



National Trainers Federation

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2018



**NTF SUPPORTING**

# Air Ambulances UK



**Air Ambulances UK, formerly the Association of air Ambulances (Charity) Ltd, is the official national charity which supports the life-saving work of the nation's 21 air ambulance charities, helping to fund the delivery of a world-class service now and in the future.**

Our vision is to enable air ambulance charities across the UK to save even more lives.

We are focussed on achieving our vision through the national fundraising partnerships that we create with organisations, major donors and trusts and foundations.

The vital funds raised enable air ambulance charities to save lives on a daily basis across the UK and remain at the forefront of innovation in trauma care, working alongside the wider medical community, helping to globally reduce loss of life in people with life-threatening injuries or a medical emergency.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued association between Air Ambulances UK and the NTF and for the donations made by its members directly to air ambulance charities during 2018.

Collectively, the UK's air ambulance charities make about 70 life-saving missions a day - around 25,000 a year.

Each air ambulance mission costs on average around £2,500 and so the ongoing support of the NTF and its members is very valued, appreciated and is helping air ambulance charities to save even more lives.



Front cover photo by Tracy Roberts [turfpix@sky.com](mailto:turfpix@sky.com)

Back cover photo, centre photo and inside back cover photos by Matthew Webb

# ANNUAL REPORT

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# NTF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

These were the elected Regional Representatives during 2018.

## Presidential Triumvirate

Ann Duffield (President)  
Emma Lavelle  
Ralph Beckett

## Region

Scotland  
North  
West Midlands and Wales  
East  
South West  
Central South  
South East  
Past President  
Co-opted

## 2018

Nick Alexander  
Ann Duffield, Ruth Carr, James Moffatt  
Charlie Longsdon, Dan Skelton  
Rae Guest, Hugo Palmer, Roger Varian  
Seamus Mullins, Emma Lavelle, Jamie Snowden  
Ralph Beckett, Eve Johnson Houghton, Trelawney Hill  
Roger Ingram, Di Grissell, Suzy Smith  
Jim Boyle  
John Gosden

## Executive Committee

Ann Duffield (Chairman), Nick Alexander, Ralph Beckett, Ann Duffield, John Gosden, Emma Lavelle

## Flat Committee

Ralph Beckett (Chairman), John Gosden, Ruth Carr, Eve Johnson Houghton, Jim Boyle, Ann Duffield, Rae Guest, Roger Ingram, Hugo Palmer, Roger Varian

## NH Committee

Seamus Mullins (Chairman), Nick Alexander, Di Grissell, Trelawney Hill, Emma Lavelle, Charlie Longsdon, James Moffatt, Dan Skelton, Suzy Smith, Jamie Snowden

## NATIONAL TRAINERS FEDERATION EXECUTIVES AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

### National Trainers Federation

9 High Street, Lambourn, Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 8XL

### EXECUTIVE AND ADVISERS

President	Ann Duffield
Chief Executive	Rupert Arnold
Legal Executive	Dawn Bacchus
Membership and Publications Executive	Jill Crook
Racing Executive	George Noad
Recruitment and Training Coordinator	Shelley Perham
Financial Adviser	Peter Treadgold
Legal Adviser	Brent Williams
Veterinary Adviser	Clive Hamblin
Rates and Planning Adviser	Christopher Marriott

### ACCOUNTANTS

#### Ross Brooke

2 Old Bath Road, Newbury,  
Berkshire, RG14 1QL

### SOLICITORS

#### Knights 1759 LLP

58 Nicholas St,  
Chester CH1 2NP

### INSURANCE ADVISERS

#### Lycetts

1 Stables Court, The Parade,  
Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1NP

# NTF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

**In its rules the NTF's objectives are:**

“To represent and protect trainers’ interests and to be a reliable and respected source of information, advice and support.”

