

## **Bob Champion Press Release**

Grand National legend Bob Champion is coming to Carlisle Racecourse next month as part of his 10,000-mile charity fund-raising marathon, it was announced today (TUES APRIL 6).

The former jockey, who won the world-famous race after beating cancer, will be at the Durdar track on Monday May 24 during Champion's 60:60 Charity Challenge.

The challenge involves Bob attending race meetings at all 60 courses in Britain on 60 consecutive days from Sunday April 18 to Wednesday June 16, raising money for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust and Injured Jockeys Fund.

His charity has raised more than £12 million to fight testicular and prostate cancer since being set up by him after he won the Grand National on Aldaniti in 1981, two years after he was diagnosed with testicular cancer.

Bob, whose heroic story was told in the film called Champions featuring John Hurt as him, said today: "I have trained a couple of winners at Carlisle and had one ride there, but it didn't win. It is a beautiful place and a lovely track. It just takes a bit of getting to!"

Bob, now 61, will start and finish his 60:60 challenge at Ascot. He will be at Carlisle for the course's second Flat meeting of the season. The first one is the next meeting – Singles Night - on Tuesday May 18. Carlisle is 38<sup>th</sup> on Bob's itinerary, in between trips to Fakenham and Huntingdon.

He added: "The itinerary took a lot of working out to fit in all the race days. Hopefully it will promote racing as well as raising money for two good causes. I'd like to see more people going racing, especially youngsters, who are our next generation.

"I'm fine now – although I don't know what I will be like after 60 racecourses in 60 days. There are a few very long trips along the way between Exeter and Perth. But I will complete it."

Fifty punters at each course will be able to buy a VIP charity package for £50, which includes walking the track with Bob and a tour of the facilities. For further details, go to [www.champions6060.org.uk](http://www.champions6060.org.uk) or call 020 7924 3553.