



NEWS RELEASE

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Awards for Young Crofters during the 2018 Year of Young People

#CroftSpirit18 – Celebrating the Spirit of Crofting Awards Entries Open Today!

The first of their kind, these awards will be given to two individuals following a call for nominations by the Scottish Crofting Federation. The drive for the award is the Year of Young People 2018 and as such will celebrate the role of young people in crofting. The awards will be made at a special dinner which will be held during the *Celebrating the Spirit of Crofting* event on 5th October 2018 at Rothes, Moray and presented by Mel Irvine of Drummuir, one of the stars of BBC TV “This Farming Life”.

The weekend event which will include workshops, inspirational speakers and networking for crofters and small scale food producers: focusing on a range of diverse crofting produce. The Scottish Crofting Federation are grateful to all funders of the event and in particular to Moray LEADER and Big Lottery Awards for All.

The judging panel comprises Patrick Krause (CE, SCF), Mairi MacKenzie (Crofting Commissioner), Brian Denoon (Rural Training) Tina Hartley (SCF Training) and Amanda MacRae (Crofter) and is based on the following criteria.

Best Crofting Newcomer Award:

This is aimed at those aged 16 – 25 who have a keen interest in the land and may have attended crofting training courses as well as made a start in crofting. The award Quaich will be called “The Euan MacRae Best Crofting Newcomer Award”. This is named after Euan MacRae of Drumbeg, Sutherland who sadly passed away in Summer 2017 just before his 20th birthday. He was a keen young crofter, his passion was crofting and this award will be aimed at those starting out in crofting with a similar passion.

Young Crofter of the Year Award:

This is aimed at those aged 40 and under who have taken their first steps on the crofting ladder or have established themselves in crofting and are a good example of best practice and success within their field.

Applications and nominations can be made by downloading the form available at www.crofting.org/croftspirit

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