

NEWS RELEASE

Carlisle Racecourse is today delighted to announce that the headline act at next year's Summer Family Festival meeting will be Sharleen Spiteri and Texas.

Singer-songwriter Sharleen and the chart-topping Scottish band, who have sold nearly 20 million albums worldwide, will perform an open-air set on a giant trackside stage at the racecourse on Saturday July 2, 2011, immediately after an evening's racing.

Texas have had 11 top 10 UK singles over the last 20 years, including international hits like I Don't Want A Lover, Black-Eyed Boy, Say What You Want and Summer Son, along with three number one UK albums.

Tickets for the combined live music and racing double bill will go on sale this Friday, priced from £15 for adults and £10 for students or pensioners. Admission is free for all accompanied under-16s.

John Baker, the racecourse's managing director, said: "We are absolutely thrilled to have secured such a big name and top-class act as Texas with Sharleen Spiteri for our Summer Family Festival.

"Last year's headline act - Jools Holland and his Rhythm and Blues Orchestra - was always going to be hard to follow but we believe we have come up with a real winner who will prove just as popular - if not more so.

"Sharleen is an incredible performer and Texas have a long list of well-known hits to perform live. They are perfect for our Summer Family Festival."

Last year's event at the racecourse attracted the biggest crowd in the venue's history of nearly 11,000.

John added: "We are hoping Texas can help us smash the 11,000 barrier for the first time. Tickets will go on sale this Friday and we are expecting quite a rush as they will make great Christmas presents."

Tickets can be obtained by ringing the Ticket Line on 0844 579 3002 or by going on line at www.carlisle-races.co.uk. They are valid for both the six-race evening Flat meeting and the Texas concert, which follows straight afterwards.

Sharleen Spiteri was a hairdresser when she co-founded Texas with ex-Altered Images bassist Johnny McElhone in their native Glasgow in 1989. Their debut single, I Don't Want A Lover, was a UK number one that year and their brand of rock/blues has since seen them produce 19 top 40 UK singles. Their biggest selling albums were White on Blonde and The Hush, which were both UK number ones along with their greatest hits album.

Sharleen, now 43, has also enjoyed a solo career recently, her album Melody selling more than 300,000 copies. Texas are due to bring out a new album - their eighth studio one - next year with her as lead singer and on guitar.

The next meeting at Carlisle Racecourse is on Sunday December 19. The afternoon Family Fun Day is Carlisle's last meeting of 2010.