

# BLENHEIM TROT UP

*A newsletter for volunteers*



December 2016

## 2017 VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION LIVE!

The 2017 volunteer registration system is now live. Visit [www.blenheimhorse.co.uk/volunteers](http://www.blenheimhorse.co.uk/volunteers) to register your interest in joining us at the 2017 Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials. We look forward to welcoming you back to Blenheim next September!

**JOIN THE BLENHEIM ARMY: 13<sup>TH</sup> – 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER!**



## NEW DATES FOR 2017

We have just agreed with British Eventing and the Blenheim Estate that not only are they changing our 2017 dates but we will also be running as a five day show!

The date change (to **13th – 17th September 2017**) is due to the fact that for many years three of the bigger international horse trials (Blair, Burghley and Blenheim) have taken place on consecutive weekends. This has put pressure on many of the events stakeholders, in addition to there being a very busy event programme at Blenheim Palace itself during the weeks before.

It was therefore decided that falling back a week would allow exhibitors to restock their stands, as well as visitors, volunteers, owners and competitors to recharge their batteries and enjoy this great 'end of year party' just that little bit more!

## FIVE DAYS ARE BETTER THAN FOUR!

The change to running across five days results from volunteer, visitor and competitor feedback following the 2016 event, when we were asked to host the final of the Event Rider Masters series (in addition to the long established CCI3\* and ever popular CIC3\* for 8&9 year old horses).

We hope that our volunteers won't be quite so dizzy in 2017 – far less running from one end of the site to the other!



## RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER

We were frustrated to learn that some of you had not been receiving your Trot Ups. Following some investigating it seems this is because they had been sent out using the BPIHT info@ email address and thus had either been sent to spam or just lost in the ether. We are sorry for this but now that we know, we will make sure that future editions will be sent to all.

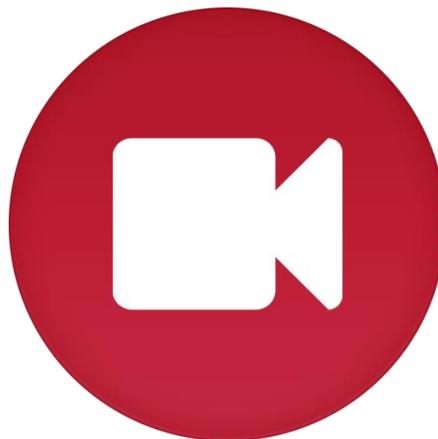
The Trot Up is a great way to keep everyone engaged in the event and to let you know what is happening on site throughout the year. We hope you enjoy it! If you have any ideas or suggestions for items to include, please drop Niki a line via [niki@copsecottage.org.uk](mailto:niki@copsecottage.org.uk).



## READY FOR A CLOSE UP?

Some of you were kind enough to indulge the video-cameraman to spread the word about what you do on event and why you love volunteering at Blenheim. Sadly technical difficulties (mainly the outside p.a. system) meant that not all the voice recordings made it to air, but you can see the results on the volunteers' club area of the BPIHT website. Thank you to everyone who overcame their stage fright to speak to the camera!

Watch the video now >>>



## COMINGS & GOINGS

We are sad to report that Helena will be leaving the Horse Trials on 16<sup>th</sup> December. She will be taking up a post closer to her home with the Royal Horticultural Society. There is no truth in the scurrilous rumour that she has accepted the role as she believes there is a deal to be done between the event and the RHS for the supply of 'fertiliser'! We send our good wishes to Helena for her future career and look forward to seeing her on event as one of the volunteer army in the future.



The office will be recruiting a replacement for Helena in due course, so please keep an eye on our website and social media channels for details of this exciting opportunity to be involved with BPIHT on a professional basis.



## WE'RE RECRUITING!

Are you looking for a more challenging role at Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials 2017?

We will be looking for new Heads of Department for crossing points and the attractions arena in the new year. If you would like to know more about these roles, please contact Shelley in the office via [shelley@blenheimhorse.co.uk](mailto:shelley@blenheimhorse.co.uk).

Do drop us a line, even if the above roles don't quite suit you. We would love to know what you are interested in doing.

