

31 May 2016

‘Great British Bake Off’ contestant headlines at Cosford Food Festival

Date: 23-24 July 2016

Time: 10am to 5pm

Cost: £5 adult / £4 senior citizen / £2 child (5-15 years) / £12 family (2 adults and 4 children)

Organisers at the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford are delighted to be welcoming ‘The Great British Bake Off’ contestant Beca Lyne-Pirkis to this year’s Cosford Food Festival. Beca who took part in the popular TV show in 2013 will be headlining on the demo stage both days at the July event, showcasing her modern twists on family favourites.

Beca was one of the baker’s dozen in the 4th series of ‘The Great British Bake Off’ and quickly gained a following due to her homely style of baking as well as her warmth and humour with the other contestants. She proved herself week after week in the tent, demonstrating her baking knowledge and skills through a variety of bakes from her Cherry Chocolate Brownies, Potato & Spelt Focaccia and of course her infamous Macarons.

Beca, whose husband is a Medical Sergeant in the Army, is also a member of the Aldershot Military Wives Choir. But, Beca is no ordinary military wife; she is now a cook, food writer and TV presenter but still manages to find time to bake for her husband’s regiment and of course her fellow Military Wives Choir members.

Although Beca just missed out on a place in the final, it hasn’t stopped her at all. Beca is currently filming a third series of Becws (Welsh for Bakehouse) for satellite TV channel S4C. She is also one of the chef’s at the world famous Borough Market and is a regular in the demo kitchen and regularly contributes recipes as well as writing for the market’s website. She is a teacher at Seasoned Cookery School in Derbyshire and at the Exclusive Hotel Lainston House, near Winchester. Her courses cover a broad range of baking skills from Macarons to Pies and Pastries. To add to her comprehensive career, Beca has also given master classes to the apprentices at Jamie Oliver’s Fifteen restaurant in London.

With just under two months to go until the annual Cosford Food Festival, preparations are well underway and organisers promise a jam packed programme of cooking demonstrations over the festival weekend. Experts will be passing on their years of knowledge and expertise to visitors throughout the day and offering tips and advice on how to serve up the perfect dish. Full details of the demo line-up, will be announced soon. Joining Beca will be lots of local Chefs and even one from the RAF!

RAF Museum Cosford Events Manager, Abi Betteridge said:

“We are absolutely delighted to have Beca on-board for this year’s festival. She has a very busy schedule so when she said she would love to come along, we were over the moon. Beca will be cooking live on the demo stage at 2pm both days and we are sure she will be a huge hit with visitors. Her fabulous culinary skills combined with her military connections make her perfect for a food festival at the RAF Museum, so don’t miss your chance to come and see her in person!”

A tasty line-up of over 80 local producers will be heading to this year's Cosford Food Festival; serving up the very best food and drink the Midlands has to offer. Held in the spacious grounds at the RAF Museum Cosford, with the VC10 and Hercules aircraft acting as a backdrop to the bustling food market, there will be plenty of delicious food for visitors to enjoy at the festival, with flavours from around the world. In addition to all the great food and drink, there will be plenty of entertainment for the entire family taking place over the whole weekend, making the event a great family day out!

The Cosford Food Festival will run from 10am to 5pm on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 July and admission is just £5 per adult, with family rates available. Tickets to the festival are now available to purchase in advance via the museum website www.rafmuseum.org/cosford where you will also find a full list of exhibitors. Keep up to date with the latest festival info by following the event on Facebook/CosfordFoodFestival.

Ends...

Notes to Editors:

Ticket Prices

Adult	£5.00
Senior Citizen	£4.00
Child (5-15 years)	£2.00
Family (2 adults, up to 4 children)	£12.00
Children under 5	FREE

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- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily from 10am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at:
<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org
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