

## Francesca Cumani



Francesca Cumani, daughter of trainer Luca Cumani, is a British horse racing expert, presenter and commentator based jointly in the United Kingdom and Australia. She has travelled the world caring for elite horses and was also an amateur jockey.

She is a racing media icon, co-hosting ITV's racing coverage in the UK and the Melbourne Cup Carnival and previously hosting *Winning Post* on CNN International. In February 2019 Cumani was a joint winner of the Broadcast Sports Presenter of the Year at the British Sports Journalism Awards.

Eliot Forbes  
Chief Executive, AniMark Ltd & Independent Advisor to IFAR



Dr Eliot Forbes is currently the chief executive officer of AniMark Ltd, a standards company specialising in the formulation and monitoring of animal welfare standards and livestock traceability.

He has previously held roles as the CEO of Racing Queensland, CEO of Tasracing and Veterinary Steward for the Emirates Racing Authority. In his role as an executive director for Racing Australia (RA), Dr Forbes served as the inaugural Chairman of RA's Retirement of Racehorses Committee, where he oversaw the development and adoption of the RA's national retirement framework. He is a founding member of the IFAR committee and has spoken on aftercare and animal welfare topics around the world.

Dr Forbes holds a Masters of Business Administration from La Trobe University, an honours degree in Veterinary Science from the University of Queensland, is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Mark Fisher  
Kotare Bioethics Ltd, Wellington, New Zealand



Mark Fisher is a recently retired scientist with a background in extensive sheep and beef cattle farming, research in farmed red deer, animal welfare regulation, and an understanding of animal ethics and philosophy. He has served on several animal welfare and bioethics advisory bodies in New Zealand.

Fisher completed his PhD in animal physiology at the University of Nottingham. He has led major research and guided new policy for agriculture and animal welfare throughout a career working across sectors. Coming from an extensive sheep and beef cattle farming background, with family still farming, he developed a passion for science and animal physiology and how it can paint a bigger picture – not just improving the economics and efficiency of keeping animals, but also the social and relational side of farming.

Fisher is the author of *Animal Welfare Science, Husbandry and Ethics: The Evolving Story of our Relationship with Farm Animals*.

Tom Reilly  
Chief Executive Officer, Thoroughbred Breeders Australia and Aushorse



Tom Reilly has served as the chief executive of Thoroughbred Breeders Australia and Aushorse since 2014. Prior to that, he was an editor for The Sydney Morning Herald.

Thoroughbred Breeders Australia (TBA) is the lead body for the multi-billion dollar breeding industry in Australia, tasked with developing objectives and strategies to ensure sustainability and growth in a sector that provides more than 10,000 full-time jobs. As chief executive, Reilly has been at the center of the welfare debate and developed a strategy to deliver national improvements in this area. Launched with the support of major stakeholders (including race clubs, bookmakers, trainers and jockeys) in February 2020, this initiative will see a highly respected independent panel provide a blueprint for a welfare framework that will meet the needs of industry as well as community expectations.

Reilly graduated from the University of Leeds with a degree in international relations.

Dr Chris Riggs  
BVSc, PhD, DEO, DipECVS, FRCVS  
Director, Equine Welfare Research Foundation, Chief Advisor, Veterinary Science  
Hong Kong Jockey Club



Dr. Chris Riggs holds the position of director, Equine Welfare Research Foundation; and chief advisor, Veterinary Science, at the Hong Kong Jockey Club. Previously, he was head of Veterinary Clinical Services at the Hong Kong Jockey Club from January 2003 to 2019.

Riggs has a particular interest, and specialist qualifications, in surgery and orthopaedics. He has published over 75 scientific papers about the fatigue of bone and its role in racehorse fractures, as well as other topics. He holds positions as adjunct professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences, City University, Hong Kong and special professor at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, University of Nottingham, UK.

Riggs studied veterinary science at the University of Bristol, UK in the early eighties. He received further training in equine surgery at the Royal Veterinary College, UK and was awarded a PhD for research into the causes of racehorse fractures in 1991. He subsequently worked as a senior lecturer at the Philip Leverhulme Equine Hospital, University of Liverpool, and at several equine referral centres in the United Kingdom and Australia.