

At a time when many clubs, including ours, are struggling to find volunteers for their many activities, here are some very valuable comments from Wendy Sewell, Manager of Coaching and Education, Horse Council, BC

Volunteers and Mentors

Recently HCBC faced the passing of several integral and well loved members. These people gave so much to us in the form of their time and expertise both as a volunteer and as mentors. The natural progression is for the next generation to take over the numerous jobs and positions vacated. New faces and names will find the time and give the time to become the next mentors and volunteers for those who are now entering into our sport.

Volunteers are usually the busiest people in the club or association. They make an effort to find the time to pitch in often without thanks and at the expense of their family time. Mentors are those people who provide guidance to others by example or by explanation. Mentors make sure that the next generation can learn from those who have gone before them.

Without mentors and volunteers, we lose a sense of responsibility and direction. Without volunteers and mentors the horse community as a whole could lose the history and traditions that are so valued. If you know of an outstanding volunteer, be sure to nominate them for the HCBC Volunteer of the Year award.

As for Alf Fletcher and Bob James, somewhere the two of them are out there, swapping stories and watching over us. Let's make them proud and continue to follow their examples in volunteerism and mentorship.