

Senhouse Roman Museum, Maryport

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Senhouse Roman Museum: winner of the Cumbria Tourism Visitor Attraction of the Year 2018

Against stiff competition, the Senhouse Roman Museum was awarded Cumbria Tourism's Visitor Attraction of the Year 2018. The award was announced at Cumbria Tourism's recent ceremony at Cartmel Racecourse on Thursday 20th June. The award was received by Museum Manager, Jane Laskey and Volunteer Marketing Co-ordinator, Judy Wagg (pictured, Credit: Wittwoo Photography).

The award is an acknowledgement of all the hard work and dedication of everyone at the museum. Trustees, staff and volunteers are committed to an organisational culture of high standards of customer care.

The Museum cares for and displays one of the most significant Roman collections in the UK, recovered from the adjacent Roman fort and Civil settlement, in one of the most spectacular landscapes in the country. The Museum is located in one of the few remaining historic public buildings in Maryport, the Naval Reserve Training Battery.

The Senhouse Roman Museum is not just another Roman museum. The Museum cares for and displays a unique, internationally significant collection of Roman artefacts that have remained in the town of Maryport for nearly 2000 years. The staff and volunteers love the job they do, are passionate and knowledgeable about the Museum and want to share it with as many people as possible. The collection is one of the most significant heritage assets that can still be found in Cumbria, and contributes to what makes Cumbria a very special place to live in and to visit.

Quote from Dr. Pete Wilson (Chair of Senhouse Museum Trust):

'As an independent Museum to receive the 'Visitor Attraction of the Year' award is an immense compliment, not only does it recognise the importance and appeal of our collections, but also rewards the dedication and hard work of our staff and volunteers. The award also emphasises that the Senhouse Roman Museum is a key element of both West Cumbria's visitor offer and that of the wider Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site.'

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Notes to editor:

The Senhouse Roman Museum is one of eleven Roman museums in the Frontiers of the Roman Empire: Hadrian's Wall, World Heritage Site.

The museum cares for and displays the Netherhall Collection and other collections of Romano-British objects from West Cumbria. It develops permanent and temporary exhibitions, has a growing public engagement programme of events and activities for the general public, specialist groups and education groups, and a proactive research programme on the collection and the site it was recovered from.

The Netherhall Collection, which was begun by the Senhouse family in the 1570s, is the oldest private collection in the country, and is of international importance. The museum displays the largest group of Roman military altar stones and inscriptions from any site in Britain and unique examples of Romano-British religious sculpture.

Senhouse Roman Museum is governed by the Senhouse Museum Trust (CIO no 5107910).