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TAKE THE REINS





ABOUT US



Take The Reins is a unique collaboration between a charity, Active Communities Network, network partners Flying Futures and key players in the Horse Racing industry. All involved will work together to deliver a racing-based initiative that will:

- Harness the power of the sport of horse racing to inspire personal and social change and be a force for social good in disadvantaged communities.
- Promote the values and excitement of the sport to new and under-represented communities by improving access, understanding and involvement through grass roots, year round activities.
- Deliver an accredited employability and enterprise programme using racing as a backdrop to improve pupils aged 14-16 and those Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) aged 16+ to improve their transferable skills and employability.
- Offer careers days to promote opportunities in and around racing, including training yards and racecourses, and meet the need for new employees in the industry.
- Offer work experience, work placements and appropriate traineeships and jobs within the racing industry and its wider community.
- Offer training to the racing industry to support staff to work with young people in a safe and productive manner.
- Demonstrate impact and the contribution racing can make as a part of the global Sport for Development movement and the social impact the sport can have in local communities.

WE LOVE WHAT WE DO

Supported by the Racing Foundation, Take the Reins delivers a year round programme that aims to provide access and careers in racing for young people regardless of their location or background. Take The Reins includes research projects, personal development programmes, accredited training courses, ambassador visits, open days and careers routes.

WHO WE ARE

Flying Futures deliver a range of social programmes which bring about effective change to communities, using sports, mentoring, training, employment and citizenship programmes with young people aged 5 to 25. We are a youth led organisation, our aim is to help young people 'get on' in society.

FLYING FUTURES

Racing Foundation aims to "make a difference" to the horseracing and Thoroughbred breeding industry by supporting the work of charities in the areas of social welfare, training & education, racehorse welfare, equine science research and heritage & culture.

THE RACING FOUNDATION

Is a sport for development charity which looks to tackle poverty, create opportunities and inspire change using the medium of sport. Working in the heart of the communities across the UK, Republic of Ireland and South Africa.

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES NETWORK

Racing Together is British racing's community engagement activity and is a partnership of charities and other organisations who work across the sport to benefit others.

RACING TOGETHER

Careers in Racing implement recruitment, training, education and community initiatives for the horse racing industry. The team manage the popular job board on careersinracing.com processing over 1000 jobs a year and the website is a portal of information for careers across the whole of the racing industry.

CAREERS IN RACING

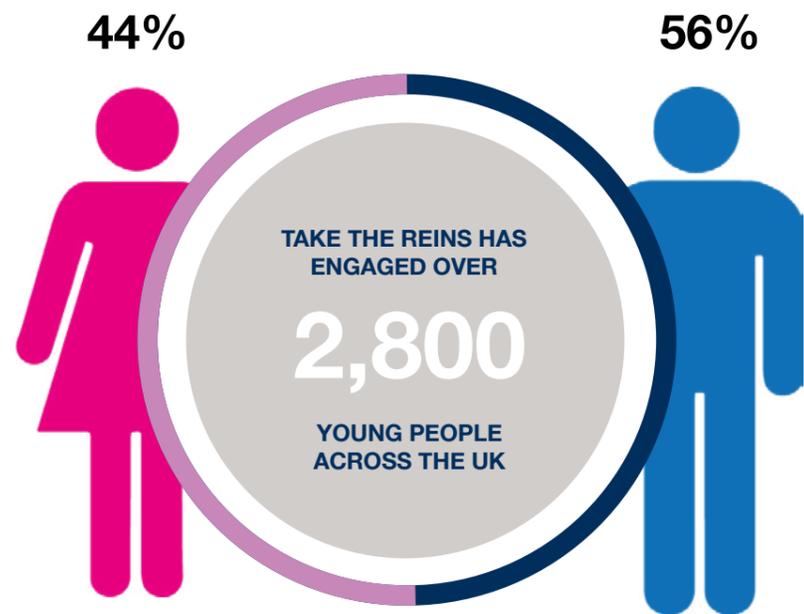
Lingfield Park Racecourse is the busiest racecourse in Europe with over 80 fixtures across the year, with flat, jump and all weather racing. As well as being a popular racecourse, Lingfield Park Resort also boasts an onsite luxury 116-bedroom hotel, a Spa & Leisure Club and a challenging 18-hole Golf Course, providing a fantastic leisure resort in Surrey.

LINGFIELD PARK

Richard Fahey Racing is one of the UK's leading racing yards based out of Musley Bank, Malton. They've had over 150 winners every season for the past five years including Group 1 winners Ribchester and Sands Of Mali. They employ 75 staff aged between 17 and 70.

