

**THE CASTLETON GARLAND COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO INFORM ALL RESIDENTS AND INTERESTED PARTIES OF ITS AIM TO SUBMIT CASTLETON ANCIENT GARLAND CEREMONY INTO THE INVENTORIES OF LIVING HERITAGE WITHIN THE UK.**



The UK signed up to the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2024. The Convention is an international agreement that aims to support and promote living heritage around the world.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sports have invited communities to submit traditions through Living Heritage. If we can get the Garland included in the England Inventory it will support safeguarding the Garland tradition by raising awareness, increasing recognition and providing visibility.

There are a few other traditions, looking to submit entries featuring some aspects of the Castleton Garland, however we believe these are significantly different to allow the Garland to be submitted to the inventory in its own right. This appears to be upheld by Living Heritage as they have accepted Expressions of Interest from all of us. The other traditions are - Islington Milkmaids Garland, Oak Apple Day in Northampton, Helston Flora Day and Maypole Dancing.

Following our successful Expression of Interest submission to Living Heritage, the next stage is to gain consent from the wider village community.

The Castleton Garland Committee would like all Castleton residents to support us by giving us your consent, which you can simply do by e-mailing [castletongarland@gmail.com](mailto:castletongarland@gmail.com) or inform any member of the Garland Committee by **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026**.

Alternatively, any concerns can be e-mailed to [castletongarland@gmail.com](mailto:castletongarland@gmail.com) or inform any member of the Garland Committee by **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. Concerns will be addressed by the Garland Committee and responses provided.

By **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026**, we will use the ‘consent’ responses received, alongside any concerns which have been addressed and adopt the approach that **villagers do consent** to Castleton Ancient Garland Ceremony being included in the England Inventory of Living Culture.

Further information relating to Living Heritage in the UK can be found via this link - <https://livingheritage.unesco.org.uk/>

On behalf of the Castleton Garland Committee – “Thank you

