PRESS RELEASE CAUSEWAY [TUESDAY 1ST AUGUST 2023]

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bridgerton and The Stranger stars join forces for anti-slavery event

Bridgerton star **Ruby Barker** is headlining an anti-slavery fundraising event in September for the modern slavery charity Causeway – alongside *The Stranger* and *The Last Kingdom* actor **Jacob Dudman**. Meanwhile Happy Mondays and *The X Factor* singer **Rowetta** will be performing live.

Stars from film, TV and music are flocking to Yorkshire in September to take part in a very special charity event. The public are able to purchase tickets to come along, support the cause and mingle with the celebrities.

The event is all in aid of <u>Causeway</u> – the national modern slavery and criminal justice charity. The Fundraising Gala Evening takes place at Sheffield's Millennium Gallery on Thursday 21st September 2023.

Bridgerton star Ruby Barker – who plays Marina Thompson in the hit Netflix series – will be delivering the welcome address at the event. Actor Jacob Dudman – whose starring roles include Thomas Price in *The Stranger* and Osbert in *The Last Kingdom* – will be the afterdinner speaker. Additionally, Happy Mondays singer and former *The X Factor* contestant Rowetta will be performing live.

The event aims to both fundraise and raise awareness of modern slavery and cycles of exploitation and crime. As well as speeches by Ruby and Jacob and the live performance from Rowetta – the evening features a drinks reception, three course dinner and special panel discussion featuring experts in the fields of exploitation.

Ruby Barker said: "It is so important that all of us support and elevate voices of marginalised and vulnerable people. Causeway are a charity at the forefront of doing this, and so I'm honoured to be attending their gala event and delivering the welcome address. It will be a fantastic and fun-filled evening. However, it will also be an important opportunity for people to come and support Causeway as they work towards a world without exploitation."

Jacob Dudman said: "I am in awe of the work that Causeway do, and so to be the after-dinner speaker at their special gala event fills me with absolute pride. We all want a world without modern slavery, exploitation and crime. I am looking forward to meeting supporters old and new at the gala, as we come together to make a safer, securer and fairer world for all."

Rowetta said: "Causeway are such an important charity, supporting those that have been through some of the most appalling and heartbreaking situations. However, like all charities, they need our support. I am delighted that Causeway asked me to perform at this year's gala event, and I'm looking forward to meeting everyone there."

Ed Newton, Causeway's CEO, said: "We are very excited to have Ruby, Jacob and Rowetta headlining this very special event. It will be a great evening and isn't just for existing supporters. We'd love everybody who is passionate about ending modern slavery, exploitation and crime to buy a ticket and come along."

Tickets to the event are open to the public and can be purchased by visiting www.wearecauseway.org.uk or by emailing fundraise@wearecauseway.org.uk

ENDS

Contact

For more information please contact Edwin Buckley on 07511 177 527 or edwin.buckley@wearecauseway.org.uk

Available for Further Interview

- Ruby Barker
- Jacob Dudman
- Rowetta
- Ed Newton (Causeway's CEO) / Amy Bond (Causeway's COO)

Supporting Assets

- Ruby Barker Photo https://we.tl/t-KTvWwC5vvM
- Jacob Dudman Photo https://we.tl/t-YGZQRNLPmL
- Rowetta Photo https://we.tl/t-7aVk4gOjtY
- Causeway Logo https://we.tl/t-8xrYBPxgll

Notes to Editor

- Further details and the sign-up link for the event can be found here
- Causeway's social media handle is @CausewayCharity and social channels can be found here: Facebook / Instagram / Twitter / LinkedIn
- Causeway is a national charity that exists to create lasting change for marginalised and vulnerable people. This includes survivors of modern slavery and those caught in the cycle of crime and exploitation.
- Causeway has been supporting thousands of survivors and service users to make progress and thrive for nearly 20 years. We work to prevent, protect and support them, and free them to live their lives.
- Causeway provides services including, but not limited to: safe houses, one-to-one specialist support, holistic crisis support interventions and community connection groups. We also signpost service users into: counselling, training courses and volunteering or employment opportunities.

 Causeway is committed to raising awareness of modern slavery, human trafficking and criminal justice intervention across the UK, as we advocate for a fairer and more understanding society. We do this through: investing in research, national campaigning, strategic partnerships, community and corporate fundraising, training courses, and collaborating with local authorities, government officials, media and influencers.