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Green at Heart Gold Award for two Lake District attractions

Achieving the Gold standard Green at Heart Award for the first time Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway in the western Lake District joins sister attraction Ullswater 'Steamers' in attaining this top tier environmental accreditation. Ullswater 'Steamers' maintains its existing Gold standard, achieving a higher score than on previous year's inspection.

A raft of eco-friendly initiatives at the visitor attractions include working towards being plastic free, 25p off hot drinks with a refill mug at the cafes, installing timed LED night lighting for security and a biomass boiler at the Railway, electric car charging points at both locations, 30 trees planted in the North West last year, raising awareness of the natural environment through partnership activities with National Trust, Lake District National Park and donations to Lake District Foundation and promoting car free holidays. Newly appointed Environmental Champions at both attractions are leading on embedding green practices across the organisations and raising awareness across the staff and volunteer teams.

The Green at Heart environmental accreditation scheme is based in Cumbria and helps businesses develop sustainable commercial practice and achieve savings through improving energy efficiency, cutting waste, improving transport planning and reducing vehicle journeys by electronic communications.

Rachel Bell Head of Marketing & Development comments, *'We are working hard at both attractions to continuously improve our sustainable approaches. To achieve Gold standard at Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway is a huge achievement. We have been focussing on removing unnecessary packaging right across the attraction, sourcing local artisan produce for the café and replacing plastic toys and gifts with responsible sourced sustainable products, alongside energy saving measures. We are delighted to improve our score at Ullswater 'Steamers' and to keep the momentum of change going with our newly appointed Environmental Champions.'*

Laura Short Green at Heart, says, *'Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway have made considerable improvements in the last year. It can be a bigger challenge for businesses that are more dependent on fossil fuels but it's about thinking outside the box and being innovative in the other ways you operate as a business and focusing on supply chains as well. It's not just about an individual business, its equally important to think about the position of the business in the wider economy.'*

[ENDS]

Notes to Editors

Please contact press contact Sorcha Hunter PR Executive s.hunter@cumbriatourism.org | 07398 255654

Photo captions

Image 1 | Green at heart Gold Award certificate at Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway
Image 2 | Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway achieves Gold Green at Heart Award for first time
Image 3 | Ullswater 'Steamers' maintains Gold standard Green at Heart Award

