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the Iverk SHOW

The president, chairman and members of the committee are looking forward to meeting you all again this year. You have been great supporters over the years. This year's Iverk Show is building up to be one of the best.

Here are some reasons why you should not miss this year's event.

1. Educational: One thing that is often forgotten is the educational value of the show. There is so much to learn as you go around. The different livestock, the way the exhibits are produced and displayed. Don't be afraid to ask exhibitors,

judges or stewards. Everyone is willing to help.

2. See the amazing displays: With over €100,000 in prize money available to exhibitors, it guarantees that the standard of exhibits in all sections will be excellent. Some of the leading producers of cattle, sheep and horse as well as the best growers of fruit, vegetables and flowers will be there looking magnificent. The vintage cars and machinery will be shining, the poultry marquee will be heaving with excitement, and the baking will be mouth-watering and the crafts stunning.

Relax and watch the show

jumping or fashion show. Enter the 'Most Appropriately Dressed Lady' competition or if you are under 18 months of age there's a prize for you all in the bonny baby competition.

3. Six All-Ireland finals:

This year we will be hosting six all-Ireland championship finals. The Broodmare and Foal Team Championship is the longest running championship under the Irish Shows Association banner. The Aldi, ABP Irish Angus bull calf championship will have three finals for different age calves and the 'Tread na hEireann' competition and young handlers' event.

4. Tug-O-War: If you have some energy left, shout on your favourite tug-o-war team. The children will be invited to try when the serious competitions are over.

5. Entertainment: When you have been around the show and want to relax before going home you can sit and listen or dance to the music while the children play with the free toy tractors and other activities.

6. Great family day out:

With the end of the summer and school holidays in sight this is the last opportunity



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the Iverk



for the perfect family day out. There is a lot for all the family - grandparents, parents, children, uncles, aunts and cousins - to see and to do.

7. Meet your friends: Down through the years the Iverk Show has established a reputation as a great venue for renewing friendships. Visitors come 'home' from

around the country and from abroad just to say hello and enjoy a cuppa with family and old school friends.

So, if you are home from abroad, or a visitor from abroad, please call in to the information stand and say hello.

8. Free parking: The good news is that the parking

remains free. There will be a special area for disabled parking. The entry fee has not changed even with inflation. Please, please, please obey the Gardaí and stewards as they are there to help you.

So Piltown, Co Kilkenny is the place to be on Saturday the 24th August. See you there. Don't miss it again this year.



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The Iverk Show's finest hour

Iverk Show Committee, 1930s



Included are: Mr Reid; Mr Hopkins, Fiddown; Ken White, Corlohan; Martin Maher, Garrygauge; Tom O'Donnell, Tinakilly; Archdeacon Phelan; George Morris, Jamestown; Paddy Malone, Belline; Dan Sheehan, Creamery Manager; Mike Coughlan, Jamestown; John Reide; Arthur Bowers; Arthur Hunt, Kilmacthomas; Miss Poer O'Shea, Tower House, Piltown; William Mitchell, Land Steward, Bessborough; Blanche Mitchell; William Henebry, Show Secretary; Ned Power, Brenor; Dan Sheehan (small boy).

1930s Iverk Show Committee

"This appeal if sufficiently funded will ensure the continuation of the Iverk Show on a firm financial footing in its own ground and future generations will record this successful effort as the Barony's finest hour." (Iverk Field Fund '84)

The 'finest hour' refers to the

unanimous decision of the 1984 Iverk Show committee to bid for eight acres of land which formed part of the grounds first used in 1961 for the Show.

Down through the years there have been many occasions which stand out since the show was

established way back in 1826. Starting as a very local event the Iverk Show is now one of the leading one-day Agricultural Shows in the country attracting over 20,000 visitors annually.

The sale posed a major problem for the Society as finding a suitable alternative

venue was not on and the survival of Ireland's show of 157 years was in jeopardy. The Show committee funds were depleted following the extension of the lean-to shed, building four complete sets of jumps and the provision of additional canvas covering for exhibit stands.

