



PRESS RELEASE

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Village's Chance to Represent Cumbria

Cumbrian villages have the opportunity to represent the county in the national Calor Village of the Year® for England competition and win a slice of over £40,000 prize money. Previous county winners Wasdale and Burgh-by-Sands have successfully gone on to win awards at national level.

Eric Robson, Ambassador for Cumbria said: "The Calor Village of the Year competition encourages communities to play to their strengths - sometimes strengths they didn't know they had. It's a great way of generating community involvement and enthusiasm at a time when so many rural services are under threat."

This year villages can enter any one or all of the four main categories at county level: People, Business, Environment and Communications. The Cumbria Calor Village of the Year Competition 2008 is coordinated by Voluntary Action Cumbria (VAC), Cumbria's Rural Community Council, and sponsored by Calor – the UK's leading supplier of LPG (liquefied petroleum gas).

VAC's Chief Executive, Roger Roberts added: "This is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the creativity and energy of Cumbria's most active communities. We know there are great things happening in our villages and towns that deserve wider recognition. This competition provides the perfect opportunity."

Judges will be looking for well-balanced, pro-active, caring communities which, irrespective of size, have made the best of local opportunities to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all residents.

Closing date for entries is 30th June 2008. Entry forms can be requested from VAC by contacting Hellen Aitken on Tel: 01768 869520 or Email hellenaitken@ruralcumbria.org.uk

- Ends -

Further press information available from:

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Notes to Editors

Voluntary Action Cumbria

- VAC is Cumbria's Rural Community Council and a registered charity.
- VAC is working with people and communities to improve the quality of life in rural Cumbria.
- VAC is an independent organisation able to work with a wide range of partners on an open and equitable basis.
- Established in 1948, for almost 60 years VAC 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 VAC's website: www.ruralcumbria.org.uk

Calor Village of the Year®

Calor, the leading supplier of LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) to those living and working in the countryside, has supported rural activities in England, Scotland and Wales for 21 years through its Rural Sponsorship programme, which includes the Calor Village of the Year® for England competition.

The Calor Village of the Year® for England competition, now in its twelfth year, was founded and developed by Calor, and is organised and funded by the company on an annual basis.

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

Entry to the Calor Village of the Year® for England competition is through the existing county competition network. Every year, Calor sponsors the majority of the county village competitions – which this year total more than 40 – each of which is invited to nominate one village to take part in the Calor Village of the Year® for England competition.

The national Calor Village of the Year® judges look for well-balanced, pro-active, caring communities which, irrespective of size, have made the best of local opportunities to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all residents.

The prize money for the 2008 national Calor Village of the Year® competitions stands at over £40,000. 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 (covering People, Business, Environment and Communications).

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

Email: info@calorvillageoftheyear.org or visit: www.calorvillageoftheyear.org

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

Email: emma.flinn@connectpoint.co.uk or Tel: 0161 817 4221

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

Email: b.challis@ntlworld.com or visit www.calorvillageoftheyear.org