

Burghley's exciting XC phase



## A warm welcome everywhere

The EHOA Hospitality team had a very successful 2013 season providing a safe haven at events nationwide, working closely with event organisers and British Eventing. We are delighted that owners continued to enjoy our marquees at key events in the eventing calendar and look forward to repeating these successes in 2014. All our hospitality marquees offer:

- Free entrance to members and their guests
- Refreshments
- CCTV coverage where available
- All-day opening

### 1. Aldon (Dorset)

**2. Badminton (Gloucestershire)** – There was a real 'family feel' to our Badminton marquee last year with owners' children and dogs all putting in an appearance and enjoying refreshment.

### 3. Blair (Perthshire)

### 4. Blenheim (Oxfordshire)

**5. Bricky (Dorset)** – In a new initiative, Rob Stevens kindly agreed to be the BEgo trainer at Bricky Horse Trials for the day with many in his section achieving personal bests. See our training round-up on page 4.

**6. Burghley (Lincolnshire)** – "We were blessed with remarkably good weather," says Judy Skinner. "The crowds were huge. We enjoyed the usual entertainment alongside in ring two, including The Pony Club on Thursday and the Young Event Horse Championships on the Friday; these two days really boost numbers."

"We had larger digital TVs this year with excellent clarity, and as the XC had returned to a true four-star



Burnham Market



## Perfect partners

ALEC Lochore of Musketeeer Event Management has long been a supporter of the EHOA, and provides hospitality tents at each of his event venues: Burnham Market, Houghton Hall, Blair Castle and Cholmondeley Castle, although at Cholmondeley the event is hosted by event sponsor Weatherbys Bank.

"I think it is important that we recognise the key people within our sport, and look after them. These are challenging times as we strive to build a more professional environment and there's no room for complacency. No owners means no horses," says Alec.

Alec focuses on three areas at each horse trials he runs: the owners, the going and the experience. He elaborates: "We aim to offer top-class competition, while simultaneously providing the right experience for the horses, whether that be the development of a young horse or the final preparation for a team horse. To achieve that, the quality of the ground – making it the best that it can be in any given situation – is paramount."

"Welcoming the owners of all these horses to our events, offering them somewhere to have a coffee, meet friends, maybe read the paper or escape a rain shower, is an essential part of maintaining and further developing our sport – an additional expense to us, but not one I am prepared to cut."

"I hope that more EHOA members than ever before will come and make use of our EHOA tents in 2014 – we look forward to welcoming them."



Rob Stevens at Bricky

course, it made for a very exciting competition.

"The food was of a high standard and on the Sunday we enjoyed a barbeque lunch before the final show jumping, which made a lovely change, particularly with the good weather. The number of dogs and shopping bags were, I think, a sign of happy members!"

**7. Burnham Market (Norfolk)** – The EHOA tent made a welcome retreat from the freezing cold at this event early in the year. "Thank goodness chocolates and mini eggs were on offer, as well as warming soup," says Sarah Byrne.

### 8. Chatsworth (Derbyshire)

### 9. Gatcombe Festival (Gloucestershire)

### 10. Houghton (Norfolk)

### 11. Nunney (Somerset)

### 12. Hopetoun (Edinburgh)

### 13. Osberton (Nottinghamshire)

**14. Belton (Lincolnshire)** – Owners' tents at Belton, Hopetoun and Osberton were expertly organised and funded by Stuart Buntine and Bede Events. All were open to competing owners and EHOA members.