

National Lottery funding boost for Cumbria tourist attractions

20/06/2017



Steam engine J21 number 65033 being serviced at Carlisle during the enthusiasts special of 7 May 1960 LCLT and SRC

£3.6million has been awarded to three key visitor attractions across Cumbria this summer, thanks to National Lottery players.

Carlisle Cathedral: just under £2m

Dating back to 1122, Carlisle Cathedral is one of the city's oldest buildings. This exciting new project will restore and extend the Fraternity at the heart of the Cathedral's Grade I listed precinct and unlock a wealth of stories to bring to life its unique and turbulent history.

Urgent repair works will be carried out at this nationally important heritage site before it is transformed into a multi-purpose community and learning space with improved interpretation and new facilities including a café.

A full time heritage and learning officer will oversee the care and digitisation of the Cathedral's historic 17th century library, train volunteers and establish a learning programme for schools and the local community.

[quote=Nathan Lee, Head of HLF North West]"Whether it's the stunning architecture of its cathedrals, beautiful rolling landscapes or steam trains roaring through the countryside, Cumbria has it all."[/quote]

The Cumbrian Victorian Locomotive Experience: £954,900

Kirkby Stephen East (KSE) station, run entirely by volunteers, will be transformed when it returns a rare Victorian locomotive to steam and creates a new Heritage and Interpretation suite in an Edwardian railway stores van - exploring 200 years of rail in Cumbria with an action-packed programme of events.

Conserving Coniston and Crake: £763,300

One of the Lake District's most famous lakes, Coniston Water, is to become the focus of a new campaign to improve its water quality, habitats and biodiversity.

The scheme, spearheaded by the South Cumbria Rivers Trust (SCRT) and Coniston & Crake Catchment Partnership (CCCP) will:

- preserve at-risk species such as Atlantic Salmon and European Eels
- improve habitat in and around the watercourses of the Coniston & Crake Valley
- restore Coniston Water's reed beds; reduce unwanted nutrients
- control invasive species to protect natural habitats under threat

Investment in Cumbria

HLF has supported 635 projects to date in Cumbria totalling just under £115m investment into the area since 1994.

To support the Lake District's UNESCO World Heritage status bid, due to be announced 31 July, visit the [Bid website](#).

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