

PENRITH WOMAN NAMED CUMBRIA'S TOP MUM MARCH 2018

Carol Coates will certainly have a Mother's Day to remember after officially being crowned Cumbria's top Mum!

The kind-hearted mother of two scooped the prized accolade after daughter, Lisa Jackson, nominated her as part of the 'Mum in a Million' campaign ran by Bowness-on-Windermere-based hotel, The Hydro.

Lisa said: "I nominated my Mam because she is my best friend – she has always been there for me through thick and thin, but a couple of years ago that was really put to the test.

"I became a 'Mummy' myself in October 2015. However, my baby girl was born 10 weeks premature, at 2lb 5oz, and both our lives hung in the balance.

"My Mam was a huge support, by our side for weeks in hospital, and then looking after us at home, while also having to cope with caring for our Nana 101, who was in hospital and sadly passed away before seeing her new great Granddaughter.

"I knew she was very stressed but she never showed it and made me feel like I was her priority. She always puts everyone before herself. "

This year's Mother's Day should be one to remember for Carol, although last year's was certainly a memorable one when she jumped out a plane at 15,000 ft despite being afraid of heights.

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The jump was organised to help raise money for the two hospitals that cared for her granddaughter and for premature baby charity Bliss.

SQUIRE HOTELS

As well as receiving the prized accolade as Cumbria's top mum, Carol, of Penrith, will enjoy a gourmet afternoon tea for four at The Hydro on Mother's Day along with a luxury overnight stay with breakfast and evening meal for two, which can be taken over the next 12 months.

Carol, 63, admitted her shock after finding out the news and said: "I am thrilled to be picked as a Mum in a Million. "I had no idea that Lisa had entered me for this competition. I do what any Mum would do in that situation; it's your instinct to want to look out for your children, support them and always be there for whatever life throws at them.

"Maybe jumping out of a plane was a little extreme, but I wanted to do my bit for charity. I can't say I'll be doing it again – an afternoon tea is much more up my street!"

Jodi Masterson, managing director of Squire Hotels, said: "We received a tremendous amount of entries from across the North West.

"We read some truly magnificent stories and at times, they brought tears to my eyes. It was very hard to pick a winner but we loved Lisa's entry was extremely special about her selfless, sky diving Mum!"

"I'm sure they'll have a fantastic Mother's Day and the accolade is fully deserved."