## **MEMBERS' BENEFITS**

As a member of the NTF, you receive the following benefits:

### **Services**

- Unlimited help and advice from the NTF office. We provide a personal, direct service with an executive team who understand your working life.
- Immediate advice on legal problems including employment law from the NTF's in-house Chartered Legal Executive.
- Legal Assistance Scheme for members including Legal Expenses Insurance and helplines operated by Knights 1759 Solicitors.
- Legal Representation for appropriate cases at BHA Disciplinary Panel enquiries and Appeal Board. When provided by the NTF's Legal Executive, this service is free. Alternative representation is subject to terms of the legal expenses insurance.
- Access to advice on finance and tax with Ross Brooke Chartered Accountants, insurance from Lycetts, and veterinary issues from Clive Hamblin.
- The services of Christopher Marriott to provide advice on Non-Domestic Rates and conduct appeals with the Valuation Tribunal.
- Twice yearly Regional Meetings open to all members.
- Non-transferable metal badges to allow movement within the racecourses for each member and their spouse/partner in every racecourse in the country. Up to seven badges for Assistant Trainers if eligible in proportion to the number of horses in training.
- A Car Park Label for each NTF member and one for each Assistant Trainer badge holder for entry into the trainers' car park at each racecourse in Britain.
- Group discount schemes for private health care, preferential rates for debt collection and Direct Debit services from Group 1 Credit Management and Express Group. Free second subscription to RacingTV.
- Free administration of the Racing Industry Accident Benefit Scheme and Death in Service Benefit.

# NTF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

## continued

### Information

- The NTF Racing Diary – the indispensable working manual for the industry. Includes complimentary live computer feed for worldwide fixtures and sales dates.
- Bi-monthly printed Newsletter and NTF Weekly e-mail news update. Breaking news available on Twitter, @NTFnews. An archive of news articles on the NTF blog – *ntfmuse* – with members' comments. Free subscription to European Trainer Magazine.
- Access to the dedicated Members Area of the NTF Web Site for up to date forms, advice sheets and publications. Your contact details listed in the Trainers contact area, with a direct link to your website.
- Each member receives the NTF Employment Guide, a bespoke manual for all employment matters.
- Free Medication Record Books as required.
- The NTF Code of Practice for Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity guidelines available in print and via the EquiBioSafe App available in both Android and iOS.
- A range of free publications and advice sheets

### EUROPEAN TRAINERS FEDERATION

The NTF is a member of the European Trainers Federation, which comprises Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden.

A benefit of our membership is that all NTF members receive a free subscription to European Trainer Magazine.

**Notice is hereby given that the  
FORTY SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the  
NATIONAL TRAINERS FEDERATION  
will be held at the  
INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS  
116 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5ED**

**at 12.00 noon on Thursday 28th February 2019**

**AGENDA**

1. To approve the minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting
2. To approve the Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018
3. To receive the President's Report
4. To confirm election of the President and Triumvirate
5. To consider the renewal of the NTF's Legal Expenses Insurance Scheme
6. Any other business

Dated this 20th day of January 2019

By order of the Council



J R ARNOLD  
Chief Executive

# PRESIDENT'S report



## **ANN DUFFIELD**

Racing has changed beyond belief in the past twenty five years and not all of it good. But there have been many positive changes too. Racing's hierarchy are no longer sitting in an ivory tower, and while we often complain that our vast experience and knowledge is ignored, trainers do nevertheless have a voice in our sport. Thanks to a review after Steve Harman left, the BHA is opening the door for all of racing's stakeholders, to ensure we are taken seriously – as we deserve to be.

With more women trainers becoming involved in racing's politics than ever before, it was only a matter of time before a woman took on the role of President. That pleasure fell to me and despite assurances from Rupert and former Presidents that the role really isn't 'too onerous' it was something of a 'baptism of fire'.

The honeymoon period ended quickly when the affable Steve Harman committed what many of us would consider, on the face of it a minor misdemeanour at the Cheltenham Festival in March. However it was not so simple and many of the basic facts were easy to distort. It was certainly an eventful period and one I will not forget in a hurry.

The ongoing and extensive review of the BHA is a golden opportunity for stakeholders to hold the BHA to account and make far reaching improvements that will go a long way to increasing the efficiency and day to day running of our sport – and more importantly, allow for better understanding of horses' needs. I believe trainers must be heard and listened to. We are the experts training the horses and it is disrespectful when a 'suit' in a London office changes rules that affect every one of us without thoughtful consideration. I am delighted that the BHA are embracing our concerns and have promised to work with us in future.

