

# Special award for historic mill

The preservation of the historic Dulverton Weir has been recognised with an award from Historic England.

The Dulverton Weir and Leat Conservation Trust have made efforts to rescue the weir from collapse. It is recognised as one of the best preserved examples of a medieval weir in England and is built using oak stakes and boulders, a building system which was brought to England by the Normans. The weir stretches for 160 yards and may even be the largest of its type surviving as well as one of the best preserved. At one time the weir created a head of water capable of driving nine water mills in Dulverton in what is called an 'Urban Watermill System' by experts.

The Trust has carried out a great deal of academic research and published a number of films, pamphlets and articles on the history of the weir as well working hard to promote awareness of its importance to the social and economic heritage of Dulverton. This is part of the Trust's project to repair and preserve the weir for future generations.

Trustee Philip Hull said: "This award from Historic England is recognition of the efforts of the Trust to save this important historical asset which is of local and national significance. Historic England has been very supportive of our project



» Robin Ashburner, front, Marian Lloyd, and Philip Hull, all trustees of Dulverton Weir & Leat Conservation Trust

and this award will strengthen our case in getting the weir 'Listed' as an ancient monument and in raising the funds necessary to carry out re-

pair and conservation work."

More details about Dulverton Weir Project can be found at [www.dulvertonweir.org.uk](http://www.dulvertonweir.org.uk).