

NEWS RELEASE FROM MORAY LEADER

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Crofting celebration is awarded funding by Moray LEADER

A two day event that celebrates the spirit of crofting will be supported by funding from the Moray LEADER Programme. The event also marks the fact that Moray is now one of the crofting counties.

The Scottish Crofting federation (SCF) have been successful in their bid for funding of **£14,179.15** towards the costs of organising and running the event, which will take place in Rothes in October. The award will cover 80% of the eligible project costs.

Moray LEADER Programme Manager Norman MacAskill said: “While crofting is not usually associated with Moray, Local Action Group members were impressed by the energy and ambition of the proposal from SCF, and believe it will be a worthwhile investment in a vital part of the Moray economy. In particular, it will contribute to Moray LEADER’s objective of building stronger local supply chains for Moray food and drink.”

SCF’s chief executive, Patrick Krause, said “We are extremely pleased to have received this award from Moray LEADER to help us organize a unique event that will celebrate the spirit, culture and ambition of crofting and mark the fact that Moray is now one of the crofting counties.

“We plan to hold a two-day event, 5th and 6th October, in Rothes, Moray, that celebrates the spirit and resilience of crofting. Moray is a new crofting area and we therefore want to share good practice from across the Highlands and Islands and encourage crofting in this area.

“Focus will be on diversification opportunities and of building stronger local supply chains for Moray and enhancing the Moray tourism product. The event will make a presentation to the Young Crofter of the Year and Best Newcomer Awards will also celebrate SCF’s 20th Anniversary as a training provider.”

Mr Krause added, “It has been a pleasure working with the supportive and forward-looking Moray LEADER team, who gave us a great deal of encouragement and practical help in formulating the proposal. We look forward to turning that investment into a vibrant and successful event.”

Ends

Photo attached: Patrick Krause, Chief Executive of the Scottish Crofting Federation, signs to accept Moray LEADER’s Offer of Grant, with Michelle Gillibrand, Moray LEADER Development Officer

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