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PRESS RELEASE

Helping it Happen announces finalists for the 2018 Iver Salvesen Green Business Award

The finalists for the Iver Salvesen Green Business Award have been announced!

Now in its second year, Scottish Land & Estates' Helping It Happen Awards highlight the wide range of environmental, social and economic benefits provided by rural business, and the vital role they play in the success and survival of communities throughout rural Scotland.

After announcing the finalists across the other eight categories in August this year, the finalists for the Iver Salvesen Green Business Award have now been announced.

The Green Business Award is sponsored by the Salvesen family in tribute to Iver's dedication to renewable technologies. Iver Salvesen, who farmed near Stow in the Scottish Borders, was a larger-than-life character, his warmth and generosity were widely recognised and his selfless attitude to his work made Iver stand out as an example to rural entrepreneurs and landowners. Iver died tragically and suddenly in July 2016 in Tanzania, where he was volunteering with an organisation building homes. Iver was passionate about renewable energy, and his primary focus in his final years was to design and build environmentally-friendly homes.

The finalists were chosen by Iver's family, who praised the diversity and calibre of entries and the passion shown by rural businesses to help minimise their environmental impact and support Scotland's fight against climate change.

The 2018 finalists for the Iver Salvesen Green Business Award are:

- Craufurdland Castle and Country Estate, Kilmarnock, for its new environmentally-friendly restaurant building and enterprise.
- Mar Estate, Braemar, for its work with community renewable energy projects.
- Stracathro Estates, Laurencekirk, for their many, large scale renewable energy initiatives.

Scottish Land & Estates Executive Director, Sarah-Jane Laing commented:

"Congratulations to these three inspiring finalists. Their passion for developing environmentally friendly technologies and ecologically sound principles is an example to all Scottish businesses.

“The Helping it Happen Awards were created to showcase the outstanding businesses that are helping rural Scotland thrive, and all entries to the Green Business Award have great stories and achievements behind them that we are delighted to share. Thank you to everyone who entered.”

The winner of each category will be announced at the Helping it Happen Awards gala evening on 03 October at the Balmoral Hotel in Edinburgh. Tickets are available from Scottish Land & Estates.

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Notes to editors:

- The Helping it Happen Awards www.helpingithappen.co.uk are run by Scottish Land & Estates www.scottishlandandestates.co.uk. The Awards were founded in 2017.
- The Helping it Happen campaign aims to highlight how landowners and rural businesses across Scotland play a key role in enabling and supporting success in rural areas. This campaign provides case studies covering a diverse range of sectors, including examples such as providing affordable rural housing, the development of renewable energy schemes and partnerships with local schools to deliver rural skills qualifications. For more information, visit www.helpingithappen.co.uk.
- Finalists have been announced for each of the following categories:
 - Tourism, Rural Business, Rural Housing, Education, Innovation in Farming, Working with Communities, Enhancing our Environment, Green Business and Conservation.
- Scottish Land & Estates is a membership organisation for landowners, rural businesses and rural professionals. Scottish Land & Estates promotes the wide range of benefits land-based businesses provide: tourist attractions, leisure facilities and landscapes enjoyed by the public, as well as, housing, employment, tourism & enterprise and farming opportunities. For more information, visit www.scottishlandandestates.co.uk
- The Helping it Happen Awards and Scottish Land & Estates welcome approaches from journalists. Please contact kate@sceneandherdpr.co.uk 07843 021813 for further information.