



# Who Are We

The Mendip Society is a group of like-minded people who have a love of Mendip and are concerned about its future.

There are individual members of all ages and with widely varying interests, plus groups, organisations and local companies.

The Society runs a very active walking group and also organises special events.

We liaise with local authorities, other charities, statutory and voluntary groups to achieve our Constitutional aims.



# Minding Mendip

The Mendip Hills are a rich and varied natural resource. For centuries the hills have been a centre for farming and industry, including mining and quarrying. Now they are under greater pressure than ever before - from quarrying, certain types of farming, development, and increasingly, tourism.

Stretching from the island of Steep Holm and the mainland of Brean Down in the west, to Frome in the east, Mendip is a living, working, and increasingly recreational environment.

Some 200 sq kms from Bleadon to Chewton Mendip is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This was a major achievement of the Society in **1972**.

The Mendip Society works to achieve a balance of interests while conserving and protecting Mendip for future generations.

For membership enquiries email:

[membership@themendipsociety.org.uk](mailto:membership@themendipsociety.org.uk)

# How to Apply for a Small Grant

For initial enquiries and an application form:

E-mail:

[smallgrantsofficer@themendipsociety.org.uk](mailto:smallgrantsofficer@themendipsociety.org.uk)

and visit our website:

[www.themendipsociety.org.uk](http://www.themendipsociety.org.uk)



*Caring for the Mendip Hills*

Charity Registration - 262867.

Small Grant Scheme





## The Living and Working Environment

A new section of the Small Grant Scheme is specifically for farmers and private landowners, including schools, charities and community groups to make the best of their land for biodiversity and the future of the area and the planet

The society wishes to support schemes working towards safeguarding the living and working environment and visual amenity of the Landscape.

Help with the creation of projects leading to employment in sustainable woodland tree replacement, coppicing, dry stone walling, hedgerows restoration and traditional hedge laying management.

Practical tasks on our 'Public Rights of Way' network including building robust foot holdings around stiles, managing overhanging vegetation and installing new or additional furniture and signage.

Projects which lead to the protection of The Mendips' remaining industrial past, restoring the relics of largely forgotten mining eras, and endeavour to preserve the landscape heritage and diverse landscape features for the future.

## Conservation and Rural Skills

The Society recognises the Mendip Hills diverse landscape, with its traditional open farmed landscape plateau, small scale forestry plantations, areas of woodland along the Mendip escarpment, dry stone walls, hedgerows, sites of ancient human occupancy and redundant old mining features, lime mortar work on dew pond and lime kilns, and a crisscross of Public Rights of Way.

Grants are available to help maintain our unique and special landscape, it is open to individuals or groups to help set up or run Conservation projects, it could contribute towards training, equipment, tools or materials.

This will be by restoring old or creating new wildlife areas and habitats, whether that be wildlife ponds, wildflower areas, hedges, walls, community gardens, orchards and other woodland areas wherever it can be shown to be to the public good.

It must be on or adjacent to Open Access land, community green areas, a Public Right of Way or a Bridleway, or in some way visible for the enjoyment of the public.

## Outdoor Learning and Wellbeing for All

The Mendip Society aim is to encourage a wider appreciation of the Mendip Hills and a quiet use of the Countryside.

Through the Small Grant Scheme we will support projects which increase and promote awareness and knowledge of the history and heritage of Mendip through different mediums such as arts and crafts, photography and literature.

The Society will also support projects and activities in geological and archaeological investigations that could contribute to general future knowledge and of important local sites..

Schools and youth organisations are encouraged to apply for funding that allows them to explore the natural environment and gain knowledge through outdoor study, and to create their own wildlife habitats within their School ground or adjoining land.

Community Groups and Societies can also apply for any project which extends the general health and wellbeing provision enabling more people to take part in conservation work, and environmental activities.