Nick Rust has been open to listening to our problems, one of which is the issue of bad payers. Not only are these people a blot on racing's landscape but they are dangerous for trainers. Without a robust training agreement in place, trainers have little back up from the BHA. Nick has given his word that this will soon end and training agreements will in future be registered along with the Authority to Act. I thank Nick for his hard work and enthusiasm on this issue.

Racecourse stable hygiene has also been at the top of the "to do" list and good progress has been made with racecourses and the BHA. There is a clear willingness on all sides to rectify this. Our thanks go to the Irish Equine Centre and Pontefract, Ripon and Catterick Racecourses for their willingness to help.

Simone Sear's recently publicised Liverpool University MBA dissertation into the "Stressors for racehorse trainers...and their impact on health and wellbeing" is breaking new ground. For many years focus has been on the health and wellbeing of our staff and our jockeys yet no one until now has sought to look at the impact on trainers' health. I am delighted to see this coming to the forefront.

The NTF fights our corner every step of the way and sometimes their small team and the work they do goes unappreciated. They do amazing work and with our backup and support they can do even more. I encourage every trainer in the country to put a little time aside to take more responsibility in the day to day running of the sport.

**Ann Duffield**  
**President**



## MEMBERSHIP

At 31 December	2017	2018	Change
Licensed trainers	529	530	+1
Relinquished in year	30	15	-15
Granted in year	17	16	-1
NTF Members	482	474	-7
Non-members	47	56	+9
Percentage of all trainers	91.2%	89.5%	-1.7%

## ELECTIONS AND THE REGIONS

The West Midlands and Wales region acquired two representatives to fill vacancies left by Tim Vaughan and Dan Skelton. Henry Daly and Matt Sheppard return for another stint, having represented the region back in 2013.

## THE EXECUTIVE

The Executive team is the backbone of the Federation. It is essential for a membership organization to offer that personal service so trainers who call can be confident of speaking to someone who understands their situation. The NTF is fortunate to have such a dedicated and knowledgeable team to deliver this membership experience.



**Dawn Bacchus**  
(Chartered Legal Executive)



**Jill Crook**  
(Membership and Publications Executive)



**George Noad**  
(Racing Executive)



**Shelley Perham**  
(Consultant on recruitment and training of racing staff)

## CHAMPIONSHIPS

2017/18 NH Championship – **Nicky Henderson**

Highest number of winners – Dan Skelton, 153

2018 Flat Championship – **John Gosden**

Mark Johnston's 226 winners not only gave him the most winners on the flat in 2018, but also helped him break the British record for most winners trained in a career. The milestone came on 23rd August at York Racecourse when Poet's Society ridden by Frankie Dettori became his 4,194th winner. It is a remarkable total to celebrate.

Flat	Prize Money Won	National Hunt	Prize Money Won
John Gosden	£8,511,288	Nicky Henderson	£3,477,604
Aidan O'Brien	£6,276,315	Paul Nicholls	£2,513,233
Sir Michael Stoute	£4,569,453	Colin Tizzard	£1,975,899
Mark Johnston	£4,329,621	Nigel Twiston-Davies	£1,896,193
Charlie Appleby	£3,735,625	Dan Skelton	£1,728,488

In Scotland, Keith Dalglish led the way on the flat with a total of 73 winners of £849,118 as well as 24 winners over jumps. Scotland's leading jump trainer was Lucinda Russell, posting 46 winners for £355,071 in prize money.

## TRIBUTES

We mourned the loss of John Dunlop, Malcolm Jefferson, Richard Woollacott, Roger Curtis and Mary Hambro from the training community.

Racing is a small enough industry for strong bonds to form between those with shared experience of the highs and lows.

## ALEX SCOTT ASSISTANT TRAINERS TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

Emma Sayer, assistant to her mother Dianne, was awarded the 2018 Alex Scott Assistant Trainers Travel Scholarship worth £3000. Her work experience will be in the USA with Graham Motion beginning in Florida in February with a further stint in Kentucky in the Spring. Her report will be posted on the NTF website alongside those from previous years. The NTF manages the applications and judging of the Scholarship, which is funded by the Tim Dunlop Memorial Travel Scholarship.





# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S report



## RUPERT ARNOLD

It is not an easy time to be a trainer. Maybe it never is but the challenges were certainly not receding in 2018. Whether it was the continued shortage of skilled staff, the growing burden of regulation, a swelling fixture list or impending prize money cuts, we never cease to marvel at trainers' resilience.

These thoughts expose a gap in the NTF's six strategic objectives. We need to include the protection of trainers' wellbeing. For one training family in 2018 the pressures weighing on trainers had a tragic outcome. The racing community's thoughts were with the Woollacott family.

Across stakeholder groups we must generate a better appreciation of the range of responsibilities the industry expects trainers to master and more thought must be given to providing the kind of support that other participants can access. Racing Welfare's initiation of research into the industry's mental health profile is a very welcome step. Early stages already show that trainers are a distinct group with particular needs. The NTF is also aware that a University of Liverpool MBA student's dissertation due to be published in 2019, paints a stark and revealing picture of the demands that trainers must deal with daily.

In partnership with Racing Welfare, this subject will be a growing part of our activity from 2019 onwards. Our Racehorse Trainers Benevolent Fund may provide us with a structure for this work.

Some people in racing don't like the staffing shortage described as a crisis – but it is. Some people in racing don't think it's their problem – but it is. A snap survey carried out by the NTF in late December to inform the industry's submission of evidence to the Migration Advisory Committee showed trainers need 17% more full time staff than they currently employ. That is a shortage of over 1000 staff (excluding part time workers) – a very significant number in any industry. Trainers despair about the effect on their business but the NTF has been telling racecourses they should also worry that their field sizes are affected by inadequate numbers of staff to take horses racing. Likewise, racecourses will continue to face opposition to their ambitions to stage more fixtures while there is no spare capacity in yards.

No wonder the prospect of cuts in prize money in 2019 got such a "disgusted" response from the NTF when announced before Christmas. It grates when the racecourse group leading prize money south is the same one demanding more fixtures. While the reduction in FOBT stakes will undoubtedly affect racecourses' media rights revenues, this looked like an opportunistic strike.

Trainers are at the hub of most of racing's operational activity – the most effective recruiters of owners; the largest employers; the purchasers of horses; the guardians of racehorses' welfare; they decide where horses run, book the jockey, and make sure the horse is at the track. It's not surprising that so many rules have an impact on trainers but the BHA should take more heed of the cumulative effect of regulation. It is not just the number of rule changes that bear down on trainers; it is also the disheartening feeling that some changes are done with apparently little "horse sense". Trainers don't need irritating fines; they need support.

Using our six strategic objectives as a guide, we describe below some examples of the NTF's work to support members in 2018. In the coming year we hope you will refer regularly to our multiple news channels so you stay abreast of everything we are doing on your behalf.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J R Arnold'.

**J R Arnold**  
**Chief Executive**

### ***NTF Strategic Objectives***

1. Assisting racehorse trainers to run a long-term, sustainable business
2. Enabling trainers to employ a sufficient number of skilled stable staff
3. Ensuring the right balance of racing opportunities for the horse population
4. Protecting the welfare of all thoroughbreds in training
5. Ensuring racehorse trainers are regulated fairly
6. Communicating timely and accurate information and advice to support racehorse trainers

### ***Assisting trainers to run a long-term, sustainable business***

We have continued working to strengthen the mechanisms for payment of training fees. Though we are still some way off the seamless system originally envisaged using Racing Admin, we are getting closer to enforcement of the rule that there must be a training agreement in place between all owners and their trainer. Discussions with the BHA have also included the potential for an arbitration mechanism on unpaid fees.

A news report in the summer demonstrated the growing gap between the rewards for the very largest trainers and those in the middle ground. Our view is that you can't buck the market so the NTF has been considering how to promote the advantages for owners of supporting smaller scale trainers. Discussions are taking place with the Racehorse Owners Association to see how this could fit within its ownership marketing strategy, which NTF Council members have been supporting through the year.

General Data Protection Regulation took effect in May. Business advisers required ingenuity to explain such technical and demanding legislation in simple ways. The NTF provided a range of advice documents for members and assisted trainers and their office staff to reconcile different approaches.

