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For immediate release

COALFIELD RESIDENTS URGED TO THINK ABOUT THEIR LIMITS DURING RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING AWARENESS WEEK 2017

Residents in the Coalfields are being encouraged to think about their gambling choices during Responsible Gambling Awareness Week 2017.

Responsible Gambling Awareness Week will run in NSW from 23 to 29 October and people are being asked to take a moment to think about how responsible their gambling practices are.

Gambling Help counsellor Graeme Penney from Samaritans said it is always a good time for people to consider if they need to make any changes to their gambling behaviour.

“It can be hard to avoid being lured by the mass of sports media coverage and sports betting advertising on TV and on social media. Young men especially can be tempted by notifications and invitation to place bets on their smart phones.

“Regardless of your betting choices, sports, horses, pokies, Responsible Gambling Awareness Week is a great time to keep your limits in mind or even stop gambling completely. It can become very expensive for some families but the good news is that most people who seek help do achieve their gambling control goals,” Mr Penney said.

Responsible Gambling Awareness Week in NSW is run by the NSW Government’s Responsible Gambling Fund. Samaritans is the local service provider and can help people to change their gambling behaviour. They can be reached on 4998 6169.

For more information on Responsible Gambling Awareness Week visit gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au.

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Media Contact: Media are encouraged to contact Laura Dawson and Samaritans Communications team on 4960 7157 or 0438 475 772 to arrange an interview.

