

## Diss Museum Wins Top Award

Diss triumphed at the Museums and Heritage Awards For Excellence, the Oscars of the museum world. Last year's Tom Paine Festival won top prize in the category of Best Project on a Limited Budget. The judges praised the way it involved the community, describing it as 'fantastic' and 'an outright winner'.

Museum manager Basil Abbott collected the award at a ceremony at The Church House Westminster on Wednesday 12 May 2010. Diss was the only Norfolk museum nominated, while Suffolk's Museum of East Anglian Life at Stowmarket was joint winner of the trophy for Entrepreneurial Museum of the Year.



A week after receiving the national award Basil Abbott was notified that the Tom Paine Festival, Diss Museum was the Environment and Culture category winner for the East of England Market Town Awards. Presentations will be at Swaffham on June 17.

This was the prize Diss also won for the Skelton Festival in 2004, another of Mr. Abbott's projects.

Last December he was made Honoured Citizen of Diss, meaning that the museum was a triple award winner in one year.