



## NEWS RELEASE

Issued 8 Sept 2009

### Cumbria's Winning Villages Revealed

Crosthwaite has been named as Cumbrian Calor Village of the Year for 2009. Representatives from the winning village will join category winners Allonby and Nenthead to receive their awards at a presentation at 2pm on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September, above the Tourist Information Centre in Kirkby Stephen.

The competition, organised by Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT), also has four category winners:

- Community Category – Allonby
- Business Category – Nenthead
- Sustainability Category – Crosthwaite
- Communications Category – Crosthwaite

Competition judges, led by Eric Robson, Ambassador for Cumbria, visited all 3 villages at the end of August before making their final decision. They were particularly impressed by Crosthwaite which they described as a “strong, cohesive, prosperous area” with a “first class vision of the way ahead” and “very strong evidence of the community pulling together, looking for solutions to their own issues”.

On hearing they had won the competition, Lorraine Brierley from Crosthwaite said "The entry was a team effort, with many people within the village getting involved in compiling the information and then presenting to the judges on the day. This award just confirms what we already knew - Crosthwaite is a great place to live!"

Roger Roberts, ACT Chief Executive, and Holly Sims, representing competition sponsor Calor - the UK's leading supplier of off-mains gas, will present the awards to the winning villages. As overall winner and the winner of 2 categories, Crosthwaite will be awarded with a commemorative plaque, framed certificates and a total of £500 prize money. Category winners Allonby and Nenthead will each be presented with framed certificates and £100 prize money.

Roger Roberts said “Our congratulations go to all the villages in this year’s competition. The Calor Village of the Year Competition celebrates the type of community activity that is at the heart of ACT’s work, because of this we are delighted to organise the competition in Cumbria and directly sponsor the prize fund. This strengthens our long association with Cumbria’s active communities and will help to support their success.”

Following their success in the Cumbrian competition, Crosthwaite will now go on to represent Cumbria in the national Calor Village of the Year for England competition, with national judges set to visit the village in a few weeks time.

For further information regarding the competition in Cumbria, please contact Hellen Aitken at ACT on Tel: 01768 869520 or Email: [hellenaitken@cumbriaaction.org.uk](mailto:hellenaitken@cumbriaaction.org.uk)

**- Ends -**

### **Notes to editors:**

#### **Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT)**

(Previously known as Voluntary Action Cumbria)

- ACT is Cumbria’s Rural Community Council and a registered charity.
- ACT is working with people and communities to improve the quality of life in rural Cumbria.
- ACT is an independent organisation able to work with a wide range of partners on an open and equitable basis.
- Established in 1948, for over 60 years ACT has been supporting communities that are socially, economically and environmentally vibrant where the needs of all are considered.
- To find out more information, please visit ACT’s website: [www.cumbriaaction.org.uk](http://www.cumbriaaction.org.uk)

### **Calor Village of the Year®**

Calor is the UK’s leading supplier of LPG (liquefied petroleum gas), the versatile off-mains fuel for rural communities and businesses. For the past 22 years Calor has supported rural activities in England, Scotland and Wales through its Rural Sponsorship programme, spearheaded by the Calor Village of the Year competition.

#### **About the competition:**

For 2009, Calor is sponsoring 39 county village competitions across England.

In the Calor Village of the Year® for England national competition the judges look for sustainable communities that are responding to the current environmental and socio-economic challenges and which, irrespective of size, are making best use of local opportunities to enhance the quality of life for all residents.

Villages are judged across four categories: Community – a better place to live, Business – a better place to work, Sustainability – a better future, Communications – being in contact.

#### **Prize details:**

The prize money for the 2009 national Calor Village of the Year® competitions totals over £55,000. First prize in the English competition is £7,000 with £2,000 going to each of five regional winners. In addition, there are four category prizes of £500 within each region.

Please note that Calor Village of the Year® is a registered trademark and should be referred to in full in all circumstances.

**For further information:**

For general information on the Calor Village of the Year® for England competition:

Email: [info@calorvillageoftheyear.org](mailto:info@calorvillageoftheyear.org) or visit: [www.calorvillageoftheyear.org](http://www.calorvillageoftheyear.org)

For media enquiries relating the Calor Village of the Year® competition, please contact Emma Flinn:

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For general enquiries relating to the Calor Village of the Year® competition, please contact Brian Challis:

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For further information on Calor and its sustainability commitment please visit: [www.calor.co.uk](http://www.calor.co.uk)