



21-Nov-2011

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For Immediate Release

Story Giants of Eden DVD now available

The magic of the Story Giants of Eden project is now available on a DVD being launched by Penrith Action for Community Transition (PACT) at Penrith Library at 10:30am on Saturday 26th November 2011. This event is also the launch of a story book of the project, "Let the Giants Live" which retells with illustrations some of the tales found by 18 local school groups during the last year.

Giant carnival puppets were made to bring each school's "tall tale" to life. The giants watched over each performance outside St Andrews church and accompanied each school group on the parade through town.

The DVD contains two films and a slide show film of photos covering the Story Giants of Eden project from its introductory event in Penrith Leisure Centre, through workshops in schools, to the splendid May Day performances and parade. The DVD also features several PACT environmental films also made by its film maker, Nigel Jenkins.

It takes courage to leave behind the written word and create an oral storytelling performance. That is exactly what eighteen groups of school children did in Penrith on May Day 2011 to a large and appreciative audience. The DVD tells the story of how this was achieved by both primary and secondary school students, ably led by master story-teller Dominic Kelly with help from local designer Jessica Mills.

Jessica commented "the places that we have uncovered in this project, some right next to main roads and towns, still have energy as if they haven't been touched in years and most people don't know they exist. It is exciting to imagine the people that walked there, the events that took place and the inception of the stories that have lasted there over many years."

The DVD costs £3, or £3.50 inc P&P, while the book costs £12.99 or £15.99 inc P&P. Both are for sale at the launch event and from Wordsworth Bookshop on St. Andrews Churchyard, and are also available for order online at the PACT website www.penrithact.org.uk or by phoning Maureen Ward on (01768) 840153.

The Story Giants of Eden project was a joint initiative of Penrith Action for Community Transition and Cumbria County Council, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. It was devised and managed by Dawn Hurton and involved eighteen school groups in 17 schools and their communities in and around the market town of Penrith, Cumbria between September 2010 and November 2011.

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Contact PACT online at www.penrithact.org.uk

Photos available

1. http://www.penrithact.org.uk/sites/default/files/StoryGiants_CardboardWallet_Front.jpg
Story Giants of Eden DVD cover
2. http://www.penrithact.org.uk/sites/default/files/LetTheGiantsLive_jacket.jpg
“Let the Giants live” story book jacket cover

These photos can be downloaded from here:

<http://www.penrithact.org.uk/story-giants/let-the-giants-live>

Other photos available.

Note for Editors:

1. For further information on the Story Giants of Eden project, please contact Dawn Hurton, Mobile: 07785372725, Email: dawn.hurton@cumbriacc.gov.uk
2. For further information on PACT, please visit the website www.penrithact.org.uk or contact Peter Ward on Tel: (01768) 840153 or by email at: info@penrithact.org.uk
3. PACT (Penrith Action for Community Transition) is a Transition Town group formed in Penrith & Eden during 2008, aimed at developing a coordinated local community response to the twin challenges of peak oil and climate change. PACT is made up of an enthusiastic group of volunteers, committed to making a real difference in our district.

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4. The Transition movement was founded in Totnes in 2006 as a community based response to the twin challenges of climate change and peak oil. It is now the fastest growing environmental movement in the world. The term ‘Transition’ relates to the way in which the movement explores active ways for local communities to make the transition from a life based on oil dependency to one where oil is no longer affordable or even readily available.



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