

## **Feedback on rebuilding section of Churchfield wall**

### Project

The Friends of Churchfield has rebuilt a corner section of the perimeter wall which had collapsed next to Barnsley Road. Funding enabled skilled wallers to rebuild the wall and to pass on their skills to volunteers.

### Cost

The total cost of the project was £1,500 and £1,000 was contributed by the district committee and £500 by Denby Dale Parish Environment Trust.

### Volunteers

The repair of the wall with its unprotected roadside position was considered unsuitable for volunteer involvement. Instead two courses were organised in which 12 local volunteers were taught stone walling skills using and repairing other damaged sections of wall.

### Beneficiaries

The aim was to achieve a dog and child proof boundary for Churchfield using traditional skills and materials and involving local people. By the end of the second walling course this will have been achieved. There will also be a bank of local volunteers who have learnt the skills necessary to undertake minor repairs in future.

### Evaluation

The corner wall of Churchfield has been a danger and an eyesore for years. On the days the work was being done there were many positive comments from passers by. Course participants were delighted with their experience and will retain and use the skills acquired.

The work on Churchfield consistently shows the benefits of co-operation. By employing a professional waller for the corner repair the group achieved a reduction in the fee charged to run the courses. This meant they were accessible at a low cost and members of the friends on low pay could be subsidised.

Working with the Council's Countryside Officer has helped to steer the newly formed volunteer group into being more confident and self sufficient. It is a constant source of satisfaction to us to see what a positive impact we are having on Churchfield. Local people are noticing the improvements, making positive comments and using the space more.

The funding enabled us to carry out work on Churchfield which was not covered by the Lottery grant in place to develop the rest of the field as a community facility.

### What next

The group has organised another walling course. We are confident that the skill set gained will enable us to maintain the walls in future. Construction of a ramp for disabled access, which will have a dry stone element, is set to begin.



**BEFORE**

**Old craft,  
new blood**



DRY STONE  
WALLING COURSE  
on Churchfield

With patience,  
humour, and  
consummate  
skill, Anita

**AFTER**



Faherty taught six  
local volunteers  
how to rebuild a  
dry stone wall. As  
a result,  
Churchfield is  
regaining its  
ancient beauty.

Dry Stone Walling  
Association  
qualified waller  
£20/day subsidised rate





↓ (3) CORNER OF BANK LANE AT JUNCTION W BARNSELEY ROAD, CHURCHFIELD BOUNDARY (BEFORE!)



↓ (3) WALLING COURSE & SECTION OF WALL REPAIRED BY VOLUNTEERS



↓ (3) REGUILT A SECTION OF BOUNDARY WALL - FROM FIELD & FROM BARNSELEY ROAD (AFTER!)

