



Largest ever Massed Military Bands and Pipes & Drums to feature at Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo

This year's Royal Tattoo, a military and musical spectacular held in the private grounds of Windsor Castle from 13 – 16 May 09, will feature a massive total of 500 military musicians – the largest number to perform together in public for many a year.

The Massed Military Bands from the three Services: The Royal Navy, The Army and the Royal Air Force will come together to create a spectacular display of sight and sound. Musicians from the Grenadier, Coldstream and Welsh Guards; Royal Artillery; The Mounted Bands of the Household Cavalry; The RAF Squadronaires and the famous Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines (Portsmouth), all join to celebrate the Royal Tattoo's tri-service theme.

In addition, the Royal Tattoo welcomes the Massed Pipes and Drums of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards; The Scots Guards, The Royal Scots Borders; Royal Highland Fusiliers, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and the Highlanders.

The Tattoo's strong musical influence complements some already confirmed acts including the Danish Guard Hussars performing their spectacular mounted display; The Royal Life Guards of Denmark with their precision Rifle Drill team and Fife & Drum band; The Household Cavalry's Musical Ride and The Musical Drive of the King's Troop. A Total of some 250 Horses will join the cast this year.

Brigadier Melville Jameson, Producer of the Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo and former producer of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, said: "This year's programme is looking really exciting with a stunning line-up of talent. For the Finale, the vast Combined Massed Bands will be joined by the Massed Pipes and Drums to create a splendid vision and incredible sound, which coupled with the rest of the strong cast, will make it a night to remember."

In only its second year, the Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo, a not-for-profit event supporting the Royal British Legion, is shaping to be one of the highlights of the International Tattoo calendar. With support from all three services, the Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo is there to serve and celebrate the extraordinary endeavours of our soldiers, sailors and airmen.

Ticket Information:

Tickets for the Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo 2009 are on sale now priced at £15, £25, £35, £45 and £60. They can be purchased by telephoning the box office on 0871 230 5570, or booked online via the website at www.windsortattoo.com. Tickets can also be purchased through Windsor Information Centre with discounts available for Advantage Card Holders. Please contact the centre on 01753 743907 for full details.

-ENDS-

About the Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo:

The Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo is supported by BAE Systems, Compass and Land Rover.

This not-for-profit event launched in May 2008 and was devised with the aim of raising public awareness of the wide contribution to security that the Armed Forces deliver and the value and standards that it maintains. It also raises funds to support individual soldiers, and their dependants, who have served and are serving on demanding current operations, such as in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Last year's Tattoo attracted over 18,000 spectators and this year's event will cater for nearly 30,000 visitors in total. The Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo includes ceremonial displays and bands, but also demonstrates the reality of modern day soldiering through arena action displays. The Tattoo was broadcasted in 2008 by the BBC.

About The Royal British Legion:

The Royal British Legion provides financial, social and emotional support to millions who have served and are currently serving in the Armed Forces, and their dependants. Currently, nearly 10.5 million people are eligible for our support and we receive thousands of calls for help every year.

The Legion was founded in 1921 as a voice for the ex-Service community and over 380,000 members continue to ensure that this voice does not go unheard. Although the needs of ex-Service people have changed over the years, we are still there to safeguard their welfare, interests and memory. British service people are in action around the world every day of the year. They know that if they need our support - now or in the future - the Legion is always on active duty for them.

About the Organisers:

The HPower Group produce, manage and promote large scale public events worldwide specialising in equestrian competitions, ceremonial events and public entertainment.

The HPower Group is the organiser of the Royal Windsor Horse Show, Olympia, The London International Horse Show and the FEI European Jumping and Dressage Championships 2009. The HPower Group has previously produced and directed All The Queen's Horses, Army 2002, and the World War 2 60th Anniversary Celebrations. Simon Brooks-Ward, managing director, was also Event Director for the Territorial Army's 100th Anniversary National Pageant on Horse Guards.

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