

## CAN YOU LEND A HAND?

Volunteers to help on the day or in preparing for the CSHT Event are always very much appreciated. For those who would like to be involved, but are concerned that they have little or no experience, we will provide appropriate guidance and training to ensure you obtain the maximum enjoyment from their involvement.

### What can I volunteer for?

Listed below are the main areas where help is very much appreciated. We have tried to give an indication of what sort of help is needed and when it is needed but to obtain a fuller picture do contact the person listed; contact details are given at the end. For some jobs an appreciation of horses is helpful, for instance score collecting around the cross country course, but generally involvement only requires enthusiasm to be outside in a particularly attractive location and an enjoyment of being '*part of the team*'. There may not be payment, although we will try and assist younger volunteers with travel expenses, but we have some great picnic lunches and on the actual event days you are very well fed and watered!

### Before the event

**Ground preparation:** Clearing the cross country course of any debris; mowing and strimming around jumps and painting jumps. Work starts around three weeks before the event and is rather dependent on the weather. Contact Patrick Milne Home.

**Roping** around arenas and stringing lengths of the cross country course and crossing points, all for the safety of the horse, riders and pedestrians; flagging and numbering of each jump. This work is undertaken 4 to 2 days before the event. Contact Mrs Sarah Oakden.

**Other bits and pieces:** There is a considerable amount of miscellaneous work also required including such items as waste bins, marking out trade stand pitches, setting up generators, positioning commentary and scorer boxes, arranging water supplies, quad bikes, organising loos and their locations.

**Signage:** Direction signs to the event and signs on the site need to be in place two to three days beforehand. Contact: Patrick Milne Home.

**Arena Preparation:** As well as roping off the arenas for the dressage and show jumping, we also need help to set out the dressage arenas (including numbering, lettering and mowing centre lines) and build and number the show jumping course. Contact Mrs Liz Sommerville, dressage or Mrs Sue Lawrie, show jumping.

**And if you fancy a bigger challenge, there's always building the cross country jumps:** This is highly specialised and requires an apprenticeship, and a significant degree of commitment. So if you're fit and active, and have a bit of time on your hands (maybe you're retired?) or if you're interested in a career as a BE course builder then get in touch as you could gain some great experience. Contact Brian Bowman or James Oakden

### On the Day of the Event

**Dressage:** Writers to the judges and collecting ring stewards play important roles. As Dressage is the first discipline to be undertaken it is vital that it keeps to time, to ensure that the event does not run late. Contact Mrs Liz Sommerville

**Show Jumping:** A team of 4 to 6 people is required in the arena to rebuild any knocked down jumps and to assist with any course changes that need to take place during the day. Contact Mrs Sue Lawrie.

**Cross Country Jump Judges:** Normally this comprises two people to watch each jump (one with a car in case of inclement weather!). You record the number of each horse and rider as they jump your fence, together with their time and any penalties incurred. You also report by radio, as needed, to Control. Families can help here but you'll need to keep an eye on children to make sure they keep away from the fence and galloping horses. Where possible judges are on site for the whole day but half day slots are also welcome. Contact Mrs Marian Osler

**Score Collectors:** The score cards have to be brought into the scorers on a regular basis from the dressage and show jumping arenas and the cross country jump judges. Most of this work is done on Quad Bikes, so you must have a Quad Bike Driving Certificate, and, because you are driving around the Cross Country Course and amongst horses, an understanding of horses would be helpful. Contact: Mrs Marian Osler

**Catering:** Our volunteers on the day put in many hours of work on behalf of the event and in most instances are unable to return to the marquee to obtain refreshments. We therefore take refreshments out to them to keep them going and two teams of two people are required to keep everyone supplied! One person must have a driving licence, and it is appreciated if they can provide their own vehicle; a 4x4 is helpful but not essential. Contact: Patrick Milne Home

### **But we've not forgotten about you**

**Refreshments and picnic lunches'** are provided for the judges, radio operators and all other helpers and we also hope that everyone will join us in the marquee, at the end of the day or at the end of your stint, for a glass of wine or a soft drink, and tell us about the comic turns, disasters, funny things and other events of the day. In the past we've had flying marquees, riders jumping without horses, branches falling off trees, no loo break, basking in the sun and the such like!

### **CONTACTS**

Patrick Milne Home.01577 863 758

[patrick@milnehome.org](mailto:patrick@milnehome.org)

Brian Bowman

[b.c.bowman@talk21.com](mailto:b.c.bowman@talk21.com)

James Oakden

07778 928115

Mrs Sarah Oakden

[sarahoakden05@aol.com](mailto:sarahoakden05@aol.com)

Mrs Marian Osler

07949 270 538 [marianosler@btinternet.com](mailto:marianosler@btinternet.com)

Mrs Liz Sommerville

[vet@lochlevenequine.co.uk](mailto:vet@lochlevenequine.co.uk)

Mrs Sue Lawrie

07887952780 [a.lawrie@btconnect.com](mailto:a.lawrie@btconnect.com)