

Issued: 10th April 2014

PRESS RELEASE

Racing Welfare fields 12 man squad for London Marathon

Racing Welfare's 2014 Virgin Money London Marathon squad includes Sheikh Fahad Al Thani and his Qatar Racing Team comprising Racing and Bloodstock Manager, David Redvers, and six Qatar Racing trainers: Andrew Balding, Robert Cowell, Richard Hannon, Charlie Hills, David Simcock and Olly Stevens. Also running to support the charity are Racing Foundation Chairman Roger Weatherby and three dedicated individuals who share a love of racing and a burning ambition to run in one of the world's most prestigious road races.

The Smith sisters, Emily 22 and Olivia 20, have been racegoers for as long as they can remember and their father Andy is a 3rd generation bookmaker. Emily works for William Hill who has generously sponsored the pair. Emily said, "I wanted to run for Racing Welfare because I have heard about all the amazing work the charity does for the staff who work in racing and I want to give something back to people in racing."

Evan Williams, 22, is a farrier from Lincolnshire whose whole family is involved in racing. Evan has ridden out for Chris Bealby, his brother is an ex jockey and now assistant trainer for Neil King and both his sisters work at Doncaster racecourse. Evan said "I have been trying to balance losing weight to ride in my first point to point with getting fit to run the marathon. My target time is 3:30. The main reason I want to run the marathon for Racing Welfare is that the charity plays a vital role in our industry, supporting everyone involved, including farriers like me!"

Roger Weatherby, Chairman of The Racing Foundation and incoming Senior Steward of The Jockey Club, is a seasoned marathon runner, notably completing the grueling Marathon des Sables in 1996. Roger will be fundraising on behalf of The Racing Foundation of which Racing Welfare is a beneficiary charity.

Lesley Graham, Chief Executive said "This looks set to be the most successful Marathon ever for Racing Welfare. We are hugely grateful to our runners and wish them all the very best of luck".

Ends.....

Press contact: Ginny Rose grose@racingwelfare.co.uk 01638 560763



Notes to editors:

Racing Welfare is a UK-wide charity whose headquarters are in Newmarket. It serves the needs of racing personnel from the beginning of their careers through to retirement. The wide range of help provided includes provision of affordable housing, mentoring schemes for young workers, advice for those coping with illness and disabilities; through to specialist counselling and support at times of need or personal crisis.