

Peppa Pig trots along to Musselburgh Races



Peppa Pig will be on hand to help the Easter Weekend racing at Musselburgh get off to a great start.

Musselburgh Racecourse is going the eggstra furlong to make its annual Easter Sunday Family Race Day the most successful yet.

Children's favourite, Peppa Pig, will be visiting Musselburgh Racecourse for the first time as part of weekend Easter Festival of Racing (April 7 and 8). BAFTA award winning Peppa will make personal appearances on Easter Sunday at noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm and 4pm.

Under the banner "1-2-free" the East Lothian course has pulled together a packed programme for committed racegoers and families alike, at one venue with racing over two days and all children* admitted free.

Other free attractions include fairground rides, trampolines, bouncy castles, face painting, magic show, a craft workshop and dance workshop. The first 500 children through the gates will receive an Easter egg and the Easter bunny will be meeting and greeting children at the course.

Musselburgh Racecourse commercial manager, Karen Taylor, said: "We are delighted to welcome Peppa Pig to Musselburgh for the first time and we expect families with young children will be thrilled at the opportunity to meet this cheeky little piggy.

“Easter Sunday at Musselburgh is hugely popular and we have pulled out the stops to make this year the biggest and best to date with something for all age groups. We are trying to introduce more families to horseracing and occasions such as the Easter Sunday Family Day is an excellent way of getting the younger generation involved.”

The feature race on Easter Sunday is the historic £20,000 Musselburgh Gold Cup and the seven card meeting has just under £50,000 prize money on offer. On Easter Saturday the main attraction is a new £50,000 race, the Betfred Royal Mile Handicap over 1 mile, with a supporting £20,000 five furlong sprint and total prize money of £104,000 on offer.

Musselburgh Racecourse general manager, Bill Farnsworth, said: “The Easter Festival of Racing kicks off our 2012 flat season and we are going all out to establish both dates as a top weekend attraction on the racing calendar.

“We are delighted to introduce the Betfred Royal Mile Handicap and with a £50,000 prize fund it’s fair to say it will pull in some top notch entries. Easter Saturday will provide excellent racing for our regulars while Easter Sunday offers hard to beat value for families and casual racing fans.”

Gates open on both days at 11.30am and first race is 1.55pm on Saturday and 2.15pm on Easter Sunday.