### ***Enabling trainers to employ a sufficient number of skilled stable staff***

The significance of employment matters in the NTF's service is borne out by the fact that of 1903 telephone and email enquiries recorded on the NTF database during the year, 1191 (63%) were about employment matters.

As well as dispensing this volume of employment advice, our strategy to address the shortage of skilled racing staff is focused on positive publicity about employment conditions in British racing yards. The inaugural running of the Lycetts Team Champion Award concluded in February with Nick Alexander and Warren Greatrex taking first places in the two categories. We and the sponsors were thrilled with the success of year one.

Likewise, our new website Racing Groom was completed and had a soft launch to industry stakeholders in 2018. By shining a spotlight on the role of racing grooms, and offering a hub containing information and resources for staff, [racinggroom.com](https://racinggroom.com) will add value to the wider industry recruitment strategy.

It is unlikely we would currently have a shortage of staff if Work Riders were still on the Shortage Occupation List (SOL.) We have been patiently waiting for the Government to commission the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to review the SOL and that wait ended in November when the MAC issued a call for evidence. In the lead up to Brexit, the Government has signalled a change in immigration policy, indicating there would be a single pathway for both EU and non-EU migrants workers – a policy the NTF and BHA had suggested in previous consultations. Once again the NTF, TBA and BHA collaborated on the call for evidence, helped considerably by trainers who replied to our snap survey before Christmas.



The industry's strategy is developed by a Programme Board chaired by Laura Whyte, BHA Board member and Lycetts Team Champion judge. Shelley Perham and I share the role of representing the NTF on the Programme Board. Though it is a diverse group, there is full support for the strategy but immense frustration that spending decisions further up the ladder don't live up to the promise that "people" are a priority.

### ***Ensuring the right balance of racing opportunities for the horse population***

Seamus Mullins and Ralph Beckett continue to represent the jump and flat codes respectively on the BHA Racing Group. It can be frustrating for them when they are in a minority when policies that affect trainers are decided. "Transparent" entries and declarations is an example. The process is an intrinsic part of daily operations in the trainer's office but the non-trainer element of the Racing Group decided a trial should take place. At least we have in writing the BHA Chief Operating Officer's assurance that trainers will decide whether the system continues after the trial.

One of the most controversial race planning issues was the extension of the flat novice system into the three-year-old and up cohort. George Noad took plenty of calls from trainers across the spectrum. Complaints ranged from domination of the races by larger operators, uncompetitive races, and not enough maiden races. Consultation continued with the BHA throughout the season with several modifications made to the conditions. An end of season review acknowledged that the interim changes had improved the competitiveness of the races to a degree. The NTF's view is that the Racing Department is interpreting the statistics in an overly optimistic light; 3yo+ novices races need to be kept under review in 2019.

It was a busy year for the NTF in the Fixture and Funding Group. The first year of an extended prize money and Appearance Money Scheme was generally welcomed. George Noad worked in tandem with other Horsemen's Group members, chiefly the ROA, to influence policy on additional fixtures. There are times of year when there is high demand for more racing opportunities, exacerbated in 2018 by the long, hot, dry summer. However, the NTF is wary of increasing the workload for staff, whose main concern is adequate time off.

### ***Total prize money at a high***

Thanks to new media rights deals kicking in together with the expanded Race Incentive Fund and Appearance Money Scheme, 2018 saw another prize money record of £164.6m (from £142.5m.) It didn't slow the unfavourable comparisons with prize money in other racing jurisdictions.

The NTF expressed disgust at Arena Racing Company's announcement that it would no longer unlock additional central funding because of the threat to its media rights revenues from the Government's reform of FOBT stakes.

