

## **RACING STAFF WEEK IS BACK THIS SATURDAY!**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

The passion, skill and dedication of horseracing industry staff is set to be celebrated during an awareness week spearheaded by racing's human welfare charity, Racing Welfare.

Racing Staff Week, which takes place from Saturday 22nd – Friday 28th June 2024, aims to bring the racing industry and its followers together to recognise the contribution of the industry's entire workforce, from stud and stable staff to breeders, trainers, racecourse staff and administrators and everything in between.

Generously supported by Betfair and now in its eighth year, Racing Staff Week will include a range of events and activities taking place all over the country to celebrate the hard work of racing staff and retirees, including rounders matches, quiz nights and coffee mornings. Racing Welfare staff will also be at several racecourses across the country holding fun challenges for everyone working at those meetings to enjoy, with the chance of winning prizes.

Racing Welfare is also excited to be launching a photography competition during the week, giving industry employees the chance to have their photographs featured in the charity's first ever calendar. With six categories to choose from: Wildlife/nature in the workplace, Movement and action, My 'Office' views, Stars of the future, Showing love for the horse and The most inspired team photo, Racing Welfare is hoping the calendar will showcase the beauty and diverse nature of the horseracing industry. The winner and runner-up of each category will receive shopping vouchers, while the overall winner will also receive two tickets to the Racing Welfare Charity Lunch at Haydock Park on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

The highlight of Racing Staff Week will be a series of four charity stable staff races. Nearly 40 members of stable staff will get to experience the thrill of riding in a race, while raising vital funds for Racing Welfare in the process. The races are as follows:

Saturday 22 June – Ayr  
Monday 24 June – Chepstow  
Tuesday 25 June – Newbury  
Thursday 27 June – Nottingham

**Dawn Goodfellow, Racing Welfare Chief Executive said:** *“Racing Staff Week gives us the perfect opportunity to celebrate the dedication of racing industry employees and bring communities together up and down the country.*

*“We want to inspire everyone involved in the racing industry, whether as an employee, retiree or racing fan to embrace Racing Staff Week to celebrate the sport and the wonderful people who work so hard to make a day at the races possible. Thanks as always must go to Betfair, whose support year-on-year makes all of this possible, in addition to all the racecourses and industry stakeholders who get involved and show their support during the week.”*

**Richard Hayward, Managing Director at Betfair, said:** *“It is a pleasure to continue our longstanding support of Racing Staff Week, and an honour to play a part in celebrating those working in all areas across the industry. We are looking forward to hearing the stories of those individuals who go above and beyond in their roles and recognising their amazing contribution.”*

For more information about how you can get involved or support Racing Staff Week this year, please visit: [www.racingwelfare.co.uk/rsw](http://www.racingwelfare.co.uk/rsw) or follow Racing Welfare on social media.

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#### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **Racing Welfare**

Racing Welfare is the only charity that supports all of racing’s people - including stud, stable and racecourse staff, alongside those working in associated professions - from their recruitment right through into retirement. The charity provides a wide range of advice and guidance services, all of which are completely confidential and non-judgmental. Support is available for a wide range of life’s challenges, including physical health, mental health, bereavement, careers advice, housing, money advice, illness, addiction, relationships, and retirement. Racing Welfare’s services are nationally accessible with offices in all the main racing centres and roving Welfare Officers covering the whole of the country.

The charity owns 164 units of accommodation across the UK, with a focus on providing housing for young people working in racing and those who have retired from the industry which are managed by its housing arm, Racing Homes.

Support is available to racing’s people 24/7 through Racing’s Support Line or the Racing Welfare app. Both provide access to information, advice and guidance services, as well as access to the 24hr telephone line.

**Website:** [www.racingwelfare.co.uk](http://www.racingwelfare.co.uk)

**Racing’s Support Line:** 0800 6300 443 (available 24hrs, 7 days per week)

**Racing Welfare app:** Download from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#)

**Online self-help resources:** <https://racingwelfare.co.uk/information-support/>