

PRESS RELEASE

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Tractor Girls hit top gear at Stirling mart



Visitors to the Stirling Agricultural Centre witnessed an unusual sight this week as eleven girls on eleven vintage tractors drove into the mart to raise funds for charity.

United Auctions (UA) welcomed the Tractor Girls for the only stop in Stirling on day four of their trip (Wednesday 30 June).

The visit to the HQ of Scotland's leading livestock auctioneers gave the girls a chance to collect donations from farmers – and UA – as well as stretch their legs and enjoy a hearty lunch before continuing their epic road trip.



Driving vintage tractors more than 1,000 miles from John O'Groats to Lands End, the Tractor Girls hope to raise £100,000 for Cancer Research, CLIC Sargent and the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Dating from the 1960s, the tractors reach a top speed of 15mph and have no cabs or power steering, exposing the ladies to the elements throughout their 13-day journey, which started on Sunday (27 June) and will finish on 9 July in Ladock at Lands End.

For safety reasons - and to avoid road rage from other vehicles - the girls drive in pairs at two-minute intervals.

Aged from 19 to 30 years, the Tractor Girls 2010 team includes two Scottish ladies - Eilidh Grieve from Aberfeldy and Laura Mathers from Aberdeen, Irish sisters Louise, Carol and Claire Moore as well as New Zealander Jamie Hawkins and five girls from Dorset, Catherine Farwell, Alexandra Goddard, Sophie Jeans, Hannah Mayhew, and team captain Jenny Coles, who came up with the idea.

David Leggat MBE, Executive Chairman of UA, said: "The Tractor Girls are taking part in a terrific challenge to raise much-needed funds for these very worthy charities. We're delighted to lend our support and wish them every success – and good weather – for the rest of their trip."

Eilidh Grieve, who organised the Scottish leg of the trip, said: "We wanted to do something different to raise a huge amount of money for charity as well celebrate our rural heritage. We all have personal connections to the benefitting charities and feel very strongly about supporting their work to help fund the search for a cure. And the road run will be a great way to see the country - on the sunny days at least!"

You can follow the Tractor Girls via Facebook and read their interactive blog – as well as donate online - at www.tg2010.co.uk

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