## FROM BLENHEIM TO BADMINTON...

Mandy made a presentation and gave the event's thanks to our Course Designer, Eric Winter, on his retirement from Blenheim after ten years. Many of you will already know that Eric is moving on to course design at Badminton in 2017 - we wish him good luck and thank him for his long-standing support of our event. For the coming season, we will be in the very safe hands of David Evans. David has been Clerk of the Course here at Blenheim for more years than he will care to remember, but who will be flexing his muscles as Course Designer 2017. We wish them both good luck and even ground!



Watch a 'behind the scenes' course video below >>>

[Behind the scenes at Blenheim Palace :: BETV](#)



## BPIHT VOLUNTEERS' CLUB AREA

Don't forget to visit the BPIHT volunteers' club area via the official event website. This 'secret garden' contains all of the information that you need to be an effective event volunteer.

Have a browse, enter a competition and make the most of special offers from event partners throughout the year. If you think we could add something to make this area more useful, please email [shelley@blenheimhorse.co.uk](mailto:shelley@blenheimhorse.co.uk) – we would love to hear your ideas!



## EVENT CLOTHING

We know that you wear your BPIHT shirts (and other items) with pride during the event and afterwards. This year a logistics problem with the supplier meant that many of you did not receive your items before the event even though you had ordered in good time. We have had discussions with the manufacturer and we will endeavour to ensure that this problem does not occur again. Thank you for your patience and understanding and we hope that everyone got what they ordered eventually. The clothing range is something we are very proud of and, in fact, BE is moving over to our designer for their new range! The 2017 colour scheme has been submitted to the Steering Committee for discussion and approval and it shouldn't be too long before we can let you see the first designs.

The great 40% discount will be available for volunteers so keep your eyes peeled for more info!



Lansdown

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE AT BPIHT AS AN OWNER AS WELL AS A VOLUNTEER IN 2017?



**AMBITION SYNDICATE**  
WITH 4\* RIDER **TIM CHEFFINGS**  
WINNER OF MARK TODD BRIDGING THE GAP SCHOLARSHIP

**ELITE HORSE OWNERS**

Syndicates with **fixed terms & fixed costs** that include more than one horse providing a great ownership experience!

**ELITEHORSEOWNERS.COM**

BPIHT 2017 was Elite Horse Owners first foray into sponsorship of an event having launched at Burghley the week before - and Blenheim certainly came up trumps for them. Some great hospitality and chat was to be had on the EHO stand (as well as some rather lovely wine) and they graciously sponsored our volunteers' hog roast on Saturday night. Liz Williams, one of the directors, gave a brief speech on how EHO works, what's in it for the eventing fan and how to go about joining up. Their "ambition" syndicate is now selling shares and what follows is a more in-depth description of how this opportunity works, as presented by EHO.

Our 3\* horse Landslide EHO is aimed at Blenheim's 2017 CCI3\* with event rider Tim Cheffings. EHO are the management company behind the brand new fixed term, fixed fee eventing syndicate entitled 'Ambition'. Ambition has been launched to the general public as an affordable way for eventing fans and supporters to become involved with the sport as an owner. The costs associated with buying, training and competing horses for top level eventing are high, unpredictable and not without risk, making it unaffordable to many who may also manage their own horses. Becoming a member of an EHO syndicate lowers the risk and makes the experience affordable and enjoyable.

If you would like more information on joining the Ambition syndicate, please visit our website [www.elitehorseowners.com](http://www.elitehorseowners.com) or call 07411 925965.

Not only will syndicate members be co-owners of a string of competition horses, but they will also be able to:

- Attend yard open days and off-season events and watch the horses in training and see their development
- Attend competitions and enjoy Elite Horse Owners' hospitality
- Watch the horses compete with other fellow owners, share the excitement, celebrate together and commiserate together whatever the result
- Interact with Tim first hand at competitions and get his feedback on how the horses performed and views on the competition
- Access the owner website, receive newsletters and updates by social media
- Enjoy product discounts with exclusive Elite Horse Owner product partners

Image c. Adam Fanthorpe.





It only remains for us, on behalf of all at Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials, to wish you a very merry Christmas & a happy, healthy and successful new year!

### OFFICE CLOSURE



Finally we would like to advise that due to the need to decorate the office and update some of our systems the horse trials office will be closed 19<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January (inclusive).

### KEEP UP TO DATE



Keep up to date with the latest information by visiting [www.blenheimhorse.co.uk](http://www.blenheimhorse.co.uk) and follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) - use the hashtags #BlenheimHorse and #BPIHT!