

Goodwood announces start of two-year partnership with *Canine Partners* 2019-2020

Goodwood is delighted to announce the beginning of a two-year partnership with Midhurstbased charity 'Canine Partners for Independence'. The charity, which trains assistance dogs for disabled people, was chosen by Goodwood staff and will benefit from fundraising at events across the Goodwood Estate, as well as providing volunteering opportunities for all Goodwood employees.

The Duke of Richmond says, "Our aim is to help transform the lives of as many people as possible by supporting the breeding and training of these remarkable assistance dogs. Our staff are motivated and enthusiastic, both in their fundraising efforts and in their commitment to volunteering, and we are delighted to be supporting such a worthwhile local charity."

In addition to various internal fund-raising efforts, Goodwood aims to raise money for the canine cause with events open to all its members, as well as to the public. Ideas range from doggy-themed afternoon teas for four legged guests and their owners at member's clubhouse The Kennels, to the annual dog show, as well as events at the racecourse and perhaps even a pop-up outdoor cinema in the summer, showing a dog-friendly film.

"We are delighted that the Goodwood Estate has chosen us as their Charity of the Year for 2019 and 2020. We are very excited about this fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of Canine Partners and generate vital funds to enable us to continue our life-transforming work. Our partnership with Goodwood will ensure that we are able to train even more amazing dogs to help adults living with physical disabilities." said Jackie Staunton, Chair of Trustees for Canine Partners.

Nicola Hopkins, assisted by canine partner Flora added; "Goodwood picking Canine Partners as their Charity of the Year will be fundamental in helping to transform lives like mine. Being partnered with an assistance dog like Flora changes your life in ways that you don't ever expect or imagine. Flora has been key to me regaining my independence; not just opening doors for me literally but also metaphorically, by giving me the confidence to live my life to the full."

ENDS

About Goodwood:

Goodwood is a unique sporting Estate set in 12,000 acres of beautiful West Sussex countryside. Owned by the Dukes of Richmond since 1697, it is has become famous for its thrilling motorsport events and spectacular horse-racing. Whilst these two sports are a fundamental part of the Estate's DNA, there is more to Goodwood than horses and cars: it includes an organic farm, four restaurants, two 18-hole golf courses, a sculpture park, a private members club, an aerodrome, a health club, a four-star hotel and a 10-bedroom luxury retreat.

Throughout its 300-year history, Goodwood has been a place where forward-thinking is celebrated and world-class entertainment comes naturally. It is a place that anyone can enjoy 365 days of the year. It really is British Estate like no other. <u>http://www.goodwood.com</u>

For more information on Canine Partners for Independence please contact Elly Fiddy, Communications Officer:

Email: ellyf@caninepartners.org.uk

Phone: 01730 716031

For media enquiries, please contact Abbie Hansford, PR Assistant:

Email: Abbie.Hansford@Goodwood.com

Phone: 01243 755000

Mobile: 07989 692415

Goodwood on social media:

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/Goodwood-Estate-191255834248488/

https://www.facebook.com/thegoodwoodhotel/?fref=nf

Twitter:

@goodwood_estate or @goodwood_hotel

Instagram:

goodwood_estate or goodwood_hotel