A fund-raising appeal was launched under the chairmanship of John O'Shea, to raise the balance required as a deposit had been put up by individual subscriptions from committee members.

Individuals, organisations, and firms associated with the Barony meeting were invited to participate. A house-to-house collection was also organized. Subscriber's names were recorded and published in the 1984 Show catalogue. Over 1,100 names were recorded.

The appeal was signed by John O'Shea and Eamon Meade, chairman and secretary of the Field Fund Sub-committee respectively.

Thanks to the magnificent response to the appeal and the dedication of the collectors the full amount was raised - Tommy Kinsella, Show Chairman and Jerry O'Donoghue, Show Secretary, (Iverk Show Catalogue, 1984). Since the Show Field

was purchased, many developments have been added to improve the facilities. Some of the main ones are:

1. Improved the permanent lean to,
2. Built the offices block and storage shed,
3. Laid down permanent roadways,
4. Installed new entrance, roadside fence, and footpath,
5. Installed separate vehicle and pedestrian entrances,
6. Installed new lights and broadband link,
7. Erected new toilet blocks,
8. Erected permanent cattle exhibition rings,
9. Improved the environment

and aesthetics of the grounds with tree planting and better hedgerow maintenance.

10. 2024 opening of new building. And it is ironic that this opening coincides with the 40th anniversary since the committee bought the first part of the show-field. A second lot was purchased in 1991.

From humble beginnings the Iverk Show, today, owns 7.98 hectares, (19.71 acres) of land and has over 280 committee and volunteer members.

It certainly was Iverk's finest hour as none of the above developments could have taken place on rented land.



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ICMSA President,
Denis Drennan,
on his farm in
Kilkenny

Kilkenny farm leader says politicians “surrendering” authority on agri-policy to NGOs

Irish State agonising over years and endless rounds of consultations if – having arrived at a multi-layered and complex policy that deals with several aspects and having got it approved by the EU Commission – they continue to fund NGOs that take legal actions against the Irish State’s policy costing the Irish state substantial amounts in legal fees to defend. The EU Commission has the final say on approval or otherwise and that’s the way it should stay. Funding NGOs who then take legal actions against the Irish state simply defeats the whole purpose and is going to end up seizing-up the whole process,” said the ICMSA President, who farms at Dunbell.

Mr Drennan said that in his experience farmers have less of a problem with An Taisce taking the authority than they do with the politicians and civil servants just handing it over.

“You’re starting to hear the question more and more: who ultimately decides and what’s the point in Government making a decision if the Government is just going to hand over vast sums to the same NGOs who are taking legal cases against legitimate government decisions on policy,” said Mr. Drennan.

“There’s a point in this debate when your jaw just drops. We are constantly being told by environmental

organisations and ‘activists’ that agriculture is damaging water quality. But when farmers apply for planning permission to make the massively expensive investments and improvements that the environmentalists want, they are objected to by, very often, these self-same organisations and activists. They demand that we do ‘X’ and then lodge legal objections or observations when we try and do ‘X’ and have succeeded in blocking environmental improvements and burdening farmers with often enormous additional expense”, he said.

Mr. Drennan said that it was well worth noting that the only people ‘paying their own way’ in the High Court Nitrates case were the farm organisations, but he was adamant that ICMSA would go ‘all the way’ to help defend the Derogation under which nearly 8,000 farmers operated sustainably.

“We have to get back to a system where duly appointed ministers decide, and civil servants implement that policy on behalf of the citizens. We genuinely respect the existence of NGOs and quangos, but a system that gives effective parity to these bodies in the decision-making of the State alongside the Government and Civil Service is unworkable and is rapidly causing huge resentment,” said Mr Drennan.