### ***Sources of prize money***

	<b>RACECOURSE £m</b>	<b>BHA £m</b>	<b>HBLB £m</b>	<b>OWNER £m</b>	<b>AMS &amp; DIVS £m</b>	<b>TOTAL £m</b>
<b>2012</b>	46.1	0	34.3	16.0	1.4	<b>97.8</b>
<b>2013</b>	48.6	0	46.4	17.9	1.4	<b>114.3</b>
<b>2014</b>	54.6	0.3	47.4	19.8	1.4	<b>123.5</b>
<b>2015</b>	61.7	0.3	46.9	21.7	1.5	<b>132.1</b>
<b>2016</b>	68.5	0.4	44.6	22.6	1.6	<b>137.7</b>
<b>2017</b>	73.6	0.5	44.4	22.3	1.7	<b>142.5</b>
<b>2018</b>	84.7	1.5	47.7	24.4	6.3	<b>164.6</b>

(AMS and DIVS = Appearance Money Scheme and Divided Races)

### ***Protecting the welfare of all thoroughbreds in training***

2018 may one day be seen as a watershed for the issue of horse welfare in racing. A BHA report into fatalities at the Cheltenham Festival and the Westminster debate as a result of an Animal Aid-inspired petition led to a mixed reaction across the sport. Every effort must be made to ensure horse welfare standards are as good as they can be. As the keepers of the horses, trainers will be at the heart of this effort.

The NTF and its members are closely involved in the roll out of the industry's welfare strategy, which includes research into developing methods to assess the welfare of horses in training. Several trainers hosted Bristol University researchers who observed the behaviour of horses in the training environment. It remains to be seen whether it is possible to measure a horse's wellbeing.

In 2017, the Ann Duffield spearheaded the NTF's drive to raise hygiene standards in racecourse stables. It has been a frustrating year for George Noad trying to get the racecourses to cooperate and the BHA to insist on improvements. At the year end new safeguards are close to being agreed, with racecourses spurred on by some hefty fines for stables that had not been properly cleaned.

### ***Ensuring racehorse trainers are regulated fairly***

Three major regulatory issues occupied the NTF in 2018. Started in response to the outcomes of the Morrison and Hobbs cases towards the end of 2017, the consultation on Equine Anti-Doping Rules (EADR) focused on the penalty structure, especially in relation to bolstering the principle of strict liability. The consultation had not concluded by the end of the year, showing that when it comes to equine athletes, it is not easy to balance integrity necessities and fairness for the responsible person.

As the employers' representative, the NTF was closely involved in the BHA's development of a Safeguarding policy, code and regulations. With implementation due in January 2019, we still hold significant concerns about the way it will be enforced and the lack of clarity about the overlap between employers' duty to investigate and the BHA's desire for oversight.

A major overhaul of the document containing the Rules of Racing caused seemingly endless hours of reading and cross referencing. Dawn Bacchus took the lion's share of that burden. The intention was not to confuse the issue by altering the meaning or effect of any rule but we had to point out a few examples where this might have happened. However, the new online format and searchability are expected to be a big improvement on the current version.

A legacy of the 2017 cases is trainers' super-sensitivity to the risk of horses testing positive to prohibited substances. We have spent a lot of time in 2018 reviewing and communicating advice to help trainers avoid contamination. Strictly following the recommendations goes a long way not just to preventing an adverse analytical finding but also to showing in a disciplinary case that reasonable precautions had been taken to prevent one.

Defending trainers against BHA disciplinary charges is one benefit from the NTF's Legal Expenses Insurance scheme. Claims on the scheme have increased over the lifetime of the policy and at the time of writing, we are uncertain if the membership has an appetite to continue paying the premiums. It would be a huge shame to lose this benefit given the protection it has afforded members in the last five years.

### ***Communicating timely and accurate information and advice to support racehorse trainers***

Providing news and information is a foundation of the NTF's service. We spend many hours updating our website, posting on the blog site (ntfmuse), composing weekly news emails, and writing and proofing the traditional printed newsletter. Although the open rate of the weekly email is high by sports industry standards, it is still frustrating that only 43% are opened by the 615 subscribers we send it to. Members expect to be kept informed, so it would make sense to use these resources.

