

Beat: News

175TH ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOW

18 -21 June 2015 - Royal Highland Centre

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USPA NEWS - The Royal Highland Show, one of Scotland's most iconic and enduring annual events, is putting the finishing touches to its 175th Show, which runs from 18 -21 June 2015 at the Royal Highland Centre, Ingliston, Edinburgh.

Billed as the biggest and best celebration of farming, food and rural life, the "Royal Highland" is one of Europe's most impressive rural shop windows, showcasing handpicked livestock, the finest food & drink and rural living at its most vibrant.

The Royal Bank of Scotland, partners of the Show since 1981, maintain their support for the four-day event, which attracted in excess of 178,000 people in 2014.

The loveliest of livestock

The Royal Highland's big attraction is without doubt the livestock, with more than 5,000 of the finest cattle, sheep, goats, horses and poultry, heading for the showground over the four-day event. However, there will be other furry friends entertaining and enticing showgoers over the 4 days of the Show, including Elite Falconry, the Sealpin Gundogs and Fife Foxhounds, who can all be found in the Countryside Area.

RHASS president for 2015, Lord Forsyth, is already looking forward to the events: "In the 18th century the Highland Society fought for roads and bridges to revive rural Scotland. Today's communication challenge is digital and access to fast broadband and reliable mobile coverage is vital to the future prosperity of our countryside. I am immensely proud to have been elected President, in this, the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland's 175th year, and look forward to continuing its tradition of connecting town and country."

An agricultural shop window

With the vast majority of agricultural manufacturers, dealers and specialists represented at the Show, farmers and others in the agricultural sector have a unique opportunity to review the latest releases and developments.

Over the four days of the Highland, visitors will be able to explore a diverse range of contemporary farm equipment, machinery and techniques and get up to the minute, relevant advice and support.

Hooved heaven

The Royal Highland Show is the largest equestrian show in Scotland with almost 3,000 horses and ponies competing in classes for light and heavy horses, private driving, heavy horse turnouts, harness and grooming plus top class show jumping.

The Highland offers an impressive array of equine sections and classes, 38 categories in total, including nine much sought after Horse of the Year Show (HOYS) qualifiers. Over 2,200 riders are expected to

compete over the four days.

Grass roots learning

This year over 30,000 children are expected to visit the Royal Highland Show where The Royal Highland Education Trust (RHET) is providing free interactive activities for school groups and the public at the Education Centre.

The Centre will be split into two sections one focusing on food with cooking, cheese tasting, seafood sampling and much more on the menu. The other focusing on farming where children can learn about livestock, cereals and celebrating the Year of Soils can take part in two soil based activities.

Retail therapy

the "Royal Highland" is one of Europe's most impressive rural shop windows. The Show offers a unique "High Street" experience for all visitors, offering everything from luxury fashions, arts, crafts and home and garden accessories. Visitors will have the chance to pick up the latest country styles or take home a piece of rural life.

Competition

Outside of the exhibition halls and livestock rings, there are a wide range of competitive and display events, including international sheep shearing, show jumping, driving, tug-of-war, dog obedience trials, falconry, farriery and other rural pursuits. There are different bands and musical groups that play at two bandstands; bands have included the band of HM Royal Marines and many pipe and drum bands. Typically over 50 different bands and musical groups, including school and rock bands, play at the Show.

The Royal Highland Show, this summer's moo-hoosive event, takes place at the Royal Highland Centre, Ingliston, Edinburgh from Thursday, June 18 to Sunday, June 21.
www.royalhighlandshow.org.uk

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