



## **FANTASTIC ENTERTAINMENT BOOKED FOR THE 2016 KENT COUNTY SHOW**

**March 2016**

The Kent County Show 2016, has finalised the entertainment line-up for the Show on Friday 8, Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 July.

Lucy Hegarty, Show Manager said, “We are really pleased with the displays, bands and activities we have booked for this year. We are building on the success we had last year with the RAF Red Arrows, who performed an outstanding display on our opening day. We are equally excited to have Bolddog, the UK’s number one, freestyle motorcycle display team for 2016.”

Bolddog FMX Stunt Team supported by Lings Motorcycles have an outstanding team of highly skilled riders and the largest, most sophisticated FMX landing ramp in the world. The ramp enables riders to jump gaps of over 75ft and perform tricks which involve the rider leaving their seat in mid-air.

It was their incredible skill that saw Andy Godbold double for Captain America in the 2011 blockbuster as well as doubling for Daniel Craig as 007 in Skyfall. Andy has also appeared as a stunt rider in War Horse, Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows and Batman - The Dark Knight. The team hit the headlines when they auditioned and made it to the semi-finals on the 2014 series of ‘Britain’s Got Talent’.

The Royal British Legion Band & Corps Of Drums Romford, will be entertaining guests in the main ring on Saturday and Sunday. The band and drums was formed in 1952 and is one of the longest running independent youth bands in the country today. The band consists of approximately 45 members with an average age of 16 years. It was the first ever youth band to appear at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

The band has taken part in the World Music Contest held in Kerkrade, Holland on five occasions, 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005 and 2009 and the total number of medals received to date is seven gold and three silver. In March 2004 the band became 'Supreme Concert Band Champions' and in 2005, 'Concert Band Champions' at The Youth Marching Band Association's contest. The band plays a wide range of music to match any military band and, along with their Royal Marine style uniform, project the professional style and performance that has earned them the reputation they thrive on.

Back by popular demand is the majestic 'Spirit of Kent' Spitfire, from the Biggin Hill Heritage Hangar. The 'Spirit of Kent' better known as 'The Kent Spitfire' is a MK9 TA805 with the No. 234 Squadron colours. The aircraft flies in memory of No. 131 (County of Kent) Fighter Squadron. The Kent Spitfire will complete an exciting display over the Kent Showground on all three Show days.

The plane was sold to the South African Airforce in the early 1960's as an operational aircraft. It flew until 1976 when it was scrapped. It returned to the UK in the 1980's and was rebuilt on the Isle of Wight. The Heritage Hangar later purchased the plane, and are delighted that they are able to fly her at the Kent County Show. The display commentary will take place in the main Astor Ring but the iconic aircraft can be seen and heard over the entire Show.

New for 2016 is Joseph's Amazing Racing Pigs. Six rare breed pigs, including Tamworth's, Gloucester Old Spots, Saddlebacks, Berkshires and Oxford sandy and blacks. The display will fill take place on all three Show days and the audience will be thrilled with their amusing antics. The handlers in country style outfits encourage them down the track by shaking a bucket of food and the pigs hurl themselves over the hurdles in their rush to be the first to the bucket!

The Show organisers, the Kent County Agricultural Society are also introducing a number of displays and entertainment for younger visitors to the annual event. The globally popular Peppa Pig, with her own TV show in 180 countries, outranks many top celebrities

in popularity and is one of the UK's most successful brands. Peppa Pig is the most successful farm animal in history, overtaking Pinky, Perky, Miss Piggy and even Babe. Peppa Pig has been on UK television for the past eight years and her hugely popular series have children enthralled around the world. Peppa will be at the Show with her brother George and will be delighted to meet as many young guests as possible.

Another children's favourite, Tractor Ted will on hand in its own area where youngsters will be able to play on the Tractor Ted Bouncy Castle, operate Digger Den, take part in Welly Wanging, complete a Giant Puzzle and visit their merchandise shop.

The Hedge Men, from the UK The Living Topiary are part of the repertoire of the world's leading creators of living entertainment art – The Living Statue Company. The Hedge Men will be lurking around the Showground so beware of any trees, hedges and bushes, if you lean on them you may be in for more than you bargained for.

The Country, Game and Canine area of the Kent County Show will be bigger this year and features a number of new displays as well as welcoming back firm favourites for Show goers. Back for 2016 is the BASC Taste of Game cookery demonstrations. Across the three days of the Kent County Show, Chef Dan Kennedy of Kent Cookery School will give game butchery and cookery demonstrations in the Taste of Game zone on the BASC stand. Dan will create fantastic game dishes including venison burgers with an Asian 'slaw and hot smoked pigeon salad.

BASC & Chudleys Scurry League will once again be hosting a qualifying round of the BASC Chudleys Scurry League which is now in its fifth year. Winners of individual scurries will gain points towards the league table and at the end of the summer the top dogs and handlers will compete in the grand final. The scurries are fun and open to all gundog breeds and recognised crosses of those breeds.

For visitors interested in the country life, the Coakham Bloodhounds will be taking part in a display on Friday and there will be a 'Parade of Beagles' on Saturday. New for 2016 will be Gamegoer Gundogs, with over 20 years' experience they will be hosting gundog

displays, incorporating elements of falconry and ferrets. The Gamegoer team will be present throughout the day to assist with advice and tips on pet problems.

Elsewhere in the area and on all three days will be a number of displays that have become part of the fabric of the Show.

Lucy Hegarty, Show Manager said "Our visitors come to the Show to be entertained and many of the demonstrations and displays have been part of the event for a good number of years. We invite them back year on year because our visitors tell us how brilliant they are. The Sheep Show, Sheep Dog and Duck Show, Birds of Prey and Ferret Racing are incredibly popular and we are delighted to have them back for 2016."

With so much entertainment to see, the Kent County Agricultural Society are offering a 'Multiday Ticket' which entitles entry for all three days of the Show and gives holders forward parking and access to the wonderful Members Area in the Maidstone Exhibition Hall.

The new multiday ticket costing £50.00 is the perfect solution for many visitors who wish to attend the Show on more than one day, particularly people interested in seeing all the different areas and sections of the Show. The Society are offering one additional multiday ticket for a family member or partner priced at £35.00 when purchased with a £50.00 ticket. This will allow two visitors access to the Show on all three days for £85.00. This represents a saving of over £33.00 on daily advance tickets.

The online ticket system is now open to purchase discounted tickets for the 2016 Show. A family ticket will cost £43.20 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 entrance. Children under 5 go free and parking is free. Adult tickets are £19.80 in advance and £22 on the gate, a child ticket is £5.40 in advance and £6 on the gate. Multiday tickets cost £50 and are only available in advance.

The Kent County Show starts 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 140 different activities, workshops, displays and competitions which run throughout the day and are often repeated daily.

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For more information and images contact Lucy Hegarty, Show Manager  
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Kent County Show – 8,9,10 July 2016

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