

Fiesta visitors to witness hat trick daredevil performance

Heads are set to turn at the Bristol International Balloon Fiesta this summer when the world famous Red Arrows display team return to the festival for the third year in a row.

This year the talented team will take to the skies over Ashton Court on Sunday 15th August at 4.30pm in a special display to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. The planes will perform nine formations including flying in the shape of a spitfire before displaying their extraordinary high speed manoeuvres, with loops, rolls, bends and twists producing an unforgettable air display.

All nine Red Arrows display pilots are fast jet pilots from frontline Royal Air Force squadrons. Once they have finished their three-year tour with the Team they will return to their Royal Air Force duties.

Muir Moffat, chairman of this year's organising committee said: "We're delighted that the Red Arrows will be performing their adrenaline-fuelled displays at this year's Fiesta for the third year running.

"This year we celebrate 100 years of aviation in Bristol so it's great to be able to showcase the different marvels of aviation from the calm serenity of hot air balloons to the adrenaline-pumping displays performed by jet aircraft."

Squadron Leader Ben Murphy, Team Leader of the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team and Red 1, says: "It is always a pleasure for the Red Arrows to appear at the Bristol Balloon Fiesta. It is held in a stunning location and the crowd always seem to enjoy it. We are thrilled to be returning this year."

Since the Team's creation in 1965, the Red Arrows have flown over 4,200 displays in 53 countries. This is the team's 46th display season and today the Red Arrows are renowned throughout the world, acting as ambassadors for Great Britain when displaying overseas.

Bristol's International Balloon Fiesta is one of Europe's largest outdoor events, bringing over half a million visitors to Bristol every year. This year the Fiesta will run from Thursday 12 to Sunday 15 August with mass balloon ascents at 6am and 6pm from Friday to Sunday and Night Glows on Thursday and Saturday evenings at 9.30pm.

ENDS

**For more information please contact the Fiesta Press Team
at Spirit Public Relations on 0117 944 1415
or e-mail fiestapress@spiritpublicrelations.co.uk**

www.spiritpublicrelations.co.uk