



Exciting entertainment announced for the 2015 Kent County Show

APRIL 2015

The organising team for the Kent County Show is pleased to announce the main displays and entertainment for the event which takes place on Friday 10, Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 July 2015.

The star attraction on Friday 10 July will be RAF Aerobatic Team, The Red Arrows. One of the world's premier display teams will be flying above the Kent Showground to the delight of visitors.

Lucy Hegarty, Show Manager, said "We have been hoping to have this world-class attraction at the Show for a number of years but due to many factors we have not had the opportunity. This year we are delighted to announce that the team will be flying their distinctive Hawk jets over the Show. The exhilarating display of precision flying and agility will be a huge draw for the thousands of visitors, particularly the school children who usually attend on the first day".

By the end of the 2014 season The Red Arrows had taken part in 4,660 displays in 56 countries. This statistic covers a period starting in 1965 when the team began to gain their following, since then millions of people have watched the intricate formations which often involve flying at very close quarters.

The Red Arrows' display is carefully choreographed by the Team Leader and is changed each year. There are three types of display; full, rolling or flat it is Red 1

(team leader) who decides which one to fly at an event depending on the weather. The full display is usually based on a performance of just over 20 minutes in duration, featuring a first half of synchronised formation aerobatics followed by a more dynamic second half. The Kent County Show will release more details nearer the Show.

The Metropolitan Police Mounted Branch Activity Ride will be performing on all three Show days. The ride provides a fast moving display demonstrating a high level of skill and agility from both horse and officer. Inch perfect timing, commitment, professionalism and total trust are required as horses jump through fire, a solid paper wall and complete fast crossovers. The riders remove their stirrups, tunics and saddles whilst riding their horses over a series of bush jumps.

All the riders, horses and ground staff are operational and have been carefully selected because of their commitment and riding ability. The ride was started in the 1950's for displaying the skills of the Mounted Branch Officers and the incredible training of the horses at the annual horse show held at Imber Court.

The officers taking part are all riders who normally patrol one of the world's busiest cities as part of their duties in the Metropolitan Police Mounted Branch. These police officers and their horses are also highly visible when engaged in controlling crowds at sporting events or public ceremonies. They are fulfilling a tradition of service which goes back to the eighteenth century - to the very roots of police work in London. The unit is now made up of 130 horses and 150 officers, although it is estimated that a trained Mounted Officer on a trained horse can be as effective as a dozen officers on foot.

The Activity Ride will be housed in stabling at the Kent County Show. Visitors will be able to see the brave and fearless horses whilst resting at The Heavy Horse Village, part of the Equine section along with the wonderful shire and other heavy horse breeds.

On Saturday and Sunday the Kent County Agricultural Society are delighted that The Stow Caledonian Pipe Band based in The London Borough of Waltham Forest, will be performing twice a day in the Astor Ring. This young progressive ensemble was formed in 2011 but have plenty of knowledge and experience of the Great Highland Bagpipes and Drums. The band are currently under the direction of Pipe Major Gareth Utting (Ex-Scots Guards) and Pipe Sergeant Paul Burgess.

Kevin Attwood, Kent County Agricultural Society, Chairman said "This year the entertainment and displays are outstanding, both The Red Arrows and the Metropolitan Police Mounted Branch Activity Ride are nationally and internationally recognised for their endeavours. We are delighted to have secured both for the Show in July. Another one of the big attractions and returning for 2015 will be the Biggin Hill Heritage Hangar, Spitfire Display which is always a crowd pleaser".

Also returning to the Show will be Titan the Robot, the Pole Climbing Championships, the Sheep Show, rural craft demonstrations, live music and many interactive displays. In addition, the Show will be offer free donkey rides and a free circus workshop for the children to enjoy throughout all three days.

The online ticket system is now open to purchase discounted tickets for the 2015 Show. With a whole host of entertainment lined up, incredible equine competitions, livestock classes, lots of food and drink stands and specialist areas, the Kent County Show is an exciting and wonderful day out. A family ticket will cost £41 in advance or £48 when bought at the Gate. The family ticket entitles 2 adults and 2 children aged between 5 and 15 a full day's entrance. Children under 5 go free and parking is free. Adult tickets are £18.50 in advance and £22 on the gate, concessions are £13 when bought online and £15 on the gate.

The Kent County Show opens at 8am and stays open until 6pm although there is no rush to leave as some of the food stands stay open later. The Show has over

120 different activities, workshops, displays and competitions which run throughout the day and are repeated daily - unless stated.

For more information and images contact Lucy Hegarty, Show Manager
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Kent County Show – 10, 11, 12 July 2015.

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