RICHARD FAHEY RACING

THE PROGRAMME



North

The northern programme has three key features to expand young peoples knowledge and experience of the horse racing industry. **Discover**, entails visiting a race yard or racecourse, understanding what it take to train successful racehorses and what goes into a race day. **Take Part**, visit a yard and work alongside the team, experiencing a number of different roles. **Future Career**, we learn and support you through the process of applying to a racing college or to undertake a more formal work experience. The northern programme has exposed over 1750 young people to a career in the racing industry. In addition, we have facilitated yard visits to over 100 young people and delivered over 25 qualifications.

South

The southern programme has three main delivery sites across London covering the Boroughs of Lambeth, Southwark and Brent. The programme has engaged over 1,000 inner city Londoners with 109 experiencing racing for the first time at either Lingfield Park or Newbury Racecourses. In addition, young people also benefited from careers days at the British Horseracing Authority head quarters and the British Racing School in Newmarket. As part of the programme the participants are offered opportunities to attend accredited training qualifications covering a range of employability skills such as CV writing, interview techniques as well as building confidence and learning the importance of time keeping. Another 121 young people gained this level 1 qualifications ensuring they are on the right track to employment.



MONSURAT SADIKU



“At the moment I am struggling getting my A-levels and I feel like jockey Rossa Ryan is my motivation to get A-As! Having come to Lingfield and heard everything that he is doing to perform at the highest level, understanding how strict he is and how much he has had to give up to be successful is really inspiring. Especially as he is just one year older than me.”*

Monsurat Sadiku is 17 and grew up in Brixton, Lambeth an area well known for it's high level of deprivation, with high unemployment figures, low educational retention as well as social issues such as youth violence, gang rivalry, drug and alcohol misuse. She first got involved with Active Communities Network 3 years ago via one of our estate-based youth club sessions near to her home. Despite the negative social environments she has faced, Monsurat is a determined young female who hopes to obtain 3 A-levels all whilst being part of the Lambeth youth council to provide a voice for young females like herself.



Monsurat recently visited Lingfield Park Resort as part of Take The Reins programme which is being delivered across Lambeth and Southwark. The careers and race day on the 8th March was her first ever experience of racing and the careers the industry has to offer. The day comprised of a tour of the grounds, including the weight room, all-weather track, hospitality boxes, stables and more. The day also included inspiring talks from industry professionals such as jockeys, estates manager, stewards, HR, trainers, broadcasters and

others. Monsurat attended the day with little expectations having never seen a race on TV, but came away astounded by the number of different careers available in one race course.

With everything on her doorstep in Brixton, Monsurat rarely travels outside of the borough so she valued the opportunity to step into something completely out of her comfort zone. The day provided a great opportunity to improve wider skills such as communication and confidence having spent the day with Sky broadcaster Vanessa Binnie Ryle and experienced a day in front of the cameras. Even though Monsurat's employment aspirations are not connected to the horseracing industry, the opportunity has provided her with motivation to work-hard, especially after speaking with Jockey Rossa Ryan who at only 18 has already achieved so much. In addition, thinking ahead to university selection, the experience has encouraged her to explore universities outside of London and large cities, which she was previously scared to do.





HARRY ENRIGHT

“ I have always loved horses and used to ride out at a yard near my house in Lewisham but I never thought about horseracing as a future career. After seeing the amount of roles where I could come into contact with horses I am now excited about different options. ”

Harry is 15, from Sedge Hill in Lewisham, South London. He is currently studying for his GCSEs with no views of moving onto college or university. He first came into contact with Active Communities Network through a school-based session which was at the request of the school due to high amounts of anti-social behaviour outside of school hours. Growing up he spent many evenings at a local yard where he would ride and help groom the horses but due to a family move the yard was no longer accessible.

Harry visited the Little Brook equestrian yard near Lingfield Park where he finally came back in contact with the animals he loved. The small riding school gave the young people an opportunity to handle the horses, which was



a first for many, and gave a real insight into the types of work available at the stable. With previous experience with horses Harry was a natural and he suddenly became a confident member of the group, even providing his peers (and leaders) with information on horses. His confidence grew throughout the day and it was great to see his peers really looking up to him for guidance. The group then moved to Lingfield Racecourse where they were greeted by the Careers In Racing team who provided information on careers and the next step to achieving them, all before having a tour of the park and seeing the horses in action on the track. They were also provided with a breakdown of the race card by local owner and horse enthusiast Bryan Agar.

Due to funds his interactions with horses were cut short but the recent visits to Lingfield and Little Brooke he has inspired him to get back into the sport he loves most. He never considered that it could be a career, it was only seen as a hobby but the Take The Reins experience has given him a new positive outlook post GCSEs. He now wants to attend the British Racing School 12 week programme with the ambition of gaining qualifications for working with racehorses.



