

# NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS OF



ILKLEY MOOR

## Backstone Beck Bridge Work

Work has been completed to replace the footbridge over Backstone Beck on the top footpath between the Cow and Calf and Ilkley tarn. Bradford Council has replaced the old, wooden bridge which was becoming unsafe with one using longer-lasting metal beams with wooden supports. Friends of Ilkley Moor volunteers helped to complete the work and restore the footpath and steps either side of the bridge.



Picture left shows a great turn out of FoIM volunteers working to replace Backstone Beck Bridge.

Some of the volunteers have also been busy carrying out an assessment of the environmental benefits of the Moor and where they could be improved in the future. This entails visiting 70 random points on the moor looking at soil type and depth, vegetation type, archaeological features and erosion risk.

The assessment will be repeated at different points for the following two years. FoIM are doing this in partnership with Bradford Council who has entered the moor into Defra's Sustainable Farming Incentive Scheme. A substantial percentage of the annual payment from this scheme will be given to FoIM for future moorland enhancement.