We are delighted with the progress of ntfmuse. In 2018 it received 5,101 visitors, the 125 posts getting 7,728 views. After the Lycetts Team Champion shortlists, the top stories by number of views was the Alex Scott Future Trainers Scholarship, followed by our article 'Three-month trial of "transparent" entries and declarations.' The top video was the Lycetts Team Champion shortlist film played 628 times. ntfmuse has an international following. Apart from the UK, it was read in 70 different Countries including USA, Ireland, Australia, France, India, the Netherlands, Hong Kong SAR China, Spain and the United Arab Emirates. 2,027 views were referred from Twitter @NTFnews

The NTF website [www.racehorsetrainers.org](http://www.racehorsetrainers.org), managed by Jill Crook, had 3,760 page views with 991 users and the most popular pages are the List of Trainers (NTF Members) followed by the Members area viewed 7,239 times with 532 returning visitors.

@NTFnews, our Twitter account, had 422,700 impressions – a daily average of 1,158.

## Other trainer benefits and services

### REPRESENTATION

The NTF represents trainers' interests on the following racing industry committees and working groups:

- The Horsemen's Group
- BHA Members Committee (representing Licensed Personnel)
- BHA Executive Committee
- BHA Fixture and Funding Group
- BHA Racing Group
- BHA Racecourse Committee
- RCA Technical Group
- BHA Stakeholder Integrity Group
- BHA Veterinary Committee
- BHA Equine Welfare Interim Board
- BHA People and Development Group
- National Joint Council for Stable Staff
- Thoroughbred Industry Meeting
- Animal Health Trust Equine Industry Committee
- Tattersalls and Doncaster Bloodstock Sales Liaison Groups
- European Trainers Federation

### HORSEMEN'S GROUP

Rupert Arnold is a director of the Horsemen's Group, representing the NTF.

#### Key agenda items included:

Constitution of the Racing Authority; Prize Money Agreements; prize money distribution; Racing Foundation strategy; Great British Racing International; support for British Breeders; fixture list modernisation; Tote/Britbet; Levy Board veterinary funding and research; BHA Governance Review; equine welfare strategy; and industry roadshows.

### LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS

#### Legal Assistance Scheme

The Legal Assistance Scheme completed its sixth year of operation but the 2019 renewal was in doubt as the year closed. In some ways, it has become a victim of its success – as awareness of the benefit expands, so have the number of claims and the cost per member.

In 2018 there were 22 claims for recovery of legal expenses with 12 either paid by the year end or with a reserve set against them at a total value of £66,985.

The scheme has resulted in a loss for insurers in three out of five years so they require a significant increase in premium. Although we know the proposed premium is still good value, we need to know how members value it before we bundle the cost into the annual subscription.

The Helplines took 1141 calls from NTF members including relevant employment cases handled by Dawn Bacchus, our Chartered Legal Executive. Knights advised on contract disputes, property, tax and immigration issues.

## **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, INSURANCE AND CHARITIES**

The NTF, as secretariat on behalf of the Trustees of the **Racing Industry Accident Benefit Scheme**, is the hub of communication between the trustees, SLS Crawford & Co., and Jelf, the insurance administrators. The trustees meet twice a year to review and ensure optimum running of the scheme. In between these meetings the trustees are required to assess specific claims and are always available. We would like to take this opportunity to thank each one for giving their time, knowledge, compassion and consideration for the benefit of employees in the racing industry. The trustees are Johnny Eddis, Michael Henriques, Serena Geake, Dr. John Disney and George McGrath.

In 2018 John Hembury from Bluefin Insurance Brokers, retired from handling the RIABS account due to ill health. The trustees and NTF Executive were very sorry to see his departure as John had so frequently gone beyond the call of duty to assist claimants and advise the trustees during his thirty two year involvement.

Frisky Nutting, one of the first NTF executives, died in December. She had retired as a trustee of RIABS in 2017 and had therefore made a valued contribution to the NTF's work over a very long period. We greatly appreciated her humanity and humour.

The NTF is also the sole trustee of the **Life Cover Trust** which provides a Death in Service Benefit for full and part time stable employees.

### **NTF Charitable Trust**

The aims of the NTFCT are to dispense grants to people who are or have been employed in racing. Grants are awarded for the advancement of retraining and education to enable applicants to develop skills and enhance their employability within the industry.

In July Chris Wall stood down as Chairman. Another trustee is due to be appointed to join Rupert Arnold, Ann Duffield and Charlie Longsdon. In 2018 grants were awarded totalling £21,471, including £1,500 for the Toby Balding Award won by Jessica McLernon.

