



RELEASE

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**Castle Lighting Competition winners' announcement and presentation
Friday 20 April 2007 Egremont Market Hall**

Copeland's Deputy Mayor will present the winners of the Egremont Castle Lighting Competition with certificates and prize tokens at the Egremont Farmers Market on 20 April 2007 at 12 0 clock

The competition has involved the Egremont area youth in a project to illuminate the Norman Castle and become actively interested in the town's future regeneration plans.

The competition generated a good response and over fifty exceptionally creative entries were submitted by local school children. The broad range of entries included the use of lasers, fireworks, mobile phone texting, video projections and sustainable technology.

The new lighting scheme, part of the regeneration strategy, will emphasise the town's historical castle as a central feature in the development of the area.

West Lakes Renaissance was one of the funders of the competition, and project manager **Ann-Marie Cowperthwaite** said: "We were delighted with the fantastic response, with some very innovative entries from a wide range of young people in the community. It is great to see so much enthusiasm, with so many people wanting to be involved in what is happening in the town."

Andrew Davison of English Heritage, on the competition judging panel, commented: "I was very impressed with the creativity shown in bringing the castle to life".

Simon Walker, Egremont Regeneration Manager, said 'It is very encouraging to see many young people from local schools so enthusiastic about the future of their town'

The winners:

Jason Hayton, from Ehenside School was named overall winner, who takes the Senior 11+ award.

Catherine Lobb aged seven from Bookwell school who takes the Junior 7-11 award. Catherine loves being creative and thinks lighting the castle is a great idea. Her suggestion involves having different coloured lights for each day of the week.

Emily Carson at five years old won the Primary under 7 award and had lots of ideas for lighting the castle including a web cam. From Bigrigg, Emily attends Moor Row School and loves anything to do with art.

A public exhibition of the entries will be held during the farmers market on the 20 April until 1 pm and during the following week it will be on view in Charles Edmonds library, Egremont.

The project work will be put out to tender to consultants and the lighting scheme will be installed in time for the switch on at the annual Egremont Torchlight Parade in November

The winner, Jason, will have the chance to work alongside the consultants and incorporate his design into a new lighting scheme for the castle.

The completed lighting scheme will be funded by West Lakes Renaissance, British Nuclear Group, Arts Council England, the European Regional Development Fund and Copeland Borough Council.

The competition was launched in January 2007 by Egremont Regeneration Partnership in conjunction with Creative Egremont

The castle lighting project is supported by:

The Friends of Egremont Castle
The Egremont and Area Regeneration Partnership
West Lakes Renaissance
British Nuclear Group
Grizedale Arts
Arts Council England

Competition Judges were:

Andrew Davidson
Responsible for Ancient Monuments at English Heritage

Alistair Hudson
Deputy Director, Grizedale Arts

Simon Walker
Regeneration Manager, Egremont Regeneration Partnership

Ann Morton
Friends of Egremont Castle

Karen Storr
Arts Coordinator, Grizedale Arts

Catherine Cooke
Egremont Tourist information Officer based in Lowes Court Gallery

Creative Egremont

Creative Egremont is a part of Egremont's Regeneration strategy and involves Grizedale Arts working with the Regeneration Partnership to manage the arts and cultural elements of the programme of regeneration projects being carried out from 2006.

The project aims at raising the level of infrastructure for cultural provision in Egremont enabling increasing sustainability of arts and events work in the town, improving access and increasing use of the town centre, castle and venues.

Creative Egremont is funded from the North West Development Agency and West Lakes Renaissance

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