death by charms and sorcery of Thomas Lister of Westby Hall. Evidence was given that after Lister's death she was brought to the house and made to touch the body which began to bleed. As only the touch of a murderer could make a corpse bleed, she was found guilty and hanged on 29th July 1612 at York (3 weeks before the Lancaster hangings).

Blacko Tower, sometimes called Stansfield Tower or Jonathon's Folly, was built in 1890 by Jonathon Stansfield in order to see into Yorkshire!. Malkin Tower Farm near to the tower is believed to be the site of Malkin Tower, home of old mother Demdike and the meeting place of the Pendle Witches.



Has this trail whetted your appetite about the Pendle Witches? You can find out more in a unique filmed investigation of their true life story on DVD. The DVD is on sale from the Pendle Heritage Centre
Tel: 01282 661701 or from the Tourism Unit Tel: 01282 661981



Roughlee Old Hall