

Gary Capewell Receives Qatar Racing and Equestrian Award

The Arabian Racing Organisation (UK) announced an award for race commentator, **Gary Capewell**, who has been presented with the coveted Qatar Racing and Equestrian Award at the 2018 Horserace Writers & Photographers Derby Awards at London's Royal Lancaster Hotel on Monday 3 December 2018.

Following a unanimous decision, the award has been made in recognition of **Capewell's extraordinary contribution to UK Arabian Racing**. Well known for his accurate calling, excellent preparation and strong voice, **Gary has spent over 10 years as ARO's commentator, hitting a landmark at Wolverhampton Racecourse on 10 June this year when it marked his 1,000 Arabian race call.**

Capewell's enthusiasm for racing started at an early age, encouraged by his grandfather who managed a betting shop. Aged eight, Gary began doing race commentaries from the TV, making his first live Arabian race call at Uttoxeter in 2004. Two years later he was covering half the meetings with existing ARO commentator Martin Harris, and by 2008 it was a full-time occupation. He has only missed three races since.

Commentating with ARO in the summer gives him the opportunity to work at some of the most prestigious racetracks in the country, which has led to offers of more work abroad. So far this has included a season in Dubai and specific jobs such as calling Arabian races in Qatar at the HH Emir's Sword Festival. In addition to his work for ARO, Gary presents on William Hill Radio and TV all year round.

Nasser Sherida Al Kaabi said; *"Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club is proud to have supported The Horserace Writers and Photographers Association award ceremony since 2012. Our congratulations go to Gary Capewell for his commitment and achievements commentating for Arabian Racing in the UK, well deserved and well done."*

ARO Chairman Charles Gregson commented. *"We are delighted to see Gary Capewell honoured in this way he has made a huge contribution to UK Arabian racing over many years and we are delighted to congratulate him on this award. We are also extremely grateful to both the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club and the Horserace Writers and Photographers Association for their support of UK Arabian racing"*.

The Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club-sponsored Horserace Writers & Photographers Derby Awards are held every year and celebrate work from broadcasters, photographers and writers in the horseracing industry. Awards include; Horserace Writer of the Year, Reporter of the Year, Photographer of the Year and Picture of the Year.

~ ARO