

News Release

Black and White Classic wins Dawn Dairies Ladies Day at Killarney Festival Races

Record Crowds and Sensational Style as judges Brian Ormond and Pippa O'Connor seek out the 2008 Queen of Fashion

RACHEL THORLEY, from Cheshire, England, was declared the winner of the Dawn Dairies Queen of Fashion 2008 at Killarney Races on Thursday 17th of July. Striking and sophisticated in a Chloe black and white ruffled dress with matching velvet shoes and feathered hat, Rachel who was over for the races with friends from England, purchased both her dress and hat on eBay! Her stylish internet shopping and natural poise, caught the judges' eyes and won her **a trip for two to New York City and a specially commissioned crystal vase** which was presented to her by the **event's sponsor, Gerard Coughlan, General Manager, Dawn Dairies**. The event was judged by glamorous Irish duo, TV presenter **Brian Ormond** and his model girlfriend **Pippa O Connor**.

First runner up was **Liz Maher from Carlow**. Fabulous in a gold two piece creation she made herself with a matching hat, bag, gloves and shoes, Liz was a former winner of the Queen of Fashion in Killarney in 1995.

The new category at ladies day this year - **the Dawn Dairies Most Stylish Hat Award** attracted a lot of attention from lady race goers and the course was brightly decorated in hats and head pieces of all shapes, sizes and colours! The winner was **Killarney woman, Julianne McSweeney**, whose coloured headpiece, created using feathers and butterflies

was designed by her mother, the well known artist, Ronnie Moore. Julianne won a two night escape with dinner to the **luxury Carton House Hotel and Golf Club** in Kildare.

Brian Ormond and Pippa O'Connor were both wowed by the fashion on course in Killarney. Selecting the 15 finalists, and then the eventual winner, was a difficult task. In making their final decision, the couple said they opted for classical looks and for women who were naturally and appropriately dressed for the occasion.

Brian and Pippa followed in the footsteps of many other Irish style icons who have previously judged the Dawn Dairies Queen of Fashion including Celia Holman Lee, boyzone pop star Keith Duffy and his fabulous wife Lisa, former Miss World (and Chris de Burgh's daughter) Rosanna Davison, TV personalities Grainne Seoige, Caroline Morahan and Anne Doyle and top models Natasha Byram and Yvonne Keating.

This is the 15th year of the Dawn Dairies Ladies Day at Killarney - and it attracted a record breaking crowd - ending the four day meeting on a fashionable highnote!

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For more information on the Dawn Dairies Queen of Fashion please contact:

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