



## Volunteers Newsletter 2025



### Volunteer awards

Our annual Society Awards are a special moment each year when we get to celebrate the amazing individuals, volunteers, groups and organisations who make a real difference. This year was no exception — we were delighted to recognise so many deserving volunteers for everything they do.

We're especially thrilled to announce that our 2025 Volunteer of the Year is **Caroline Bradley**, an Access volunteer from Northwest Yorkshire who's worked tirelessly to protect and improve bridleways in her area. Her standout achievement this year was leading a successful campaign to upgrade a historic footpath from Lanes Foot Road to Heyshaw Village into a bridleway — opening up more safe, enjoyable routes for riders.

A huge thank you to Caroline for her passion, dedication and her commitment to creating better access for horse lovers everywhere.

Our highest accolade, the President's Award, went to **Adrian Bigg**, an outstanding Access volunteer for over 20 years. He's served as both Cornwall's CABO and Regional Access and Bridleways Officer for the South West since 2003. Adrian has supported his team tirelessly, offering guidance on complex access issues and building a strong network of volunteers. He's highly respected for his ability to navigate political challenges, particularly around shared cycleway

use and for championing equestrian rights. His advocacy includes media appearances such as on BBC Spotlight South West. Adrian's commitment to establishing bridleways and restricted byways in Cornwall remains exemplary.

Thank you to all who nominated this year. Look out for 2026 nominations which open in May.



## Ever wondered what it's really like to be a jockey?

If you're ready for a big challenge in **autumn 2026**, this could be your moment.

We're looking for 24 committed riders to take on a mile-long charity race at Newbury or Wetherby. You'll be raising vital funds for BHS while experiencing something very few people ever get the chance to do. It's unforgettable — but it's tough, and it does ask a lot of you.

To take part, you'll need to:

- Raise £3,500 for BHS
- Meet the likely weight limit of 11st 7lbs (including kit)
- Pass a full fitness and riding assessment
- Have a suitable horse aged four+, in training with a registered or point-to-point trainer
- Ride out regularly with a trainer.

If you thrive on a challenge and want to do something extraordinary for a cause you believe in, this could be your chance to step out of your comfort zone and into the starting gate. Our races are a wonderful experience for horse lovers to come together and support. Courage, passion, impact — that's what our community is all about.

To register your interest or simply find out more, email [fundraising@bhs.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@bhs.org.uk).

## A festive thank you!

A huge thank you to all our incredible volunteers for your dedication and support this year. We're extremely grateful for your commitment towards helping horses and the people who care for them enjoy the best possible life together.

Wishing a Merry Christmas to all who celebrate and we'll see you in the new year!

## Work with us!

Ever thought about working for BHS? All our vacancies are shared on our website, just follow the link and take a look.

[View our job vacancies](#)



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