I attended Goole Academy Secondary School and the youth charity Flying Futures were giving a talk about the Take The Reins initiative, which aims to provide young people with career opportunities in the racing industry. Although I had no background in the sport like some of the others in my school, I decided to go along with two friends to listen what they had to say.

We were keen to go on an organised trip to Richard Fahey's Musely Bank yard in April and this was my first time visiting a stable. I was amazed to see all the training and preparation that takes place. On the same trip we also attended Jack Berry House. They gave us a tour and I met someone there from the Northern Racing College who told us about the courses that were available. I took the application form home, showed my Mum and decided that I would go for it. I signed up and posted off the form.

Take The Reins was able to arrange for me to have three days' work experience at Richard Fahey's yard, which gave me a good head start in learning what goes on when working at a trainer's yard.

I started my placement at the Northern Racing College in July and finished in October, successfully completing the 12-week Diploma course in Horsecare and Riding. It was a great course, which I enjoyed. We learnt a lot of riding skills and racing techniques; how to brush and groom horses and how to travel horses. I really liked learning about how to travel horses for the races, plating them, use

ELLIE CROSS



of travel boots and tail badges. The next step for me was to get a placement and I was so pleased that the college arranged for me to join Jedd O'Keeffe's yard in Middleham, and I have been here ever since. I currently live in a house share with three other stable staff, which was arranged through the yard and is a big help.

My current working day is not exactly like my school years. I start with an alarm call at 5:30am and my lift picks me up at 6am. We're mucking out until 7am, which is when the first lot pulls out. Back on the ground, we then have various yard duties and walkers to complete until 12:30pm. We then get the chance to go home and at 4pm start the evening stables, which finishes at 6pm. A long but rewarding day.

Even on cold mornings when it's snowing and I begin to question what am I doing, I know that it's all worth it. I can't see myself typing behind a desk and I'd much rather be outside doing something that I love. I've just received my racing pass so I'm really excited about attending some races in the coming months.

My main advice to anybody looking to start in the racing industry is to work hard, listen to the instructors because they know what they are talking about and never lose focus on what you want in life.

My future plans are to stay in racing for the long term. I hope to be head lass or travelling head lass taking winning horses to the races.

RICHARD FAHEY



We have seen over one hundred young people visit our yard as part of Take The Reins. Many of those who visit have never been near a horse let alone consider a career working with them. They have experienced what it's like to work in a busy racing yard and chatted to our staff about what it takes to care for these special animals. We have a lot of young staff many of whom do not have a racing background and it's been great to see them share their experiences and tell others that it is possible. As a successful racing yard I feel we have a duty to open our doors to everyone, whether that's to show them the career opportunities available or simply so they can see how special the horses are. I hope they leave our yard with the same passion for the sport as we have.

Richard Fahey - Racehorse Trainer

SAMMY JO BELL

I am very pleased to have become an ambassador for the Take the Reins programme through the Flying Futures community group. This is such a fantastic opportunity for me and it's great to go into schools and share my experience as a jockey and the great times I've had as a way of hopefully inspiring young people about the possibilities for their careers.

The main aim is to try to encourage young people into the horseracing industry, not just to be a jockey but to explore some of the other outstanding opportunities that come within the sport. Take the Reins want to connect young people with the sport, including those interested in an apprenticeship at one of the two training colleges.

Sammy Jo Bell - Professional Jockey



MRS BRYAN

The young people have benefited a lot from this project, they got far more than what they were expecting. They have seen so much here at Lingfield, they came with the idea that they were looking at race horses but once they arrived they soon realised that it was much more than just racing, there is a whole hospitality side that goes with it. They are leaving with things to think about, it isn't just a day out, it is a day that they will look back on and say I think I might choose a career in this sector"

Mrs Bryan - Teacher at Platanos College, Lambeth



DEBBIE HAY

The Take The Reins partnership allows us to make young people more aware of the breadth of opportunities across the industry. In a place like Lingfield Park, this extends beyond the race track to our on-site hotel and 18-hole golf course and Spa.

We are delighted to be involved in this worthwhile initiative which we see as truly sustainable and beneficial to both the young people – and hopefully us in the long run as we encourage them into the industry'

Debbie Hay - Head of Commercial & Partnerships, Lingfield Park

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Flying Futures

E: website@flyingfutures.org
T: 01937 586088

Racing Together

E: lucy@racingtoschool.co.uk
T: 07387 260 980

Active Communities Network

E: info@activecommunities.org.uk
T: 020 7407 8177

Richard Fahey Racing

E: enquiries@richardfahey.com
T: 01653 698915

Lingfield Park

E: dhay@lingfieldpark.co.uk
T: 01342 834800

Careers In Racing

E: info@careersinracing.com
T: 020 7152 0000