

## Board Profile

IAN O'DOHERTY

Welcome to our new series - "meet the Board". Over the coming newsletter issues we're featuring an introduction to your Board members, in their own words. We're kicking off with our Non-Executive Chair, Ian O'Doherty. Over to lan!

My name is Ian O'Doherty, and I have the privilege and pleasure of serving as the Non-Executive Chair of the Board of Directors of Chester Race Company. My background is in financial services; having spent over 25 years with MBNA in the USA, Ireland and the UK. The last nine years of my time with MBNA were spent as CEO here in Chester, and I had the very enjoyable experience of being sponsor of the Chester Vase for many years. During that time I got to know many of the team, and it is a great pleasure to be working alongside them now.

I am currently CEO of Appreciate Group plc, based in Liverpool, a provider of prepaid gift cards, multi-retailer gift vouchers and digital rewards services.

I have been a big fan of Chester

Races for many years; the setting, the atmosphere, the people and the hospitality are second to none in my opinion. I think the team do an outstanding job ensuring that everyone coming to the races with us has an enjoyable day, and we have a well-deserved reputation for high-quality entertainment. I am eager to ensure that we continue to look after everyone, ensuring that we give value for money across all ticket categories at all three locations.

I believe very strongly that all businesses have an obligation to be good corporate citizens and to give back to the communities in which they operate, and I want us to always be good neighbours in all our locations. I live in Chester, so I attend most race meetings there and am usually in the offices on Friday mornings. I would love to be in Bangor and Musselburgh more frequently, and I will definitely be in Scotland for the meeting on October 10th.