



Falmouth Harbour Commissioners

- MEDIA RELEASE -

Red Arrows to join Henri-Lloyd Falmouth Week for second year running

The RAF's Red Arrows have confirmed that they will be taking to the skies during Henri-Lloyd Falmouth Week 2010 for the second year running, thanks to Falmouth Harbour Commissioners (FHC).

Performing for the first time last year, the Red Arrows proved extremely popular, with thousands of people flocking to the town to watch the 25 minute display. This year the team are provisionally set to perform on Wednesday, 11 August, midway through Henri-Lloyd Falmouth Week. Once again it is anticipated that the event will attract several thousand people to Falmouth, all keen to watch the world famous aerial display.

FHC Chairman, David Ellis commented: "We feel very strongly about working in and with the community and believe that by sponsoring the Red Arrows we really bring something special to Falmouth during Henri Lloyd Falmouth Week.

"Of course, there was no guarantee that they would have time in their schedule to fly again this year, so we've been keeping our fingers crossed for quite a while. I was absolutely delighted when we got the confirmation through. Now we can start planning logistics to make sure as many people as possible can enjoy this free event."

The Red Arrows are renowned throughout the world as ambassadors for both the Royal Air Force and the United Kingdom. 2010 is the 46th display season for the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team. Since the Team was formed in 1965, they have performed more than 4000 displays in 53 different countries.

Henri-Lloyd Falmouth Week 2010 takes place from 7 to 14 August 2010 and is expected to be even bigger and better than last year. Samantha Groom, Chair of Falmouth Week Shoreside Working Group, said: "Henri Lloyd Falmouth Week 2010 is going to be even

better than 2009! Starting with Falmouth Classics on the 7th, the week will include the established racing programme, a fantastic line up of shoreside entertainment, the spectacular classic yacht regatta Pendennis Cup, and the British Life Saving Sport Championships on Gyllyngvase Beach.

“To be able to also include the Red Arrows again is such good news for Falmouth, last year their display attracted a huge number of visitors, it is a fantastic addition to the week and we are very grateful for Falmouth Harbour Commissioners’ support”.

Steve Nicholls, Chairman of the Port of Falmouth Sailing Association added: “It’s great that FHC have once again been able to support Falmouth Week in this way. The Red Arrows are a fantastic addition to what is already an action-packed week, and this year I’ll be keeping my fingers crossed for clear skies and fine weather.”

Henri-Lloyd Falmouth Week has developed into the largest regatta in the South West, rivalled only by Cowes Week. It boasts a racing schedule to challenge the most competitive sailors, yet retains a ‘fun and friendly’ feel which also attracts families and the less experienced.

The Mayor of Falmouth, Cllr Geoffrey Evans said: “I am delighted that the Red Arrows will be returning for a second year running, they are a huge crowd puller and certainly bring something extra special to Henri Lloyd Falmouth Week. This is fantastic news for the Town and a great boost for the event which has become a huge success.”

During Henri-Lloyd Falmouth Week, around 450 yachts and dinghies race in three fleets across eight days. The town welcomes more than 80,000 extra visitors during the week, compared to every other week in August and total visitor numbers usually exceed 100,000 during the week itself.

Richard Gates, Falmouth Town Manager added: “The announcement of the Red Arrows returning for a second year is fantastic news for the town. The Red Arrows are so iconic that people naturally want to view this impressive spectacle. It brings prosperity for the businesses and continues to improve Falmouth as positive destination with so much to offer.”

David Ellis concluded “We were overwhelmed with the response we had to the Red Arrows display last year, I think it’s safe to say that everyone enjoyed it. We are very proud to be able to continue our sponsorship this year.”