The President of ICMSA, Denis Drennan, has said that the High Court decision to refer Ireland’s Nitrates Action Programme to Europe under several headings highlighted in the case made by An Taisce is likely to “crystallise” serious questions about

authority and mandate in the formulation of Irish farming and agri-food policy. Mr. Drennan said that it was now becoming apparent that, effectively, elected politicians and the civil service are happy to surrender vast areas of their own authority

and sovereignty – tried and tested since the foundation of the State - to NGOs and quangos. He said that the High Court action brought by An Taisce where that body is in receipt of very serious State subvention is a case in point of an organisation – in

receipt of substantial public funds paid over by the State - taking the State to court on a policy agreed by Government and approved by the EU Commission thus creating massive uncertainty for farm families.

“There’s no point in the



THE FAMILY FARM ORGANISATION

A message from the President Of ICMSA, Denis Drennan, a proud Kilkenny farmer:

“For nearly 75 years, ICMSA has represented farm families at local, national and European levels, always working hard and intelligently in the interests and welfare of our family farms. We are Ireland’s specialist dairy farm organisation, and our expertise and knowledge of that sector is unrivalled.

We are organised by – and work for – farmers, and only farmers!”

Chairperson of Kilkenny ICMSA:
Tom Corcoran, Ballyhale (087 933 8863)
Secretary of Kilkenny ICMSA:
Pat Holden, Mullinavat (086 190 3295)
Member Relations Officer:
John Wallis (087 173 2455)

☎ 061 314 677
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🌐 www.icmsa.ie
📍 John Feely House, Dublin Road,
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**Best of Luck to
the Iverk Show
2024 from all of
us at the ICMSA**

Cllr Jenny
Catt Slattery
COUNCILLOR FOR PILTOWN LEA

Wishing everyone the best at the Iverk Show



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Favourite highlights at the Iverk Show



be great if we had 198 entries. What a sight that would be. What a job that would be for the judges to pick a winner.

Talent, skills, and creativity are always on view in the flower arranging, arts and crafts and flower sections and should not be missed.

And the Red Mills poultry marquee with amazing sights and sounds is always a hive of activity. And talking about hives, many of the honey winners at Iverk have subsequently won all Ireland titles at later specialised honey shows.

Another highlight of the show is the final of the All-Ireland Broodmare and Foal team championship sponsored this year by Suir Engineering. This is a great championship as the good mare has to prove herself by breeding a good foal. They are judged as a unit.

Yes, it is another huge Iverk Show raffle again this year. 50 prizes to be won. How would you like to spend two nights Bed and Breakfast in the 5 star Westbury Hotel in Dublin? That is our first prize this year. And the second is one night B and B in the 5 star Merrion Hotel, also in Dublin.

There are of course many more attractions at this year's show. We look forward to meeting you there on the 24th August.

One of the most popular attractions at almost all events throughout the country in recent years is the 'Most Appropriately Dressed Lady' competition. And the Iverk Show is no different.

If it is a sunny day, dress up or if it is a rainy day get the

broly and wellies out. One way or the other there are fabulous prizes to be won, supported by Connolly's Red Mills, including a fantastic perpetual cup for the winner. While you are waiting for the winner to be announced you can sit and relax and watch

the fashion show.

The Tug-o-War really cannot be beaten for excitement. Following immediately after the final of the Aldi, ABP, Irish Angus Bull Calf championships the crowds cheer their local team. I guess you could hear the roar 20

miles away!

The Aldi Irish Angus championship is recognised as one of the best in the country if not in Europe attracting dedicated breeders for all over the country and from abroad.

Another favourite with

both the exhibitors and the spectators is the renowned Iverk Show great cherry cake competition. Sponsored by our local company Iverk Produce it carries a first prize of €200. Annually there are up to 100 entries. To celebrate 198 years since 1826, it would

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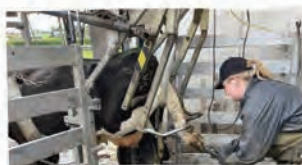
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