### **Racehorse Trainers Benevolent Fund**

The total accumulated for the Racehorse Trainers Benevolent Fund from a percentage of prize money won in this country by trainers based outside Britain reached £61,058. Grants totalling £5000 were dispensed to beneficiaries.

The aims of the RTBF are to relieve financial hardship for trainers and ex-trainers who are or were members of the NTF.

During the year the trust deed was amended to replace the two ex-officio trustees with ordinary trustees appointed by the NTF and BHA. The current trustees are Rupert Arnold (NTF), Martin Featherstone Godley, Henrietta Knight and Will Lambe (BHA.)



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Summary of financial position as at 31st December 2018

The information below is extracted from the Federation's full accounts for the financial period, which are audited by Ross Brooke Ltd. At the time of printing this report the audit had not been formally completed but it is anticipated that the figures will not change. Members of the Federation can view a full set of finalised accounts on the NTF website. Printed copies will be available at the AGM for the purpose of formal approval.

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018 £	2017 £
<b>TURNOVER</b>	<b>548,378</b>	<b>466,325</b>
Personnel and officials	(307,166)	(284,226)
Administrative expenses	(264,279)	(226,965)
Other operating income	17,649	49,851
<b>OPERATING (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS</b>	<b>(5,418)</b>	<b>4,985</b>
(Loss)/Gain on financial assets at fair value through income and expenditure account	(5,862)	4,641
Other interest receivable and similar income	1,519	1,539
Interest payable and similar expenses	(3)	(37)
	<b>(4,346)</b>	<b>6,143</b>
<b>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION</b>	<b>(9,764)</b>	<b>11,128</b>
Tax on (deficit)/surplus on ordinary activities	(2,259)	(500)
<b>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>(12,023)</b>	<b>10,628</b>

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018 £	2017 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible assets	59,269	46,618
Other financial assets	98,779	104,641
	<b>158,048</b>	<b>151,259</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	17,579	59,077
Cash at bank and in hand	288,062	321,279
	<b>305,641</b>	<b>380,356</b>
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>(24,778)</b>	<b>(80,681)</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>280,863</b>	<b>299,675</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>438,911</b>	<b>450,934</b>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>		
Accumulated fund	438,911	450,934
Total equity	<b>438,911</b>	<b>450,934</b>

**DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018 (UNAUDITED)**

	2018 £	2017 £
<b>TURNOVER</b>		
Subscriptions	509,820	443,293
Sundry income	20,037	5,754
Insurance commissions	7,693	8,270
Management fees	10,828	9,008
	<u>548,378</u>	<u>466,325</u>
<b>PERSONNEL AND OFFICIALS EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries and wages, including pension contributions	259,063	253,697
Committee meeting expenses and room hire	26,147	10,989
Motor, travel and subsistence	18,721	15,807
Motor vehicle and depreciation	4,668	3,733
Profit on disposal of asset	(1,433)	-
	<u>307,166</u>	<u>284,226</u>
<b>ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES</b>		
Printing, postage and stationery	29,923	40,171
Repairs and renewals	9,572	9,514
Telephone and fax	7,048	5,153
Gifts & donations	11,152	2,050
Business rates	219	336
Insurance	3,265	2,793
Badges	5,273	5,788
Light, heat and power	1,979	1,810
Depreciation	2,248	2,469
Bad Debts written off	1,028	-
	<u>71,707</u>	<u>70,084</u>
<b>FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES</b>		
Bank charges	512	356
Weatherbys management fees	5,652	9,056
Legal and consultancy fees	3,050	3,925
Other professional fees	95,348	81,604
Accountancy fees	7,049	7,815
Auditor's remuneration - audit of the company's annual accounts	5,000	4,000
Legal assistance scheme	75,961	50,125
	<u>192,572</u>	<u>156,881</u>
<b>INTEREST RECEIVABLE</b>		
Bank interest receivable	<u>1,519</u>	<u>1,539</u>
<b>INTEREST PAYABLE</b>		
Bank overdraft interest payable	<u>(3)</u>	<u>(37)</u>





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